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PONTE VEDRA



# Recorder

February 20, 2020

Volume 51, No. 16

75 cents

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

PonteVedraRecorder.com



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Nonprofit Guide

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Business Weekly  
featuring  
Legal Eagles

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In the Arts

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## PLAYING IT FORWARD



Curtis Dvorak of First Coast News watches a shot he hit from his knees on the Island Green No. 17 hole at THE PLAYERS Stadium Course.

Photos by Susan Griffin



Executive Director of THE PLAYERS Championship Jared Rice speaks to attendees at THE PLAYERS Media Day.

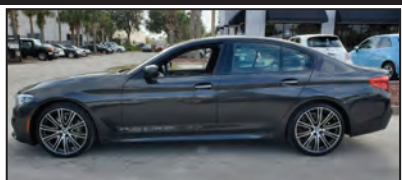
Five area charities benefited from THE PLAYERS Championship during THE PLAYERS Charity Shootout, a long-standing tradition that is part of THE PLAYERS Media Day. Local media personalities, celebrities and representatives of the charity organizations participated in a closest-to-the-pin challenge on the famed Island Green at THE PLAYERS Stadium Course on Feb. 11, raising \$23,000 for the five charities. **For more from the event, go to page 4**

### CAR OF THE WEEK

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## Send us your news

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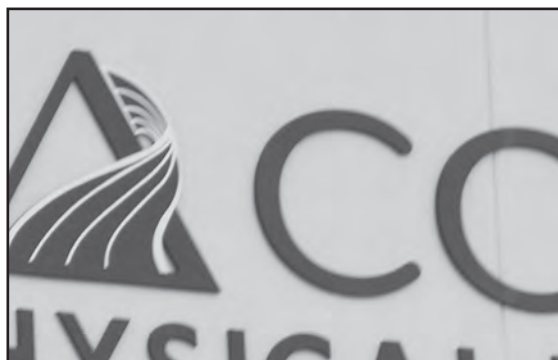


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Also, check out the **Ponte Vedra Recorder** channel on YouTube.

### 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.

Two readers correctly identified last week's photo as the sign for Cap's on the Water. The winner of the random draw was **Alex Maples**. Congratulations, Alex — you may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during normal business hours.



### ADOPT A PET

#### CAT OF THE WEEK

Scout was picked up and brought to the Pet Center as a stray. He is a black, 4-year-old male domestic short hair. This handsome boy is very lovable, loves to be scratched behind his ears and cuddled. He also has bright golden eyes and a little bobtail. Come see Scout at the Pet Center today. #53511



#### DOG OF THE WEEK



AXL was brought in to the Pet Center as a stray. He is a 2½-year-old male, neutered terrier/lab mix. AXL is very athletic, loves to run, play and give kisses. He's light heartworm positive, so the adoption fee is waived and the Friends of the St. Johns County Pet Center will sponsor up to \$250 towards the heartworm treatment. Come see AXL at the Pet Center today. #53205

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

S	C	A	L	P	D	N	A	L	A	N	D			
L	O	W	E	R	O	E	R	C	O	C	O	A		
A	L	O	N	E	W	O	O	A	R	M	E	D		
B	A	L	D	W	I	N	M	A	N	D	E	L	A	
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L	I	V	E	R		L	E	E		E	S	S	E	N
T	A	P	S			E	B	B		S	E	E	R	S

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

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.



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# Recorder to add weekly entertainment/TV guide

Special pullout section will debut in Feb. 27 edition

Ponte Vedra Recorder readers will soon receive a new entertainment/TV guide in their paper every week that will include news, games, offers and listings.

The guide, the Recorder Entertainment Extra, will be inserted into every Ponte Vedra Recorder beginning Feb. 27.

The new insert will have the latest in entertainment news: games, including a TV word search and Sudoku, and listings of the week's hottest in regular and special programming, including streaming.

"We are excited about providing readers more value in their newspaper," Editor Maggie FitzRoy said. "We are always looking for ways to serve the Ponte Vedra Beach, Nocatee and Beaches communities and this is another way."

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# Crash at A1A and L'Atrium Drive kills 1, injures 2

A woman was killed in a fatal crash Monday, Feb. 17 at around 7 p.m. after a collision at Florida A1A and L'Atrium, according to Florida Highway Patrol.

The woman, identified as Sarita May, 82, was a passenger in a Toyota Prius when a Lexus collided into the vehicle, which was making a left turn from A1A. The Lexus was reported to have been "traveling through the intersection," causing it to strike the Prius on the side where the deceased was located. The Lexus overturned and the Prius spun, striking a pole. Both drivers were sent to Memorial Hospital, with the driver of the Prius, 74-year-old David Sparrow, in critical condition.

A third car was also struck by debris although the driver was reported not to be injured.

Florida Highway patrol is still investigating whether the driver of the Lexus was under the influence of alcohol.

## BRIEFS

### County Road 210 to be temporarily closed at night

Due to utility and drainage improvements, County Road 210 will experience temporary nightly closures from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. on Feb. 19 and Feb. 26 between Alternate 210 and Valley Ridge Boulevard.

Additionally, the road will close Feb. 20 and Feb. 27 between Twin Creeks Drive to CR 210. Detour routes will be posted throughout the duration of the project.

Closure dates are subject to change due to weather conditions. Motorists are advised to monitor the project message boards for the latest updates. For more information, call (904) 209-0792.

### Open House for U.S. 1/State Road 5 Resurfacing Project

The Florida Department of Transportation will host a public open house to preview a proposed resurfacing project and potential safety improvements, including sidewalks and lighting planned on U.S. 1/State Road 5 from North Ponce De Leon Boulevard to Cross Ridge Drive from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 24, in the Muscovy Room at St. Johns County Health and Human Services, 200 San Sebastian View in St. Augustine.

Residents are invited to drop by any time to view project displays and discuss traffic impacts and construction activities with members of the project team. For more information, call (904) 360-5471.



At THE PLAYERS Championship Charity Shootout on Feb. 11, all five charities that participated went home as winners.



Representatives from Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation pose with their first-place winning \$11,000 check.



Representatives from Walk Off Charities pose with their second-place \$6,000 check.



Jeff Adams (from left), Jordan Batchelor and Fred Seely, representing the Jacksonville Area Golf Association Scholarship Trust, pose with their \$2,000 check.

# Everyone goes home a winner at THE PLAYERS Championship Charity Shootout

By Maggie FitzRoy

Spectators held their breath as Curtis Dvorak got ready to tee off at the famed Island Green 17th hole at THE PLAYERS Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass.

That's because as Dvorak gripped his driver in his hands, eyeing the hole across the pristine water, he was on his knees. And if he landed the ball on the island, all five charities in attendance that sunny morning, Feb. 11, would receive \$1,000 from THE PLAYERS.

Charity representatives had earlier been delighted to learn that no matter who won THE PLAYERS Championship Charity Shootout that day, all would receive at least \$1,000 to be sure no one went home empty-handed.

So, they watched in anticipation to see if they might get another \$1,000.

Dvorak missed his first shot.

But he delivered on his second, hitting it less than 4 feet from the hole.

Everyone applauded.

CHARITY continues on Page 5



LEFT: From his knees, Curtis Dvorak of First Coast News prepares to land a shot on the Island Green 17th hole at THE PLAYERS Stadium Course.

Photos by Maggie FitzRoy



# THE PLAYERS launches family plan ticket package

Family Plan includes 2 Stadium Passes, 2 \$10 concession vouchers; kids 15 and under get in free with a ticketed adult

THE PLAYERS Championship returns to TPC Sawgrass March 10-15, and as fans make plans to attend the area's biggest sporting and social event of the year, families with children can rest assured they will enjoy themselves, too.

Through March 1, THE PLAYERS is selling a Family Plan package to give families attending the tournament the most affordable — and memorable — experience possible.

THE PLAYERS Family Plan package, available at [THEPLAYERS.com/tickets](http://THEPLAYERS.com/tickets), costs \$130 per day on Thursday or Sunday and \$140 on Friday or Saturday (plus tax) and includes:

- Two Stadium Passes (grounds passes)
- Two \$10 concession vouchers (redeemable at all general concession stands and the nearly 20 food partners on site)

“Everything about this course and this tournament was designed with our fans in mind, from the stadium-style seating, to the outside-the-ropes experiences and venues, to the local food and beverage offerings,” said THE PLAYERS Executive Director Jared Rice. “There’s

something for everyone at THE PLAYERS, and golf is a sport the whole family can play, watch and enjoy. Bring your kids here, and we promise you’ll leave with plenty of stories, memories, autographs and pictures of your kids with their favorite pros.”

Families are reminded that THE PLAYERS allows children 15 and under to attend for free when accompanied by a ticketed adult. This is consistent with the PGA TOUR’s youth admissions policy. As in the past, there is no limit to the number of children who can enter free of charge with a ticketed adult.

Parking passes must be purchased separately and are now required Tuesday through Sunday. All parking passes are daily passes and must be purchased online in advance via [THEPLAYERS.com/parking](http://THEPLAYERS.com/parking). Tuesday and Wednesday parking costs \$15 per day and Thursday-Sunday costs \$40 per day. Parking will not be sold on-site. As in years past, THE PLAYERS will offer fans free parking passes if they carpool with four or more people. These passes are limited and must be downloaded in advance. Rideshare will continue to be one of the easiest modes of transportation, with drop off and pick up located at the Couples Entry off of ATP Boulevard, steps from the 15th hole at TPC Sawgrass.

Here are other key things to know before attending THE PLAYERS with your family:

- **Bag policy:** Opaque bags measuring 6-by-6-by-6

inches and smaller or clear bags 12-by-6-by-12 inches and smaller are allowed inside the course grounds.

■ **Outside food:** THE PLAYERS allows fans to bring in a 1-gallon clear, plastic bag of food items wrapped in clear wrap.

■ **Refill stations:** Fans can refill their empty water bottles at the filtered water stations throughout the course. This policy does not allow fans to bring in outside water bottles and/or beverages.

■ **Strollers:** Strollers, small diaper bags, plastic baby bottles and other essential baby supplies are permitted. The infant must be with the carrier. Items are subject to search.

■ **Family Care Suite presented by Baptist Health:** When it’s time to change a diaper or nurse your child, visit the Family Care Suite presented by Baptist Health, a private, air-conditioned venue that serves as a comfort station for parents.

■ **Military members and veterans:** Military members, veterans and their families are invited to experience the Birdies for the Brave Patriots’ Outpost presented by United Rentals. At this military-exclusive hospitality venue, attendees can enjoy complimentary food and beverages while enjoying the tournament action from some of the best seats on the course.

For more information on THE PLAYERS and ticket packages, visit [theplayers.com](http://theplayers.com).

## Nemours Children’s Health System sponsors THE PLAYERS Championship Kids Zone

Interactive area to feature free health screenings, programs promoting healthy children

Nemours Children’s Health System will launch the Kids Zone, an active, open-to-the-public experience at THE PLAYERS Championship from March 10-15. Nemours’ sponsorship will last for three years.

The Kids Zone presented by Nemours Children’s Health System will be a youth-focused space, with engaging activities and pop-up events designed to give young attendees and their families an interactive experience, including:

■ PGA TOUR star Phil Mickelson will sign autographs for kids Wednesday, March 11 from 9:30 to 10 a.m.

■ “Tee Time” mini golf challenge from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 14, with Nemours Orthopedics and Sports Medicine experts.

■ “Eye Screens for Ice Cream and Family Morning Out” from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, March 15, co-hosted by Nemours Ophthalmology and Optometry experts and Jacksonville Mom.

For adults, the Kids Zone will be a recharge lounge, where they can watch the tournament on a live feed while the kids are at play.

“Nemours Children’s Health System provides top-quality, patient-centered care in the six states we serve,” said Nemours CEO Dr. R. Lawrence Moss. “Our long-standing collaboration with



Photo provided by Nemours Children’s Health System

**Nemours pediatric eye doctor Amanda Bourgeois, O.D., chats with a young golfer during an office visit. Dr. Bourgeois will be among several Nemours experts at THE PLAYERS Kids Zone on Sunday, March 15.**

THE PLAYERS Championship is a great opportunity to make a positive impact by promoting healthy habits among young people and reaching families where they live, learn and play.”

On Saturday, March 14, experts will host a mini golf challenge in the Kids Zone and answer common parent questions about issues affecting active kids and teen athletes.

During the Sunday, March 15 pop-up event, Nemours Ophthalmology and Optometry experts will co-host an “Eye Screen for Ice Cream” where children who receive an eye screening will receive a voucher that can be redeemed for an ice cream. Jacksonville Mom will also be on-site to host a Family Morning Out get

together — moms and dads who swing by the Kids Zone will receive a Mini Bar voucher redeemable at Mini Bar’s venue at the tournament.

“Children need good vision to participate in all sports, particularly golf,” said Karen Shimshak, M.D., chief of pediatric ophthalmology for Nemours Ophthalmology and Optometry. “Vision issues in children are common, so it is important to make sure your child has a complete eye exam and wears protective eyewear to prevent against a potential sports-related eye injury.”

Stationed near the main entrance of the tournament, the 3,200-square-foot Kids Zone will also feature a range of photo-worthy moments for kids of all ages.

## Charity

Continued from 4

“We’re happy to go home with \$2,000,” said Jeff Adams, one of the representatives from the Jacksonville Area Golf Association. Adams said JAGA won the \$10,000 top prize last year, “so we were defending champions. We’re happy to go home with \$2,000 for our scholarship trust.”

In addition to JAGA, the other charities invited to participate in the annual charity shootout included Feeding Northeast Florida, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation, The First Tee of North Florida and Walk Off Charities.

In keeping with tradition, local media personalities and celebrities were paired with each local nonprofit in Round 1. Each local celebrity was given two consecutive shots to the Island Green, and the closest of the two was recorded.

Brent Martineau of Action News Jax came closest to the pin in Round 1, at 7 feet, 3 inches, winning \$10,000 for the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation, which funds lifesaving equipment, prevention education, scholarships and continued education, disaster relief and support for members of the military.

During Round 2, former Jacksonville Jaguar Josh Scobee came closest to the pin, at 9 feet, 6 inches, and won the second prize of \$5,000 for Walk Off Charities, which provides baseball opportunities to all young people on the First Coast who are interested in playing the sport and need financial assistance with equipment and registration costs.

After Dvorak of First Coast news delivered his winning shot for all the charities there, everyone posed for pictures with their giant checks.



*A lifelong Beaches resident and currently living in Neptune Beach, Liam O'Reilly is senior land development manager at GreenPointe Communities LLC. In addition to spending time with his family, he also volunteers for a variety of causes.*

## Liam O'Reilly

As told to Maggie FitzRoy

### Where did you grow up at the Beaches?

I lived most of my life in Jacksonville Beach and just recently moved to Neptune Beach.

### Where did you go to school?

For kindergarten through eighth grade I went to St. Paul's at the Beach Catholic School. Then I went to Fletcher High School. My dad is from Ireland, so I grew up Irish Catholic.

### What was it like growing up at the Beaches?

I was the third of four children. My dad owned a landscaping company and we grew up over by Beach Marine. We grew up going to the beach, riding bikes around the beach. Our friend group was surrounded by beach families.

### What type of business is GreenPointe?

We buy real estate and create master planned communities.

### What led you to your career?

I went to college at Florida State and majored in civil engineering. I made a little bit of a career change. Civil engineers are essentially the designers of our infrastructure — roads, bridges, utility systems. I became a civil engineer and worked for land developers after college. My focus was private land development clients. After spending several years of understanding the process of design, entitlement and permitting of projects I was hungry to take the next step. I wanted to learn more and learn the other side of real estate development. I worked for a builder for a few years and then came here, where I am now, taking a project from raw land to a finished community where people live and raise their families. As an engineer, you are part of a team that does that, but I was hungry to be involved in the whole process. I started at GreenPointe two years ago.

### What specific communities are you involved with currently?

We have five communities in the Jacksonville area. I visit them regularly. We are actively developing almost 800 lots right now.

### What are you involved in outside of your job with volunteer work?

I'm involved with professional organizations and nonprofit organizations that I am passionate about. The professional organizations are Urban Land Institute, a global real estate organization here locally and I am involved with the North Florida chapter, where I co-chaired the Young Leaders group and sat on several committees. I also volunteer with the National MS Society and Monique Burr Foundation.

