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The Recorder is coming out a day early this week due to the holiday.

November 27, 2019

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# Recorder



Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

## LUCKY TURKEY



Photo by Christine Rodenbaugh

A week before Thanksgiving Day, Todd Hickey (from left), general manager of the Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa, visits "Tata the Phurkey" with Executive Chef Joe Natoli, Master Beekeeper Matt Sanchez and Director of Food and Beverage Cameale Mills. Hickey will officially pardon the turkey Wednesday, Nov. 27. **Read more on Page 5.**



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Business Weekly featuring Small Business Saturday

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## Send us your news

We welcome submissions of photos, stories, columns and letters to the editor. Let us know what's happening. Email submissions to [pvrecorder@opcfla.com](mailto:pvrecorder@opcfla.com) or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach**. Submissions may be published in the paper, on our website or on our social media platforms.

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### WHAT'S THIS?



**Do you know what this is?**

Email answer to [pvrecorder@opcfla.com](mailto:pvrecorder@opcfla.com) by Monday at 5 p.m.

All correct entries will be entered into a random drawing to win tickets for two adults and two children to the Jacksonville Zoo. In order to allow as many families as possible to win, participants are only eligible to win a ticket prize pack once every four months.

No readers correctly identified last week's photo, so here's another chance to try again. Good luck!

### ADOPT A PET

#### CAT OF THE WEEK

Dottie was picked up and brought to the Pet Center as a stray. She is a 1-year-old female domestic shorthair tabby. She is a beautiful little girl who is very lovable. Just scratch and cuddle her, and you will have a lifelong fur-ever friend. Come see Dottie at the Pet Center today. #52444



#### DOG OF THE WEEK



Uma was brought in to the Pet Center as an owner release. She is a sweet, very playful 1½-year-old terrier

mix, who loves to run and be active. Come see Uma at the Pet Center today. #52633

Any new pet being introduced to a new home will need time to adjust to its new environment. Please reinforce house training and behavioral training, and be mindful of interacting with other pets.

### St. Johns County Pet Center

Cat adoptions are \$30 for males and \$40 for females. Dog adoptions are \$45 for males and \$60 for females. Adoption fees include microchipping, neutering/spaying, rabies vaccinations and shots. The Pet Center is located at 130 N. Stratton Road in St. Augustine, off U.S. 1 between County Road 210 and International Golf Parkway. Business hours are Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The center is closed to the public on Sunday. On Monday, the office is open by appointment only to claim a lost pet. **For more information, please call the St. Johns County Pet Center at (904) 209-6190.**

### PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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| 5 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 1 |
| 8 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 7 |

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

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JACKSONVILLE  
**ZOO**  
AND GARDENS

# JACKSONVILLE COUNTRY DAY CELEBRATES GRANDPARENTS

Ponte Vedra Beach residents Sam and Donna Heffner, with their grandson Will Misner, recently attended Grandparents Day at Jacksonville Country Day School. Grandparents participated in classroom activities with their grandchildren during the school's annual event.

Photo provided by Jacksonville Country Day School



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**ODOMS MILL**  
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Beautifully updated home nestled in the preserve. This home features 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, nice wood & tile floors, a tailored living garage, glassed-in sunroom, spacious kitchen, private master bedroom with large custom walk-in closet, a private backyard, & screened lanai with hot tub. MLS 1023510

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**PONTE VEDRA BY SEA**  
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Stunning lakefront home in picturesque setting with oversized deck. This entertainer's dream home features 2 master bedrooms, a renovated kitchen, great room, screened porch, & summer kitchen. Walk to the beach using the private walkway over Guana Preserve! MLS 1023317

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Happy Thanksgiving!



# North Florida Land Trust purchases Fish Island

North Florida Land Trust has announced the deal for the purchase of Fish Island in St. Augustine is now complete. NFLT, in partnership with the State of Florida, negotiated the deal to purchase the property from the owners for a price of \$6.5 million.

The property was acquired with funds from the Florida Forever program, which the Florida Cabinet approved in July. The State of Florida is now the official owner of Fish Island and the City of St. Augustine will manage the property.

"This is a significant day for the St. Augustine community who worked for more than a decade to save Fish Island from development," said Jim McCarthy, president of NFLT. "We were happy to be a part of the efforts to preserve this natural resource. Fish Island is a healthy maritime hammock forest and preservation will help avoid water quality impacts to the Matanzas River. It is also a historic property that is an integral part of St. Augustine's history."

Fish Island is a 57-acre property located on the Intra-coastal Waterway immediately adjacent to the 312 Bridge onto Anastasia Island. Jesse Fish built his home on the

land in the 1700s. It was the first orange grove in Florida and gave birth to the citrus industry. At one time, there were approximately 3,000 orange trees on the island and the citrus was exported to England and Spain.

Vice Mayor of the City of St. Augustine Leanna Freeman spent approximately 14 years working to protect Fish Island and called the acquisition a gift and investment from Floridians to future generations. She said the proposed plans for the development of the land had been growing on the radar of citizens over the last ten years and preserving this land is the right thing to do in this time of rapid development and growth.

"Considering all the efforts and 'stars that had to align' it is somewhat of a miracle that Fish Island will be preserved for future generations," Freeman said. "The effort would not have been a success without the commitment and support of community activists, the landowner, their attorney and representatives, local government leadership, state government leadership, staff from our government agencies, not-for-profit organizations, bank representatives, expert valuations and reporting, media coverage and funding from Floridians."



Photo provided by the North Florida Land Trust

The Matanzas Riverkeeper and the community group Save Fish Island will soon be hosting a volunteer event to clean up the property. It will be followed by a public closing celebration at a date this is still being determined.

## THROWBACK THURSDAY

### THANKSGIVING EDITION

The Ponte Vedra Recorder will run "Throwback Thursday" items throughout the year to celebrate the Recorder's 50th anniversary. This week, a look at some Thanksgiving content, including a Publix ad from 1981, a Currents Thanksgiving recipe from 2008 and a Pusser's Thanksgiving ad from 2014. If you have any old clippings of articles, stories or ads that you would like to share from the past 50 years of the Recorder, send them to [pvrecorder@opcfla.com](mailto:pvrecorder@opcfla.com).

**What's cooking? Chef Andrea's recipe for a great Thanksgiving**

By Chef Andrea Rosenblatt

It is an honor that so many households roast an entire turkey—the most difficult poultry to cook—on Thanksgiving.

No professional roasting chef would ever brine. A chef would remove the brine and cook it separately from the turkey and legs.

My first Thanksgiving, when I was 10, I decided to "use" my family's brand, wrapped, stuffed, seared and brined the legs, and pulled the bones to make juicy perfection. My family never asked me to do that again. Like most families, they want a whole bird, golden, out of the oven.

Here are a few of my favorite turkey recipes and I hope you will enjoy a wonderful day of roasting, eating and being. If you have any Thanksgiving-related questions, call (321) 250-0100 or email me with "Turkey" in the subject line and I'll be happy to help. Call Wednesday, the birds will be chomping on Thanksgiving.

**Traditional Roast Turkey**  
Serves 12 to 16 people

- 1 Fresh Turkey 12 to 16 pounds
- 2 sticks butter, room temperature
- 1 large onion, minced
- 1/2 cup Fresh Garlic cloves, minced
- 1 lemon, quartered
- 1 bunch Fresh Thyme
- 1 bunch Fresh Sage

Salt and pepper, to taste  
Preheat oven to 325.

Wash turkey thoroughly and pat dry. Place in a large roasting pan. Remove turkey neck, liver and giblets for good homemade stock or use as soup.

Combine fresh thyme, sage, garlic, onion, salt and pepper to taste for the inside cavity of the turkey.

Butt turkey off over with bone, including underneath the skin. Then rub turkey all over with softened butter, garlic, and onion, including underneath the skin. Generously salt and pepper the inside cavity of the turkey. Insert the quarter lemon and insert into the inside cavity of the turkey.

Roast the turkey, basting regularly with the pan drippings, until the juices run clear when you cut between the leg and the thigh. Remove the turkey from the oven and let rest for a minimum of 20 minutes. If desired, use the pan juices to make gravy including the turkey stock. Slice the turkey and serve hot.

**Brined Grilled Whole Turkey Breast**

- 1 10 lb. turkey breast (bone in)
- 2 quarts cold water
- 1 cup kosher salt
- 1/2 cup brown sugar

1 large onion, quartered  
2 lemons, quartered  
4 sprigs thyme  
4 sprigs rosemary  
1/2 cup peppercorns

Place the turkey breast and parley. Dissolve sugar and salt in water in a large non-reactive container. Separate the lemons and orange in the water and drop in the marinade. Add the remaining ingredients. Stir well. Add the turkey breast and soak in the brine for at least 4 hours or overnight (overnight is best).

Remove turkey breast from brine, rinse well under cold running water and pat dry.

Brush both sides of turkey breast with oil or spray with non-stick cooking spray.

Place turkey breast bone side down on grill for 45 to 60 minutes. Turn turkey breast over and place skin side down on grill. Then baste down a bit and continue cooking until the internal temperature of the turkey breast reaches 155 degrees. Remove turkey breast from grill, cover loosely with foil and allow to rest for 15 to 20 minutes. Slice and serve.

**Turkey and Prosciutto and Pistachio Roulades with Balsamic and Cranberry Glaze**

Serves 8 to 12

- 12 bone-in turkey legs and thighs (about 12 lbs.)
- 6 to 8 slices Prosciutto
- 1/2 pound ground turkey
- 1 cup pistachios
- 5 slices bread for 1 cup bread crumbs
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 2 cups balsamic vinegar
- 2 cups thyme
- 2 tsp poultry seasoning
- Salt and pepper to taste

In a food processor, combine ground turkey, pistachios, bread or bread crumbs, cream, egg, thyme, poultry seasoning, salt and pepper. Pulse until completely combined.

Open butterflied turkey and remove skin with salt and pepper. Lay slice of Prosciutto on each piece. Spoon filling mixture on top of Prosciutto and spread evenly. Roll turkey tight and tie with kitchen twine.

Place in a 350 degree oven and bake until the internal temperature of the roulades reach 155 degrees. Remove from oven, cover with foil, and let rest for 15 to 20 minutes. Slice in one inch slices and serve warm.

For the Glaze: You can actually purchase "Balsamic Glaze" in a bottle and just heat up. I add 1/2 cup cranberry sauce to 1 cup balsamic glaze and let rest for 10 minutes.

Chef Virginia's Family

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### RECORDER TO CLOSE OFFICES FOR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

The Ponte Vedra Recorder will close its offices on Thursday, Nov. 28 and Friday, Nov. 29 for the Thanksgiving holiday. The Recorder will return to normal business hours on Monday, Dec. 2

# Sawgrass Marriott pardons turkey Tata

By Christine Rodenbaugh

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, Todd Hickey, general manager of the Marriott at Sawgrass, will officially pardon a turkey that lives on the property at Bee Hill farm. The culinary staff at Sawgrass not only prepares food for guests, but also raises items for the plates. A bevy of quail provides eggs for several dishes when it's laying season.

In June, a company that supplies seed for the quail and chickens gifted two ring-neck pheasant chicks to the property. As the pair grew, they no longer resembled one another. Finally, it was determined that one of the "pheasants" was, in fact, a turkey. The female bird is affectionately

referred to as Tata the Phurkey, combining pheasant and turkey.

"She's like a dog," Executive Chef Joe Natoli said. "She comes right up and follows you around."

Tata shares a large pen with several quail and the lone pheasant. Nearly 3 feet tall, the 6-month-old bronze breasted turkey watches over the smaller birds. A separate pen is designed to protect chickens from hawks, raccoons and other predators.

Master Beekeeper Matt Sanchez oversees the farm, and members of the culinary team pitch in to clear land, build pens and grow herbs, fruits and vegetables.

During the Wednesday, Nov. 27 ceremony, Hickey will declare in a prepared speech, "So today we will be pardoning



Tata and letting her live out her life on Bee Hill, the micro-farm at The Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa."



Photos by Christine Rodenbaugh  
**ABOVE: Tata shares a pen with this ringneck pheasant and several quail at the Marriott's Bee Hill Farm.**

**LEFT: Sawgrass Marriott resident "Tata the Phurkey" will be pardoned by General Manager Todd Hickey just in time for Thanksgiving on Wednesday, Nov. 27.**

# Nights of Lights returns to St. Augustine



**ABOVE: Historic downtown St. Augustine hosted its annual Light Up! Nights ceremony, Nov. 23, at the Plaza de la Constitución.**

**LEFT: Local vendors set up shop at the plaza for guests to mingle and shop while the city waited for tree-lighting countdown. Jellyfish ornament from Josie Shells by Ruth.**

Photos by Daniela Toporek



By Daniela Toporek

St. Augustine tourists and residents poured into to the city's historic downtown district Saturday, Nov. 23, battling it out for the best spots to wait for and celebrate this year's Nights of Lights countdown.

"This is my second time at the actual lighting ceremony, but I've been a few times just to see the lights," said Jacksonville resident, Leeann Walker. "I just love historic St. Augustine and Christmas is my favorite time of year, so to celebrate the love of both of those things was really special."

Nights of Lights attendees crowded around the gazebo at the Plaza de la Constitución, overflowing into the streets, where children played, pranced and jammed to the All-Star Orchestra, which performed before the official lighting by the city.

During the orchestra's cover of Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas Is You," the crowd burst into song and dance.

"Everyone around me started dancing and singing along," Walker said. "It was a good time."

When the moment the city was waiting for finally arrived, guests shifted their attention from the gazebo to the tall, decorated tree there, packing even closer.

Former mayor Ramelle Petroglou had the honor of turning on the city lights, along with Paul K. Williamson, St. Augustine's retired and former public affairs director, who had the honor of lighting the tree.

After the countdown, a burst of applause filled the plaza and holiday lights illuminated the ancient city. They lit the cheerful crowd of visitors and residents, young and old, from all paths of life, who came to celebrate with loved ones and enjoy the start of St. Augustine's festive and giving season.

"St. Augustine does a great job of bringing people together to celebrate the holiday season," Walker said. "I witnessed people from almost every different culture you could think of, and that was really beautiful."

