

Your Community Voice for 50 Years

PONTE VEDRA



Recorder

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75 cents

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

PonteVedraRecorder.com



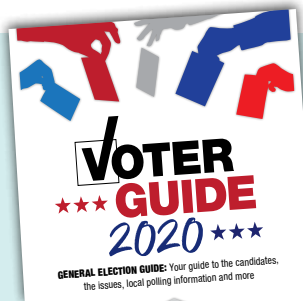
FALL FUN AT FARMERS MARKET

The Nocatee Farmers Market held its Fall Festival featuring live music, a petting zoo and more on Oct. 17. See more photos on page 7.

Photo by Susan Griffin



INSIDE: CHECK IT OUT!
The Recorder's Entertainment EXTRA featuring TV listings, streaming information, puzzles and more!



General Election Guide
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Local business to celebrate 16th anniversary
Page 29

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One of Us

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Send us your news

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

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

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.

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

BRIEFS

St. Johns County CARES Nonprofit Grant Program phase II launched Oct. 19

St. Johns County launched phase II of the St. Johns County CARES Nonprofit Grant Program on Oct. 19, to help eligible nonprofit agencies respond to the community impact of COVID-19.

St. Johns County 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations may be eligible for grant funds to use for COVID-related services provided to the community and expenses related to providing those services. For eligibility information or to apply, go to www.sjcfl.us/sjccares, call (904) 209-6050 or email sjccares@sjcfl.us.

SJC CARES Small Business Recovery Program phase II launched Oct. 19

St. Johns County launched phase II of the St. Johns County CARES Small Business Recovery program on Oct. 19.

The St. Johns County CARES Small Business Recovery Program helps local businesses respond to and recover from the economic impact of COVID-19. To be eligible, a business must not have received a cumulative total of COVID-19 financial assistance from St. Johns County in 2020 that exceeds \$5,000 for businesses with zero-to-nine employees, \$10,000 for businesses with 10-to-30 employees, \$15,000 for businesses with 31-to-50 employees or \$20,000 for businesses with 51 to 100 employees.

To apply for the grant or receive additional information, go to www.sjcfl.us/sjccares, call (904) 209-6050 or email sjccares@sjcfl.us.

St. Johns County CARES Residents Assistance Program deadline approaching

The deadline to submit applications for the St. Johns County CARES Residents Assistance program is 5 p.m. Oct. 31.

The program provides up to \$5,000 in funding per household to assist residents who are recovering from the economic impact of COVID-19 with mortgage or rent, utilities, cellphone bills, and internet bills. Eligible St. Johns County residents are encouraged to submit their applications as soon as possible to ensure the application process is complete prior to the deadline.

For grant criteria, applications and more information related to the St. Johns County CARES Residents Assistance Program, go to www.sjcfl.us/sjccares, call (904) 209-6050 or email sjccares@sjcfl.us.

SJC School District: 14 students test positive for COVID-19 for week of Oct. 11-16

The St. Johns County School District provides a weekly update on the number of students and employees who have tested positive for COVID-19, as well as the number of students and employees quarantined at home due to close contact to a case.

For the week of Oct. 11-16, 14 St. Johns County students tested positive for COVID-19, and 533 were quarantined at home due to close contact. Also for that week, 10 SJC School District staff members tested positive and 45 were quarantined at home.

For more information or to view the dashboard, go to www.stjohns.k12.fl.us.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

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FREE ESTIMATES



Briefs

Continued from 2

Public Library Bookmobile offering limited service beginning Nov. 4

The St. Johns County Public Library System Bookmobile will begin offering services at four locations Nov. 4.

The bookmobile will offer patrons the ability to pick up requested items, return items, and use free Wi-Fi on Wednesdays and Fridays through December. The bookmobile will be at the Publix in Nocatee Town Center and the Publix in Palencia Commons on Wednesdays and the Publix on County Road 210 and the Publix in the Shoppes at Murabella on Fridays, excluding holidays.

For more information, go to www.sjcpls.org or email libbe@sjcfl.us.

SJC Parks & Recreation Department to show 'Hocus Pocus' at movies in park

Families, put on your Halloween costumes, bring your candy and enjoy a special viewing of the film "Hocus Pocus" from 7 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 31, at Palencia Park in St. Augustine.

Movies begin at sunset and are free. Picnic baskets are welcome, but glass containers are prohibited. To comply with CDC social distancing guidelines, each space will be marked six feet apart and each ticket will admit up to a family of five.

For more information, contact Stephanie Taylor at sntaylor@sjcfl.us or call (904) 209-0381. Registration is required.

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COLLECTION



OCEAN LINKS CONDOS \$250,000

Three-bedroom condo in the middle of Ponte Vedra Beach. This condo is on the second floor with higher ceilings & a large screened-in balcony. Update to reflect your own style. Easy walk to the grocery store & restaurants. The beach is 5 blocks away! MLS 1074193

Linda Ostoski | 904.473.1515
LindaOstoski@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



LAS BRISAS \$367,000

Live the dream on the beach! This well-kept 1 bed, 1 bath condo is right on the beach, with a private balcony overlooking the community pool, dunes, & ocean. Tile floors make beach living simple. High ceilings & windows bring the outside in. The kitchen offers good cabinet space & more ocean views. One carport space & extra storage closet included. MLS 1075667

Barbara Maple | 904.571.1764
BarbaraMaple@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



OCEAN VILLAGE \$399,000

Enjoy tranquil, beachside living in this low-maintenance townhouse in Ocean Village. This unit offers over \$15,000 in updates, including a new roof, floors, windows, electrical, plumbing, kitchen, & bathroom. Features 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, & an east facing patio. Community includes a pool, oceanfront clubhouse, & private beach entrance. MLS 1041698

Jim Zeller | 904.772.5592
JimZeller@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



PONTE VEDRA BY THE SEA \$484,000

Tucked into a community surrounded by towering oak trees, this 3 bed, 2 bath condo sits one block from the ocean in Ponte Vedra Beach. Features an open floor plan, newly remodeled kitchen with granite & stainless appliances, large great room with fireplace & vaulted ceilings, sunroom overlooking pond, & master with sitting area, updated bath, & loads of closet space. MLS 1064786

Barbara Maple | 904.571.1764
BarbaraMaple@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



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VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATE IN GUANA BEACH CLEANUP



Photos provided by Beaches Go Green

Beaches Go Green, with help from Ocean Palms Elementary School, Ponte Vedra and Nease high schools and the Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve, hosted a beach cleanup on Saturday, Oct. 10, in Ponte Vedra Beach. According to Beaches Go Green, 257 volunteers participated to clean up trash and debris at area beaches.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Donna Foundation to host virtual 5K to support breast cancer awareness

By Cassidy Lankford

The Donna Foundation is a non-profit breast cancer awareness organization based out of Jacksonville that was founded in 2003 by Donna Deegan. After Deegan was diagnosed with breast cancer herself in 1999, she was inspired to start the Donna Foundation to assist individuals who shared her journey.

Throughout her cancer journey, Deegan began to discover the need for assistance, awareness and education for those living with breast cancer and for the community at large. It was then that the Donna Foundation was born.

Today, the Donna Foundation has helped over 12 million families and has

dispersed over \$5 million in medical debt relief to the families of breast cancer patients. Although the Donna Foundation has many avenues of assistance and fundraising, it is best known for its annual races, including its 5K and marathon. Although due to COVID-19 the Donna Foundation has been forced to strategically reorganize their upcoming events through Spring 2021, it is proceeding with its races — with a virtual twist.

“It was important for us to make this decision for the safety of our community,” said Amanda Napolitano, executive director of the Donna Foundation of their decision to take on their events virtual-style. Rather than gathering together in a large group, race participants will be able to run

wherever they are. “We will still be tracking times and distributing awards,” Napolitano stated, explaining that they will also have a virtual tribute wall, in-run audio technology for runners to listen to words of encouragement from their loved ones, a virtual opening ceremony and more.

The virtual 5K will take place Oct. 24-25, and it is not too late to sign up. The virtual marathon will be held Feb. 12-14 2021. Although the race experience has changed, the Donna Foundation encourages individuals to sign up for the races and support the organization. With COVID-19, the Donna Foundation’s need for support has grown exponentially on top of the existing 126% year-over-year increase.

“We expect to see a rise in breast cancer

diagnoses after the COVID-19,” Napolitano said, explaining that due to social distancing and infection fears many individuals have forgone their annual cancer screenings and may not catch their disease in the early stages. “Cancer diagnoses have decreased by 40% since the start of the pandemic. We are encouraging individuals to continue safely visiting their doctors for cancer screenings,” Napolitano said, going on to state that many people are in financial despair due to changes brought on by COVID-19 and that now is a crucial time to support charitable organizations.

To register for the virtual 5K experience, simply go to www.thedonnafoundation.org and put on your running shoes!

Nease student's Eagle Scout project supports Big Brothers, Big Sisters

By Kassidy Lankford

When Ponte Vedra local and Nease High School student Sheldon Griffith was in elementary school, his life was transformed by Big Brothers and Big Sisters of America, a national organization dedicated to providing mentorship for children across the country.

The program matches children with mentors that share similar interests. Griffith got involved with the St. Johns County chapter as a child, and now, years later as a 16-year-old, he has decided to give back to the organization that gave so much to him.

“It was nice to have someone to lean on as a role model,” said Griffith, explaining that as a young boy he lacked a father figure and it was a wonderful way for Griffith to spend his time as a child. Griffith is now but a few months away from becoming an Eagle Scout, and he decided to support BBBS through his Eagle Scout project.

“I’d been with the program since I started Scouts, and I wanted to find a way to give back with my Eagle Scout project,” said Griffith, who was able to raise nearly \$900 for his project and donated the leftover money that was not spent on materials back to BBBS.

Several months ago, Griffith had the idea to build several corn-hole game sets for the St. Johns County chapter of BBBS. After 70-plus hours of labor, Griffith has finally completed and donated the games.

“We look forward to using the corn-hole games at our recruitment events,” said Melissa Ryan, program director of BBBS in St. Johns County.

Ryan said BBBS is currently limiting its large in-person events due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but the organization is excited to make use of Griffith’s donation when the time comes.

Ryan also said despite the pandemic, the organization is still in need of volunteer mentors.

“The program matches mentors with children, who can enroll from ages six through 12,” Ryan said. “The program is community-based and site-based.”

Ryan said community-based mentors spend 10-12 hours a month with their assigned child doing activities such as going to the beach, going to lunch, etc., and site-based mentors visit the schools of their assigned child to spend time with them during their lunch break, during recess or after school. The program is specifically in need of male volunteers, but it is always looking for potential mentors to get involved with the program.

There are many young men and women like Griffith who have benefited from the program. Griffith’s outward display of love for BBBS through his Eagle Scout project is just one of many examples of the lives impacted by BBBS.

To learn more about BBBS or to become a mentor in St. Johns County, go to www.bbbsstjohns.com.



Photo provided by Dawn Griffith

Sheldon Griffith is a 16-year-old Nease High School student who decided to give back to Big Brothers and Big Sisters of America through his Eagle Scout project.

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Whitehurst Campus
December 3 - 7 p.m.

Ponte Vedra Campus
October 27 - 9 a.m.
December 1 - 7 p.m.

Bartram Campus
October 28 - 7 p.m.
October 29 - 9 a.m.

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BOLLES

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Justin Felker is a lifelong classic car enthusiast. He and his father, Paul, own Art 'n Motion, a unique business in St. Augustine that is part classic car dealership, part museum, part art gallery. Art 'n Motion has taken the reins of the Ponte Vedra Car Show this year, helping to ensure that local car lovers can continue to admire the wonders of America's automotive past.

Justin Felker

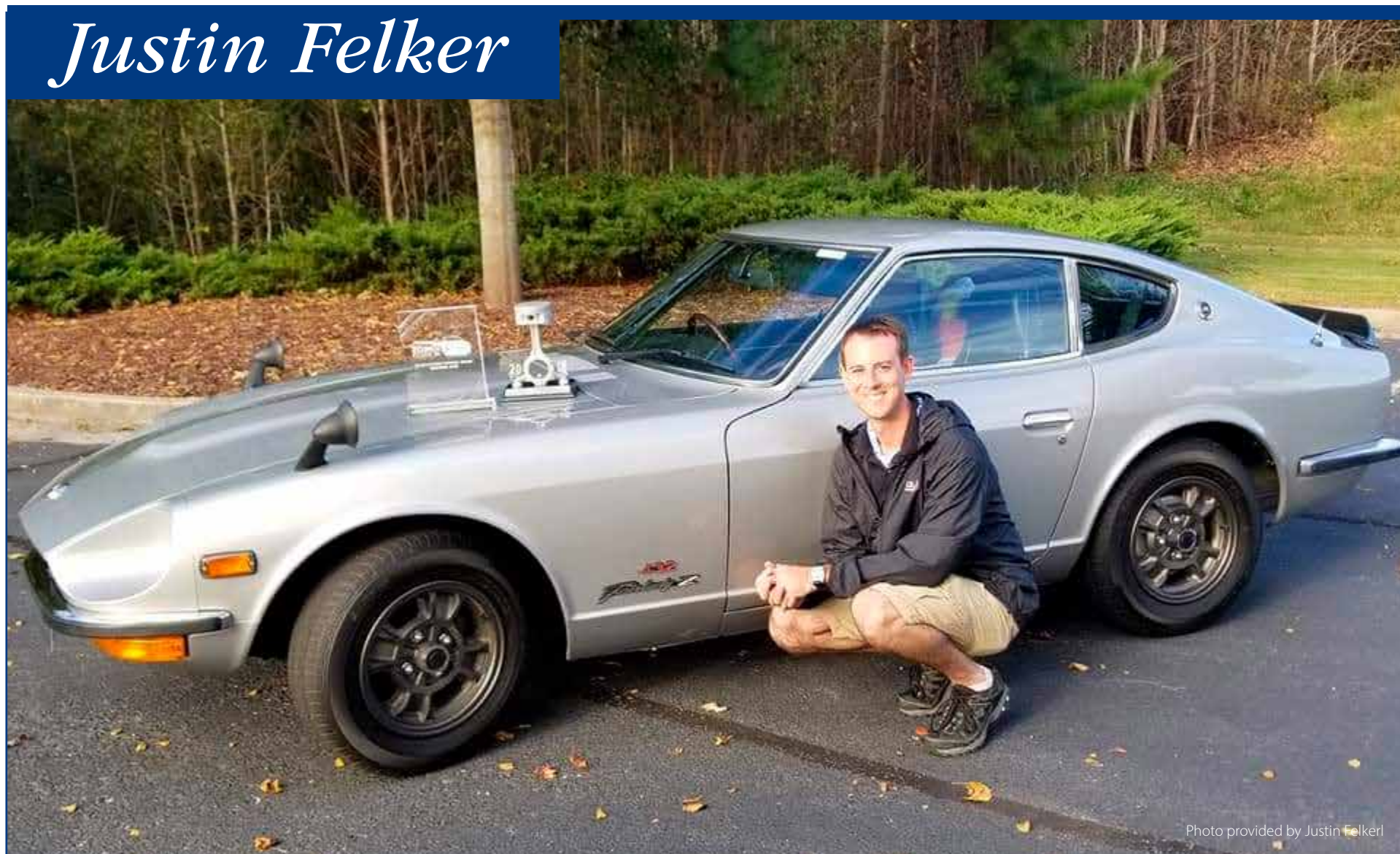


Photo provided by Justin Felker

As told to Shaun Ryan

Tell me about Art 'n Motion.

The idea for the business started to form about five years ago. Art 'n Motion was created to display classic and rare automobiles that are available for sale. Many of the vehicles are collected by the founders, but car owners will sometimes display their rare cars in the building's "showroom" for other car lovers and collectors to enjoy. As a two-story car gallery and dealership, car lovers are welcome to come visit the collection.

