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Recorder

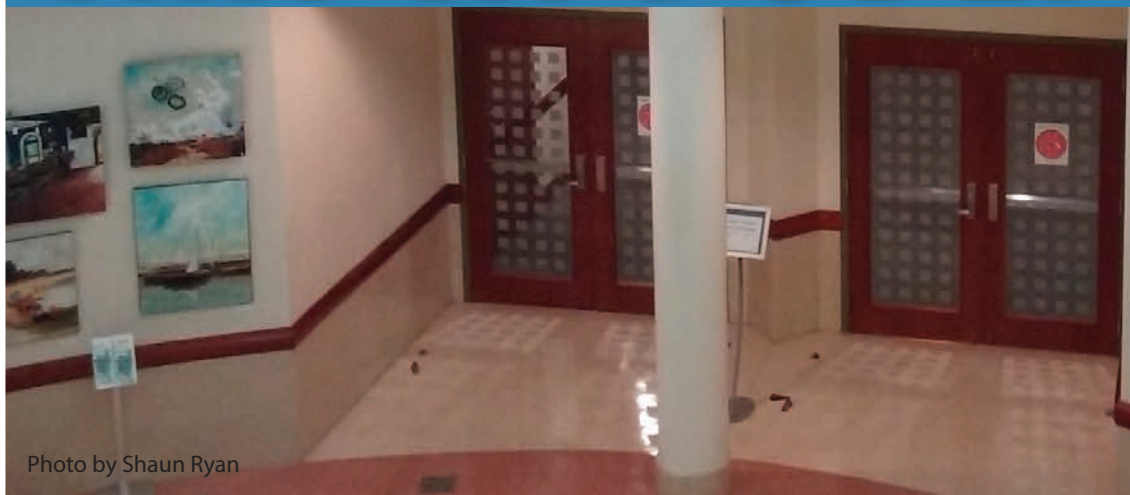
April 15, 2021
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Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

PonteVedraRecorder.com



ART IN PUBLIC SPACES



Large paintings hang around the top portion on the rotunda at the St. Johns County Administration Building. From left are "Early Marley Morning" by Don Kight, "Emergence" by Lisa Myers and "Full Moon Marsh" by Ken Vallario. Not pictured: "Matanzas" by Patrick Madden. For more, go to page 22

Photo by Shaun Ryan



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



Legal Eagles

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Sports

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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.

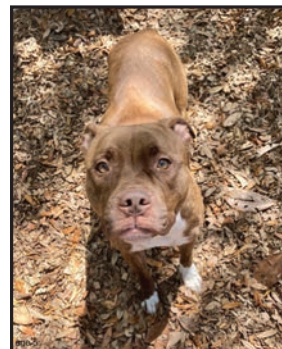
NOTE TO READERS

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.

ADOPT A PET

CAT OF THE WEEK

#57954 Hello my name is Blue. I am a 10 month old male domestic short-hair cat and I am anything but blue ... I am warm and loving and have really shined while staying here at the Pet Center. I came to the Pet Center when my family could no longer take care of me, so I was, of course, a little sad. Thankfully all the love and attention shown to me have helped me trust again. I would need a home where I am the only cat as having one as a roommate won't be good for me. I prefer to have all of your love and attention. Call the Pet Center at (904) 209-6190 to schedule a meet and greet with me! #58007



DOG OF THE WEEK

Hi! My name is Cookie. I am a 4-year-old female terrier mix. Even though I was left to fend for myself, I am still sweet, loving and wishing for a home of my own. Now I am looking for a family with lots of love and energy to match my own. Looking for someone who will not leave me behind again because with all of my loyalty, I will never leave you! Call the Pet Center at (904) 209-6190 to schedule a meet and greet with me! #58061

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

St. Johns County Pet Center

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

BRIEFS

Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccination pop-up sites postponed in St. Johns County

The Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccination pop-up sites scheduled for St. Johns County on April 15, 16 and 18 have been postponed for dates yet to be determined. For more information, call the St. Johns County COVID-19 Vaccination Hotline at (904) 295-3711.

Intermittent Nighttime closures expected on Hospital Creek Bridge

As part of the Hospital Creek Bridge improve-

ment project located on State Road A1A just west of the Vilano Bridge, intermittent overnight closures are planned for the Hospital Creek Bridge through Friday, April 23. Closures will occur in 30-minute increments between the hours of 11 p.m. to 6:30 a.m. The bridge will reopen to allow emergency response vehicles to pass through when needed.

The closures are necessary for crews to complete rehabilitation work underneath the bridge. Improvements to the bridge include deck and joint repair work, concrete beam repairs, cathodic protection for piles and bent caps and

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.



**SATURDAY, MAY 22
& SUNDAY, MAY 23**

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Save the Date

The Art in the Garden Festival is a weekend celebration of creativity in all its forms—intriguing art, curated music, demonstration classes, extraordinary living pictures—all within our lush gardens. Learn more at jacksonvillezoo.org.



Presented by



Briefs

Continued from 2

other miscellaneous work items.

To complete bridge rehabilitation work, lane closures and flagging operations will

be necessary Monday through Sunday from 9:30 p.m. to 6:30 a.m.

Southern Road and Bridge, LLC. is projected to complete the \$1.2 million bridge rehabilitation improvement project by late 2021. Construction project completion dates are fluid and subject to change.

Bartram Trail Branch Library scheduled to reopen April 14

The Bartram Trail Branch Library, 60 Davis Pond Blvd., is scheduled to reopen at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, April 14, after the completion of a roof replacement. Patrons who checked out materials at the Bartram Trail Branch Library or the annex prior to or during the closure will not accrue late fees. For more information, go to www.sjcpls.org/closure.

Frank Butler Park East now open

Frank Butler Park East, 5860 A1A South, is now open after being closed for park improvements, including beach walkover maintenance, new landscaping, additional parking and parking lot surface

improvements. Bathroom renovations and the construction of sidewalks and ADA parking spaces are scheduled for completion in August and will not affect public access to the park. For more information on this project, call Beach Services at (904) 209-0331.