For more information on St. Augustine and Nights of Lights, visit [www.floridashistoriccoast.com/nights-lights](http://www.floridashistoriccoast.com/nights-lights).



**A woman hands out light-up toy jewelry to children as they walk through the plaza.**

*Jim McCarthy is president of the North Florida Land Trust, a not for profit, 501(c)(3) that is committed to protecting the natural resources, historic places and working lands (farms and ranches) of North Florida. He lives in Nocatee with his wife, Liz.*

## Jim McCarthy

As told to Maggie FitzRoy

### When was the North Florida Land Trust founded?

In 1999. This is our 20th year, and we're planning to hold a celebration Feb. 19 at the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens. I joined in 2014.

### What is your background, what did you do before that?

It's varied. I worked for the federal government for five and a half years and then lobbied for 17 years, mostly in Washington, D.C. I came to Jacksonville as a lobbyist and I fell in love with Jacksonville. I had left Washington in snow-changing-to-sleet weather that would be changing to freezing and arrived in Jacksonville, where after my meeting I saw a sign that said it was 11 o'clock and 81 degrees. I said, "Why am I going back?" That was Oct. 23, 1984.

### Who did you lobby for?

The American Gas Association, which represented gas utilities throughout the country.

### What did you do next?

I started the Associated Builders and Contractors organization. So it was way different from what I am doing now. Then I left to work for the Haskell Company, selling finance design-build services for educational facilities. After that I consulted, doing public relations marketing.

### What does the Florida Land Trust do?

We acquire property for conservation purposes, either through easements or purchasing. We take donations of land and easements as well. There are huge tax breaks for donating easements to us.

### How much land does the North Florida Land Trust own?

Just shy of 20,000 acres, of which 18,000 has come in the last five years. We've got a good team.

### Where is your headquarters?

Downtown in LaVilla, in the old Brewster Hospital building, which was the first hospital for African Americans, built in 1885. We put half a million in restoration.

### Where are your acres?

They range from Nassau County south to Putnam County and west to



Photo by Maggie FitzRoy

Jim McCarthy stands in front of North Florida Land Trust property near Mickler's Landing in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Columbia County, north of Lake City. In Ponte Vedra Beach, we own everything from Mickler's Landing north to Sawgrass Country Club between Ponte Vedra Boulevard and A1A. All that marsh land. We are the folks who buy swampland in Florida. The beginning of Guana River flows through those marshes. It serves a valuable purpose: cleans water, prevents flooding and provides recreational activities, such as kayaking and paddle boarding.

### Does the land trust have a lot of volunteers?

Last year we had 358 volunteers, although we are not really volunteer driven because we are in the real estate business. Some people buy land to build on. We buy it to conserve it and preserve it for future generations.

### Where does the money come from?

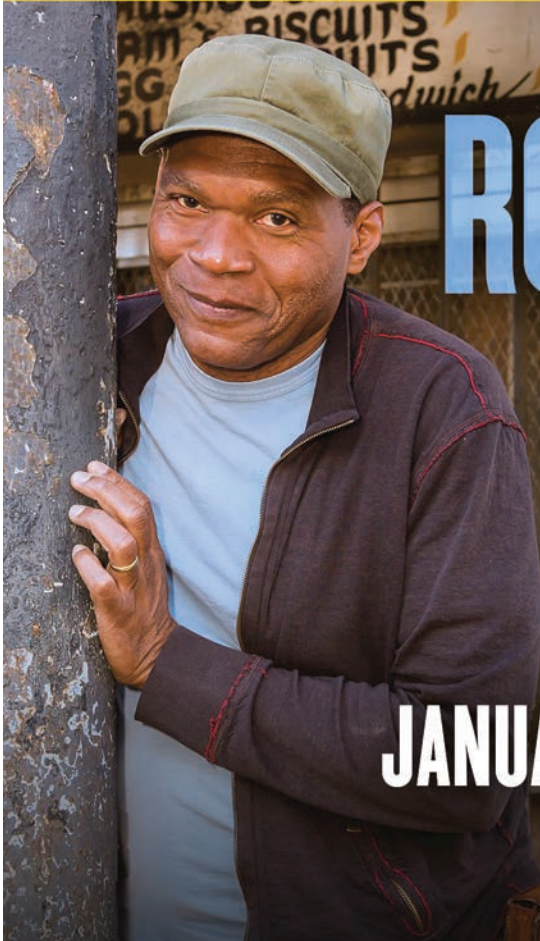
Largely private donations, but it depends on the project. We look for sources of

funding for all of our projects. If it's in one of the Florida Forever areas, we'll use state money. A good example of that is the acquisition of Fish Island in St. Augustine, just south of the 312 Bridge. We turned it over to the state and the City of St. Augustine is going to manage it as a public park.

### Is it a challenge to find funding?

It's really the secret sauce—where to find the money. It's what we specialize in, day in and day out.

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## KIDS SAY

In this new feature of the Ponte Veda Recorder, "Kids Say," area children offer their answers for some pressing questions. This week, kindergarten students at CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH PRESCHOOL were asked ...

## WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT THANKSGIVING?



"Going to my grandma's house."

Braden



"That we all gather up at the table."

Summer



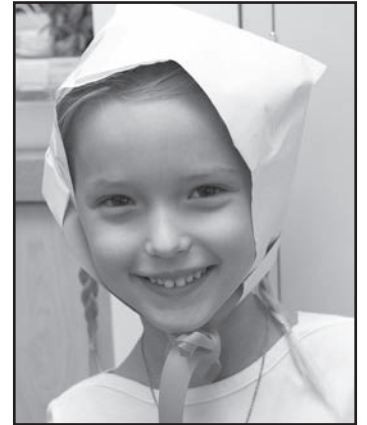
"My favorite thing is we eat turkey."

Jay



"Turkey and pumpkin pie."

Alden



"Inviting family over to have a feast."

Campbell

Sponsorship opportunities for this special feature are available. Call Susan Griffin at (904) 285-8831, ext. 3938 or email [susan@opcfla.com](mailto:susan@opcfla.com) for more information.



Photos by Amber Lake

Seymour's Christmas Booksale will be at the Ponte Veda Beach Branch Library from Dec. 6-9.

## Library's holiday booksale brings Christmas cheer at discount prices

This season's best kept secret for merry bookworms is fast approaching — the annual Seymour's Christmas Booksale.

The Booksale will take place at the Ponte Veda Beach Branch Library, inside Seymour's Book Shop. The sale will be Dec. 6-9, during normal library hours. The event includes discount prices on all donated, gently used holiday-favorite

books, collections, DVDs and more. Seymour's Christmas Booksale is great for stocking stuffers or introducing young readers to classic holiday stories like Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" or "Miracle on 34th Street."

For more information call the Ponte Veda Beach Branch Library at (904) 827-6950.

## Santa's mailbox to accept letters at Sawgrass Village and Recorder office

Letters mailed to Saint Nick will receive responses

Area children seeking to send their Christmas wishes to Santa Claus may drop them off at Santa's mailbox located in front of Publix in Sawgrass Village and at the Ponte Veda Recorder office beginning Friday, Nov. 15.

Letters "mailed" between Nov. 15 and Dec. 15 will receive a response from Santa thanks to a special arrangement the Ponte Veda Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce has made with the North Pole.

Letters will be collected from the special mailbox; Santa asks children to use the special stationery stocked by all Sawgrass Village businesses. These special letters have a place for addresses so that Santa may mail a response letter. Please make sure you provide your return address!

Things at the North Pole get busy towards Christmas, so the last day to deposit letters will be Dec. 15. The Ponte Veda Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce also serves as the Ponte Veda Beach



Photo provided by the Ponte Veda Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce  
**Children deposit letters into Santa's mailbox in 2018.**

Visitor Center. Call (904) 285-2004 or visit at 200 Solana Road if you have any questions about Santa's mailbox or the area.



# Hey Kids ... Send your letters to Santa

Santa has asked the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber to put special mailboxes in Ponte Vedra Beach so he receives letters from all the children.

*Dear Santa,*




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Mailboxes in place Nov. 15 until Dec. 15 After that, Santa will be busy!



*Sincerely,*

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **AGE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR RETURN ADDRESS SO SANTA CAN WRITE YOU BACK:**

---



---



**DROP-OFF AT SANTA MAILBOX LOCATIONS:**

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Ponte Vedra Recorder Office  
(inside)  
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Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082



# Paris in Full Bloom

2019 ART & ANTIQUES SHOW

December 6 - 8

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## Show Schedule

**Friday, December 6** | Show Hours 11 am - 3 pm

10 am | Jim, Phoebe and Andrew Howard, Mrs. Howard, Max & Company  
*Family Affair* | Book signing to follow.

11:30 am | Juli Catlin, FASID & William Nash, Art & Antiques Expert  
*The New French: Louis XIV to Louis Vuitton*

1 pm | Julia Reed, Southern Author  
*Tales and Table Talk* | Book signing to follow.

Opening Night Party

6:30 - 7:30 pm | Benefactor Reception

7:30 - 11:30 pm | Gala and Dinner featuring the RiverTown Band. Black Tie  
Ticketed event.

**Saturday, December 7** | Show Hours 11 am - 5 pm

10 am | Ray Booth, Interior Designer  
*Evocative Interiors* | Book signing to follow.

1 pm | Margot Shaw, Editor-in-chief, *flower* magazine with Elaine Griffin  
and Barry Dixon, Interior Design  
*Outside/In: Designing with Nature in Mind* | Book signing to follow.

**Sunday, December 8** | Show Hours 11 am - 4 pm

12 noon | Dr. Adam Levine, Director and CEO, The Cummer Museum of  
Art and Gardens  
*The Nuts and Bolts (and Do's and Don'ts) of Collecting*

2 pm | Children's Fashion Show and family friendly reception to follow

### Also Featuring

Art & Antiques dealers from across the country | French Flower Market  
Book Nook | Pastry Cafe | Tea Room | Young Collectors Booth

All show tickets available at [artandantiquesshow.com](http://artandantiquesshow.com).



Photo by Daniela Toporek

Leigh Cort and Carol Maurer pose at the Hilton Garden Inn lobby, Nov. 18, for the Women's Food Alliance monthly event, hosted by Maurer and the catering company Sawgrass Events.

## Women's Food Alliance meets at Hilton Garden Inn

By Daniela Toporek

Continuing its mission of uniting women in hospitality, the Women's Food Alliance held its monthly event Nov. 18 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Ponte Vedra Beach. For the occasion, Hilton Sales Manager and WFA member Carol Maurer hosted an autumn theme-inspired dinner by Sawgrass Events and five new alliance members were welcomed.

"This is our lucky night," Maurer said. "We're going on a tour of the hotel, we're having a little scavenger hunt to find new members and then dine in our large conference room on the first floor with our caterer, Sawgrass Events."

Maurer called herself a "newbie" of the WFA, saying she had not met some of the attending members yet, but was excited to meet them all.

"I love it so far and the concept of this group is great," she said. "That's in Conrad

Hilton's motto, spreading the warmth and light of hospitality all around the world."

After checking in, guests searched through the hotel for the new-member tables and listened to other "newbies" introduce themselves and their product.

"This is my first event as a member," said Amy Morales, educator-turned chocolatier and owner of Sweets for the Soul. "This has been a fabulous organization for me because it's women in all facets of food, and Leigh has been so supportive," Morales said, referring to founder, Leigh Cort. "They're helping me learn and refine my business."

Other new members included Kara Joseph from Be Wine Inspired; Hillary Lake, of Hillary Lake Events; Donna MacPherson, owner of Golden Isles Olive Oil & Gourmet Market; and Mr. Potato Spread' Lakita Spann, who, with the help

ALLIANCE continues on Page 14

Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home has partnered with Toys for Tots this holiday season.



Please drop off new, unwrapped toys before Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> to:

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**NOCATEE HAPPENINGS**

# Coastal Wine Market hosts California winemaker

Coastal Wine Market in Nocatee welcomed Brian Maloney, Winemaker for Buena Vista Winery in Sonoma County, California, on Nov. 19. The event included complimentary tastings and wines were offered at special discounts.

Buena Vista was founded in 1857 and was California's first premium winery. Just outside the town of Sonoma, the original winery is now a



**Steve Lourie, Brian Maloney and Sara Brewer**

Photo by Susan Griffin

California Historic Landmark. At the Nocatee event, a selection of wines were offered, along with tacos from Chef Jody.

# Nocatee-A-Glow set for Dec. 6-7

The community of Nocatee will celebrate the holidays Dec. 6 and 7 with a Nocatee-A-Glow celebration that will be free to residents.

Held at Splash and Spray Waterparks, it will feature Santa and Mrs. Claus, a tree-lighting ceremony, a light show, character visits, a food truck village, a holiday bar, horse-drawn carriage rides, train rides, live performances, snacks station, live Nativity scene, holiday movie, bounce houses, letters to Santa, a "snow" zone, holiday balloonist, a shopping showcase and more.

Residents must show proof of residence with ID cards. Entry is limited for non-resident guests; guest tickets are available for \$10 at the door. Visit [Nocatee.com](http://Nocatee.com) for more information.

## OBITUARIES

### Martin Berger

Martin Berger, 83, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Nov. 7, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravally.com](http://www.pontevedravally.com)

### Casey Griffith Damm

Casey Griffith Damm, 36, of St. Augustine, Florida, died Nov. 20, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravally.com](http://www.pontevedravally.com)

### Adam Hankers

Adam Hankers, 55, of St. Augustine, Florida, died Nov. 14, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravally.com](http://www.pontevedravally.com)

### Walter J. Minton

Walter J. Minton, 96, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Nov. 19, 2019. Ponte

Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravally.com](http://www.pontevedravally.com)

### Richard Selby

Richard Selby, 92, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Nov. 8, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravally.com](http://www.pontevedravally.com)

### Rita E. Yarbrough

Rita E. Yarbrough, 94, of Fernandina Beach, Florida, died Nov. 20, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com). (904) 249-1100.

### Honorable Thomas Paul Zolezzi

Honorable Thomas Paul Zolezzi, Sr., 79, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Nov. 20, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com). (904) 249-1100.

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For more information about these works, the artists, or other works, contact Bob Nickerson at First Coast Artists at 904.280.8187.



