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PONTE VEDRA



Recorder

September 24, 2020

Volume 51, No. 47

75 cents

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

PonteVedraRecorder.com

ROOM WITH A VIEW



Photos provided by The Ponte Vedra Inn & Club

The Ponte Vedra Inn & Club adds 41 rooms and suites and renovates golf course. Most of the new rooms and suites look out on the ocean. *Read more on page 34*

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

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 Guide to First Coast Nonprofits
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 Operation New Uniform helps veterans transition to new job
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Subscription Rates, Bulk Mail:
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We welcome submissions of photos, stories, columns and letters to the editor. Let us know what's happening. Email submissions to pvreorderer@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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Also, check out the **Ponte Vedra Recorder** channel on YouTube.

EDITOR'S NOTES

What's This?: Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, 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 to walk-in traffic, The Recorder's Pets of the Week feature has been temporarily suspended. The feature will return once the Pet Center reopens.

NOTES TO READERS

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.

BRIEFS

New Hours for free drive-thru COVID-19 testing at Flagler Hospital

The COVID-19 testing site offered at Flagler Hospital will now be available from 7 to 11 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Located in Parking Lot B at 400 Health Park Blvd., the testing site will remain open through 11 a.m., or until the maximum number of daily tests are collected. Testing is available for all ages, and patients do not need to exhibit symptoms, possess a doctor's note, or make an appointment. A parent or guardian must be present for children under 18 to be tested. A photo ID is required.

The testing site is being funded through the CARES Act. Results will be provided via telephone within seven to ten days. To expedite the process, patients are encouraged to pre-register by downloading the Flagler Health+ Anywhere app, accepting the terms and conditions, clicking on "See a Provider", and selecting the laboratory icon. Patients can then virtually "get in line" for the drive-thru test site.

For more information, call the St. Johns County Citizens Information Hotline at (904) 824-5550.

Late Risers Bar and Grille clubhouse restaurant opens at St. Johns Golf Club

The St. Johns Golf Club is now home to

Late Risers Bar & Grille, a chef-owned restaurant with a scratch-prepared menu featuring hot, cold, and grab-and-go items.

Now open in the St. Johns Golf Club Clubhouse, 4900 Cypress Links Blvd., Late Risers offers breakfast, lunch and dinner options including French toast bites, fresh local seafood, and a variety of salads and sandwiches. In addition, the restaurant offers a full bar that includes beer, wine and specialty cocktails

For more information, visit the Late Risers website at www.laterisersfoodtruck.com or call (904) 209-0360.

Rutherford, Waltz hail passage of bill to rename St. Augustine VA clinic

On Wednesday, Sept. 23, the House of Representatives passed legislation, first introduced by Rep. John Rutherford (FL-04) and Rep. Michael Waltz (FL-06), to name a Department of Veterans Affairs clinic in St. Johns County after Army PFC Leo C. Chase, Jr., the first man from St. Johns County to be killed in the Vietnam War. The new VA outpatient clinic will be located at 207 Stratton Road in St. Augustine, and will be designated the "Leo C. Chase, Jr. Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic."

"Private First Class Leo C. Chase, Jr., is an American hero," Rutherford said. "Northeast Florida is proud to tell the story of his cour-

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.



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Briefs

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age in the face of battle and to honor his sacrifice on behalf of our country and freedom. I look forward to President Trump signing this legislation into law, ensuring every person walking into the St. Augustine VA clinic remembers the life and legacy of Private First Class Leo C. Chase, Jr.”

“Army Private First Class Leo C. Chase Jr. is an inspiration to America and to our community,” said Waltz. “He was only five days from finishing his tour of duty in Vietnam when he and other troopers were airlifted to South Vietnam, where Chase lost his life. He fought and died for our country. It is more than fitting to have this new VA clinic providing top-notch care named in his honor, so all who enter will know his name and his story.”

Army PFC Leo C. Chase, Jr., was

killed on November 15, 1965, in the Ia Drang battle dramatized in the book and film, We Were Soldiers. Chase was a rifleman in Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry. He flew into landing zone X-Ray in the Ia Drang Valley of South Vietnam, near the Cambodian border. The helicopter troops were immediately attacked by thousands of soldiers of the 320th, 33rd, and 66th regiments of the North Vietnamese Army in a battle that lasted four days.

Outnumbered nearly 10-to-one, Chase and the other members of his platoon bravely repulsed many massive ground assaults from the Viet Cong, all the while taking fire from enemy snipers.

In the end, Chase and many other members of his platoon lost their lives, but not without accomplishing their objective.

The American lines held because of the courage and sheer determination of the Seventh Cavalry.

Stay tuned for the Best of the Best of Ponte Vedra results!

Voting in the second annual Ponte Vedra Recorder Best of the Best of Ponte Vedra contest ended Monday, Aug. 31, and the results will appear in a special section of the Recorder on Oct. 8.



Winners will receive a free framed certificate and a Best of the Best of Ponte Vedra window cling. Each winner will also be listed in our Best of the Best of Ponte Vedra special section and on the winner’s website.

Winners will be notified by Recorder staff after votes are counted.

To advertise in the Oct. 8 special section of the Recorder, contact your sales representative, email susan@opcfla.com or call (904) 686-3938.

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County OKs \$6.81 tax rate for 2021

By Shaun Ryan

St. Johns County Commissioners unanimously approved a \$1.05 billion budget for fiscal year 2021 at the final public hearing Monday, Sept. 21. The board also set the tax rate at \$6.81 per \$1,000 of a property's taxable value.

The new rate is actually 0.23% lower than the rolled-back rate of \$6.85, which is the rate needed to bring in the same amount of revenue as last year, adjusting for

changes in property values.

The county property appraiser's office determined that property values have risen 11.13% since last year. This brings the county's total certified taxable value to \$31.66 billion.

The new rate will bring in \$215.7 million in taxes, an \$8.4 million increase over 2020.

In addition to rising property values, one of the reasons the board was able to hold down the rate was the county's healthy reserves, \$11.2 million of which is unrestricted.

A tentative rate of \$7.25 per \$1,000 of taxable value had been proposed earlier in the budgetary process. That would have left the rate unchanged from fiscal year 2020.

But the board voted Sept. 8 to go with \$6.81, a decrease of 3.2% from last year, members citing the financial impact of COVID-19 on taxpayers.

The new rate means that the owner of a home with an assessed value of \$300,000 and a homestead exemption of \$50,000 will pay about \$1,703 in county taxes next year.

YMCA launches Learning Labs to help families with distance learning

By Shaun Ryan

The Ponte Vedra Family YMCA is helping to make life a bit easier for families trying to navigate a school year complicated by COVID-19 protocols and concerns.

As with other First Coast YMCA locations, the Ponte Vedra facility has debuted Y Learning Labs, a safe place for students to keep up with distance-learning curriculum.

Learning Labs are equipped with quiet workspaces and WiFi for students and supervised by certified Y staff members, giving parents peace of mind.

The recent pandemic has led many families to pursue nontraditional avenues of education for their children. Many students still attend "brick-and-mortar" schools, but school-based distance learning, St. Johns Virtual School and home-schooling options have become a consideration for more families.

Whatever path a student takes, Y Learning Labs facilitate curriculum and offer enrichment activities. In addition, the Y provides homeschool P.E. options.

"The YMCA just felt like this was an opportunity to serve the community and provide that service," said Ponte Vedra Family YMCA Executive Director Charlie Chacos, whose own daughter participates.

Students may bring classroom materials to the lab and access online learning options during the school day. The pacing and curriculum are determined by the schooling option selected by the families.

The program is especially useful for families in which both parents work.

"If a child in my daughter's class tested positive, the whole class would have to go back in quarantine," said Chacos. "That doesn't really work for dual-working parents."

The Y's enrichment activities, such as STEM, the arts, physical activity, character development, diversity inclusion and leadership development add to the students' "school day."

"We try to fill the extra time with enrichment that they're missing from not being able to be in school and build those relationships," said Kimberly Green, senior program director.

Though the purpose of the labs is to facilitate a space where students can learn, Y staff can help those who have questions.

"If they have any questions, we help them get in touch with their teachers," Green said. "Or if they have any extra need for a little bit more information on a different question, we help them with that."

The school day runs from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and students follow the schedule set forth by the education option they choose. The labs have a cap of 12 students per classroom, so social distancing is easily observed.

The homeschool P.E. program offers an hour of exercise and activity.

It gives students a chance to have fun, "especially if they have been at home and stuck behind a computer," said Healthy Living Director Tina Allen. "It just gives them something to look forward to."

It also offers homeschooled students some social interaction they may be missing. The program is free to members, \$80 a month to nonmembers. It is not necessary to sign up for the Learning Labs to participate in the P.E. program.

To register for the Learning Labs or get more information, go to fcmca.org.



Photo from virtual meeting

Donald and Janice Jones of CycleHere Media give some pointers on improving a business's virtual presence during a recent Chamber at Noon online meeting.

Speakers address ways to heighten virtual presence at Chamber at Noon meeting

By Shaun Ryan

Last year, maintaining an effective virtual presence was a staple for most businesses. This year, with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting financial impact, it has become even more important.

On Wednesday, Sept. 16, local businesses had an opportunity to learn more about how to best connect with customers online. Janice and Donald Jones of CycleHere Media gave a presentation on the topic during the Chamber at Noon virtual meeting of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division.

Founded in 2012 and based in St. Augustine, CycleHere Media provides video marketing, consulting and production services throughout Florida. It specializes in boosting public awareness, customer engagement and reputation value for government agencies, destinations and private businesses.

Janice Jones named three main components of a business's "virtual front door": the website, social platforms and email.

"Before COVID, we were all there — we were working on these; we were build-

ing them — that was part of just business these days, being out there virtually," said Donald Jones. "But it's obviously so much more important at this point to fine-tune that, focus it on what your message is."

Janice Jones said the public should always find something current on websites and social media. And when speaking to a client or customer via online conferencing, the speaker should always look directly into the camera — not at the screen showing the other party's image.

"Eye contact," said Donald Jones. "We think about that when we are in person. When we're in a Chamber event or a meeting or we're sitting down face-to-face on a one-on-one client meeting, you're looking in their eye. But with computers and all the screens, it's natural for us to ... look a little bit off."

Janice Jones also suggested keeping distractions out of the background, putting some light on the speaker's face and using expressions while communicating.

She also emphasized thinking of the website as more than just an electronic flier.

Cartoon animator Ron Campbell's work on display in Jacksonville Beach

By Wesley LeBlanc

Fans of Saturday morning cartoons and the golden age of cartoons, your time has come.

Cartoon animator, producer, director and storyboard writer Ron Campbell will be the center of an upcoming art gallery in Jacksonville Beach from Sept. 25-27.

Not only will dozens of his art pieces be free for viewing and available for purchase, but the artist will paint original remarks of some of history's most beloved animated characters on-site for any customer who purchases one of his pieces.

"When you buy a painting, I do a certificate of authenticity and I draw a character on it," Campbell said. "There's something delightful in people watching a blank page turn into a painting of John Lennon or Scooby Doo."

Don't ask Campbell to paint a character he didn't animate or work on at some point in his life because he only draws his originals during his 50-year-and-one-month career.

Don't sweat though because that still leaves a crazy amount of characters to choose from as Campbell has worked on more than 40 shows including "Popeye and Olive Show," "The Beatles" TV cartoons, "George of the Jungle," "Yogi Bear," "Scooby Doo Where Are You?," "The Flintstones," "The Jetsons," "The Smurfs," "Ghostbusters," "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles," "Winnie The Pooh," "Duck Tales," "Rugrats," "Ed, Ede, and Eddie" and so many more.

Campbell was born in 1939 in the Australian state of Victoria and he eventually studied at the Swinburne Art Institute of Melbourne. It was shortly after that his career in animation began.

"I had already animated and produced 'Krazy Kat,' 'Popeye' and 'Beetle Bailey' while living in Australia and in the middle of the night one night, Al Brodax of King Features called all excited," Campbell said. "He was in New York and I was in Sydney. He said, 'Ron, we just sold a new TV show for next year and we want you to direct.'"

Campbell asked what show this would be and the answer ended up changing the animator's life: "The Beatles" TV cartoons.

"I thought he was referring to beetles," Campbell said. "I didn't realize he was referring to the band that was on its way to becoming the greatest musician group that's ever existed. Of course, at the time, I didn't know that. Everyone in America was nuts about them but I didn't take too much notice of popular music at the time. I was trying very hard to work on learning cartoons instead, ensuring they were getting written, produced, and coming out on time and on budget."

"The Beatles" TV series was very popular and it led



Photo provided by Ron Campbell

Famed animator Ron Campbell will be Gallery 725 in Jacksonville Beach this weekend with some of his unique artwork.

to even more job offers for Campbell, and eventually he moved to America. He worked on his own show, "Big Blue Marble", while running his own animation studio and doing storyboards for the very first season of Hanna-Barbera's "Scooby Doo, Where Are You?"

His own animation studio was right across the road from a Hanna-Barbera studio so he was often given contract overflow production work for shows like "The Flintstones" and "The Jetsons."

"Near the end of the run of 'Big Blue Marble', I realized that animation studios producing cartoons for Saturday morning weren't really possible anymore because of new legal changes in how animation worked and because of the onset of exhibitors like Nickelodeon and Cartoon Network," Campbell said. "So, I closed up shop and moved to Arizona. We didn't go bankrupt or anything – it just had to be done — but I was disappointed."

He continued his work in animation while in Arizona though, landing shows like "The Smurfs" and "Rugrats". This continued until October 2008 when he decided to retire, "50 years and one month" to the time when he started in September 1958.