What fuels your love of classic automobiles?

It has been an interest since grade school that has gotten stronger over the years. A lot of these cars have a personality to them and an art form. It is interesting to look back at car models over the decades and see the reflection of society at the time in those cars. I have always had an interest in world history and car racing. Classic cars put the past 130 years into something you can interact with, unlike most other forms of art.

Do you have a favorite brand or model of car?

I have never really had a "favorite" brand or model. I have makes and models from all different generations of cars that I am interested in. One model that has always stood out to me, though, is the original Ford GT-40 race cars from the 1960s. It is a beautiful car and the story behind it is exciting. The history of those cars fits right in with the idea of the space race and the

Cold War. Ford decided that they were going to beat the world (mainly Ferrari) in road racing. No budget or time constraints would stop them.

Art 'n Motion will be taking over the Ponte Vedra Auto Show this year. How did that come about?

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce reached out to us about taking the show over. They still have some involvement in some areas. The Ponte Vedra Auto Show is an event I have been a part of in years past as an entrant and a spectator. It was a perfect fit for us to take over. We had been considering starting a show like this in the future; now with ownership of the PVAS we can focus on growing an already established great local event.

How are things shaping up for the show?

Things are shaping up for a great show. We have some great new partners lined up for this year. Entries are still coming in and looking good. I have gotten a lot of feedback from people that are excited the show is now in November with cooler weather and less chance of rain. We also have some great food vendors this year that people will recognize.

Tell me a little about your background.

I have lived here in the First Coast area my whole life. I was born and raised in Jacksonville. In my college years, my family moved to northern St. Johns County. That is currently the area I live in today. I

graduated from Jacksonville University and worked for our family business for a few years until I transitioned into a job working for a local race team. I currently still volunteer a few hours here and there working with them on projects.

What do you like most about living in this area?

This area has always been my home, and I love this area. It is hard for me to really put a finger on what makes it special. I really enjoy the distinct areas of town the First Coast offers. I am lucky to have family, friends and connections all over town. I am enjoying seeing downtown St. Augustine grow and keep its historical nature at the same time.

What do you like to do in your free time?

I really enjoy all kinds of things. I do not get to do it near as much as I would like, but I enjoy traveling and seeing new places.

I enjoy watching almost any kind of car race or spectating at car shows.

I have tried my hand at off-road desert racing with a close group of friends. This is something I would very much like to do again in the future. I think it is the most challenging thing I have done.

I have always been a big Jaguars fan. It can be a struggle, but being an underdog for so long is going to make that eventual Superbowl appearance even more special. I was at the first home game and have gone to at least half of the home games over the past 25 years.

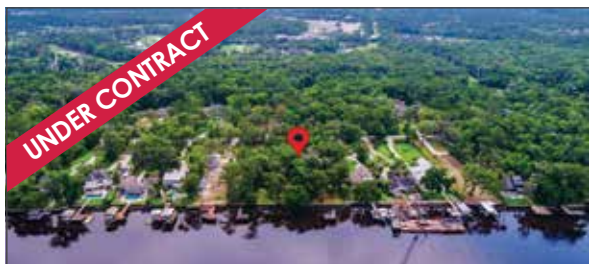
FARMERS MARKET FALL FESTIVAL FEATURES FUN, FARM ANIMALS



There was no shortage of family fun activities at the Nocatee Fall Festival Farmers Market on Saturday, Oct. 17. There was live music from the Ramona-Band, horse-drawn hayrides, a petting zoo, a pumpkin carving station for residents, shopping from more than 60 local vendors and more.



Photos by Susan Griffin



Intracoastal Waterfront Lot

Build the waterfront home of your dreams on the Intracoastal Waterway with a total of 225' of water frontage. Ideally located in the St. Johns County A-rated school district and offers easy access to JTB, TPC, and the beach.

Total Acreage: 2.06 \$2,500,000



Private Beach Sanctuary

With gated entry and thoughtfully designed landscaping, this Ponte Vedra Blvd home backs up to the Guana, and features stunning rich wood floors, detailed built-ins, screened-in pool, and a temperature-controlled wine cellar.

4 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms \$1,700,000



Intracoastal Waterfront Condo

SELLER TO PREPAY 12 MONTHS OF HOA AND CONDO DUES AT CLOSING. Marina San Pablo 2nd story condo featuring open floor plan, luxury amenities, and private balcony with water views.

2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths



Ideally Located in Seaview Park

Live east of A1A in this updated move-in-ready home ideally located in old Ponte Vedra. Showcasing renovated interiors with wood floors, shiplap details, customs built-ins, and coastal accents.

3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms \$800,000



Pristine Waterfront

Immaculately maintained home located on a cul de sac on the largest lake in Marsh Landing features a spacious floor plan, first floor master, and expansive 180-degree water views showcased throughout.

4 bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms \$1,175,000



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BBX Capital
REAL ESTATE

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

"Never underestimate the healing power of a quiet moment in the garden."



Kathy Esfahani
Columnist

CLIMBING FLOWERS AND PLANTS

As many people are staying home these days, gardening can be a relaxing home improvement to spend your time! Climbing plants can give your yard an organic and inviting feel, and add beautiful ambience.

Here are some of the beautiful climbers we carry at the nursery:

Allamanda: Fastest-growing vine with bright yellow blooms. Great vine to have

Flower of the Week: Bougainvillea



Photo provided by Kathy Esfahani

GARDEN continues on **Page 9**

annette görtz

spring/summer 2021



Trunk Show

Oct 28 - Nov 5

MARCIA'S PLACE

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Garden

Continued from 8

around a patio or pool, but be careful because its seeds are poisonous to humans and animals.

Bougainvillea: This vine is a tropical plant that loves Florida heat and requires full sun to create such vibrant blooms. It will bloom most of the year right up until winter in our zone and climbs quickly!

Bleeding heart: Another tropical vine that thrives with full shade or morning sun. This vine has dark green leaves and clusters of red and white flowers that can be pruned into the shape of your choice.

Carolina jasmine: This vine has a fragrant, yellow bloom and can grow to 25 feet. It blooms in late winter/early spring and thrives in this zone, as long as we don't have a harsh winter.

Mandevilla: This vine loves the Florida heat, but needs some shade in the hottest part of the day. Also an easy grower, this vine comes in a variety of bright colors.

Confederate jasmine: Easy grower in partial-to-full sun. It grows to be at least six-feet long and it blooms a small white flower each May.

Passion vine: This vine creates a three-dimensional purple flower that butterflies love! It can grow in full sun or partial shade and up to 25-feet tall.

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

CYPRESS VILLAGE SENDS IN THE CLOWNS!



Photo provided by Cypress Village

Cypress Village resident programs team Dee Gorman, Rebecca Tudor and Michaele Breakiron recently hosted an indoor circus complete with concessions for residents of the skilled nursing facility.



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Dr. Ryan Heinz
Licensed Chiropractor

Dr. Heinz is a board certified chiropractor and specializes in Active Release Techniques (ART). He believes in eliminating pain and resolving his patients' medical issues rather than pursuing treatments that result in never ending visits. Dr. Heinz is a chiropractor who cares. He listens intently to his patients to help them achieve better overall health. He will take the extra time that is needed to treat you correctly rather than rushing through an appointment for a quick adjustment.

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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Virtual gala benefitting Malivai Washington Youth Foundation raises more than \$200,000

The Malivai Washington Youth Foundation held its first virtual gala, "A Night of Hope," sponsored by Merrill Lynch, on Oct. 9, which raised more than \$213,000. These funds will allow the foundation to continue serving hope to hundreds of children and families in Jacksonville through its comprehensive youth development program.

The event, hosted by Curtis Dvorak, featured a message from founder Malivai Washington, a look inside MWYF's new teen center, testimonials from alumni and a live and silent auction.

Former world No. 1 women's tennis player and Olympic gold medalist, Lindsay Davenport, joined the foundation as their special guest for a Q&A session.

"A Night of Hope" also honored the recipients of the Foundation's annual scholarship awards. Throughout its 24-year history, MWYF has awarded more than \$1.1 million in scholarships to be used for higher education. The winner of the foundation's highest honor, the George M. Soper Student Athlete of the Year Award, was given to 12th-grade student Mya Sud-



MWYF alumna Ne'Shele Scott giving remarks during the virtual gala.

duth, who spoke at "A Night of Hope." "A Night of Hope" can be viewed at malwashington.com/gala and donations can be made to the Foundation at malwashington.com/donate.

"Holding this event virtually has taken a tremendous amount of work and support which could not have happened without our sponsors, staff, volunteers and donors," Washington said.



ABOVE: Marc Atkinson, MWYF alumni and director of tennis (from left), Mya Sudduth, student athlete of the year, Terri Florio, MWYF executive director, Sunshine Ramirez, Lacey Rumberger, Brigette Todd, Deanna Ordonez, Ne'Shele Scott, Cari McGowan and founder Malivai Washington.



LEFT: Washington and Curtis Dvorak interact with virtual guests during the gala.

Photos provided by Malivai Washington Youth Foundation



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U.S. District Court sides with St. Augustine panhandler

In what some said was a First Amendment victory, the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida has declared Florida Statutes 316.2045 and 337.406 — which prohibit the solicitation of charitable contributions on Florida roadways except by charitable organizations or when a local government permit has been issued — unconstitutional.

The case was brought on behalf of Peter Vigue, who regularly stands at the Palencia entrance and in front of the Market at Cobblestone Village in St. Augustine to collect donations from motorists.

Vigue was repeatedly arrested by the St. Johns County Sheriff's Department and the Florida Highway Patrol — and spent time in jail for violating these statutes — for holding up signs with "God bless. Be safe." and asking for help along the roadside, according to the nonprofit group Southern Legal Counsel.

Vigue waved at cars and gave a thumbs up as they passed.

"The court's ruling recognized that the challenged statutes unlawfully prohibited Mr. Vigue from asking for help on roadways, which is protected First Amendment expression," said Kirsten Anderson, litigation director for the Southern Legal Counsel and the lead attorney for the plaintiff. "This decision vindicates that we all share the fundamental right to freedom of speech, no matter who you are or how much money you have."

Law enforcement argued Vigue often walked onto roadways to collect donations, which created a threat to Vigue and motorists.

Vigue's legal team argued Florida Statutes 316.2045 "Obstruction of public streets, highways and roads," doesn't "intend to obstruct or otherwise interfere with traffic." Vigue said he only goes onto the roadways when traffic is stopped.

In February 2019, Southern Legal



Photo by Don Coble

Peter Vigue walks along the roadside in St. Augustine seeking financial help from passersby.

Counsel sued St. Johns County Sheriff David B. Shoar and FHP Director Gene Spaulding on Vigue's behalf along with co-counsel from the National Homelessness Law Center, with pro bono assistance from the law firm of Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP.

Prior court rulings found the statutes under which Vigue's arrests were made to be unconstitutional, but they were

still being enforced. In September 2019, the FHP firector came to a settlement with Vigue that limited enforcement of the challenged statutes statewide. FHP also began providing its officers with training and circulated a legal bulletin about removal of portions of the statute from the appendices of Florida's Uniform Traffic Citations Manual.

OBITUARIES

Amanda Leigh Bagby

Amanda Leigh Bagby, 46, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Oct. 14, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. (904) 249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

Stanley Francis Clement

Stanley Francis Clement, 91, of Atlantic Beach, Florida, died Oct. 13, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. (904) 249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

Jean Mary Edwards

Jean Mary Edwards, 88, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Oct. 13, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. (904) 249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

Patrick Marra

Patrick Marra, 56, of St. Augustine, Florida, died Oct. 11, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

William Joe Wilson

William Joe Wilson, 80, of Jacksonville Beach, Florida, died October 16, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. (904) 249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

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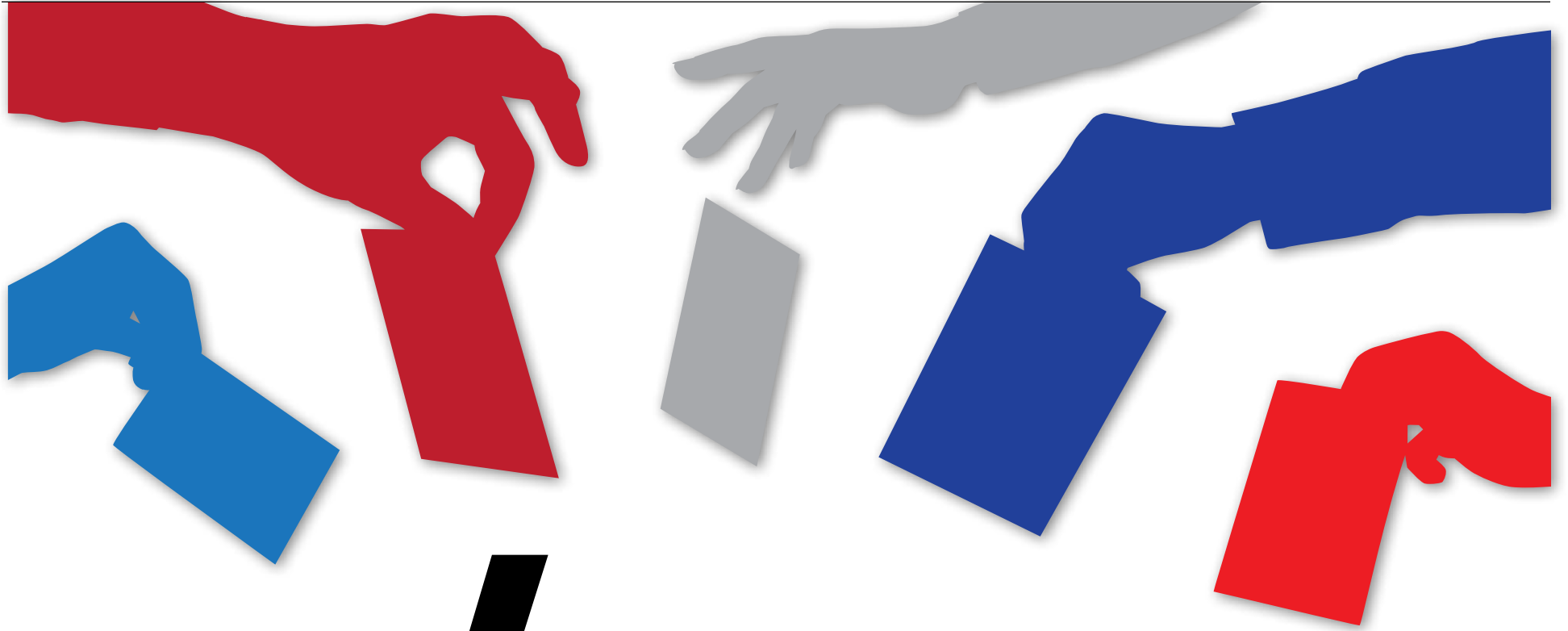
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VOTER
 ★★ ★ **GUIDE**
 2020 ★★ ★

GENERAL ELECTION GUIDE: Your guide to the candidates, the issues, local polling information and more

October 22, 2020
 A Special Supplement to



Recorder
 Not your average newspaper. not your average reader





ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This guide was produced by the staff at the Ponte Vedra Recorder to prepare area voters for the general election on Tuesday, Nov. 3.

A significant portion of the information in the guide was submitted by the candidates. For candidates the Recorder was unable to get in touch with, background information was obtained from campaign websites. Information pertaining to the election was also provided by the St. Johns County Supervisor of Elections.

Also in this guide, readers will find helpful information on how and where to vote and what will be on the ballot.