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**ABOVE:** Three-year-old students at the school sing a medley of songs.



**LEFT:** Kindergarten students at the school come on as Pilgrims to complete the Thanksgiving story.

Photos by Maggie FitzRoy

## Preschoolers give thanks with joyful, musical pageant

By Maggie FitzRoy

Kicking off their colorful show singing, "If you're thankful and you know it clap your hands," about 60 Christ Episcopal Church Preschool 3-year-olds dressed as Native Americans put on a Thanksgiving pageant Nov. 20 that brought smiles to the

faces of parents and family friends.

The show is a tradition at the school.

The 3-year-olds created their costumes in class, and boys and girls were dressed identically, complete with beads, head-dresses and face paint. The joyous students

**PAGEANT** continues on **Page 14**



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# Sawgrass Village hosts holiday fun

The community is invited to a free Christmas celebration Saturday, Dec. 7 at Sawgrass Village Shopping Center in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., the event will include a visit with Santa, horse-drawn carriage rides, music, kid's activities and more.

Later, from 5 to 7:30 p.m., a Jingle

Mingle ticketed festive evening event will be held in support of the Ponte Vedra Woman's Club charities. Featuring food and drink, the Jacksonville Harmony Chorus and a holiday raffle, tickets are \$50 pre-purchase and \$60 at the door.

To purchase tickets or learn more, visit sawgrassvillagePVB.com.

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# Sawgrass Events Holiday Catering



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# Pageant

Continued from 12

sang a medley of songs, some with chanting, hand movements and drums.

Toward the end, the school's kindergartners came in dressed as Pilgrims to complete the Thanksgiving story.

"Happy Thanksgiving, everybody," Leslie Borland, kindergarten teacher, sang out after reading a poem about

the Pilgrims bringing gifts to their new friends.

"It was great," said Heather Kornick, who came with husband, Craig, to watch their daughter, Auden, in the show. Like most of the other adults in the audience, they captured the iconic performance with their cell phone cameras.

"She was excited," Heather Kornick said of Auden, who portrayed a Native American. "This is a great school."



Three-year-old students at the school sing a medley of songs.

Photo by Maggie FitzRoy

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**LEFT:** Carol Beek (from left), Hillary Lake and Terri Sherman mix and mingle before dinner is served.

**BELOW:** Lakita Spann poses with coworker, Keaira Trimble, showing off the variety of potato creations of her business, Mr. Potato Spread.

Photos by Daniela Toporek



Amy Morales attended the WFA as a new member and introduced the ladies of hospitality to her upcoming business.



# Alliance

Continued from 10

of her husband, created a unique, custom and hardy snack that's been in business since 2014.

"My husband has a fine-dining background, so it was important for us to do something that you can dress up, dress down and duplicate easily," Spann said about her business. "I've never met a person that doesn't like potatoes and you can

do almost anything with them. We've done surf-and-turf potatoes, lobster-and-shrimp potatoes, we can be as creative as we want to be."

After new-member introductions, WFA members headed to the Hilton dining area, where Sawgrass Events served a savory pumpkin lasagna, with onions, mushrooms and cheese, topped with shredded parmesan and a grilled asparagus spear. Adding fall-festive color, a tower of carrot-sweet potato mash and roasted tomato halves were served on the side.

The rest of the alliance members briefly introduced themselves around the room between courses.

"The WFA is more about connecting, understanding and supporting one's business, finding out what their passion is and what's behind the hard work," Cort said. "This is the only organization in my 50 years in business where there's no competition, it's all support."

For more information on the Women's Food Alliance, visit [www.leighcortpublicity.com/womens-food-alliance.htm](http://www.leighcortpublicity.com/womens-food-alliance.htm).

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# Vilano Fest Tour of Homes features water views

By Christine Rodenbaugh

The third annual Vilano Fest Tour of Homes on Nov. 3 highlighted water views of the Intracoastal Waterway and the Atlantic Ocean. The traditional festival is a celebration of the history, future, individuality and community of Vilano Beach, conceived by a group of residents who are passionate about their small, eclectic and growing neighborhoods. In 1997, residents partnered with St. Johns County to build a sustainable, pedestrian-friendly Vilano Beach Town Center. Vilano Fest is a fundraiser to underwrite the continued initiative.

Tour of Homes Chair, Elisa Hill, selected a variety of structures that represent Vilano living, intentionally including smaller cottages as well as palatial estates.

“I walk up to the door and ask if they want to be on this year’s tour,” Hill said. “Usually it’s a positive response.”

The tour began at Magic Beach Motel, which was featured in the TV series, “Safe Harbor” in 1999. Built in 1951, the motel has undergone a recent renovation that also restored each room’s unique mural depicting coastal and historical scenes.

Next on the tour was 313 Porpoise Point Drive, a townhome with views of St. Augustine Inlet, the lighthouse, Bridge of Lions and downtown. Having lived in Europe and the Middle East, owners Bruce and Andrea Andrews settled in St. Augustine to raise their daughter, Mattie.



A group toured 313 Porpoise Point Drive, a townhome that overlooks St. Augustine Inlet with views of the lighthouse, Bridge of Lions and downtown. Old Town Trolley shuttled groups to the eight properties on the tour, all with unique water views.

VILANO continues on Page 22



ABOVE: The 2019 Vilano Fest Tour of Homes began at the Magic Beach Motel where co-owner Remy Jensen and 4-year-old Mia welcomed tour guests to see the unique murals in each room of the recently renovated property built in 1951.

RIGHT: A trolley shuttles visitors to one of its eight stops during the Tour of Homes.



Photos by Christine Rodenbaugh  
Nichole Akam welcomes guests to her parents’ home at 3741 Coastal Highway. She’s standing in front of her father’s six-car garage that houses his 1923 Model T truck and other vintage vehicles and collectibles.



# Beacon Lake welcomes guests to lifestyle luncheon



Photos provided by Beacon Lake

Tanya LeSage (from left), Michael Howell, Trina Carter and Paul Ellsworth of Florida Homes Realty & Mortgage enjoyed visiting the Dream Finders Homes model at Beacon Lake.



Beacon Lake residents Mike Latino and Marti Hutchison acted as ambassadors, speaking with Realtors about life in Beacon Lake.



Anastasia Long of Watson Realty Corp. won the grand prize Royal Caribbean cruise for two.



Bret Melton, Robert Adams, Miranda May, Kaitlyn Gabbard and Alan Levinson of Round Table Realty toured Beacon Lake's amenities including the Fitness Center.



Lia Chinchilla and Karen Brown, both of Keller Williams Realty, showing off their swag at Lake House.

About 150 special guests recently attended a Tapas & Tours luncheon and community tour at Beacon Lake, a new lakefront lifestyle community in northern St. Johns County. The event gave attendees an opportunity to experience residents' lifestyles while learning about the community's current and future plans.

At Beacon Lake, Dream Finders Homes and Mattamy Homes are building coastal-inspired single-family homes featuring welcoming front porches and open floor plans. Dream Finders is also building luxury townhomes at Beacon Lake.

Tapas & Tours opened at the Lake House – Beacon Lake's Amenity and Fitness Center, where guests enjoyed a gourmet tapas luncheon featuring seasonal ingredients and meeting community residents and the developer. Complimentary shuttles carried guests to Mattamy and Dream Finders' five decorated model homes showcasing the latest in home design trends. The festivities included live music and giveaways and prize drawings, including a grand prize Royal Caribbean Cruise for two to the Bahamas.

"We were pleased to once again welcome a record number of guests to our special event and we appreciate the positive comments received," said Bruce J. Parker, Managing Director for BBX Capital Real Estate, Beacon Lake's master developer. "Beacon Lake has been thoughtfully designed to feel intimate and friendly, making it easy for residents to enjoy the beautiful outdoors while getting to know their neighbors. We are thrilled more and more homebuyers are discovering there is so much to love at Beacon Lake."

Tapas and Tours showcased the active family lifestyle available to residents at Beacon Lake. The Lake House is the heart of the Beacon Lake community. Anchored by a developing 43-acre lake designed for kayaks and canoes and nestled within 358 acres of nature preserve, the 8,200-square-foot Lake House is a gathering place for entertainment and get-togethers as well as a place for fitness and relaxation. The Lake House includes a state-of-the-art fitness center offering virtual training and classes, cardio and strength training equipment, free weights, spin bikes and a fitness studio. The Culinary Studio and Demonstration kitchen is available for catered events and designed to delight foodies who enjoy cooking classes and chef demonstrations.

The Lake House amenities include a Splash Park, fun pool, junior Olympic swimming pool and lakeside sand beach. The dockside Crew House will provide kayak rentals and there are numerous outdoor seating areas for socializing including a fire pit and a gazebo. Residents

# First floor of oceanfront condominium features famous artist's work

By Maggie FitzRoy

Leaving Publix in Sawgrass Village one day, friends Phil Garfinkle and Travis Storey got into a conversation about art as they drove home to their condominiums at Costa Verano in Jacksonville Beach.

Storey, president of the oceanfront condo's community association, mentioned that he would like to turn the first floor of the 14-story building into a miniature art gallery, decorating the hallway with original paintings.

Garfinkle, an avid art collector, whipped out his cell phone and called his good friend and internationally known artist, Simon Bull. By the time they reached Solana Road, only a few blocks away, Bull had committed to sending some of his work.

"Simon said, 'sure, I'll send some down,'" Storey said, amazed and pleased at how quickly it was arranged.

Not long after that, Bull kept his promise and eight large paintings fea-

turing cherry blossoms went up on the condo's walls.

"I met Simon on a cruise in the Caribbean two years ago," Garfinkle explained one recent day as he and Storey stood in front of an original acrylic on canvas, called "Embrace."

The owner of Planet Cotton, Garfinkle is also the exclusive merchandizer for the annual Washington, D.C. Cherry Blossom Festival. He set Simon, a California-based artist, up for the 2019 event, nominating him to be the official artist for the 2019 festival.

Bull's official art won first place gold medal for the International Association of Festival Event's worldwide, Garfinkle said. The paintings now on display at Costa Verano were on display at the Watergate Hotel in the nation's capital during the Cherry Blossom Festival last spring, and they will remain at Costa Verano until February.

All 48 inches by 60 inches in size,

ART continues on Page 19



ABOVE: Phil Garfinkle (left) and Travis Storey, residents of Costa Verano Condominiums in Jacksonville Beach, stand before a painting by artist Simon Bull that is on display in a hallway on the building's first floor.



LEFT: Garfinkle, a personal friend of Bull, easily arranged to have the well known artist's work exhibited in the Costa Verano Condominiums.

Photos by Maggie FitzRoy



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# Beacon Lake

Continued from 17

can hit the tennis courts, kick around a soccer ball, hit a mallet on the croquet field, or play catch on the multipurpose playing field. A bark park offers furry residents and their owners a place to exercise, socialize and play. Residents can also enjoy watching their little one's swing, climb and slide on the pirate ship-themed playground. The community has miles of multipurpose paths, perfect for walking, running or biking.

Beacon Lake is within the St. Johns County Public School District and zoned for A-rated schools including Ocean Palms Elementary School, Alice B. Landrum Middle School and Allen D. Nease High School for the 2019-2020 school year.

Final opportunities are underway in Beacon Lake's Phase 1, where Mattamy Homes has quick move-in homes available. At Beacon Lake, Dream Finders and Mattamy Homes are offering award-winning, single-family home designs ranging in size from 1,600 square feet to more than 3,500 square feet and priced from the mid-\$200s to \$500s. Five decorated model homes are open for tours.

Beacon Lake's townhomes feature open floor plans with three or four bedrooms, attached two-car garages and lanais, and residents enjoy access to all of the community's amenities. Dream Finders' Harborside at Beacon Lake is offering one- and two-story townhome designs ranging in size from 1,388 square feet to more than 2,000 square feet and priced from the low \$200s.

Located on the south side of County Road 210 between U.S. Route 1 and Interstate 95, Beacon Lake offers residents a central location near shopping, dining, employment centers and area beaches. For more information, visit [www.BeaconLake.com](http://www.BeaconLake.com).



Photos provided by Beacon Lake  
**Sharon Giannelli of Keller Williams Realty and Ashley Krites of Hover Girl Properties poolside at Beacon Lake.**



**Bruce J. Parker speaking with Realtor at the "Meet the Developer" booth in Beacon Lake's lakeside gazebo.**

# Art

Continued from 18

and available for purchase, Storey estimates that collectively they are worth a quarter of a million dollars. The condominium is gated, so security is assured.

"We put it here for our residents to enjoy and for them to bring their friends and guests to enjoy," Storey said.

The exhibit has been well received. Garfinkle, whose condo is filled with pieces from a wide variety of famous artists, is already working on the next one.

"I've already met with other internationally acclaimed artists about bringing the next exhibit to Costa Verano," he said.

"I would like to turn Costa Verano into a cultural centerpiece for the community," Storey said. "This is our first foray into that game plan."



