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PONTE VEDRA



Recorder

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Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

PonteVedraRecorder.com



A FUN RUN IN THE SUN

Visitors took to Northeast Florida beaches over Memorial Day weekend to celebrate the unofficial start of summer and enjoy the outdoors.

See more photos on page 5

Photo by Don Coble

What's Available NOW On **hulu**



INSIDE: CHECK IT OUT!

The Recorder's Entertainment EXTRA featuring TV listings, streaming information, puzzles and more!



Back to Beauty

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Business Weekly featuring Legal Eagles

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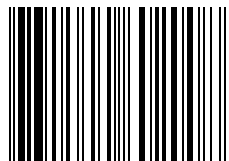
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Send us your news

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

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Find us on Twitter [@PonteVedraNews](https://twitter.com/PonteVedraNews) and on Instagram [@pvrecorder](https://www.instagram.com/pvrecorder)



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

EDITOR'S NOTES

What's This?: Because of the COVID-19 crisis, the Recorder is suspending the "Do you know what this is?" contest until further notice.

Pets of the Week: Because the St. Johns County Pet Center is closed, the Recorder's Pets of the Week feature has been temporarily suspended. The feature will return once the Pet Center reopens.

NOTES TO READERS

On our website: Visit pontevedrarecorder.com to get the latest closures, cancellations and updates for St. Johns County, as well as a listing of virtual events taking place around Northeast Florida.

Don't miss an issue: In case social distancing requirements get more strict, we will email you your paper. Send your email address to don@opcfla.com.

Weekly newsletter: The Recorder offers a weekly newsletter every Monday that outlines some of the top stories of the week, as well as providing access to our E-Edition and Entertainment EXTRA! To get the newsletter emailed for free, email don@opcfla.com. We'll add you to the list.

VIRTUAL EVENTS

Social gatherings and events may be canceled, but passion and creativity is still alive and well. Check out these virtual events hosted by the innovative artists, musicians, chefs and members of the community who are using the magic of the internet to find unique ways to bring everyone together during times of separation.

MAY 28

10 a.m. - Junior Achievement of North Florida's weekly student program for high school students
11 a.m. - Virtual Storytime with the SJC Public Library
1 p.m. - Sofi Tukker live on Instagram
2 p.m. - Concert for the Quarantined with Jarrod and Claire Dickenson on Instagram

MAY 29

11 a.m. - Virtual Storytime with the St. Johns County Public Library
1 p.m. - Taste of Persian Cuisine - Chef Aria
1 p.m. - Sofi Tukker live on Instagram
8 p.m. - Jacksonville Symphony performance
8 p.m. - Songs from Another Room: The Band 3

MAY 30

1 p.m. - The Chef Show - Chef Lorenzo teaches how to make authentic Cuban cuisine

1 p.m. - Sofi Tukker live on Instagram
6 p.m. - DJ Aleks - live-stream set

MAY 31

Noon - Songs from Another Room: Remedy Tree
1 p.m. - Sofi Tukker live on Instagram
4 p.m. - Urban Asado's Virtual Asado on Facebook

JUNE 1

11 a.m. - Virtual Storytime with the SJC Public Library
1 p.m. - Sofi Tukker live on Instagram

JUNE 2

11 a.m. - Virtual Storytime with the SJC Public Library
1 p.m. - Sofi Tukker live on Instagram

JUNE 3

10 a.m. - Healthy Eating Every Day: Free Online Live Class
11 a.m. - Virtual Storytime with the SJC Public Library
1 p.m. - Sofi Tukker live on Instagram
8 p.m. - Songs from Another Room - Dan Rodriguez

JUNE 4

11 a.m. - Virtual Storytime with the SJC Public Library.
1 p.m. - Sofi Tukker live on Instagram
2 p.m. - Concert for the Quarantined with Jarrod and Claire Dickenson on Instagram

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

T	W	A	S		G	M	T		H	A	U	L			
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6	4	9	7	1	3	5	2	8
8	5	7	6	2	4	9	3	1
2	1	3	5	8	9	6	7	4
3	7	2	4	6	1	8	9	5
1	6	8	9	5	2	7	4	3
5	9	4	3	7	8	1	6	2
4	8	1	2	9	7	3	5	6
9	2	5	1	3	6	4	8	7
7	3	6	8	4	5	2	1	9

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

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Events

Continued from 2

OTHER EVENTS

■ Yoga Den will live stream online yoga classes every day this week for \$10. For the full sched-

ule and more information, visit www.yoga-den.com/fleming-island-schedule and select, "All Locations."

■ The St. Johns County Public Library offers multiple events throughout the week for kids and adults, including a daily virtual storytime at 11 a.m., Monday through Friday, on Facebook

Live. Storytimes last approximately 30 minutes and are recorded and posted on the Library's Facebook page for those who miss the live showing. For more information or to watch the live-streams, visit www.facebook.com/sjcpls.

■ Junior Achievement of North Florida is offering weekly programs live on Instagram, where program coordinators or virtual volunteers will be teaching JA courses live. Parents and students can follow JA of North Florida's Instagram page at @janorthflorida to take part in the lessons. The lessons will be held each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 10 a.m. Tuesday programs will be for elementary age students, Wednesday programs will be for middle school students and Thursday programs will be high school students. Each lesson will be approximately 30 minutes, with the live recordings saved for review on JA's official Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/JAofNorthFlorida. They

will also be posted on the JA of North Florida website at www.janfl.org.

■ The Jacksonville Symphony has joined multiple international orchestras in broadcasting music to help raise the spirits of the community during this time. Join in for a new broadcast, Fridays at 8 p.m., on the Jax Symphony official Facebook and YouTube pages, or through its official website at www.jaxsymphony.org/live/.

■ "Songs From Another Room" is a songwriter series streamed from each artist's home to the Blue Jay Listening Room Facebook page on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at noon. There will be an opportunity to monetarily support both, Blue Jay, and the artists, by donating to Venmo, PayPal or Cash App.

Compiled by Daniela Toporek

Send virtual events or upcoming live events to daniela@opcfla.com



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5 bedrooms, 6 full/2 half baths \$8,200,000



Spectacular Views in Sawgrass Island

Located in Sawgrass Island on an estate-sized lot this spacious single story home showcases spectacular water to golf views. With high ceilings, generous windows, and custom details throughout this home was built to accommodate all your needs.
4 bedrooms, 5.5 bathrooms \$1,450,000



Custom-Built Oasis in the Plantation

His and Her offices + Phenomnal water to golf views makes for the perfect work from home space. Comfort and elegance merge in the thoughtful design of this custom-built home situated on a premium lot in the premiere Plantation community.
4 bedrooms, 5.5 bathrooms \$1,525,000



Riverfront Equestrian Estate

7-Acre Riverfront equestrian estate located on the St. Johns River and in the heart of historic Mandarin. With 179 ft of river frontage along with a guest home and a 3-Stall Barn, this one of a kind estate offers endless possibilities for the next owners.
5 bedrooms, 5F/4H baths \$2,399,000



Intracoastal Waterfront Condo

Marina San Pablo 2nd story condo featuring open floor plan, luxury amenities, and private balcony with water views. Conveniently located near shops and restaurants, this effortlessly maintained condo is the ideal retreat from the modern world.
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Compassion for Caregivers donations making a difference

Local high school student and family are supporting Baptist Health Foundation

After spending hours watching YouTube videos to learn patterns, the Cheng family has produced nearly 100 masks for doctors, nurses, patients and patients' family members at Baptist Health.

In late March, the Baptist Health Foundation created Compassion for Caregivers to offer support to Baptist Health team members as they provide excellent care throughout the COVID-19 crisis. Support for the Foundation can come in the form of cash donations, as well as donations of Personal Protective Equipment and food for care teams.

Audrey Cheng, a sophomore at The Bolles School, heard about Compassion for Caregivers from her mom after watching the local news. She knew immediately she wanted to make a difference in the community as COVID-19 began impacting Northeast Florida. In the evenings after Cheng and her sister Ava, a 7th grader at Bolles, were finished with schoolwork, and their parents were done with work, they would begin making masks based on CDC guidelines. Normally, time after school would be filled with lacrosse practice, reading, or hanging out with friends, but instead, Audrey and her family have embraced this opportunity to help, even though they had no experience making face masks prior to COVID-19.

"I knew I wanted to make a difference," Audrey said. "I wanted to help our health care workers during COVID-19. When my mom saw the news article about donations, we immediately started making the masks. I like knowing what my family is doing during this time is making a difference, while our health care workers are risking a lot to help our community."