### What do you do with the MS Society?

I volunteer at the Bike MS event every year in the fall. It's a Daytona Beach-and-back bike ride and along with my family (sister, mother and grandparents), I run a rest stop along the bike route. It's a place for the riders to stop and rest and hydrate. We call it the Pirate Rest



Photo by Maggie FitzRoy

Stop. We all dress up as pirates. It's a way to give back. The riders raise a lot of money and it's our way to support the fundraising effort every year for the MS Society.

### What do you do for Monique Burr?

They help prevent child abuse and my focus is helping with the golf tournament they hold every year in December.

### What else are you involved with?

Right now, my main focus is with the Jacksonville Chamber Hightower Emerging Leaders Fellowship. It's a fellowship that is a year-long program that connects and empowers the next generation of leaders. It connects them

with the current titans of Jacksonville. I went through the 2018 class and then I was voted to serve on the board for two years. This year I was voted into the vice chair position.

### What do you do in your spare time?

My main focus is on my family right now. My wife, Brett, is a real estate agent and we have a 2-year-old son, Mac.

### What do you like about living at the beach?

I love the beach. I love the people. I love the community aspect of it. It's home. It's where family and friends are.





Photo provided by Lori Moffitt

A right whale mother and calf sighting was seen off the coast of Ponte Vedra Beach on Feb. 16.

# Right whale spotted with calf off coast of Ponte Vedra Beach

By Amber Lake

A right whale sighting was caught off the coast of Ponte Vedra Beach on Sunday, Feb. 16.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has been contacted and suggested the sighting could be a North Atlantic right whale named Calvin and her calf. Calvin is believed to be 28 years old and currently rearing her fourth calf. She was last seen off the coast of Georgia.

The Marine Resources Council has

been asking residents to get trained in right whale spotting and reporting. The information has proven vital in helping the FWC protect the highly endangered species from collisions with boats or engage in disentanglement response if needed. Data collection on right whales has helped scientists monitor population fluctuations and assist with tracking their migration in order to better alert vessels of common right whale hot spots.

WHALE continues on Page 11

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[www.CarpetMan.biz](http://www.CarpetMan.biz)



### Oceanfront Retreat

Built to take advantage of the captivating water views and north of Mickler's Landing, this 4,878 property includes a pool and new roof (2017). With 150 ft. of ocean frontage this 1.45-acre lot is the ideal place to make your private beach retreat.

6 bedrooms, 6.5 baths \$3,450,000



### Oceanfront Luxury

Comfort and elegance blend effortlessly in this Anglo-Caribbean inspired oceanfront home and exquisitely constructed with the highest level of detail and quality, the beauty of this home is enhanced by the property's premier location.

7 bedrooms, 7 full / 2 half baths \$9,995,000



### Stunning Riverfront Estate

Riverfront/ San Marco Instantly makes you feel you've been swept away to a chateau in France. Exquisitely designed with extensive custom finishes, this 10,204-sq.-ft. French Normandy style home is a masterpiece in design and built for entertaining.

5 bedroom, 6 full bath, 5 half bath \$5,995,000



### Oceanfront Masterpiece

Private gated 1.78-acre estate, known as Turtle Hall, exemplifies luxury oceanfront living. With 165 ft of ocean frontage this custom-built estate showcases museum-quality features and craftsmanship throughout this 11,000 sqft home.

5 bedrooms, 6 full / 2 half baths \$8,900,000



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### Oceanfront Oasis

Located on a gated 1+ acre lot this spacious and bright home with expansive flowing spaces reflects the beauty of its spectacular natural backdrop. Positioned on a high and dry dune, with 27 ft of elevation and breathtaking oceanfront views..

5 bedrooms, 6 full / 2 half baths \$5,250,000



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ELIZABETH HUDGINS



Thursday, Feb. 20	Friday, Feb. 21	Saturday, Feb. 22	Sunday, Feb. 23
<p><b>Torah &amp; Tea</b> Join fellow Jewish women for camaraderie and refreshments as they meet for "Torah &amp; Tea," Thursday mornings at 9 a.m. This weekly study group finds relevant messages from issues discussed in the Weekly Torah portion. Reservations can be made by contacting Leah Kurinsky at <a href="mailto:lkurinsky@gmail.com">lkurinsky@gmail.com</a> or (904) 543-9301. Torah and Tea meets at Chabad at the Beaches, located at 521 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Project Common Grounds: A Deliberative Dialogue</b> Palms Presbyterian Church presents Project Common Grounds, a series of public forums where people in the community can join and partake in deliberative dialogue to resolve problems affecting the Beaches community. Discussion topics include issues such as immigration, media regulation, sea level rise, mental health and violence prevention. The next forum is Feb. 20, from 6 to 8:30 p.m., at Palms Presbyterian Church. The forum's topic for Feb. 20 is "Health Care: How can we bring costs down while getting the care we need?" For questions or to RSVP, email <a href="mailto:commongrounds@palmschurch.org">commongrounds@palmschurch.org</a>. Light refreshments and food will be provided. Palms Presbyterian Church is located at 3410 Third St. S. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p><b>HEAL gala &amp; fundraiser</b> Enjoy an open bar, light dinner, live music and dancing at the HEAL Gala at 6:30 p.m., Feb. 20, at the Ponte Vedra Inn &amp; Club. Tickets are \$150, with proceeds going back to the HEAL Foundation, "Helping Enrich Autistic Lives." This is the non-profits' largest fundraiser of the year. For tickets or more information, call (904) 716-4198 or visit <a href="http://www.healautismnow.org/events">www.healautismnow.org/events</a>. The Ponte Vedra Inn &amp; Club is located at 200 Ponte Vedra Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Thirsty Thursdays at Al's Pizza</b> 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>Mind Body &amp; Beyond Center open house</b> Mind Body and Beyond Center will celebrate the completion of its new center with an open house weekend Feb. 21 and 22. From 6:30 to 8 p.m. Friday, there will be a Group Trance Channel session with Delphi University spiritual teacher and intuitive Steve Smith. Ask questions and learn about life after death from Arthur Ford, a spirit/teacher residing in the astral plane. Cost to attend is \$25. Reservations are recommended. From 3 to 9 p.m., Sat., Guests are invited to tour the newly built facility that includes the Mind Body and Beyond Yoga Center. Guests may participate in many of the center's classes and services, and learn what the center offers. Visit <a href="http://www.MindBodyandBeyondCenter.com">www.MindBodyandBeyondCenter.com</a> or call (904) 992-9930 to make a reservation. Mind Body and Beyond is located at 14215 Spartina Court, #300, in Jacksonville.</p> <p><b>Liquid Stranger at River City Brewing Co.</b> Swedish DJ Liquid Stranger is stopping at River City Brewing Co. in Jacksonville for part of his Ascension Tour at 10 p.m. Join, watch the vibrant lights and listen to the bass as opening guests Sully, Dirt Monkey and Luzcid warm up the audience. Tickets can be found at <a href="http://www.Eventbrite.com">www.Eventbrite.com</a> by searching for the River City Brewing Co.'s Liquid Stranger event. River City Brewing Co. is located at 835 Museum Cir. in Jacksonville.</p> <p><b>Ponte Vedra Professional Networking Group meeting</b> The Ponte Vedra Professional Networking Group schedules weekly meetings, Fridays, 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 Feb. 14 at 8:45 a.m. Fidelity Bank is located at 110 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>3rd annual Coastal Carnivale</b> The Coastal Carnivale is the Beaches Town Center's fundraising event of the year. Guests can enjoy salsa music and dancing from musical group LPT, a silent auction, dinner and open bar. Proceeds go to town center improvements. Tickets cost \$100 and can be found at <a href="http://www.904tix.com">www.904tix.com</a>. The carnivale is hosted at One Ocean, located at 0 Atlantic Blvd. in Atlantic Beach.</p>	<p><b>Feast for Rabbits: Historical South</b> Join the Vernon's First Coast Kitchen &amp; Bar staff for this month's extravagant vegan feast prepared by Chef Riley, Chef Mama T and Chef LaTasha Kaiser from KraVegan.. Happy half-hour starts at 5:30 p.m. Then, a family-style dinner will be served at 6 p.m. Make a reservation through the <a href="http://www.OpenTable.com">www.OpenTable.com</a> For questions or more information, call (904) 373-2098 or email <a href="mailto:emily.costa@marriott.com">emily.costa@marriott.com</a>. Vernon's First Coast Kitchen &amp; Bar is located within Sawgrass Marriott at 1000 PGA Tour Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Seawalk Music Festival 2020</b> Visit the Seawalk Pavilion for the first festival of the year in Jacksonville Beach. The Community First Seawalk Music Festival will local musicians, artists, food, drinks, vendors and more. The festival starts at 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. Live music starts at noon. The Seawalk Pavilion is located at 75 First St. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p><b>Beaches Go Green community &amp; beach cleanup</b> The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach is partnering with local nonprofit Beaches Go Green and several local businesses for a cleanup of Mickler's Landing Beach from 9 to 11 a.m., Feb. 22. Trasca &amp; Co. Eatery will provide pre-cleanup hot chocolate, coffee and snacks, as well as post-cleanup pasta. Buckets and reusable gloves will be provided by Beaches Go Green. Prizes will be awarded for the strangest item found and most cigarette butts collected. Mickler's Landing Beach is located off County Road 203 in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Science &amp; History River Tours</b> Ahoy! Take a ride through history on the St. Johns River Saturday afternoons with the Museum of Science and History and the St. Johns River Taxi. The Science &amp; History River Tours are now accompanied by a "history host" who will guide guests through the history of Jacksonville and the significance the river has played in the community over time. The boat tour is from 3 to 3:30 p.m. Arrive at 2:45 p.m. Admission cost is \$15 adults and \$12 children. For more information, contact the MOSH at (904) 396-6674. The MOSH is located at 1025 Museum Cir. in Jacksonville.</p>	<p><b>Florida Chamber Music Project at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall</b> The FCMP will play at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall Feb. 23 at 3 p.m. The concert will pair Mozart's String Quartet in d minor, k 421 with Mendelssohn's String Quartet Opus 44, No. 3. The two pieces have some commonalities, but two separate composers who could not have had more different upbringing. Tickets cost \$25 for general admission. For tickets and more information, visit <a href="http://www.pvconcerthall.com">www.pvconcerthall.com</a>. The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Beaches: A Celebration of the Arts</b> The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach will be making a splash Feb. 23 with the inaugural Beaches event. Beaches will be an annual celebration of artists, individuals, and organizations who have shaped and enhanced our art-filled beaches community. This fun and formal affair will take place from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Surf Club at the Ponte Vedra Inn &amp; Club. Guests will be transported to a vibrant, deep sea setting; and will enjoy cocktails, beaches-inspired chef specialties, live art, music, an awards presentation, and auction items that reflect our dynamic community. For tickets and more information, visit <a href="http://www.ccpvb.org">www.ccpvb.org</a>. The Ponte Vedra Inn &amp; Club is located at 200 Ponte Vedra Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Yoga in the Gardens</b> Wellness nonprofit Harmony is hosting a yoga practice at the Jacksonville Arboretum &amp; Gardens from 11 a.m. to noon, Feb. 16. Enjoy a stress-free morning in nature, quieting the mind, engaging the body and restoring the spirit. This is kid friendly family event. Refreshments and snacks will be provided. No mat? No problem Harmony has plenty to share. Just bring a friend and smile. For questions or more information about the event or nonprofit, call Harmony at (904) 401-5929. The Jacksonville Arboretum &amp; Gardens are located at 1445 Millcoe Road in Jacksonville.</p>

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Monday, Feb. 24	Tuesday, Feb. 25	Wednesday, Feb. 26	Thursday, Feb. 27
<p><b>Sea Level Rise &amp; Other Flood Risks</b> Stearns Weaver Miller and the City of Jacksonville Beach along with City Staff will conduct a workshop at 7 p.m., Feb. 24, on a State grant awarded to the City of Jacksonville Beach to study flood risks and to develop flood mitigation strategies. The workshop will review grant requirements, review impacts of sea level rise, spring tide and storm surge modeling, discuss draft amendments and more. The City of Jax Beach is located at 11 N. Third St. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p><b>Trivia at Mellow Mushroom</b> 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>Run Club at Southern Swells</b> 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 as they'd like. After, enjoy \$1 Southern Swells beers for all who ran. For more information, visit the 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>MOSH Mondays</b> Experience all of MOSH's exhibits, interactive programming, hands-on activities, special discounts and more on MOSH Mondays, hosted each Monday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Promotions include buy-one-get-one-half-off admission for adults, a 10% discount on MOSH merchandise, memberships and birthday packages; additional screenings of "Molecularium" in the Bryan-Gooding Planetarium, scavenger hunts, interactive sessions and science shows with MOSH educators and more. For questions or more information, call Amy Chamberlin at (904) 396-6674 ext. 242 or email at <a href="mailto:achamberlin@themosh.org">achamberlin@themosh.org</a>. The MOSH located at 1025 Museum Cir. in Jacksonville.</p>	<p><b>'Your Lifetime Plan'</b> This workshop, hosted at 6 p.m. Feb. 25, at the Ponte Vedra Library will be hands-on, and will be specifically aimed at using common everyday language on how to celebrate life. Hosted by John Miller, Founding Attorney of Rock Solid Law, the workshop will discuss how to take care of children, grandchildren and other loved ones. The materials covered in this session, taught by a 40+ year Floridian, will specially focus on Florida law, and will be useful to Florida residents, native or new. Light refreshments will also be served. Space is limited, To reserve a spot, call Chelle Thomas at (904) 241-1113 or <a href="mailto:chelle@rocksolidlaw.com">chelle@rocksolidlaw.com</a>. The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library is located at 101 Library Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>First Coast Newcomers Club card playing date</b> The First Coast Newcomers Club will host its next card playing date Feb. 25 at an association clubhouse in St. Augustine. Arrive at 3:15 p.m. Card playing begins at 3:30 p.m. The event is open to the public. For the exact location, to join or for more information, contact the club organizer at (904) 814-9612.</p> <p><b>Free quit smoking class</b> Ever thought about quitting tobacco? Join for a free Quit Smoking Now class from the Northeast Florida Area Health Education Centers at the Flagler Hospital-Wellness Center. Classes meet once a week for six weeks starting Tuesday, Feb. 25 from 6 to 7 p.m. Free patches, lozenges and gum will be provided, along with a quit plan, workbook, water bottle, stress ball and more. For more information or to register, call Northeast Florida AHEC at (904) 482-0189. The Flagler Hospital-Wellness Center is located at 120 Health Park Blvd. in St. Augustine.</p> <p><b>Men's Over 40 Basketball</b> This active recreational group meets at the Palms Presbyterian Church gym (Fellowship Hall), Tuesdays at 6 p.m., for exercise and fellowship. The group is open to all who want to play some ball. For more information, call Paul Short at (904) 626-5305. Palms Presbyterian Church is located at 3410 Third St. S. in Jacksonville Beach.</p>	<p><b>Manifest Discovery series: Whiskey Blending</b> Spend an evening at Manifest Distilling and learn the intricacies behind the art and science of whiskey. Participants will dive into subjects like true definition of whiskey, how it is distilled and matured, the chemistry behind the aging process, and more. Class participants will be welcomed with a cocktail, engage in whiskey-centric activities such as nose training and blind tasting and will leave with their own personal DIY aging project to continue at home. Class starts at 5:30 p.m., Feb. 26. Tickets are \$35 and can be found at <a href="http://www.904tix.com">www.904tix.com</a>. 960 E. Forsyth St. in Jacksonville.</p> <p><b>Wednesday Pier farmers market</b> On Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to noon, the Pier Farmers Market at the St. Johns County Pier offers fresh fruit, vegetables, bread and local arts and crafts, ranging from 60 to 80 different vendors. Visitors can find a variety of unique, quality goods from local businesses. 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>Family Bingo at Trasca &amp; Co. Eatery</b> Join Trasca &amp; Co. Eatery for a family-fun evening, Wednesdays, starting at 6 p.m. The restaurant will be hosting family bingo featuring pizza specials, craft beer specials and tons of fun. Bingo starts at 6 and runs until 8 p.m. Trasca &amp; Co Eatery is located at 155 Tourside Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Peace &amp; meditation</b> The Center for Spiritual Living in Saint Augustine will host weekly silent meditations Wednesdays starting at 6 p.m. Join with others in affirming peace in the world and in individual lives. Diana Ambrose is leading the session and holds a silent meditation with a brief prayer in the beginning and end of the meditation. For questions or more information, email <a href="mailto:dianabythewater@yahoo.com">dianabythewater@yahoo.com</a>. The Center for Spiritual Living is located at 1795 Old Moultrie Road in Saint Augustine.</p>	<p><b>Job hunting with J. Dianne Tribble</b> On Feb. 27 at Christ Episcopal Church, listen to two high-energy presentations by J. Dianne Tribble, Certified Professional Life Coach, Motivational Speaker, Published Author and Business Start-Up Consultant. Dianne will discuss the innovative ways to approach new job searches. Buddy Webster of LEADERS Professional Recruiting will also be attending and reviewing resumes following the workshop. Sign in and network at 8:30 a.m. The presentation will start at 9 a.m. For questions or more information, email Pam Ottesen at <a href="mailto:pottesen66@gmail.com">pottesen66@gmail.com</a>. Christ Episcopal Church is located at 400 San Juan Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Open gym at Solomon Calhoun Center</b> Bring the team and play ball during open gym hours at the Solomon Calhoun Center in Saint Augustine. The gym will be open to adults from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., and students from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, through May 29. This program is free, but guests must bring their own basketball and sign in upon arrival. For more information, email Ashley Brown at <a href="mailto:abrown@sjcf.us">abrown@sjcf.us</a> or call (904) 209-0379. The Solomon Calhoun Center is located at 1300 Duval St. in Saint Augustine.</p> <p><b>Wellness Workshop: Building Healthy Behaviors</b> At 6 p.m., Feb. 27, Momentum Wellness will discuss how to create a healthy lifestyle by changing simple behaviors. Owner Marie Merritt will show what it looks like to live an active and healthy lifestyle in and out of the gym. Learn how to implement realistic behavior changes that will impact the body. Cost is \$25 and can be found on <a href="http://Eventbrite.com">Eventbrite.com</a>. Momentum Wellness is located at 5150 Palm Valley Road in Ponte Vedra Beach.</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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## LAISSEZ LE BON TEMPS ROULER AT NOCATEE FARMERS MARKET