PRECINCT LOCATIONS IN THE AREA

- **401:** Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library, 101 Library Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
- ***402:** PVPV Rawlings Elementary School, 610 A1A North, Ponte Vedra Beach,
- **403:** Ponte Vedra Presbyterian Church, 4510 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
- **404:** Christ Episcopal Church, 400 San Juan Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
- **405:** Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, 1050 A1A North, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
- **406:** St. Francis in the Field, 895 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra, FL 32081
- **407:** Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, 1050 A1A North, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
- **408:** The Palencia Club, 600 Palencia Club Drive, St. Augustine, FL 32095
- **410:** Crosswater Hall at Nocatee, 245 Nocatee Center Way, Ponte Vedra, FL 32081

Note: Precincts denoted with an * indicate a change in the polling location.

On election day, voters are required to vote at their assigned polling place based on their address. To find your polling place, visit the St. Johns County Supervisor of Elections website at www.votesjc.com and click "My Voter Status" in the "Quick Links" section of the homepage.

EARLY VOTING

Early voting runs through Oct. 31. Polls are open 8 a.m.-6 p.m. at all locations. See page 15 for a map of early voting locations in St. Johns County.

NOTES TO READERS FROM ST. JOHNS COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Early voting runs from Monday, Oct 19 through Oct. 31. These 13 days of voting include two Saturdays and one Sunday. Hours are 8 a.m.-6 p.m. daily at all 10 locations. Pick any date, time and location convenient for you to vote.

The general election ballot is long — its two pages front and back with many candidates and amendments. Take time, study your ballot and be prepared to vote when you arrive. If you did not receive a sample ballot, it is available at www.votesjc.com. By using MY VOTER STATUS you can check your record, verify your address and view your sample ballot. If you have moved, give the office a call at (904) 823-2238 and we will update your address before you vote.

Remember to bring photo and signature ID with you when you vote. Florida law requires it. If you do not have current and valid ID, you will be allowed to vote a provisional ballot.

Our priority remains keeping our staff, poll workers and voters safe during the voting process. We have adopted Voter Protection Standards for voting during COVID-19. We will be doing our part to keep our workers safe by providing face shields, masks, hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes at all voting locations.

Safety is everyone's responsibility. Voters, we also request you do your part. Please visit www.votesjc.com and look for Voter Protection Standards. This will help prepare you for voting in person. Simple things such as updating your address or voter record in advance of coming to vote are important so that we can meet the goal of casting your ballot as efficiently as possible and limit the amount of

time you spend inside the voting location. Face coverings are encouraged and, upon request, masks will be available at the voting locations for voters. Be aware most of our early voting locations are in County facilities and St. Augustine Beach that have face covering ordinances in place.

We are expecting record voter turnout, especially the first two days of early voting. Lines will be outside, so please be prepared to wait, be patient, and be respectful of others' space while waiting in line and inside the polling room.

Vote-by-mail ballots are still available upon request. The deadline for requesting a ballot to be mailed is Oct. 24 at 5 p.m. If you have a vote-by-mail ballot and would like to return it in person, secure drop boxes are available at all early voting locations during the hours of voting. There is also a 24-hour drop box located in front of the elections office. REMEMBER, your vote-by-mail ballot must be received in the elections office no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day in order to count. You can use the tools available on our website to track your vote-by-mail ballot including when its returned, and verify your vote is counted!

These are unusual times. I encourage you to stop a moment and thank our election workers that are putting themselves on the line to allow you to exercise one of your most cherished rights as American citizens — your right to vote. Elections could not happen without them!

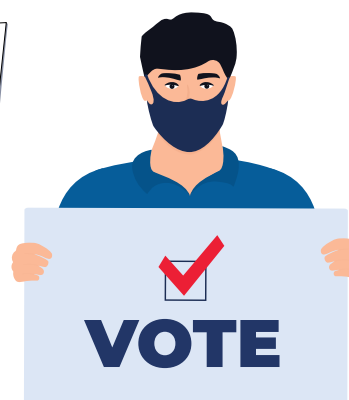
If you have any questions or need assistance, visit our website or call the elections office at (904) 823-2238.

Vicky Oakes,
St. Johns County Supervisor of Elections



Voting By Mail

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, a record number of citizens are requesting absentee ballots to vote by mail this year. While each state has mail-in absentee voting, rules vary by state. Information and absentee ballot requests for each state are available through nass.org/can-i-vote or your state's election office website.



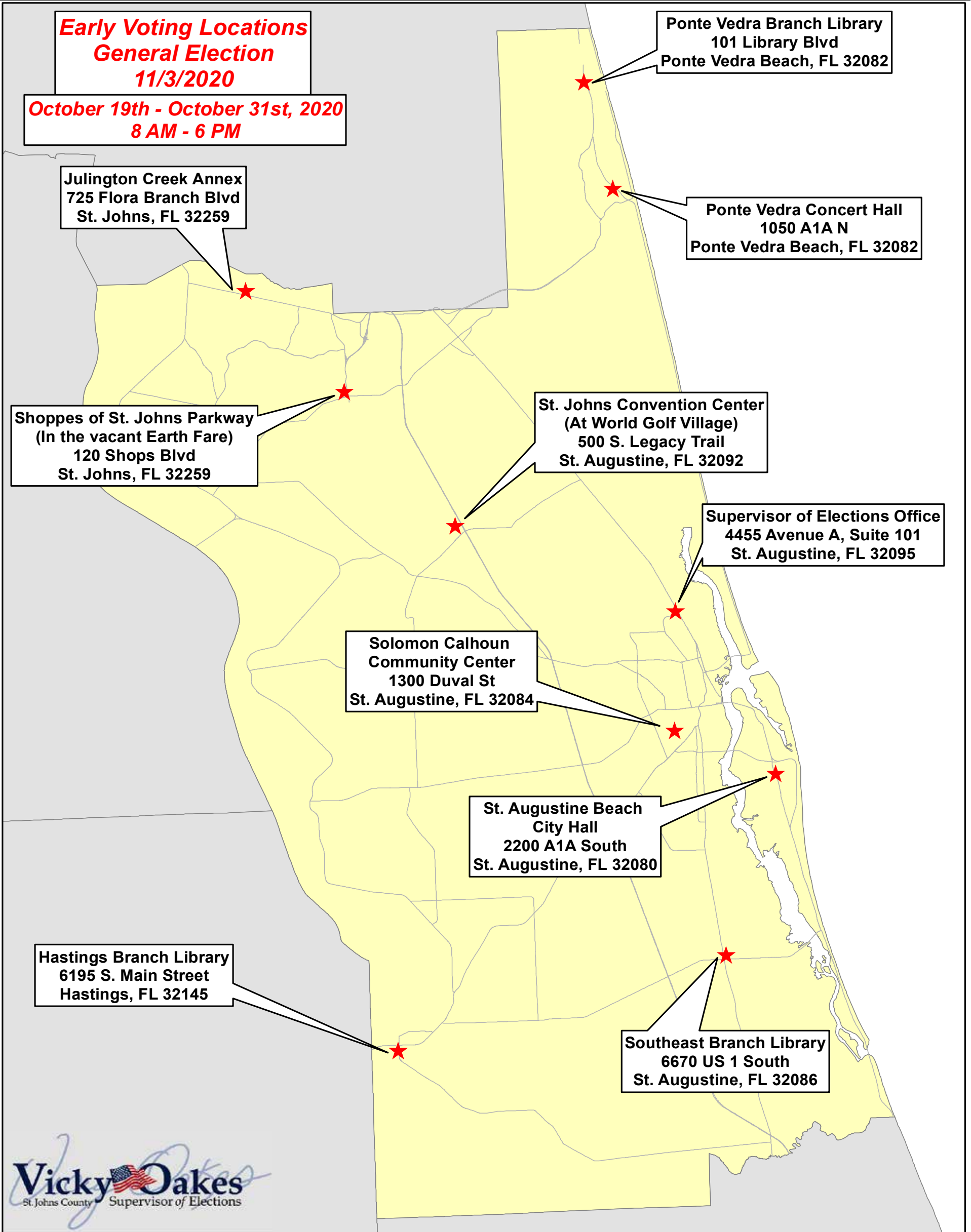
Tuesday, Nov. 3 will be an Election Day unlike any other.

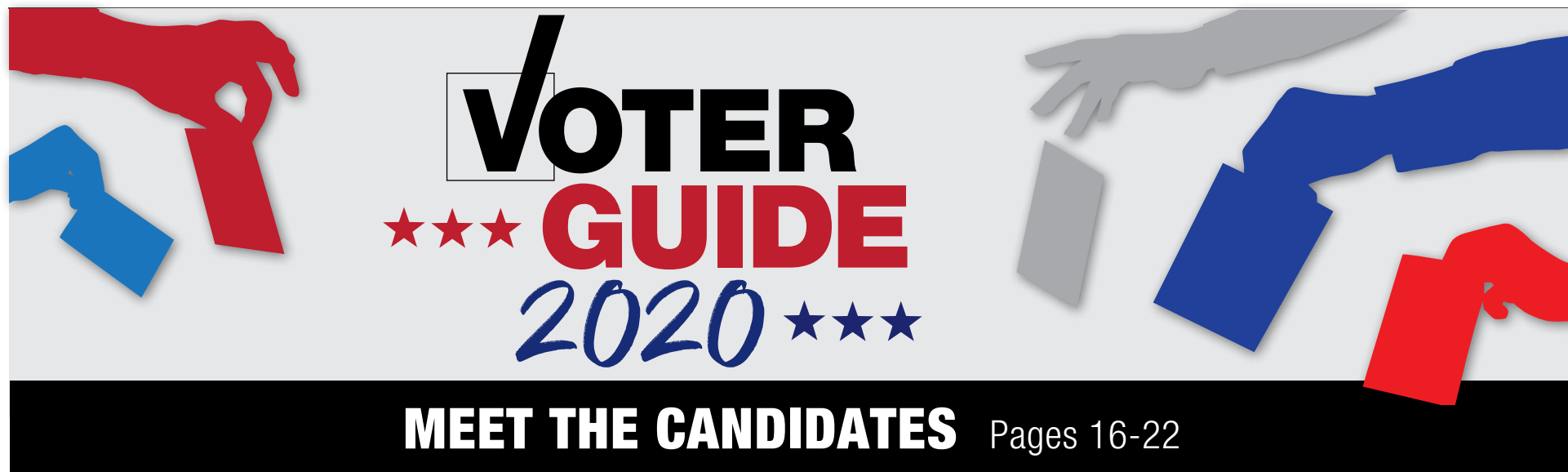
Take steps today to make sure your vote is counted, whether by mail-in ballot or at the polls!

Voting at the Polls in 2020

Voters casting their ballot in person will likely experience longer wait times due to safety measures and a potential shortage of poll workers. Here are some things you can do to be prepared and comfortable if you plan to vote in person on Nov. 3:

- Bring a book or headphones, and make sure your phone is charged.
- Bring a snack and a bottle of water.
- Wear comfortable shoes and layers of clothing.
- Wear a covering over your nose and mouth, and practice social distancing.
- Requirements to provide photo identification in order to vote at the polls vary by state. You can find your state's ID requirements at nass.org/can-i-vote.





State Senator



RICHARD DEMBINSKY Write-in

Richard Dembinsky is a write-in candidate in the general election.

He was a 2018 write-in candidate for chief financial officer of Florida, a 2016 independent candidate for Florida State Senate District 14, a 2010 write-in candidate for state House of Representatives District 28, a 2008 independent candidate for the state Senate District 7 and a 2006 independent candidate for governor.



HEATHER HUNTER Democrat

Heather Hunter was born and raised in Volusia County and has resided in that area for most of her life. Attending Flagler College, she was a Florida College Democrat, fighting for issues that pertain not only to college students but to Floridians as a whole.

Joining the College Democrats, she realized how much she wanted to help others and that politics can be a mechanism in that process. In her first year as a

College Democrat, she became the north regional director, which allowed her to get to know Democrats within her region.

She went on to work with other Democrats to hold community intergenerational panels that invited conversations about gun control, activism and education. She also canvassed and volunteered for various local, state and national campaigns. Eventually, she became president of the Florida College Democrats.

As a candidate, the issues she is focusing on surround the current pandemic, and she says unemployment and health care have severely been impacted due to the poor actions by the government. In addition, she says the environment and climate change are issues that Florida as a whole needs to focus more on.



TRAVIS HUTSON Republican

Travis Hutson has served in the Florida Senate since 2015. Prior to that, he served as the state representative for Florida House District 24, where he represented Flagler and parts of St. Johns and Volusia counties upon his election in 2012.

While serving in the Florida Legislature, Hutson championed crucial legislation for District 7 and the state, focusing on the economy, education and public safety. He helped craft enhancements to Florida's Career and Professional Education Act, responding to Florida's critical workforce needs. He closed loopholes in the release of violent sexual predators. In addition, Hutson successfully championed water policy reform and hurricane recovery.

Hutson works in his family's business, assisting in property and agricultural management and local charitable foundations. He also sat on the board of directors for HandsOn Jacksonville and on the development committee for St. Augustine Youth Services and has been a member of the board of directors for EPIC in St. Johns County.

Hutson graduated from Lafayette College in Pennsylvania in 2007 with a bachelor's degree in economics and business. He resides in St. Johns with his wife, Tanya, and their children, Taylor, Tyler and Turner.

U.S. Representative - District 4



DONNA DEEGAN Democrat

I'm proud of my deep roots in Jacksonville. I grew up on the Southside, attended Bishop Kenny High School and graduated from FSU.

As a journalist for 30 years, I listened to all sides to get to the heart of the matter and shine a light on the truth.

When diagnosed with cancer for the first of three times, I learned firsthand the toll a medical crisis takes on a family.

I heard from women who had to choose between food and medicine. That's why I started The DONNA Foundation and marathon, raising millions to help struggling families.

There's real work to be done. Families are in real pain. Yet the people I talk to feel ignored by elected leaders.

While partisan politics holds our country hostage, I stand ready to work together to solve our most pressing challenges.

I'm committed to lowering the price of insurance and prescription drugs while investing in jobs with real wage growth, strong public education, safety, and climate change solutions to grow the economy of our future.

This community has been good to my family and me. It would be an honor to work for you. I would appreciate your vote on November 3.



GARY L. KONIZ Write-in

Gary L. Koniz has been involved in many humanitarian and social issues. Born in 1946 in Maryland, he served in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a heavy equipment operator and fought in the Vietnam War in 1966.

After his honorable discharge, he continued to work as a heavy equipment operator and later as a charter pilot. Experiencing a calling to become a writer, he attended college and graduated summa cum laude from The State University at New Paltz, New York, with a bachelor's degree in English.

He took a job as project development team supervisor for The Dutchess County Comprehensive Training and Employment Act Program. In 1979, he took a job as public information officer for the Poughkeepsie, New York, School District. He went on to freelance work in investigative journalism for 10 years.

Moving to Buffalo, New York, he worked on the Diocese of Buffalo's Christian Social Outreach Project on Government Reform and as an adviser and media consultant with Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan concerning the war on drugs.

Koniz and wife Kathleen moved to Jacksonville in 2000, and he has continued to write for many newspapers and agencies.



JOHN RUTHERFORD Republican

John Rutherford is currently serving the 4th District in the U.S. House of Representatives and is seeking re-election. He sits on the House Judiciary Committee and the House Appropriations Committee.

Rutherford has lived in Jacksonville since 1958 and attended Florida Junior College and Florida State University where he studied criminology. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, 171st Session and the National Executive Institute. He began his career in law enforcement in 1974 as a patrol officer in the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, working his way up and eventually serving as director.

In 2003, 2007 and 2011, Rutherford was elected sheriff of Duval County. For three terms and 12 years he ran a 3,200-employee office. Rutherford also served as chair of the Legislative Committee for the Florida Sheriff's Association.

Rutherford has been married to his wife Pat for 47 years. They have two children and six grandchildren and are also members of Assumption Catholic Church in Jacksonville.