Pediatric neurosurgeon Dr. Philipp Aldana, co-medical director of the

Stys Neuroscience Institute at Wolfson Children's Hospital and associate professor at the UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville, was similarly drawn to the Compassion for Caregivers project. He and his wife, Carminat, were among the first to assist and coordinate donations for Baptist Health. Even though they are neighbors, the Aldanas and the Chengs initially didn't know they were working on the same project. Once they realized, the families quickly got in touch with each other.

"Donations from our community members, like Audrey, have been tremendously helpful for our team members," Dr. Aldana said. "We're now requiring face coverings and masks at all Baptist Health facilities for team members, patients and visitors, so the donated masks help ensure we are meeting CDC guidelines, while also preserving our surgical and N95 masks for clinical care."

"The Baptist Health Foundation is grateful for the heartwarming support we're receiving for the Compassion for Caregivers," said Cindy Reynolds, senior vice president and chief philanthropy officer of Baptist Health Foundation. "The Northeast Florida community has shown the Baptist Health teams their love, ranging from making cash donations, donations of PPE, making masks and gowns for our team members to providing meals to our teams. We are inspired by the entire community."

"My family has enjoyed making the masks. We are planning to continue to make masks, as long as we have the right amount of materials," reveals Audrey.

"It has been great for the people of the community to be able to connect to Baptist Health and help during this pandemic. We will continue to take supplies and donations for the foreseeable future," said Dr. Aldana.

For more details about supporting Baptist Health team members, visit giving.baptistjax.com/campaign/coronavirus-campaign/c280721.



ABOVE: Members of the Cheng family make masks to donate to health care workers, patients and patients' family members at Baptist Health.



LEFT: Pediatric neurosurgeon Dr. Philipp Aldana (right) assists and coordinates donations of masks for Baptist Health.

Photos provided by Baptist Health



Photo provided by Council on Aging

Farm Share joins forces with Sawgrass Country Club and COA to deliver donated food and supplies to homebound seniors.

Farm Share, Sawgrass CC join COA to help St. Johns seniors

In these unprecedented times, local nonprofit Council on Aging has been relying more than ever upon the generous support of the community to help in their efforts to be there for St. Johns County elders.

Last month, Matthew Galen from the non-profit organization Farm Share contacted COA with an idea for a way to help homebound seniors.

Established in 1991, Farm Share is a

charitable organization that works with donors and Florida farmers to make sure that no Floridian goes hungry and no food goes to waste. When disasters strike, Farm Share also provides support as a reliable responder. The organization was in receipt of a supply of toiletries that Matthew thought might be of use to seniors who are homebound.

DONATIONS continues on Page 5



A DAY AT THE BEACH

The Memorial Day weekend may be the unofficial start to the summer season, but for beachgoers along the First Coast it was an opportunity to get outside — and far away from constant reminders of the COVID-19 pandemic. Crowds covered all 46 miles of the county’s beaches, according to the St. Johns Sheriff’s Office. Most adhered to guidelines that limited the size of groups and mandated separation, according to deputies. But more than anything else, thousands used the holiday weekend to splash in the surf, play in the sand and soak up the Florida sunshine.

Photos by Don Coble



COA extends program closures through June 30

With the health and wellbeing of St. Johns County seniors as its primary concern, St. Johns County Council on Aging has extended its recent program closures through June 30.

All COA senior centers in St. Johns County (Coastal Community Center, River House, Hastings, Trout Creek and THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center in Ponte Vedra Beach), all Integrative Memory Enhancement Program classes, and the Sunshine Center adult day care facility will remain closed through June 30.

While these programs will be closed, Meals on Wheels will continue to be delivered, and COA caseworkers and staff will continue to be available by phone and via email. Seniors and caregivers in need of COA’s assistance are encouraged to contact COA at (904) 209-3700 Monday through Friday from 8 am-5 p.m., via email at info@coasjc.org, and via its website at www.coasjc.org.

COA has implemented new virtual programs which are free and available to the public to support senior members of the

community and caregivers. A growing library of River House Presents video courses in a range of subjects are available for viewing online on COA’s YouTube channel and via Zoom. COA is also offering online support groups for caregivers, as well as a dedicated support group for grandparents and other guardians caring for grandchildren. In addition, COA’s Sunshine Center is now offering a new activity program via Zoom for those dealing with dementia, as well as their caregivers.

To learn more about resources available through COA, visit the website at www.coasjc.org or contact them at (904) 209-3700 or info@coasjc.org. COA will continue to post updates via Facebook at www.facebook.com/coasjc, via Instagram at www.instagram.com/councilonagingsjc and via the COA weekly e-newsletter.

To help seniors in St. Johns County, visit www.coasjc.org/donate. Checks may also be mailed to COA at 180 Marine St., St. Augustine.

Donations

Continued from 4

Matthew, who grew up in Ponte Vedra Beach, contacted family friend, Bruce Barber, who put him in touch with COA. Matthew then reached out to his friend, Perry Kenney, who is the Assistant General Manager at Sawgrass Country Club. Perry enlisted the help of kitchen staff to put together approximately 600 toiletry kits.

The kits, containing toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, shaving products and other personal hygiene items, were delivered by the team to COA, which distributed the kits to Meals on Wheels participants all over St. Johns County.

They were a welcome surprise to the homebound elders.

One Meals on Wheels recipient shared, “When I got that care package bag this Tuesday, I just felt like it was better than Christmas opening all those things!”

“I saw the need with seniors in the current crisis,” Matthew explained. “I am so happy we were able to get

these items to the people who need them now.”

COA Executive Director, Becky Yanni, expressed her gratitude to the organizations for their generosity.

“These items will mean a great deal to seniors in need,” she said. “The comfort and dignity they will afford homebound seniors are truly immeasurable in value.”

If you would like to join in helping elders in St. Johns County receive the support they need, donations are especially needed now. Donations may be made by visiting COA’s website at www.coasjc.org, or may be mailed to COA at 180 Marine St., St. Augustine, FL 32084. For more information and for other ways to help, please contact COA’s Tom Torretta at ttorretta@coasjc.org.

If you or someone you know is in need of COA’s assistance, please contact COA at 904-209-3700 or info@coasjc.org. Receptionists are standing by Monday through Friday, from 8am to 5pm, to take calls and direct individuals to the staff and resources they need. They are also available for a friendly chat in these difficult and unprecedented times.

As the Vice-President, Tournament Administration for PGA TOUR in Ponte Vedra Beach, Andy Levinson has worked feverishly to get players back on the course as the world emerges from its lockdown created by COVID-19. THE PGA TOUR will resume play June 11-14 with the Charles Schwab Challenge at Colonial Country Club in Fort Worth, Texas, and the Korn Ferry Challenge June 11-14 at TPC Sawgrass' Valley Course. Levinson spoke in a conference call about the preparation ahead of the tournaments. Here are excerpts of that interview.

Andy Levinson

What convinced the PGA TOUR it's safe to resume playing on your Tours?

Levinson: This is a plan that we have been developing over the course of the last two months with input from the PGA TOUR medical adviser Dr. Tom Hospel. We have also consulted with a professor from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, and he is a professor at the Harvard Medical School who's an expert on infectious diseases, and we've been fortunate to have direct conversations with the Federal Coronavirus Task Force as well as other specialists and laboratory directors and in consultation with the other professional sports leagues. The foundation of this plan is our belief that we can conduct a PGA TOUR event throughout the entire property, with everybody practicing good social distancing. And we also will not execute this plan in a manner that impacts the resources and the communities in which we're playing.

Will participants and the essential support be required to submit to testing?

Levinson: And then for a population of the people that we will have on site, we will be implementing COVID 19 testing using the RT PCR nasal swab test, which is the most effective gold standard for diagnosing COVID 19, and potentially down the road as the testing advances, we may be able to move on to a saliva based testing collection.

So for the player and caddie group, we are going to be providing that group with a pre travel testing program, and the purpose of this is really for those individuals to understand whether or not they have the virus before they travel to a tournament market. And then upon arrival, everyone will report to a testing area, likely at a designated hotel, where they will undergo all three screening methods: The questionnaire, thermal reading, and a PCR test.

How will a positive test be handled?

In the event we have a positive test, we will comply with all local health authorities as well as CDC guidelines, and that would include isolating that individual and may require a period of isolation or an extended time. The CDC guidelines currently state 10 days after the first positive test with no subsequent symptoms or two negative test results at a minimum of 24 hours apart.