The Nocatee Farmers Market hosted a Mardi Gras Celebration on Saturday, Feb. 15 at the Nocatee Station Field. There was live music by Junco Royals, a stilt walker, bounce houses, crafts and more. There was also shopping from more than 70 local craft and food vendors. The event was sponsored by Specialty Cartz & Partz. Photos provided by the PARC Group



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**ABOVE:** The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library offered Birds of a Feather: Oil Pastel for Beginners on Feb. 13, providing a free art class to the community.

**RIGHT:** Class teacher Kasha Fahy started as a volunteer art teacher at the St. Augustine Main Library, but her work transformed into a part-time job for libraries across St. Johns County. She's extremely thankful to every library that has invited her to teach.

Photos by Daniela Toporek



# Ponte Vedra Beach library offers free art classes to community, brings 'peace' to class attendees

By Daniela Toporek

Ponte Vedra Beach resident Sandy Stam finds joy in painting. Acrylics are her forte, but she craved a new challenge. So, when Stam heard about the Birds of a Feather oil pastel class offered at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library on Feb. 15, she hopped on board.

The class was brought to the library by a Color Your World grant award from the Barbara A. Kay Foundation and it was free and open to the public.

Class attendees were assigned to use oil pastels to create a blue heron along the water. The theme was inspired by the St. Johns Reads 2020 book, "Where the Crawdads Sing," in which character, Kya, has a passion for birds and the native marsh's wildlife, leading her to fall in love with art and painting.

"I really enjoyed the book," Stam said, "so I figured, why not?"

Hoping to inspire her students to feel the same love for art as Kya did in the book, art teacher Kasha Fahy demonstrated her own passion while introducing herself to the class with enthusiasm and explaining the first steps of the assignment.

"It's a real joy to be here," Fahy told the class. "I'm just excited you guys chose to spend some time with me today."

Fahy was recommended by a professor at Flagler College, her alma mater, to fill in for an art teacher at the Main Library in St. Augustine. She stepped in voluntarily and that snowballed into a part-time job that branched out to other libraries in St. Johns County and eventually, the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch.

"It really just started as something to keep me in the art world because I missed it so much after graduating college," Fahy said. "But now, it's turned into something a lot bigger."

According to Fahy, the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch didn't offer any art classes up until a couple years ago, but it was always a high demand.

"It's really blown up, from one to two classes" throughout the county, she said, "to up to 30 now with the grant. It's exciting to see it evolve."

Just as excited were the class attendees, an array of women from all professions and backgrounds who paid close attention

LIBRARY continues on Page 12

## Whale

Continued from 7

As of 2018, there were only 411 right whales reported in the population and zero calves born that year. The most common threat to their existence is boating

collisions and entanglement in debris. To spot a right whale from the shore, look for:

- Rough, white patches of skin on the head called callosities
- Short, stubby, black flippers on the sides of the body
- Triangular black tail with smooth

edges and a deep notch in the middle

- No dorsal (back) fin
- V-shaped blow of water when they exhale.

Report whale sightings as soon as possible to MRC's right whale sighting hotline at (888) 97-WHALE or (888) 979-4253 from December through April.

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# Florida Forum Series welcomes Pro Football Hall of Famer Jerry Rice

The Florida Forum Speaker Series, produced by The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital, will welcome Pro Football Hall of Fame wide receiver and three-time Super Bowl champion Jerry Rice on Tuesday, Feb. 25. The program will begin at 7 p.m. at the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts in Jacksonville.

Rice is widely regarded as the best wide receiver to ever play in the National Football League, and the greatest player

of all time. During his 15-year career with the San Francisco 49ers, Rice won three Super Bowls (Super Bowl XXIII in 1988, Super Bowl XXIV in 89 and Super Bowl XXIX in 1994) and one Super Bowl MVP. He enjoyed three seasons with the Oakland Raiders, including a Super Bowl appearance and one season with the Seattle Seahawks before retiring in 2005. Rice was elected into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in January 2010, his first year of eligibility.

Tickets begin at \$83 each for general

seating; \$100 each for preferred seating; \$283 for two reserved Bronze seating tickets; \$708 for two reserved Silver seating tickets and invitations to the private reception honoring the speaker and \$1,416 for four reserved Gold seating tickets with private reception invitations. Patrons age 30 and under may purchase the series for \$50.

For tickets or additional information, visit [www.TheFloridaForum.com](http://www.TheFloridaForum.com), call (904) 202-2886 or email [womensboard@bmcjax.com](mailto:womensboard@bmcjax.com).



Photo provided by The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital

## Annual MS silent auction returns to Bogey Grille

More than 230 area retailers, restaurants and service providers will help kickoff the eighth annual National MS Awareness Week silent auction Monday, March 9 at Bogey Grille in Ponte Vedra Beach.

The event, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. will be free to the public, featuring vacation getaways, more than 65 restaurants, jewelry, excursions, and event tickets. One hundred percent of the proceeds — \$25,000 — will benefit the more than 18,000 North Floridians impacted by Multiple Sclerosis.

Donations include gift cards and certificates from Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, Palm Valley Fish Camp, Beach Diner, Cap's On The Water, Metro Diner, The Loop, Pusser's, Tropical Smoothie Cafe, Salt Life, Cruisers, Another Broken Egg, First Watch, Longhorn and Bonefish Grill.

Getaways feature Amelia Island, Pinehurst, North Carolina, Savannah, Georgia Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, The Villages, Daytona Beach and Charleston, South Carolina.



Photo provided by the MS Society

**People browse silent auction items at last year's MS benefit at Bogey Grille. This year's event will be held March 9.**

Jewelry donations are from Village Jewelers, Jewels by Lubeck and Espling.

Golf outings include Sawgrass, Queens Harbor, Hilton Head, March Creek, Deer creek and Top Golf.

## UF seeks high school student applicants for science program

This summer, Florida high school students have the opportunity to experience college life at the University of Florida while learning how the agricultural, natural resource and life sciences impact their families and communities around the world.

Rising high school juniors and seniors are encouraged to apply for the Florida Youth Institute, a week-long summer program sponsored by the UF/IFAS College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and The World Food Prize Foundation.

"To be considered for FYI, I wrote a short essay examining solutions to nutritional access in Alachua County. I learned the need for locally fine-tuned answers that empower children and families by bringing them closer to their food's production," said Kavina Peters, a 2019 FYI participant and a junior at Eastside High School. "Participating in FYI gave me hope in my generation's ability to help end food insecurity in our world. Change starts with asking how we can help."

FYI participants will:

- Engage in hands-on activities and demonstrations.
- Experience indoor and outdoor laboratories and campus facilities.
- Meet CALS Dean Elaine Turner, representatives from FDACS, faculty, staff and current CALS students.
- Examine issues in agriculture, life sciences and natural resources.
- Experience one week in a campus residence hall.
- Reflect on worldwide challenges such as food security.

To apply by Feb. 28 for the July camp, visit [cals.ufl.edu](http://cals.ufl.edu). Program cost is \$350 per participant.

## Library

Continued from 11

to Fahy as she guided them through the tracing steps.

"I always want to make things easier, like using labels and stencils to help the ladies," Fahy said. "When you have talent, it's important to give it back."

By the end of the class, rows of vibrant blue herons filled the classroom.

"This was so much fun," said class attendee and Ponte Vedra Beach resident Virginia Maron. "It brings so much peace."

And that's exactly what Fahy hopes to deliver with her classes.

"I don't think art is supposed to make you worry," she said. "I've had cancer survivors and others come and say things like, 'I was struggling and this is so good for motor skills' and 'it's good for inner peace.'"

Fahy said, "You start to see that it's not just fulfilling you, but it's fulfilling other people. Now, I'm thinking about teaching private lessons."



**After class, attendees applauded for finishing their projects and for a fun, productive and free experience.**



**Sandy Stam shows off her final product.**

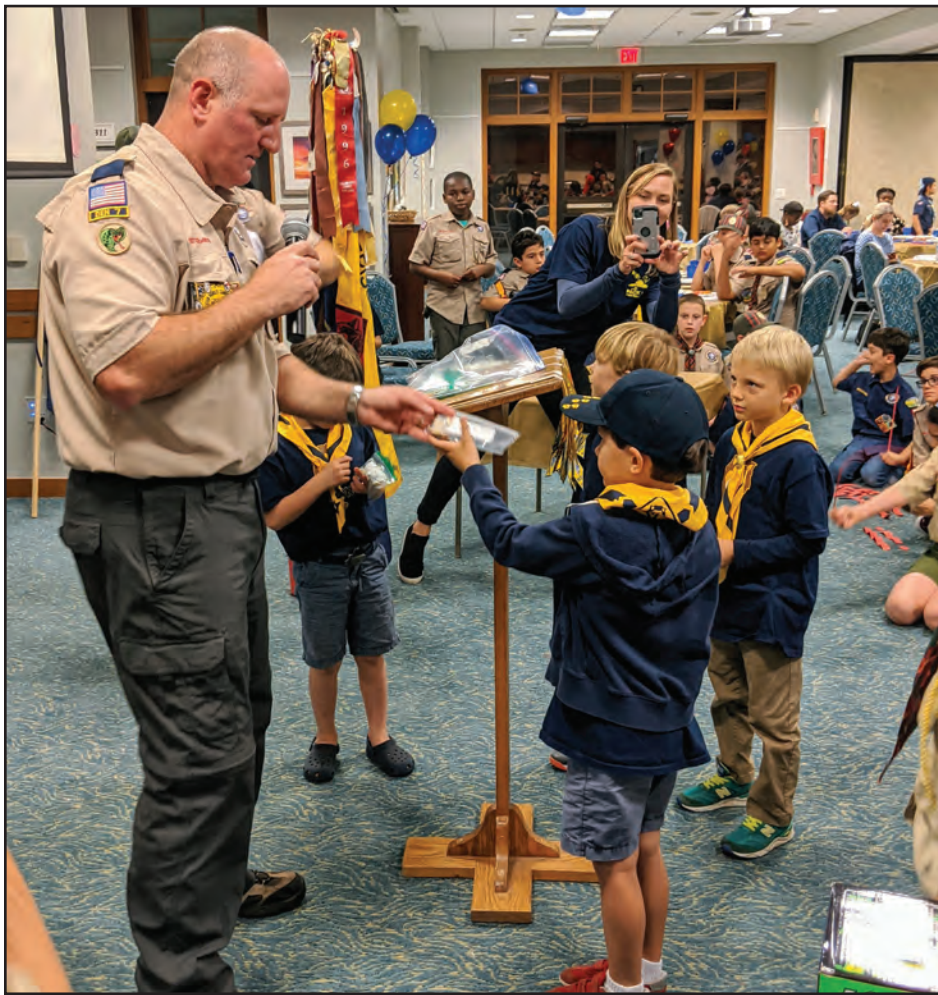


**Virginia Maron proudly lifts her blue heron and said that the class was not only fun but provided inner peace while she worked on her project.**

Photos by Daniela Toporek



# Gold and Blue Banquet celebrates pack 277 and BSA anniversary



**ABOVE:** Scouts receive their badges for the year at the Blue and Gold Banquet. Photo by Amber Lake

**RIGHT:** Fifth graders in the Webelos 2 pack earn their Arrow of Light cross-over award. Photo provided by Katie Yoder



**By Amber Lake**

An annual local Blue and Gold Banquet celebrated the achievements of Cub Scout Pack 277 of Ponte Vedra Beach and the birthday of Boy Scouts of America.

The awards dinner featured an advancement ceremony at Christ Episcopal Church on Friday, Feb. 14. The event included 115 scouts, aged 5 to 11 years and seven den leaders. Fourteen scouts earned their Arrow of Light award, which is the highest award in Cub Scouts before advancing to Scouts BSA.

Troy Weinberg, den leader for the Webelos 2 Den, said his scouts worked half the year to complete four adventures with the addition of electives to earn their Arrow of Light awards.

“Cub Scouts is parent and leader led,” Weinberg said. “Boy Scouts is scout led (however). During the transition we let the boys try to lead some of their own meetings, where they will appoint someone in charge and delegate responsibilities. They’ve worked really hard for this.”

Weinberg said his scouts hosted an event at the Harlem Globetrotter’s exhibition, an overnight campout at the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp arena and SeaWorld, beach clean ups and Bahamas hurricane relief donations. At the banquet, the scouts were collecting food for the St. Johns County Animal Shelter.



Photo by Amber Lake

**The annual Blue and Gold Banquet also celebrates the birthday of scouting, which was established in 1977.**

This year’s scouts who crossed over to Scouts BSA included Spencer York, Jackson Bohsali, Ethan Weinberg, Nicholas Olumo, Andrew Loo, Ethan Osborne, Carter Stoltz, Rafay Bajwa, Conner Blalock, Forrest Lindow, Noel BePuy, Austin Barber, Seth Dowling and Ryan Tawk.

Ethan Weinberg was the leader of the Webelos 2 Den and is looking forward to joining Scouts BSA for the (adult-free) camping. “We are going into the woods and it’s scout led so we are not with any parents,” Weinberg said. “I am going to be a leader (for the BSA troop).”



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**GRAND TASTING**  
Saturday, February 29  
Markland House, Crisp-Ellert Art Museum,  
Alumni House (Flagler College)  
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

For tickets and other information visit [www.spanishwinefestival.com](http://www.spanishwinefestival.com)



# Affordable health screenings coming to Ponte Vedra Beach

Residents living in and around Ponte Vedra Beach can now learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes and other chronic, serious conditions with affordable screenings by Life Line Screening.

Ponte Vedra Presbyterian Church will host a community screening on March 18 at the church at 4510 Palm Valley Road.

Screenings can check for:

- The level of plaque buildup in your arteries, related to risk for heart disease, stroke and overall vascular health.
- HDL and LDL Cholesterol levels
- Diabetes risk
- Bone density as a risk for possible osteoporosis
- Kidney and thyroid function

Screenings are affordable, convenient and accessible for wheelchairs and those with trouble walking. Free parking is also available.

Packages start at \$149, but consultants will be on hand to create a package that is right for each person. Call (877) 237-1287 for more information. Pre-registration is required.