St. Johns County School Board Workshop scheduled for April 27

There will be a School Board Workshop at 9 a.m. Tuesday, April 27. The workshop will be held in the auditorium of the SJCS Administrative Building at 40 Orange St. in St. Augustine and via Webex. Instructions to access the virtual meeting will be posted on the St. Johns County School District website at www.stjohns.k12.fl.us.



FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT

Florida Chamber Music Project Presents

Piotr Szewczyk and Edvard Grieg



Please join the Florida Chamber Music Project as we celebrate Contemporary Classical and Music of the Romantic Era

Sunday, April 25th, 3pm

at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall.
Doors to open at 2 p.m.

CDC protocols: Patrons, performers, and staff will adhere to both FCMP & SJC Guidelines (see COVID-19 Guidelines, policies, updates at theamp.com) Masks will be required at all times. Tickets will be sold in advance in socially distanced pods, through Ticketmaster or at the St. Augustine Amphitheater box office. Advance box office sales will not be available at the PV Concert Hall, however you may purchase at the box office on the day of the concert.

For more information please visit our website at flchambermusic.org

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129 BURNING PINE CT. | PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FL
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Beautiful waterfront home in the highly desirable gated neighborhood of Fairfield, moments away from the beach, great restaurants, shopping, & country clubs. This pristine home offers a fabulous floorplan with soaring ceilings, abundant natural light, & water views from main living areas, master suite, & upstairs guest bedroom. Features a paved driveway, screened lanai, & sunning deck. Fairfield has excellent amenities & no CDD fees. MLS 1101765

For more information, contact Kay Kennedy: 904.631.4184



24604 DEER TRACE DR. | PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FL
4 BED | 4.5 BATH | 4,423 SQFT | \$1,195,000

Private oasis offering picture perfect sunsets & pristine marsh views in the heart of Marsh Landing! This home has been thoughtfully designed with open sun-drenched living areas, Pella windows, wood floors, & natural sea grass floor coverings. The downstairs owners' suite features a sumptuous bedroom, study, & 2 full baths. There are 2 additional bedrooms upstairs & a first-floor guest retreat with private bath & morning kitchen. MLS 1101955

For more information, contact Missy DeKay: 904.613.2445



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LUXURY PORTFOLIO INTERNATIONAL

Northeast Florida Rotary Clubs launch initiatives to grow the organization

Rich Turnbull, Rotary International's District 6970 governor, and club leaders have launched the worldwide service organization's current theme in the local area, Rotary Opens Opportunities, and going into 2022 with the theme, Serve to Change Lives.

Within Northeast Florida, Rotary has 63 clubs, two satellite clubs, 15 Rotaract clubs and 44 Interact clubs serving 31 regional communities in 12 counties with more than 3,300 men and women. According to Turnbull, Rotary members serve to realize a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change in communities and around the world.

The regional district was established in

1915 and is currently embarking on new member recruitment and current member retention to further service and leadership opportunities and the shared vision for Rotary.

"Our goals this year and into 2022 include inspiring and motivating Rotarians to expand the reach of the organization by increasing membership, diversity and our impact to serve millions who need help locally and around the world," said Turnbull. "We believe in doing more and growing more with service projects and participation. This can be achieved by increasing membership and fellowship as we continue to grow our organization to more than 1.3 million members world-

wide. Locally, we've embraced the opportunity with starting new clubs to attract a diverse group of students, younger adults and the older burgeoning demographics in areas throughout Northeast Florida."

"Service is the rent I pay for the space I occupy on this earth," said 2021-22 Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta of India in a worldwide presentation. "And I want to be a good tenant of this earth. I am sure each of you also has found your opportunity to serve. You, too, may have provided eyesight to the blind, food to the hungry, homes to the homeless and medicine for the sick. They may have been small opportunities for service or large projects. More than just the size, it is

the attitude that defines service."

The civic and social services each club provides to its specific community are determined by membership and needs in the local area.

According to Turnbull, to follow Mehta's lead, each Rotarian is to bring at least one prospective member to Rotary in the next 17 months and to serve by illustration as a change-maker.

Those interested in local Rotary membership and service can contact Turnbull at 904-669-8777 or email rich.rotary6970@gmail.com or Katherine Batenhorst, Rotary District 6970 membership co-chair, at katherine.batenhorst@gmail.com.

Heroes from around the country recognized

The We Can Be Heroes Foundation hosted its spring Tribute to Our Heroes Brunch at the Salem Centre Auditorium on Saturday, with the room filled to capacity (while observing COVID-19 restrictions).

Unsung heroes from around the country were recognized for their sacrifices for the good of their neighbors, their country and its future.

The event featured a catered brunch followed by members of the Atlantic Coast Young Marines formally presenting the colors. Many tables were labelled with the names of a veteran or community hero, donated by their loved ones to honor them.

Two special heroes in attendance were Jacksonville World War II veterans Frank Pupura and John Connelly.

Several Unsung Heroes were specifically recognized by We Can Be Heroes Foundation National Spokesman Ryman Shoaf, including:

- Ponte Vedra's late Shari Duval, founder of K9s for Warriors, for pairing rescue dogs with more than 650 veterans suffering with PTSD, traumatic brain injury or military sexual trauma;

- The young founders of Ponte Vedra High School's Sharks for Heroes, Mason Romero and Jake Simone, for starting the high school chapter and selflessly assisting at veteran and We Can Be Heroes Foundation events;

- St. Augustine Gulf War National Guard Veteran Carl "Jeff" Lay for continuing his service, even with health issues, by serving with the Veterans Reserve Corps and the American Legion;

- Jacksonville Marine veteran Cliff Leonard, who, over the past 13 years, sculpted 50 bronze busts of fallen service members and presented each sculpture to the service member's grieving family;

- Delaware Vietnam Veteran Ron Elliott, who transported the remains of service members to their final resting place for more than 40 years;

- Redding, California's young Preston Sharp for placing flags and flowers on more than 200,000 veterans' graves;

- Maryland's Jeannie and Doug Ping for hosting annual picnics for volunteers of a used book store for summer reading programs; and

- Maryland Vietnam-era Veteran and 31-year Little League volunteer George Swanson as the Waldorf League "Go-to-Guy."