If a person tests positive, would the tournament be shut down?

Levinson: No, there's not a specific number that we're focused on. You know, when there is a positive test, there does

have to be some contact tracing that takes place, which is why social distancing is one of the many reasons why social distancing is so important. And so we haven't identified a specific number, but obviously if it was a large number then we would have to evaluate the situation.

Would a positive test force a player to withdraw?

Levinson: Every community will be doing contact tracing, and generally the guidelines with respect to contact tracing have to be an individual who has been in close proximity, inside that social distance barrier, for an extended period of time. And so again, to the earlier question, that's why it is imperative that we emphasize and educate the social distancing point, so we're not faced with that situation.

What could trigger another shutdown of play like what happened in March at THE PLAYERS?

Levinson: Yeah, of course there could be, and we're always monitoring the situation in those markets. We're working closely with the local health authorities to understand what's going on the ground, and of course if there was a situation where it was not possible to provide all of our constituents with a safe and healthy environment, then we wouldn't do so, or we would look for an alternate site.

Other than having no fans on the course, what other changes will we notice?

Levinson: So our goal is to minimize risk as much as possible, with the full understanding that there is no way to eliminate all of the risk. But one of the

best ways we can do that, to reduce the likelihood of exposure, is by limiting the number of people we have on site and also limiting access to certain areas, keeping groups separated.

We will enhance the restrictions on access to player and caddie areas. The clubhouse and locker room and caddie areas will all be much more restricted in terms of who can enter there, and also the number of people that can be in there at any given time. In these first few events upon our return, we will not have player family members and other support personnel that players and caddies are accustomed to having. We are going to implement measures to ensure social distancing, whether that's in practice areas, whether that's in the buildings, whether that's anybody who's on site.



Photo provided by the PGA TOUR



Photos provided by St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zoological Park

17th species of crocodile hatches at St. Augustine Alligator Farm

The St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zoological Park announced the hatching of four west African *Crocodylus suchus* baby crocodiles. The hatching on Friday brings the total number of crocodile species hatched at the Alligator Farm up to 17 – a unique feat among zoos.

The new babies are members of a crocodylian species very closely related to the famous Nile crocodile. *Crocodylus suchus* inhabits much of western and central Africa and for many years was grouped in the same classification as its larger and more infamous cousin. The four hatchlings, who have yet to be named, will be placed on public display when they are older. Visitors will be able to get a sneak

peek of the baby hatchlings within a few weeks when the baby crocodiles will be moved to the crocodile nursery, visible as part of the Alligator Farm’s “Behind the Scenes” tours.

“Today we basically doubled our population of the zoo’s *Crocodylus suchus* residents,” said John Brueggen, Zoo Director. “This is a unique species with close ties to the iconic Nile crocodile, and we’re delighted to watch them hatching in good health and with lots of energy. Visitors to the St. Augustine Alligator Farm can see 24 species of alligator, crocodile, caiman, and gharial, and we’re thrilled to now record our 17th species hatching right here in the zoo. It’s an exciting day.”

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WALK TO THE BEACH




Own this luxury ground floor condominium in the exclusive community of Mediterra, nestled off Mickler Road, a short walk to the beach. This 3 bedroom 2.5 bathroom condo is constructed with concrete block, and features a spacious gourmet eat in kitchen with a Subzero refrigerator, Wolf gas range, custom cabinetry and granite counters. You'll also enjoy soaring ceilings, extensive crown molding throughout a spacious family room with gas fireplace and sliding doors that pocket out to the lanai, and beautifully landscaped outdoor area.

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EPISCOPAL CONGRATULATES

Members of the Class of 2020 were accepted into the following colleges and universities:

University of Alabama, Birmingham	Colby College	George Mason University
University of Alabama	Colorado College	George Washington University
American University	University of Colorado, Boulder	University of Georgia
Amherst College	University of Colorado, Colorado Springs	Georgia Southern University
Appalachian State University	Colorado State University	Guilford College
Arizona State University	Columbia College, Chicago	Hampden Sydney College
University of Arizona	Columbia University	Harvard College
Auburn University	Creighton University	Hawaii Pacific University
Ave Maria University	Dartmouth College	High Point University
Babson College	Davidson College	Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Bard College	Denison University	Howard University
Barry University	University of Denver	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Baylor University	DePaul University	Indiana University, Bloomington
Belmont University	DePauw University	University of Iowa
Berry College	Earlham College	Ithaca College
Birmingham Southern College	Eckerd College	Jacksonville University
Bishop's University	Edward Waters College	James Madison University
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OBITUARIES

Sona A. Current

Sona A. Current, 91, passed away peacefully on May 22, 2020, after an 11-year battle with dementia. Born November 5, 1928, in Columbia, PA, the daughter of Dr. & Mrs. Kevork Aznavorian, and was raised in Lancaster, PA. She was the beloved wife of the late Robert C. Current Jr., also of Lancaster, PA, where they met in ninth grade at J.P. McCaskey H.S. in Lancaster, PA. Sona received a Bachelor of Science degree from the School of Oral Hygiene at Temple University and also attended Penn State College.

Sona and her husband resided in Mt. Lebanon, PA, were 35-year residents of Westport, CT, Fairfield, CT, a resident of Naples, FL, since 1983, and most recently of Ponte Vedra Beach, FL.

Sona was a long-time member of Greens Farms Congregational Church in Westport,



Sona A. Current

CT, a Stephen Minister at the Naples United Church of Christ in Naples, FL, and a member of Christ Episcopal Church in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL. Sona was the past president of the Westport Young Woman's League, a longtime member and past president of PEO, past board member of the Fairfield County American Cancer Society and co-editor of the very successful ACS Cookbook, "Connecticut Cooks". She was a member of the Patterson Club in Fairfield, CT, and the Royal Poinciana Golf Club in Naples, FL. She was an avid gardener, water colorist, enjoyed playing golf with family and friends, and an ardent bridge player. Sona was a very devoted and loving grandmother to her seven grandchildren.

She is survived by her devoted children,

Deborah C. Burns and her husband, James of Fairfield, CT, and grandchildren, Shea, Cory and Kiara Burns; her son, Darrell S. Current and wife, Jodine of Louisville, KY, and grandchildren, Ashley (Eschenbach) Current and Tyler Current, and great grandchildren, Addison and Avery Eschenbach and Camden Current; and her son, Dana R. Current and wife, Jane of Ponte Vedra Beach, FL, grandchildren, Emily Current and Robert Charles (Charlie) Current. Sona was preceded in death by her parents, Kevork and Virginia Aznavorian; one brother, George S. Aznavorian; and her cherished husband, Robert Charles Current, Jr.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, a gift in her memory may be sent to The Women's Alzheimers Movement: <https://donate.thewomen-salzheimersmovement.org/SonaCurrent>. Women's Alzheimer's Movement 11440 San Vicente Blvd., Suite 301 Los Angeles, CA 90049

Louise Gentry

Louise Gentry passed away May 14, 2020, in her home at 512 Le Master Dr., Ponte Vedra Beach. Mrs. Gentry was a resident of Ponte Vedra and member of the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club for 37 years.



Louise Gentry

She is survived by her daughter and son in law, Glenda and Rick Butler; her sister and brother in law, Adelle and Wendell Hatcher (Virginia); step son, Randall Gentry (Florida); step daughter, Cheryl Kinder (California); grandchildren,

Michael Herbaugh and wife, Cheryl (Virginia), Clay Herbaugh and wife, Linda Ge (Virginia), Greg Charpentier and wife, Stephanie (Louisiana), Bryce Gentry and wife, Kelly (Hawaii), Hunter Gentry (Florida), and Eric Kinder and husband, Chad McCord (California); great grandchildren, Declan Herbaugh (Virginia), Tricia and Megan Charpentier (Louisiana), and Owen Gentry (Hawaii). She also had several nieces and nephews, their families and longtime friend and companion, John Layton of Jacksonville.

Louise is predeceased by her husband, Col. C.E. (Gene) Gentry; daughter, Claudia Herbaugh; son, Maurice Talbot; parents, Adele and Samuel Winsboro; and brother, Stuart Winsboro.

Mrs. Gentry enjoyed many years of travel and responsibility as the wife of her army officer husband. Many enjoyed the stories she told of her travels and the many dignitaries she was privileged to encounter. In Ponte Vedra, her many friends were dear to her and she was often referred to as "the hostess with the mostest". She played bridge and Mah Jongg, was past president of the Ponte Vedra Woman's Club and a longtime member of Palms Presbyterian Church. She will be missed.