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| Thursday, Nov. 28  | Friday, Nov. 29  | Saturday, Nov. 30  | Sunday, Dec. 1  |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p><b>Thanksgiving at Pusser's Bar and Grille</b><br/>Enjoy the view at Pusser's Bar and Grille's and feast on a Thanksgiving meal, Nov. 28, with the choice of oven-roasted turkey or honey-glazed ham and all the sides for \$27.95. Fixings include sides of mashed potatoes and gravy, sweet potato casserole, cranberry relish, green bean casserole and corn bread stuffing. Soups and dessert are also available for an extra \$4.95 each. For more information or to make a reservation, call Pusser's Bar and Grille at (904) 280-7766. Pusser's Bar and Grille is located at 816 A1A N., #100, in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>First Coast Turkey Trot Thanksgiving 5k</b><br/>Run with Florida Race Day from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., Thanksgiving morning, at Mickler's Landing for the First Coast Turkey Trot Thanksgiving 5K. Everyone participating will receive a medal and finishers photo for this chip-timed event. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind Ski &amp; Winter Sports Athletic Club. Bring a nonperishable food item to donate to a local food pantry. To register or for more information, visit <a href="http://www.runsignup.com">www.runsignup.com</a> and search for the First Coast Turkey Trot Thanksgiving 5K. Kids under 10 can participate for free and winners of the event get pumpkin pies. Mickler's Beach Landing is located at 1109 Ponte Vedra Blvd., in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Frozen 2 at the IMAX Theater</b><br/>The IMAX Theater at World Golf Hall of Fame is showing "Frozen 2" at 1:30 p.m., Nov. 28, and through the holiday season. Elsa, the Snow Queen, and her sister, Anna, embark on another adventure far away from the kingdom of Arendelle, joined by friends, Kristoff, Olaf and Sven. For showtimes, visit <a href="http://www.worldgolfimax.com">www.worldgolfimax.com</a>. The IMAX Theater is located at 1 World Golf Place in St. Augustine.</p> <p><b>Thirsty Thursday at Al's Pizza</b><br/>What's a better combination than pizza and beer? Every Thursday from open to close, Al's Pizza serves \$1.50 Yuengling Lager and house wines. Al's Pizza is located at 635 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> | <p><b>Jenny Yoo trunk show at Calvet Couture</b><br/>Schedule an appointment at Calvet Coutour from 8:30 to 6 p.m., Nov. 29 and 30, for a look at the new Spring 2020 Jenny Yoo collection. Jenny Yoo Collection consists of designs for the modern bride, bridesmaid and everyone in between. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.jennyyoo.com/trunk-shows">www.jennyyoo.com/trunk-shows</a> or call Calvet Coutour at (904) 686-7949. Calvet Coutour is located at 310 Front St., #875, in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Downtown Dazzle display</b><br/>The Jacksonville Children's Chorus will host its fourth annual downtown holiday celebration at 5:30 p.m., Nov. 29, by illuminating its downtown office with festive lights, synchronized to recorded songs of the season performed by JCC. Downtown Dazzle continues through New Year's Eve, with 20-minute presentations each night, from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. For more information, call JCC at (904) 353-1636. JCC is located at 225 E. Duval St., in Jacksonville.</p> <p><b>Ponte Vedra Professional Networking Group meeting</b><br/>The Ponte Vedra Professional Networking Group schedules weekly meetings inside Fidelity Bank, where members network with each other and guests. Each member/guest will introduce themselves and one member will present about the businesses he/she represents. The next meeting is Nov. 29 at 8:45 a.m. Fidelity Bank is located at 110 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Eleventh annual Beaches tree lighting ceremony</b><br/>Celebrate the start of the holiday season at the Beaches at the 11th annual tree-lighting ceremony at Rockaway, Inc., from 6 to 8:30 p.m., Nov. 29, filled with food, drinks, specials and more. DeeJay Capone will be performing all evening, with the champagne toast starting at 8 p.m. Donations will be accepted at the event to support Project Kind, which creates opportunities and builds support systems for the homeless. For more information, call Rockaway, Inc. at (904) 853-6572. Rockaway, Inc. is located at 510 Shetter Ave. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> | <p><b>Donuts with Santa</b><br/>Jacksonville Mom is hosting "Donuts with Santa" from 1 to 4 p.m., Nov. 30, at The Mini Bar. Tickets are \$20 per person and includes one professional photo with St. Nick and a three-pack of holiday donuts. Multiple people can be in the Santa photo, but one ticket gets one photo and one donut pack. Tickets are by time slots. It is recommended to arrive 10 minutes early. Tickets can be found on <a href="http://www.904tix.com">www.904tix.com</a> by searching for, "Donuts with Santa." For more information, email <a href="mailto:info@minibarondonuts.com">info@minibarondonuts.com</a>. The Mini Bar is located at 1300 Beach Blvd., in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p><b>Momcology's Caregiver Coffee Break</b><br/>Momcology, a national nonprofit provides reciprocal peer support models for childhood cancer families, will host its Caregiver Coffee Break from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Nov. 30, at the Dunkin Donuts in Ponte Vedra. Sponsored by the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund, Caregiver Coffee Break is a casual get-together, hosted by Dunkin Donuts and Momcology, to help families meet others in the area, with similar situations, for peer support and time to connect. To attend, RSVP at <a href="http://www.EventBrite.com">www.EventBrite.com</a> by searching for "Caregiver Coffee Break." Dunkin Donuts is located at 226 Solana Road, in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Jeff Jarrett at Lulu's Waterfront Grille</b><br/>Visit Lulu's Waterfront Grille from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., Nov. 30, for an evening of live music with Jeff Jarrett from Jeff and the Jarretts. Enjoy outdoor, covered and screened seating, right on the water, with overflowing drink and Lulu's southern-inspired dishes. Lulu's is located at 301 N. Roscoe Blvd., in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Reiki I certification workshop</b><br/>Reiki is an energy-healing treatment that works holistically on the body, mind and spirit. Led by Reiki Master Irene Schrank, students will receive initiation and attunement and learn how to perform Reiki. Class is from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Nov. 30 and costs \$150 to attend. For more information, call (904) 992-9930 or email <a href="mailto:info@mbandbcenter.com">info@mbandbcenter.com</a>. Mind Body and Beyond Center is located at 13500 Sutton Park Dr. S., #203, in Jacksonville.</p> | <p><b>Paint a Hanukkah menorah</b><br/>For the holiday season, Painting With a Twist is hosting multiple holiday-themed paintings for all. From 4 to 6 p.m., Dec. 1, painting instructor Dylan will guide guests on how to paint an elaborate menorah for the Hanukkah season. Arrive 10 to 15 minutes early to get uncorked, smocked and seated. Choose to paint on a canvas or a wooden shiplap pallet and remember to BYOB for this 21-and-up, festive event. For prices, to reserve a spot or more information, call Painting With a Twist at (904) 687-4307. Painting With a Twist is located at 268 Solana Road, in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Jacksonville Jaguars vs. Tampa Bay Buccaneers at TIAA Bank Field</b><br/>With only a few games left in the 2019 season, don't miss out as the Jacksonville Jaguars take on the Tampa Bay Buccaneers at 1 p.m., Dec. 1, at TIAA Bank Field. Tickets can be found at <a href="http://www.ticketmaster.com">www.ticketmaster.com</a>. TIAA Bank Field is located at 1 TIAA Bank Field Dr., in Jacksonville.</p> <p><b>Holiday cards for troops</b><br/>The holidays are coming and the American Legion Post 129 Canteen are making sure troops get their holiday greetings, too. Take some time to purchase and fill out a festive holiday card with a message for military men and women and drop it off at the Legion by 4 p.m., Dec. 1. With many service members separated from their families due to deployments, they're due for some holiday cheer. For more information, call (904) 249-2266. The American Legion Post 129 Canteen is located at 1151 Fourth St. S., in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p><b>Sundays at Surfer the Bar</b><br/>Join Big Fish Power Yoga on Sundays for a free "music &amp; flow" class at Surfer the Bar. The class is held upstairs and runs from 10 to 11 a.m. Bring friends and family and enjoy brunch and mimosas after class. Register under classes at <a href="http://www.bigfishpoweryoga.com">www.bigfishpoweryoga.com</a>. Surfer the Bar is located at 200 First St., in Jacksonville Beach.</p> |

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| Monday, Dec. 2   | Tuesday, Dec. 3   | Wednesday, Dec. 4  | Thursday, Dec. 5   |
|--|---|--|--|
| <p><b>Night of Lights boat cruise</b><br/>The Night of Lights boat cruises are back, now through Feb. 2, 2020, for a tour of the lights along the water and bayfront in downtown St. Augustine. Boats will launch out of Beaches of Vilano and run between two to three trips per night, every day of the week (weather permitting). For more information, call Night of Lights Cruise at (904) 248-4424. Beaches of Vilano is located at 254 Vilano Road, in St. Augustine.</p> <p><b>Mario Kart Mondays at Brix Taphouse</b><br/>Get fast and furious at the Brix Taphouse's Mario Kart Mondays from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. Racers must sign up at 10 p.m. Winners will receive bragging rights for the week and a bottle of Stoli Crushed. Spectators can enjoy happy hour from 10 to close. Must be 21 and older to attend. The Brix Taphouse is located at 300 Second St. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p><b>Run Club at Southern Swells</b><br/>Join Jax Beach Runners Monday nights at Southern Swells Brewing Co. for an evening run at 7 p.m. It is a 4.2-mile route, but runners can run as much or as little as they'd like. After the run, hang out and enjoy \$1 Southern Swells beers for all who ran. For more information about Jax Beach Runners and their events, visit their meetup page at <a href="http://www.meetup.com/Jax-Beach-Runners/">www.meetup.com/Jax-Beach-Runners/</a>. Southern Swells Brewing Co. is located at 1312 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p><b>Monday trivia at Mellow Mushroom</b><br/>Join Mellow Mushroom every Monday night at 7 p.m. for trivia with Trivia Nation. This event is free to play and there are prizes for the winners. Mellow Mushroom is located at 1018-2 Third St. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p><b>Drake Freeman at Prohibition Kitchen</b><br/>A new rising star on the Nashville scene and native of Atlanta, Georgia, Drake Freeman is a singer/songwriter and musician, with such as Mike Campbell, Tom Petty, John Mayer, and Duane Allman. Watch Freenan perform at Prohibition Kitchen at 6 p.m., Dec. 2. For more information, call Prohibition Kitchen at (904) 209-5704. Prohibition Kitchen is located at 119 St. George St., in St. Augustine.</p> | <p><b>Florida Blue free Tuesday at The Cummer</b><br/>On Tuesday evenings from 4 to 9 p.m., enjoy free admission to the Cummer Museum and its historic gardens, thanks to the generous support of Florida Blue. Guests can enjoy free admission to the galleries and the Cummer Café, which is also open for Tapas Tuesday. This event is sponsored by VyStar Credit Union. The Cummer Museum of Art &amp; Gardens is located at 829 Riverside Ave. in Jacksonville.</p> <p><b>904 Boss Babes' Mix + Mingle</b><br/>904 Boss Babes strives to create an environment where women in business of all types can meet one another and help build a supportive community. 904 Boss Babes is hosting its last Mix + Mingle of 2019 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Dec. 3, at Riverside North, featuring a variety of sponsors and over 35 raffle prizes. Proceeds from the event will benefit the local Clara White Mission, founded in 1904 by Clara English White, who fed hungry neighbors from her two-room house on Clay Street. The Clara White Mission works in partnership with the community to prevent and reduce homelessness through advocacy, housing, job training, and employment. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, email <a href="mailto:904bossbabes@gmail.com">904bossbabes@gmail.com</a>. Riverside North is located 2711 Edison Ave., in Jacksonville.</p> <p><b>\$1 Tuesdays for kids at Trasca &amp; Co.</b><br/>Take the kids out to eat and save some money on Tuesdays at Trasca &amp; Co. Eatery. Children eat for \$1 with the purchase of an adult entrée. The special works for dine-in, take-out and deliveries. For more information, call Trasca &amp; Co Eatery at (904) 395-3989. Trasca &amp; Co. is located at 155 Tourside Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Karaoke at theLOFT</b><br/>Live up a Tuesday evening and visit theLOFT for its weekly karaoke party. Dj. Keith Wilson will provide the tunes, with a wide range of up-to-date songs and lyrics projected on a massive screen on theLOFT's wall. The first five participants get a free shot of Fireball and bragging rights. This event is free and open to those over 21 years of age. For more information, call theLOFT at (904) 551-1350. theLOFT is located 925 King St., in Jacksonville.</p> | <p><b>Wednesday Pier Farmers Market</b><br/>On Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to noon, the Pier Farmers Market at the St. Johns County Pier offers fresh produce, bread and local crafts, ranging from 60 to 80 different vendors. After browsing, visitors can take a stroll along scenic St. Augustine Beach. The market helps the local economy by allowing local merchants to sustain their business and also offer fresh, local foods to the community. For more information, call (904) 315-0952. The St. Johns County Pier Park at the St. Johns County Ocean Pier is located at 350 A1A Beach Blvd. in St. Augustine Beach.</p> <p><b>MOCA Holiday pop-up market</b><br/>Join the Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville at 5 p.m., Dec. 4, for an evening of shopping and live music as the museum features local artists, artisans and a performance by the Jacksonville Symphony. MOCA's Holiday Pop-up is the same night as Art Walk, so enjoy the streets of downtown and local vendors in and out of the pop-up. For more information, call MOCA at (904) 366-6911. MOCA Jax is located at 333 N. Laura St., in Jacksonville.</p> <p><b>First Wednesday Art Walk</b><br/>The First Wednesday Art Walk is a monthly event produced by Downtown Vision, Inc. to bring people to the cultural and historical center of the city and showcase Jacksonville's energetic pool of creative talent. Open to visual and performing artists, Art Walk is on the first Wednesday of the month from 5 to 9 p.m., in Hemming Park. Explore local art, talent, businesses and much more on Dec. 5. For more information, call (904) 515-5098. Hemming Park is located at 135 W. Monroe St in Jacksonville.</p> <p><b>Caregiver support group</b><br/>This support group, meeting the first Wednesdays of the month at noon, encourages caregivers to maintain their own personal, physical and emotional health, as well as optimal care for the person they are assisting. In addition, this group is an "escape" and may provide a much-needed break from caregiving responsibilities. Lunch will be served. To RSVP or for more information, call Cari Eyre at (904)-281-9077 or email <a href="mailto:ceyre@alz.org">ceyre@alz.org</a>. Palms at Ponte Vedra is located at 405 Solana Road, in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> | <p><b>'Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some!)' at the Limelight Theater</b><br/>At the Limelight Theater at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 5, instead of performing Charles Dickens' holiday classic for the umpteenth time, three actors decided to perform every Christmas story ever told, along with Christmas traditions from around the world and every carol ever sung. General admission tickets are \$27. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.limelight-theatre.org">www.limelight-theatre.org</a>. Limelight Theater is located at 11 Old Mission Ave., in St. Augustine.</p> <p><b>'Elf: The Musical'</b><br/>Buddy is an orphan who sneaks into Santa's gift bag and is taken to the North Pole, where he was raised as an elf, unaware that he is actually a human, until he faces the truth. He journeys to New York to find his family, only to find that his father is on the naughty list and his half-brother doesn't believe in Santa. Buddy is determined to win over his family and help remind NYC the true meaning of Christmas. "Elf: The Musical" will be showing at the Alhambra Theatre &amp; Dining, with the performances starting at 10 a.m., Dec. 5. For tickets and more information, visit <a href="http://www.alhambrajax.com">www.alhambrajax.com</a>. The Alhambra Theatre &amp; Dining is located at 12000 Beach Blvd., in Jacksonville.</p> <p><b>TEDxFSCJ Adventure: Unmasked</b><br/>Join TEDxFSCJ for "Unmasked," an adventure event exploring the themes, identities, and fandoms that define nerd culture. Hosted by The Short Box podcast's Badr Milligan and Cesar Cordero, the event will discuss how the "nerd" culture functions as a lifestyle and marketplace; how comic culture empowers minority storytelling and how comic-cons and e-sports have reinvented community and belonging. For more information, call the MOSH at (904) 396-6674 or visit <a href="http://www.themosh.org/event">www.themosh.org/event</a>. "Unmasked" starts at 6:30 p.m., Dec. 5, in the Bryan-Gooding Planetarium and is free to attend. The MOSH is located at 1025 Museum Cir., in Jacksonville.</p> <p><b>Free calendar listings for community groups and nonprofit organizations are published at our discretion on a space-available basis. Send your event at least 10 days before publication. Submit events to <a href="mailto:Daniela@opcfla.com">Daniela@opcfla.com</a> or call (904) 686-3939.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Compiled by Daniela Toporek</b></p> |