In addition to being recognized at the brunch, each unsung hero was given the foundation's Unsung Hero Lives Here yard sign.

The event concluded with presentations from Hillsdale College Professor Adam Carrington on America's freedom and Concerned Veterans for America Coalition Director Jimmie Smith on endless wars.

Sponsors of the event included Americans for Prosperity, Concerned Veterans for America and K9S for Warriors.

To nominate a hero or to learn more about the We Can Be Heroes Foundation, go to www.WeCanBeHeroesFoundation.org



ABOVE: Ponte Vedra High School students Mason Romero and Jake Simone are recognized for launching Sharks for Heroes.

LEFT: Sculptor Cliff Leonard is honored for creating bronze busts of fallen service members and giving them to grieving families.

Photos provided by the We Can Be Heroes Foundation

Nocatee reveals plans for future development

The demand for new homes in Nocatee has reached an all-time high, prompting The PARC Group, the community's master developer, to offer a preview of neighborhoods planned to open by the end of 2022.

Last year, Newsweek named Nocatee the top place to live in Florida. Even so, the community hasn't hit the pause button on adding to the many reasons for relocating there. New amenities will be opening this summer, two health campuses have been built and many new retailers have opened their doors in Town Center.

WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS

Here's a look at some new neighborhoods that are in the works:

- **Palmetto Cove:** This intimate neighborhood of 61 homes will be located at the northeast corner of Crosswater Parkway and Nocatee Landing Trail. Homes will be between 2,600 and 4,200 square feet.

- **Seabrook:** This community of three neighborhoods is scheduled to open in late 2022. It will be located off an extension of Conservation Trail west of Pioneer Village.

- **Palm Crest:** This neighborhood has about 100 homes sites. Homes will be between 2,500 and 3,200 square feet.

- **Coral Ridge:** This neighborhood



The Nocatee Splash Water Park and Spray Park will boast some new amenities this summer.

Recorder file photo

with controlled access has about 180 of the largest home sites in the final phase of Nocatee. Homes will start at about 3,200 square feet.

- **Seabrook Village:** About 325 home sites are located within this neighborhood. Homes will be up to 2,800 square feet.

HAPPENING NOW

Here's an update of neighborhoods already under way:

- **West End at Town Center:** Model homes are now open. New townhome and villa designs are planned for the fall.

- **Franklin Square at Crosswater:**

Townhomes by Toll Brothers are scheduled to open this summer.

- **Settler's Landing:** Six builders are selling new homes in the newest neighborhood, located south of the Crosswater neighborhoods.

- **River Landing at Twenty Mile:** Pre-selling homesites will begin in the summer. Closings expected in early 2022.

- **Del Webb Nocatee** has released new estate homesites and plans to construct a new, 22,000-square-foot clubhouse.

MANY AMENITIES

In addition to all this home construction, Nocatee is building on its amenities. They are expected to be complete in the summer of 2021.

- A new, serenity pool will be added at Splash Water Park, and the park's bar and concessions area will be expanded. The children's playground will be moved closer to the family pool.

- A swimming pool will be constructed at Spray Water Park along with two new action slides: a dueling head-first mat slide and a tube slide.

- In the sports complex, four new pickleball courts and a new volleyball court are being constructed.

Roscolusa returns to Nocatee on April 24

Songwriters to perform hits they wrote

The Roscolusa Songwriters Festival will return to Ponte Vedra on Saturday, April 24.

Once again, singer/songwriters from Nashville will perform their original work. Attendees will hear not only these hit songs performed by the original songwriters, but they will also get to hear the stories behind them.

The festival will be held at Nocatee Station Field, 245 Nocatee Center Way. This ninth annual event will be presented by Momentum Transportation.

In addition to the music, food trucks and vendors will be on site.

A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund to help families tackle childhood cancer by providing comprehensive financial, emotional and practical support.

General admission tickets are available for \$25 plus a fee of \$2.50. Attendees may bring a lawn chair and blanket. Tickets may be purchased at roscolusa.ticketspice.com/2021. No tickets will be available at the gate.

Tickets purchased for the 2020 event will be honored at the 2021 event.

Anyone wanting to bring food, drinks, beer or wine must also purchase a cooler pass for \$30 plus a \$2.50 fee.

No liquor may be brought into the event.

Due to the ongoing COVID situation, the audience will be kept at half capacity. Social distancing protocols will be implemented, and temperature checks will be made upon entry. Masks are required except for those who are seated in place.

The lineup will include:

- Dave Pahanish, who penned Tobey Keith's "American Ride," Jimmy Wayne's "Do You Believe Me Now?" and Keith Urban's "Without You."

ROSCOLUSA continues on Page 7



TIME FOR ANNUAL SPRING FLING AT FARMERS MARKET

Enjoy shopping from more than 60 local vendors on Saturday, April 17, at the Nocatee Farmers Market's Spring Fling. Come out to Nocatee Station Field from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for live music by the Paul Lundgren Band, a petting zoo and more. The Nocatee Farmers Market is open to the public and the event is weather permitting.

File photos by Susan Griffin

Aubrie Simpson is a Nease graduate and the CEO of Fostering Connections St. Johns, a local nonprofit that provides support for children in foster care and foster families through fundraising, volunteerism and advocacy. She lives St. Augustine with her husband Steve, an environmental specialist and adjunct professor at Flagler College.

Aubrie Simpson

As told to Holly Tishfield

Can you please briefly tell us about your background?

I was born and raised in suburban Ft. Lauderdale. In 2004, I relocated to Ponte Vedra Beach with my family. My family had vacationed in St. Augustine for several years prior to relocating. I am a graduate of Allen D. Nease High School. In 2012, I graduated from Flagler College with a bachelor's degree in elementary education. I earned a master of science in pre-K/primary education in 2014. I taught for three years in public, charter and private schools in St. Johns County. I taught preschool, kindergarten and reading intervention teacher in primarily Title 1 schools.