Agim Cici

Agim Cici, 58, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died May 17, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravalley.com

Philip Robert Jones

Philip Robert Jones, 94, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died May 20, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home. (904) 249-1100. www.quinn-shalz.com

Iris Maria Quintero

Iris Maria Quintero, 43, of Ponte Vedra, Florida, May 11, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravalley.com

Michael Joseph Shomers

Michael Joseph Shomers, 79, of Jacksonville Beach, Florida, died May 20, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home. (904) 249-1100. www.quinn-shalz.com

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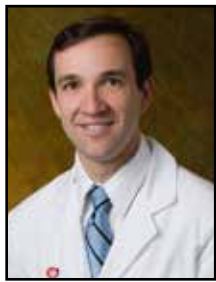
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Stroke deaths and COVID-19: May Is Stroke Awareness Month



Anthony Magnano, M.D.
Ascension St. Vincent's
Riverside

Alarming new research about COVID-19 and strokes highlights the tremendous need for stroke prevention and care this Stroke Awareness Month. According to new findings published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*,

hospital stroke visits are down nearly 40 percent across the US since the pandemic began. Doctors believe patients, possibly fearing the coronavirus, are not seeking life-saving care. What's more, reports from Mount Sinai and hospitals around the country show that middle-aged COVID-19 patients, barely sick, are increasingly dying of strokes. Many of them did not realize they had the virus.

This news comes on the heels of research from the American Heart Association, which showed stroke deaths were already rising in certain counties across the country, like here in St. Johns County. From 2010 to 2016, stroke deaths among individuals over age 65 increased 19 percent in St. Johns County, along with a 12 percent increase among middle-aged individuals (35-65). These numbers show a tremendous need for stroke prevention and care.

WHY STROKE CARE IS ESSENTIAL AND URGENT

Stroke is the second most common cause of death worldwide, and one in six of us will experience stroke in our lifetime. Unfortunately, some patients may ignore the signs or avoid seeking care due to concerns over COVID-19. But no matter how mild symptoms may seem, or even if they go away, don't delay. Go directly to an emergency room or dial 911. When it comes to stroke treatment, or any health emergency, every second counts.

A stroke happens when a blood vessel that supplies blood to the brain is blocked or ruptures. This causes brain damage, and it can continue even after symptoms stop. In fact, ischemic strokes unfold over a period of 10 hours, aging the brain years. Depending on severity and how long blood flow was interrupted, a stroke can cause temporary or permanent disability. The sooner you recognize signs of a stroke and seek medical attention, the better your chances of recovering and avoiding serious brain damage or disability.

DON'T IGNORE THESE SIGNS OF STROKE

It cannot be overemphasized — know the signs of stroke. Nearly 800,000 Americans experience a stroke every year, and roughly one in four of these cases are second, or recurrent stroke. The important acronym to remember for identifying a stroke is F.A.S.T. That stands for face drooping, arm weakness, speech difficulty, time to call 911.

When someone has a stroke, they may experience sudden numbness or weakness in the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body. Sudden confusion, trouble speaking, seeing or walking is also common, as are sudden headaches.

It's also crucial to know if you have certain risk factors that make you more likely to experience stroke. About three out of four people who have a stroke for the

first time have high blood pressure. Atrial fibrillation — an irregular heart rhythm — is present in about one out of five strokes. In addition, diabetes can increase your risk of stroke, as can drinking, smoking, and being overweight.

It's common to mistake or minimize signs of stroke, but don't delay treatment. For example, if your arm is suddenly numb or weak, and it doesn't go away in a few minutes, don't assume it just fell asleep. Call 911.

HOW HOSPITALS ARE KEEPING PATIENTS SAFE

For people experiencing symptoms of a stroke, an emergency room is still the safest, most appropriate place to get care. Hospitals are equipped to safely protect patients from potential exposure to COVID-19 while taking care of their emergent health concerns. Separate intake and care areas, waiting room distancing,

staff screening, ongoing use of personal protective equipment, as well as extensive safety and sanitation protocols, are in place to ensure all patients are cared for in a protected environment. The health system continuously monitors guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and adjusts safety practices and safeguards accordingly.

Staying home, ignoring the symptoms and suffering out of fear of COVID-19 is a risk people shouldn't take with their health. Timely treatment is critically important for achieving the best outcomes and lessening the risk of complications. Hospitals are set up to safely treat patients who require emergency care. No patient should delay their care in an emergency.

Dr. Anthony Magnano is a Ponte Vedra resident and cardiologist at Ascension St. Vincent's Riverside. For more information on Dr. Magnano and his specialty treating Atrial fibrillation, visit Healthcare.ascension.org.

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Back to Beauty



Salons and spas are opening back up, with safety precautions in place, to help provide customers with the beauty basics and beyond.

Pages 14-17

With restrictions lifted, new hair studio debuts at The Beaches

By Daniela Toporek

April Villareal dreamed of owning her own hair salon for over a decade, aspiring to inspire and empower her clients. The dream finally came true with the opening of her salon, Cleansed Hair Studio, in Neptune Beach. But when the coronavirus halted its grand opening, Villareal used the time to market her salon, prepare for clients and better herself for take two of the Cleansed debut.

“My main goal was to make sure that my salon was ready for our return,” Villareal said, who, prior to opening her studio, worked at a different hair salon in Jacksonville Beach. She gained not only her reputation as a stylist and clientele, but also support from her former coworkers who helped promote her new studio online during the shutdown.

“I spent a lot of time working on digital marketing and have wonderful friends that were willing and able to help me start up my brand online,” Villareal said. “I’m very blessed they supported my transition in every way and are very much a part of my success to this day.”

Villareal also started an Instagram and Facebook account for Cleansed, along with a client contact list, spending six hours straight to assure she could accommodate the 50 guests who were already booked, and making sure each was ready for their appointment upon opening.

She emphasized that her current studio guidelines follow the CDC’s (implementing most regulations even before the pandemic), and also created a Hold Harmless Agreement and a Health Intake Form for clients to fill out before their appointments. Cleansed is also up-to-date with all mandated certifications, ensuring Villareal’s



Photo by Daniela Toporek

April Villareal styles a client in her Cleansed Hair Studio in Neptune Beach.

safety, as well as her guests. And just to be sure, Villareal currently requires clients to arrive on time, on their own, remain in their vehicle until she personally greets them in and to wear a mask once inside.

“I’ve been practicing proper hygiene since the beginning of my career, so the transition has been quite easy,” she said. “The challenges come with the face mask, but I believe it takes a tribe of people to create magic, and my “April Tribe” is incredibly committed and excited to return to the salon setting.”

But before her return, Villareal also gave time to herself, practicing self-care to be “aligned internally” and be the best version of herself for her clients.

“Bottom line, when you look good, you feel good,” she said. “During quarantine, a lot of people took the time to do a lot of self-reflection and healing, so the most exciting thing about returning is to hear about those experiences. I strongly believe that beauty comes from the inside out, so I’m excited to mirror that behind the chair.”

Villareal is already booked for the next

four weeks, so to say she’s excited is an understatement.

“As a 31-year-old young woman, and now business owner, I take my platform seriously. Cleansed is a safe environment and community to be a part of. The process demanded a lot of energy from me, but it was so rewarding at the end.”

To schedule an appointment or more information, call Cleansed Hair Studio at (904) 515-8342 or follow the official Instagram and Facebook account: @Cleansed-HairStudio.

Stylists offer tips to keep hair healthy, hydrated during quarantine

By Daniela Toporek

With businesses reopening just in time for summer, hair salons are quickly filling up their appointment books, making the most out of the 50% capacity limit and probably correcting some DIY beauty mishaps attempted by clients that were stuck at home. But for those still staying indoors to be safe, the Recorder asked professional hair stylists Kendra Cantell from Bellezza Salon and Boutique and April Villareal from Cleansed Hair Studio to provide five at-home beauty tips to ensure each process is done safely, correctly and with no regrets.

1. GIVE YOUR HAIR A BREAK

Recommended by both, Cantell and Villareal, quarantine is the perfect time to take a break from heat styling. “Take advantage of this time to repair your hair,” Villareal said. And according to www.Insider.com, taking a break from heat styles,



Photo provided by Cleansed Hair Studio

such as curling irons and straighteners helps improve the texture of natural hair and also helps hair grow faster since there is less damage at the roots.