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**459 ROYAL TERN RD. S**



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**205 SETTLERS ROW N.**



Spectacular 5 BD, 7.5 BA pool home in The Plantation @ Ponte Vedra, a gated community. This home offers luxurious living with gorgeous water views!  
**MLS# 986795 / \$1,300,000**



**ABOVE: A room in the home at 3741 Coastal Highway that was featured on the Vilano Fest Tour of Homes.**



**LEFT: Cora Johnston of title sponsor Generation Homes, homeowner Kai Long and Susan Rippe stand in the kitchen at the recently built 3789 Wahoo Drive. Rippe painted the palms framing the kitchen window.**

Photos by Christine Rodenbaugh

**Vilano**

Continued from 16

Farther north at 3741 Coastal Highway, the trolley stopped at a three-story home with separate six-car garage housing a Model T truck, vintage gasoline pumps and other collectibles. William and Betty Porter have 5,800 square feet of living space to host extended family for holidays and celebrations. Their third-floor master suite features works by Emmett Kelly and other collections.

Title sponsor Generation Homes recently

built 3780 Wahoo Drive for longtime Vilano residents Bill and Kai Long. The 1,780-square-foot home has a mid-century modern feel with high ceilings with large windows that flood the space with natural light. A woodworker by trade, Bill Long created functional and artistic pieces featured throughout the home, including a traditional wooden boat hanging in the living room.

There were eight stops on the tour, which included refreshments provided by local restaurants at the North Shores Community Center at 120 Meadow Ave. For more information, visit [www.vilanofest.com](http://www.vilanofest.com).



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# The Northeast Florida real estate market: Why is it desirable and where is it headed?



**Robin Zuckerman**  
Guest Columnist

If you have been fortunate enough to have lived on the First Coast during the last decade there is no denying the amount of growth you have witnessed. Commercial and residential properties seem to be hot commodities

in many areas of the region. So, why is Northeast Florida so popular and will it maintain this level of expansion throughout the next 10 years? According to industry professionals, all signs point to a resounding “yes!”

It seems almost too easy to explain the draw for buyers and investors to Northeast Florida. Jacksonville the only Florida city that is home to four Fortune 500 companies, has a major international shipping port, boasts world class healthcare options (including the prestigious Mayo Clinic), has a cost of living below the national average, all while offering great weather and miles and miles of gorgeous Atlantic Ocean coastline.

Is the market still hot? And who is buying property?

While growth and momentum slowed a bit from mid to late 2019, the market is still vibrant and on the move. New construction is king and development shows no signs of cessation. Existing homes are taking slightly longer to sell, yet inventory on existing homes still remains low and sellers are getting close to 98% of original



Photo provided by metrocreativeconnection.com

asking price.

One group that has taken the area by storm are Millennials. They represent a large pool of potential buyers with a solid average income of \$88,000. Not only is their home buying power undeniable,

but they are especially adept at internet research, giving them particularly strong insights into the real estate market.

Online real estate search sites like Zillow, Trulia and Realtor.com are how approximately 50% of all buyers search

for their next home. This number skyrockets to 93% for buyers under the age of 36, putting technology front and center in the future of homebuying.

Similarly, online lenders can not only quote these tech-savvy potential buyers the latest interest rates and loan product details, but can also complete a transaction from application to closing without the buyer ever having to leave the comfort of their home office.

So, what’s next?

Jacksonville is geographically the largest city in the United States and although it may seem like there is new construction at every turn, there is still a large amount of available land ripe for more development.

People are flocking to our area, showing no signs of slowing down in their progression toward our warmer climates, beautiful landscapes and affordable living. Interest rates are – and are projected to stay – below 5%, which makes living in paradise even more affordable. Another plus is that Florida is a homestead state, offering a welcome tax reprieve to those escaping high-tax states.

In sum, Northeast Florida not only remains a great place to plant roots as a permanent resident, but is also a thriving area for investors and developers.

**Robin Zuckerman is a St. Johns County-based Realtor, working in partnership with her husband and fellow Realtor Josh, for The Zuckerman Group at Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty. For real estate questions, call her at (904) 424-9866 or visit [zuckermangroup.com](http://zuckermangroup.com).**



Photo provided by metrocreativeconnection.com

## 5 factors to consider when buying a home

Home ownership is a dream for many people. In fact, buying a home is considered by many people to be a major life accomplishment.

Various factors determine what makes a home an attractive place to live. While some considerations may overlap, others may be unique to individual buyers. Those new to the real estate arena may want to consider the following factors as they search for a new place to call home.

### 1. PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes can greatly affect the overall cost of living in a particular home. The real estate company RedFin says property taxes are generally levied by each county and often include taxes paid to schools, utility companies and municipal

governments. Property taxes will usually be factored into a monthly mortgage payment, and how high (or low) taxes are can turn an affordable mortgage payment into something that can break a budget. When calculating payments, be sure to include property taxes in your estimates.

### 2. JOB SECURITY/AVAILABILITY

The financial resource Fortune Builder says to consider your job security before taking the home ownership plunge. Before committing to an investment as substantial as a home, ensure that you are secure in your job. Similarly, if you are relocating for job prospects, verify that the new location has a thriving job market.

# St. Augustine townhomes with boat slips under construction

Waterfront community Villa Calissa located on San Sebastian River

By Christine Rodenbaugh

Villa Calissa is a new boating community on the San Sebastian River in St. Augustine, developed by the Urban Partners team. The design, by Cronk Duch

Architecture, is intended to be sophisticated, yet relaxed, with open interiors and Caribbean-inspired exteriors. Amenities will include a community pool and fire pit overlooking the water and kayak or paddle board launch. The waterfront community is built around an oak grove that will serve as a park for the community.

“The developers insisted on designing around the existing trees, even though

VILLA CALISSA continues on Page 25



ABOVE: Sales Director Michelle Mousin shows off the waterfront view of the San Sebastian River in St. Augustine. Each of 11 townhomes in the new Villa Calissa community includes a boat slip and water views.



LEFT: The developer preserved existing oak trees and incorporated them into the community's park-like design.

Photos by Christine Rodenbaugh



## Don't Wait for this Red Flag!

Dead trees and limbs need to be removed before a storm approaches.

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# SilverLeaf community announces new website and builders

The SilverLeaf community in St. Johns County recently announced the launch of the community's website, [www.silverleaf-florida.com](http://www.silverleaf-florida.com). Future homebuyers will now have a destination designed to inform them and connect them to the builders in St. Johns' newest master-planned community.

"The development planning for the SilverLeaf community began 2006, and the launch of our new website brings us one step closer to selling new homes in the community," said owner David Hutson of the Hutson Companies. "We are excited for the future of this community and how it will enhance St. Johns County."

The Hutson Companies has already partnered with several builders to bring new homes to the area. The first two neighborhoods that are currently being developed in SilverLeaf include Holly Forest and SilverLeaf Village.

Holly Forest by Dream Finders Homes will feature 20-foot and 24-foot townhome lots and 53-foot and 63-foot single-family lots. This neighborhood will feature homes ranging from approximately 1,250 up to 3,000 square feet.

SilverLeaf Village by Ashley Homes, MasterCraft Builders Group, and Riverside Homes will consist of 53-foot and 63-foot single-family lots. This neighborhood will feature homes ranging from approximately 1,800 up to over 3,000 square feet.

SilverLeaf is a master-planned community with no CDD fees boasting many neighborhood parks and amenities. The community will be located between County Road 210 and State Road 16 at St. Johns Parkway west of I-95. It is comprised of approximately 8,500 acres and seven miles of roadway for St. Johns Parkway. SilverLeaf is zoned for 10,700 dwelling units, 1,770,000 square feet of mixed-use and commercial space, and over 3,500 acres of pristine conservation land. SilverLeaf will consist of several neighborhoods in a wide range of lot sizes, price points, and styles for both individuals and families. It will be one of the largest community developments in Florida.

Since its inception in 1973, The Hutson Companies has developed dozens of residential communities consisting of over 20,000 homesites in northeast Florida. The Hutson Companies currently owns and has developed projects in Clay and St. Johns Counties, with total development rights to over 12,000 single and multi-family homes, as well as over 7 million square feet of commercial, office and industrial space.



Adjacent boat slips included in the purchase price can accommodate a 40- to 70-foot boat with water and electric provided.

# Villa Calissa





Continued from 24

the extra costs incurred were considerable," sales director Michelle Mousin said.

There are 11 homes and floorplans average just over 2,100 square feet, with three bedrooms and 2.5 baths, each with its own two-car garage. Standard finishes include crown molding in the living and master areas with porcelain plank flooring. Kitchens are outfitted with granite and Frigidaire Professional series stainless appliance package to include a 60-inch built-in refrigerator and gas ranges. The homes come with a deep-water boat slip included in the purchase price. The standard beam is 16-foot on slips but can go up to 20-foot with a small premium. Slips can accommodate a 40- to 70-foot boat with water and electric provided.

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| UNIT             | MODEL                | SQ.FT.           | PRICE                | UNIT                | MODEL                 | SQ.FT.           | PRICE                |
|------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| <del>SOLD1</del> | <del>SAN MARCO</del> | <del>2,112</del> | <del>\$819,000</del> | <del>PENDING7</del> | <del>ANAS-TASIA</del> | <del>2,140</del> | <del>\$679,000</del> |
| 2                | SAN MARCO            | 2,112            | \$809,000            | 8                   | MENORCA               | 2,132            | \$689,000            |
| <del>SOLD3</del> | <del>FLAGLER</del>   | <del>2,150</del> | <del>\$859,000</del> | 9                   | MENORCA               | 2,132            | \$719,000            |
| <del>SOLD4</del> | <del>SEBASTIAN</del> | <del>2,131</del> | <del>\$719,000</del> | 10                  | MENORCA               | 2,132            | \$749,000            |
| 5                | SAN MARCO            | 2,131            | \$679,000            | <del>SOLD11</del>   | <del>ST. GEORGE</del> | <del>2,196</del> | <del>\$859,000</del> |
| 6                | IBIZA                | 2,034            | \$689,000            |                     |                       |                  |                      |

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# Realtors, associates of Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty give back

Two “Thanks-In-Giving” projects, held in conjunction with Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty’s Thanksgiving celebration held Nov. 12 at their Ponte Vedra Beach office, proved successful.

Realtors and associates donated an abundance of warm clothing for the area’s homeless and also purchased locally made items to benefit survivors of human trafficking. The gently used clothing drive included coats, jackets and toiletries for Mission House in Jacksonville Beach just in time for colder temperatures. A combined donation of \$250 from this event fundraiser will also be given to Mission House to assist in their on-going efforts to care for the area’s homeless by providing shower facilities, clothing, medical attention, meals and counseling.

More than \$600 in sales of Rethreaded repurposed materials, including scarfs made from t-shirts and leather purses made from airline seating, was also raised at the Thanks-In-Giving celebration. For more information about Mission House, visit [www.missionhousejax.org](http://www.missionhousejax.org). For information about aiding victims of human trafficking, visit [www.rethreaded.com](http://www.rethreaded.com).



Photo provided by Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty Ponte Vedra

Party participants gather for a group shot.

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Source: *Real Value of Joining a Local Chamber of Commerce*  
Shapiro Group, 2012.

PV2-LM5045

# Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices FNR adds new Realtors to Ponte Vedra/Nocatee

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty recently welcomed Austin Saffell O'Steen and Shannon Harvick to its Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office.

O'Steen is a Jacksonville native who has lived and worked in Northeast Florida all of her life, having grown up in San Marco and attended Bolles from kindergarten through 12th grade before attending Florida

State University. After graduating from college, O'Steen spent a little less than five years working for CAA Sports in its sports marketing/brand consulting division in Jacksonville Beach. While in this role, she assisted corporate clients with their hospitality and corporate events in various markets throughout the United States.

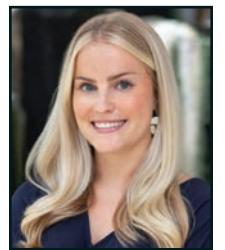
"I've always loved real estate, and

I'm excited to begin achieving my dreams at Florida Network Realty," O'Steen said of becoming a Realtor with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices FNR. "I have a passion for helping others, and I am excited to help my clients reach their goals of homeownership."

"Please join me in welcoming Austin to the Ponte Vedra office," Holly Hayes, Broker/Manager of

the Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office, said. "Austin's passion for helping others is evident from the first time you meet her, and I know that she'll succeed at Florida Network Realty in her career as a Realtor."