It was in his retirement that he discovered the power of eBay.

"I had learned of fellow animator friends doing paintings based on cartoons they had worked on selling their art in

galleries and online in places like eBay," Campbell said. "I put a drawing up on eBay on a whim and someone bid \$110, then \$120, then \$150, then \$200, \$300, \$400, and so I started selling art on eBay and eventually galleries."

Campbell will be at the Gallery 725 in Jacksonville Beach this week. He said these galleries are some of his favorite things to do because of the interaction he gets to have with people and fans.

He remembers a woman asking for a Smurfette painting on her certificate of authenticity. It was her favorite character, Campbell said, but she had asked a special favor: to make Smurfette's famous blonde hair black. Campbell did just that and the woman began to cry.

"That's the kind of fun and joy there is to have at these shows," Campbell said. "They walk in and they start smiling. That's what my paintings are for really. It's not Picasso — they aren't serious paintings."

"They're things you put up on your wall and when you walk in the room, you look at the picture and smile, at least that's what I'm told. That's what they are: a frivolous happy memory."

Campbell will be at Gallery 725 on 1250 Beach Blvd in Jacksonville from 4-8 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 25; noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Admission to the gallery is free.

Chamber

Continued from 4

"If you can share your process within your website, then you're taking that customer, that potential client, and you're walking them in the door," she said.

Likewise, social media is more than a

commercial aired to a passive audience. There's a reason it's called "social."

One taco shop, for instance, intersperses humor and family news with photos of tacos and recipes. People are drawn to the site and hopefully get the urge to eat some tacos.

One tool the Joneses didn't want their audience to take for granted was email.

Janice Jones cited a survey that found 86% of professionals prefer to use email when communicating for business purposes.

"So, I'm asking you: Could you be more personable through your emails?" she said.

The Joneses use a service called BombBomb, which allows them to send a video

in an email, a different way to communicate visually.

"These are all ways that you can add value," said Janice Jones. "That's what we're hoping to do, to inspire you to add a little value in the ways and the means that you can from your desktop or your home or wherever you're working from right now."

Dr. Erika Hamer is a chiropractic neurologist, beaches resident, soon-to-be chair of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce and the owner of Ponte Vedra Wellness Center, a 16-year-old business dedicated to helping the Ponte Vedra Beach community become its most healthy self.

As told to Cassidy Lankford

Can you please tell me about your background and the services offered?

I'm from Daytona Beach. I went to chiropractic school at Life University in Atlanta and had an additional 3 years of post-graduate education in chiropractic neurology through New York Chiropractic College. I have been in practice for 18 years as a chiropractor. I opened Ponte Vedra Wellness Center at the corner of A1A and Palm Valley Road 16 years ago and in 2016 I opened another location in Nocatee.

What type of services are offered at Ponte Vedra Wellness Center?

In addition to standard chiropractic care, my specialty is chiropractic neurology so we also have services geared towards that. We also offer massage therapy, spinal decompression, cold laser treatments, and physiotherapy.

What made you decide to become a chiropractor?

I decided to become a chiropractor because I really enjoy the hands-on approach to healthcare. It is so rewarding for me to help my patients become healthier and see them get better. I like that I have the opportunity to treat my patients in a way that is holistic. I decided to start my own practice after working for another practice for a few years because I wanted to be able to provide my patients with the best treatment and customize their care. I also wanted to be able to implement my knowledge and experience in chiropractic neurology.

What are some of the challenges you face in your role?

The 2020 challenge in itself is a big one. This year we have faced a lot of new obstacles and we're forced to adapt in these challenging times. We've had to learn how to continue providing hands-on care to our patients but in a way that is safe for everyone. We've adopted new practices and have started practice telemedicine when possible. As a small business, you always have to be prepared to learn new things and adapt to changes, but these 2020 times are definitely very challenging — but we are doing well.

What do you enjoy most about living and working in the Ponte Vedra/Beaches community?

I have lived in the beaches area for the past 16 years. I love it - everybody has such a great sense of community out here. Everybody you meet feels like family, it's a great group of people. It feels that way both inside and outside of my office. Inside of my practice, I've really been able to build a wonderful referral-based business where it feels like its own community within the community, in a way.

What are your hobbies outside of work?

Outside of work, I really love spending time with my family and my children. We do a lot of outdoor activities like going to the beach and paddle-boarding.

Do you have any goals or upcoming plans for the future?

We just celebrated 16 years of business with the Ponte Vedra Wellness Center and we look forward to continuing to serve the community. I will also soon be stepping into the role of chair of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce which is something I'm really looking forward to!



Photo provided by Dr. Erika Hamer

Girl Scouts of Gateway Council to honor women leaders in St. Johns County

Girl Scouts of Gateway Council will hold its fourth annual St. Johns Women of Distinction event to honor influential female leaders in St. Johns County who exemplify the Girl Scouts' values and live out the Girl Scout Law.

This year's honorees are Vanessa Garrison, Jocelyn Spates and Keri Matthews. The three women will be celebrated during a virtual ceremony at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 30. The event, presented by Publix Supermarkets Charities, is free and open to the public. All funds raised from this annual celebration will help bring Girl Scouts to more than 1,200 girls in St. Johns County, including 120 who participate in our community development program that allows their entire Girl Scout experience to be fully funded by donations from the public.

Vanessa Garrison currently serves as a charge nurse in the MICU at Flagler Health+. She has played a critical role in helping to treat patients and helping to slow the spread of COVID-19. Garrison is currently in graduate school at the University of North Florida with aspirations of

becoming a nurse practitioner.

Dr. Jocelyn D. Spates is a professor of pharmacy practice and the associate dean of clinical affairs at Florida A&M University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Institute of Public Health. She is a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Omega Phi Omega Chapter in St. Augustine, where she served as president of for three years, and is also a youth leader at her church.

Keri Matthews is a co-founder of Matthews Design Group, which focuses on assisting large manufacturing facilities with automation solutions and helping companies create and implement successful processes to improve efficiency, streamline workflow and reduce costs. Matthews has a passion for helping children and has served on the Family Advisory Council of Wolfson Children's Hospital since 2007. She was a former Girl Scout leader and coached youth recreational soccer for many years.

Information on how to watch and participate in this virtual award ceremony can be found at bit.ly/wodsj2020.

LOST DOG

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Classic Oceanfront Cottage

Ideally located between the 5 Diamond Ponte Vedra Inn & Club and The Lodge & Club, this home offers charming coastal curb appeal with a circular drive, 100 ft. of ocean frontage, no HOA, and room for a pool. **5 bedrooms, 5.5 bathrooms \$4,500,000**



Oceanfront Oasis

Stunning 210 ft oceanfront estate on private gated 2-acre lot with 27 ft elevation. Impeccable, quality home with spectacular views throughout. This gated paradise offers unrivaled privacy in the heart of Ponte Vedra with easy access to all local amenities. **5 bedrooms, 6 full / 2 half baths \$5,900,000**



Atlantic Beach Retreat

Ideally located 2 blocks from the ocean this 2,959 sqft townhome features 3 bedrooms and 2 full / 2 half baths. Within walking distance to the Atlantic Beach town center including shopping, restaurants, and entertainment. Enjoy the home's roof top deck or the private backyard oasis. **3 bedrooms, 2F/2H bathrooms \$835,000**



Secluded 8.2 Acre Island

Located in Swift Creek Island, this property offers private gated access to a secluded 8.2-acre island. Surrounded by lush landscaping and captivating water views, this is a nature lover's paradise. Enjoy the existing home or build your dream home on the additional pre-approved building lot. **2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms \$2,285,000**



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Jason Simpson, Baptist Medical Center Beaches development director (left) accepts a donation from Church of Our Savior treasurer Buff Wagner and business manager Chris McCarthy on behalf of the church for creation of recharge-and-refresh rooms.

Church of Our Savior supports Baptist Health COVID-19 Emergency Fund

The Church of Our Savior in Jacksonville Beach raised \$650 to donate to Baptist Medical Center Beaches' COVID-19 Emergency Fund to help with the creation of recharge-and-refresh rooms

wellness and resiliency of team members who all are grateful for such generous community support," said David Morrell, a chaplain for Baptist Beaches.

Morrell and his pastoral care team are for hospital team members.
"The contribution assists in the ongoing

FUND continues on **Page 10**



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Foot and ankle pain doesn't have to be your normal. But how do you know when it's time to see a doctor?

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Photo by Susan Griffin

Food Truck Friday is set to be held at Nocatee Station Field on Sept. 25.

Food Truck Friday returns to Nocatee Station Field Sept. 25

Kick off your weekend at one of Nocatee's favorite events: Food Truck Friday.

Jacksonville's favorite food trucks will be at Nocatee Station Field on Friday, Sept. 25, to serve members of the community local, one-of-a-kind, gourmet food and snacks.

Residents and guests can also enjoy live music by Sam Lee and drinks will be

available for purchase at the bar, including select craft beers and wines.

This event is open to the public and weather permitting. Residents and guests are encouraged to bring chairs, blankets and bug spray, and to continue to practice social distancing while enjoying the event.

Paradise Park Playground will not be open for Food Truck Friday attendees.



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Dr. Heinz is a Jacksonville native, former starting pitcher for The George Washington University Colonials, and currently resides in the Nocatee community.



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The Recorder's garden columnist Kathy Esfahani, of Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery, shares her tips for growing gorgeous gardens in Northeast Florida.

KATHY'S GARDENING GUIDE

"All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them"



Kathy Esfahani
Columnist

PLANTING FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND HERBS FOR FALL

Have you ever wanted to plant vegetables and herbs, but didn't know what would work best in our Northeast Florida climate?

Planting can be tough with different climates and temperatures, and each year can be drastically different from the next. However, over the next month or so, these are the vegetables and herbs that generally do best this time of year in our zone.



Herbs: Mexican tarragon, mint, rosemary, dill, fennel, oregano, sage and basil

Fruits and vegetables: Strawberries, broccoli, carrot, cabbage and collards



Flower of the Week: Marigold

Photos provided by Kathy Esfahani

There are many more on the list that thrive during the cooler months (October through February) but may have trouble before temperatures drop. Many of these need shade and cooler temperatures to be successful. You can use plants or seeds to grow and each have slightly different care instructions to follow.

Transplanting typically is a faster growing process, while seeds require more nurturing and care. Both of the end results? DELICIOUS! Make sure to offer the correct soil in a bed or planter. Planters can be pots, pallets, boxes, towers and more!

Get creative and happy planting!

Email Kathy at kathys.creative.gardens@gmail.com for any questions or gardening tips you would like to see in the future.

Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery is located at 196 N. Roscoe Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach. (904) 655-7373



Photo provided by Baptist Medical Center

Baptist Medical Center Beaches has been named one of the "World's Best Hospitals" for 2020.

Baptist Medical Center Beaches named a 'World's Best' hospital by Newsweek

Newsweek magazine has named Baptist Medical Center Beaches one of the "World's Best Hospitals 2020."

The award methodology was based on Baptist Beaches' publicly reported data on patient satisfaction, safety and effectiveness of care, which was reviewed along with thousands of hospitals in 21 countries by Statista Inc., a global market research firm that partnered with Newsweek for this study.

"Local residents have one of the world's best hospitals right here in the beaches community," said hospital Presi-

dent Joe Mitrick. "To be recognized by Newsweek is an amazing accomplishment that I owe to our dedicated physicians, team members and hospital auxiliaries. Their compassion and unwavering commitment to put our patients first every day is what makes us a world's best hospital."

Baptist Beaches is A-rated in safety by the Leapfrog Group and is ranked a 5-star hospital by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. In addition, the hospital was named one of the "20 Most Beautiful Hospitals in the U.S." by Soliant Health.

Fund

Continued from 8

responsible for bringing the recharge-and-refresh rooms to the hospital campus. These rooms include relaxing music, massage chairs and snacks for team members.

The COVID-19 Emergency Fund provides assistance to both Baptist Health team members and patients. Donations

are used to help purchase iPads and other entertainment materials to keep patients comfortable and occupied, assist Baptist team members facing unexpected financial distress and prepare hospital campuses as needed to care for the surge of patients throughout the pandemic.

To speak with a Baptist Health Foundation team member about giving to the COVID-19 Emergency Fund, call (904) 202-2919 or email foundation@bmcjax.com.

General Election

November 3, 2020

Registration Deadline: October 5th

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Episcopal School of Jacksonville's Beaches campuses celebrate Dot Day, 'Kindness'

Episcopal School of Jacksonville's Beaches Campuses celebrated International Dot Day on Sept. 15.

The day marks the anniversary of the publication of bestselling author and illustrator Peter H. Reynolds' "The Dot," which tells the story of a caring teacher who reaches a reluctant student in a remarkably creative way.

International Dot Day is a global celebration of creativity, courage and collaboration. Teachers and students found creative ways to celebrate Dot Day by decorating their clothes and masks, and participating in special activities such as art projects, candy dot and toothpick sculptures in STEAM, and even using their own thumbprints as a personal "dot" and decorating it.

STUDENTS SHARE KINDNESS IDEAS IN SEPTEMBER

Students on Episcopal School of Jacksonville's Beaches Campus are studying the Fruit of the Spirit "Kindness" in Christian Education class in the month of September.

Leslie Sale, Christian Education teacher on the Beaches Campus, created a Kindness Board to demonstrate to her students the meaning of kindness.

Students have been posting every day in the month of September what kindness means to them and how



Photos provided by Episcopal School of Jacksonville

Students at Episcopal School of Jacksonville Beaches campus celebrate International Dot Day.