State Representative - District 17



DAVE ROGERS
Democrat

Dave Rogers is a native of Norfolk, Virginia. He earned a bachelor's degree in 1979 from the U.S. Naval Academy and received a military citation from the

Naval War College Non-resident Program in 1992. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1979 to 2001.

His professional experience includes working as a consulting analyst. He is affiliated with the North Florida Green Chamber of Commerce and the Regional Community Institute of Northeast Florida.

Issues that he has focused on are climate change; racial, gender and income inequality; and growth and development.

According to his website, Rogers is running in part because "every elected leader, at every level of government, from my county commissioners to the president of the United States is a Republican. In this part of Florida, Republicans dominate. None of them believe in climate science."

He indicated his decision to run was to give voters a choice and that his opponent would otherwise have been unopposed.

CYNDI STEVENSON
Republican

Cyndi Stevenson is a CPA by profes-



sion with over 20 years of experience in public accounting and in industry. She has worked in both large and small public accounting firms and maintained her own practice for a number of years. She

has served as the controller for an insurance company as well as Children's Home Society of Florida, one of the largest child welfare providers in the state. She also has experience in real estate, health care and small business.

From 2004 to 2015 she was a St. Johns County commissioner. After having been elected countywide three times, she successfully ran for Florida House of Representatives in a special election in April 2015 and is now serving in her second term in the Florida House.

She has served as chair of Insurance and Banking, vice chair of Health Care Appropriations and chair of Government Oversight and Transparency in the House.

Stevenson is a lifelong Floridian who enjoys fishing, sailing, kayaking, bicycling and community service. She and Henry, her husband of 37 years, live in the Julington Creek area. They have two grown sons who were raised in St. Johns County and graduated from the county's top ranked school system.

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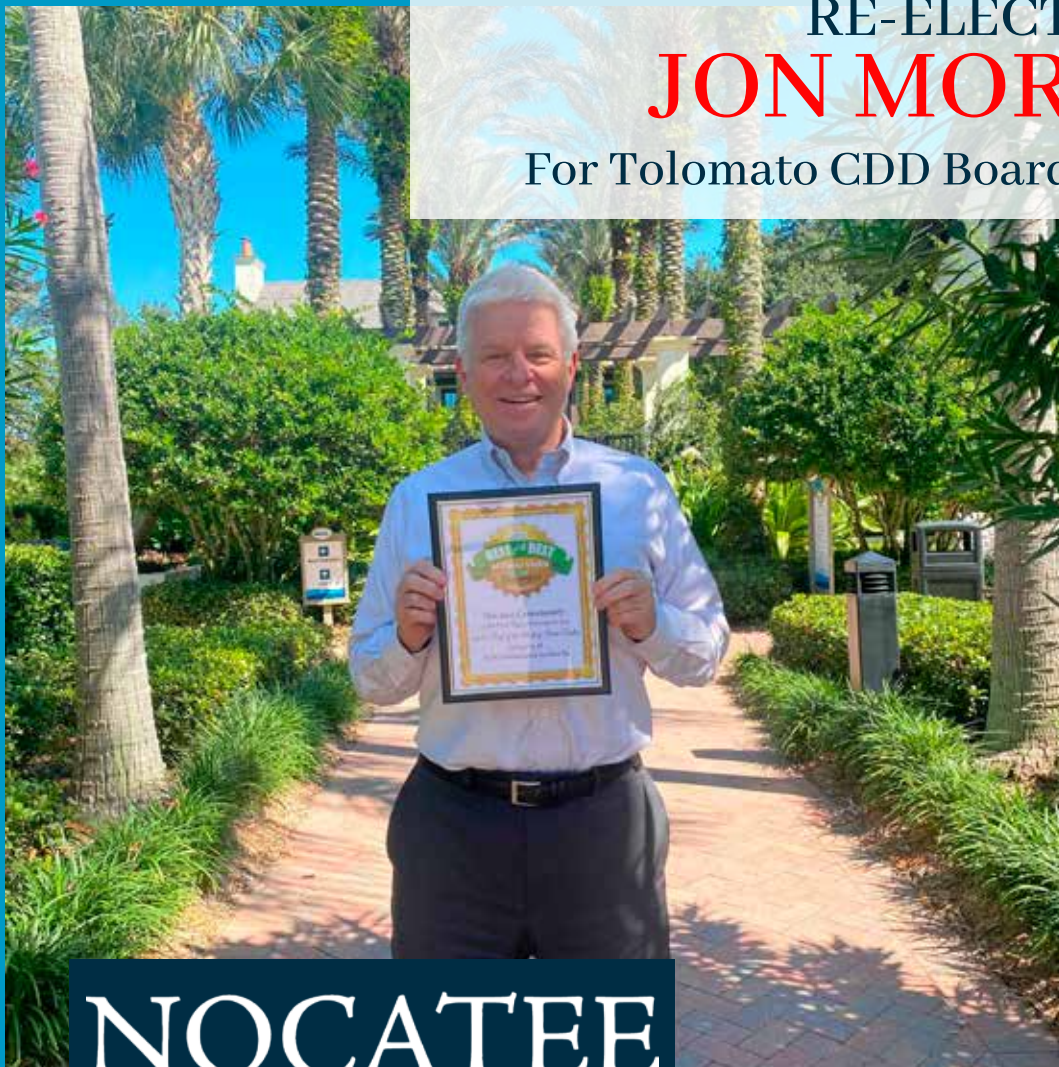
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State Attorney



DONALD B. DEMPSEY JR.
No Party Affiliation

Donald B. Dempsey Jr. is a lawyer in Deland. He has more than 29 years of experience with clients throughout Central Florida. He focuses his practice on the needs of criminal defendants and men and women involved in divorce or family law matters. He is a former Deland/Daytona Beach prosecutor.



R.J. LARIZZA
Republican

R.J. Larizza is a native of Jacksonville, where he graduated from Bishop Kenny High School. He attended Troy State University and obtained his bachelor of science degree in criminal justice with a minor in English. Upon graduation, he entered the workforce with the Florida Department of Corrections, working with young probationers and parolees. He stayed with the Department of Corrections for almost 13 years and attained the rank of supervisor II at the time of his departure in 1993. Most of his tenure with the Florida Department of Corrections – 10 years – was spent in the St. Augustine/St. Johns County office.

In the summer of 1993 at the age of 35, Larizza left the Florida Department of Corrections to pursue a law degree at Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law in Macon, Georgia, and graduated in the top third of his class in May of 1996. While a student at the university, Larizza also worked as a law clerk for the Houston County District Attorney's Office in Perry, Georgia. As a law student, Larizza was on the Moot Court Board and Law Review for Mercer University in addition to maintaining his rank in the class. He also served as student prosecutor during his law school career.

Upon graduation from The Walter F. George School of Law, Larizza returned to St. Augustine where he worked as an assistant state attorney with the State Attorney's Office of the 7th Judicial Circuit of Florida. In January 2003 after 6½ years, Larizza left the State Attorney's Office to pursue a private practice career. Following his successful private practice endeavor, Larizza successfully ran for the office of State Attorney for the 7th Judicial Circuit, the office that he currently holds.

St. Johns County Sheriff



SCOTT C. BOUTWELL
Write-in

Scott Boutwell first worked on a farm, then with farm equipment dealers, and landed a job at the age of 19 in the transportation industry. He was one of the youngest to head up the maintenance division of a small trucking company. Under his management, the

company grew.

He later worked for himself in the land-clearing business. He sold the business in 1989 and moved to St. Augustine with his wife, Renee. They have three daughters.

Boutwell worked for several companies, including DBI Services, a multi-million-dollar company, as a regional maintenance manager. Over the past 10 years he has been instrumental in the growth and management of a large fleet of trucks throughout the Southeast, where he is required to maintain budgets and build teams.

He believes his experience of working within his multi-million-dollar budget and workforce of up to 300 employees gives him the experience needed for running the Sheriff's Office in a fiscally conservative manner.

Boutwell has 20 years of forensic science and consulting experience and has worked on many product liability, auto, truck, equipment and industrial malfunctions and accidents.

He has worked with municipalities, commissioners, boards of directors and business owners to build budgets and understand the formalities involved and to keep within the budget.



ROBERT A. HARDWICK
Republican

Longtime local resident Robert A. Hardwick has served as the St. Augustine Beach police chief since January 2013.

Previously, he served as the assistant chief investigator with the Office of the State Attorney 7th Judicial Circuit. During his

26-year law enforcement career, he also worked at the St. Augustine Police Department, Flagler County Sheriff's Office and Florida Department of Corrections.

He is a veteran of the U.S. Army and Florida Army National Guard with 25 years of service. He was deployed to Operation Desert Storm in 1990 and Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003-04.

Most recently, he was assigned as a platoon trainer with the National Guard at Camp Blanding Regional Training Institute's Officer Candidate School.

In August 2016, he was appointed to the Criminal Justice and Standards Training Commission.

In addition to his many affiliations, he volunteers as a youth coach.

Hardwick and his wife of 28 years have two sons.

Circuit Court Judge - Group 14



JOAN ANTHONY

Joan Anthony was admitted to the Florida Bar and the United States Court of Appeals in 1988. Joan has been a small business owner and manager of her own practice since 2004.



DAN HILBERT

Dan Hilbert began his legal career as a state prosecutor for the 7th and 4th Judicial Circuits in Florida. After a career handling the most serious of felony offenses, Mr. Hilbert entered private practice with the goal of representing individuals and businesses in a variety of areas of law. After years of serving as an advocate for many members of our community, Mr. Hilbert said he is ready to return to public service where his career began.

HENRY DEAN
FOR COUNTY COMMISSION - DISTRICT 5
ELECTION DAY:
NOVEMBER 3RD

Paid by Henry Dean, Republican, for St. Johns County Commission District 5.

Rob Hardwick
For St. Johns County Sheriff
COMBAT VETERAN ★ CHIEF OF POLICE
★ COMMUNITY LEADER ★
VOTE FOR ROB HARDWICK
ON ELECTION DAY
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3
VOTEHARDWICK.COM

Paid by Robert Hardwick, Republican, for St. Johns County Sheriff.
Use of pictures in uniform does not imply the endorsement or support of any law enforcement organization.

County Commission - District 1



JOE McANARNEY
Democrat

Joe McAnarney and his wife have lived in Julington Creek Plantation for more than 15 years, attracted to the quality of life they saw: large areas of open space and wetlands, excellent schools and ease of traveling to work, shopping and cultural events. McAnarney is a retired architect and planner with more than 40 years of experience working with building codes and development standards.



CHRISTIAN WHITEHURST
Republican

A third generation Floridian, Christian Whitehurst moved to St. Johns County 22 years ago, and now lives in Julington Creek Plantation with wife Courtney and their children. They are active members of Christ's Church.

At age 17, Whitehurst went to work at Fast Fix Jewelry & Watch Repair at the Avenues. He eventually bought the franchise from the previous owner. Since then, he has opened a second Fast Fix Jewelry & Watch Repair location at the St.

Johns Town Center.

Whitehurst was appointed to the United Way of St. Johns County campaign cabinet in 2015. He continues to volunteer both time and resources to various organizations, including Daniel Kids, March of Dimes and the Special Olympics of Florida.

County Commission - District 5



HENRY DEAN
Republican

Henry Dean is a longtime St. Johns County resident running for re-election as a Republican for the St. Johns County Commission, District 5. Dean is the former executive director of both the St. Johns River and South Florida water management districts. In nearly 20 years at the helm of the St. Johns River Water Management District, he directed the acquisition of sensitive conservation lands, like the Guana Preserve, Julington-Durbin Preserve and Moses Creek

Conservation Area.

Dean lives in St. Augustine. He is a member of the Florida Association of Counties Water Policy Committee.

MERRILL PAUL ROLAND
No Party Affiliation

No information was available regarding this candidate

JOHN "BUCKY" SYKES
for St. Johns
Soil & Water Conservation District 3

Preserving
Florida's Heartland
for Generations to Come

ELECTION DAY: NOV. 3
EARLY VOTING: OCT. 19-31

Paid for by John "Bucky" Sykes, Nonpartisan Candidate, for St. Johns Soil & Water Conservation District 3.

Reba LUDLOW

Endorsed by:

AIRPORT AUTHORITY Group 5

VISIT: aireba.com

Paid for by Elect Reba Ludlow Campaign

SAM BARRESI

Endorsed by:

AIRPORT AUTHORITY Group 4

VISIT: sambarresi.com

Paid for by Elect Sam Barresi Campaign

GENERAL ELECTION
NOVEMBER 3RD

OPEN TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS IN ST. JOHNS COUNTY

VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT DROP-OFF LOCATIONS

Vote by mail ballots CANNOT be turned in at the polls on Election Day.

Due to a law change, the Drop Boxes will only be available in Early Voting locations during the hours of early voting.

Your ballot must be in the Elections Office by 7 PM on Election Day to be counted.

VOTE EARLY

GENERAL ELECTION

8 AM - 6 PM DAILY AT PONTE VEDRA LOCATIONS
OCTOBER 19TH THROUGH OCTOBER 31ST

Ponte Vedra Branch Library
101 Library Boulevard, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Ponte Vedra Concert Hall
1050 A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Vicky Oakes
St. Johns County Supervisor of Elections

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St. Augustine/St. Johns County Airport Authority -Group 4

SAMUEL J. BARRESI

For the last 10 years, Samuel Barresi has been associated with the Northeast Florida Regional Airport, and integrated with the City of St. Augustine and St. Johns County. He says he has the background and experience to

provide the Airport Authority with the direction it needs. He is endorsed by the St. Augustine Airport Pilots Association.

He has extensive experience as a corporate and general aviation pilot, active in general, business and government aviation. He holds commercial, instrument and multi-engine ratings. He is chief operating officer of a company listed on NASDAQ and founded and operated three corporations engaged in construction, engineering and property management.

As a design/build contractor, Barresi has built over 250,000 square feet of hangars and airport buildings across the United States. He has been a contractor for runway extension at LaGuardia Airport. While on the Airport Planning Committee for the Delaware Regional Planning Commission, he oversaw airline and business aircraft facilities and air traffic routing at the Philadelphia International Airport.

Barresi says his extensive experience in property management will aid the Airport Authority in maintaining a working rela-

tionship with its tenants.

He believes the airport can attract a regional airline to connect with major hubs for worldwide air service.

MICHAEL HENNE

Michael Henne is a 30-year veteran of the commercial aviation industry, spending the first decade of his career with Delta Air Lines. He has subsequently worked with carriers and airports on six

continents in finance, technology, operations and strategic planning capacities.

Notable for this election, Henne was a member of Delta's senior team, running the world's busiest airport, ATL. Also relevant is his experience in sitting "on the other side of the table" as airports make their case for scheduled service.

Having served on multiple boards of directors and as a senior executive in several aviation-related businesses, he says he possesses the requisite experience, executive bearing and commercial skills to serve the community as a board member.

Henne graduated with high honors from Georgia Tech with a B.S. in industrial management, and he earned his MBA in economics from Georgia State University. He is a former LTJG in the U.S. Navy Reserve.

Henne, his wife Shannon, and PVHS Sharks Will and Emma Grace reside in Plantation Oaks in Ponte Vedra Beach.

AUSTIN LEE LANTEIGNE

After graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy, Lantaigne served the country for nearly eight years as a naval flight officer in the U.S. Navy. He later earned his MBA and began working in the property

and casualty insurance industry as a product manager focused on developing homeowners' insurance for homes found within common hurricane threat areas. He continues to serve his community today as a high school and juniors volleyball coach and serves as a general manager for a youth sports organization.

Lantaigne wants to establish an Airport Authority Board that prioritizes the community of St. Johns County by ensuring the airport stays off the county tax rolls, never expands using eminent domain, increases community involvement and transparency, and focuses on promoting privatization in and around the Northeast Florida Regional Airport area.