During my time teaching, I saw that there were gaps in services for students and their families. In my classroom, I had students who needed mentors and tutoring and many young parents who wanted parenting classes. These resources were not available for my students and their families. I wanted to do more to help local families, so I began volunteering in the community to learn more about services available for families and ways I could give support. I began volunteering and raising funds for numerous local nonprofit organizations. Through my volunteer work with numerous nonprofit organizations, I developed a passion for nonprofit work. In 2017, I became a board member of Kids Bridge Family Visitation Center, a local nonprofit supervised family visitation center that offers on-site supervised visits, parent exchange services and several programs and courses to help strengthen families. I began a career transition from education to the nonprofit sector.

Through my involvement with Kids Bridge, I learned more about our local foster care system and the gaps in services for children in foster care. There was no local nonprofit focused on filling in the gaps in services for children in foster care of all ages. I got together with some friends who also share a passion for helping children in foster care, and we started Fostering Connections St. Johns in February 2019. Fostering Connections St. Johns started as an all-volunteer nonprofit and has grown tremendously in the last two years. I am now the CEO of Fostering Connections St. Johns, and we serve children in foster care ages birth through age 23 and their families in St. Johns, Putnam, Flagler and Volusia counties.

In addition to my work with Fostering Connections St. Johns, I serve as a St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce ambassador and a board member of the Early Learning Coalition of North Florida.

What do you enjoy most about your role?

I enjoy many things about being CEO of Fostering Connections St. Johns; helping fill in the gaps in services for foster families, meeting community members who want to support children in care and sharing community awareness about foster care with the community. Through Fostering Connections St. Johns, I have been able to work with clients and donors from all around St. Johns County. What I enjoy most about my role as CEO is working with our Career Readiness Academy students. Career Readiness Academy is a job-skills training program for teens in the foster care system ages 14 to 18 in partnership with The Kookaburra Coffee in which teens learn job skills, are placed in a paid internship, and receive support through job coaching and monthly soft skills classes. It is so rewarding to see the students grow in their career skills, develop a passion for their chosen field, and build their confidence.



Photo provided by
Aubrie Simpson

What are some of the challenges that your industry/company is facing?

There are many challenges the nonprofit sector is facing during COVID-19; connecting with our clients and supporters during social distancing, the cancellation of in-person fundraisers and programming, a shortage of volunteers and suspension of some grant funding applications. Nonprofits are all about building community connections. In 2020, the nonprofit sector had to pivot and adapt programming.

Fostering Connections St. Johns has found creative ways to connect with both our clients and supporters during this time. Currently, we have no-contact delivery of essential items for foster families. Our programming now has a hybrid approach to best service our clients; some in-person programming with social distancing in place, in-person hybrid programming with virtual attendance options, and all virtual programming. We have many flexible opportunities for volunteers to serve including virtual volunteering.

This year, we look forward to resuming in-person events and fundraisers with social-distancing precautions in place.

What are your primary roles/responsibilities?

My role as CEO of Fostering Connections St. Johns is to work in partnership with our board of directors to plan and execute the goals of Fostering Connections St. Johns. I manage and develop programming for foster youth and their families, advise the board on the annual budget and build relationships and partnerships with

individuals, businesses, civic organizations, foundations and social service agencies around St. Johns County and the surrounding counties we serve to raise awareness and funds for Fostering Connections St. Johns. I am currently the only employee of Fostering Connections St. Johns, so I also oversee our social media accounts, write our monthly newsletter, as well as recruit and train volunteers. I stay busy. I love serving our community as CEO of Fostering Connections St. Johns.

What do you enjoy most about living in the North Florida area?

I love the community feel, natural beauty, history and culture of North Florida. There is a strong sense of community here. You know your neighbors and local businesses are involved in the community. Our community is always looking for ways to help one another. There is so much to do in North Florida; going to the beach, exploring historical sites and enjoying the local culinary scene.

What do you like to do in your free time?

In my free time, I love reading, going on nature walks, dining and traveling. My husband Steve and I live minutes from St. Augustine's historic district. On the weekends, you can find us having brunch downtown at PK's Roosevelt Room, having coffee at The Kookaburra, and on nature walks at the beach or the GTM Reserve.

This is an abridged version of the interview. To read the full version, go to pontevedrarecorder.com and click on One of Us.

Peanut butter food drive is underway

A unique food drive started nearly eight years ago by two local boys continues this year, and members of the community can get involved.

The sixth Peanut Butter Food Drive is collecting peanut butter, nut and non-nut butter throughout the month of April. In May, the donated food will be given to Epic-Cure and St. Augustine Youth Services (SAYS), both organizations in St. Augustine.

The donated items can be dropped off at either of two homes: 3072 Cypress Creek Drive North in The Players Club and 229 Royal Tern Road North in Marsh Landing. For gate access, call 904-386-6531.

Donations are also being accepted at 333 San Juan Drive and 123 S. Roscoe Blvd. Cash donations are also being accepted via Venmo @ConnorFranco.

The Peanut Butter Food Drive began in December 2013, hosted by two brothers, fourth-grader Connor Franco and second-grader Kelland Franco.

Each year, the family invited friends and relatives to a party, and guests brought jars of peanut butter (or other butters or substitutes). Over the years, they donated the goods to Second Harvest Food Bank, BEAM and SAYS.

In 2019, the family partnered with local organizations in order to donate more peanut butter. This year, partner organizations are the Ponte Vedra Women's Civic Alliance (PVWCA); the Do Something Club, founded by Jake Brice, Oliver Jenkins and Alexis Boselli, and the Epic-Cure Club, founded by Evan Fleischer – both at Ponte Vedra High School.

Also in 2019, SAYS was selected as recipient of the donations. After the annual party, the Peanut Butter Food Drive was able to donate 305 jars.



Contributed photo

Connor Franco, 11th grade, and Kelland Franco, ninth grade, stand next to some of the peanut butter collected last year during their annual Peanut Butter Food Drive.

This year, SAYS cannot accommodate a large amount of peanut butter, so the majority will be donated to Epic-Cure, which works in food rescue, food distribution and an after-school youth program where students learn about food preparation, nutrition and sustainable practices.