For more information, O'Steen can be reached by phone at (904) 446-5584, by email at Austin.OSteen@



Austin Saffell O'Steen



Shannon Harvick

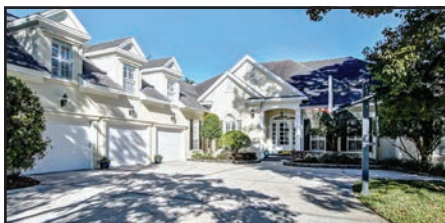
REALTORS continues on Page 29



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This majestic 5BR/5BA home lives large on 1.73 acres, with stunning water views that lead to the intracoastal waterway surrounded by sweeping oak trees & natural palms. This splendid home features over 5900 SF of beautifully designed space for entertaining & refined ease that combines comfortable spaces in a classic blue and white design.



With four fireplaces, an amazing chefs kitchen & an apartment for family or friends to stay, this magnificent home is offered for \$1,399,000.

**Call Janet Westling**  
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#### LOVINGLY MAINTAINED

This charming home features 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, newly fenced backyard w/views of pond. Large great room w/vaulted ceilings, wood burning fireplace w/ French doors to patio. Fantastic rental opportunity. Offered for \$199,900.



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Joan Refosco-VP of Sales AR Homes, Mark Refosco-Franchise Owner AR Homes, Ginger and Rick Read -The first buyers in Quadrille



Jay Wilkerson-Sales Consultant, Angela Stanley-Sales Associate, Joan Refosco-VP of Sales, Mark Refosco-Franchise Owner, Bill Goreschak-President of AR Homes

## Interested homebuyers attend VIP opening of The Quadrille

People thinking about buying a new home attended the VIP opening Nov. 7 of The Quadrille and the debut of The Cabalina, a Quadrille model coming the Summer of 2020.

The Quadrille is a luxury home community located on Solana Road in Ponte Vedra Beach. An enclave of custom homes by AR

Homes by Arthur Rutenberg, the exclusive, gated 20-home neighborhood will feature West Indies-inspired architecture.

The event was held at the Tidewater Model Home in EvenTide at 181 Sea Glass Way. Attendees were treated to the acoustic sounds of Ace Winn, as well as hors d'oeuvres and refreshments.



Photos by Ed Johnson

Ryan Lahey-Membership Director-The Lodge and Club, From Berkshire-Hathaway - Cindy King, Elizabeth (Betsy)Molitor and Susan Froman

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Photo provided by metrocreativeconnection.com

# Buying

Continued from 23

## 3. LOCAL SCHOOLS

For potential homeowners with children or those planning on becoming parents, area schools should merit significant consideration. Research school rankings and reviews, but know that rankings can change. American Family Insurance Company says to also look at the school budget history of towns you're considering to see if residents prioritize funding for education. This can be a measure of how important education is in a given community.

## 4. COMMUTE TIMES

Home ownership involves both life-

style and financial decisions. Calculate the time it will take to travel to and from work when considering a certain town or neighborhood. Find out if there is mass transit and what options are available for off-hour travel needs.

## 5. LIFESTYLE OPTIONS

Quality nightlife, arts and history, community events, proximity to cultural centers or cities, and other factors are at play in choosing a home. Make sure your new community allows you to still enjoy the things you're passionate about.

Buying a home involves considering various factors that can affect your budget and quality of life.

# Realtors

Continued from 27

FloridaNetworkRealty.com and online at AOSTeen.FloridaNetworkRealty.com.

Harvick is a born and raised Ponte Vedra Beach native, with deep roots in the Northeast Florida community. Before becoming a Realtor, Harvick worked as an educator in several elementary schools, both in Northeast Florida and beyond.

For her clients with families, Harvick's knowledge of the school districts will be

invaluable. She is eager to share her love of the neighborhoods, communities and beaches with her clients to help them find a house they can call home. Beginning her journey as a Realtor is a challenge Harvick is eager to take on. Translating and applying her skills to her new career, Harvick is ready to help her clients navigate smoothly through each real estate transaction.

"Shannon has a local's knowledge of Ponte Vedra Beach, which is invaluable to her clients, and she is eager to grow her career with Florida Network Realty," said Holly Hayes, Broker/Manager of the Ponte

Vedra/Nocatee office. "What sets Shannon apart as an agent is her passion for cultivating relationships, not just gaining clients. With this attitude and determination, I'm sure she will succeed in her career as a Realtor."

For more information, Harvick can be reached by phone at (904) 716-0350, by email at Shannon.Harvick@FloridaNetworkRealty.com and online at SHarvick.FloridaNetworkRealty.com.

The Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office is located at 333 Village Main St., Suite 670, in Ponte Vedra Beach.

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| <b>HILLIARD</b><br>Acreage • \$2,750,000<br>Earl Parker       | <b>JACKSONVILLE BEACH</b><br>5/4/1 • \$3,500,000<br>Julie Brown            | <b>SAWGRASS CC</b><br>4/3/1 • \$899,900<br>Olivia or Brent Seaman | <b>PONTE VEDRA BEACH</b><br>Homesite • \$2,399,000<br>Michael Curet   Bob Kroner | <b>ST. AUGUSTINE</b><br>23 acres • \$195,000<br>Suzie and Rory Connolly | <b>IL VILLAGIO</b><br>3/2/1 • \$239,900<br>Cindi Blair   Mary Faulds     |
|   |  |   |  |   |  |
| <b>EAGLE HARBOR</b><br>6/4/1 • \$1,095,000<br>Sally Sergeant  | <b>OCEANFRONT</b><br>Homesite • \$2,695,000<br>Susan Fort or Tyler Ackland | <b>SEASCAPE</b><br>2/2 • \$675,000<br>Belk Ingram                 | <b>EPPING FOREST</b><br>3/3/1 • \$950,000<br>Suzie and Rory Connolly             | <b>EPPING FOREST</b><br>3/2/1 • \$972,900<br>Patti Armstrong            | <b>PONTE VEDRA BEACH</b><br>4/3/1 • \$575,000<br>Suzie and Rory Connolly |
|   |  |   |  |   |  |
| <b>PLAYERS CLUB</b><br>5/4/1 • \$999,000<br>Suzanne Stephens  | <b>THE POINTE</b><br>3/2/1 • \$937,500<br>Natalie Bryant                   | <b>PONTE VEDRA</b><br>4/3 • \$435,000<br>Suzie and Rory Connolly  | <b>OCEANFRONT</b><br>5/5/2 • \$6,650,000<br>Belk Ingram                          | <b>PONTE VEDRA</b><br>2/2 • \$239,000<br>Suzie and Rory Connolly        | <b>BENTWATER PLACE</b><br>3/2 • \$297,500<br>Patti Armstrong             |

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# 40th annual Realtor Builder Tradeshow a success

Area Realtors and builders held their 40th annual joint tradeshow Oct. 11 at the University of North Florida Adam W. Herbert University Center. Networking with booth sponsors and builder affiliates, attendees marked a successful year in the Jacksonville real estate market.

New construction sales have continued to lead the way in Northeast Florida and the event, sponsored by the Northeast Florida Association of Realtors (NEFAR)

and the Northeast Florida Builders Association (NEFBA), spotlighted that. It also highlighted the area's fast paced real estate market, steadily increasing sales prices and record-low interest rates.

As part of the networking, attendees got their programs stamped by Platinum and Gold sponsors for a raffle and the opportunity to win a \$500 grand prize giveaway.

*More photos, page 31*



David Eisner with Americrest Luxury Homes gets into the "tradeshow's "Game of Homes" theme, based off the "Game of Thrones" series.



Lauren West and Booke Green from eTown



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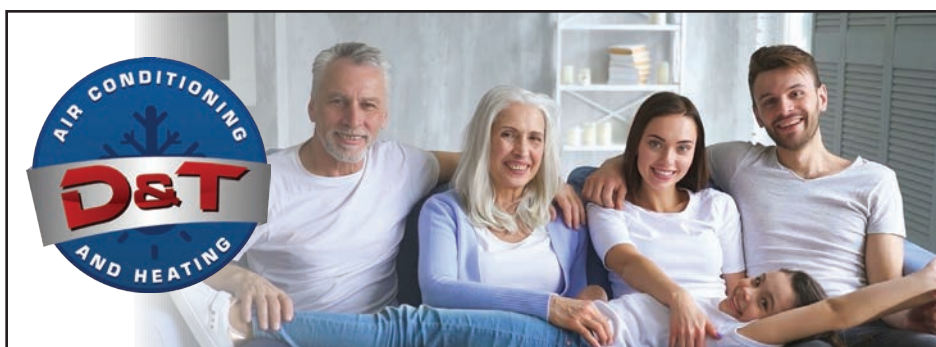


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## Tips for holding a large holiday gathering at home

Gatherings of family and friends are a big part of the holiday season. Hosting such gatherings can be a great way to show loved ones how much you appreciate them, and hosting also saves hosts the trouble of traveling during one of the most hectic travel seasons of the year.

When hosting a large crowd at home, space can be a difficult hurdle to clear. However, a few helpful strategies can help space-starved hosts pull off a holiday soiree where everyone is comfortable.

■ **Pare down the menu.** Holiday feasts don't have to resemble medieval banquets with excessive amounts of food and drink. Hosts with small kitchens and tiny dining quarters can pare down the menu, limiting offerings to just a single entree and a few simple side dishes, so everyone feels comfortable at the table and has ample room to eat. A small menu also gives hosts more time to spend with their loved ones during the festivities.

■ **Don't overdo it on drinks, either.** When planning the drinks menu, avoid offering cocktails, which take time to prepare and often require guests to visit the kitchen for refrigerated ingredients. Limit drinks to wine, beer,

water, and soft drinks, storing cold beverages in a cooler kept outside on a front or back porch or in an area outside the kitchen so cooks can work without interruption.

■ **Move some furniture.** If your main living space is small, consider moving some bulky furniture into a bedroom or office where guests won't be spending time. Then make better use of the open living space by placing folding chairs or other accommodations to ensure there's ample seating for everyone. A single recliner can only be enjoyed by one person, but removing it from a room may create enough space for as many as three folding chairs.

■ **Go small on decorations.** If you know you'll be hosting in advance of the holiday season, decorate with guests in mind. That might mean skipping a six-foot Christmas tree in favor of one that takes up less space. Avoid leaving any fragile decorations out, as adults or overexcited kids may knock them over as they try to navigate a cramped space.

Holiday hosting can be fun, even in small spaces. A few simple tricks can make even the smallest spaces accommodating.







## Stay safe when stringing holiday lights on home

Lighting displays are one of the many things that help make the holiday season a special time of year. Often awe-inspiring, holiday lighting displays present a perfect opportunity for communities and individuals to showcase their festive sides.

Safety should always be a priority when stringing holiday lights, both inside and outside a home. The National Fire Protection Association notes that, between 2009 and 2014, fire departments in the United States responded to an average of 210 home fires that started with Christmas trees per year. Lighting displays strung on home exteriors also can pose safety risks if homeowners do not exercise caution. Fortunately, various strategies can help homeowners safely decorate their homes' interiors and exteriors this holiday season.

- **Choose a fresh tree.** The NFPA recommends celebrants who prefer natural Christmas trees choose ones with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched. Dry trees are more likely to catch fire than freshly cut trees. Adding water to the tree stand each day will keep trees fresher longer. When placing the tree, avoid placing it too close to heat sources, making sure it is at least three feet away from fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents, or lights.

- **Check all lights before stringing**

**them.** All lights, including those going on trees inside a home and those being strung outside, should be inspected prior to being strung. Look for any worn or broken cords and replace any defected lights.

- **Employ the buddy system.** When stringing lights, always work with at least one other person. This makes it safe for homeowners who must climb ladders to string lights on especially tall trees and/or on their home exteriors.

- **Avoid working in inclement weather.** The weather during the holiday season can sometimes be unpleasant or unpredictable. Check the forecast before stringing exterior lights to ensure Mother Nature won't pose a threat. Avoid hanging lights if the forecast predicts wet, icy or windy conditions that can make ladders unstable.

- **Turn lights off when going to bed and/or leaving the house.** Interior and exterior holiday lights should not be left on when no one is home or everyone inside is sleeping. If left on overnight or when no one is home, lights may contribute to fires that damage homes and may even prove fatal.

Holiday lighting displays help make this time of year special. Following some simple safety procedures when decorating with lights can ensure everyone enjoys a safe and happy holiday season.



# HAPPY Thanksgiving

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# Business Weekly

PAGE 35 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2019

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

Some solid tips  
for successful  
Black Friday shopping

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## Chamber holds After Hours event at Skinny Jax

St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Division members gathered at Skinny Jax in Jacksonville Beach, Nov. 20, for an afterhours networking opportunity. Beverages and delicious bites were provided.

Skinny Jax is a medical weight loss spa that offers customized weight loss programs that include personal counseling from a board certified physician and a skilled staff that monitors customers' progress and makes adjustments to help them meet their goals.



Karen Everett, Director St. Johns County Chamber Ponte Vedra Beach Division, and Skinny Jax Owner Alyson Cannady



Gabriela Greer, Carol Maurer and Janeene Hart



Al Robinson and Art Wildblood

Photos by Susan Griffin

## EDC breakfast to focus on economics forecast

The topic at an upcoming St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Council meeting will be "Economics, A Look Ahead" presented by Mark Vitner, managing director and senior economist at Wells Fargo Securities. The breakfast meeting begins at 8 a.m. Friday, Dec. 6 at the Renaissance, St. Augustine Resort in World Golf Village.

Based in Charlotte, North Carolina, Vitner tracks national and regional economic trends, writes for the company's Monthly Economic Outlook report and the Weekly Economic & Financial Commentary. He also

provides regular updates on housing markets, commercial real estate, regional economies, consumer spending and issues impacting small business.

"I am looking forward to Mark's remarks," Isabelle Renault, Chamber president and CEO, said. "He spoke at this event several years ago and is able to inform us of forecasted trends so that we can plan appropriately.

An economic overview in December 2019 will give us needed information as we head into an election year in 2020."

Admission is \$45 for Chamber EDC level members, \$65 for non-



Mark Vitner

EDC members and \$80 for non-members. To register, visit [bit.ly/DEC6EDC](http://bit.ly/DEC6EDC).

For more information or to join the Chamber, visit [www.sjcchamber.com](http://www.sjcchamber.com) or call (904) 829-5681.