2. USE DEEP CONDITIONING

Now that no heat is being applied, Can-

tell and Villareal recommend some deep conditioning. “Take this time to rejuvenate your hair,” Cantell said. Use deep conditioning treatments one to two times a week to help keep hair hydrated.

3. PREPARE YOUR HAIR FOR SWIMMING

If summer plans involve taking a dive in the pool or ocean, Cantell recommends wetting hair with regular water first. “Pre-wet your hair and use a leave-in conditioner or oil so the saltwater or chlorine doesn’t penetrate your hair first,” she said.

4. DRINK WATER

To keep hair hydrated, one of course needs to keep the body hydrated, as well. Water not only does wonders for hair, but for the skin, face and every aspect of the body. Health experts including the Mayo Clinic recommend drinking around eight glasses per day anyway, so just think of it as another beauty regimen. “Stress is

a huge factor,” Cantell added. “So keep your hair extra hydrated and remember to drink lots of water.”

5. TRY TO AVOID BOX COLOR

Both Cantell and Villareal recommend not coloring hair at home, but if the temptation is too strong, Villareal recommends using semi-permanent hair color. “Even though I do not recommend coloring hair at home, I understand the need for it,” she said. “Use semi-permanent color to refresh your existing hair color until you can schedule your next appointment.” She also recommends using a root color spray to temporarily color hair while also eliminating the need for chemicals. “You can find a variety of shades over the counter or online,” said Villareal.

For more hair tips, call April Villareal at Cleansed Hair Studio at (904) 515-8342 or Kendra Cantell at Bellezza Salon and Boutique at (904) 280-4247.

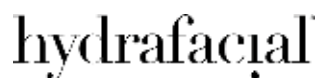
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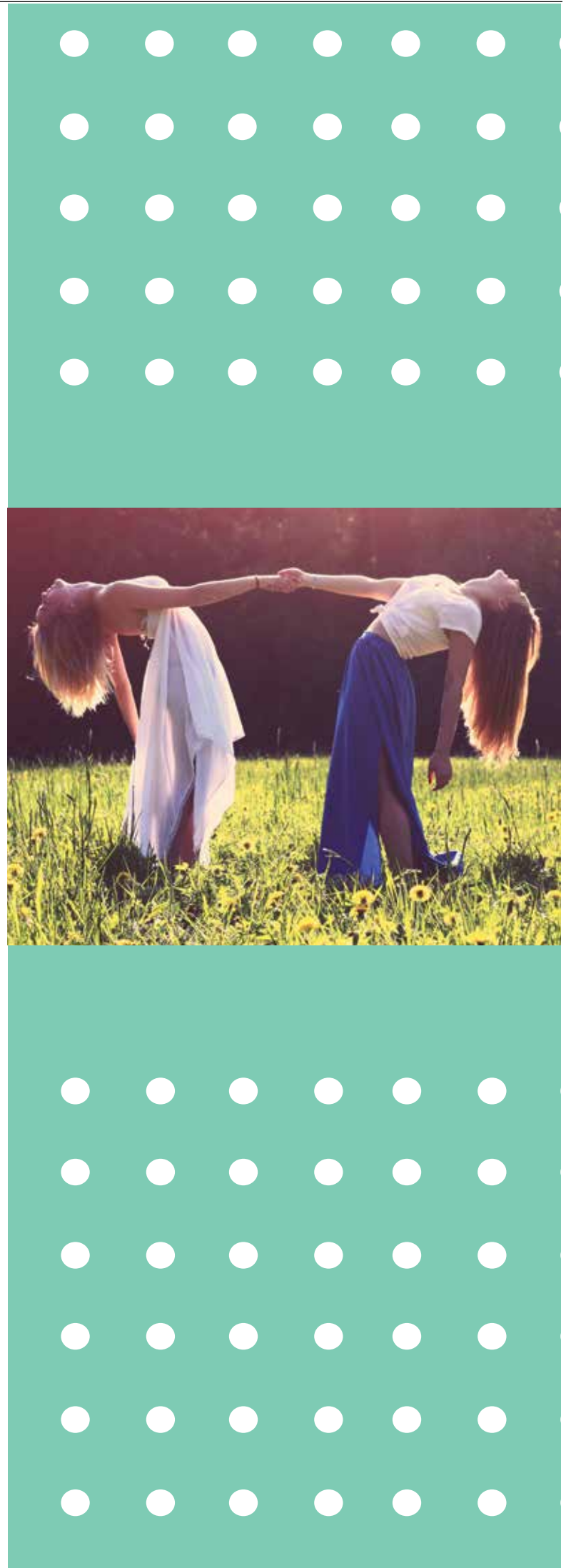
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Business Weekly

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THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2020

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'Judge John' offers observations about life, and law, at The Beaches

Page 26

Fitness centers reopen to build muscles, lift hopes

By Don Coble

Mike Ackerson was forced to move his workout routine to his yard when Florida closed gymnasiums and fitness centers as a precaution for COVID-19. After spending weeks stretching from a rope tied to a tree, he was one of the first to return to Anytime Fitness at the Pointe Shopping Center when the restrictions were lifted May 18.

It was a crude, yet effective way for him to keep his body and mind busy during the shutdown. Like so many others, Ackerson was thrilled to work up a sweat and feel the burn return to his muscles.

"Weights are my thing," Ackerman said. "I'm thrilled to get back. It was a happy day when they opened."

The president gave states the latitude to unlock the doors at fitness centers on May 11, but Gov. Ron DeSantis decided to extend the lockdown for another week to make sure there were significant guidelines to protect residents.

According to Anytime Fitness manager Deanna Yu, members didn't seem to mind the extraordinary steps required to limit the spread of the deadly virus.

"The day we opened, we had a line outside," she said. "Even with all the new rules, everyone seemed happy to be back. We were used to seeing the same people every day. Exercise is so important to release endorphins. People want to feel normal again."

Yu said the initial step was setting appointments and limiting capacity to 50%. Workouts lasted just 45 minutes, followed by a 15-minute of scrubbing and sanitizing every piece of equipment.

Every-other cardiovascular machines like treadmills, stair climbers and ellipticals were shutdown to assure a minimum of six feet of separation.

As of last Monday, members now have 24-hour access to resume their fitness routines.

FITNESS continues on Page 19



Mike Ackerson works out at Anytime Fitness in Ponte Vedra Beach.



Photos by Don Coble
Andy Thomas (left) and Trent Shepherd (above) were able to resume their workout routines as fitness centers reopened May 18.

Contract tracing: What is it and is it even legal?



Janet Johnson
Guest Columnist

Many terms have entered into our vocabularies during this COVID-19 era. One of them is "contact tracing." This is the process of finding and identifying people in close contact with someone

who is infected with a transmissible pathogen. It isn't really a new process; it's been a pillar of controlling communicable diseases for decades.

Smallpox was eradicated by widespread contact tracing, in conjunction with a vaccine ("What we learn from eradicating smallpox: WHO COVID-10 briefing", World Economic Forum, May 9, 2020). But how to implement contact tracing is debatable and has legal implications.

The government could mandate citizens participate in contact tracing. The Tenth Amendment to the United States Constitution instills police powers in the states, allowing them to enact a variety of strict laws with the aim of protecting the health and wellbeing of its citizens. The Supreme Court, going back to 1905, has ruled in favor of states' rights to enact and enforce laws aimed at fighting disease

JOHNSON continues on Page 24

Commissioners formally invite Tesla to relocate to St. Johns County

The St. Johns County Commission drafted a resolution Tuesday to formally invite Elon Musk to build a Tesla factory here.

The county listed 21 reasons why St. Johns County would be the best location for a new plant after Musk expressed frustration with local California officials in getting his Fremont factory reopened as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Musk announced on Twitter he will ex-

plore moving out of California.

Musk already announced last week he planned to build a Terafactory in Austin, Texas.

The resolution said the new factory would be vital to the public's health, safety and welfare.

Other benefits listed included: the Wall Street Journal, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Money selecting the county as the best and healthiest to live in, as well

as Business Insider ranking the school district as the best in Florida.

In addition to no state income taxes and favorable weather, the commission also touted "a number of incentives available to businesses which may wish to relocate to or expand operations in St. Johns County, including the County's business incentive program, financing through the County's Industrial Development Authority, and local support for state programs,

such as Florida's Qualified Target Industry program."

Another bonus is the fact the PGA Tour, Ring Power and Advanced Disposal Services are located in St. Johns, the commission said.