## OBITUARIES

### James E. Kern, Jr.

James E. Kern Jr. (Jim) passed away peacefully at age 70 at his home in El Dorado Hills, California on January 30, 2020 after a short battle with cancer. Jim was the son of the late James and Shirley Kern of Cincinnati and Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. He is survived by his wife of nearly 50 years Susan (Wood) Kern and his daughter Jennifer Kern Weiss (Jason). In addition he is survived by his beloved grandchildren Jacob and Juliette Weiss, and Jackson and Ellie Kern, and their mother Jessica. Tragically his son Todd Kern, at age 38, predeceased him by just weeks.



James E. Kern, Jr.

He is also survived by this sister Bonnie Kern White, and brother's Bruce Kern (Holly) and Jeffrey Kern (Doreen) and many nieces and nephews.

Professionally, Jim Kern was a custom home builder who loved creating unique and beautiful homes for his clients and family. Jim and Susan built six custom homes together for their own family in Cincinnati, Ohio and Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida before relocating to California in 2003 to be closer to their daughter and her family. He was always involved in his community through various Homeowner Associations and volunteering on the Grand Jury. Jim had various hobbies from golf to gardening but in the last few years spent most of his time palling about with his grandson Jackson. He is best remembered for his intellect and wicked sense of humor. He had little interest in "political correctness" and was always finding humor in every situation.

A memorial service will be held in the spring for Jim Kern and his son Todd. The date and place have not yet been determined. His family extends their sincerest appreciation to friends and family that provided so much support. In memory of Jim Kern please plan a special meal with loved ones or make a gift to an organization of your choice.

### (Muriel) Jane Cole Rectanus

July 7, 1920 – January 11, 2020

(Muriel) Jane Cole Rectanus, born July 7, 1920, in Bar Harbor, ME, to Raymond Cole, CDR, USN and Doris (Higgins) Cole, passed away peacefully Jan. 11, 2020 in Longwood, FL at the age of 99. She was a devoted mother, loyal friend, supportive family member, dedicated reader, enthusiastic traveler, engaged citizen, animal lover (Westies), music ap-



(Muriel) Jane Cole Rectanus

preciator, and avid sports fan. Jane had a proud, determined, curious, optimistic spirit, always learning from life's challenges and joys. She raised her family in Menlo Park, CA, and in Dedham and Wellesley, MA with summers in

Annisquam. In the late 70's and 80's, Jane worked in Residential Life at Endicott College. Later, she moved to Ponte Vedra Beach, FL, near to family, and found her home at the beach.

Jane is survived by her half-brother, Raymond K. Cole of San Diego, CA and by her children and their families, Fred (Cheryl) of Portland OR; Elizabeth R. of Millis, MA; Richard (Terri) of Maitland, FL; Ann Proto (Rich) of Franklin, MA, and her grandchildren Karl (Victoria) and Tim of Raleigh, NC; Elesa Sowell (Robert) of College Park, FL; Jennie Gondhi (Jasper) of Atlanta, GA; Jill Proto of Tampa, FL and her great-grandchildren Caroline, Vanessa, Katie Rectanus, and Lydia Gondhi and her four DeBlois nieces. She was predeceased by her sister, Carolyn Bourse, and grandson, Walker Rectanus.

A gathering is planned at Mickler's Beach on February 29. The family thanks all who cared so well for her. Memorial donations to Endicott College [endicott.edu/onlinegiving](http://endicott.edu/onlinegiving) or K9's for Warriors [k9sforwarriors.org](http://k9sforwarriors.org) or a charity of your choice are appreciated.

### Barbara Ann Bruski

Barbara Ann Bruski, 75, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Feb. 15, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com). (904) 249-1100

### Lois Ann Cuffe

Lois Ann Cuffe, 88, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Feb. 17, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com). (904) 249-1100

### Frances Diacik

Frances Diacik, 95, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Feb. 12, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com). (904) 249-1100

### Leilani Sue Fitzgerald

Leilani Sue Fitzgerald, 81, of Ponte Vedra, Florida, died Feb. 12, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com). (904) 249-1100

### Donald Moore House, Sr.

Donald Moore House, Sr., 90, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Feb. 11, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Charles Barrett Merrill, Jr.

Charles Barrett Merrill, Jr., 77, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Feb. 12, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com). (904) 249-1100

### Jerry Milikin

Jerry Milikin, 87, of Ponte Vedra, Florida, died Feb. 10, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Madge Watson Phillips

Madge Watson Phillips, 97, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Feb. 11, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Rudi Stelling

Rudi Stelling, 91, of St. Augustine, Florida, died Feb. 11, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Suzanne Eleanor Wilson

Suzanne Eleanor Wilson, 86, of Atlantic Beach, Florida, died Feb. 17, 2020. 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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# Rotary, Recorder seek nominations for 28th annual Local Heroes Awards

The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach and the Ponte Vedra Recorder are seeking nominations for the 28th annual Local Heroes Awards.

Presented each year, the Local Heroes Awards recognize individuals who give back to the community and reflect the spirit of the Rotary Club's motto, "Service Above Self." From volunteering with local charities to giving back through the arts, education, environmental protection activities and more, the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach and Recorder seek to

recognize the "unsung heroes" who make Ponte Vedra such a special place to live, work and raise a family.

Residents who know of an individual they believe is deserving of recognition as a Local Hero are encouraged to complete the nomination form on this page and email it to Rotarian Ken Smith at [lksmith59@yahoo.com](mailto:lksmith59@yahoo.com).

Nomination forms may also be mailed to: Local Heroes Awards Committee, Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach, P.O. Box 70, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL

32004. To submit a nomination online, visit [pvbrotary.org](http://pvbrotary.org) and click on the "Nominate a Local Hero" link on the home page.

The deadline for submission of nominations is Thursday, Feb. 20.

Award recipients will be recognized at the Local Heroes Awards reception to be held Thursday, April 2 at Christ Episcopal Church.

For more information, contact Rotarian Ken Smith at (904) 710-7702 or [lksmith59@yahoo.com](mailto:lksmith59@yahoo.com).



## The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach

in cooperation with **The Ponte Vedra Recorder**

### 2020 Local Heroes Awards *Nomination Form*

**Nominate your friend, neighbor or colleague for the Local Heroes Awards recognizing individuals who give back to the community!**

**Complete and return this form, or submit your nomination online at: [pvbrotary.org](http://pvbrotary.org)**

**Nominee Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominee's contributions to the community (attach additional pages as needed):**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Nomination Submitted By:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Nomination Deadline: Thursday, Feb. 20, 2020**  
Email entries to: [lksmith59@yahoo.com](mailto:lksmith59@yahoo.com)  
or mail to: Local Heroes Awards Committee Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach  
P.O. Box 70, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32004

***Thank you for your nomination!***  
***Awards to be presented***  
***Thursday, April 2, 2020***  
***Christ Episcopal Church***  
***Ponte Vedra Beach***



**GIFT OF GIVING:**  
**First Coast Nonprofit Guide**  
 Pages 16-22

# MPOWR St. Augustine fights against the odds

Nonprofit aims to support community members touched by cancer

By Amber Lake

The second time Cynthia Searle was diagnosed with breast cancer, she didn't let it demoralize her like most other women would have. Instead, she decided she wasn't going down without a fight.

"I really felt like I was standing in my power," Searle said. "I was basically saying to the cancer, 'You can come get me but I'm going to swing a bat at you.'"

A two-time, triple negative breast cancer survivor, Searle swung and, against all odds, beat cancer for the second time. Her doctors shook their heads in disbelief, saying she must be that "one-in-a-hundred" case. They called her a "radical remission."

Searle was an anomaly, for sure. But was it more than just that? Afterward, she felt not enough people were asking her how or why she was able to beat the odds. Comparing the two times she was diagnosed and the mentality she greeted



Cynthia Searle

it with, she decided she wanted to help and empower other individuals facing a disheartening prognosis. Today, Searle is the founder of MPOWR St. Augustine, a

501 (c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to providing support to community members touched by cancer.

Searle believes not only her attitude toward her second diagnoses improved her odds but changing her diet and taking control of her health helped armor her body for the fight.

"The oncologists focus on what they can do for the patient," Searle said. "But let's work in concert. Strengthen (patients) so (they) can engage in the fight in a real and meaningful way. That's the piece that's missing."

Searle is clear that she in no way intends to represent the "cure" or undermine a doctor's treatment. She does believe, however, that patients can work

MPOWR continues on Page 17

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Photo provided by Cynthia Searle

**Cynthia Searle founded MPOWR St. Augustine after surviving two breast cancer diagnosis.**

## MPOWR

Continued from 16

in conjunction with their doctors to better shield themselves during their recovery journey. In this way, treatment includes a combination of traditional western and holistic interventions, based on research and practice.

Most importantly, Searle believes there is no such thing as false hope.

“From the patient perspective there is no such thing (as false hope),” Searle said. “If the doctor doesn’t know if (a patient) is ‘the one’ or the other 99, how can it be false hope? They don’t know. If nobody ever had a radical remission, if it never happened, then it would be a false hope.”

MPOWR St. Augustine works in conjunction with The Radical Remission Project, which started by Kelly Turner, Ph.D., who spent a year traveling the world to study cancer survivors who had experienced unexpected remissions. Turner believes there are nine elements the survivors had in common which are a combination of physical, spiritual, emo-

tional and psychological activities that lead to improving their odds.

“We need to remember, every day we make choices in our life that are either productive for healthy living or are in some ways undermining us,” Searle said. “This isn’t that we are causing our cancer. The cells that are already in our bodies, we are either fighting them well with a really strong immune system and good, healthy nutrition, or we are eating poorly and creating inflammation and giving it fuel.”

Whether a patient is given the diagnosis of 1 in 100 or, even, 1 in 1,000, Searle said to not lose hope. Fighting against the odds is the first step toward winning — despite all odds.

“If we can just have every newly diagnosed person fight to be ‘the one,’ we’re going to have better outcomes,” Searle said.

MPOWR St. Augustine offers both a two-day Radical Remission intensive and five-day Radical Remission Healing Retreat in St. Augustine. For more information email Cynthia Searle at [Cynthia@MPoWRStAug.org](mailto:Cynthia@MPoWRStAug.org).



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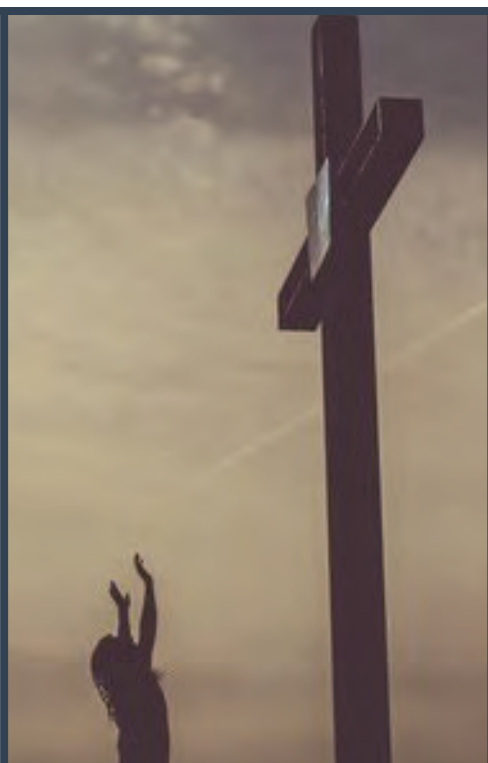
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# Local foundation helps young investigators pursue brain cancer research

The Sontag Foundation awards \$2.4 million in research grants

By Christine Rodenbaugh

According to the American Cancer Society, fewer than 24,000 malignant tumors of the brain or spinal cord will be diagnosed in 2020, while incidents of lung cancers will be nearly 10 times that number. But statistics no longer matter when your loved one is “one of the few.”

Ask Rick and Susan Sontag. Their world changed in 1994 when, after nearly 40 years of marriage, Susan was diagnosed with a category 3 astrocytoma brain tumor.

“The odds were then that I wouldn’t be on this earth longer than about 18 months,” she said in a 2006 speech to the Society for Neuro-oncology.

The diagnosis was the catalyst for her husband, Rick, to take action. After all, with a master’s in physics and an MBA from Harvard Business School, Rick had grown a small aircraft ignition manufacturer into a multinational corporation. He was ready to face Susan’s battle. In 2002, Rick and Susan formed The Sontag Foundation to fuel significant advances in brain cancer research.

Through their Ponte Vedra-based private foundation, they have invested \$35 million in support of brain cancer research. With some of the best researchers in the field serving on its scientific advisory board, the foundation has awarded 51 grants to researchers at 34 institutions through its annual Distinguished Scientist Award. The first grant was awarded in 2003.

The award seeks to provide career and research support to early career scientists who demonstrate outstanding promise for making scientific and medical breakthroughs in the field of brain cancer research. Applicants are carefully considered and selected by The Sontag Foundation and its independent Scientific Advisory Board based on the scientific merit of the proposed project, career trajectory, peer and mentor references and an onsite research facility visit.

DSA recipients are required to travel to St. Augustine to accept the award and meet with past winners. If at all possible, alumni make the trip as well to reconnect with Rick Sontag and fellow researchers. The three-day symposium attracts between 30 and 60 brain cancer experts each year.



Photo provided by The Sontag Foundation

**Rick Sontag (center) presents the Distinguished Scientist Award to (from left) Dr. Gilad D. Evrony, Dr. Mariella Filbin, Dr. Capucine Van Rechem and Dr. Steven A. Sloan on Feb. 12 at the Casa Monica Resort & Spa in St. Augustine.**



Photo by Christine Rodenbaugh

**Rick Sontag welcomes keynote speaker and past Distinguished Scientist Award recipient Dr. Mark Johnson to the three-day symposium of top brain cancer experts from across the United States and Canada.**

This year’s keynote speaker, Dr. Mark Johnson, chair of neurosurgery at UMass Medical School, received the Distinguished Scientist Award in 2004, and has returned every year since.

“It’s really exciting to develop friendships that sometimes lead to professional collaborations that are also fruitful,” Johnson said. “It’s an opportunity to meet and develop relationships with other scientists.”

Four 2019 Distinguished Scientist Award winners will receive \$600,000 over four years to support his or her brain cancer research project.

Gilad D. Evrony, M.D., Ph.D. is assistant professor in the Center for Human Genetics & Genomics at New York University School of Medicine. Evrony’s research will focus on the “family tree” of individual tumor cells. The project will create new “single-cell” technologies to reconstruct lineage histories that may reveal the origins of brain tumors, and may facilitate future lineage-targeted therapies. He said the DSA is unique because it helps young

investigators to get started.

“It’s the best hope I could have for the start of my lab,” Evrony said.

Mariella G. Filbin, MD, PhD is assistant professor of pediatric oncology at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Brain tumors are the No. 1 cause of cancer-related death in children, and Filbin seeks to change that. Her research will stop looking at the tumor as a whole, and instead look at each individual cell. “I’ve always dreamed of being a Sontag recipient,” Filbin said. “It gives access to the best in the field to share information. It’s like a family; it really is.”

Steven A. Sloan, MD, PhD is assistant professor in the Department of Human Genetics at Emory University School of Medicine. Glioblastomas are one of the most malignant types of central nervous system tumors and remain largely incurable despite advances in treatment. His research will seek to understand the developmental principles that underlie glioblastoma using new genetic and stem cell tools. “It is a privilege to be included among this group of talented, motivated, and incredibly innovative scientists,” Sloan said.

Capucine Van Rechem, PhD is assistant professor in the Department of Pathology at Stanford University School of Medicine. Fewer than 1% of pediatric patients survive five years after diagnosis with Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Gliomas. Van Rechem seeks to unravel new strategies for targeted therapies and potentially more effective treatments for this incurable childhood disease. “It is an honor to be recognized by The Sontag Foundation to tackle the deadliest childhood cancer,” Van Rechem said.

Rick Sontag is a hands-on president of the foundation by day and primary caregiver to his wife, and inspiration, by night.

“If you asked me 25 years ago if I’d be doing this, I’d have said ‘no way,’” Rick Sontag said. “I think it becomes obvious, God put you on this earth to do something.”

And do something, he has indeed.