Episcopal School Christian Education teacher Leslie Sale created a Kindness Board to help teach students at the Beaches campus the meaning of kindness.

they can show kindness to others as part of a larger community.

The Kindness Board promotes social-emotional learning and creates a school culture of kindness, generosity and inclusion.

Episcopal students earn recognition from national honors program



Paul Fouts



Jameson Gatewood



Grant Himes



Reinhardt Peek

Five Episcopal students were recently named National Merit semifinalists. The five students were Sally Barksdale, Paul Fouts, Jameson Gatewood, Don Kohla, and Braden Witkovich.

In addition, Episcopal had six commended students — Jack Adams, Grant Himes, Rohil Kanaparti, Ariel Largen, Reinhardt Peek and Alston Rachels.

Episcopal also had three students — Ariel Largen, Ilana Simmons, and Garrison Washington — who were invited to participate in the College Board National Recognition Programs (CBRP) for scoring in the top 2.5% of students who identify as BIPOC.

The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships. High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) and by meeting published program entry and participation requirements.


Semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the finalist level of the competition, and the finalists are announced in the winter and scholarships awarded in the spring.

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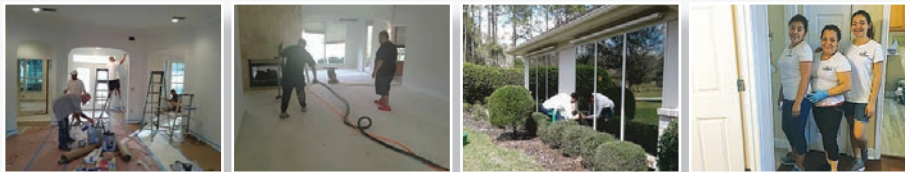
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OBITUARIES

Nancy Murray Slayden

Nancy Murray Slayden, 85, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died after a short illness on September 15, 2020.

Nancy Ruth Murray was born on November 14, 1934 in Columbus, Georgia and was the daughter of the late William Oscar and Ruth Gibson Murray. Nancy attended Georgia Southwestern College before transferring to Auburn University where she earned a degree in Elementary Education in 1955. While in college, Nancy was elected Miss Georgia Southwestern and later a member of the Glamorama group of Auburn beauties. Nancy was the quintessential southern lady who approached everyone she met with grace, hospitality and loving kindness.

Nancy is survived by Kay Wilson Slayden, her loving husband of 63 years, son Kevin Slayden and wife Nancy and their sons Kevin Jr., Spenser, Stewart and Lucas of Ponte Vedra Beach, FL, son Stephen Slayden and wife Tiffany and their daughters, Sophie and Lila, and son Stephen Jr. of Charlotte, NC.

The greatest joy in Nancy's life, by far,



Nancy Murray Slayden

was her family. She adored Kay, her college sweetheart whose love and passion for family matched her own. They were a perfect match and their marriage a special gift. Nancy was immensely proud of her sons, Kevin and Steve and their families. Her heart grew exponentially with the birth of each grandchild – seven in total.

Nancy was an unforgettable wife, mother and grandmother who was beautiful inside as well as outside. Her passing leaves a void in the lives of all who knew her.

A celebration of her life will be held at Christ Episcopal Church in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida on a date to be determined in the Spring of 2021.

Quinn-Shalz Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre
3600 Third Street South, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
Phone: 904.249.1100 Fax: 904.241.7554

Roberta J. Bernier

Roberta J. Bernier, 85, of Jacksonville Beach, died Sept. 15, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com (904) 249-1100.

Richard M. Boyle

Richard M. Boyle, 87, of Atlantic Beach, Florida, died Sept. 14, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family

OBITUARIES continues on Page 14

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Shapiro Group, 2012.

PV2-LV45045

COVID-19 can't stop recognition of local man's 90th birthday

By Shaun Ryan

When Dr. Howard Rose looked out the window on the morning of Sept. 14, he was “flabbergasted and amazed” to discover signs in the yard wishing him a happy birthday.

His neighbors were quick to take note.

“Friends have been coming by and saying, ‘For some reason, I think it’s your birthday. Happy birthday!’” he said.

The signs were the idea of Rose’s daughter, Laurel Rose Walker, who wanted to surprise her father on the 90th anniversary of his birth.

The family had originally planned for a big celebration in Orlando with nearly two dozen relatives flying in from all over the United States. It was to be as much a family reunion as a significant birthday. A year ago, Rose and Muriel, his wife of nearly 68 years, rented a large house that had room enough for the whole group.

But then, COVID-19 crashed the party.

The gathering had to be cancelled and the Roses have been self-quarantining as the pandemic spread. It hasn’t been easy for a man who is as active as Rose.

“We’ve been hunkered down for months now,” he said.

Walker said her father is very family-oriented and was disappointed that the gathering had to be called off. Still, she wasn’t going to let such a milestone birthday pass without some kind of celebration.

The only one of the Roses’ offspring to live locally — Walker’s brothers are Mark and Mitchell — she arranged for the signs to be posted in her parents’ yard and a pizza party later in the day.

Rose hails from Miami Beach and went on to become a renowned ophthalmologist in Jacksonville, where he



Family members gather to celebrate Dr. Howard Rose’s 90th birthday. A big celebration planned a year ahead had to be cancelled due to COVID-19, but that didn’t stop available family members from marking the occasion. From left are Robert Mancheno, Rachel Mancheno, Rose, Muriel Rose, Laurel Walker and Michael Walker.

Photo provided by Laurel Walker

practiced for 50 years. After he retired, he joined Volunteers In Medicine for 15 years and received a lifetime achievement award for his volunteering from President Barack Obama.

He is an avid gardener, winning a prize for the top garden in Northeast Florida, and a hobbyist who once built furniture to fill his apartment and still goes to the gym.

“My mantra is: diet, exercise and a positive attitude,” he said.

In fact, he remains an advocate for good health and

has been involved with the Dietetic Department at the University of North Florida.

The Roses have lived in Sawgrass for the past 40 years.

Rose said he is looking forward to his three-digit birthday.

“I’m looking forward to being on the Smuckers show,” he said, referring the portion of NBC’s “Today” show during which centenarians are honored and their pictures appear on a jar of Smuckers jam.



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TRAVEL SPOTLIGHT

Ponte Vedra resident and tour guide Gary Sass shares his experiences from his recent journey hiking the Appalachian Trail in a five-part series to be featured in The Recorder. Here is Part 3.



Gary Sass
Journey Columnist

DAY 3 – BEAR MOUNTAIN (NEW YORK)

The third day started back on the Appalachian Trail, the longest hiking-only trail in the world. You do not have to be worried about dodging mountain bikes or stepping in horse manure along this entire Maine to Georgia route. The plan du jour was to complete a couple of segments of the AT starting with a climb to the Bear Mountain summit.

Bear Mountain State Park is located on the west bank of the Hudson River just north of New York City. On a clear day you can see the Manhattan skyline about 60 miles away from the peak of Bear Mountain. The directions I had for the trailhead will also take you to the Bear Mountain Inn. Surprisingly, there was no parking attendant and few cars in the hotel lot. This popular destination was practically abandoned due to COVID-19. I saw very few workers and even wondered if the people taking care of this place were volunteers. As a conservationist, it was heartbreaking to see trash everywhere. How could this park area get so run down so fast? Whatever happened to trail karma, “if you take care of the trail, the trail will take care of you.”

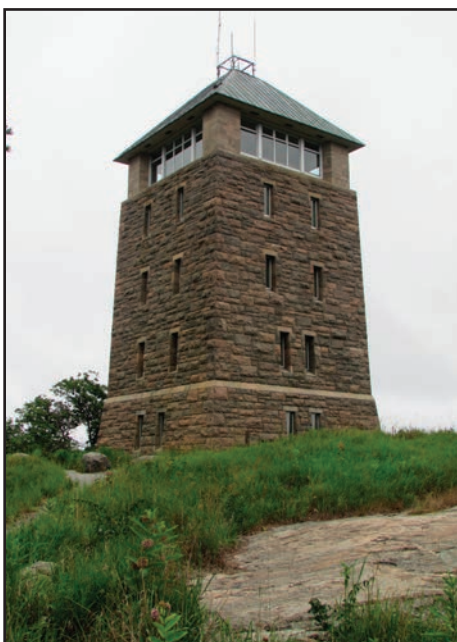
I bypassed the mess in the lower park area and focused on the rectangular trail signs in the distance. A mere “1,403 miles South to Georgia” was etched in a wooden board next to the signature AT white blaze. I was on the right two mile path to the top of Bear Mountain. In less than an hour I would have reached the summit if there were no educational placards about trail building to read along the way. Journeys are exercises in learning so I often soak up additional information along the way. This was one masterfully engineered people’s path. The evenly built stairs made of stone seemed more like a style you would find in the backyard of a Vanderbilt Mansion. As I progressed up the incline, there was a transformation to a more typical AT that blended in with nature. It remained well-marked so there were no worries about getting lost on this segment.



Day 3: Bear Mountain Bridge and Anthony's Nose



Day 3: Bear Mountain summit view



Day 3: Perkins Memorial Tower

The summit was graced with the 40 foot Perkins Memorial Tower. Under non-pandemic conditions, the tower could be ascended. Despite the tower closure, I found plenty of clearings for good views and photos. Unfortunately for me, it was one of those overcast mornings with rain clouds in the distance which added a touch of grey. This did not diminish my sense of accomplishment. From a flat stone seat with the view I liked the best, I took a moment to reflect on the beauty of it all. This mountain also has a paved road to reach the top in the event you could not walk it. The summit tower and road were built in the 1930’s by the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corp). When the CCC helped the early

AT Clubs with building the trails, they were also secretly surveying for driving routes.

Before long, I had returned to the base and was ready to hike the second segment going across Bear Mountain Bridge in the opposite direction on the AT. Oddly, to reach the bridge, you have to go through the Trailside Museum & Zoo according to the online directions. Of course everything changed with COVID-19 so the staff member at the zoo entrance told me to take the bypass trail around the zoo. I found out quickly this was the wrong section of trail to be wearing shorts. The scant maintenance along the alternative route meant my progress would be slowed by the encroaching prickly bushes. I went from a forward walk to a sideways dance avoiding contact with the nasty thorns against my bare legs.

The Bear Mountain Bridge was a treat of sorts along the AT. It is proclaimed to be the lowest elevation point on the entire AT. There is a pedestrian bridge on both sides that lends itself to beautiful views of the Hudson River in either direction. As the wind picked up, it was like I was soaring 185 feet above the river. The east side of the bridge was the location of Fort Clinton where an American Revolutionary War battle was fought in 1777. At the west end of the bridge, there is a mountain formation called “Anthony’s Nose.” This was the end of the line for me due to an equipment failure. My old hiking boots had given way to Father Time. The sole of the shoe at the toe had become unglued. A flap had developed to the point that I was tripping at unex-

pected intervals. The situation went from bad to worse as the flap turned into a fold and caught the ground. Chris Berman would have described my simple bridge walk with his famous phrase, “rumbling, bumbling, stumbling”. To the people driving across the bridge, they probably thought I was drunk. At that moment, the top priority was to get new hiking boots for the next day on the AT.

I found a short cut back to my car to avoid the briar patch trail and reduce the number of steps. So what if I jaywalked across the highway; it was almost a straight line to the parking lot past a beautiful lake. As long as I did not fall in the middle of Route 202, I would live to hike another day. To my surprise, there were historical placards along Hessian Lake. It was at this site that 100 Continental troops and local militiamen held the British at bay before retreating to Fort Clinton. The British would eventually capture Fort Clinton and nearby Fort Montgomery where the Americans had constructed a chain across the Hudson River to prevent the British naval vessels from sailing upriver. After the battles, the British dismantled the chain which caused the Americans to build an even stronger Great Chain at West Point in 1778.

In the evening, after a stop for new hiking boots, I drove as far as the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. With state-of-the-art wings on my feet, I was more than ready for the next set of mountains and the most famous AT photo.

Look for Part 4 in an upcoming edition of the Ponte Vedra Recorder.

Obituaries

Continued from 12

Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.
(904) 249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

Robert J. Dukker

Robert J. Dukker, 68, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Sept. 15, 2020. Ponte Vedra

Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Elizabeth A. Joyner

Elizabeth A. Joyner, 85, of Atlantic Beach, Florida, died Sept. 21, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. (904) 249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

Russell E. Lee, Jr.

Russell E. Lee, Jr., 81, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Sept. 12, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. (904) 249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

Martin “Marty” Trachtenberg

Martin “Marty” Trachtenberg, 80, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Sept. 8,

2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 www.pontevedravally.com

Arnold E. Vandroff

Arnold E. Vandroff, 91, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Sept. 10, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

September 24, 2020



Recorder

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

ON A MISSION

Guide to First Coast Nonprofits



MaliVai Washington Foundation opens new teen center

Operation New Uniform helps veterans transition to new jobs

JDRF to hold virtual Miracles Gala on Oct. 17

New nonprofits aims to help kids build better futures



MaliVai Washington opens teen center

The MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation held a grand opening for its new teen center, Club 904, on Sept. 9 with remarks from Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry, founder MaliVai Washington, Jacksonville City Council members and high school students who attend the program.

The foundation announced its vision for the center nearly three years ago. Since then, the community raised more than \$5.5 million, and the foundation partnered with the City of Jacksonville to construct the 14,000-square-foot facility.

Club 904 features a high school lounge and study hall; teaching kitchen; game, theater and music rooms; and general classrooms.

The center will offer services, including academic assistance, college preparation, job and leadership training, a variety of life skills and elective courses; and social activities.