The resolution ended with the county "respectfully and enthusiastically invited to St. Johns County, Florida, as a potential destination in the relocation of its headquarters or any future programs."

County launches Back to Business grant program

St. Johns County is launching the Back to Business Grant Program, designed to assist small businesses in need of short-term assistance due to disruption of business operations and loss of revenue as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The grants provide up to \$10,000 for each qualifying business to offset costs such as payroll, rent or mortgage and utili-

ties. The program will assist businesses that have a critical need for immediate assistance until other sources of funding can be obtained, or until the State relaxes safety and social distancing requirements. In order to be eligible for the St. Johns County Back to Business Grant Program, businesses must:

- Have experienced disruption and/or

loss of income due to COVID-19 crisis and/or public health emergency orders.

- Own or lease space at a physical location zoned for business operations in St. Johns County as of March 17.

- Be registered with Florida Division of Corporations and/or licensed under the state's Business and Professional Regulation.

■ Have earned less than \$5 million in annual gross income for 2019.

- Have 75 or fewer employees as of March 17.

- Show proof of employees paying payroll taxes prior to March 17.

- Have been operating for at least one

GRANT continues on Page 27



Photo provided by Mason Cardin

Airbnb host Mason Cardin, rents out his carriage house on his property in St. Augustine with his wife Amy.

Short-term rentals reopen

Airbnb hosts, vacation rental operators dissatisfied with recent county regulations

By Amber Lake

Vacation rentals recently received a green light in St. Johns County – although instead of celebrating, hosts and operators are still looking at the board in disdain due to proposed restrictions.

On May 19, the county released a four-page plan outlining the guidelines for short term rentals. The approved proposal included two-week minimum stays for vacationers coming from states with more than 500 cases for 100,000 residents, allotting a 24-hour window between guest check-ins and cleaning guidelines which include removing throw pillows and wellness checks for staff.

The proposal was accepted along with Duval county's plans, which are substantially more lenient. Duval county has what is considered one of the least demanding safety precautions in North Florida, asking hosts to limit occupancy to 10 or less guests while also "encouraging visitors and staff to adhere to social distancing" and "staggering check-in times."

Prior to the reopening, many Airbnb hosts and short-term rental businesses protested Gov. Ron DeSantis' decision to allow hotels to keep operating while closing rental operations.

"As far as using any logic to keep

Airbnb closed, that logic you're using has to apply to hotels as well," said Airbnb host, Mason Cardin. "Hotels are a lot more dangerous. You have hundreds more people in one small area, using elevators, lobbies and breakfast areas, versus an Airbnb which at most is maybe a part of someone's house."

Cardin rents a single, detached carriage house on his property in Lighthouse Park in St. Augustine. He said even prior to COVID-19, renters have been struggling with regulations and new ordinances from the city and county regarding short terms.

"It was an edgy subject even before this Corona thing came down, with what the City of St. Augustine was trying to do," Cardin said. "They are really just taking away our property rights."

Earlier in the year, the city of St. Augustine's commissioners looked to passing ordinances that would place restrictions on short term rentals. Those in opposition said the proposed ordinances circumvented the state's preexisting rental law.

Steve Milo, owner of VTrips, a vacation rental company which owns 300 rentals in St. Johns County, felt recent county regulations were unjust. While Milo operates in South Carolina and Tennessee, where rentals were not regulated, he feels that his Florida rentals were "discriminated against" during the shutdown.

"As a small business owner, it seemed the intent was to make it virtually impos-

Fitness

Continued from 18

"We constantly wipe everything down," Yu said. "People already are used to it. Everyone was pretty good at wiping things down after they get off a machine. Now it seems like everyone is even more aware of doing it."

Yu said one of the biggest setbacks are workout buddies not being able to high-five or shake hands after several grueling sets.

Aerobics classes resumed last Monday at the Marsh Landing Fitness Center.

"Every day we're doing a little more," said Diana DeWees, the director of recreation and fitness. "Everybody's glad we're opened again. Some are being a little hesitant, but we're letting people know what we're doing here. Everything is disinfected."

DeWees said she expects the club's pool to be reopened soon.

Like Ackerman, Trent Shepherd created a variety of homespun drills to keep himself in shape during the shutdown. But nothing compared to pumping iron again in a controlled environment.

"I have a big yard, so I swung a big hammer, lifted center blocks and flipped big tires," he said. "When they reopened the gyms, it was music to my ears. On a scale of one-to-10, it was a 10. It was hard to beat the feeling."

"A lot of people didn't have an



Photo by Don Coble

outlet. This is a great help. Your mental outlook is just as important as your physical outlook."

In between wiping down barbells and yoga mats, Yu said she's heard a lot of stories how her members tried to stay in shape.

"People got creative," she said, "but it's not the same as having a dumbbell in your hand."

And certainly more affective than dangling from a rope in the yard.

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RENTALS continues on Page 26

Tips to protect yourself against charity fraud

Charity fraud is a devious crime that victimizes both donors and the people and organizations who rely on donations to get by. Such fraud is more common than many people may know, and the people perpetrating the fraud may surprise prospective donors as well.

In 2015, the Federal Trade Commission and attorneys general in all 50 states and the District of Columbia filed a lawsuit against four cancer charities they accused of scamming consumers out of more

than \$187 million. The lawsuit alleged the groups used sophisticated, deceptive accounting schemes to defraud donors and make their charities appear larger and more efficient than they actually were. So while it's easy to assume all perpetrators of charity fraud are shady criminals acting alone on the other end of the telephone, donors should know that charity fraud can be perpetrated by sophisticated businessmen as well.

Donors concerned about charity fraud

can protect themselves and the money they have earmarked for charitable donations in various ways.


■ **Request written information.** Sophisticated fraud operations are successful because they make concerted efforts to appear as legitimate as possible. So a willingness to provide written information and brochures does not necessarily mean a charity is lawful. However, an organization's unwillingness or inability to produce such information is a telltale

sign of a fraudulent operation or one that may be unorganized and unable to meet its mission. Steer clear of such organizations.

■ **Request and/or order tax returns.** In the United States, copies of certain returns filed with the Internal Revenue Service by charities and nonprofits are available for purchase from the IRS. Many reputable organizations may share

FRAUD continues on Page 22

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When people ask me what I do for a living, I say "I'm in law enforcement." However, I don't just enforce the normal laws - I enforce the highest law of the land, the Constitution, and the principles which made this nation great - the right to a trial by jury, the right to be presumed innocent, the right to boldly challenge the State when it accuses you of a crime, the right to equal justice under the law.

I'm a solo practitioner, and I would rather have a "Thank you; you saved my son's future" note card from a dad or mom than all the awards I have received or could receive and especially rather than some large law firm award for some innocuous law firm achievement.

I have practiced law for almost 37 years, in Ponte Vedra Beach since 1994. Prior to that I was an Assistant State Attorney (prosecutor) in Duval and in St. Johns counties.

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Photo provided by metrocreativeconnection.com

Donors who take time to vet charities prior to making donations can protect themselves against charity fraud.

Fraud

Continued from 20

their tax returns with prospective donors, but donors who want to exercise due diligence can order the documents themselves.

■ **Check a charity's rating.** Since 2001, Charity Navigator has examined tens of thousands of nonprofit financial documents in an effort to develop an unbiased, objective and numbers-based rating system for charitable organizations. Prospective Donors can access these ratings free of charge as they look to make

more informed and intelligent giving decisions and avoid being victimized by fraudulent or dishonest organizations.

· Never feel pressured to donate. Solicitors or fundraisers of reputable organizations are discouraged from pressuring prospective donors for donations. Telephone or in-person solicitors who employ pressure tactics when seeking donations are very likely affiliated with fraudulent or incompetent organizations.

Charity fraud victimizes donors and the people and organizations they seek to assist. Prospective donors should take time to properly vet charities before making their donations.

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Demere (Dems) Mason, Jr., has practiced Family Law since 2007. He holds a 10.0 "Superb" rating AVVO since 2014. He has also been named a Rising Star by Super Lawyers in 2017, 2018 and 2019. Dems has taught clinics in family law for Jacksonville Area Legal Aid and is a frequent lecturer at Family Law Seminars. Dems is married with 2 sons and is active in local homeless ministries and the Gator Bowl Sports organization.

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Johnson

Continued from 18

(Jacobson v. Massachusetts, 197 US 11, 1905). Mandatory vaccination laws, for instance, have been upheld provided the laws are objectively necessary and they account for situations when harm caused by the law could outweigh the harm avoided. A nationally mandated program would be trickier, as it would require bipartisan approval in Congress, because the president cannot enact a program by Executive Order, so Congress would have to grant explicit authority.