## HEAL Gala, Bobby Weed’s Golf Gig to raise funds for local autism community

The HEAL Foundation (Helping Enrich Autistic Lives) will host the HEAL Gala and Bobby Weed’s Golf Gig at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club in Ponte Vedra Beach on Feb. 20 and 21.

On Thursday, Feb. 20 at 6:30 p.m., the HEAL Gala will be held in the Ponte Vedra ballroom. The event will feature a performance by the 7 Street Band.

Guests will also enjoy dinner, open bar, dancing and charity auctions. Tickets are \$150 each and can be purchased at [HealAutismNow.org](http://HealAutismNow.org). Annual sponsorships are also available.

On Friday, Feb. 21, Bobby Weed’s Golf Gig will be held on the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club’s Lagoon Course. HEAL will serve a light breakfast at 7:45

a.m., followed by the golf tournament scramble at 8:30 a.m. Foursomes and individual players can reserve their entries by visiting [HealAutismNow.org](http://HealAutismNow.org).

“Please join me and my wife Leslie for our annual Gala fundraiser benefitting the HEAL Foundation on behalf of our daughter, Lanier” HEAL Co-Founder, Bobby Weed said. “The

Bobby Weed Golf Gig is unique because it is played on the Weed-designed Lagoon Course at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club. We appreciate the generous support of Mr. Herb Peyton and the entire staff by hosting HEAL at their 5-star resort.”

Visit [HealAutismNow.org](http://HealAutismNow.org) for more information.



# Rotary Club of PVB, Beaches Go Green to hold cleanup of Mickler's Landing Beach

The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach is partnering with local nonprofit Beaches Go Green and several local businesses for a cleanup of Mickler's Landing Beach from 9 to 11 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 22.

In addition to the Rotary Club of Ponte

Vedra Beach and Beaches Go Green, local restaurant Trasca & Co. Eatery will be providing pre-cleanup hot chocolate, coffee and snacks, as well as post-cleanup pasta. Other businesses supporting the event include Hana Financial Group, Gordon Fam-

ily Chiropractic, Payroll Savvy, Berry & Co. Real Estate and Brightway Insurance.

Buckets and reusable gloves will be provided by Beaches Go Green. Prizes will be given for the strangest item found and most cigarette butts collected. Beaches Go

Green provides awareness and education around the waste that is produced and how it affects the planet, particularly single-use items and plastic pollution in the oceans.

For more information on Beaches Go Green, visit [www.beachesgogreen.org](http://www.beachesgogreen.org).

## Daniel Kids event to support scholarship program, renovations

April 25 gala will help carry on vision of longtime board member Glyn S. Cook

As the oldest child-service agency in Florida, Daniel has evolved to meet the needs of our changing community for more than 135 years.

One of the many ways the agency has done this is through the Glyn S. Cook Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship serves as a lasting legacy for longtime esteemed Daniel board member Glyn S. Cook, who believed higher education could unlock countless opportunities for the children Daniel serves. His memorial scholarship provides financial assistance to qualified youth seeking to further their education at an accredited university, college or trade school. Daniel has raised funds for this scholarship for more than a decade.

Daniel's executive committee has decided to launch a new event to support Cook's educational vision, while also funding essential renovations to Daniel's campus cottages. It's called "Home That Daniel Built: An Evening Under the Pavilion," and will be held Saturday, April 25 on Daniel's Jacksonville campus at 3725 Belfort Road. Event attendees can enjoy an open bar, dinner, a silent and live auction, as well as live music and dancing. They will also have the opportunity to take campus tours guided by Daniel kids and enjoy watching deserving Daniel youth receive this year's Glyn S. Cook Memorial Scholarships.

To learn more, visit [www.danielkids.org](http://www.danielkids.org).



Photo provided by Daigle Creative

**Originally founded as an orphanage in 1884, Daniel now assists an average of 3,000 children and families each day through a diverse range of services at every level; from prevention to intervention, from foster care to adoption.**

## Betty Griffin Center names Glenn Newton director of development

Glenn Newton of Ponte Vedra has been named the new director of development at the Betty Griffin Center.

"We're excited to have Glenn join our team and the contributions he will make within our organization," said Betty Griffin Center CEO Joyce Mahr. "Glenn has 25 years of experience working with churches and nonprofit religious organizations, with expertise in public speaking, mentoring, event planning, counseling, grant writing and fundraising, which will all be tremendous assets for us in this position."



Glenn Newton

**NEWTON** continues on Page 22

## Night Fest, 38th annual Lighthouse 5K & Fun Run set for Feb. 29



Photo provided by St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum

**The annual St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum Night Fest and Lighthouse 5K & Fun Run is set for Feb. 29.**

In an annual celebration of the longtime bond between the St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum Inc. and the Junior Service League of St. Augustine, Inc., the museum will host the 38th annual Night Fest from 4 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 29.

Night Fest is held in conjunction with the JSL's 38th annual Lighthouse 5K & Fun Run at the St. Augustine Light Station. To register for the race, go to [jlslofstaugustine.org/about/events/lighthouse-5k](http://jlslofstaugustine.org/about/events/lighthouse-5k).

The annual Night Fest started as JSL Community Day in 1994 with the Junior Service League celebrating the preservation of the lighthouse tower, the Keepers' House and the relighting of the original Fresnel lens. The restoration project ran from 1980 to 1994, raising \$1.2 million.

"Everyone in the community pitched in, from

our state representative Hamilton Upchurch, to local school children," said Museum Executive Director Kathy A. Fleming. "There were salad tastings, garage sales and progressive dinners, as well as state grants. We would not be here without the Junior Service League and the community support they garnered."

Today, the museum continues the tradition of leadership and community focus, reinvesting almost 90 cents from every dollar it makes back into the preservation of the light station and associated educational programs.

"The JSL first lit that spark of service in 1980. We still need support from our community to keep our work and mission shining," Fleming said.

**NIGHT FEST** continues on Page 21



# Ponte Vedra Beach preschool partners with international nonprofit

By Daniela Toporek

When Liz Scott, the owner of The Goddard School preschool of Ponte Vedra Beach, heard about RIPPLE Africa, she instantly thought it was an outstanding nonprofit. RIPPLE Africa helps people in Malawi, Africa with environmental, educational and healthcare initiatives.

Scott decided that The Goddard School would show its support for the charity by “twinning” with The Ripple Mwaya Preschool in Malawi to not only help Malawian children succeed in education and life, but to teach children in Ponte Vedra Beach the importance of empathy.

“My director of admissions, Marie Ann Howard, became aware of it and it’s just a really wonderful preschool program in Africa and they’re always looking for funding and support,” Scott said.

By “twinning” with one of the eight preschools in Malawi, Goddard teachers and students plan multiple fundraisers throughout the year that directly benefit their specific school.

Last fall, students and teachers took part in “project-based learning exercises,” where each

classroom brainstormed a fundraising project to put on to benefit their sister school.

“It’s a little competition between the teachers and the children,” Scott said. “One classroom put together a school calendar. Another did photos with Santa, where one of the children’s grandfathers actually came here dressed as Santa. They raised almost \$900 with that one event alone.”

From silent auctions to bake sales to even face painting, The Goddard School did it all.

“We also had a fall festival and one of the teachers is an artist, so people at the festival paid only \$3 to get their faces painted,” Scott said. “The teacher donated all of those funds directly.”

For community residents who are well over the preschool age, but want to participate with the school, Scott said donations can be made through The Goddard School or through RIPPLE Africa’s official website, where for \$80, one can “adopt a child” and pay for a child’s entire school year.



Photo provided by The Goddard School

**PRESCHOOL** continues on **Page 21**



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Photo provided by The Goddard School

## Preschool

Continued from 20

“They’ll receive not just an education, but a hot meal every school day for just an \$80 donation,” Scott said.

So far, The Goddard School is just over the halfway mark of its \$10,000 goal. Scott said they are receiving a lot of “fan mail” from their friends in Malawi, so they can tell they are making a difference.

“The organizers have sent us ‘thank you’ letters for the holidays, emails and commented on our social media,” Scott said. The children in Malawi “send us thank-you notes and we had our children send notes back, like pen pals.”

The Goddard School is not only establishing a foundation for education abroad, but also a foundation for communication, relationship-building and understanding, both in Malawi and at home.

“We talked to the children at our school about the children in Africa and why we’re doing this,” Scott said, “explaining to them, at their level, how fortunate we are to have the things we have. And that just goes towards developing empathy and sensitivity in children, which is so important for social and emotional growth. It really is a wonderful program all around.”

For more information on The Goddard School, visit [www.goddardschool.com/jacksonville/ponte-vedra-beach-executive-way-fl](http://www.goddardschool.com/jacksonville/ponte-vedra-beach-executive-way-fl).

For more information on RIPPLE Africa, visit [www.rippleafrica.org](http://www.rippleafrica.org).

## Night Fest

Continued from 19

### MUSEUM NIGHT FEST ACTIVITIES

The St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum will be open for free to all guests beginning at 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. Children’s activities are offered on the grounds and refreshments will be available for purchase. All proceeds support the nonprofit Museum.

Visitors can climb 219 steps to the top of the 165-foot historic tower for breathtaking views of downtown St. Augustine, the beaches and the Nation’s Oldest Port.

“You can also watch the lens come on, and it’s a fantastic experience if you happen to be up there at just the right time,” Fleming said.

Explore exhibits in the restored Keepers’ House and Maritime Education Center. See artifacts from shipwrecks and talk with the staff archaeologists while you check out the Charles G. Cox Conservation Laboratory and the PGA Viewing Room.

Also, visit the buildings which were here during WWII. The Coastal Lookout Quarters was built in 1942 following the attack on Pearl Harbor and holds a display of

U.S. Coast Guard artwork. A 1936 garage that was a maintenance facility in WWII now is restored and holds The Tin Pickle, a Gedunk with snacks and great local beer. Guests also can take a Maritime Hammock Scavenger Hunt on the nature trails, explore the shipyard playground, and play hands-on games for children and families. There is something for everyone.

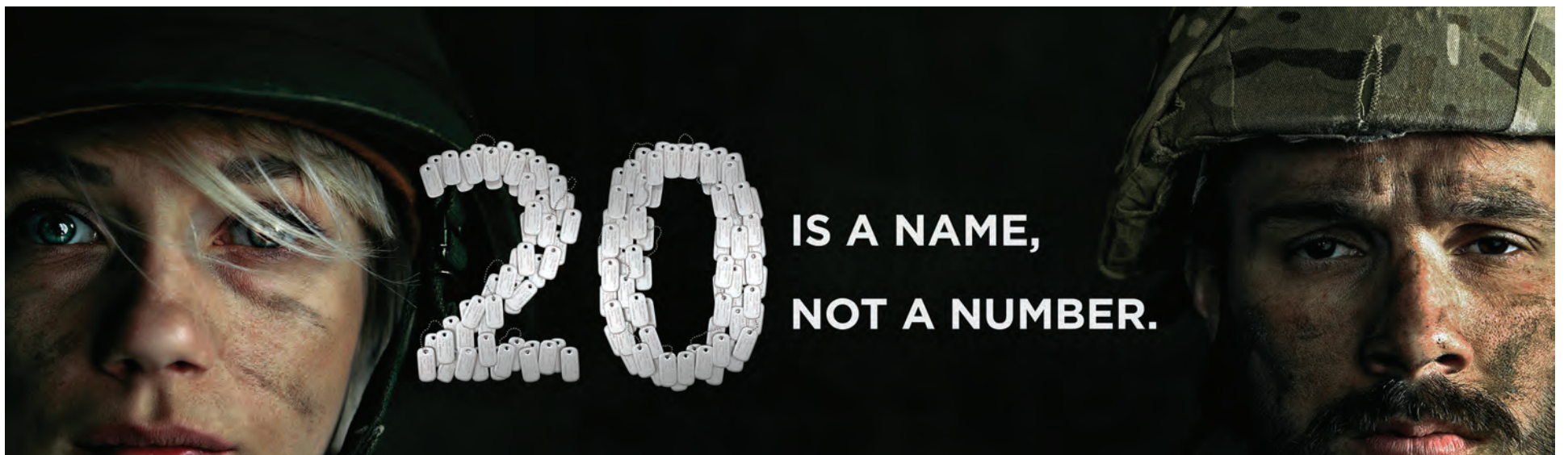
The Museum’s nonprofit mission is “to discover, preserve, present and keep alive the stories of our Nation’s Oldest Port, as symbolized by our working St. Augustine Lighthouse.”

“It all began when the League raised \$1.2 million from the community to restore the oldest brick structures in St. Augustine,” continued Fleming, who is an active sustainer of the JSL.

The Museum receives an annual gift from the JSL of \$7,500 generated by the Lighthouse Fun Run & 5K. The 5K also helps other fundraising goals of the League and through them it supports other community nonprofits.

“We are so proud each year to say thank you to our community in the same way the JSL did.”

For more details about the St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum, visit [staugustinelighthouse.org](http://staugustinelighthouse.org) or call (904) 829-0745.



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### About K9s For Warriors

K9s For Warriors’ mission is to end veteran suicide. Based in Florida, we are the nation’s largest provider of Service Dogs to military veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress, Traumatic Brain Injury and/or Military Sexual Trauma. Our program is unique, comprehensive, and proven, thanks to groundbreaking research conducted in partnership with Purdue University’s OHAIRE Lab. The majority of our Service Dogs come from high-kill shelters, which means that with each warrior-K9 pairing, two lives are saved. Join our 2020 campaign to end veteran suicide: 20 Is A Name, Not A Number.





# Students support local nonprofit to benefit at-risk youth

SOUPer Bowl raises \$40K to benefit Hugs Across the County

By **Caroline Hunt**  
Student Contributor

The fifth annual SOUPer Bowl was a great success. The event met the set goal of \$40,000 and was able to donate all of the money raised to the nonprofit organization Hugs Across the County.

Hugs Across the County is located in St. Johns County and its mission is to “raise awareness throughout the county about student poverty” and to “work closely with school counselors and the student services staff to identify needs.” Hugs Across the County helps set up food pantries in schools all over St. Johns County so that students are able to access food at any time. This helps the children to not feel embarrassed by having to ask for food; they can walk in and take food themselves. Every winter, Hugs Across the County is able to prepare and distribute an

estimated 1,200 bags of food to provide kids access to food over winter break. Volunteers with this organization also visit the local elementary schools to interact with the children as an “encouraging reading buddy” or as a guest reader for a class.

The money raised through the SOUPer Bowl will help Hugs Across the County set up more food pantries and deliver bags of food to elementary, middle and high schools. They currently have 10 functioning school-based food pantries and are planning to implement even more in the future. These pantries along with the food donations help the roughly 800 students who are considered homeless and the thousands more who are considered food insecure living at or below the poverty line in St. Johns County. The food bags distributed at local schools help to feed kids over weekends when they do not have access to their school’s food pantry



Photo by Christine Rodenbaugh

**Carrie Scuggs, clothing care package coordinator (left) and Holly Ross, secretary and director of food programs for the nonprofit Hugs Across the County answered questions and greeted guests at the SOUPer Bowl on Jan. 30 at Nease High School.**

or the free or reduced lunch they receive during the school week.

In addition to helping feed hungry students, Hugs Across the County collects items such as clothing and shoes, they have literacy programs set up at Title 1 schools, and they have Empowerment Programs for at-risk girls in middle school. As of January, Hugs Across the County had already distributed more than 400 bags of clothing to children in need. Hugs Across the County is able to deliver these bags of clothing to sites all over the

county thanks to wonderful volunteers. This organization holds monthly “Empowerment Lunch and Learn Programs” at multiple middle schools, and Bartram Trail High School’s HUGS Club writes monthly letters of encouragement to the girls involved in this program at Sebastian Middle School.

Hugs Across the County is an outreach that strives to help students of all ages across St. Johns County. To get involved and help the children at local schools who are in need, visit [www.stjohnshugs.org](http://www.stjohnshugs.org).

## 7th annual ‘5K Run for Peace,’ to benefit Betty Griffin Center set for April 11

Runners and walkers are invited to participate in the seventh annual 5K Run for Peace which begins at 8 a.m. Saturday, April 11 at the St. Augustine Pier, located at 350 A1A Beach Blvd.

The family-friendly event will benefit the Betty Griffin Center, a nonprofit agency that provides free emergency shelter and other support services for residents experiencing domestic or sexual abuse in St. Johns County.