Due to COVID-19, there will be no party this year, but donations will still be accepted. The PVWCA will collect throughout the month and at the general membership meeting on April 30. The Do Something Club and Epic-Cure Club will collect at the high school throughout the month.

Roscolusa

Continued from 4

■ Love and Theft, the band behind hits like “Angel Eyes,” “Runaway” and “Whiskey On My Breath.”

■ Matt Warren, whose “Puttin’ Memories Away,” co-written by Garry Allan, was featured on the Oprah Winfrey Show. He also co-wrote the all-time biggest selling Gary Allan single ever, “Every Storm (Runs Out Of Rain).” His songs have been recorded by Jim Lauderdale, Joe Grushecky and others.

■ Jamie O’Neal, who became a household name with her number one singles, “There Is No Arizona” and “When I Think About Angels.”

■ Harloe, whose songs have been recorded by Robin Shultz, Kelly Clarkson, Britney Spears, Celine Dion, Nick Jones and others.

■ Meghan Kabir, whose songs have been recorded by Kelly Clarkson, Selena Gomez, Sabrina Carpenter, Cassidy Pope and others.

■ Jesse Rice, whose songs were recorded by Florida Georgia Line, Nelly, Chase Rice, Kristian Bush of Sugarland, Ashley McBryde, Colt Ford and others.

■ Also: Kait Weston, Kay Gianna, Aliyah Good and Kam Nix.

Go to roscolusa.com for more information.



Water to Golf Views in Marsh Landing

Exquisite lagoon to golf views from this cul de sac beauty. Open floorplan/kitchen/dining spaces w/fireplace and oversized windows. Guest ensuite, 1/2 bath & laundry room finish off the first floor. Master retreat w/ fireplace, HIS & HERS baths/closets, wet bar w/ fridge leading to outdoor deck & hot tub. Private with Summer Kitchen and fire pit overlooking pool and lagoon. **5 Bedrooms, 5 Bathrooms. \$1,400,000**



1830 San Marco Blvd.

Fully rebuilt in 2005, this 2nd floor end unit condominium is within short walking distance to San Marco Square. It has front and rear balconies and comes with covered parking and an additional storage unit.

2 Bedrooms, 2 bathrooms \$399,000.



Stunning Riverfront Estate

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

5 bedroom, 6 full bath, 5 half bath \$6,200,000



Pristine Craftsmanship on Ponte Vedra Blvd.

Thoughtfully designed and showcasing exquisite craftsmanship throughout, this custom coastal home offers master suites on both floors, along with an office, loft area, ample storage and a flex space ideal for a 5th bedroom.

4 bedrooms, 5.5 bathrooms \$2,150,000



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Renovated Coastal Cottage

Fully renovated and ideally located in central Ponte Vedra Beach, this pristine home offers easy access to JTB, entertainment, and just a short bike ride to the beach. With custom craftsmanship and quality finishes throughout, you would think it was newly constructed.

3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Bathrooms. \$795,000.



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

KATHY'S GARDENING GUIDE

"The earth laughs in flowers." – Ralph Waldo Emerson



Kathy Esfahani
Columnist

PALM TREES

As we see all around us in Florida, palm trees are a popular staple for our landscaping. The very tall, thin palms you see everywhere are sabal palms (also known as cabbage palms), and are native to Florida.

However, there are many other beautiful types of palms that can flourish in our zone.

Here are a few of our favorites at Kathy's Nursery:

Sylvester Palms (Phoenix Sylvestris): These are one of our most popular sellers. They come in a variety of heights to fit most landscapes and create a beautiful ambience. They have a neat diamond-cut trunk, but are a large tree that needs to be a distance from the home.

Queen Palms: These palms are stately with bright glossy leaves that are gorgeous in the wind. Their fronds cascade over, which creates a tropical vibe. Bright orange dates hang in ornamental clusters. They are common around patios and pool areas of relaxation.

Bismarck Palms: These silvery blue-green palms are a show stopper with their huge fronds and robust trunk. Their fronds can span up to 16 feet. They are fast growers and thrive in full sun. Certainly a focal point of your landscaping!

Robellini Palms (Pygmy Date Palms): This miniature palm is slow growing and allows you to have a palm



Flower of the Week: Pentas

closer to your home. Popular at the end of driveways or front doors, robellinis are soft and feminine in look and feel.

Sago Palms: These wide-trunk palms are dark green and lush. They will not grow to be too high with their large cone of seeds growing out of the middle. The seeds are poisonous to pets, so we tend to keep them out of our fur-friendly homes.

European Fan Palms: These palms are very hardy and slow growing. They are not sensitive to cold weather and grow 8-to-15 feet tall. Their fronds are fine-textured, which make them stick out in landscaping and the color can range from dark green to silver.

Majestic Palms: This palm loves humidity, which is perfect for our Floridian climate. The fronds fullness can fan out to 15 feet height. They are also slow growers that don't mind some shade, but love water and naturally wet areas.



Sylvester Palms (Phoenix Sylvestris)



Robellini Palms (Pygmy Date Palms)

Photos provided by Kathy Esfahani

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



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Congratulations to our March Leaders!



Team Kelly and Wanda (Ponte Vedra)



James Valenti (Ponte Vedra)



Cherya Cavanaugh Team (Nocatee)



Matt and Naomi (Nocatee)



Michael Paull (Nocatee)



Meredith Schwartz (Vilano Beach)



GREENLEAF VILLAGE NOCATEE
Former model home with upgrades galore!
3BRs, 3 Baths + Office, Formal Dining Room,
Bonus Room, 3,274 Sq. Ft. MLS 1096224.
\$650,000.

Matt and Naomi Wilkinson 904-234-5014



TIDEWATER AT NOCATEE
Gated community in the heart of Nocatee.
Tri-level Townhome with 4BRs, 2.5 Baths,
2,177 sq. ft. MLS 1103299. \$405,000.
Cherya Cavanaugh at 904-599-8326.