Lantaigne's wife, Kara, is a St. Augustine High School graduate. They have one son, Weston, and two dogs, Goose and Remi.

ROBERT E. OLSON

I bring the experiences of a career in economic development, working with communities to attract high-value industry. This, plus recent service on the airport's Master Plan

Advisory Committee, have convinced me of the airport's potential for diversifying our tourist-dependent local economy.

Up to this point the authority's attention has centered on serving the owners of private aircraft. Supporting general aviation is important. However, the airport's new \$5 million passenger terminal sits locked and vacant. This is a clear message that goals are not being achieved.

I hope voters will consider my advocacy, qualifications and commitment to serving our community: Airport Master Plan Advisory Committee member, 2018-19; St. Johns County Cultural Resources Review Board vice chair, 2019-present; South Ponte Vedra Civic Association member; St. Johns County Civic Roundtable, 2016-present; master of public administration, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University; master of architecture and urban design, Washington University.

St. Augustine/St. Johns County Airport Authority -Group 5

**JEROME DION**

Jerome Dion, an urban planner, served in energy program planning and management, policy development and evaluation and analysis capacities over 33 years in state and federal civil service.

He led an integrated building technologies research team designed to develop net-zero energy homes and buildings, and an interdisciplinary team developing institutional change principles and methods to support federal agency energy and environmental policy implementation.

Mr. Dion is currently retired.

MARK ALAN FRAZIER

No information was available on this candidate.

**REBA J. LUDLOW**

I understand airport operations and possible opportunities for future sustainable growth, as a commercial pilot and airplane owner with 35 years of experience interfacing with our Airport Authority. Although I have made recommendations to the Airport Authority Board for many years, I was

not able to vote on decisions that were actually made. There is not a sufficient timetable for when the Master Plan elements can or will occur. I support the growth of high-quality business and employers like Northrop-Grumman, our airport as a regional tourist gateway, possible transportation hub, commercial air traffic,

support private property rights without eminent domain, and am committed to protecting the environment.

Some background:

As past president, Ludlow played a key role in revitalizing the St. Augustine Airport Pilots Association, and is endorsed by them.

She has been president of Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 600, which supports the Young Eagles, and is a former officer for Women in Aviation International.

She has been a volunteer pilot for Coast Guard search and rescue, Angel Flights Southeast and Civil Air Patrol.

As a member of the advisory board for the St. Augustine High School Aerospace Academy, she chaired the committee to award scholarships.

Soil & Water Conservation District - Group 3

**NICOLE CROSBY**

Nicole Crosby graduated from the University of Texas School of Communication with a degree in advertising and went to work for Doyle Dane Bernbach in New York where she became senior vice president, associate creative director. She garnered many awards for advertising creativity. She currently runs an Internet business

called the Texas Fireframe Company. She co-founded Save Guana Now to protect 100 acres of conservation

land from development, and she remains focused on protecting the property. She also co-founded NEST (Never Endanger Sea Turtles).

**JOHN "BUCKY" SYKES**

John "Bucky" Sykes is a generational farmer with over 50 years of successful experience working in the agricultural field. He grew up farming alongside his father, John "Buck" Sykes.

He is the owner of Sykes Farms

and Sykes Family Farms Crop Maze. He currently serves on the Farm Bureau and Farm Service Agency Board of Directors and the St. Johns County Soil and Water Conservation Board.

Sykes is a strong believer in the farming community and supports the local farmers and businesses. Over the years, he has worked with Water Management and the state departments of Environmental Protection and Agriculture.

Sykes says he is uniquely qualified to serve on the St. Johns County Soil and Water Conservation District Board for District 3 and will use his experience to conserve and protect St. Johns County.

Soil & Water Conservation District - Group 4



CHARLES C. OWEN

Charles “Chuck” Owen is a St. Johns County native who knows and loves the land. He is a home-grown farmer, small businessman and entrepreneur who

started his farming career in 1980. He has over 40 years in soil and water conservation experience.

The former owner and operator of Chuck Owen Farms Inc. grew up in Hastings in a large farming family. He attended St. Augustine High School and began farming with his uncles and cousins in the 1970s. He owned and operated multiple businesses in St. Johns County throughout his career, including a transportation and logistics company, a produce stand at DuPont Center, and a cabbage and potato farm in Elkton. He is a member of the Florida Farm Bureau, former member of the North Florida Potato Growers Association, and now works as the Farm Manager of Barnes Farm in Hastings.

Owen and wife Melissa McCall Owen have four children who live in St. Johns County. Two are teachers, one is an assistant state attorney and one is a mother of two.

Owen is running for Soil and Water Conservation District to bring common sense and experience to government, according to his website.



BRENDA STRATTON

My name is Brenda Stratton. I am married with five grown children. I am vice president of Mortuary Lift Company.

Being raised in Iowa and living in Indiana, Texas and now Florida has been wonderful to experience different parts of our great country.

I graduated from Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa. The bulk of my volunteer work has been with the schools and community organizations. When volunteering with the schools, I worked to launch programs such as Adopt-An-Area, Lunch with Dads and Masterpiece Dinner Theatre (showcasing the incredible talent of students to the community who might not have the opportunity to see that side of the school).

I also focused on increasing fundraising, developing partnerships with businesses and expanding opportunities for parental involvement on campus.

In the community, I was on the School Foundation Board and worked with many community organizations to raise funding.

Now that my children are grown, I would like to focus on the complexities of the Florida ecosystem and parlay my past public service and school volunteer success to the St. Johns Soil and Water Conserva-

Bucky Sykes accepted \$10,000 in donations from the very developers who are trying to build 66 homes on the Outpost in Ponte Vedra.

These are the same developers that his opponent, Nicole Crosby, has fought against. As the incumbent, Sykes showed up for just half the meetings during his last term (prior to Covid cancellations). And he falsely claims to have twice renourished Crescent Beach - which has not been renourished. See Nicole’s response to The St. Augustine Record questionnaire (which Sykes didn’t bother to answer) by typing into your browser: tinyurl.com/y4spkwtu

Vote Nicole Crosby
Soil and Water Conservation District 3

Paid for by Nicole Crosby for St. Johns County Soil and Water Conservation District 3



Fighting for Florida’s Future!

Dave Rogers

For State Representative Florida 17

Retired Navy Commander

www.dave4florida.com

22 Years of ★ Honor ★ Courage ★ Commitment

The status quo is unsustainable.

- Global warming and sea level rise threaten Florida
- Uncontrolled growth & development threaten St. Johns County’s natural beauty
- Systemic inequality in race, gender and income burden Florida’s citizens
- The pandemic has shown that our current legislators have ignored science and history.

Now we face unprecedented challenges.

It’s not hopeless and we’re not helpless. I’m prepared to lead progressive change.

Paid by Dave Rogers, Democrat, for State Representative 17

Anastasia Mosquito Control District - Seat 1



tion District to work for all St. Johns County residents.

CATHERINE BRANDHORST

Having been an owner of two pest control companies, Catherine Brandhorst is running for seat 1 of the Anastasia Mosquito Control District with a goal of reducing expenses and improving service. According to her Wordpress site, she wants to

use innovative methods, approaches and solutions to address environmental issues and provide the district with the best scientific information available to anticipate potential environmental threats, evaluate risks, identify solutions and develop standards.

TIM BURTON

My name is Tim Burton. I am running for the office of Anastasia Mosquito Control District (seat 1).

I am a business professional with over 22 years of building and managing a profitable operation. I bought



my first company in 2000 in Ponte Vedra Beach and sold it in 2003. I am currently running our family business, Esquire Cleaners. We are located off C.R. 210 West in St. Johns County and have been there since 2005. My focus has been on business development and improving efficiency of operation. I have strong financial and budgeting skills.

My goal for the office is to maintain the level of conservative values and financial responsibility, helping to run an efficient mosquito control district to ensure lower tax rates. I would continue to direct the company in natural and safer ways to battle the mosquitos in St. Johns County. This would ensure a healthier community for humans and wildlife.

My vision for the county is to help control the mosquito population so AMCD can continue to be the model for the United States and around the globe.

My education started in Jacksonville at Bishop Kenny



High School. I finished with a BS degree in finance and a minor in accounting at Florida State University.

JAN CARDIA

My name is Jan Cardia. I am running for Anastasia Mosquito Control District, Seat 1. I grew up in Delaware where I raised two children, Jimmy and Jill. I also have three grandchildren, Dylan, Taylor

and Jake.

I balanced my personal and professional life by starting my own accounting and financial management business from my home over 40 years ago.

I am an expert-level tournament Scrabble player. My other hobbies include dancing, walking and crossword puzzles.

My husband, Aldo, and I moved to Nocatee three years ago.

Mosquitoes are the deadliest and peskiest of all insects. I'm sure we can all agree on our desire to rid St. Johns

Anastasia Mosquito Control District - Seat 3



County of these pesky blood-suckers! A vote for me will not come back to bite you!

GINA LEBLANC

Gina LeBlanc is the current seat 1 representative on the Anastasia Mosquito

Control District board. Her term began in 2017 and ends in 2020.

HOWARD MCGAFFNEY

Howard McGaffney is a Gulf War veteran and was an enlisted officer as a torpedoman's mate. He served in the Navy from 1989 to 2006 and became a surface rescue swimmer and master



helmsman in 1991.

McGaffney and his wife, Melissa, have been married for 23 years and have raised two sons. He has coached and mentored kids over the past 13 years

as a soccer coach in organizations like Ancient City Soccer, St. Johns Middle School Athletic Association and at St. Augustine High School. McGaffney and his family actively serve in the St. Johns County community, helping to feed the homeless, assisting the elderly with storm recovery and cleanup and volunteering at their church in various

outreaches and programs.

Over the past 20 years, he has held several board-appointed positions in the private and local government sectors and has held many volunteer board positions in nonprofit organizations.

McGaffney is a special districts manager and is an advisor to 85 elected public officials. He oversees the financial planning, budgeting, administration, capital planning, assessment process and public hearings, and runs board meetings and workshops and overall operations of 17 special districts. These districts are special-purpose, local governments established under Chapter 190 of the Florida Statutes.



FELICIA PROIA

Felicia Proia has worked in public education as a school psychologist for the past five years. From an early age growing up in St. Augustine, she has enjoyed

volunteering her time and doing something for the greater good. Over the past decade, she has held leadership roles on executive boards for clubs and organizations within her professional field and local politics.

"I fight for what's best, not what's easy," she said. "Being an advocate means showing up and listening to

Anastasia Mosquito Control District - Seat 5



those you serve. My strength is in facilitating real conversations for real solutions and progress."

GAYLE GARDNER

Gayle Gardner is an avid "outdoors woman" and owner

of Cypress Horse Farm.

According to her Facebook page, she appreciates the benefits of the Anasta-



sia Mosquito Control District because the comfort and health of animals and residents are directly impacted by it.

GARY HOWELL

As an incumbent, I have served a total of 16 years on the

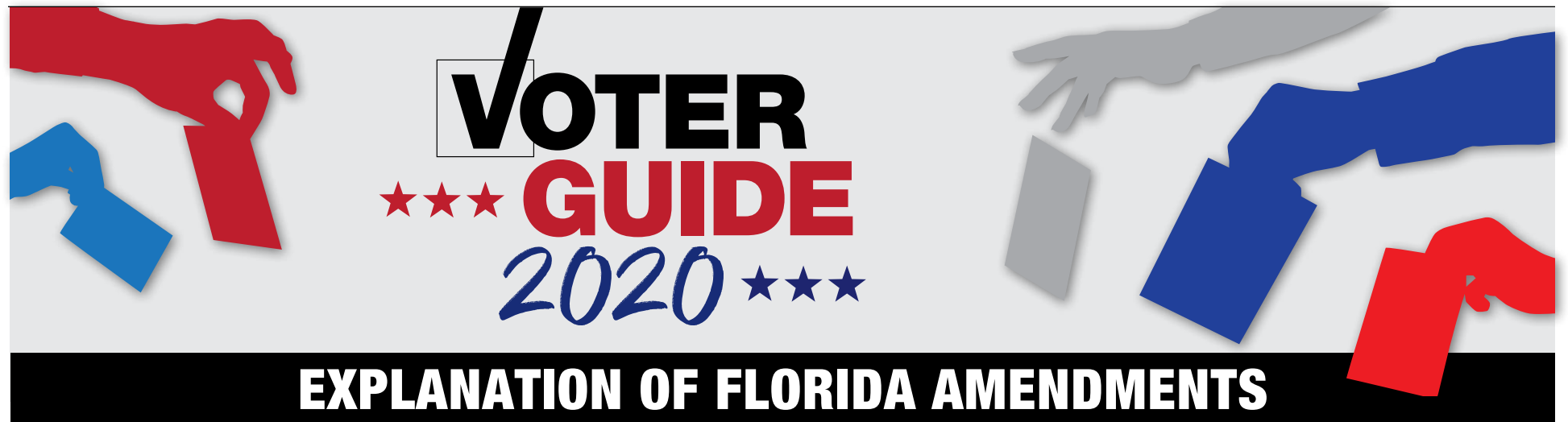
Mosquito Control Board, and am the only chairman of that board to serve for four straight years. While on the board I have

accumulated unique, valuable experience and direction on how the board can best function to continue to help lead the AMCD in the future. During my leadership, AMCD was relocated from Anastasia Island to center county. The island property was turned over to the county, saving taxpayers millions of dollars. Under my guidance, our mosquito control district now has a state-of-the-art research facility to study mosquitos and control methods, and the new facility has a dedicated hangar with a helicopter to spray remote areas.

After attending the St. Augustine Law Enforcement Academy, I became a deputy sheriff for 33 years. For 28 years in the county school system, I was supervisor of a management team that developed operating budgets.

I am retired from the Army, and active as a volunteer in the community – at the Elks Lodge, as a Palmetto Lodge Nobel Grand, in local political organizations, Sertoma Club, Boy Scouts, as a life member of the NRA, and a member of Turning Point at Calvary Church.

Go to pontevedrarecorder.com for more election information and to keep up with what's happening.



By Don Coble

There are seven state and local amendments on the General Election ballot on Nov. 3 and trying to pour through the legal talk often can be as difficult as reading Swedish instructions for building a home entertainment center.

While this doesn't pick sides in any of the decisions, it's essential to understand, in layman's terms, what we are asked to decide.

Some of the amendments are easy to understand. Others aren't. So here's a simple explanation of each amendment.

Amendment 1: Citizenship Requirement to Vote in Florida Elections

What the amendment says:

This amendment provides that only United States Citizens who are at least eighteen years of age, a permanent resident of Florida, and registered to vote, as provided by law, shall be qualified to vote in a Florida election. Because the proposed amendment is not expected to result in any changes to the voter registration process in Florida, it will have no impact on state or local government costs or revenue. Further, it will have no effect on the state's economy.

What it means:

A YES vote means foreigners who lack documentation and out of state visitors can't vote in Florida. It narrows the definition of an eligible voter to "only" a legal resident who's registered to vote.

A NO vote would expand the definition of a legal voter to "every" citizen who is a permanent resident in the state, regardless of documented status.

Amendment 2: Raising Florida's Minimum Wage

What the amendment says:

Raises minimum wage to \$10.00 per hour effective September 30th, 2021. Each September 30th thereafter, minimum wage shall increase by \$1.00 per hour until the minimum wage reaches \$15.00 per hour on September 30th, 2026. From that point forward, future minimum wage increases shall revert to being adjusted annually for inflation starting September 30th, 2027.

State and local government costs will increase to comply with the new minimum wage levels. Additional annual wage costs will be approximately \$16 million in 2022, increasing to about \$540 million in 2027 and thereafter. Government actions to mitigate these costs are unlikely to produce material savings. Other government costs and revenue impacts, both positive and negative, are not quantifiable.