“Nearly 600 people took part in the event last year, and we’re hoping that even more runners and walkers will take part in the 5K this year,” said Betty Griffin Center CEO Joyce Mahr. “For the last six years, the run has been one of our biggest fundraisers of the year, offering residents a family-friendly and fun way to support our work to help survivors of domestic and sexual assault in our community.”

Runners can sign up for the event at [runforpeace5k.org](http://runforpeace5k.org), or through the events section at [www.bettygriffincenter.org](http://www.bettygriffincenter.org). Adult registration costs \$25 through Feb. 29 — increasing to \$30 after that date.

People can also participate as virtual runners, and those who can’t participate but would still like to donate to the Betty Griffin Center can do so through the website.

To register, visit [www.runforpeace5k.org](http://www.runforpeace5k.org).

Sponsorships are still available by contacting Betty Griffin



Photo provided by Betty Griffin Center

Center Director of Development Glenn Newton at [glennn@bettygriffincenter.org](mailto:glennn@bettygriffincenter.org) or by calling (904) 808-8544, ext. 208.

For more information on the event, visit [www.bettygriffincenter.org](http://www.bettygriffincenter.org) or contact event coordinator Kenlie Kubart at (904) 808-8544, ext. 207, or at [kenliek@bettygriffincenter.org](mailto:kenliek@bettygriffincenter.org).

## Newton

Continued from 19

Newton was most recently an independent marketing and development consultant, where he helped develop and launch a new church, provided strategic planning for both churches and businesses, worked on capital campaign planning, education development, marketing strategies, outreach strategies and fundraising — which included serving as a marketing consultant for Wild Adventures in Valdosta, Georgia.

“I’m looking forward to the opportunity to work for the Betty Griffin Center and be part of our mission to bring hope and healing to the hurting in our community,” Newton said.

Prior to launching his own firm, Newton was a minister with the Mandarin Church of Christ in Jacksonville, Pleasant View Church of Christ, Pleasanton, California, and a preaching minister at Lakeview Church of Christ in Tacoma, Washington.

Newton began his development career at Heritage Christian University in Florence, Alabama, where he was responsible for university advancement and development, planned giving, capital campaign planning, letter writing, alumni relations, maintaining and developing healthy relationships with supporting churches and donors, and event planning for the university from 2004 to 2007.

He received his Bachelor of Arts in Theology and a Master of Ministry from Heritage Christian University.



# Business Weekly

PAGE 23 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2020

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

Local court reporter earns recognition as Registered Professional Reporter

Page 24



The Cinemark Durbin Park grand opening wasn't a ribbon cutting, but a "ticket-stub cutting" to celebrate the theater chain's newest location.

## Cinemark brings the big screen to The Pavilion at Durbin Park

Movie theater chain Cinemark USA hosted the ribbon-cutting of its new 12-screen theatre, Cinemark Durbin Park and XD, on Feb. 12.

Located at The Pavilion at Durbin Park in St. Johns County, all 12 "ultra-modern" auditoriums feature heated, luxury recliners, immersive sight and sound technology and a Cinemark XD auditorium to enhance the moviegoing experience.

And to enhance the grand-opening experience, the ribbon-cutting featured a "ticket-stub-cutting." Instead of cutting a red ribbon, the Cinemark staff got creative and cut a giant movie ticket in front of county commissioners and Chamber of Commerce officials.

"Cinemark is thrilled to be a part of the growth and development in Durbin Park," Cinemark CEO Mark Zoradi said. "Our theater at The Pavilion will be the premiere entertainment destination, providing premium amenities with en-



Photos by Susan Griffin

Herbert Peyton (left), owner of Gate Petroleum, and Frank Gatlin III, owner and CEO of Gatlin Development Co., speak about the new Cinemark Durbin Park theatre to grand-opening attendees.

hanced food and beverage offerings for our guests to enjoy."

Amenities of the new Cinemark include their signature "Luxury Loungers," with footrests, swivel trays, cup holders and heat-control

in all auditoriums; concessions and traditional movie-going fare; the onsite Studio Eats restaurant offering wraps, chicken sandwiches,

CINEMARK continues on Page 30

## At the intersection of family law and business



Elliott Zisser  
Zisser Family Law

As a Florida Bar board certified marital and family lawyer with over 40 years of experience, I can attest to the changes in the types of cases now being handled by Family Law courts in our area and across the country.

As a young lawyer, I saw cases mostly about child custody, with the loser being limited to about four overnights monthly on alternate weekends from Friday night to Sunday evening. Now, "custody" is instead called "timeshare," and in most instances, even the non-prevailing party receives about 40% of the time.

Child support is determined by an income and time-sharing formula usually arrived at on a computer. Alimony is not yet determined by formula in Florida as it is in other states, and alimony reform bills are before the Florida legislature as you read this article. Alimony is less of a factor unless the income disparity between the parties is great.

If this is the case, why are divorces so complicated, time consuming and costly? Florida used to be a title state. Whoever's name appeared on the title owned the asset, be it a parcel of real estate, automobile, shares of a publicly traded stock, or a closely held business. Starting by caselaw in 1980 and later by statute, Florida adopted the theory of equitable distribution. Similar to community property, assets acquired during the marriage, if not by specific gift or inheritance, were considered marital. Even if not capable of being split in half, their value would have to be determined and equalized through allocation of other assets or paid over time. This was a game changer.

Experts had to be hired to value real estate, art, personal property, but most of all, businesses. Sub-specialized certified public accountants and business valuers that previously never testified in divorces, became com-

ZISSER continues on Page 27



Photo provided by Zisser Family Law



# Local court reporter earns national certification

Mykel Miller recognized as Registered Professional Reporter

By Christine Rodenbaugh

St. Augustine resident Mykel Miller decided stenography was a “good fit” when she accompanied a family friend to work one day. From there, Miller enrolled Sheridan Technical College’s online program and finished in about three years, successfully passing the required jury charge, Q&A and literary speed and



Mykel Miller

stenographic court reporters, captioners and legal videographers.

Court reporters and captioners rely on the latest in technology to use stenograph-

accuracy tests. Her next goal was to earn Registered Professional Reporter certification from National Court Reporters Association, an organization representing

ic machines to capture the spoken word and translate it into written text in real time. These professionals work both in and out of the courtroom recording legal cases and depositions, providing live captioning of events and assisting members of the deaf and hard-of-hearing communities with gaining access to information, entertainment and educational opportunities.

Earning RPR credentials is quite an accomplishment given the amount of preparation and knowledge candidates must possess to pass. Those who hold

RPR credentials are not only among the top stenographic court reporters in the profession, but they also embark on a path of lifetime learning with continuing education requirements. RPR certification distinguishes stenographic court reporters as being among the top contributors to the profession in terms of reporting skills, transcript production, professionalism and reporting and operating practices.

Even in this digital age, court reporters

COURT continues on Page 26

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# Adam B. Edgecombe joins Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman



Adam B. Edgecombe

Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman LLP, continuing its Florida expansion, recently announced that Adam B. Edgecombe has joined as counsel in its litigation practice group, practicing in the Ponte Vedra Beach and Jacksonville offices.

Edgecombe's practice focuses on business litigation, with an emphasis on commercial litigation, construction litigation, landlord-tenant issues and creditors' rights. He has broad experience in residential and commercial lease negotiations and disputes and construction issues, including successfully resolving pre-suit

construction lien issues for both construction professionals and homeowners. He also focuses on lien enforcement and contract disputes between contractors and subcontractors and representation of condominium and homeowners associations, including preservation and prosecution of lien rights and foreclosure defense.

"Adam has impressive depth and breadth of experience in litigation," said Christopher A. Walker, partner-in-charge, Florida. "He has a demonstrated ability to understand client needs and devise strategies that effectively

represent their interests. We very much look forward to his contributions in the years ahead."

Edgecombe has lived in Jacksonville for almost 40 years. He is a graduate of The Bolles School, where he currently serves on the Alumni Board of Directors. He received his Bachelors and Masters of Science at the University of Florida and J.D. at Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville. He is also active in several professional and trade organizations, including serving on various boards and committees for those organizations.

## Court

Continued from 24

are a valuable part of the legal system. While video and voice recording can be used to create a transcript after proceedings end, court reporters create realtime court transcription that can be stopped and read back for clarification during legal proceedings.

"There can be a lot of inaudibles in digital recording and transcription," Miller said. "A stenographer can stop the proceeding and say 'you need to speak up,' if the speaker is not clear."

Miller also pointed out the digital recordings do not identify who is speak-

ing. "Stenographers type verbatim what is being said by whom," she said. "We've been advancing with technology so our machines are better than ever."

Text-to-speech software can transcribe digital recordings, but these programs are not always reliable. Names are often misheard or spelled incorrectly, and programs often have difficulty with accents, intonation and interpreting speech that is mumbled or quiet.

"I heard in school about court reporters being replaced [by technology]," Miller said. "It's never happened because we play such an important role in the whole legal system." She's been told by several attorneys that court reporters are irreplaceable.

Miller is a member of NCRA and works as a stenographic court reporter for the Southern Reporting Co. in Florida's Seventh Judicial Circuit including St. Johns, Flagler, Putnam and Volusia counties. The circuit requires certification.

"I think it's great to keep the standard high," Miller said. "What I love about this career is I'm always working on my craft. Working on this certification really helped me grow in my career to be a better court reporter."

To be recognized as an RPR, candidates must pass a written knowledge test on industry best practices and a skills test that combines a challenging threshold of both speed and accuracy. RPR-certified court reporters are in high demand among the

nation's premier law firms, courthouses and other scenarios in which a reliable, accurate transcript of proceedings is required.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of court reporters is projected to grow 7% from 2018 to 2028, faster than the average for all occupations. Those with experience and training in techniques for helping deaf or hard-of-hearing people, such as real-time captioning and communication access real-time translation, will have the best job prospects. The Tampa-Clearwater and Miami-Dade areas have the highest projected demand in Florida.


For more information about becoming a stenographer, visit [www.ncra.org](http://www.ncra.org).

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# Lewis Price joins Rogers Towers' Ponte Vedra Beach office

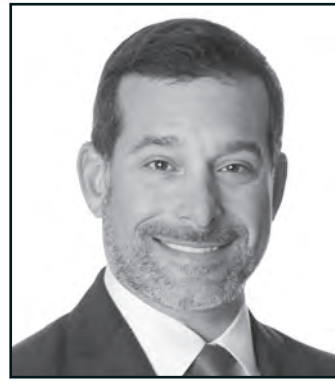
The law firm of Rogers Towers, P.A., recently announced the addition of Lewis D. Price to the Ponte Vedra Beach office.

Price represents clients in all areas of Family or Domestic Relations Law, including dissolution of marriage, paternity matters, support issues, injunctions, post-judgment matters, prenuptial agreements and related ancillary issues. He received his B.A. from The University of Florida and earned his Juris Doctor from Florida Coastal School of Law.

Rogers Towers, P.A., founded in 1905, is a Florida law firm with offices in Jacksonville, Ponte Vedra Beach, St. Augustine, Amelia Island and Fort Lauderdale. The firm provides

legal services in the areas of banking and financial; litigation; construction; corporate; labor and employment; education; environmental; eminent domain; elder law; family law; health law; immigration; intellectual property; land use; public finance; real estate; taxation; transportation and logistics; trusts and estates; and wills.

For more information, visit [www.rtlaw.com](http://www.rtlaw.com).



Lewis Price

# Zisser

Continued from 23

mon. Theories of valuation had to be tested, refined and held up to accepted principles. The relevance of an owner's personal reputation and its application to the success of the business had to be determined and often excluded. Earnings trends in the business and industry as a whole had to be evaluated and rate of growth predicted. Tangible assets of the company had to be valued, rather than just depreciated on a schedule. Discounts for minority interests and difficulty in potential sale had to be factored in. Allegedly comparable sales had to be evaluated to determine just how comparable they were.

Each expert would write a report. The results of competing experts are often wildly divergent, and the owner is allowed to express his or her opinion of value. The validity of the opinions is then tested by the lawyers at a deposition. The worth of the business is often the most valuable asset in the property division calculation, but it is the most illiquid. Tax effects would have to be applied to values.

Instead of the cross accusations of bad conduct and name calling, divorces are now more commonly dealt with as business deals. Business factors are applied. Business experts and accounting professionals apply mathematical and scientific principles which are effectively communicated by lawyers — truly the convergence of Family Law and business.

# AREA ATTORNEYS RECEIVE PRO BONO AWARDS

St. Johns County Legal Aid presented Pro Bono Awards to lawyers who had done the most hours of free legal representation to the residents of St. Johns County in 2019. Front row (from left): Megan Wall, managing attorney of St. Johns County Legal Aid, David Naples, John Spence, Carol Daniels, Jamin Rubenstein and Rusty Collins. Back row (from left): Donato Rinaldi, Pam Holcombe, Vincent Sullivan (also won the Pro Bono Award for the entire 7th Circuit in 2019), Craig Sherar and Thomas Pycraft. (Not pictured): Sid Ansbacher, Ronald Duryea, Leanna Freeman, Jay Grife, Kathryn Masters, Felecia Walker, and Most Helpful Clerk of Court Adrean King.



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 <b>PONTE VEDRA</b> 3/2 • \$525,000 Suzie and Rory Connolly	 <b>PONTE VEDRA BEACH</b> 3/2 • \$235,000 Suzie and Rory Connolly	 <b>EAGLE HARBOR</b> 6/4/1 • \$1,095,000 Sally Sergeant	 <b>HILLIARD Acreage</b> • \$2,750,000 Earl Parker	 <b>WORLD GOLF VILLAGE</b> 4/3 • \$310,000 Sally Sergeant	 <b>SEASCAPE</b> 2/2 • \$675,000 Belk Ingram
 <b>OCEANFRONT Homesite</b> • \$2,695,000 Susan Fort or Tyler Ackland	 <b>EPPING FOREST</b> 3/2/1 • \$945,000 Patti Armstrong	 <b>PONTE VEDRA BEACH</b> 4/3/1 • \$1,245,000 Suzanne Stephens	 <b>THE WOODLANDS AT PV</b> 4/3 • \$625,000 Jo Mitchell	 <b>ATLANTIC BEACH</b> 72' x 282' • \$3,950,000 Susan Fort or Tyler Ackland	 <b>OCEANFRONT</b> 2/2 • \$849,000 Susan Fort or Tyler Ackland
 <b>BEACH HOUSE</b> 2/2 • \$463,000 Natalie Bryant	 <b>PONTE VEDRA BEACH</b> 4/3/1 • \$1,770,000 Laura Torrey	 <b>PLAYERS CLUB</b> 5/4/1 • \$999,000 Suzanne Stephens	 <b>PONTE VEDRA BEACH</b> 3/2/1 • \$539,000 Patti Armstrong	 <b>PONTE VEDRA BCh</b> 3/2 • \$625,000 Suzie and Rory Connolly	 <b>PONTE VEDRA BEACH</b> 5/4/1 • \$837,500 Ginny Smith   Valerie Shaw

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Photo by Susan Griffin

Dr. Thomas and Lexie Romero, owners of Optimal You Brain Centers.

# Ponte Vedra holistic medical practice celebrates 1st anniversary

By Daniela Toporek

After a year of servicing Ponte Vedra Beach families, holistic medical center Optimal You Brain Centers celebrated its one-year anniversary Jan. 24 with a party and mini vendor expo for the community.

“We had a lot of support from local businesses during our first year,” said Optimal You cofounder Dr. Lexie Romero. “We wanted to give back to them, our

patients and to the community.”

Savor Sensations catered the event while vendors like CBD company Aspen Green; H2O Home and various local Realtors came out in support of the practice.

“H2O Home is by a local woman who sells natural homecare cleaning products,” said Romero, who aims to help promote all-things local.

ANNIVERSARY continues on Page 30

Jay Owen of Design Extensions Marketing Agency speaks to attendees at the Chamber at Noon luncheon Feb. 12 at Ruth's Chris Steak House.

Photos by Susan Griffin



# Chamber at Noon focuses on helping businesses gain more attention

Jay Owen of Design Extensions Marketing Agency was the keynote speaker at the St. Johns County Chamber Ponte Vedra Beach Division's Chamber at Noon luncheon on Feb. 12 at Ruth's Chris Steak House in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Owen's topic of discussion was “Using Story to Get Attention and Acquire Customers,” which explored ways of getting attention for your business in today's marketplace and “explore how the power of story can be used to capture attention, focus it on the customers' needs, and convert them into a customers.”