TIMBERLAND RIDGE AT NOCATEE
Single story Craftsman Style home, move-in
ready! 4 BRs, 3 Baths, + office/den, 2,574 sq. ft.
MLS 1103346. \$530,000.
Wanda Petersen 904-537-4594
or Kelly Whitaker 904-233-1991



MARSH LANDING COUNTRY CLUB
This elegant Coastal Casual home has been
completely transformed with unparalleled quality.
4 BR, 4 Baths, 3,695 sq. ft. \$1,295,000.
MLS 1098704
Susie Mullinax 904-910-1121



VILANO OAKS
Oversized cul-de-sac lot only steps to the ocean
in prime residential neighborhood, ready to build
your dream home! MLS 1095015. \$299,000.
Malia Finger 904-994-8444



DEERCREEK COUNTRY CLUB
Elegant, open, bright and spacious home in
desired Deercreek Country Club. 4 BR, 3.5 Baths,
3,040 sq. ft., 2-car garage. MLS 1094748. \$549,900.
Judith Khoor 904-535-6593



JULINGTON CREEK PLANTATION
In the gated community of Magnolia Preserve,
this ICI Nottingham floor plan boasts 5 BRs,
3.5 Baths, 3,922 sq. ft. MLS 1100250. \$800,000.
Cherya Cavanaugh 904-599-8326



L'ATRIUM IN PONTEVEDRA BEACH
Totally renovated charmer in the heart of
Ponte Vedra Beach, convenient to shopping
and restaurants. 3 BR, 2 Baths. \$399,000.
Ron Horst 904-613-0102



SHEARWATER
4 BR + office, 3 Baths, 3-Car Garage, built by
David Weekley Homes in 2020! Looks like a
model home, the popular Lions model. \$558,888.
Dan Gregory 904-392-3868.



TURTLE SHORES
Ocean and Intracoastal Waterway views! Private
Beach access. 4 BR, 4 Baths, 2,947 sq. ft., Elevator.
New paint, flooring, countertops.
MLS 1100570. \$690,000
Chris Rich 904-349-6163
Rick Lofgren 904-315-3288



THE OUTLOOK AT TWENTY MILE
Popular Providence Homes Monroe Floorplan.
5 BRs, 4 Baths + office, 3,950 sq. ft. 3-car garage,
Lakeview lot. \$949,900.
Matt & Naomi Wilkinson 904-234-5014



MARSH LANDING COUNTRY CLUB
Quality built home, 4 BRs, 4 Baths, 3,570 sq. ft.,
gated community. Lovely lot on a peaceful pond.
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or Kelly Whitaker 904-233-1991

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158 Marketside Ave, Suite 14
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PONTEVEDRA BEACH
100 Corridor Road, Suite 101
904-280-1115

ST.AUGUSTINE
85 Ava Way, Suite 107 (Vilano Town Ctr)
904-814-8964

9th annual Derby Run to benefit Community Hospice & Palliative Care

The ninth annual Derby Run, a benefit for Community Hospice & Palliative Care, will celebrate the 147th Kentucky Derby at St. Augustine's Tringali Barn from 5 to 8 p.m. May 1. There will be food, fashion and fun.

"Every penny raised from this event stays here in our local community to provide necessary care for our fragile friends, neighbors and family members," said Jane Boles, chair, Community Hospice St. Augustine/St. Johns County Advisory Council. "Join us for the most authentic Derby party for

miles around. We'll have fancy hats, mint juleps, delicious fare, silent auction, charity betting and watch the Run for the Roses."

Derby Run proceeds support quality, compassionate Community Hospice care for St. Augustine and St. Johns County residents.

For more information, go to makeagift.communityhospice.com/ge/derbyrun#auctions or contact Community Hospice & Palliative Care Foundation at (904) 886-3883.



Ysabel Jack was named Outstanding Youth Volunteer of the Year at Ocean Palms.



Dr. Lucy Miller was named Adult Volunteer of the Year at Ocean Palms.



Mark Tolton was named Outstanding Senior Volunteer of the Year at Ocean Palms.

Photos provided by Ocean Palms Elementary School

Ocean Palms applauds those who give their time

Ocean Palms Elementary School has awarded three people its Volunteer of the Year awards: Ysabel Jack (Outstanding Youth Volunteer of the Year), Dr. Lucy Miller (Adult Volunteer of the Year) and Mark Tolton (Outstanding Senior Volunteer of the Year).

Jack, formerly a student ambassador at Ocean Palms, has continued to support the program at the school by helping the

current student ambassadors with projects. Additionally, she hosted a Junior British Tea Party event as a PTO fundraiser and worked as a mentor to students at the school with higher social needs.

Miller is also no stranger as a volunteer, serving on the SAC committee, as a PTO event co-chair and pretty much everywhere else help is needed. However, she is best known for her co-creation of the school's

science lab. From raising funds, to hands-on lessons, to bringing her love of STEM to the school, she achieved all of this and more with the school's unique science lab.

Tolton has been described as "magical" and lends a caring hand to the pre-kindergarten students at the school. He helps provide individualized tutoring to the students, enhancing their learning and building their confidence.

OBITUARIES

Shirley Anne Banwell

Shirley Anne Banwell, 87, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died April 2, 2021. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Edgar B. Galloway Jr.

Edgar B. Galloway Jr., 80, of Jacksonville, Florida, died March 31, 2021. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre (904) 249-1100, www.quinn-shalz.com.

Lillian Mary Grewe

Lillian Mary Grewe, 100, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died April 8, 2021. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral & Cremation Centre. (904) 249-1100. www.quinn-shalz.com

Patricia Ratliff Kahla

Patricia Ratliff Kahla, 70, of Neptune Beach, Florida, died April 6, 2021. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz family funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com. (904) 249-1100.

David Stoddard

David Stoddard, 73, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died March 30, 2021. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Thomas "Tom" Lewis Sumner

Thomas "Tom" Lewis Sumner, 69, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died April 8, 2021. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. (904) 249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

Charles "Chuck" Walker

Charles "Chuck" Walker, 75, of Jacksonville, Florida, died April 2, 2021. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

James Williams

James Williams, 70, of Jacksonville Beach, Florida, died March 29, 2021. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

CHARITY TAP TAKEOVER

Fight for Keegan

(Facebook group)

Keegan is the grandson of our long-time employee and at 5 years old is battling B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia.