“I want every child in every ZIP code to have the tools and resources they need to be successful,” said Curry. “This foundation played a critical role — a very critical role in that mission ... The work you’re doing is important. It’s important to the children, to the families, the neighborhood and the entire city of Jacksonville.”

The foundation will be able to triple the amount of students served by using this new space.

Club 904 is expected to provide a safe, supportive space for teens to spend their after-school hours and summer. It will help them grow into future leaders and become successful members of the community while breaking cycles of poverty there, according to the foundation.

The foundation is an after-school and summer youth development program in Jacksonville’s urban core. It promotes academic achievement and positive life skills.

For further information, go to malwashington.com.



Student Mya Sudduth (from left), Lezita Davis, Council member Ju’Coby Pittman, Council member Sam Newby, Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry, MaliVai Washington and student Ny’Reon Shuman cut the ribbon, opening Club 904.

Photos provided by the MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation



Founder MaliVai Washington leads a tour of Club 904 for those attending the ribbon-cutting ceremony.



Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry gives remarks during the Club 904 ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Former No. 1 women’s tennis player to speak at ‘A Night of Hope’

The MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation is holding a virtual gala this year in lieu of its traditional event due to COVID-19.

“A Night of Hope” will be livestreamed on Facebook and will include messages from founder MaliVai Washington and the foundation’s student athlete of the year; a silent and live auction; special guest appearances, including Lindsay Davenport; and more.

Throughout her career, former pro tennis player Lindsay Davenport ranked as the World No. 1 for 98 weeks, won three Grand Slam titles and was a gold medalist

at the 1996 Olympic Games. She was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 2014.

Attendees will have the opportunity to ask Davenport questions during the Q&A portion of the event.

Funds raised at the event will allow the foundation to be a source of hope to children and families for years to come, according to the foundation.

MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation’s gala has traditionally raised at least \$250,000 annually and is its largest fundraiser. Registration is not required to attend but is encouraged in order to receive updates and bid on

auction items.

Every donation made to “A Night of Hope” will be matched, dollar for dollar up to \$25,000, thanks to the generosity of the Delores Barr Weaver Fund, according to the foundation. Attendees can register and make contributions at <https://one.bidpal.net/mwyf>.

“A Night of Hope” will be accessible via Facebook Live from 7 to 8 p.m., Oct. 8. Go to www.facebook.com/LoveMWYF/live_videos/ to attend. Having a Facebook account is not required to view the event.

For more information, go to malwashington.com/gala.

Operation New Uniform helps military veterans transition to civilian professions

By Shaun Ryan

Success relies in part on understanding the culture. And veterans who have thrived in the military culture they have come to understand must adapt to a whole new way of doing things once they enter the civilian realm.

Essentially, they swap their military uniform — and all that goes with it — for a new uniform, that of a civilian professional.

Helping to make that a smooth transition is Operation New Uniform, which conducts classes several times a year throughout the state and features recent graduates on its website. According to the organization, 97% of the veterans who complete the program obtain employment within four months.

“We are so proud of the work that Operation New Uniform does to advance, empower and equip our veterans with the skills to succeed in business,” said ONU board chair Dr. Kim Bynum during the most recent graduation ceremony on Friday, Sept. 18. “Our board, our staff, our volunteers share one big characteristic — we all have this in common: We are committed to providing impactful and positive change to the men and women that enroll in Operation New Uniform.”

The graduates took turns speaking at the podium, most reflecting on what ONU had done for them.

“When you separate from the military, a lot of us are lost,” said Robert Davis, who served 11 years in the U.S. Army. “We don’t know how to shed that uniform and step back into the corporate



Photo from virtual meeting

Lisa Gillespie was the keynote speaker at a recent graduation at Operation New Uniform.

world. ... The quality of training here has allowed me to take leaps and bounds as far as interview skills and definitely with resume-writing.”

Tracey Chastine, who served 20 years with the U.S. Navy, called her time in the three-and-a-half-week program “a life-changer.”

“Operation New Uniform isn’t just a military transition program like many that are out there,” she said. “ONU takes the military veteran by the hand literally and just polishes the diamond that we already are.”

“Truly, ONU is one of the best things that’s ever happened to me,” said Cheryl Marlowe, who served four years with the U.S. Navy. “I’m a better person, a better woman and a better professional because

of ONU.”

The keynote speaker was U.S. Navy veteran Lisa Gillespie, a consultant for Simplified Smart Solutions and a licensed Realtor.

She said it would be a shame if no one provided veterans what they needed to have successful careers after completing their service.

The program is free to veterans. ONU receives no government funding, so fundraisers are held to generate the necessary money. Its fourth annual Veterans Cup, a competitive day of clay shooting, will be held Friday, Sept. 25. On Dec. 5, it will conduct its Heroes Gala with keynote speaker Johnny “Joey” Jones, retired U.S. Marine and Fox News contributor.

Lara Trump makes special visit to K9s For Warriors

President Donald Trump’s daughter-in-law Lara Trump, former Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi, former Florida Lt. Gov. Jennifer Carroll and Katrina Pierson visited the K9s For Warriors national headquarters Sept. 16.

Following the organization’s strict COVID-19 protocols, the group saw firsthand the impact K9s For Warriors’ Service Dogs have on American veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and other invisible wounds of war. Following a campus tour highlighting training, administrative, and kennel areas, the group was treated to a service dog command demonstration and a few puppy kisses.

“Lara has been instrumental in helping K9s For Warriors remain relevant in the White House,” K9s For Warriors CEO Rory Diamond said. “It was an honor and a pleasure to provide a behind-the-scenes look at how our highly-trained Service



Photo provided by K9s For Warriors

Lara Trump visits with a service dog at the K9s For Warriors campus.

Dogs and wraparound services are supporting our mission to end veteran suicide.”

K9s For Warriors is the nation’s largest veteran service organization providing highly skilled service dogs to disabled American heroes. Since 2011, K9s For Warriors has rescued more than 1,200 dogs and paired 638 Warrior-K9 teams. The Ponte Vedra-based nonprofit’s mission is to empower warriors to return to life with dignity and independence and to put an end to veteran suicide.

For more information, go to www.k9sforwarriors.org.

NONPROFIT BRIEFS

JANF to host virtual fundraising event Oct. 22

Junior Achievement of North Florida is hosting a virtual event in October titled Building Better Tomorrows. The event will be an online fundraiser streamed live on JA of North Florida’s YouTube channel from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 22. Sponsorship levels are available which will help to directly support JA programs and provide teacher relief kits, including PPE and school supplies.

“We were not able to host our major fundraising events this year so we decided to go virtual for a night of fun and fundraising,” said Tiffany Mackey Guthrie, director of development for JA of North Florida. “Our emcee will keep the night entertaining and lively as we showcase some of our volunteers, teachers, programs and more. We encourage those who can to sponsor the event and encourage viewers to join us on Oct. 22.”

Local personality Al Emerick will serve as emcee for the event. He will be providing viewers with a look at JA programs through multiple videos throughout the night as well as some other fun elements. Viewers will also have a chance to bid on some auction items. Registration for Building Better Tomorrows can be done at janfl.org, just click on JA events. There is no cost to register but donations can be made before and during the event through the website or by texting JANFL to 50155.

Sponsorships are currently available at numerous levels including the \$7,500 Impact level which will help to support four classrooms with JA materials, volunteers and teacher relief kits. Contact Tiffany Mackey Guthrie at tiffany@janfl.org or call (904) 398-9944, ext.230 to become part of the event.

Flagler and St. Johns County residents to walk to end Alzheimer’s

On Oct. 3, Flagler and St. Johns County residents will join the fight to end Alzheimer’s disease at the Alzheimer’s Association Walk to End Alzheimer’s. Funds raised will support the care, support and research programs of the Alzheimer’s Association.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year’s walk will take place on sidewalks, tracks and trails across Flagler and St. Johns counties as participants walk as individuals, families or small teams.

On walk day, an opening ceremony broadcast will feature local speakers and a presentation of Promise Flowers to honor the personal reasons participants join together to fight Alzheimer’s and all other dementia. A Promise Garden to honor all those impacted by Alzheimer’s will be created in a “view only” format on Walk day.

The opening ceremony begins at 9 a.m. and the walk starts at 9:15 a.m.

For more information, contact Amanda Harris, walk director, at (407) 730-1115 or amlharris@alz.org.

Timucuan Parks Foundation hosts Special Olympics youth for day of fun



Photo provided by Kelly White

Local athletes with Special Olympics Florida joined Timucuan Parks Foundation for a day of outdoor fun in the Timucuan Preserve.

Local athletes with Special Olympics Florida joined Timucuan Parks Foundation for a day of outdoor fun in the Timucuan Preserve. Eleven teens from North Florida School of Special Education participated in kayaking, swimming, and seining. The event marked the partial resumption of outdoor programming for TPF who modified the day's events to follow the COVID-19 spatial distancing guidelines.

"We were excited this summer to be able to bring this group of young people and their coaches and mentors out to the Timucuan Preserve for an enjoyable day of physical activity and learning outdoors," said Felicia Boyd, TPF outreach and program director. "We had a number of TPF volunteers, a biologist with the city of Jacksonville, and our partners from Kayak Amelia who all helped to create a fun and safe day for the kids."

Guides from Kayak Amelia led the group from the Alimacani boat ramp across the Ft. George River. The group stopped at a sandy beach in the Timucuan Preserve where they enjoyed some time swimming and seine netting for small fish and jellyfish. They also enjoyed the much-loved chocolate chip

cookies that Kayak Amelia provides for its guests.

TPF's programs are designed to provide education, recreation, and stewardship opportunities to diverse populations of youth who might not otherwise have access to Jacksonville's national, state, and city preservation park sites. A National Park Service Challenge grant, funding from the National Environmental Education Foundation and REI, plus generous donations from the community allow TPF to host these types of programs. The programs allow youth to engage in healthy outdoor recreation and service-learning projects including kayaking, hiking, watershed cleanups, and park beautification and resiliency projects.

"Our students who participate in Special Olympics activities thrive in large part because of the friendships and team camaraderie they find practicing and training as a group," said Sally Hazelip, Head of School at North Florida School of Special Education. "This adventure at the Timucuan Preserve enabled our students to experience that same fun and team-building experience in a time that many of their traditional sports practices can't take place."

BALLOON GLOW GALA

Light Up the Night

Help us Light Up the Night and support homeless men, women, families and youth in our community.

Nov. 14, 2020 + 6:30 – 10:30pm + \$125 per ticket*
Tringali Barn + 7310 US Highway 1 S. + St. Augustine

Enjoy Live Music, Great Food, Teathered Balloon Rides**, Axe Throwing, Casino, Silent Auction, Cigar Bar and More. + Indoor/Outdoor Activities + Open Venue

We expect this event to sell out quickly so purchase your tickets online today at www.stfrancisshelter.org.
 For more information contact Joyce Duffy at 904-824-8987 x2 or by email at joyce.duffy@stfrancisshelter.org.

Sponsorships available.



Proceeds to benefit
St. Francis House and
Port in the Storm.

BEAM prepares at-risk seniors with free hurricane kits

The Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry (BEAM) volunteers and staff have remained on the front lines of the pandemic serving families and workers in Jacksonville's Beaches area communities who have been hard-hit by the economic impact of COVID-19.

A new threat may be on the horizon for their team; hurricane season is here, and so far it has been an extremely active storm season for Florida. Meteorologists across the east coast are reporting record activity in the Atlantic, with five hurricanes and one major hurricane to make landfall so far in the 2020 storm season.

BEAM has remained proactive for the most at-risk clients by gathering essential supplies and distributing 70 hurricane kits, free of charge, to elderly beaches residents who have been identified by BEAM, Beaches Council on Aging and Beaches Community Kitchen. The recipients are low-income elderly individuals who live alone, have health challenges and little to no family nearby. These seniors have also been the beneficiaries of regular weekly check-in calls and home grocery deliveries by dedicated volunteers as vulnerable populations shelter-in-place during the COVID-19 pandemic.

CHARITY TAP TAKEOVER

TOM COUGHLIN

JAY FUND

TACKLING CHILDHOOD CANCER

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\$1 from every draft beer sold goes to the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund

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mulliganspubpontevedra.com



BEAM

Continued from 18

“Our senior residents are very at-risk during a storm, as they have mobility challenges and could become stranded without emergency supplies and food. Since September is Hurricane Preparedness Month, we are taking proactive measures now to make sure that doesn’t happen,” said Lori Richards, executive director of BEAM. “While we certainly hope we have an uneventful storm season, we’ve learned a lot from Hurricane Matthew and Irma. Preparation is key.”

For the past few weeks, BEAM volunteers and staff have been collecting essential items for the hurricane kits, which includes: a first-aid kit, lantern, radio, batteries, hand sanitizer, non-electric can opener, masks, alcohol sanitizing wipes, three 1-gallon jugs of water and non-perishable food to last five days.

This is not the first “emergency kit” BEAM has distributed to senior clients this year. In early May, two-week quarantine kits were delivered to seniors who were mandated to shelter-in-place after the Jacksonville mayor’s executive order.

“Thank you for all you have done for us, and the community, your generosity and compassion has been truly wonderful,” said Pauline, Senior Services Program client. “I just wanted to let you and the BEAM volunteers and staff know how much you are appreciated. You were



Photo provided by BEAM

BEAM Warehouse worker Zee unloads essential grocery items for senior hurricane kits.

there for me when I had no one else to call. I look forward to meeting the team to say thank you for your hard work and for being there for me when I was completely alone.”

BEAM helps provide emergency assistance and a path to economic stability to low income families and individuals in the Jacksonville Beaches area. For more information, go to www.jaxbeam.org.