But, although it is legal and constitutional for the government to enact and enforce laws such as contact tracing, how could it possibly be implemented and enforced?

These are the real questions, since studies have shown that over 55% of the population would have to opt in for any such program to be effective. And requiring everyone to participate would not be effective without any enforcement mechanism. So, that means the government would have to convince citizens to participate. Smartphones could be enrolled in contact tracing applications by default and given the option to opt out. Apple and Google, however, have already announced their apps will be “opt-in only.” With fears of data breaches, and privacy concerns, it would be a system built on trust.

Can a system built on trust work in 2020? Just getting people to wear masks has been a controversial undertaking, even though polls show most Americans have worn masks in public and agree that it is a reasonable measure to combat the spread of COVID-19. But, as with the other measures, there will likely be no penalties for citizens refusing to participate. Personal rights and liberties are enshrined in the Constitution and are cherished.

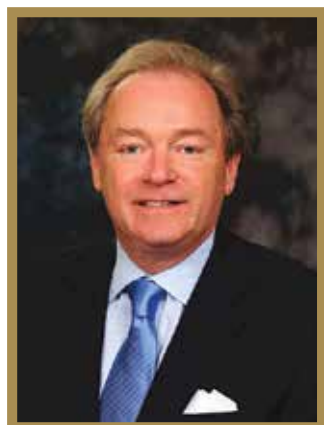
The ethical issues raised in enforcing any laws designed to wipe out a highly communicable disease have long been debated, going back to one of the most famous cases in American history, Mary Mallon, who spent much of her life in forced isolation in the early 1900s, after she repeatedly spread typhoid to countless people, killing as many as 50, when she worked as a cook in and around New York City. She came to be known as Typhoid Mary, and the ethics of her having years spent in forced quarantine are still debated.

Today, with the number of COVID-19 cases in the United States in the millions, and the impracticability of policing hundreds of millions of Americans, we don’t have to worry about millions of Mary Mallons being locked away.

The debate in 2020 is how, without millions of Americans voluntarily opting-in to contact tracing, can we combat a 2020’s version of Typhoid Mary.



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Janet Johnson is committed to aggressively defending people accused in all criminal matters in state and federal court. In practice since 1994, she is a member of the Florida Bar, The Federal Bar, Colorado Bar, as well as the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. She has been on the faculty of FACDL “Blood, Breath & Tears” annual DUI seminar. Ms. Johnson has been awarded the AV preeminent rating™ from Martindale-Hubbe® and was named a fellow to the prestigious Litigation Counsel of America™, as well as one of the ten best criminal defense attorneys nationally for client satisfaction by the American Institute of Criminal Law Attorneys. She also appears as a legal commentator on CNN and HLN.

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Judge John: Observations on laws that affect living at the Beaches, 'keep off the dunes'



John Miller
Guest Columnist

Regularly, Judge John encounters the nicest people standing or sitting on the sand dunes or allowing their children to play on them. It seems so harmless for just one or two people to be on the dunes, but what if everyone did it? The

result would be killing the young sea oats, which hold the sand dunes against the sea.

The government spends millions of dollars to keep our sand dunes strong. Why? Because those dunes are what holds back an angry ocean in times of a hurricane or other strong storm. Those sand dunes have saved Judge John's house and the homes of many of our Beaches' neighbors. Hurricane Matthew flattened many First Coast sand dunes.

The purpose of the Florida Beach and Shore Preservation Act is to preserve and protect Florida's beach and dune systems. Chapter 161, Florida Statutes is where the laws are regarding protecting our sand dunes. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection enforces the laws.

Sand Dunes are formed by the tides and the wind. They are held in place by vegetation, like Sea Oats. Judge John will write more on not picking the sea oats next month. Hurricane seas can knock the sand dunes down. But often if the sea oats are mature, the dunes will hold the sea back.

Through years of trial and error, Judge John has developed the following strategy for informing the ignorant and preserving our dunes: "Hi (says Judge John). How are ya? Where are you from?" (The answer is usually far from here) "I figured. May I please ask you to come down off the dunes?" (But why?) "Well, these dunes have saved my home and may other

through two hurricanes." (Oh, really? I didn't know.) And then if they are among the few who aren't already moving off "and actually, it's against the law to be on the dunes."

There will be a few obstinate people who will argue, but most are just ill informed and all too happy to move to our beautiful beach once they understand the role of the Sand Dunes in our community. I recommend allowing the police deal with the people who will not move. You see, these laws are in effect for a reason, and they are the social contract that we, as citizens, make with each other through our elected government.

Walking on the dunes can end in a \$500 citation in some areas, but officers admit that it usually ends in a warning. Authorities say if locals don't speak up or call police or lifeguards when they see it, then no one will learn. Under state law, public access to the beach begins below the mean high tide line. It is crucial to environmental health that people stay off the dunes. Police departments ask that you call if you see anyone disturbing the sea oats.

Conclusion: Stay off the sand dunes and ask others to do the same. Why? 1. Those sand dunes are protecting our homes and our Beaches community, and sea oats deserve the chance to grow. 2. It's the law. 3. Beach people need to lead by example.

Do you have any questions of law or custom that are of particular interest to those living the sand life on our beautiful island? Please submit them to Judge John for consideration for a future article to john@rocksolidlaw.com

John Miller is the special magistrate for the City of Neptune Beach. His law firm, Rock Solid Law, focuses on Estate Planning, Real Estate Closings and Title and representing entrepreneurial small business owners. (904) 241-1113.

Rentals

Continued from 19

sible to operate," Milo said. "I respectfully asked the county administrator to provide a list of rules to operate a bed and breakfast or time share, and never received a response back. I have employees that do not want a handout, they want their jobs back."

Many hosts in the area believe the regulations to be vague, with confusing verbiage and unrealistic requirements on host's ability to oversee guests.

"Whoever wrote those rules obviously never even used an Airbnb application," Cardin said. "The state passed the buck to the county and the county really doesn't

know what to do."

After calling the county and speaking to a representative regarding the new regulations for over an hour, Cardin said he still doesn't have the answers he needs and has been waiting for a return phone call for a week.

"The county subjecting me to a criminal offence for not knowing information (I can't get from guests)," he said. "They're not asking hotels that. They can't even answer any questions about it even though at the top of the memo is 'St. Johns County regulations and standards for opening up short term rentals.' They didn't take responsibility for any of the rules they've put in. They've just said, 'oh that's the state's mandate.'"

THEME: LAWYER LINGO

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ACROSS

- 1. Requests
- 5. Pub dispenser
- 8. Feline sound
- 11. HGTV's "___ or Flop"
- 12. Ferdinand, e.g.
- 13. Like a ghost
- 14. *Pro ____, or in proportion
- 15. Miscellany
- 16. *Elsewhere
- 17. *Response to #51
- 19. Cher has one
- 20. Marine enchantress
- 21. Not tac nor toe
- 22. *Not underwear!
- 25. *Battery's companion
- 29. Literary "even"
- 30. "___ it ___," or go full force
- 33. Quartet minus one
- 34. Greyish brown
- 36. Common conjunction
- 37. Ban from school, e.g.

- 38. Homesteader's measurement
- 39. Complete failure
- 41. "Stand and Deliver" singer
- 42. Relating to breast-bone
- 44. Spectacle venues
- 46. Marcia's jealous sister
- 47. Type of assistant, for short
- 49. Sudden and brilliant success
- 51. *Courtroom protest
- 55. Like blue sky
- 56. Twins, e.g.
- 57. Was a passenger
- 58. Shirking work
- 59. Volcano in Sicily
- 60. All over again
- 61. *___ se or ___ tem
- 62. Bear's hangout
- 63. Quiet attention grabber
- 12. Stock exchange, in Paris
- 13. Mollify
- 16. Anisette, for short
- 18. Often precedes through, to search
- 21. Cough syrup amt.
- 22. Greek Bs
- 23. Don't just stand there!
- 24. Habituate
- 25. Gives a hand
- 26. Of a city
- 27. Tarzan's swing rope
- 28. *Reasons to sue
- 31. Peacock's pride
- 32. Genetic initials
- 35. *Lie made under oath
- 37. Pre-Ionic
- 39. Belieber or Parrothead, e.g.
- 40. Usually not allowed in court
- 43. Back of the neck
- 45. *To lure into a compromising act
- 47. *To annul or suspend
- 48. Jinn or genie
- 49. Old Russian autocrat
- 50. Anis-flavored aperitif
- 51. Newspaper piece
- 52. Atom that lost an electron, pl.
- 53. Words from Wordsworth, pl.
- 54. Type of salamander
- 55. European peak

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LET'S SUPPORT

Our Local **RESTAURANTS**

Note: Many area restaurants are currently allowing indoor and outdoor dining on the premises in accordance with the reduced capacity standards, as well as offering takeout and delivery. Contact the restaurant for more information on hours and onsite dining policies.