EVERY MONDAY IN MARCH & APRIL!



\$1 from every draft beer sold on Mondays in the months of March and April will be donated to the family to help Fight For Keegan

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8040 Merganser Drive
Marsh Landing Country Club
 5 BD / 5.5 BA / 4379 sq. ft.
 Offered for: \$1,200,000
 MLSID: 1104597
The Volen Group - (904) 314-5188



150 Oak Ave.
Villano Beach
 5 BD / 4.5 BA / 4262 sq. ft.
 Price: \$1,700,000
 MLSID: 1100538
Joni Zwick- (904) 910-7607



189 Admirals Way South
Harbour Island
 5 BD / 7.5 BA / 7841 sq. ft.
 Price: \$3,600,000
 MLSID: 1092622
Lisa Barton Team - (904) 465-9139



14652 Crystal View Lane
Broadwater
 3 BD / 2 BA / 1865 sq. ft.
 Price: \$465,000
 MLSID: 1101900
Lisa Barton Team - (904) 465-9139



166 Sea Hammock Way
Sea Hammock
 2 BD / 2 BA / 1617 sq. ft.
 Price: \$1,025,000
 MLSID: 1104083
Lisa Barton Team - (904) 465-9139

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*Source: Keller Williams Multi-Trend Report & MLS

Course in St. Johns County locations bucks trend of bleak predictions

This spring, Chabad Centers throughout St. Johns County will offer “This Can Happen,” a new six-session course by the acclaimed Rohr Jewish Learning Institute (JLI) that will address a pressing question on many minds: Is the current situation going to get any better?

“Many people nurse this idea that matters are getting progressively worse, and, fostered by much hysterical media and general dialogue, an environment of fear and despair is all too rampant,” a Chabad spokesperson said. “Exploring the science of world history and looking at the actual facts paint an eye-opening picture, one that can provide real, practical hope.”

Beginning towards the end of April, students who enroll in this course will embark on a journey that will explore one of the most misunderstood and maligned topics in the Jewish canon — the future redemption.

“This Can Happen” presents audiences with an opportunity to appreciate what Judaism really means when it talks about a “Messiah.” Considering that for many in the modern world, utopian visions of world peace and endless bounty sound like the stuff of fairy tales, this course summons the sources and the data to dispel such primitive notions and educate audiences that the Messianic era is a deep,

broad climax to the entire story of the universe.

The subtitle of “This Can Happen,” “A credible case for feeling good about the future,” is indicative of an approach to the topic that is particularly timely.

“Recent events have put so many on the edge, and the longer matters drag on, the louder the voice of helplessness becomes,” said Rabbi Naftali Silberberg of JLI’s Brooklyn, New York, headquarters. “If we can make — as stated in our title — a ‘credible case’ to be optimistic about times ahead, that is remarkably edifying.”

As with all of JLI’s programs, “This Can Happen” is designed to appeal to people at all levels of knowledge, including those without any prior experience or background in Jewish learning. All JLI courses are open to the public, and attendees need not be affiliated with a synagogue, temple, or other house of worship.

The course will be offered both in person and over Zoom. Sign in information will be provided at the time of enrollment.

People interested in participating may call their local Chabad Center: St. Augustine (904) 521-8664; Ponte Vedra (904) 543-9301; and St. Johns and Golf Villages (904) 701-4422 or go to www.myJLI.com for registration and for other course-related information.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Gabriel House of Care drive-in concert at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

When: 6 p.m., Saturday, April 24

Gabriel House of Care is celebrating its 10th year with a drive-in concert featuring The Chris Thomas Band and Green With Envy as the opening act, Saturday, April 24, at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall Field. BACARDI is the title sponsor for the event. The evening includes dinner by Pastiche, raffle prizes and a tribute to the Mayo Clinic Transplant and Oncology physicians and their teams. Proceeds will support the lodging and integrative therapy programs Gabriel House provides to organ transplant and cancer patients along with their caregivers that come to Jacksonville medical centers for specialized care. To register or for more information, go to www.gabrielhouseofcare.org and click on the featured event tab.

Iconic American artist Peter Max brings 2021 Retrospective to Jacksonville

When: 5-8 p.m., Friday, April 23

A Retrospective collection, with a significant nod to music, the arts and the legacy of the Pop Art genre from the studio of artist legend, Peter Max, will be on exhibition and available for acquisition in a limited engagement presentation at Gallery 725 in Jacksonville. The Exhibition extends through Sunday, May 2, with two limited engagement gallery receptions complimentary to the public: Saturday, May 1 from 5 to 8 p.m. and Sunday, May 2 from noon to 4 p.m. All artworks are on exhibition and available for acquisition. All events are complimentary and open to the public however RSVPs are requested at (904) 345-9320 or gallery725@gmail.com. All CDC Guidelines will be observed.

National Library Week/National Poetry Month

When: Throughout April

April contains both National Library Week and National Poetry Month. Right now, St. Johns County Public Library Services is celebrating all things libraries through the end of National Library Week with interesting and intriguing books about all things libraries. Love your library and take one or more of these books to the circulation desk for checkout for a behind-the-scenes peek at libraries, true crime involving

libraries and how libraries benefit the community. Forthcoming, there will be a National Library Week created by SJCPLS staff featuring some great books about libraries for adults and kids. After National Library Week, a special display will go up for National Poetry Month.

National Gardening Month/Earth Day

When: Throughout April

April celebrates National Garden Month and Earth Day. On the display at St. Johns County Public Libraries, you’ll find a variety of non-fiction titles about Florida gardening, its mental health benefits and how to get started. Gardening and nature have exploded in popularity during the pandemic as it can be a solitary activity and has many mental health benefits. Earth Day titles share how you can “go green” and preserve the planet. All display books are available for checkout at our circulation desk.