**MALIVAI WASHINGTON
YOUTH FOUNDATION**
SERVING HOPE | CHANGING LIVES

A Night of Hope

Thursday, October 8 | 7 - 8pm | Virtual Event
Free Registration at bidpal.net/mwyf

This inspirational event will include messages from students, special guests, a silent & live auction & more. Funds raised will allow the Foundation to be source of hope for at-risk children for years to come!



**Featuring Special Guest:
Lindsay Davenport**
Former world #1 tennis player, hall of fame inductee and Olympic gold medalist, Lindsay, will join us as our special guest and for a Q&A!





Learn more at: malwashington.com/gala

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Mission House

Our Mission:

To empower individuals affected by homelessness in the Beaches area by providing food, clothing, medical care, and support services with an avenue to self-sufficiency.

22,280

HOT MEALS

served in
2019

We address basic needs through our meal, shower, case management, and medical programs.

1781

New Patient visits to our Free Clinic in 2019

Mission House Clinic provides free high quality primary and speciality care to uninsured and underserved residents of Duval County through our compassionate and dedicated volunteer medical team and the WeCare network.

97¢

of every dollar goes directly to client & patient services

Mission House is the only day facility to help meet the needs of the homeless adults at the Beaches through compassion, faith, and programs designed to provide assistance at an individual level.

WE OUR VOLUNTEERS!

If you would like to volunteer with us either in Kulik's Closet, sorting donations or in the clinic, please go to www.missionhousejax.org/volunteers to fill out our Volunteer Application and schedule an Orientation Tour!

www.missionhousejax.org/donate-now (904) 241-6767






Feeding Northeast Florida receives \$125,000 donation from Publix Super Markets Charities

Feeding Northeast Florida, the region's largest nonprofit food bank, has received a \$125,000 donation from Publix Super Markets Charities to support its ongoing work to meet the increased need for food assistance in the region due to the effects of the pandemic.

Feeding Northeast Florida serves the more than 257,000 people facing food insecurity in an eight-county operating area; and with the rising numbers of newly unemployed neighbors, the nonprofit has seen a greatly increased demand for food.

Feeding Northeast Florida and its network of partner food pantries and programs have seen two-to-three times as many households seeking food assistance

in Northeast Florida since the coronavirus pandemic began, and Publix Charities' donation will help increase capacity and meet this elevated need.

"We are so grateful for Publix Charities' support of Feeding Northeast Florida," says Susan King, president and CEO of the nonprofit. "Publix has been a valued partner of the food bank since our founding six years ago. Right now, the need for food assistance is great, and with Publix's help, we will be able to serve even more people struggling in Northeast Florida."

Additionally, as the impact of the pandemic took shape, many produce and dairy farmers around the Southeast saw their buying partners dry up and found them-

selves dumping or plowing over product they could no longer sell. Meanwhile, food banks throughout the region were experiencing substantial increases in need.

To bridge the gap, Publix implemented a program to purchase surplus produce and milk from farmers and deliver it directly to food banks. Since then, Publix has purchased and delivered more than 11 million pounds of produce and 500,000 gallons of milk to Feeding America member food banks throughout the Southeast, including more than 710,000 pounds of produce and more than 16,500 gallons of milk to Feeding Northeast Florida. This farm-fresh produce and milk is in addition to the millions of pounds of food already donated by

Publix to Feeding Northeast Florida.

"It has been our privilege to support hunger relief throughout the Southeast for many years now, and this work has never been more important," said Publix CEO Todd Jones. "We are grateful for the opportunity to support Feeding Northeast Florida and to alleviate hunger in the communities we serve and bring hope to those who need it most during these uncertain times."

The \$125,000 donation is one of several made this year to help provide food and other essential support to those hardest hit by the pandemic. In all, Publix Charities has donated \$5 million to Feeding America member food banks and other nonprofit partners in 2020.

Publix Charities to sponsor for Junior Achievement fundraiser

The online fundraising event will be held Oct. 22

Publix Charities has signed on as the exclusive event sponsor of Junior Achievement of North Florida's Building

Better Tomorrows Virtual Event.

The online fundraiser will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Oct. 22.

Registration will be conducted in the first half-hour, and from 6 to 7 p.m. viewers will be treated to a night of fun emceed by local personality Al Emerick.

It will be streamed live on JA of North Florida's YouTube Channel.

"Publix Charities is such a great community partner, and we are very grateful to the company for supporting this virtual fundraiser," said Steve St. Amand, president and CEO of JA of North Florida. "Their event sponsorship will help to provide six classrooms with JA materials, volunteers and teacher relief kits, which include PPE and school supplies. It will also help get us closer to our \$70,000 fundraising goal."

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the organization's other fundraising events have been canceled. The virtual night will help to make up for a portion of the financing shortfall while providing awareness about JA of North Florida and the programs that provide financial literacy, work readiness and entrepre-

neurship to students from kindergarten to grade 12.

"Publix Charities is proud to support Junior Achievement of North Florida as they teach students about the importance of financial literacy and entrepreneurship," said Kelly Williams-Puccio, executive director of Publix Super Markets Charities.

Viewers can register for Building Better Tomorrows at janfl.org, click on JA events. There is no cost to register but donations can be made before and during the event through the website or by texting JANFL to 50155. Viewers will also have a chance to bid on items in the auction.

Sponsorships are available at several levels. Contact Tiffany Mackey Guthrie at tiffany@janfl.org or call (904) 398-9944 ext.230 to become part of the event.

GIVE THE GIFT OF A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Donate to Daniel Kids

Please consider giving the most powerful present possible - a donation that will help local kids in crisis move beyond their troubled yesterdays into more promising tomorrows.

Your gift can help:

- supply counseling for an abused or emotionally troubled child
- connect a neglected child with a caring foster or adoptive family
- provide a homeless teen with shelter and independent living skills

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Thank you for your love and support throughout the years. Come let us help you?

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- Licensed Daycare on premises for students' babies
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ST. GERARD CAMPUS

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JDRF to hold its 20th annual Miracles Gala, 'Re-imagined & Closer to Home,' on Oct. 17

By Kassidy Lankford

For the past 20 years, the North Florida chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation has held its Miracles Gala, an annual charitable soiree dedicated to gathering the community together in support of type 1 diabetes. Although COVID-19 changed its plans — the gala was originally set to be held at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club — JDRF is still excited to host its gala virtually.

“Although our plans have changed, we are excited to say that for the first time ever, the Miracles Gala will be held virtually and anyone is able to tune in,” said Brooks Biagini, market director for JDRF’s North Florida chapter.

Previously, the gala was a ticketed event that could only be attended by a limited number of guests. This year, guests will need to simply register for the gala and tune in to the event on Facebook or YouTube and enjoy the festivities.

“We will be broadcasting a program from 8-9 p.m. on Oct. 17, which will be followed by a silent auction,” Biagini said.

The re-imagined Miracles Gala, co-chaired by Kasey Repass and Heather King, will include spotlights of stories of individuals impacted by type 1 diabetes, a special message from the lead singer of Mercy Me, a silent auction carried out

through mobile bidding, an abbreviated live auction and more.

Special guest Bill Hughes, former general manager of TPC Sawgrass, will serve as auctioneer for the event. Guests can tune in to the event from their homes to enjoy the program whether it’s dressed to the nines or in their pajamas, and are encouraged to gather with their friends and family (socially distanced and at their comfort level) to enjoy all that the Miracles Gala has to offer.

JDRF was founded in 1970 and is now the world’s leading organization for type 1 diabetes research. The organization has numerous chapters across the nation that work together to support the research of type 1 diabetes. The North Florida chapter has served the community for decades and continues to fight with JDRF against type 1 diabetes.

“At a time when our world is challenged and changing, JDRF remains deeply committed to serving the type 1 diabetes community,” Biagini said. “Even with the challenges that we are facing, it is more important now than ever for everyone to come together to support the research for type 1 diabetes.”

For more event details, donation links and registration information, go to www.jdrfmiraclesgala2020.com.

Former TPC Sawgrass GM Bill Hughes (from left), JDRF North Florida market director Brooks Biagini and Jaguars president Mark Lamping pose during a previous JDRF gala. This year’s 20th annual JDRF Miracles Gala will be held virtually.



Kasey Repass (left) of Jacksonville Beach and Heather King of Atlantic Beach will serve as co-chairs for the gala.



Hughes will serve as auctioneer at this year’s annual gala.

JOIN JDRF NORTHERN FLORIDA FOR THE **20TH** ANNIVERSARY MIRACLES GALA
Saturday, October 17th

Re-imagined & Closer to Home

HOSTED BY



Nikki Kimbleton



Melanie Lawson

Your Experience Re-Imagined includes in-home cocktail parties and dinners hosted by JDRF supporters with your friends and family.

- Silent & Live Auctions
- Chance to Win Drawing for an all-inclusive trip to Belize
- JDRF Virtual Gala program that will broadcast on YouTube from 8 to 9 p.m.
- Special performance by Country Star, Eric Paslay
- Special message from Bart Millard of MercyMe and his son with T1D
- Spotlight on local families impacted by type 1 diabetes
- And, so much more!

Learn more and Register at JDRFMiraclesGala2020.com

Thank you to the following generous corporate sponsors for helping advance JDRF’s mission of improving lives and curing type 1 diabetes!



Columbia Restaurant sales benefit Betty Griffin Center in September

People can let their appetites do their giving while supporting the Betty Griffin Center by dining at any of the seven Columbia Restaurant locations in Florida during the entire month of September for lunch or dinner during the 23rd annual Columbia Restaurant Community Harvest program.

“We’re very pleased that Columbia Restaurant has once again selected Betty Griffin Center as a beneficiary of this fun, annual event that translates into support for us and many other nonprofit organizations throughout the state,” said Betty Griffin Center CEO Joyce Mahr. “With the loss of many of our event-driven fundraising events so far this year, we’re grateful for additional donations the center receives through promotions like these.”

Through the Community Harvest, the Columbia Restaurant donates 5 percent of all guests’ September lunch and dinner checks to the charitable organizations chosen by their customers.

The Community Harvest takes place in all of the Columbia Restaurant locations, including the St. Augustine restaurant at 98 St. George St., and restaurants in Ybor City in the historic district of Tampa, St. Armands Circle

in Sarasota, Sand Key on Clearwater Beach, Central Florida’s Town of Celebration, the Columbia Cafe on the Riverwalk in Downtown Tampa at the Tampa Bay History Center and the Columbia Restaurant Cafe at Tampa International Airport. All locations are open seven days a week for lunch and dinner. For more information, go to ColumbiaRestaurant.com.

“We started this program as a way to help many of the worthy nonprofit groups that are so important to our communities,” said President Richard Gonzmart. “With the devastating effect of the coronavirus on the economy and overall decline in charitable donations, it’s even more important this year.”

Gonzmart said the process is simple: Choose a charity from a ballot that’s provided with the check. The restaurant calculates the 5 percent and provides the charity with gift certificates that can be used for up to 12 months. There’s no additional cost to the guest.

The Betty Griffin Center was founded in 1990 by concerned citizens and incorporated as the safety shelter of St. Johns County to develop plans to provide shelter for local victims of domestic violence and their children.

MULLIGANS RAISES MONEY FOR JAY FUND WITH CELEBRITY HELP



Mulligans welcomed celebrity bartenders Sept. 14 and Sept. 21 to benefit The Jay Fund with \$1 from every draft beer going to The Jay Fund to help families tackle childhood cancer. On Monday, Sept. 28, Mulligans will feature Mike Hollis, former Jaguars kicker, and Steve Nix as celebrity bartenders. The mission of The Tom Coughlin Jay Fund is to help families tackle childhood cancer by providing comprehensive financial, emotional, and practical support. September is childhood cancer awareness month.

Photos provided by Anna Washington



Betty Griffin Center

Healing for now. Hope for tomorrow.

The mission of Betty Griffin Center is to work to end domestic violence and sexual abuse in St. Johns County. Our focus is to offer protection and quality services to victims and their children through our programs and resources.

Programs & Services

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Rape Care Unit | Thrift Stores |
| Safe, Secure Shelter | Transitional Housing |
| 24 Hour Crisis Helpline | Confidential Counseling |
| Sexual Assault Recovery Services | Support Groups/Peace Club |
| Court Advocacy/Legal Assistance | Community/Professional Education |

All Betty Griffin Center Services are free and available for women, men and children.

Please help us make the holidays a true blessing for the families in our care. Your gift today will bring them joy and hope.

Donate Today at www.bettygriffincenter.org

If you or someone you know has been abused, please call

24 Hour Helpline: (904)824-1555



REPLENISH THE PANTRIES

Drive Thru/Drop Off Food Drive

Saturday, October 3, 9:00 a.m. – noon

Ponte Veda United Methodist Church Parking Lot
76 South Roscoe, Ponte Veda Beach

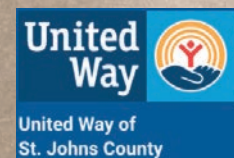
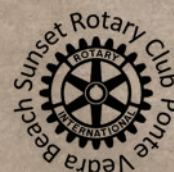
• Non-Perishable Food Items • No Glass • No Expired Dates

ALL DONATIONS BENEFIT LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

“Together we can make a difference.”

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ponte Veda Beach Sunset, United Way of St. Johns County and Ponte Veda United Methodist Church

For more information, contact Paula Roderick at admin@PonteVedaBeachSunsetRotary.org or (904) 280-8933



ROTARY CLUB OF PONTE VEDRA MEETING FEATURES GUEST SPEAKERS



Photo provided by Karen Everett

Lauren Schultz and Kemal Gasper, of VyStar Credit Union, speak to members of the Ponte Vedra Rotary Club about Financial Wellness and the ALICE report produced by the United Way during a Sept. 15 meeting on the outdoor patio of Treylor Park Restaurant in Nocatee. The Ponte Vedra Rotary Club meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, and ZOOM meetings are included. For more information on the Ponte Vedra Rotary Club, go to www.facebook.com/rotaryclubofpontevedra.