THIS PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT IS ESTIMATED TO HAVE A NET NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE STATE BUDGET. THIS IMPACT MAY RESULT IN HIGHER TAXES OR A LOSS OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN A BALANCED STATE BUDGET AS REQUIRED BY THE CONSTITUTION.

What it means:

A YES vote would require annual increases in minimum wage until it reaches \$15 an hour, with yearly adjustments for inflation starting in 2027.

A NO vote would keep Florida's rate at \$8.56 an hour and make possible increases a function of the state legislature and governor.

Amendment 3: All Voters Vote in Primary Elections for State Legislature, Governor, and Cabinet

What the amendment says:

Allows all registered voters to vote in primaries for state legislature, governor, and cabinet regardless of political party affiliation. All candidates for an office, including party nominated candidates, appear on the same primary ballot. Two highest vote getters advance to general election. If only two candidates qualify, no primary is held and winner is determined in general election. Candidate's party affiliation may appear on ballot as provided by law. Effective January 1, 2024.

It is probable that the proposed amendment will result in additional local government costs to conduct elections in Florida. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference projects that the combined costs across counties will range from \$5.2 million to \$5.8 million for each of the first three election cycles occurring in even-numbered years after the amendment's effective date, with the costs for each of the intervening years dropping to less than \$450,000. With respect to state costs for oversight, the additional costs for administering elections are expected to be minimal. Further, there are no revenues linked to voting in Florida. Since there is no impact on state costs or revenues, there will be no impact on the state's budget. While the proposed amendment will result in an increase in local expenditures, this change is expected to be below the threshold that would produce a statewide economic impact.

What it means:

A YES vote means all candidates for the Florida House of Representatives, Florida Senate, Governor and the Cabinet, regardless of political affiliations, are lumped into a single primary with the top-two advancing to the General Election. It creates the possibility of two candidates from the

same political party running against each other.

A NO vote would keep the same closed system, which prohibits Democrats from voting for a Republican candidate in the primary and Republicans voting for Democrats in state-level races. The only exception is if there are no qualified candidates from one party, then all parties are allowed to cast votes.

Amendment 4: Voter Approval of Constitutional Amendments

What the amendment says:

Requires all proposed amendments or revisions to the state constitution to be approved by the voters in two elections, instead of one, in order to take effect. The proposal applies the current thresholds for passage to each of the two elections.

It is probable that the proposed amendment will result in additional state and local government costs to conduct elections in Florida. Overall, these costs will vary from election cycle to election cycle depending on the unique circumstances of each ballot and cannot be estimated at this time. The key factors determining cost include the number of amendments appearing for the second time on each ballot and the length of those amendments. Since the maximum state cost is likely less than \$1 million per cycle but the impact cannot be discretely quantified, the change to the state's budget is unknown. Similarly, the economic impact cannot be modelled, although the spending increase is expected to be below the threshold that would produce a statewide economic impact. Because there are no revenues linked to voting in Florida, there will be no impact on government taxes or fees.

THE FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THIS AMENDMENT CANNOT BE DETERMINED DUE TO AMBIGUITIES AND UNCERTAINTIES SURROUNDING THE AMENDMENT'S IMPACT.

What it means:

A YES vote means any changes or revisions to the constitution would require approval in two election cycles. Proponents feel the process needs an extra layer, even if it means changes now will take at least two years.

A NO vote means an amendment or revision to the constitution only needs to be approved in one election. Proponents feel two cycles would disenfranchise many grassroots campaigns to effect change.

Amendment 5: Limitations on Homestead Property Tax Assessments; increased portability period to transfer accrued benefit

What the amendment says:

Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution, effective January 1, 2021, to increase, from 2 years to 3 years, the period of time during which accrued

Save-Our-Homes benefits may be transferred from a prior homestead to a new homestead.

What it means: A YES vote means you agree to expand the deadline to transfer their "Save-Our-Homes" homestead exemptions from two years to three.

A NO vote means you believe the current two-year deadline to transfer a "Save-Our-Homes" homestead exemption is fine.

Amendment 6: Ad Valorem Tax Discount for Spouses of Certain Deceased Veterans Who Had Permanent, Combat-Related Disabilities

What the amendment says:

Provides that the homestead property tax discount for certain veterans with permanent combat-related disabilities carries over to such veteran's surviving spouse who holds legal or beneficial title to, and who permanently resides on, the homestead property, until he or she remarries or sells or otherwise disposes of the property. The discount may be transferred to a new homestead property of the surviving spouse under certain conditions. The amendment takes effect January 1, 2021.

What it means:

A YES vote means you support a homestead property tax discount to spouses of disabled or deceased veterans.

A NO vote means you don't believe a spouse of disabled or deceased veteran deserves a discount in the homestead property tax.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"The Captive Mind"

As I write this letter, we are a month away from the eternal political question: compared to what? One choice, a somewhat gruff, aggressive New Yorker, the other, a 47-year political spinning wheel. Trump was an electoral surprise; Biden has two presidential campaign strikes and is taking a final swing at 78.

Trump barged in and rattled every cage and shook every tree, often taking pages out of Obama's play book, Rules for Radicals, with ridicule and characterization. One may wince; that might not be your way. The cage dwellers and tree huggers spread barbed wire and broken glass over every inch of his road to policy achievement, as I have never observed in my lifetime. Still, he has many successes.

After his South Carolina resurrection, Biden was the last figure standing and now calls himself the Democrat Party. The Social Democrats wrote a policy manifesto that he signed. If he wins, the door is open to Bernie's revolution.

Folks, I have lived in two and worked in many socialist countries. The only way socialism can sustain itself is through oppression. I can see it. I can smell it. Words, thoughts and then actions become an imposed way of living. Sound familiar? If you don't believe me, please read *The Captive Mind*, winner of the 1980 Nobel Prize for Literature, written by a Lithuanian-born Polish citizen who was engulfed by the Moscow-directed movement of socialism through Europe. It has never died.

Biden is a flimsy willow in a fierce wind from the left. Sensible Democrats, Independents or Republicans, you don't want to go where Biden-Bernie wants to take you! Please believe me.

Douglas C. Worth,
Ponte Vedra Beach

Trump's 1st term a failure

As the 2020 presidential election approaches, I regretfully recall the 2016

election results. My candidate, although receiving 2.87 million more votes than Donald Trump, lost the election and unfortunately the USA settled for another Electoral College presidency. When Trump was inaugurated in Jan 2017, I was optimistic that the USA would survive as we have previously endured incompetent and inexperienced administrations.

Well now, almost four years into this administration, my 2017 optimism has vanished. The biggest Trump failure to date is the COVID-19 response, where there is no national plan, the threat is downplayed, a refusal to listen to experts, unsafe medications recommended and he will not not accept blame for the many failures. Now we have over 212K deaths and an economy in ruins and millions of Americans jobless, facing homelessness and without health insurance coverage.

Trump is also the architect of disastrous trade policies, alienating our trusted allies, revoking sound environmental policies and withdrawing from the Iran Nuclear Deal despite the objections of France, Great Britain and Germany. Trump refuses to condemn white supremacist groups and ignores intel that clearly identifies Russian interference in the 2016 and 2020 elections.

Trump's major accomplishment to date was the 2017 tax cut, but since I am not in the top 1% of earners, I did not qualify.

Due to the utter failure of the Trump administration, I fully endorse and recommend the Biden-Harris ticket in the 2020 election. Biden-Harris will fill their cabinet with competent and experienced personnel, will reestablish ties with our allies, develop sound trade policies, protect our environment, listen to experts on global warming and pandemics and strive to provide adequate health insurance coverage for Americans. It is time for the U.S. Government to return to the greatness we once knew.

Ed Warren,
Ponte Vedra Beach

Age before beauty: The rise of the Gerontocracy in American politics



Scott A. Grant
Guest Columnist

Whoever wins this election will become the oldest person ever to be elected to the Presidency, breaking Ronald Reagan's mark of 73.

If Donald Trump wins, he will become the oldest person to serve as president sometime during the fourth year of his second term, again breaking Reagan's record. If Joe Biden is elected, he will become the oldest to serve shortly after his inauguration. Reagan was almost 78 years old when he left office.

The average age of the two candidates this year is 76. That breaks the old record of 70 set in the last election in 2012. By way of comparison, the average age of the candidates in the fondly remembered election of 1960 between John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon, was 44. That is a generation younger than today's offerings. Kennedy won a close race to become the youngest man ever elected to the office.

Nixon would get another chance eight years later. At 43, Kennedy was the youngest President ever elected, but not the youngest man ever to ever serve. That honor belongs to Teddy Roosevelt who succeeded to the presidency at the age of 42 upon the death of William McKinley.

Prior to Reagan, the oldest man to win the Presidency for the first time was William Henry Harrison. He was elected in 1840 at the age of 68. Harrison, who was the first president to die in office, also holds the distinction of being the shortest serving president. He caught pneumonia while giving the longest inaugural address in history and died 31 days later. It was a cold and rainy day in Washington, and he

spoke for nearly two hours.

William Henry was succeeded by John Tyler. Tyler was one of the richest men in the Country and he owned the largest house in the State of Virginia. He also owned a lot of slaves. Tyler holds the distinction of being the President with the most children. He fathered 15 children with two wives. Tyler was born in 1790. Two of his grandsons are still alive today (Don't believe me? Look it up). To put this in context, if Barron Trump had a son at the same age his father had him and that son lived to the age of 80, Donald's grandson would still be alive in the year 2145.

Candidates have steadily gotten older in the last 40 years or so. The eight oldest candidates in history have all run for the office during most of our lifetimes. They are, in no particular order, Joe Biden 77, Donald Trump 74, Hillary Clinton 69, John McCain 72, George HW Bush 68, Bob Dole 73 and Ronald Reagan who was younger than most everyone on this list when he ran the first time. The median age of presidents is 55 years and 3 months. Lyndon Baines Johnson was exactly that age when he succeeded to the presidency following the assassination of JFK. He seemed old at the time.

The rise of the Gerontocracy is partially due to the aging of America. Both candidates and voters are getting older. Additionally, older Americans are much more likely to vote than their younger counterparts. It is not just the presidency. The average age of those in Congress is near an all-time high. Nancy Pelosi is 80. Diane Feinstein is almost 87. Neither are the oldest people currently serving in Congress.

Finally, older voters and Legislators have a vested interest in maintaining the status quo. Who better to do that than a septuagenarian?

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SCENES FROM ST. JOHNS COUNTY: DECISION 2020

An evening with Rep. Rutherford and state attorney R.J. Larizza



U.S. Rep. John Rutherford speaks to guests during a fundraiser and meet-and-greet at the home of Dale and Janet Westling on Oct. 7 in Ponte Vedra.



State Attorney R.J. Larizza addresses attendees at the fundraising event.



Guests mingle during a fundraiser and meet-and-greet for U.S. Rep. John Rutherford and State Attorney R.J. Larizza.

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<input type="checkbox"/> Clean pool	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Massage in Kalea Spa
<input type="checkbox"/> Mow yard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visit Grandkids
<input type="checkbox"/> Take out trash	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BBQ at the Coastal Cabana
<input type="checkbox"/> Replace lightbulbs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water aerobics class
<input type="checkbox"/> Renew gym membership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Movie in The Legend Cinema
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SCENES FROM ST. JOHNS COUNTY: DECISION 2020

Ponte Vedra Democrats rally support near Mickler's Landing



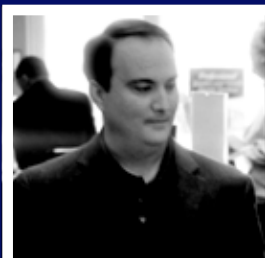
U.S. Army veteran Greg McClelland (left) and Democratic Florida State Representative District 17 candidate Davie Rogers, a U.S. Navy veteran, show their support for Democratic candidates in the upcoming election.



Members of the Ponte Vedra Democratic Club and Blue Wave Coalition, along with area Democrats, wave signs to rally support behind Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden and other Democrats up for election during a sign-waving celebration Saturday, Oct. 3, on the corner of A1A and Mickler Road.

Photos by Paris Moulden

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SCENES FROM ST. JOHNS COUNTY: DECISION 2020



Trump supporters set up shop in Ponte Vedra

Trump supporters sell Trump-endorsing merchandise while a woman holds signs supporting President Donald Trump on Saturday, Oct. 3, on the corner of A1A and Mickler Road.

Photos by Paris Moulden



Turnout big for early voting



Photo by Don Coble

The lines were long, especially on the first two days of early voting, for this year's general election. Two days into the early voting cycle, 57,442 of 210,535 – 27.3% – of registered voters in St. Johns County had already turned in their ballots. Two weeks ahead of the General Election, 37,886 have voted by mail and 19,556 have voted in person during the first two days of early voting, according to the St. Johns County Supervisor of Elections Office.

General Election ★ November 3, 2020

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For info on voting during COVID-19 See the VOTER ELECTION PROTECTION STANDARDS available at votesjc.com

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- Verify your polling place
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- View and print your sample ballot

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- St. Johns Convention Center At World Golf Village**
500 S. Legacy Trl., St. Augustine, FL 32092
- Ponte Vedra Concert Hall**
1050 A1A North, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
- Julington Creek Annex**
725 Flora Branch Blvd., St. Johns, FL 32259
- Ponte Vedra Branch Library**
101 Library Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
- Supervisor of Elections Office**
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MAKE SURE YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

Options for returning your vote by mail ballot:

- ★ Secure Drop boxes are available Oct 19 - 31 at all early voting locations during the hours of voting (Listed below)
- ★ **Availability of the Drop boxes end Oct. 31 when early voting ends**
- ★ **24 hr. Drop box in front of the Elections Office**

Your ballot MUST be received in the Election Office NO LATER THAN 7 PM Election day in order for it to count. If it is late, it will not count.

Vote by mail ballots cannot be turned in at the polls on election day.

ELECTION DAY

- ★ **Tuesday, November 3, 2020**
- ★ **Polls are open 7 AM – 7 PM**
- ★ **When voting on Election Day you MUST vote at the precinct of your legal residence.**
- ★ **Vote by mail ballots cannot be turned in at the polls on election day.**

KNOW WHERE TO VOTE BEFORE YOU GO

To locate your polling place visit www.votesjc.com or call the Elections Office at 823-2238.

ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF ID WHEN VOTING IN PERSON

Voter information cards are not a valid form of identification when voting. Be sure to bring a current and valid photo ID when voting in person. If the photo ID does not contain your signature, an additional ID that includes your signature shall be required. Example: Photo on Student ID and signature on a library card are acceptable. If you do not bring any ID, you will be allowed to vote a provisional ballot.