View the local restaurant takeout and delivery guide at pontevedrarecorder.com



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Grant

Continued from 19

year prior to March 17. No start-up businesses are eligible.

- Be current on St. Johns County business taxes.
- Have no pending petition for bankruptcy protection, no claims; not on HUD debarred list.
- Not be a non-profit organization.
- Cannot operate as a home-based business.

■ Not be receiving unemployment insurance benefits if a sole proprietor.

Online applications will be available at www.sjcf.us. Paper applications won't be accepted. The application period will close at 5 p.m. Monday, June 1. Eligible applicants who submit complete applications will be selected for an award by an independent contractor. Awards will be disbursed via electronic funds transfer. For more information or assistance, contact St. Johns County between 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday at (904) 209-1278 or www.sjcf.us/sbrecovey.

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Photo provided by The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach

The Culture Centers offers 'Put Art in Your Yard' contest

"Put Art in Your Yard" is a social media movement designed to inspire artists to exhibit creative works in their yards. #putartinyouryard. The idea for this summertime exhibition is to invite artists to display their creative works in our yard and courtyard areas at the Cultural Center.

The exhibition will be juried for place winners. All entries will be exhibited. This exhibition is open to the public and open to all ages. Submission fee: \$20 for residents and \$15 for members.

Registration is open and will end on May 31. Artists will be required to bring their artwork to the Cultural Center during regular open hours, June 1-5 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and to check in with a staff person. The exhibition

will run through Aug. 1.

Artists may hang artwork from trees and bushes, use sidewalk chalk on paved areas, and hang work from the fence and inside the courtyard. Artwork may not stay in grassy areas.

Artwork must be appropriate for all ages. Art must be weather resistant. Please label artwork with your name, phone number and email address. The public is invited to view the outdoor artwork during daytime hours while adhering to social distancing standards. Signs may be attached to artwork like in the examples.

The Cultural Center is in no way responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged artworks.

The St. Augustine Amphitheatre box office reopens with limited hours to assist patrons

Ponte Vedra Concert Hall remains closed

The St. Augustine Amphitheatre Box Office reopened with limited hours to assist patrons with refunds for postponed, rescheduled or canceled events due to the COVID-19 health crisis.

While the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall will remain closed, concertgoers also will be able to get refunds for their shows at the Amphitheatre.

The St. Augustine Amphitheatre Box Office will open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays with the health and safety of patrons and employees at the forefront. Proper social distancing practices will be implemented and personal protection equipment, such as face covering masks and gloves, are encouraged during interactions with the box office.

Patrons are advised to follow the standard guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Patrons who purchased tickets at either the Amphitheatre or Concert Hall box office locations and would like a refund for a postponed, rescheduled or canceled event may do so during these hours.

To ensure a quick and easy process, patrons should have tickets in hand, along with proof of purchase and the credit card used to purchase the tickets. Per standard policy, cash reimbursements will be in the form of a check and can take up to four weeks to process. New ticket purchases for future shows at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre or Ponte Vedra Concert Hall will also be available. In addition, refunds are available at the original point of purchase. Patrons who purchased tickets online via Ticketmaster should follow Ticketmaster's COVID-19 Refund Guidelines available through their website. The Amphitheatre isn't able to provide refunds to those who purchased their tickets through Ticketmaster at the box office.

ROCK the Relief collects 59,000 pounds of goods

Donations to assist needy residents during COVID-19 pandemic

The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall hosted the second ROCK the Pantries: A "DriveThru" Food Drive on May 16, which successfully collected 27,000 pounds of non-perishable food items from 630 vehicles and two bicyclists. The two food drive events, including one on May 9 at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre, included more than 20 volunteers from the St. Augustine Amphitheatre, Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, United Way of St. Johns County, St. Augustine Beach Police Department and St. Johns County Sheriff's Office pitch in to collect and distribute 59,000 pounds of non-perishable goods from nearly 1,300 cars.

Nearly 20 local food pantries loaded up trucks and vans with the donated food at the end of each food drive. The volunteers collected donations directly from vehicles during the drive-thru, while maintaining proper social distancing guidelines. Beach 105.5 FM St. Augustine, the Bartram Trail High football team, and Latin Creations restaurant also donated their time and services to the cause. All volunteers were provided PPE by the St. Augustine Beach Police Department.

"During these past two weekends, I witnessed an outpouring of love from, and for, our community," said Gabe Pellicer. "The cars and the donations just kept coming. I was so proud to be there serving with community leaders like the St. Augustine Beach Police Chief Rob Hardwick, former St. Augustine Police Chief Loran Lueders, St. Johns County Housing and Community Services Manager Joseph Cone, United Way staff, and the Amphitheatre and Concert Hall staff helping to take in donations from so many incredibly generous residents. I was truly amazed."

Food pantries that benefited from community donations included the St. Francis House, the Betty Griffin House, St. Augustine Youth Services, Arc of the St. Johns, Home Again St. Johns, Epic Cure, Pie in the Sky, Celebration Lutheran Church, Christ's Cupboard, Shepard's Haven, the First Church of the Nazarene, the Sea Community Help Resource Center, the Family Worship Center, Emergency Services and Homeless Coalition, St. Johns Ecumenical Food Pantry, the Lighthouse Church of God and Catholic Charities.



Photo provided by Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

Sports



THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2020 • PAGE 29

Send your sports news to
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Korn Ferry Challenge: No galleries, no contact, no problem

TOURs return to the course on June 11-14

By Don Coble

There will be ropes that separates spectator areas from the roughs and fairways at TPC Sawgrass' Valley Course during the Korn Ferry Challenge June 11-14.

There will be a variety of players in the field, including established stars like Vijay Singh and David Lingmerth, as well as aspiring local youngsters like Roberto Diaz, Ben Kohles, Luke Guthrie, Tyson Alexander, Justin Hueber and Jared Wolfe.

There will be caddies and scoreboards, COVID-19 testing and masks to go with the birdies and bogeys.

But most important, there will be golf — and a slow return to normalcy since everything shut down after one round of THE PLAYERS in March.

The only thing missing from the return of the Korn Ferry Tour will be you.

The PGA TOUR is taking social distancing to extreme, keeping galleries off the course and non-essential support

workers far away from the 6,847-yard course.

The TOUR will take a “layered” approach to getting back on the course. Korn Ferry is the TOUR’s version of Triple-A baseball. It’s the final step before playing on the PGA TOUR, which includes an opportunity to play in THE PLAYERS at the Stadium Course on the other side of the TPC Sawgrass property.

It will follow the same guidelines in place for the TOUR’s return with the Charles Schwab Challenge at Fort Worth, Texas.

The TOUR closely monitored NASCAR’s return

Players and caddies will be expected to comply with medical questionnaires, thermal readings and RT-PCR nasal swabs. Testing will start before they arrive for the first round.

“We’re excited about how the PGA TOUR can play a role here in the world’s return, if you will, to enjoying things we love and doing so in a responsible manner,” said Tyler Dennis, the TOUR’s senior Vice President and Chief of Operations.

Everyone will be tested before being

allowed at the course, according to TOUR Senior Vice President of Tournament Administration Andy Levinson.

“And then upon arrival,” he added, “everyone will report to a testing area, likely at a designated hotel, where they will undergo all three screening methods: The questionnaire, thermal reading, and a PCR test. ... Everybody who comes on site at our events will have to go through a questionnaire and thermal screening before entering the property, and participation is a condition of competition.”

While some will be focused on moving past the novel coronavirus, many will be eager to watch golf.

Singh, who’s earned more than \$70 million in his career, decided to make the short drive along State Road A1A to play. That move has riled several of the Korn Ferry regulars, who are eager to make money and earn points necessary to win an exemption on the PGA TOUR.



Photo provided by metrocreativeconnection.com

Check out Bogey Grille’s ad in this week’s issue of

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Found with the sports information on page 18



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