Are you 62 or older in need of transportation and live between Mayport and north of Sawgrass Village?

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Helping provide food to people in need.



TEACHING

Children are taught about nutrition, meal planning, and how to safely prepare food through the organization by having senior citizen mentors.



World's largest pet walk to take place Sept. 26

By Cassidy Lankford

Pet Partners, a nonprofit organization based out of Washington, is holding the world's largest Pet Walk on Saturday, Sept. 26, a special time dedicated to getting out and about with your furry friends.

"Since September was declared national health month, Pet Partners decided to hold the Pet Walk event to encourage people to get out and exercise with their pets," said Tammy Bobo, co-chair of Pet Partners of North Florida.

Bobo said last year's North Florida event was held at the Orange Park mall, but this year it will take place anywhere and everywhere to maintain proper social distancing.

"On Sept. 26, we are encouraging people to get out for a walk with their pets," Bobo said, adding that the Pet Walk event is a great way for individuals to reconnect, get outside and spend time with their pets.

In addition to the Pet Walk, Pet Partners offers an abundance of opportunities with therapy pets and assisted animal activities. Pet Partners helps to train handlers and their pets so that they can give back to the community by visiting hospitals, schools and businesses to provide special pet visits to individuals in need.

With the Pet Walk event, Pet Partners is



Pet Partners is holding the world's largest pet walk Sept. 26 and encouraging people to get out and walk with their pets, no matter what kind.

encouraging donations through its website to help expand its organization and train handlers, who, like Pet Partners employees, are volunteers.

"No one gets paid for this," Bobo said.

"We truly do this because we love it,"

Bobo said the joy of helping others through pet therapy is extremely rewarding for those involved with Pet Partners.

Pet Partners of North Florida works



Tammy Bobo, with Mia, is the co-chair of Pet Partners of North Florida.

with a variety of pets — nine species to be exact — including dogs, cats, rabbits, horses and more. The nonprofit has visited a number of local places like Mayo Clinic and Nemours to bring smiles to people's faces during hard times.

For more information regarding the Pet Walk event or about Pet Partners in general, go to www.petpartnersnf.org.

Photos provided by Tammy Bobo

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New nonprofit to help guide kids to successful futures

By Shaun Ryan

Today, Marty McEachean is a successful entrepreneur. His business, McEachean Enterprises, is active in diverse areas: nutrition, online gaming, conducting events and boat rentals. But the man behind it all might never have found his place in the world had it not been for someone who reached him as a teen.

And now, McEachean wants to do the same for kids of St. Johns County who are facing challenges of their own.

McEachean grew up in the housing projects of High Point, North Carolina, the “Furniture Capital of the World.” Success in the community was defined as learning a skill and working for one of the furniture factories.

Fortunately, a representative of the local Boys and Girls Club came by each summer day with a big bus and shuttled the kids to the club across town. When McEachean was 13 he got to be a junior counselor and was eligible for a trip to the club’s national convention in Atlanta, Georgia.

“The highlight of the trip for me was we got to stay in a hotel,” McEachean recalled. “We got to have food in the hotel, and there was a swimming pool.”

The convention itself didn’t hold much interest for him. The mayor was going to address the group, but the High Point teen didn’t know who that was. Sitting in the audience as the mayor was being introduced, he could only think: Yeah, great, can we get back to the fun — the hotel and the food?

“But when Andrew Young, the Black mayor of Atlanta, walked across that stage, my life changed,” he said. Here was a successful man the African-American teen could identify with. “I get chills just telling that story.”

Afterward, he asked the Boys and Girls Club driver



Marty McEachean

how he, too, could one day become a mayor. The man described a pathway to success: take certain classes in school, stay out of trouble, go to college.

So McEachean played football, got a scholarship and broke out of the world of High Point.

“Education is the only way out,” he said.

McEachean, himself a go-getter, is an inspiration to young people he meets. Serving eight years in the U.S. Marine Corps, he graduated number one from Parris Island Boot Camp ahead of 2,500 future Marines.

Having found success for himself, he has launched a nonprofit to help today’s youth. That nonprofit, St. Johns County 904, is looking to partner with other organizations to accomplish its mission. Whatever is holding kids back — whether it be poverty, drugs, health issues or something else — McEachean hopes to use fun activities to get them the education they need to overcome their challenges.

The nonprofit would work closely with McEachean’s for-profit ventures.

“McEachean Enterprises understands and recognizes we have a social responsibility to our community at this difficult time, and we are acting on it,” said McEachean.

As a partner in Jax Boat Rentals, he hopes to offer boat outings that would include an expert to talk about waterways and environmental science. And sports being one avenue to gain a college education, St. Johns County 904 is planning flag football tournaments, which can help both boys and girls get recruited. The tournaments can also be paired with campus visits to introduce the players to the value of a higher education.

“The return on the investment is to get these kids to college,” McEachean said.

Next up, McEachean is looking to start a “Young Lives Matter” movement, which he said will focus of giving youths hope and direction by listening to them and establishing positive adult and peer-to-peer mentoring to help them through issues they face.

“We want to make sure our young folks know and understand if we want to make real change — besides improving policy — real change starts with them, our future,” he said.

McEachean can be reached at martymceachean@yahoo.com.

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Kate Amato Foundation awards \$75K in grants for pediatric cancer research

The Kate Amato Foundation is continuing to honor Childhood Cancer Awareness Month this September with two major announcements.

The foundation is awarding \$75,000 to fund two groundbreaking pediatric cancer research projects. In addition, it has launched Kate's Kindness Project, which provides immediate direct support to local children hospitalized with cancer.

Kate Amato, a Jacksonville Beach child who died in 2016 after a long battle with cancer, is the inspiration for the foundation. Kate's bright smile, strength and grace captured the hearts of thousands of residents in the community and around the world.

Through her illness, Kate's parents discovered how severely underfunded research is for pediatric cancer and witnessed first-hand the brutal effects of outdated, toxic treatments. To honor Kate's life and continue the fight for other children, the Kate Amato Foundation was formed to find safer, smarter and more effective treatments for children with cancer.

Each year, the foundation grants funding to cutting-edge pediatric cancer research projects at some of the leading Immunotherapy and Cancer Genomics research labs in the country including: Duke University, Baylor College of Medicine, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute/Harvard Medical School.

"Kate Amato Foundation is dedicated to supporting research to advance the next generation of pediatric cancer



Photo provided by the Kate Amato Foundation

Wolfson Child Life specialists, left, receive Kate's Kindness Project baskets from Lisa Amato (Kate Amato Foundation) and Tina Toomey (Once Upon a Room).

treatments that are more effective and less toxic than current approaches," said Dr. Duane Mitchell, director of the University of Florida Brain Tumor Immunotherapy Program, who serves on the foundation's scientific advisory board.

These grants are predominantly funded by the signature events held each year: the KATE KUP Triples Tennis Tournament and the KATE KLASSIC Golf Tournament. Both were sidelined this year due to the pandemic.

Although COVID-19 has dramatically impacted fundraising efforts this year, Kate Amato Foundation has announced an award of \$75,000 to fund two projects. The

2020 Kate Amato Foundation Grant recipients are:

- Ken Morita, MD, PhD at Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital whose project will investigate a novel, targeted drug compound that is nontoxic, highly potent and could potentially treat a variety of childhood cancers, including T-cell leukemia, acute myeloid leukemia, neuroblastoma and solid tumors.

- Matthew Harlow, PhD at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital whose project will investigate the cellular processes of metastasis to the lungs in order to develop novel drug compounds. This research is critical for the development of safer, targeted immunotherapies for children with metastatic osteosarcoma.

In addition to funding these research projects, the foundation is partnering with Once Upon a Room-Jacksonville to launch Kate's Kindness Project. This initiative will provide direct support to local children and families fighting cancer during COVID-19.

"The support we have received is overwhelming, humbling and inspiring," said Kate's parents, Lisa and Jeff Amato. "The outpouring of love and support for Kate throughout her illness was breathtaking and the ongoing support to build her legacy by funding research to help future children is extraordinary. It shows just how kind and caring our community is."

To donate or learn more, go to KateAmatoFoundation.org.

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LOCAL Real Estate SHOWCASE

PAGES 27-33

RIGHT: Cultural Center volunteer Brad Segal and Program Coordinator Stephanie Riner help check in guests with a wellness screening prior to the Cultural Center's 10th annual Home Tour on Sept. 12.

BELOW: The Home Tour featured three homes in Ponte Vedra Beach designed by architect Mark Macco.

Photos by Cassidy Lankford



Cultural Center hosts 10th annual Home Tour event

By Cassidy Lankford

On Sept. 12, the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach hosted its 10th annual Home Tour event. Guests took a tour of three immaculate Ponte Vedra homes designed by architect Mark Macco.

Through the effort and kindness of the homeowners, the Cultural Center and a team of dedicated volunteers, the Ponte Vedra community was able to experience the beauty of the luxury homes.



Drees Homes joins Trailmark community

Drees Homes has joined the award-winning home builders at TrailMark in northern St. Johns County.

Construction of Drees' new model home, the Palmetto, is expected to start later this month.

"As our community continues to grow, our home offerings do as well," said GreenPointe Communities North Florida Regional President Mike Taylor. "We are pleased to welcome this highly regarded home builder to TrailMark. Our premier

community builder team offers a wide variety of home designs to meet the needs and lifestyles of today's homebuyers."

At TrailMark, Drees Homes is offering nine floor plans ranging from approximately 2,500 square feet to more

than 3,700 square feet of living space and priced from the low \$400,000s. The company's homes include distinctive architecture, gourmet kitchens, deluxe accommo-

Home builders for new community named

GreenPointe Developers has announced Dream Finders Homes, Lennar and Richmond American Homes as the builder team at Tributary, a new hometown master-planned, mixed-use community located in one of the area's fastest-growing corridors in Nassau County.

"We are pleased to welcome North-east Florida's leading homebuilders to Tributary," said GreenPointe's North Florida Regional President Mike Taylor. "Our premier community builders offer a distinctive collection of award-winning home designs ranging in size and style to meet the needs and lifestyle of today's homebuyer."

The Tributary builders are offering a variety of one- and two-story homes ranging in size from approximately 1,600 square feet to more than 3,200 square feet and priced from the \$200s. Many of the neighborhood's home sites will feature preserve or lake views.

Model home construction is scheduled to begin next month.

A privately owned and locally operated company, Dream Finders Homes offers single-family homes with personal customization, allowing buyers to choose the features, upgrades and designer-level products.

At Tributary, Dream Finders homes is



offering 15 home plans.

Lennar, one of the nation's leading homebuilders, has reimagined the home buying experience by including the most desired connectivity, efficiency and luxury features in a new home.

Lennar's WiFi-certified homes incorporate the latest in technology, and they also come with Lennar's industry exclusive

Everything's Included program, where the homebuilder's most popular options and upgrades are built into the base price of the home.

Lennar is offering 10 new single-family floor plans at Tributary.

Richmond American Homes is a prominent national homebuilder with operations in 10 states. Founded in 1977, the builder

has more than 200,000 single-family homes to its credit.

At Tributary, the company is offering six floor plans with personalization options, including flooring, cabinetry and home technology along with complimentary designer assistance at its Home Gallery showroom.

Tributary combines a rustic natural setting with innovative modern design to create a unique personality. Preserve and conservation areas can be found throughout the community to enhance wildlife habitats and sustainable water quality practices.

Tributary is surrounded by state-protected natural areas including Three Rivers State Park and Four Creeks State Forest. The community is within the Nassau County Public School District and zoned for A-rated schools.

Tributary is 1.6 miles west of Interstate 95. The community is two exits north of the Jacksonville International Airport and River City Marketplace, a major regional shopping, dining and entertainment destination.

Community construction is under way and home sales have commenced. For further information about Tributary and the community's builder team, go to TributaryLiving.com or call (904) 299-6124.

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Continued from 27

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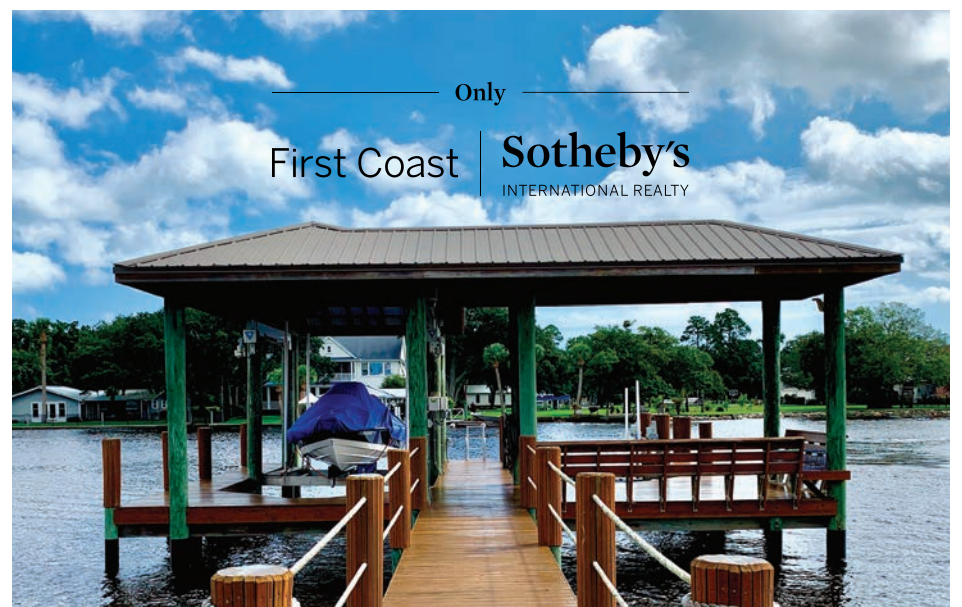
Family-owned and -operated since 1928, Drees is one of the country's most respected homebuilders and is currently ranked nationally as the 13th largest private homebuilder and the 29th largest overall. Drees has operated in Jacksonville for more than 15 years.