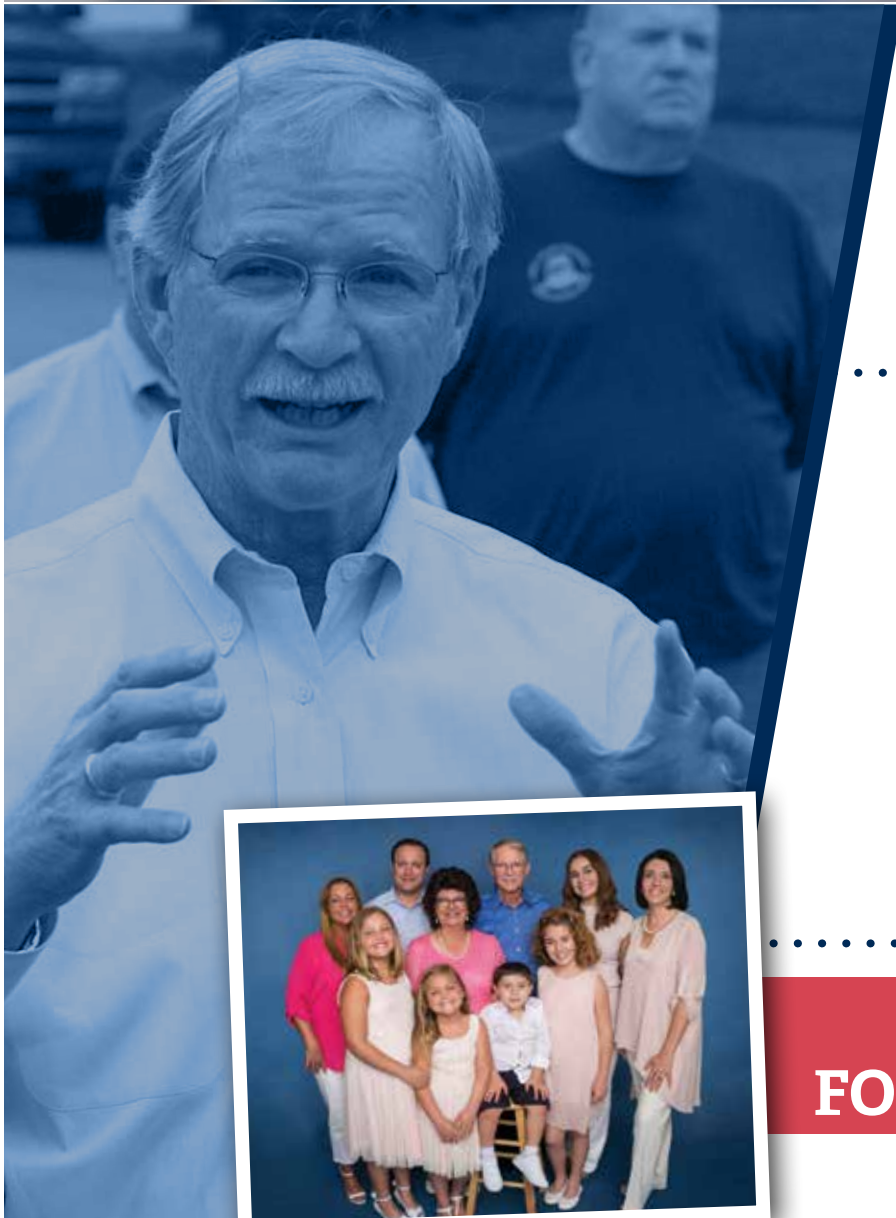
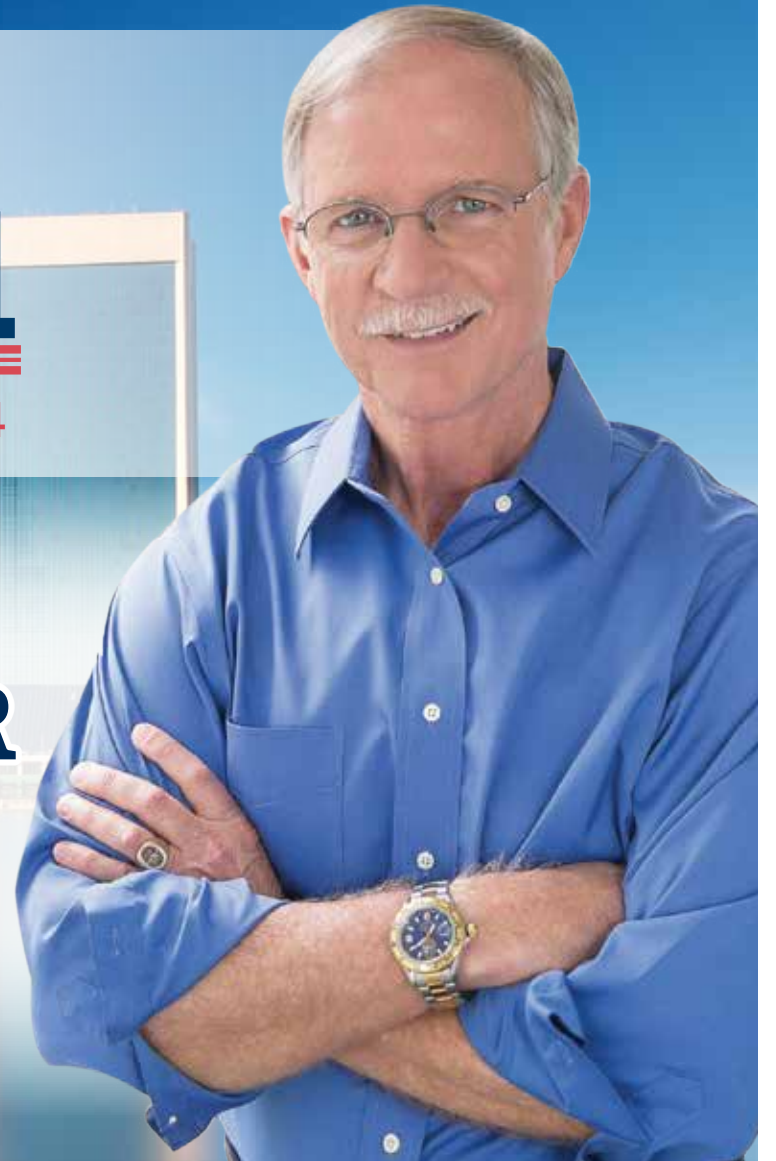
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- Florida ID Card issued by DMV
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- Concealed Weapon ID or Firearm License ID
- Government Employee ID

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- ★ **ENSURING ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE -** Fought for legislation that would lower prescription drug costs and protect coverage for pre-existing conditions
- ★ **PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT AND WATER QUALITY -** Protected our coastal waters from fracking and offshore oil drilling

John Rutherford Is Getting Results
FOR THE ISSUES WE CARE ABOUT

PAID FOR BY CITIZENS FOR JOHN RUTHERFORD

Business Weekly

PAGE 29 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2020

Column: Finding the meaning of happiness

Page 30

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com



Recorder file photo

The staff of the Ponte Vedra Wellness Center celebrate its 15th anniversary with a fall festival last year. This year's fall festival and 16th anniversary celebration is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 29.

Ponte Vedra Wellness Center celebrates 16 Years at the Beach

The Ponte Vedra Wellness Center will be hosting a Florida Fall Festival and Anniversary Celebration on Thursday, Oct. 29, to celebrate 16 years of operation at the Beach.

The event will be held outside their Ponte Vedra Beach office on Corridor Road from 5 to 7 p.m. and is free and open to all. This event is also in cooperation with the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce as part of their After Hours event series.

As an outdoor event, proper social

distancing will be maintained and food and beverages will be prepackaged and available "to go." Ponte Vedra Wellness Center will showcase the variety of services and options for therapy offered in its practice. Chair massages will be available as well as raffle prizes.

"We are thrilled to be able to offer an in-person anniversary event this year as we were not really sure given the health challenges 2020 has presented for us all," said Dr. Erika Hamer, owner of Ponte Vedra Wellness Center. "It will be a wonderful change to gather in

a non-Zoom way and catch up as well as network with fellow Chamber members and other business professionals at the Beach. Our outdoor space is quite large so we anticipate a good turnout. This free event is open to all and we look forward to seeing everyone on the 29th!"

The event will be held outside at center's office, which is located at the Center State Bank building, corner of A1A and Palm Valley Road.

Call (904) 273-2691 for more information.

Caregivers must care (financially) for themselves, too



Karsten Jacobson
Columnist

If you're a caregiver, possibly for a loved one dealing with an illness such as Alzheimer's disease, you're probably already facing some significant emotional and physical challenges — so you don't need any financial ones as well. Yet, they are difficult to avoid. What steps can

you take to deal with them?

First of all, you may be interested in knowing the scale of the problem. Consider these numbers from the Alzheimer's Association: About 5.8 million Americans ages 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's disease, and in 2019, caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's or other dementias contributed more than 18 billion hours of unpaid care — worth about \$244 billion in services. Furthermore, about two-thirds of caregivers are women, and one-third of dementia caregivers are daughters.

But whatever your gender or relationship to the individuals for whom you're providing care, you can take some steps to protect your own financial future. Here are a few suggestions:

■ **Evaluate your employment options.** If you have to take time away from work — or even leave employment altogether — to be a caregiver, you will lose not only income but also the opportunity to contribute to an IRA and a 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. But you may have some options, such as working remotely, or at least working part time. Either arrangement can give you flexibility in juggling your employment with your caregiving responsibilities.

■ **Explore payment possibilities for caregiving.** Depending on your circumstances, and those of the loved ones for whom you're providing care, you might be able to work out an arrangement in which you can get paid something for your services. And as long as you are earning income, you can contribute to an IRA to keep building resources for your own retirement.

■ **Protect your financial interests** — and those of your loved ones. You may well want to discuss legal matters with the individual for whom you are a caregiver before Alzheimer's

North Florida Green Chamber and Jacksonville Bar Association to host virtual legislative event

The North Florida Green Chamber of Commerce and Jacksonville Bar Association are presenting their Annual Legislative Event on Economic Opportunity and Environmental Justice from noon to 2 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 22.

Hosted by the Green Chamber's Policy Committee and the JBA Environmental & Real Property Law Commit-

tee, this year's topics will include the City of Jacksonville Brownfield Program and Economic Development through Affordable Housing.

Speakers include attorney Brenda Ezell, owner and sole

Come on, get happy!



Harry Pappas
Columnist

John W. Gray III, pastor and author of “Win from Within: Finding Yourself by Facing Yourself,” said the following in his enlightening paperback: “How many stories do we have of entertainers and people of great notoriety who, because of their

for whatever reason most of us have to learn it the hard way.

Charles R. Swindoll, in his book, “Paul: A Man of Grace and Grit,” underscores the concept of destination addiction quite nicely when he said, “What is it going to take for us to give up this idea that we’ve got to be somebody? Everyone joins the race to the top. Sadly, I can report that the loneliest, most unfulfilled people I’ve ever met are people at the top. They’ve arrived, but most are lonely, living on empty, desperate to find a meaning for their existence. Sadly, Christians aren’t immune.”

gifts and talents, have ascended to great heights of visibility, but once they arrive, they find themselves completely empty? They search for value and validation at the end of a bottle, or at the end of a puff of smoke, or after an exchange of intimacy with someone they barely know, but none of this can fill the hole in their souls.”

Perhaps you are like the younger me looking for happiness in all the wrong ways and all the wrong places. I finally got it that happiness is not obtained by the pursuit of happiness but rather by living right. So what exactly is “living right” that keeps us healthy and happy as we journey through life?

Regrettably far too many folks, who seem to have it all, are deeply unhappy. They often succumb to destination addiction; the idea that happiness is in the next place or next job or even the next companion. The idea of more, more, and more is a failed experiment but for whatever reason so many of us keep wandering along the cul-de-sac of stupidly telling ourselves that when we get what we want and enough of what we want then we will be happy. Nope, doesn’t work, as countless people will tell us, but

Perhaps a 75-year-old Harvard Study of Adult Development answers the quintessential question. Consider the inquiry presented by the original researchers; What if we could follow people throughout life and document what makes them happy? Since 1938 these academics tracked the lives of two groups of men, 268 Harvard graduates

PAPPAS continues on **Page 33**



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Legislative

Continued from 29

shareholder of the Ezell Law Firm; Jody McDaniel, Brownfields coordinator for the City of Jacksonville Planning and Development Department; Paul Tutwiler, Executive Director of the Northwest Jacksonville Community Development Corporation and moderator Kristina Nelson, Esq. of Finger, Nelson & Maguire, a Jacksonville environmental law firm.

“These topics are very timely and have local impact. We support policies that promote healthy communities through sustainable redevelopment and access to quality, affordable housing. Two vital elements that improve the quality of life in Northeast Florida,” said Christina W. Kelcourse, CFP, CRPC, NFGCC executive director.

The Environmental Protection Agency's Brownfields Program provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes and nonprofit organizations to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up and reuse brownfield sites.

Ezell is a 2019 Florida Super Lawyers honoree. She will provide an overview of the current policy and legal landscape of affordable housing in the state,

specifically the North Florida region. The discussion will focus on federal tax credits, their use and impact on underserved communities, opportunities for economic development and their impact on real estate law.

The Northwest Jacksonville Community Development Corporation was founded in June 2001 “out of concern for community decline and blight.”

In recent years, NWJCDC’s board and CEO refocused the organization’s efforts on real estate development and revitalizing the business and residential community immediately surrounding Northpoint I and its corporate headquarters, which it named the “District of Soul” in honor of the community’s historic roots.

NFGCC is a regional networking organization for all sizes of businesses and community organizations including nonprofits that emphasize green and sustainable business practices.

In addition to promoting the economic success of NFGCC members by offering environmental, socially responsible, and sustainable products and services, the North Florida chapter has ongoing networking and educational events, job fairs, a Buyer’s Club, newsletter as well as sponsorship opportunities, discounts and a mentoring program.



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Jacobson

Continued from 29

robs them of the ability to think clearly. It may be beneficial to work with a legal professional to establish a financial power of attorney — a document that names someone to make financial decisions and pay bills when the person with Alzheimer’s no longer can. And whether you or someone else has financial power of attorney, the very existence of this document may help you avoid getting your personal finances

entangled with those of the individual for whom you’re caring.

■ **Keep making the right financial moves.** As long as you’re successful at keeping your own finances separate from those of your loved one, you may be able to continue making the financial moves that can help you make progress toward your own goals. For example, avoid taking on more debts than you can handle. Also, try to maintain an emergency fund containing three to six months’ worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid account. Of course, these tasks will

be much easier if you can maintain some type of employment or get paid for your caregiving services.

There’s nothing easy about being a caregiver. But by making the right moves, you may be able, at the least, to reduce your potential financial burden and brighten your outlook.

Karsten L. Jacobson, CFP®, is a financial advisor for Edward Jones at 2208 Sawgrass Village Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach 904 285 9898. This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones financial advisor.

Pappas

Continued from 30

from the Harvard classes of 1939 to 1944 and 456 young men growing up in the inner city of Boston around the same time.

What I find remarkable about the analysis is that it did not just involve questionnaires.

Researchers went to participants’ homes and talked about work, home life and health. They chatted with the spouses and children of the subjects, and they reviewed medical records. The subjects also had blood draws and brain scans over several decades to compare physical factors.

“The clearest message that we get from this 75-year study is this: Good relationships keep us happier and healthier. Period,” according to Dr. Robert Waldinger, director of the Harvard Study of Adult Development.

Please take note of the word “good,” as the examination demonstrates that it is not enough just to have relationships but the interactions must include, trust, communication, patience, empathy, affection, and arguably the most paramount characteristic, love! While most scientists argue that love comes, not from the heart, but from our brain, we nevertheless associate love with our heart. I suggest that the bigger the heart, the more love we share and with this incredible love comes the power to accomplish the most difficult feats, especially

troubled relationships.

Perhaps the following short story about Secretariat, the legendary racehorse whose name reigns supreme in the history of racing will prove that having a big heart indeed has incredible power. Not only did Secretariat become the first horse in 25 years to win the Triple Crown in 1973, the thoroughbred did it in a way that left spectators breathless.

Accelerating with each quarter-mile, Secretariat crossed the finish line at 1:59 2/5th, a new (and still standing) course record. In the 47 years since, only one other horse, Monarchos finished in less than two minutes. What I find more astonishing is that after Secretariat’s death, veterinarians discovered the secret to his incredible power; a heart nearly three times the size of an average horse’s heart, an estimated twenty-two pounds! If you believe, as I do, that a big heart (sacrificial love) is the foundation of healthy relationships, you might enjoy reading Danny Silk’s remarkable book, “Keep Your Love On.”

“Keeping your love on is a hard thing to do. Sometimes it’s the hardest thing to do. But if you want to build healthy relationships with God and others, learning to keep your love on is non-negotiable,” according to Danny.