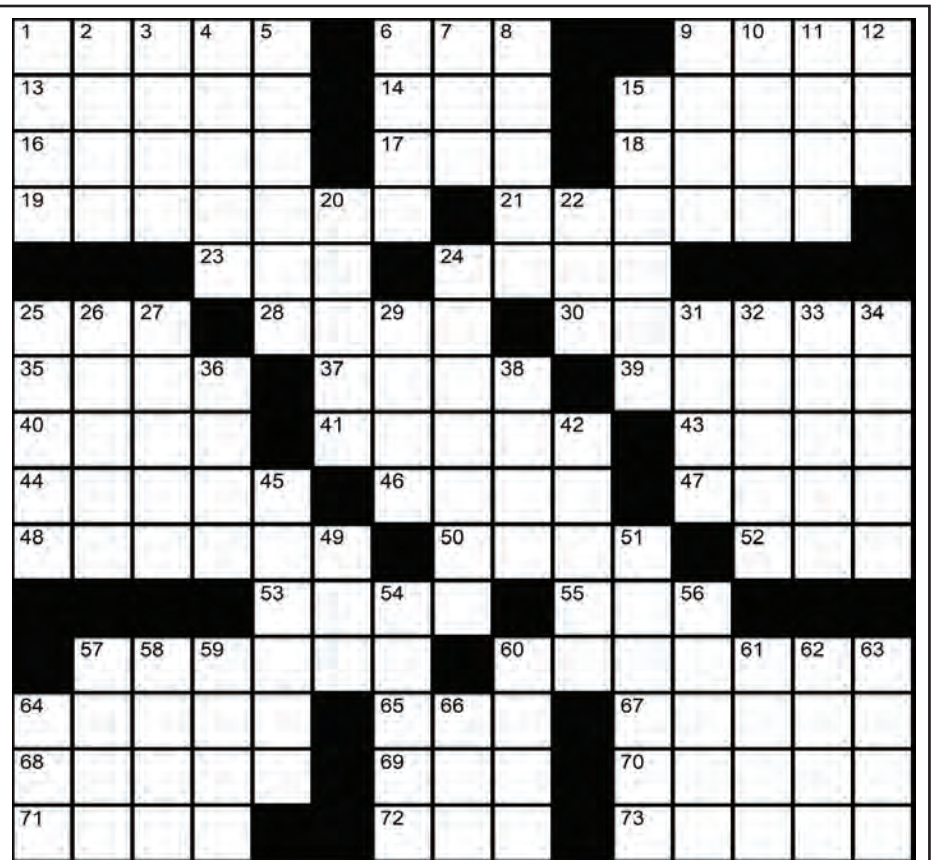
The Chamber at Noon event was sponsored Fields Auto Group.



John Rutkowski, Michael Schmitz and Ali Walker



Gloria Dongara and Daniel Lewis



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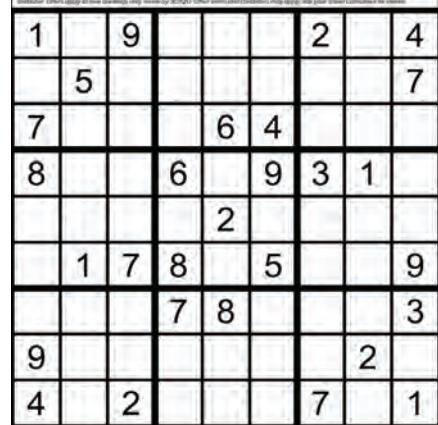
© StatePoint Media

## THEME: WOMEN INNOVATORS

### ACROSS

- 1. Cause for September celebration
- 6. Net holder
- 9. Island near Java
- 13. “Pokémon,” e.g.
- 14. \*Alice Paul and Crystal Eastman wrote its first version in 1923, acr.
- 15. Archeologist's find
- 16. Synagogue scroll
- 17. Bag in Paris
- 18. “Behind \_\_\_\_\_ Lines”
- 19. \*Aviation pioneer
- 21. \*She rebelled against sentimental novel
- 23. Nurses' org.
- 24. Deceptive maneuver
- 25. Director's cry
- 28. Snow and cycling helmet manufacturer
- 30. Low hemoglobin
- 35. Bryce Canyon state
- 37. Something to do
- 39. Lady's Bella Notte date
- 40. Puerto \_\_\_\_\_

- 41. Bone hollow
- 43. Slang for heroin
- 44. Cake cover
- 46. \_\_\_\_\_ and drab
- 47. Roman robe
- 48. “Purple People \_\_\_\_\_,” pl.
- 50. Defender of skies, acr.
- 52. Easter lead-in
- 53. Attention-getting interjection
- 55. Pres. Truman's 1947 creation, acr.
- 57. \*She originated the little black dress
- 60. \*\*“Hidden \_\_\_\_\_”
- 64. Knights' feat of strength
- 65. \*Mary Phelps Jacob patented the 1st modern one
- 67. Dickens' Heep
- 68. Ladies' fingers
- 69. Three strikes
- 70. Actress Rene
- 71. Crowd-sourced review platform
- 72. Lilliputian
- 73. Master of ceremonies
- 12. Slippery surface
- 15. Feel indignant about something
- 20. Indian cuisine dip
- 22. \*Sally Ride was 1st woman in space for this country
- 24. Speaker's platform
- 25. \*1st person to win two Nobel Prizes
- 26. Carthage's ancient rival
- 27. Implied
- 29. \*She developed philosophy of Objectivism
- 31. Formerly, Wesleyan College, first college chartered to grant degrees for women
- 33. Insect, post-metamorphosis
- 34. \*Inventor of a newborn screening test
- 36. Use a whetstone
- 38. Caitlyn Jenner's ex
- 42. Primitive calculators
- 45. Ulysses and Cary
- 49. Female
- 51. \*Singular of #60



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.

### DOWN

- 1. Better than never?
- 2. a.k.a. midget buffalo
- 3. 100 cents in Ethiopia
- 4. D-Day beach
- 5. Move a picture
- 6. Breather
- 7. Investment option, acr.
- 8. Last European colony in China
- 9. Crooked
- 10. Sheltered, nautically
- 11. Trace or outline
- 54. Tennis-affected joint
- 56. Gold, to a chemist
- 57. Pepsi rival
- 58. Fling
- 59. Rush job notation
- 60. Inevitable occurrence
- 61. Reduced instruction set computer
- 62. Alleviate
- 63. Old Woman's home
- 64. \*Jennifer Lawrence played her in eponymous 2015 movie
- 66. Rivoli in Paris, e.g.



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2405 PONTE VEDRA BLVD.



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605 ALHAMBRA LN. N



Perfect 3BD, 2BA home in Sawgrass Players Club on a large lot with a new roof, new A/C unit, new carpet and was just freshly painted! The kitchen and bathrooms have been updated too! **MLS# 1025641 / \$398,000**

204 N MILL VIEW WAY



Lovely home in Sawmill Lakes featuring 5 BD, 3 BA and 2,731 sq. ft of living space. Relax in the screened lanai overlooking the lake and beautifully landscaped yard! **MLS# 1020158 / \$584,900**

100 BRISTOL PL.



Harbour Island pool home featuring 4 BD, 4.5 BA and over 5,000 sq.ft. of living space with multiple balconies offering great water views in every direction! You'll love your 40' floating dock in the backyard! **MLS# 994739 / \$1,750,000**

459 ROYAL TERN RD. S



Stunning 5 BD, 4 full & 2 half BA home on almost an acre, located in Marsh Landings desirable North Island, offering tremendous privacy! Take in the Intracoastal waterway views from the balcony & screened porch! **MLS# 1014853 / \$1,898,000**

980 PONTE VEDRA BLVD.



Gorgeous lot over half an acre only steps from the Atlantic Ocean surrounded by beautiful palm trees and majestic oaks. Your options are endless! Includes deeded gated beach access. **MLS# 996984 / \$649,000**



Cinemark Durbin Park is located at 435 Durbin Pavilion Drive in St. Johns.

## Cinemark

Continued from 23

beyond burgers; Pizza Hut pizza; Starbucks beverages; selections of beer, wine and frozen cocktails; reserved seating; Monday senior discounts; and a party room for birthdays and celebrations.

Cinemark Durbin Park moviegoers can also sign up for Cinemark Movie Club, a monthly movie membership that offers ticket and concession discounts, along with other exclusive benefits for \$9.99 per month. Cinemark Movie Rewards members also get Tuesday weekly discounts.

After the ribbon-cutting and photos, guests were invited for complimentary movies of their choosing, along with popcorn and drinks.

For more information or to purchase



Photos by Susan Griffin

**Cinemark Durbin Park offers traditional movie-going fare, like soft drinks and popcorn, but it also offers wraps, chicken sandwiches and even beyond burgers from its on-site restaurant Studio Eats.**

tickets to Cinemark Durbin Park and XD theater, visit [www.cinemark.com](http://www.cinemark.com). Cinemark Durbin Park is located at 435 Durbin Pavilion Drive in St. Johns.

## Anniversary

Continued from 29

The event also featured awareness and donations for the local Tesori Foundation, mini massages from Root to Crown and a yoga practice from Titanium Yoga.

“Titanium Yoga even donated a one-month yoga membership,” Romero said. “It was just really fun.”

Romero also surprised guests and patients with raffles, giveaways and family discounts for those already visiting the Optimal You Brain Centers.

“We’re rolling out new memberships promoting the whole family to be involved with care,” she said. “We waive exam fees for family members and do additional discounts for every single family member involved with care. We rolled it all out the day of the event, so they were very happy to see all those changes in the practice.”

After Romero’s husband, Dr. Thomas Romero, had personal experience with family members dealing with opioids, the couple was inspired to practice more natural, holistic remedies to help patients attain a healthier, pain-free life.

“We work with adults with traumatic brain injuries, neurodegenerative conditions and autoimmune conditions, children with learning disabilities or autism or children with GI — anyone who wants a more natural approach to their healthcare,” said



Photos by Susan Griffin

**Madeline Keith of Aspen Green Pure Science**



**Marie Spottswood of H2O At Home**

Romero, adding that her husband practices clinical neurology while both practice chiropractic medicine.

“We know the toll that traditional medications, especially with kids with ADD and ADHD, can have,” she explained. “So, we got inspired to learn a different approach, especially with pediatrics, and offer something different. That’s what we developed, and we just love what we do.”

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The Ponte Vedra Recorder has a new garden columnist, Kathy Esfahani, of Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery. Read her column for valuable, gorgeous garden-growing tips in Northeast Florida.

## KATHY'S GARDENING GUIDE

*"Your mind is a garden, your thoughts are the seeds, you can grow flowers, or you can grow weeds."*



**Kathy Esfahani**  
Columnist

Container gardening is growing plants in containers instead of in the ground. These planters can contain a mixture of annuals, perennials, herbs, citrus, tropicals and more! They have much versatility as you can choose any type of planter and location. The most popular areas to have container planters are by the front door, in garden beds, on back patios and near pools. You can get creative with unique planters such as planting in old bird baths, wood crates, pallet gardens boxes, etc.

- Once you decide on a planter area, determine the sun exposure in this location to be able to choose appropriate plants
- You want to have a variety of heights and colors to catch the eye
- Use rich potting soil for the success of your flowers
- Pebbles on the bottom of the pot create good and easy drainage
- Start with the largest or tallest plant in the center to the back of the pot. Then, continue with a burst of color filling around the middle. Lastly, add cascading flowers or succulents to create an "overflow" look to finish your beautiful planter

### FLOWER OF THE WEEK: SNAPDRAGON

Snapdragons are a beautiful annual that blooms bright, saturated color throughout our cool weather season! Their botanical name, *Antirrhinum*, means "like a snout" and their other common name is "dog's mouth." Snapdragons prefer partial shade to full sun, and they are a stunning addition to your annual beds. They come in yellow, pink, burgundy, white, orange and many more!

Please email Kathy at [kcg.pvr@gmail.com](mailto:kcg.pvr@gmail.com) for any questions or gardening tips you would like to see in the future.



Flower of the Week

Photo provided by Kathy Esfahani

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# Cultural Center to host celebration of arts with Beaches

By Daniela Toporek

To recognize those who help influence arts and culture in the community, the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach will host its inaugural black-tie event, Beaches, a Celebration of the Arts, at The Ponte Vedra Inn & Club Surf Club from 6 to 8:30 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 23.

All in a “lively, whimsical, deep sea setting,” as described by the Cultural Center, 15 honorees including artists, individuals and organizations, will be recognized.

The honorees were chosen out of a pool of about 50 nominations, according to Events and Membership Coordinator Angela de Gregory.

“Each nominee was nominated by one of their peers or colleagues,” de Gregory said. “We then had our judges review each nomination received.”

Judges of the evening include Barbara Golden, communications manager of St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra and The Beaches Visitors & Convention Bureau; Barbara Colaciello, community arts advocate, motivational speaker, director and performer; and Lisa Goodrich, business development strategist at Brunet-Garcia Advertising Inc.

The categories and nominees are:

## EMERGING ARTIST AWARD

Mary Ann Rosenthal  
Gentry Gudal  
Marlene Scheer

## ARTS EDUCATION & ADVOCACY AWARD

Dawn Wolf, Ponte Vedra Ballet  
Beaches Go Green  
Rod Morris

## THE ART OF GIVING AWARD

Steve and Elaine Wyman  
Art with a Heart in Healthcare  
Teresa Radzinski

## COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD (MEMBER'S CHOICE AWARD)

Deck the Chairs  
Tim Ellis, Beaches Museum Music Series  
St. Augustine Art Association

## BEACHES AWARD

Christine Hoffman, Beaches Museum  
St. Johns County Cultural Arts  
Kristopher Jackson, Players by the Sea

“We will be recognizing all 15 honorees at the event and announce the top honoree in each of the five categories,” de Gregory said.

The Cultural Center will also recognize Irene Lazzara, trustee of the Lazzara Family Foundation, as the Beaches Honorary Chair for history of supporting initiatives that influence artistic, cultural and educational opportunities.

“The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach is elated to have such an esteemed member of our community involved with Beaches,” said Donna Guzzo, the Cultural Center’s executive director.

Tickets to Beaches, a Celebration of the Arts are \$250 and include chef-inspired specialties, drinks, live music, art and a silent and live auction at the ceremony.

For tickets or more information, visit [www.ccpvb.org](http://www.ccpvb.org) or call de Gregory at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach at (904) 280-0614, ext. 1203.

The Surf Club at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club is located at 200 Ponte Vedra Blvd.

## Joshua Hood to present ‘The Treadstone Resurrection’ at Neptune Beach bookstore

Author of thriller inspired by Ludlum’s Bourne universe to make appearance at The BookMark on Feb. 26

Author Joshua Hood will appear at The BookMark in Neptune Beach on Wednesday, Feb. 26 to introduce his new thriller, “The Treadstone Resurrection,” the first novel in an explosive new series inspired by Robert Ludlum’s Bourne universe.

“The Treadstone Resurrection” introduces an unforgettable hero and the shadowy world that forged him. Treadstone made

Jason Bourne an unstoppable force, but he’s not the only one. Operation Treadstone has nearly ruined Adam Hayes. The top-secret CIA Black Ops program trained him to be an all but invincible assassin, but it also cost him his family and any chance at a normal life, which is why he was determined to get out.

Working as a carpenter in rural Washington state, Adam thinks he has left Treadstone in the past, until he receives a mysterious email from a former colleague, and soon after is attacked by an unknown

**AUTHOR** continues on Page 33



Photo provided by Christ Episcopal Church

## Christ Church Creative Academy to present musical ‘Bye Bye Birdie’

Christ Episcopal Church singers, dancers and actors will perform “Bye Bye Birdie,” a Tony Award-winning musical classic beginning Feb. 27.

The story revolves around a New York-based songwriter who finds himself in trouble when his client, teen idol Conrad Birdie, is drafted into the Army. Albert’s secretary, Rose “Rosie” Alvarez, comes up with a last-ditch publicity stunt before he is sent overseas.