"We are thrilled to bring our award-winning portfolio of home designs to TrailMark, and I believe homebuyers will

appreciate the thousands of personalization choices we offer to create a home that's stylish and offers modern livability," said Drees Homes Jacksonville Division President Mark Paulsen.

TrailMark's builder team, which also includes Dream Finders Homes, Lennar, MasterCraft Builder Group and Richmond American Homes, offers single-family, one- and two-story traditional-neighborhood style homes in a conservation area setting. Homes are priced from the \$200,000s to the \$500,000s.

For more information, go to TrailMarkLiving.com.



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Toll Brothers joins Beacon Lake community

Toll Brothers has been named the third home builder at Beacon Lake in northern St. Johns County.

The award-winning luxury home builder is constructing a new two-story, designer-decorated model home, the 3,153-square-foot Roseberry Elite, which will open at the lakefront community this fall.

“As our community continues to grow, our home offerings do as well,” said Bruce J. Parker, managing director for BBX Capital Real Estate, Beacon Lake’s master developer. “We are pleased to welcome this highly regarded home builder to Beacon Lake. Toll Brothers is known for its outstanding quality, craftsmanship and customer service.”

At Beacon Lake, Toll Brothers will offer spacious single-family homes showcasing craftsman, farmhouse, island-inspired and Tuscan home designs to complement the community’s coastal-inspired architectural style and lakefront setting.

The Landing at Beacon Lake, a gated neighborhood with views of Beacon Lake and the Lake House Amenity and Fitness Center, will include five home designs on 73-foot home sites with scenic lake or preserve views.

Priced from the mid-\$400,000s, floor-plans will range in size from 2,600 square feet to 3,680 square feet. Homebuyers

may select from hundreds of designer options to personalize their home at the Toll Brothers Northeast Regional Design Studio.

“We are thrilled to be a part of Beacon Lake, which offers a welcoming neighborhood setting, lakefront amenities and a true sense of community,” said Steven Merten, Toll Brothers Northeast Florida division president.

For further information, go to TheLandingatBeaconLake.com.

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

Beacon Lake is within the St. Johns County Public School District and zoned for A-rated schools, including Ocean Palms Elementary School, Alice B. Landrum Middle School and Allen D. Nease High School for the 2020-21 school year.

Located on the south side of County Road 210 between U.S. 1 and Interstate 95, Beacon Lake offers residents a central location near shopping, dining, employment centers and area beaches.

Go to BeaconLake.com for more information.



ABOVE: Toll Brothers is known for its outstanding quality, craftsmanship and hundreds of designer options for homebuyers to personalize their home.

LEFT: The popular lakefront lifestyle community of Beacon Lake offers a welcoming neighborhood setting and today’s most desirable amenities.

Photos provided by Beacon Lake

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Photo provided by Beacon Lake

There is so much to love at Beacon Lake, a lakefront community in northern St. Johns County.

Beacon Lake: An intimate community with big community amenities

Those who reside at Beacon Lake say it's a special place to call home.

Beacon Lake is a master-planned community in St. Johns County. It boasts award-winning builders offering single-family homes and townhomes with prices starting in the low-\$200,000s. The community is open for sales, and more than half of its homesites have sold since the developer broke ground in 2016.

Beacon Lake is small enough for neighbors to get to know one another, yet large enough to be able to offer the amenities and lifestyle that families desire. The community attracts residents of all ages with homes for every lifestyle.

The heart of the Beacon Lake community is the 8,200-square-foot Lake House Amenity and Fitness Center. Anchored by a 43-acre paddle-friendly lake and nestled within 358 acres of nature preserve, Lake House is situated to maximize half-mile lake views.

Lake House features a junior Olympic swimming pool, fun pool and splash park, plus a crew house for kayak rentals and a demonstration kitchen.

Beacon Lake's state-of-the-art fitness center offers virtual fitness classes, cardio-

and strength-training equipment, free weights, spin bikes and a fitness studio.

The community features a lakeside sand beach, pirate-themed playground and sports fields for outdoor activities as well as miles of multipurpose paths for walking, running or biking.

A bark park offers furry residents and their owners a place to exercise, socialize and play.

Beacon Lake is within the St. Johns County Public School District and zoned for A-rated schools, including Ocean Palms Elementary School, Alice B. Landrum Middle School and Allen D. Nease High School for the 2020-21 school year. The district has announced plans to open a new high school in the 2022-23 school year.

Beacon Lake offers residents a central location near shopping, dining, employment centers and area beaches. A new Publix, opening soon, will be located just outside the community.

Beacon Lake is located on the south side of County Road 210 between U.S. 1 and Interstate 95.

Go to BeaconLake.com for more information.



The Lake House Amenity and Fitness Center is the heart of Beacon Lake.

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No federal, state or local government agency has judged the merits or value, if any, of any property within Beacon Lake. Dream Finders Homes: CBC1257579, Mattamy Jacksonville LLC: CBC1261993 and CBC1260748, Toll Brothers: CGC1510225

BBX Capital
REAL ESTATE

Business Weekly

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In the Arts: Local author shares celebrity caricatures in new book

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www.PonteVedraRecorder.com



Photo provided by the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club

Guests can stroll out for a look at the ocean when staying at The Ocean House or The Peyton House.

Ponte Vedra Inn & Club adds 41 rooms and suites, renovates golf course

By Shaun Ryan

When people see the newest accommodations at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, they sometimes say, “Oh, I want to live here.”

The 41 new rooms and suites are located in The Ocean House and The Peyton House, which were built to replace the original Peyton House, bringing the total

number of rooms to 262. They opened to guests at the end of August.

“They are the best of the best of the rooms that we have on the property,” said Craig Schoninger, director of sales and marketing.

Though a couple of the rooms overlook the pool

RENOVATIONS continues on Page 35

Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa earns top sanitation and safety award

The award-winning Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa was recently awarded the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association (FRLA) Seal of Commitment — a promise that the resort achieved enhanced safety and sanitation standards as designated by FRLA to ensure the safety of guests and resort staff.

“The safety of our guests and staff has always been our top priority,” said Todd Hickey, general manager, Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa. “As we all adjust to this new way of living, it is imperative that we take the necessary steps to continue to keep everyone safe. I could not be prouder of my team for their commitment to safety and for receiving FRLA’s highest sanitation designation.”

For Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa to earn the Seal of Commitment, the resort dedicated time and in-

vested resources to ensure staff and guests remain safe and healthy. The resort team has completed management, food safety and COVID-19 safety and sanitation trainings and developed and maintained standard operating procedures with intensive safety and sanitation standards.

“FRLA is proud to designate Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa with our Seal of Commitment,” said Carol Dover, president and CEO of the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association. “Through this achievement, the resort team is demonstrating its serious pledge to ensure the safety and health of employees and guests, and we commend them.”

To learn more about Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa’s safety and sanitation guidelines, go to clean.marriott.com.

Planning ahead and looking forward



Ric Schilling
Columnist

Hopefully you and your family are doing well these days. While these are uncertain times, there appears to be some bright spots regarding both treatment & prevention of Covid-19 that should give us all hope that better times are ahead.

One of the economic consequences of the pandemic, of course, has been a huge spike in unemployment. Equally concerning is the drop in earnings of those still employed or self-employed and the decline in business activity. All of these factors add up to one disturbing result—a significant decrease in local & state government tax revenues. Unlike the federal government which can create money without regard, state and local governments have no such power which is why they have to operate with a balanced budget. That is a difficult challenge even in good times. It is almost impossible in bad times such as we are experiencing now. If income goes down 30%, they must find a way to spend 30% less or use rainy day funds (if they have any) to cover the difference.

Cutting expenses in government isn’t an easy task. For example, most state and local government employees are covered by collective bargaining agreements which stipulate wages and benefits; these can not be unwound at will. Expenses for materials, supplies and other items needed to deliver services to the public are crucial to the commitments governments have made and are, therefore, tough to trim. Given this conundrum, what are elected officials to do?

There are a number of states and local municipalities in the U.S. taking action to help balance revenue and expenses. One involves the deferral of contributions to employee defined benefit pension plans. Putting off the contributions allows the local governments to conserve its tax receipts to pay current expenses but it doesn’t make the pension underfunding problem better—it makes it worse. The likely consequence of these deferrals is the need to “catch up” funding shortfalls in future years with dramatically higher taxes needed to generate the cash required.

Colorado and South Carolina have pulled back from making additional payments to underfunded pensions, moves that may play out in other states as well that are struggling to balance their budgets as the coronavirus ravages tax revenue. New Jersey actually has one of the nation’s worst funded pensions.

SCHILLING continues on Page 35

Renovations

Continued from 34

area, a majority of them are located directly on the ocean. Each has a private patio or balcony.

A majority of the new rooms have soaker tubs with barn-style doors that open up to offer bathers a view of the ocean. Furniture and furnishings are in a residential style, and the color palette is one of “seaside elegance, yet casual and comfortable,” according to Schoninger.

The suites have kitchenettes with full-sized refrigerators, dishwashers and microwave ovens.

“All the suites can have a second room added on,” said Schoninger, “so you can turn it into a connecting two-bedroom suite.”

He cited another desirable quality of the accommodations: the campus-style setting.

“Guests don’t have to get in an elevator and go up to the 15th floor,” he said.

This may be a particularly appealing point for those concerned about propinquity during the ongoing pandemic.

Schoninger said the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, which originally opened in 1928, is always looking for ways to improve its offerings.



Photo provided by the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club

Barn-style doors over the tub can be opened to reveal a view of the ocean.

The combined size of The Ocean House and The Peyton House is 33,000 square feet. Rooms range in size from 500 to 600 square feet and suites are between 1,000 and 1,100 square feet.

Rooms overlooking the pool are \$529 a

night. Those on the ocean are \$599. Suites start at \$799.

In addition to these additional accommodations, the Ocean Course will be welcoming members back on Friday, Sept. 18, following a yearlong renovation project.

“It was a complete renovation of the course from the infrastructure to the grasses to the practice facility,” said Schoninger. “The grasses have been installed on the tees and the fairways and the greens. The retaining walls were redone. The plumbing was redone. The electrical was redone. It literally was a top-to-bottom renovation.”

The greens were lowered by an average of three feet, changing play on the 18-hole golf course, which went from a par 72 to a par 71.

The design work was done by Bobby Weed Golf Design and construction was by MacCurrach Golf Construction Inc.

The Ponte Vedra Inn & Club has taken numerous measures to protect the safety and wellness of members, guests and employees amidst the coronavirus outbreak. In addition to wearing masks, employees are screened each time they report for work and wear a colored bracelet to signify it.

When guests depart their room, it is left vacant for a day before it is cleaned. There are sanitizer stations and industrial-grade cleaning products are used everywhere.

For a complete description of actions being taken and a list of which dining options are available, go to pontevedra.com/covid-19.

Schilling

Continued from 34

More pronounced in northern states is the need to significantly raise tax rates both to compensate for loss tax revenue and to cover the ever-increasing cost of social programs and services for the elderly. Income and property tax rates are being targeted as well as what they refer to as “sin tax” (tobacco, alcohol) that isn’t already through the roof. It is unlikely, in my opinion, that these tax increases will be rolled back once the economy is moving along again.

So ... what is the lesson here? Two things come to mind. First, if your retirement plan doesn’t have inflation of at least 3% per year built into it, you should revise it as these increases will come whether you plan for them or not. I meet too many people these days who didn’t plan for

inflation run out of money as a result. By the time they decide to start planning, they always say they wish they had thought about all of this and started an actual plan of action much sooner.

Second, while no area of the country is immune to these issues, some areas in the South, Southwest and Midwest are affected to a more modest degree than the Northeast, the West and upper Midwest areas for a variety of reasons such as a lower cost of living, housing being less expensive, and certain states such as here in Florida having no state income tax. As always, planning ahead gives you more flexibility.

Frederic “Ric” Schilling is a Florida native, born in Jacksonville, Fl. Ric is President and founder of Senior Guardians of America, a local North Florida firm specializing in tax reduction, long term illness planning, asset protection, probate avoidance and life income planning. Ric is a National Speaker and Advocate on Senior Issues and has been

featured by the Florida Times Union and WJXT, TV-4 in Jacksonville as an authority on Estate Planning and Retirement Issues. Senior Guardians has an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau and is a member in excellent standing with the National Ethics Association. Ric Schilling is a Certified Financial Fiduciary (CFF). You may contact Ric at 904-371-3302 or 888-891-3381 Please visit: www.seniorguardian.com This article is not intended to give tax or legal advice. Securities offered through Center Street Securities, Inc. (CSS), a registered Broker-Dealer & member FINRA & SIPC. Investment Advisory Services offered through Center Street Advisors, Inc. (CSA), a SEC Registered Investment Advisor. Schilling and Associates (d/b/a Senior Guardians of America) and CSA are independent of CSS.