## Financial Focus: Share your bounty with loved ones



Karsten Jacobson  
Columnist

As Thanksgiving approaches, it's meaningful to reflect on the origin of the holiday – Native Americans and pilgrims sharing their bounty of food with each other. As you gather with your loved ones this year, perhaps you can think of ways to share not only your dinner, but also your financial bounty.

In terms of bounty-sharing, here are some suggestions you may find helpful, no matter your age or that of your children:

■ **Make appropriate gifts.** If you have young children, you may want to get them started with a savings account to help them develop positive financial habits. You could even make it a Thanksgiving tradition to measure how their accounts have grown from year to year. But you can go even further by starting to fund an education savings vehicle such as a 529 plan. This account can provide valuable tax benefits and gives you total control of the money until your children are ready for college or trade school. Other education-funding options also are available, such as a custodial account, commonly known as an UGMA or UTMA. If you have grown children, you could still contribute to a 529 plan for your grandchildren.

■ **Develop – and communicate – your estate plans.** While you may want to be as generous as possible to your loved ones during your lifetime, you may desire to leave something behind as part of your legacy. And that means you will need to develop a comprehensive estate plan. Such a plan will allow you to express your wishes about where you want your assets to go, who will take care of your children if something happens to you, how you want to be treated should you become incapacitated, and other important issues. Your estate plan will need to include the appropriate documents and arrangements – last will and testament, living trust, power of attorney, health care directive, and so on. To create such a plan, you may need to work with a team of professionals, including your financial, tax and legal advisors. And it's essential that you communicate the existence and details of your estate plan to your loved ones. By doing so, you can help them know what to expect and



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Nov. 30

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## Some tips to make most of Black Friday shopping

By Jon Vincent  
earlyblackfriday.com

If you plan to shop on Black Friday, do your research first. Deals are not always what they seem.

Jon Vincent, who considers himself an expert on the traditional shopping day after Thanksgiving, offers some tips.

■ Double check the model number of the item you are purchasing on Black Friday to verify it is a real model and not a Black Friday special model for sale. The special Black Friday models are typically seen a lot with electronics and overall the parts and quality of them are less than what you would expect from the brand. A hint that it's a Black Friday special model is that it's brand new on the retailer's website and has no reviews from other shoppers. Another way to determine if it's a Black Friday special

model is to do a quick Google or Amazon search on the brand and model number to see what turns up. If you can't find the product on Amazon or even on the brand's own website, you know it's most likely a special Black Friday model that may be inferior to other models that the brand offers.

■ If you see an item discounted for less than 30% off, it is better to skip that item on Black Friday. You will most likely be able to get a better deal by waiting until Cyber Monday or later in the holiday shopping season.

■ Remember that Black Friday deals aren't only available on Black Friday. Some retailers, such as Kohl's and Amazon.com, will have their deals available starting on the Monday before Thanksgiving. For the retailers that put their deals on closer to Thanksgiving, if you're looking for the best time to snag a deal, stay up Wednesday night and shop then. Retailers typically "flip the switch" on their sale a few hours before Thanksgiving, so you can quickly get the deals while everyone else is sleeping.

■ If you are looking to score one of the in-store Black Friday door-buster deals, be prepared to line up early! We suggest shoppers get to Target, Best Buy, or Walmart at least 9 hours before doors open to be one of the first in line. For all other retailers, we suggest you line up three hours before doors open.

■ While everyone else is scrambling for television and electronics deals, keep an eye out for other products. Other great deals usually include luggage and bed and bath products.



Photo provided by metrocreativeconnection.com

## Jacobson

Continued from 35

what's expected of them to help avoid unpleasant surprises and familial squabbles when it's time to settle your estate.

■ **Solicit suggestions for charitable giving.** Sharing some of what you have with charitable or community organizations will also help fulfill the spirit of Thanksgiving. And you can make it a family affair by asking your loved ones which groups they would like to support. Not only will you be helping a worthy cause, but you'll also be teaching your children about the value of money – in

this case, the ability to use money you've saved to help make a positive contribution to society.

By sharing your bounty with your loved ones and your community on Thanksgiving, you'll help create a more memorable holiday for everyone. So, be generous, be creative – and be prepared for how much satisfaction you can get from your actions.

**This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.**

**Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors are not estate planners and cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your estate-planning attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.**

# Chef Tom Gray to introduce Prati Italia at Town Center

Moxie Kitchen + Cocktails will be transformed into new Italian concept

Chef Tom Gray is opening Prati Italia, a new Italian restaurant concept, in early 2020. Prati Italia is Gray's latest culinary venture and will take the place of his successful flagship restaurant, Moxie Kitchen + Cocktails, at the St. Johns Town Center.

Since opening in 2013, Moxie Kitchen + Cocktails has enjoyed success as the premier local restaurant at the St. Johns Town Center. When a Canadian restaurant chain with an earlier registered variation of the name "Moxie" made plans to expand into the Florida market, the apparent challenge also created an opportunity: an opportunity for Gray to introduce a concept that was completely new, yet close to his heart.

At age 17, in the earliest days of his culinary career, Gray was in charge of making fresh pasta for a local Italian restaurant in Jacksonville. He fell in love with the process.

"Since that time, I have loved making pasta," Gray said. "It is fascinating how you can take two or three simple ingredients like flour, water and eggs and transform them into a dish that is comforting and craveable. Over the years, I have always found ways to incorporate Italian-influenced dishes into every menu I create."

Transforming Moxie Kitchen + Cocktails into Prati Italia is an opportunity for Gray to return to his roots, serving the dishes that have always inspired and informed his passion in the kitchen.

"I'm a glass half full kind of guy," Gray said, "and when it came down to it, I realized this was an exciting opportunity to introduce something new to Jacksonville and the Town Center."

Prati Italia will offer a contemporary menu of handmade pastas, Roman-style pizzas, and artisan cocktails prepared with careful attention to ingredient flavor, seasonality, and sourcing.

The name Prati draws inspiration from Rome's Prati neighborhood, a sophisticated and stylish, food-centric area that captures the charm and charisma of classic Rome.

"Jacksonville is full of great neighborhoods, each with their own charm," Gray said, "and we've worked hard to make Moxie Kitchen + Cocktails at the Town Center and Town Hall in San Marco feel like vital parts of their respective communities. Prati Italia will continue that same tradition of offering a welcoming, sociable space that people will be happy to call their own."

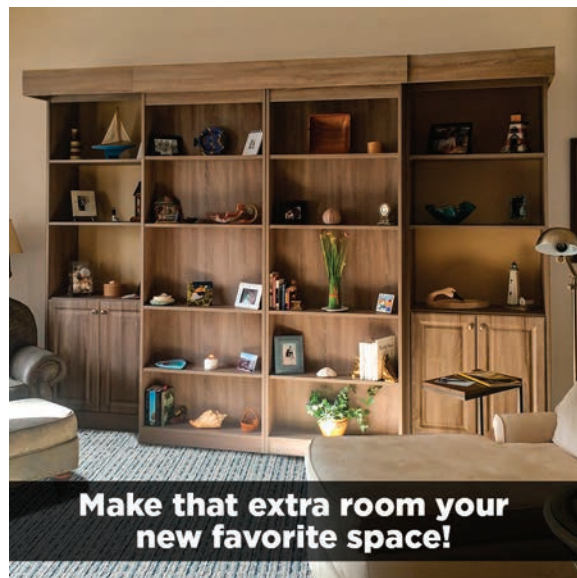
Prati Italia is slated to open in mid-January 2020. When it opens, it will offer lunch Monday through Saturday, Sunday brunch and nightly dinner with daily happy hour. Private dining and special events will also be available.



Tom Gray

Moxie Kitchen + Cocktails will continue with regular lunch, brunch, dinner and happy hour service through 2019. Thanksgiving, Christmas and holiday group dining events

will remain on the calendar, culminating with a New Year's Eve Celebration on Tuesday, Dec. 31, which will be Moxie Kitchen + Cocktails' last day of service.



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# Ocean Sole Africa turns flip flops into art

Global passion project has headquarters in Ponte Vedra Beach

By Amber Lake

When most people think about beach trash, they envision the rare plastic bag, glass bottle, cigarette butt or leftover beach supply. It's something locals shake their heads about and (sometimes) throw away on their way off the beach. The trash is considered a bit rude, a bit lazy, but by no means extraordinary.

In places like Indonesia, Hawaii, India, China and the Philippines, however, plastic pollution on beaches has choked out wildlife and caused health concerns for residents. So much so that Haina Beach, in the Dominican Republic, is commonly referred to as the "Dominican Chernobyl" for having the highest incidents of lead poisoning in the world. Garbage consisting of everything imaginable, including paint buckets, diapers, toothbrushes, syringes and fishing nets can be found, originating from around the globe. A large chunk of this trash, however, is something people might actually wear to the beach – flip flops.

As far as the eye can see, in those places, flip flops lay on beaches like fallen soldiers in the war on plastic.

Ponte Vedra Beach resident Erin Smith said she is well aware of those dirty beaches. During a trip to Kenya, she met a tribe of women who were actually using some beach trash to make toys for their children. The women were motivated by the loss of habitat for sea turtles, which could no longer make it up the littered embankment to lay their eggs. As the main footwear of the country, cheap flip flops made up a large

portion of the seaside debris. Today, Smith is the CEO of Ocean Sole Africa, a social enterprise company that uses washed up flip flops to make colorful works of art. The company recently opened its headquarters off Palm Valley Road.

"I came back to see my parents and I really noticed a change in Jacksonville," Smith said. "It's become very art-y. I felt like instead of going to Miami or Charleston, why not Ponte Vedra? We have a community here that really embraces art, conservation and charity work."

The business model is what is considered a "B-company," meaning a benefit company. A benefit company is a type of for-profit corporate entity that includes positive impact on society, workers, the community and the environment. While many companies see the "bottom line" as profit margins, benefits use the model to try to make the most impact across their values.

In the case of Ocean Sole Africa, the company prioritizes ocean cleanup and the Kenyan workers who make the business thrive. For an area with 40% unemployment, Ocean Sole keeps many families with a regular paycheck they wouldn't otherwise have.

"We provide hot lunches for employees, fair wages and we ensure their kids have a school," Smith said. "Nobody is driving a Range Rover. We are concerned with getting kids into university."

Part of the allure of the pieces are their color, detail and sheer size. Manatees, elephants, giraffes and lions line the walls of the Palm Valley location. Shipped directly from Kenya, the flip flops are collected, cleaned, glued in layers, then finally the animals are carved out.

SOLE continues on Page 42



ABOVE: Erin Smith is the Chief Sole Mate of Ocean Sole Africa. She previously worked in private equity before becoming interested in charity work.

LEFT: Many beaches near the Great Pacific Garbage Patch become littered with debris.

Photos courtesy of Ocean Sole Africa



Photo provided by Players by the Sea

## Tickets for 'A Christmas Carol' at Players by the Sea going fast

With tickets to "A Christmas Carol," you'll be transported from your seat at Players by the Sea in Jacksonville Beach to a foggy London day, experiencing pure holiday magic.

The family-friendly, timeless classic, written by Charles Dickens and adapted by Romulus Linney, will be performed on the theater's main stage from Dec. 6-22. General admission is \$28, senior and military is \$25 and Thursday nights are student nights, with tickets \$14 at the door with valid student identification.

Tickets are selling fast for the adaptation of the story of Ebenezer Scrooge's journey

from an embittered, ungenerous creature into a giving, caring human being at the hands of three spirits, who, one Christmas Eve, show him the true meaning of life. The richly textured play brings the full spirit of the book, as well as those of Christmases Past, Present and Future, to life on the stage.

Area businesses are encouraged to include the performance as part of their holiday party.

For more information, contact Suzanne Hudson-Smith at (904) 249-0289 or [suzanne@playersbythesea.org](mailto:suzanne@playersbythesea.org).

Tickets for the play are available at [playersbythesea.org/christmas-carol](http://playersbythesea.org/christmas-carol) or by calling the box office at (904) 249-0289.



## St. Augustine Art Association to hold festival, numerous events during holiday season

With less than two months left in the year, the St. Augustine Art Association is geared up for the holidays.

The holiday events kick off with the Festival of Art on Saturday, Nov. 30, and Sunday, Dec. 1, at Francis Field in St. Augustine.

There will also be three displays of inspiring artwork in the Art Association gallery, through Dec. 29. The featured displays will be Florida Wild, Tiny Town Holiday Village (opened Nov. 23) and Virginia Nolan: 20th Century Artist.

Also, Monday Night Figure Drawing Sessions will meet every Monday evening at 6.

Looking ahead to 2020, there are some new programs on the calendar.

The After School Children's Art Program will be starting on Jan. 8, 2020, for elementary and middle schoolers. Classes will meet on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the St. Augustine Art Association. On Jan. 25, artist Herrick Smith will teach a step-by-step workshop on hand-building methods and techniques using locally dug clay and local temper, and on Valentine's Day he'll be teaching a couples evening pottery class.

For more information on the St. Augustine Art Association and upcoming events, visit [www.staaa.org](http://www.staaa.org).



Photo provided by St. Augustine Art Association

**The Festival of Art will be held Nov. 30 through Dec. 1 at Francis Field in St. Augustine.**

## Americana pioneer Robert Earl Keen returns to Concert Hall

The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, in partnership with Flying Saucer Presents, recently announced the return of legendary Americana pioneer Robert Earl Keen on Jan. 28, 2020. Keen previously performed at the Concert Hall in March 2017.

"I always thought that I wanted to play music, and I always knew that you had to get some recognition in order to continue to play music," Keen said about wanting to write and sing his own songs, and to keep writing and singing them for as long as possible. "But I never thought of it in terms of getting to be a big star. I thought of it in terms of having a really, really good career and writing some good songs, and getting onstage and having a really good time."

Now three decades on from the release of his debut album — with 19 other records to his name — Keen remains as committed to and inspired by his muse as ever.

As for accruing recognition, well, he's done alright on that front, too; from his humble beginnings on the Texas folk scene, he's blazed a peer, critic and fan-lauded trail that's earned him legend status in the Americana music world. And though the Houston native has never worn his Texas heart on his sleeve, he's long been regarded as one of the Lone Star State's finest, not to mention top-drawing, true singer-songwriters.