The Winner of four Tony Awards, including Best Musical, “Bye Bye

Birdie” will be presented by the Christ Church Creative Academy and directed by Lee Hamby, with musical direction by Tim Root, choreography by Niki Stokes and costumes by Amy Dewberry Hancock.

For tickets and more information, visit [christepiscopalchurch.org](http://christepiscopalchurch.org). The show will be performed through March 7 at the Westbury Hall 2nd Floor Contemporary Worship Space at Christ Episcopal Church, 400 San Juan Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach.

## St. Augustine artist to debut Florals Month-by-Month series

Local artist Jenna Alexander will unveil her latest art series, Florals Month-by-Month, with an opening from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 1, at Gray 1908, which is home to Jenna Alexander Studio.

“I’ve wanted to revisit a ‘birth series’ since my watercolor birthstones release in 2015,” Alexander said. “Illustrating birth month flowers seemed like a natural progression after exploring The Flower Map of the United States last year as well as my ongoing interest in botanicals.”

From daffodils and daisies to poppies and paperwhites, Alexander’s Florals Month-by-Month is an illustrated series that examines each birth flower in gouache on speckled antiquated paper. The Florals Month-by-Month illustration comes in 11-by-14 and 18-by-24 size, while the individual month’s flowers are available in 8-by-10 size and single notecards.

“My inspiration comes from the natural beauty that surrounds us daily,” Alexander said. “Whether we live in a suburb, a farm, the beach or an urban apartment, we all have the ability to pull inspiration from nature outside. It’s my job as an artist to bring that feeling of



Photo provided by Old City Public Relations

warmth inside. My hope is that Florals Month-by-Month encapsulates the beauty of everyday life, every season, month and birthday.”

Posters, limited edition prints and originals of Florals Month-by-Month will be released online at [jenna-alexander.com](http://jenna-alexander.com) on March 1. Jenna Alexander Studio will host a gallery opening of the series from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 1, at Gray 1908, 73 San Marco Ave. in St. Augustine. Juniper Market will be offering bites and bubbles. The first 15 purchases at the opening will receive a free 8-by-10 print.



# Jacksonville Symphony announces 2 new concerts

The Jacksonville Symphony recently announced two new performances for the 2019-2020 season: Music of the Knights and a performance of Beethoven's Chamber Music at WJCT.

## Music of the Knights

Friday, May 1 at 8 p.m.,  
Jacoby Symphony Hall

A celebration of Britain's most legendary songwriters — Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber, Sir Elton John and Sir Paul McCartney. They are not only knights; they also happen to be three of the most successful songwriters of all time with careers that span decades. Music of the Knights honors their lasting musical influence with songs like "Memory," "I Don't Know How to Love Him," "Don't Cry for Me Argentina," "The Phantom of the Opera," "Circle of Life," "Can You Feel the Love Tonight," "Don't Let the Sun go Down on Me," "Hey Jude" and many more.

## Inside Beethoven's Chamber Music

Sunday, March 1 at 3 p.m., WJCT Studios

Experience the Jacksonville Symphony in a more intimate setting. Three chamber ensembles will perform some of Beethoven's pathbreaking music in the WJCT studio. Join Music Director Courtney Lewis and WJCT's President and CEO David McGowan as they discuss the magic and electricity of Beethoven's chamber music.

Tickets for Music of the Knights start at \$19. Tickets for Inside Beethoven's Chamber Music are \$35. Tickets can be purchased at JaxSymphony.org or by calling the ticket office at (904) 354-5547.

For more information about the Symphony, visit jaxsymphony.org.

## Author

Continued from 32

hit team at his job site. Adam must regain the skills that Treadstone taught him — lightning reflexes and a cold conscience — in order to discover who the would-be killers are and why they have come after him now. His search will unearth secrets in the highest levels of government and pull him back into the shadowy world he worked so hard to forget.

Learn more about "The Treadstone Resurrection" and meet the author at 7 p.m., Feb. 26 at The BookMark, 220 First St. in Neptune Beach.

For more information, visit [www.bookmarkbeach.com](http://www.bookmarkbeach.com) or call (904) 241-9026.



Alhambra staff welcome guests with glasses of champagne.



A kiss from The King: Kevin Mills kisses Cathy Happe, who traveled from Greenville South Carolina to see the Elvis impersonator.

# Fans can't help falling in love with The Alhambra's Valentine's Elvis show

By Jennifer Logue



Ray and Kimberly Mojica

Photos by Jennifer Logue

First Coast residents enjoyed a "hunka hunka burnin'" love on Valentine's Day, when The Alhambra Theatre & Dining presented "Viva Las Vegas" starring Elvis impersonator Kevin Mills.

Presented Feb. 12-16 at the Jacksonville dinner theater, the show drew fans from across the country to see noted entertainer Mills, who has brought the King of Rock and Roll to life at presidential inaugurations, on cruise lines and — of course — in Las Vegas as part of the popular Legends in Concert show.

"Kevin is just like Elvis," said Greenville, South Carolina resident Cathy Happe, who traveled to The Alhambra with her husband, Don, to see the show after seeing Mills perform in Vegas. "I just think he is an outstanding performer. He has all the moves!"

The Alhambra's Valentine's Day Viva Las Vegas performance was preceded by a gala reception. Arriving guests were welcomed with glasses of champagne and hors d'oeuvres, followed by an Elvis-themed dinner menu that included such kingly delights at Memphis braised short ribs and peanut butter and banana pie. Attendees also received small, heart-shaped boxes of chocolates in honor of the holiday.

Guests could hardly contain themselves, however, when Mills took the stage. Backed by a live band, he rocked and rolled his way through 45 of Elvis's popular hits, gyrating through such signature tunes as "Heartbreak Hotel," "Hound Dog" and "Stuck on You" as female fans eagerly flocked to the edge of the stage to receive a kiss from "Elvis."

Following an intermission that fea-

ELVIS continues on Page 35

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# Art gallery's new location provides waves of inspiration

By Paris Moulden

Eugene Quinn likes painting live art: waves crashing against the shore, the sunrise coloring the sky and water, kids playing in the sand. So it just makes sense that Quinn's art gallery captures the coastal feel of his artwork.

Quinn has been painting the local beach scenes since moving to the First Coast full-time in 2016, when he brought his art studio Coquina — a name that plays on the beach shell and Quinn & Co. — to Jacksonville Beach. But while his previous Beaches-area studios served the purpose of displaying Quinn's work, they lacked that "feel" that

some of Quinn's previous studios along the Northeast coast had.

However, in December 2019, the perfect opportunity arose to recreate the magic of past studios when Sidney Cardel's owner decided to close up the local gift shop located at 237 Fifth Ave. S. in Jacksonville Beach. Something about the property called to Quinn and business partner Deanna Clement.

"This place has soul," Quinn said.

Quinn's art once graced the walls at Sidney Cardel's, and the property itself just has the beach house look and feel, making

it a perfect fit for the new tenants' vision.

"When he put his art in this area, it was almost like it was just meant to be," Clement said.

Quinn and Clement, a photographer, are using their combined artistic talents to create more than a gallery at the Beaches. The two have plans to offer some of what the previous tenants offered — unique gifts and keepsakes with a local flavor.

A new offering from Coquina include gift sets and other souvenir items like tote bags,

**GALLERY** continues on **Page 35**

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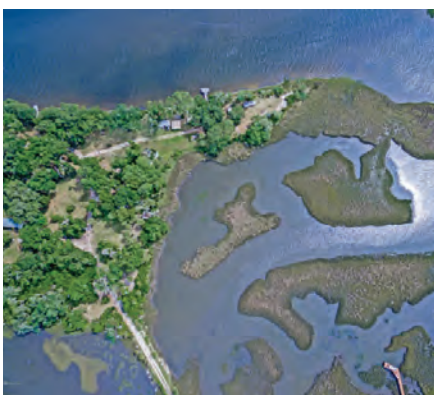
**ABOVE:** Eugene Quinn and Deanna Clement pose in front of their new location for Coquina art gallery located at 237 Fifth Ave. S. in Jacksonville Beach.



**LEFT:** Quinn teaches art classes in the cozy upstairs area of the gallery.


Photos by Paris Moulden

## SPECTACULAR WATER VIEWS




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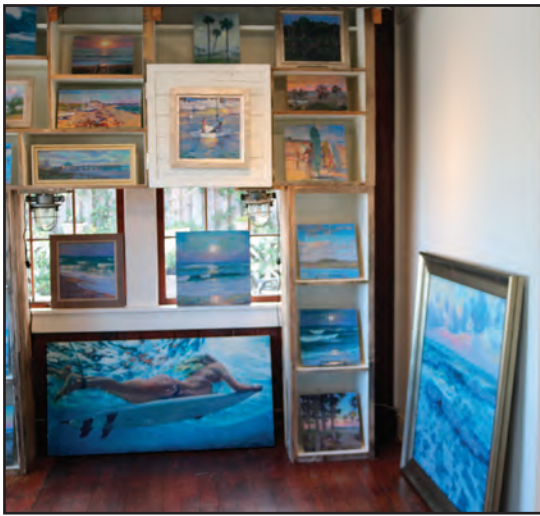


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Photos by Paris Moulden

**ABOVE: Coquina plans to sell unique gift items, including wine stoppers, that feature some of Quinn's artwork.**

**LEFT: Quinn's paintings cover a wall near the entry of the new Coquina Studio Gallery location.**

## Gallery

Continued from 34

small prints, and even wine stoppers featuring some of Quinn's beautiful, beachy art.

The gallery will also immerse visitors in the scenic beauty of the First Coast. One of the plans for the gallery is having each space tell a story from different coastal areas around Northeast Florida.

And Quinn doesn't worry about running out of inspiration.

"There's a lot of good material here," Quinn said. "It's pretty great to live in a place where you can surf and then paint the scene."

The most important thing, however, is that visitors to the gallery get to share the feeling Quinn and Clement have from the

new location, which is just steps from the beach.

"We refer to it as 'The Beach House of Fine Art,'" Clement said. "We want people to walk in and get the coastal feel. It's about coastal love and we feel like Sidney Cardel's just passed the torch of sharing that to us."

Quinn also holds painting classes in the upstairs area of the gallery and plans to conduct painting classes in the outdoor courtyard during warmer weather. It's just a laidback, relaxed atmosphere where anyone interested in painting can get the basics regardless of skill level.

"The fun part is being able to share this [love of art]," Quinn said.

For more information on Coquina Studio Gallery, visit [coquinajax.com](http://coquinajax.com) or email [eugenequinn@gmail.com](mailto:eugenequinn@gmail.com).



Photo by Jennifer Logue

**Rhea Edenfield, Debbie Shopay, Madonna Wheeler, Kathy Bowman**

## Elvis

Continued from 33

tured a dessert bar, Mills returned to the stage clad in one of the King's signature 1970s white, fringed jumpsuits and launched into another set that had the

audience singing and clapping along to "Suspicious Minds," "Viva Las Vegas" and "Can't Help Falling in Love with You."

"This is the seventh time Kevin has been with us," Alhambra Theatre owner Craig Smith told the audience. "And he knocks it over the fence every time."

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# Sports



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## 6 divisions boast repeat winners during DONNA Marathon Weekend

Ponte Vedra residents win Ultra 110 marathon, women's Booby Trap Challenge marathon and men's Adaptive Sports 5K

The 13th DONNA Marathon Weekend concluded Feb. 9, with nearly 7,000 runners from all 50 states and 12 countries participating in multiple competitive race events.

This year's race weekend, which took runners through a reimagined course for a second year in a row, saw repeat victories for six of the 2019 champions (noted with asterisks):

- **Ultra 110 marathon winner:** Dave Krupski of Ponte Vedra (13:24:40)
- **Men's marathon winner:** Robert Rankin of King-land, Georgia (2:59:02)
- **Women's marathon winner:**\* Meaghan Murray of Baltimore (3:07:04)
- **Men's half-marathon winner:**\* Christopher McCaffrey of Jacksonville (1:11:52)
- **Women's half-marathon winner:**\* Alli Gregg of Jacksonville (1:18:06)
- **Survivor marathon winner:** Yami Hu of Edgewater (3:48:57)

- **Survivor half-marathon winner:**\* Catherine Martin of Gainesville (1:39:44)

The 2020 weekend also saw the return of the half-marathon relay. This year's winners were:

- **First place:** D2k D2K (David Farraday, Kelsey Hearn and Devon Scheible) with a time of 1:27:47
- **Second place:** Stackhouse Fitness/The CSI Companies (Junior Johnson, Krista Roehlig and Holly Sanford) with a time of 1:29:51
- **Third place:** Team Tonedawg (led by David Csikai) with a time of 1:32:39

DONNA Marathon Weekend races extended through several First Coast communities, including Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach, Jacksonville Beach and Ponte Vedra Beach.

"Our friends and neighbors in the Beaches communities once again rolled out the pink carpet for an incredible celebration of survivorship," said Amanda Napolitano, executive director of The DONNA Foundation. "We are grateful to every spectator, business and community group that cheered our runners along the course."

The winners for the sold-out 2020 DONNA 5K, presented by AXA and Jaguars Foundation on Saturday, Feb. 8, were as follows:

- **Men's 5K winner:** Wilson Haynes of Jacksonville (16:13)
- **Women's 5K winner:**\* Carley Glasser of Jacksonville (19:14)



Photos provided by the DONNA Marathon

- **Overall 5K survivor winner:** Frances Acosta of Vidalia, Georgia (26:22)

The winners for the 2020 Masters, Booby Trap Challenge and Adaptive Sports divisions were as follows:

- **Masters men's marathon winner:** Mark Gannon of Jacksonville (3:06:24)
- **Masters women's marathon winner:** Mary Davidson of Ninety Six, South Carolina (3:27:39)
- **Masters men's half-marathon winner:**\* Jeff Provenzano of Jacksonville (1:21:07)
- **Masters women's half-marathon winner:** Jolene Young of Jacksonville Beach (1:25:29)

- **Booby Trap Challenge men's marathon winner:** Michael Fitzsimmons of Jacksonville (4:03:10.1)
- **Booby Trap Challenge women's marathon winner:** Mary Claire Hopkins of Ponte Vedra (4:00:59.7)
- **Booby Trap Challenge men's half-marathon winner:** Bryan Drill of Jacksonville (1:59:54.6)
- **Booby Trap Challenge women's half-marathon winner:** Beth Boyer of Jacksonville Beach (1:59:49.2)
- **Adaptive Sports men's 5K winner:** Tim Houston of Ponte Vedra Beach (21:59)
- **Adaptive Sports women's 5K winner:** Sarah Williford of Jacksonville (28:34)
- **Adaptive Sports women's marathon push rim winner:** Sarah Williford of Jacksonville (2:17:11)
- **Men's marathon hand crank winner:** Nick Navarro of Jacksonville (1:41:58)
- **Women's marathon hand crank winner:** Shauna Hicks of Jacksonville (2:41:42)

"This year's DONNA Marathon Weekend was a celebration of survivorship, hope and the idea that together, we can all achieve more than we ever thought possible," said Donna Deegan, founder of The DONNA Foundation. "When you run with purpose, every step is symbolic of something bigger than yourself. I am grateful to the thousands of participants, volunteers, neighbors, spectators and sponsors who have joined us in the journey to finish breast cancer — because the only way we'll cross the finish line is together."

The 14th annual DONNA Marathon Weekend is set for Feb. 12-14, 2021.



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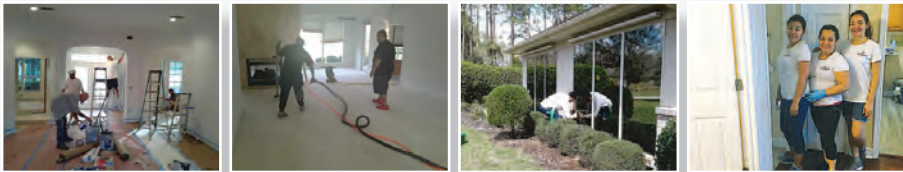




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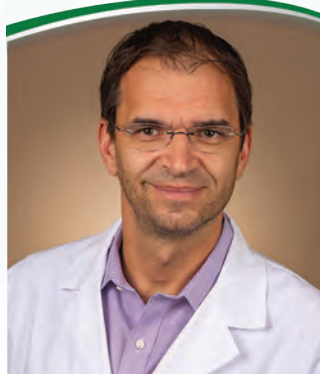
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