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Book features 65 celebrity caricatures by local author

By Shaun Ryan

For decades, Harlan Rector didn't know what to do with the more than 100 celebrity caricatures he had drawn while working at an ad agency in Detroit. He'd kept them in a box in case one day they might prove valuable.

Little did he know that in the futuristic-sounding year of 2020, they would indeed find their place in a book he would publish.

The road to becoming an author took him through a diverse professional landscape from advertising art director to voiceover artist to radio drama producer to playwright. It was a road that began when Rector was in the second grade.

That was the year World War II began for the United States and the year his teacher asked her students what they wanted to be when they grew up.

A lot of his classmates wanted to be soldiers or firemen or cowboys. But even then, the boy who would one day get some of the biggest stars of music, sports and film to autograph his drawings stood out from the crowd.

"I told her I wanted to be an artist," Rector said. "And I never gave another thought to what I was going to do."

He studied art in college but never finished, instead attending a school for commercial art and moving on to a successful career in advertising.



Photo by Shaun Ryan

Harlan Rector shows off his book of celebrity caricatures.

One afternoon in 1971, while working in Detroit, he wandered into a restaurant where a radio station did remote interviews of celebrities visiting the Motor City. Watching from his place at the bar, Rector drew a caricature of the show's

host, who upon seeing it invited him to stop by each day and draw caricatures of the famous guests.

The celebrities were always happy to autograph his pictures.

Years later, he had them professionally authenticated. It was the authenticator who first suggested that Rector make the drawings into a book.

"Once Upon A Corner In Detroit" — named for the location of the restaurant, the corner of Grand Boulevard and Second Avenue — was published in May and features 65 of Rector's caricatures, including Clint Eastwood, Jesse Owens, Count Basie, Carol Channing, E.G. Marshall, Kim Hunter and Maria Von Trapp.

Now, at the urging of another local author, Ed Mickolus, the Greenleaf Village resident is working on a second book.

"I Matter" is a collection of short essays from people who have experienced a positive change in their lives, a change that has helped them to understand that they do matter. The book's subtitle, suggested by Mickolus, is: Finding meaning in your life at any age.

Among the people included in these essays is a onetime substance user who was saved at a church in Harlem, recovered and went on to operate rehabilitation houses for men addicted to drugs and alcohol. Another essay is contributed by a former NFL linebacker.

The book is nearly finished and Rector is seeking a publisher now.

"Once Upon A Corner In Detroit" is available at amazon.com.

This is an abridged article. Read the full version at pontevedrarecorder.com.

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THEME: OKTOBERFEST

ACROSS

- Worry
- Fleur-de-_____
- One of Egyptian christians
- Nary a soul
- Dot-com address
- Pretend, two words
- Flogger's tool
- Romanian money
- Dostoyevsky's masterpiece, with The
- *Royal Brewery in Munich, a.k.a. _____ München
- *Original Oktoberfest location
- Tree juice
- Cathedral part
- Lysergic acid derivative, acr.
- Children's author Roald
- Bivouac
- Heroic poem
- Taro or cocoyam, technically
- Relish tastebuds' sensation
- Russian governmental agency
- Musketeers' weapons
- Presidential "No!"
- Make corrections
- Kind of palm
- A in B.A.
- Indian Ocean's saltwater inlet
- Carvey or Plato
- "Sesame Street" watcher
- One-horse carriage
- Sunday newspaper inserts
- *Kind of Oktoberfest band
- *Salty snack
- Meltable abode
- Go wrong
- Sore spot
- African prairie
- "Wheel of Fortune" vowel request
- All-season ones, on a car
- Affirmatives
- Beaver's construction
- Noise of contempt

DOWN

- Egyptian hieroglyph for "life"
- "You're not allowed!" to a baby
- Mistake
- Spurns
- Between triad and pentad
- Comic strip Moppet
- Anger management issue
- Economic crisis
- Ghana monetary unit
- Ear-related
- Tubby little cubby
- Ted Turner's TV acronym
- Bedding and towels
- Lickety-split
- Wear and tear
- "So soon?"
- *____hosen
- Sea foam
- Like United States Capitol
- *Flower used in beer-making
- Spanish sparkling wine
- Deflect
- **"O'zapft is!" or "It's tapped!"
- *Cheers!
- Without, à Paris
- Start of something big?
- Echo sounder
- Joseph Stalin was one
- "Eureka!"
- Experts
- In the lead
- *Beer garden mug
- Curved molding
- Paella pot
- '60s British teenagers
- "Hunger Games" sister
- Goose egg
- Second to last word in a fairytale
- Just in case
- Woody creeper
- Biochemistry acr.

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Sports

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Young Nease team not deterred by slow start

Panthers show a lot of hustle, fight despite 0-2 start

By Don Coble

There was a lot of chatter, hustle and fight at Tuesday afternoon at the Nease High football practice — hardly the effort you'd expect from a team that's opened the season at 0-2.

"We're having a tough start, but we're a young team," said junior wide receiver Grant Stevens. "I believe we can win the rest of our games. We just got to get things clicking."

Nease, which hosts Yulee Friday night at 7, is trying to find a running game. The Panthers have fallen behind early, which has forced them to out of running the ball. In two games, the team only has four yards in 13 carries.

At the same time, quarterbacks Will Carn and Gabe Ohlson have combined to hit nearly 59% of their passes.

The season was delayed for weeks by the COVID-19 pandemic. Players learned assignments and held team meetings virtually. The hardest part, junior defensive nose guard Ben Bogle said, was not knowing if, or when, the season would start.

"You have to put the first two games behind us," Bogle said. "We're still working together. We've been through a lot tougher times [with the pandemic]. When there's tough times, there will be good times.

"We've bonded more as a team because of this."

Stevens, whose been scouted by Cincinnati, is one of many underclassmen in the starting lineup. But the path



Nease coach Collin Drafts talks to his team during a recent practice.

to success starts now, not next year.

"We know we have everybody back, but we want to win now," he said. "We have to keep playing strong. It was real hard over the summer because nobody knew what was going on. Now that we're playing, we need to come together. We can change things."

Bogle said the same game plan to get through the lockdown is needed to win games.

"What I've learned [during the pandemic] was patience," Bogle said. "Nobody's quitting here. We'll get this turned around."

Yulee is 2-1. The Hornets are coming off a 43-6 victory at Paxon.

Meanwhile, Ponte Vedra will travel to Matanzas in Palm Coast for a 7 p.m. kickoff on Friday.

The Sharks are 2-0 after last week's 42-0 home win against Palatka.

Quarterback Jacobi Myers continued to play past last year's torn Achilles by completing all 12 of his passes last week for 193 yards and three touchdowns. The senior has completed 25 of 35 throws this year for 392 yards and five TDs.

Last-minute field goal spoils Jaguars' comeback against Titans

By Mike Bonts

Special to the Recorder

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE | Stephen Gostkowski's 49-yard field goal with 1:36 to play gave the Tennessee Titans the lead late. Linebacker Harold Landry then sealed the victory by intercepting Jaguars QB Gardner Minshew with 47 seconds left to clinch a 33-30 win over the Jaguars on Sunday.

"We made some mistakes early in this game. We made some mistakes throughout. We did some good things, but at the end of the day we fell short. There's some things I think that we can improve upon, obviously, and we will, and we don't have a lot of time because we've got this quick turnaround," said Jacksonville head coach Doug Marrone after the game.

Jacksonville (1-1) rallied to tie the game at 30-30 on two of touchdown passes from Minshew, who connected with Keelan Cole on a two-yard score before finding Chris Thompson for a 15-yard score with 7:25 remaining

Minshew threw for 339 yards and three touchdowns, becoming the first QB in franchise history to throw for at least three scores in three consecutive games. Through two games, Minshew is tied for the most passing touchdowns in the NFL.

"The offensive line has done a great job so far. Starting off with the running game, they have opened some big holes and James [Robinson] is taking full advantage of that. Then in the pass game, they have been giving us a lot of time to work the ball downfield, find different guys," Minshew said.

In the first quarter, Minshew found tight end Tyler Eifert for a 19-yard TD pass on third-and-10.

The Jaguars cut the Tennessee lead to 24-17 on a 17-yard run by running back James Robinson. The undrafted rookie scored his first career touchdown and totaled a team-high 120 scrimmage yards (102 rushing, 18 receiving) in his second career game.

"Robinson was getting positive yardage

and he had a really good catch. He is not going to make mistakes and lose yardage for you or things of that nature and will try to keep the chains going, Marrone said.

Cole caught six passes for 58 yards marking his third consecutive game with a receiving touchdown. Rookie wide receiver Laviska Shenault Jr. totaled 72 scrimmage yards, 35 receiving and 37 rushing, in the loss.

"Laviska is doing really well. I think one of the things that's a testament to his work [is] being able to know all those different spots," said Minshew on Tuesday. "And then, it's a testament to our coaching staff being creative and just trying to get him the ball in different ways. It's fun to see each week what they come up with and how we can include him in different ways."

The Titans led 24-10 at halftime.

Titans QB Ryan Tannehill completed 18-of-24 passes throwing two touchdown passes to tight end Jonnu Smith along with touchdown tosses to receiver Corey Davis

and Adam Humphries.

Running back Derrick Henry ran for 84 yards on 25 carries.

Defensively Jacksonville Myles Jack posted double-digit tackles (11) for the second time this season. Jack has a team-leading 22 tackles this season.

The Jaguars' K'Lavon Chaisson recorded his first career NFL sack when he brought Tannehill on third-and-9 to force a Tennessee punt.

With the win, the Titans (2-0) are now alone atop the AFC South after the first two weeks of the NFL season.

The Titans allowed 480 yards and 30 first downs on defense.

"We have to play better," said Titans coach Mike Vrabel. "We have to rush better. We must cover better. We have coach better. We must coach all those things better. But we were able to disrupt the football and there late in the game and got the turnover that was the difference."

The Jaguars were home Thursday night against the Miami Dolphins (0-2).

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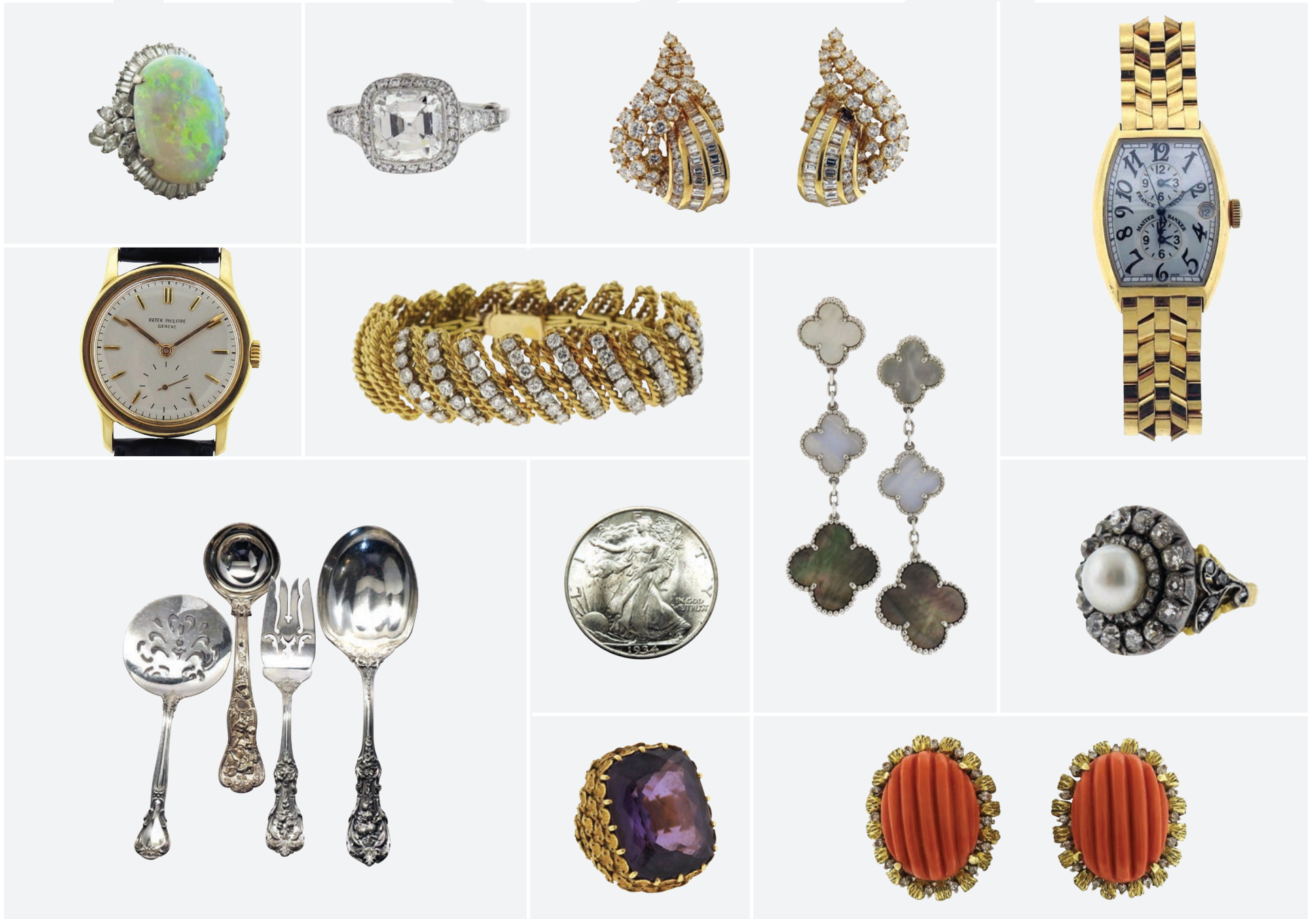
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