He was still a relative unknown in 1989 when his third studio album, *West Textures*, was released, especially on the triple bill he shared at the time touring Townes Van Zandt and Guy Clark, but once fellow Texas icon Joe Ely recorded both "The Road Goes on Forever" and "Whenever Kindness Fails" on his 1993 album, *Love and Danger*, the secret was out on Keen's credentials as a songwriter's songwriter.

By the end of the decade, Keen was a veritable household name in Texas,

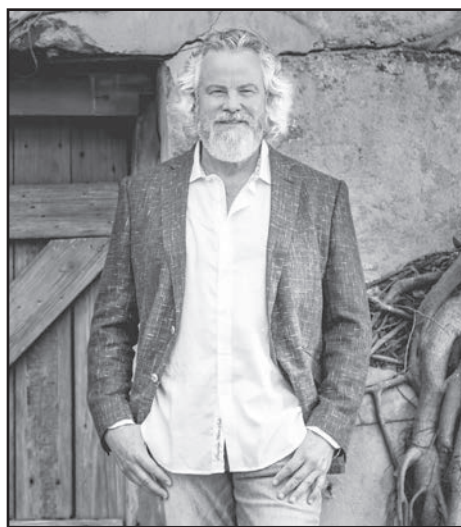


Photo provided by Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

headlining a millennial New Year's Eve celebration in Austin that drew an estimated 200,000 people. A dozen years later, he was inducted into the Texas Heritage Songwriters Hall of Fame along with the late, great Van Zandt and his longtime friend from Texas A & M, Lyle Lovett.

Tickets for Robert Earl Keen are available for purchase at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall and St. Augustine Amphitheatre box offices, [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com) and all Ticketmaster outlets.

## Jacksonville Symphony announces addition of Video Games Live

The Jacksonville Symphony has added Video Games Live to its 2019-2020 season lineup. Video Games Live, a complete celebration and multimedia concert experience featuring music from the most popular video games of all time, is making its way to the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts' Jacoby Symphony Hall on Friday, Feb. 28, 2020. The performance will start at 8 p.m. and ticket prices start at \$19.

The concert features the power and emotion of a symphony orchestra mixed with the excitement and energy of a rock concert and the technology, along with the fun and interactivity of a video game — synchronized to cutting-edge video screen visuals, state-of-the-art lighting, special FX and special on-stage interactive segments with the audience.

It will be a night to remember for the entire family. The show has a segment dedicated to the old retro arcade classics — but there is also modern music

and older, more memorable pieces that no one has ever heard played live.

A show created and produced by legendary video game composer and industry icon, Tommy Tallarico is personally involved in every show. Aside from producing, Tallarico is on stage for every show as emcee and performing on guitar. The video game industry puts on the show to help encourage and support the art and culture that video games have become. Video Games Live bridges a gap for entertainment by exposing new generations of music lovers and fans to the symphonic orchestral experience while also providing a completely new and unique experience for families and non-gamers.

"This is an incredible opportunity for us to reach an audience that normally may not be familiar with how far video games have come and how amazing the music can be," Tallarico said.

**SYMPHONY** continues on **Page 42**



### ALHAMBRA BLACK FRIDAY SALE!

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Alhambra Black Friday gift certificates valid for 2020 regular season show performances on or before November 15, 2020 only. Reservations using these certificates may not be booked any sooner than 60 days in advance of the requested performance date. Sunday through Thursday performances only. Not valid for special events, Alhambra After Dark events, Music Series or holiday show. Certificates can be purchased online from 12:00 am through 11:59 pm on 11/29/2019, by phone and at the Alhambra box office from 7:30 am until 8:00 pm on 11/29/2019.



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Photos by Amber Lake

**Ocean Sole Africa turns flip-flops into art and functional products while raising visual awareness of the problem at hand.**

## Sole

Continued from 40

As amazing as the art is, the enormity behind the sculpture creates the value. It's a project that takes a journey from the bottom of someone's foot, to the trash, to the ocean, making its way eventually to the beaches of Kenya, where, finally, it becomes a sculptured masterpiece. It is a journey of art that currently resides in places like the children's wing of hospitals and on the pool patios of bighearted Floridians.

For a cheap flip flop, it's quite a voyage.

For more information about Sole Ocean Africa, go to [oceansoleafrica.com](http://oceansoleafrica.com) or visit the gallery at 5150 Palm Valley Drive, #406, Ponte Vedra.

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| DEC. 7  | JOY TO THE WORLD: MESSIAH FAVORITES & HOLIDAY CAROLS                     | FEB. 10       | COLD WAR KIDS OVERCOATS                                     |
| DEC. 10 | A PETER WHITE CHRISTMAS w/ EUGE GROOVE, VINCENT INGALA & LINDSEY WEBSTER | FEB. 14       | AL STEWART  |
| DEC. 12 | COLTER WALL WADE SAPP  | FEB. 18       | JIM MESSINA   |
| DEC. 19 | A ROCKAPPELLA HOLIDAY  | FEB. 20       | TOM PAPA  |
| DEC. 20 | HORTON'S HOLIDAY HAYRIDE w/ REV. HORTON HEAT, 5.6.7.8'S & MORE!          | FEB. 21       | JIMMY WEBB  |
| JAN. 4  | DONNA THE BUFFALO  | FEB. 25       | UFO   |
| JAN. 5  | LETTUCE DELVON LAMARR ORGAN TRIO   | FEB. 27       | TOMMY EMMANUEL IDA MAE                                      |
| JAN. 15 | OTTMAR LIEBERT & HIS BAND LUNA NEGRA                                     | FEB. 28       | STEEP CANYON RANGERS  |
| JAN. 16 | RISING APPALACHIA RAYE ZARAGOZA  | MAR. 6        | GARY GULMAN   |
| JAN. 19 | ROBERT CRAY  | MAR. 10       | SOUTHSIDE JOHNNY & THE ASBURY JUKES                         |
| JAN. 21 | GAELIC STORM   | MAR. 12       | ERIC JOHNSON  |
| JAN. 24 | INDIGO GIRLS SOLD OUT  | MAR. 13       | THE WEIGHT BAND FEAT. MEMBERS OF THE BAND & LEVON HELM BAND |
| JAN. 25 | TODD SNIDER  | MAR. 18       | GRAHAM NASH   |
| JAN. 26 | LUCINDA WILLIAMS & HER BAND BUICK 6                                      | MAR. 20       | STEVE HACKETT   |
| JAN. 27 | CITIZEN COPE   | MAR. 22       | GRAHAM NASH   |
| JAN. 28 | ROBERT EARL KEEN   | MAR. 24       | THE MUSIC OF CREAM DISRAELI GEARS TOUR                      |
| JAN. 29 | THE TAJ MAHAL QUARTET w/ ROB ICKES & TREV HENSLEY                        | MAR. 25       | BRUCE HORNSBY   |
| JAN. 30 | RODNEY CROWELL   | MAR. 28       | PABLO CRUISE  |
| JAN. 31 | THE GLORIOUS SONS DES ROCS   | APR. 1        | JIMMIE VAUGHAN  |
| FEB. 1  | OVER THE RHINE   | APR. 11       | DAVE MASON  |
| FEB. 4  | YOUNDER MOUNTAIN STRING BAND THE TRAVELIN' MCCOURYS                      | APR. 24       | SHAWN COLVIN  |
| FEB. 5  | ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL  | APR. 29       | DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS   |
| FEB. 7  | MARC COHN  | MAY 2         | COLIN HAY   |
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## Symphony

Continued from 41

The live show features audience participation with special interactive segments where people from the audience come up and compete while the orchestra plays the

music in perfect synchronization with the visuals on screen.

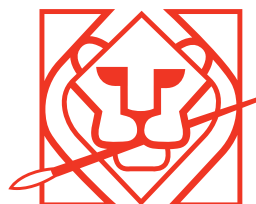
Tickets for Video Games Live are currently on sale and be purchased by visiting [JaxSymphony.org](http://JaxSymphony.org) calling the Symphony box office at (904) 354.5547.

For more information about Video Games Live, visit [www.videogameslive.com](http://www.videogameslive.com).

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# Sports

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## Timuquana CC claims Club Team Championship

The team representing Timuquana Country Club recently posted a 19-under-par score of 125 to outpace 22 other teams and win the 22nd Club Team Championship, contested at Deerwood Country Club. The Timuquana team consisted of PGA member Jason Smith and club members Bill Hardaker, Fred Seely and Jon Thompson. Much of the team's impetus came from Smith and Hardaker, who recorded five and seven natural birdies and scores of 69 and 67, respectively, on their own ball.

Two strokes back at 127 in the two net best balls format was St. Johns Golf Club, featuring the team of head pro Wes Tucker and members Ron Castillo, Kirk Irvin and Jeff Willoughby.



Timuquana Country Club team members Fred Seely (from left), pro Jason Smith, Bill Hardaker and Jon Thompson, flanked by Northern Chapter president Tim Cooper (far left) and JAGA president Randy Nader (far right).

Photo provided by Jacksonville Area Golf Association

CLUB TEAM continues on Page 46

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### THEME: 20TH CENTURY INVENTIONS

- ACROSS**
- Observation point's attraction
  - Included for large parties?
  - 252 gallons of wine
  - Soprano's song, e.g.
  - Pakistani tongue
  - Word with foster or health
  - Lancelot and Mix-a-Lot
  - Unstable particle
  - Orangutan, biologically speaking
  - \*Car safety invention
  - Caspian Sea, e.g.
  - They flock together?
  - "\_\_\_ the ram-parts..."
  - \*Risqué garb named for atoll
  - \*Bakelite was first one made from synthetics
  - RNs' org.
  - Like a pumpkin on Halloween
  - €
  - "To Kill a Mockingbird" protagonist
  - Columbus Day mo.
  - Unlock
  - Without, in Paris
  - Limestone landscape forms
  - Broke bread
  - \*Synthetic for a diabetic
- DOWN**
- Military hospitals
  - Fleur-de-lis
  - Irish word for Ireland
  - Sushi restaurant "burner"
  - Set straight
  - Objects of worship
  - Fourth down option
  - \*Little Willie or T-34
  - Egg on
  - Opposite of paleo-
  - Perugia region
  - Make less refined
  - Court bargain
  - Touch of color
  - Antediluvian
  - Low in La Scala, pl.
  - Relating to Quechuan people
  - Putin's currency
  - \*Willis Carrier's invention conditioned it
  - \*Aspartame-based sweetener
  - Hard tale to believe
  - \*Scuba diver's gear
  - "It's still Rock and Roll" to him
  - The Colosseum, e.g.
  - Stage part
  - Bohemian
  - Gold coating
  - Fishing rod attachment
  - Sticky stuff
  - Make a choice
  - Big Bang's original matter

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 5 |   | 3 | 6 |   | 7 |   | 9 |
|   |   |   |   |   | 5 | 6 |   |   |
|   | 7 |   |   | 2 |   |   | 5 | 4 |
|   |   |   |   | 7 |   | 9 | 4 | 8 |
| 5 |   |   |   | 9 |   |   |   | 1 |
| 8 | 2 | 9 |   | 1 |   |   |   |   |
| 6 | 3 |   |   | 8 |   |   |   | 2 |
|   |   | 5 | 2 |   |   |   |   |   |
| 2 |   | 4 |   | 5 | 7 |   |   | 9 |

- © StatePoint Media  
Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.
- Unstable mesons
  - Four-legged friends
  - \_\_\_ Ligation
  - All worked up
  - Apple leftovers
  - Multicolored horse
  - \*Acronym that revolutionized TV-watching
  - But not always
  - Like some suspects?
  - Crème de cassis plus wine
  - Like Ferris Bueller
  - Monet's water flower
  - Out of focus
  - Provide with gear
  - Cover with a story to tell?
  - Beginner
  - Charlie Parker's sax
  - Golden Fleece ship
  - Season to be jolly
  - High school club
  - \*Air\_\_\_, vehicle restraint
  - Freddie Krueger's street

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# Fans invited to take pictures with Santa at 'Very Shrimpy' Christmas

The Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp is inviting families to kick off the holiday season with the second annual Very Shrimpy Christmas event from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7 at the Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville.

Fans can enjoy free pictures with Santa

Claus, face painting, Christmas crafts and visits from Jumbo Shrimp mascots Southpaw and Scampi as the HD videoboard at the Baseball Grounds screens Christmas movie classics. Concessions, Christmas treats and refreshments will be available for purchase. Additionally, the Jumbo

Shrimp Souvenir Store will be open.

Admission is only \$1 per person at the home plate gate or free with one new, unwrapped toy, per family, to donate to children in need this holiday season.

A Very Shrimpy Christmas is a stroller and wheelchair-accessible event with seat-

ing available on the concourse and in the stadium seating bowl. The field will not be open for this event, and no outside food or beverages will be permitted.

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## Club Team

Continued from 44

Taking third-place honors with a score of 128 was Amelia River Golf Club and the team of pro Alan Clack, Paul Worley, Dale Dignum and Stockton Rogers.

The Club Team Championship was co-sponsored and conducted by the Jacksonville Area Golf Association (JAGA) and the Northern Chapter of the North Florida PGA. Northern Chapter president and Deerwood head pro Tim Cooper served as host professional.

Following lunch and awards, 2019 World Golf Hall of Fame inductee Dennis Walters treated the contestants to his inspirational golf exhibition, which he has been performing since being paralyzed from the waist down at the age of 24 as the result of a golf cart accident. Walters was hosted by his long-time friend, fellow PGA of America member and JAGA director from TPC Sawgrass, Duke Butler III.

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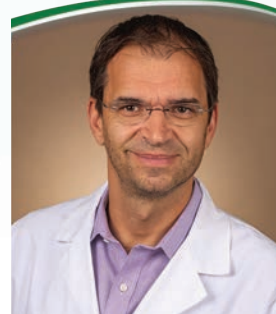
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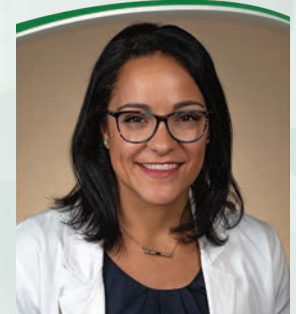
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