Lastly, if you found this rather lengthy narrative of interest, I urge you check out Dr. Robert Waldinger’s 13-minute YouTube presentation regarding the 75-year-old

Harvard study on happiness. I believe you will find the speech, as entertaining and thought provoking, as I did. To close this dispatch, here are words of wisdom from Robert Holden, Ph.D., in his book “Authentic Success:” “Until we give up the idea that happiness is somewhere else, it will never be where we are.”

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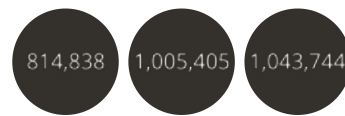
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SJC Public Library System to present 'GhostHunters' star in live virtual event Oct. 28

The St. Johns County Public Library System is bringing TV's "GhostHunters" star, Dustin Pari, into your living room (virtually) this Halloween.

"GhostHunter" Dustin Pari will present the live virtual event "Halloween: A Haunted History" to an audience of up to 100 on from 6 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 28.

Find out ghoulish secrets of Halloween's past that may just help you get into the spirit of what might be our strangest Halloween yet — Halloween 2020! In this lecture, Pari sheds some light on the spooky shadows of Halloween history and lore. Ghost stories? Oh yeah, he has some of those, too.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library of Ponte Vedra Beach, this program is free, but registration is required. Register by calling the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library at (904) 827-6950 or from the library's website calendar on sjcpls.org. Event participation requires an internet-connected device and a Zoom account. Visit zoom.us to create a free Zoom account.



Dustin Pari

This special event is just one of the many seasonal programming options offered by the library. Visit sjcpls.org learn more about the library or to see the full schedule of online events offered for kids, teens and adults.

Apex Theatre Studios' 'A Christmas Story' returns to Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

Celebrate the holidays with hilarity and Apex Theatre Studio this December. On Friday, Dec. 18 through Sunday, Dec. 20, Apex Theatre Studio will present "A Christmas Story," a full-length comedy based on the beloved film, at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall.

Limited capacity tickets for Apex Theatre Studio presents "A Christmas Story" are currently on sale.

Humorist Jean Sheperd's memoir of growing up in the Midwest of the 1940s follows Ralphie Parker in his quest to get a genuine Red Ryder BB gun under the tree for Christmas. All the elements from the classic motion picture are here: The exploding furnace, the school bully, the boys' experiment with a wet tongue on a lamppost and the infamous leg lamp.

The Orlando Sentinel exclaims "Classics bloom quickly in modern times ... you don't have to have grown up with 9-year-old Ralphie Parker and his ache for an air rifle under the tree to think of 'A Christmas Story' as a Christmas must. And [this]



version is just as kindly and just as cockeyed as 'A Christmas Story' is meant to be."

The production is under the direction of Ian Mairs, managing director of Apex Theatre Studio and features a combination of faculty, students and guest artists from the Northeast

Florida area. Extra safety measures such as students and patrons being required to wear masks for the duration of the performance, as well socially distanced seating implemented.

Now in its seventh year, the nonprofit Apex Theatre Studio fosters young artists who possess a passion and curiosity for acting, singing, dancing and stagecraft through a series of master classes, intensives, readings and theatrical presentations. For more information on Apex Theatre Studio, go to apextheatrejax.com.

Tickets for "A Christmas Story" are available for purchase at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall Box Office, as well as all Ticketmaster outlets.

THEME: CIVICS

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ACROSS

- Beginning of flu, e.g.
- Espionage agent
- *Warsaw Pact opponent
- Ringworm
- Romanian monetary unit
- Well-known
- Contain the ashes
- Paris' ____ De Triomphe
- Wear away
- *Group of President's advisors
- *Balance partner, pl.
- Ever, to a poet
- Joker, e.g.
- Type of coniferous
- Man Ray's genre
- Switches topics
- "Beware the ____ of March"
- Large casks
- Beyond suburban
- Fatalist's future
- Weasel's aquatic cousin
- City of Taj Mahal
- Tossed or passed
- Ready and eager
- "I ____ With You" by Modern English
- Water pipe
- Diplomat's forte
- Grain in J.D. Salinger's novel
- Miso bean
- One of Indiana Jones' quests
- *Part of Congress
- *One who introduces a bill
- Recurring pain
- Consumed
- Baby grand, e.g.
- Relating to Hinduism
- Siren's domain
- Tiny island
- Fencing weapon
- Trinitrotoluene, for short
- Two-player strategy board game
- Avian rest stop
- Muse of love poetry
- Store posting, abbr.
- Choral composition
- *"Miranda Rights" amendment
- Leading potato-producing state
- Yesteryear style
- *Serving on a jury
- *One of five U.S. territories
- One that insists
- Ahead of time
- *List of candidates
- Radio button
- Red Cross supplies
- Summary
- Sushi restaurant burner
- "Too ____ to handle"
- ____ of Cancer
- Brewer's staple
- Snack of Jewish origin
- Edmund Fitzgerald, e.g.
- Marine eagle
- Lymphatic swelling
- *John Roberts' spot, e.g.
- Black Friday lure
- Half of binary code, pl.
- Decomposes
- Definite article
- *Number of amendments in the Bill of Rights
- Computer-generated imagery, acr.
- Garden cultivator

DOWN

- Ear-related
- Santa Maria's companion
- Give the cold shoulder
- Like Halloween night
- Turned skin into leather
- Blind segment
- ____ capita
- New Mexico's state flower
- Narcotics agent, for short
- Every which way
- Koppel and Kennedy
- Percy Bysshe Shelley's poem, e.g.

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Jacksonville Symphony receives \$1 million gift to endow director of music education position

The Jacksonville Symphony welcomed Marianne Rice as its first “Lory Doolittle Endowed Director of Music Education.” Lory Doolittle endowed the position with a \$1 million gift to create a lasting impact on the organization’s education and community engagement program.

“We are beyond thrilled to receive Lory’s incredibly kind and generous gift,” says Symphony President and CEO Steven Libman. “The director of music education position holds the keys to connecting us with our surrounding community. This gift exemplifies Lory’s dedication to symphonic music, education, and to her community.”

Doolittle has been a dedicated philanthropist in the Jacksonville community since moving here with her late husband Pete in 2006. She is a member of the Symphony’s Conductor’s Club giving society, a subscriber to the Florida Blue Masterworks Series, and has been the lead donor in multiple Symphony match campaigns. The culminating gift of \$1 million to endow such an impactful position reaffirms her passion for education and dedication to the Jacksonville Symphony and arts within the community.

“The Pete and Lory Doolittle Family are pleased to be able to help with the establish-

ment of the director of education position at the Jacksonville Symphony,” Doolittle said. “The expansion of music education in Jacksonville aligns with the philanthropic goals of the Doolittle Family. We are excited about extending the opportunities for the students of greater Jacksonville to access music and music education.”

Filling the director of music education position will be Marianne Rice, who is a lifelong educator and joins the symphony directly from Duval County Public Schools. Rice comes with experience teaching all grade levels, designing and implementing curricula, and working specifically with performing arts to create education programs. She holds a bachelor of arts in English from Benedict College and master’s degrees from both Norfolk State University (music education) and Old Dominion University (secondary education). Rice previously served as an education program specialist for Dr. Marlena Smalls and The Hallelujah Singers of Beaufort, South Carolina.

She has also published “Music Education Through Gullah: The Legacy of a Forgotten Genre” as well as a children’s book called “Anire’s Adventures.”

“Music has been my foundation since I was a child,” Rice said. “Coming from a family where my grandmother was a musician and my mother a vocalist, has inspired me to continue the rich legacy of the performing arts, and as a former teacher with Duval County Public Schools, the Jacksonville Symphony gives me the opportunity to impart my music education background with the community of Jacksonville. I am excited about taking on the position of director of music education and community engagement for the symphony and look forward to the adventures and opportunities it presents for our local schools.”

As the director of music education, Rice will oversee and coordinate successful partnerships with Communities in Schools and Students at the Symphony, a program giving free access to the concert experience for students and families. While Rice will take on a leading role in expanding the symphony’s community engagement initiatives, she will also work closely with Symphony Assistant Conductor and Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestras (JSYO) Principal Conductor Deanna Tham to continue building the JSYO’s reach within the community.

The Jacksonville Symphony’s music education and community engagement programs include multiple opportunities for students of all ages to engage with live orchestral music, from hands-on learning with the Instrument Zoo and Youth Orchestra, to the Jump Start Strings Program, Ensembles in Schools and sites throughout the community, to field trips to Jacoby Symphony Hall through Students at the Symphony. Some of these programs have been put on hold until COVID-19 restrictions safely allow them to start again. In past seasons, the Symphony has reached more than 35,000 students through education and community engagement initiatives.

This season the Jacksonville Symphony will offer virtual educational ensembles for any school to take advantage of. These “exploring the music” videos will feature an ensemble of the Jacksonville Symphony performing and talking about music in a 30-minute format. Schools will have the option to choose which ensemble they would like to learn from. The Symphony will also record longer programs with the full orchestra as an alternative to their Young People’s and Preludes Concerts.

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Sports

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Drafts: Nease's improvement not measured solely by scoreboard

By Don Coble

Although the scoreboard has yet to suggest otherwise, head coach Collin Drafts insists the Nease High football program is improving.

Despite a 1-4 record, including a 42-13 home loss last week against Bartram Trail, Drafts said results have to be prefaced with a change in culture.

"We are still a very young team, a year or two of the program with me being the head coach," Drafts said. "We're focused on us and our process and trying to get just a little bit better day by day, week by week. We're just trying to grow and keep our kids locked in and believing in our process."

"Regardless of what the outcomes are, from the experience I've been in from turning programs around, that's what our focus is on. You sprinkle in all the other stuff we're dealing with, it makes it, at

times, difficult. That's where we're at right now."

Drafts was challenged to change a program that hasn't enjoyed a winning season since 2014 – when most of his current players were still in elementary school.

"From a culture standpoint, our system and the way we operate, the way we practice and what we've asked of these guys, just playing as hard as they can every play, every day, that's the biggest thing," Drafts said. "I do see progress."

The Panthers will try to continue their gradual development at St. Augustine Friday night at 7. The Yellow Jackets are 3-2 and coming off a 56-21 loss at Matanzas.

Ponte Vedra High also will be on the road. The Sharks, who beat Englewood 23-7 in Jacksonville last week, travel to Live Oak to play Suwannee (5-2) will be a formidable challenge to Ponte Vedra (5-10), especially since the Bulldogs are coming off 47-0 (against Palatka) and

21-0 (Wakulla) consecutive victories.

The COVID-19 pandemic created more uncertainty for a young Nease team, Drafts said. The routine he's worked so hard to correct was turned upside-down by lockdowns and social distancing rules.

And yet, the challenging months seemed to solidify Nease's resolve, Drafts said.

"It's hard at times, even as a head coach when you're basically dealing with a group of 14-to-18-year-old teenagers who are hammering along every day, sticking to the process," he said. "It's tough to point to success in the category of wins – obviously that's why you play the game – but we are making progress."

"We do have kids more bought into our system, our culture than there was a year ago at this time. That's what I'm most proud of. We have to line up against some really good teams every Friday night and we're just trying to do the best



Photo by Don Coble

Nease coach Collin Drafts guides his team during a practice earlier this season.

we can. That's all I can ask right now. We are taking the necessary steps in the right direction."

And getting closer to where the program is defined solely by the scoreboard.

TRIATHLON MAKES 2ND SPLASH IN PONTE VEDRA BEACH



Photos by Cory Knolton @ Fixed Focus Photography

The second part of the Game On! Race Events Ponte Vedra Beach Triathlon was hosted at Mickler's Landing on Oct. 11. The event included an Olympic distance triathlon, duathlon and aquabike, as well as the sprint triathlon and sprint duathlon. The first part of the series was held Aug. 9. Next year, the two-part event is scheduled to take place at Mickler's Landing on April 11 and Oct. 10.

Detroit motors into TIAA Bank Field, runs over Jaguars 34-16

By Mike Bonts
Special to the Recorder

Detroit jumped out to a 14-3 lead Sunday and kept its foot on the gas in a 34-16 win over the Jaguars to improve to 2-3 on the season, while Jacksonville fell to 1-5 last Sunday at TIAA Bank Field.

The Lions held double-digit leads in all three losses this season and six consecutive games, but could not hold on for a victory. That was not the case against the Jaguars.

“We’ve just got to start making some plays and run the football better. I mean, I think there’s a lot of things that we can do for a lot of players that we’ve got to continue to take a look at. So, I think it’s all a team effort,” said Jaguars head coach Doug Marrone. “Like I told the team. We all have to do a better job. So, you know, we dug ourselves in this hole, we’re not playing very well, we’re not making plays at critical times in the game, [we’re] falling behind, trying to play catch-up too early, not making plays early enough to keep the game within one score.”

Jacksonville quarterback Gardner Minshew completed 25 of his 44 passes for 243 yards with a touchdown, a fumble and interception by safety Duron Harmon.

“They’re a particularly good defense and very well coached,” Minshew said. “That is one thing that stands out. They did a



Jaguars running back James Robinson (30) tries to escape a tackle by the Lions' Jarrad Davis during last Sunday's game at TIAA Bank Field.

Photo provided by Jacksonville Jaguars

good job mixing their blitzes and mixing their coverage. We never really got settled in and we just need to do a better job starting faster and getting in that rhythm a little sooner.”

Jaguars undrafted rookie running back James Robinson totaled 53 scrimmage yards, 29 rushing, 24 receiving and one score against the Lions. In 2020, Robinson has 362 rushing yards and three TDs on 85 carries and 207 receiving yards and one touchdown on 23 catches.

Another rookie running back, Detroit's D'Andre Swift, had his best game of the year, rushing 14 times for 116 yards and two touchdowns. For the game, Detroit rushed for 180 yards.

Lions QB Matthew Stafford completed 19-of-31 passes for 223 yards with one touchdown and one interception. The Lions added two Matt Prater field goals.

The Jaguars used a 35-yard pass from Minshew to Keelan Cole Sr. to get into range for kicker Jon Brown, who connect-

ed from 31 yards out and the Jaguars first points on the TIAA Bank Field scoreboard. Cole caught six passes and turned in a game-high 143 receiving yards.

Brown, making his NFL debut, is the fifth kicker used by the Jaguars this season. The field-goal attempt was the first of the former NCAA soccer player's career after going undrafted in 2016.

Detroit's defense played inspired, holding Jacksonville to just 275 total yards and 44 yards on the ground.

Stafford threw his fourth interception of the season. He was intercepted early in the third quarter by linebacker Joe Schobert at the Lions' 20-yard line. But Detroit's defense held and made the hosts turn the ball over on downs with a failed 4th and 4 attempts from the 14-yard line.

The Jaguars travel Sunday to play the Los Angeles Chargers at 4:25 p.m. The game will be on CBS.

GAME NOTES: The Jaguars have given up at least 30 points in five straight games. ... Swift is the first Lions rookie to run for 100-plus yards and score two touchdowns in a game since Barry Sanders in 1989. Swift came into the contest rushing just 12 times for 42 yards with one score in four games. ... The Lions dominated the time of possession battle 35:27-24:30.



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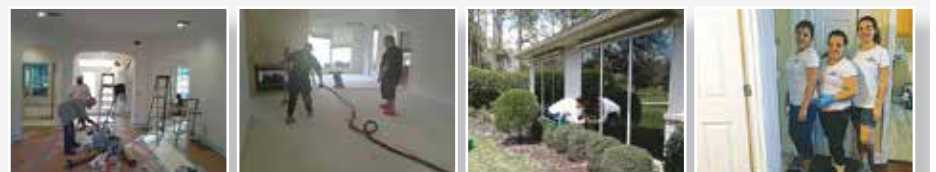


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