Newcomers Alumnae monthly luncheon

When: 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 5

Newcomers Alumnae will hold its monthly luncheon on Wednesday, May 5, at Marsh Landing Country Club, 25655 Marsh Landing Parkway in Ponte Vedra Beach. The event will feature guest speaker Kevin Brown of the Beaches Sea Turtle Patrol. Beaches Sea Turtle Patrol is “an all volunteer nonprofit corporation working for the preservation of endangered sea turtles in Atlantic, Neptune and Jacksonville Beaches, Duval County” and is committed to marine research. Its goal is “to keep the sea turtle population from experiencing a downward trend,” by, for example, planting sea oats to trap sand and stabilize the sand dunes, digging up nests and counting eggs, and reporting the data to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Brown is also a Fletcher High School football coach and marine biology teacher. The cost for this luncheon and guest speaker is \$23 and social distancing guidelines will be followed. Reservations for lunch must be made by contacting bartshar@comcast.net. Newcomers Alumnae is a social group comprised of women who live in Ponte Vedra Beach, Nocatee, Jacksonville Beach, Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach, Jacksonville and St. Augustine. Contact brookemeister@msn.com or go to newcomersalumnae.wildapricot.org for more information.

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Gorgeous Preserve Views in Palencia

Step inside 800 Cypress Crossing Trail and experience a beautifully maintained home with 4BR, 3 full baths, 2 car garage with a preserve view in front and private preserve view in rear. Perfect for entertaining! Diagonal tile throughout the main living area with lots of light...



Gourmet kitchen features Corian counters, 42” white wood cabinets, new stainless steel appliances, center prep island and adjacent breakfast nook.

The master suite with spacious sitting area, has tray ceilings and his & her closets. Master bath has spa tub, dual vanities and separate shower and water closet. The family room that opens to the kitchen, features a gas fireplace and vaulted ceilings. During the build process, the owner extended guest BR side of property 2 ft., creating large guest suite! Offered for \$499,000.

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St. John Paul II Catholic Church
127 Stone Mason Way, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL



APRIL 22, 10:00 AM

San Juan Del Rio Catholic Church
1718 FL-13, Jacksonville, FL



FEATURING **DARRELL GREEN**

NFL Hall of Fame Inductee

- Why your moral compass is so essential to your overall success.
- Faith guided life and a relationship with God.
- How to be a great steward of your life, your body, and your family.
- What a career as one of the NFL's Top 100 Players of all-time taught him about life.



FEATURING **FRANK BENISCHECK**

Totus Tuus Consulting

- Why the recent stimulus comes at a huge price for retirees.
- Six major tax increases proposed by the new administration.
- Five keys to reduce your taxes and preserve what you have.
- How to live your best life with a tax-free IRA.
- Why it's necessary to have your will or trust reviewed or created if you recently moved to Florida.

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Business Weekly

PAGE 14 THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021

Column: Local defense attorney weighs in on George Floyd case

Page 18

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

ART STUDIO HOLDS GRAND RE-OPENING



Painting with a Twist new owners Lesley Vitel (second from left) and Libbi Poole (front, third from left) celebrate with employees and representatives from the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division during a ribbon-cutting ceremony April 8. The ceremony celebrated the grand re-opening of the new Ponte Vedra Beach business with food, drinks and music. Painting with a Twist offers unique art-related events including Girls' Night, Date Night, Trivia Night and Paint your Pet, as well as private events and specialized art categories and design. The studio also encourages patrons to make the memories more special by bringing a favorite bottle of wine or snack. Painting with a Twist is located at 268 Solana Road in Ponte Vedra Beach. To learn more about classes and events, go to paintingwithatwist.com/studio/ponte-vedra-beach.

Photos by Susan Griffin



What you can't do with a will



Dan Armstrong
Guest Columnist

While a will is one of the most important estate planning documents you can have, there are things that a will won't cover. A will is just one part of a comprehensive estate plan.

A will is a legally-binding statement directing who will receive your property at your death. It is also the way you appoint a legal representative to carry out your bequests and that you name a guardian for your children. Without a will, your estate is distributed according to state law, rather than your wishes. Property distributed via a will goes through probate, which is the formal process through which a court determines how to distribute your property.

Although a will is one main way to transfer property on death, it does not cover all property. The following are examples of property you can't distribute through a will:

- **Jointly held property.** Property that is co-owned with another person is not distributed through your will. Joint tenants each have an equal ownership interest in the property. If one joint tenant dies, his or her interest immediately ceases to exist and the other joint tenant owns the entire property.

- **Property in trust.** If you place property into a trust, the property passes to the beneficiaries of the trust, not according to your will.

- **Pay on death accounts.** With a pay on death account, the account owner names a beneficiary (or beneficiaries) to whom the account assets pass to automatically when the owner dies.

- **Life insurance.** Life insurance passes to the beneficiary you name in the life insurance policy and isn't affected by your will.

- **Retirement plan.** Similar to life insurance, money in a retirement account (e.g., an IRA or 401(k)) passes to the named beneficiary. Under federal law, a

Judge John: Sand Life Law – Who let the dogs out?



John Miller
Guest Columnist

There's a reason for the saying human's best friend. Each reader will likely have had a certain special canine come to mind on reading the subject of this article. For Judge John, she was Athena (nicknamed The Amazing Flying Wonder Dog), but from childhood Gypsy, Flick, Happy, and Rosie also come especially to mind. Apparently, humans and dogs have lived together since the very beginning of our evolution into bi-peds.

Dogs are a big part of the Sand Life. Some breeds particularly enjoy playing in the ocean, while most enjoy running and digging in the sand. Because of health and safety concerns for both people and dogs, all of our beach

cities have adopted special dog laws, including a new one very recently in Jacksonville Beach.

It is important that all dog owners be aware that the laws and rules are different depending on which beach city you are in. Some, but not all, of those differences are reviewed here. Each city has its rules on its website. In all locations at the beach, it is absolutely the owners' obligation to "pick up and properly dispose of the poop." It is the minority of dog owners who do not pick up their dogs' fecal matter who are primarily responsible for more restrictive dog laws, along with those who do not control vicious or ill-behaved dogs. Each city has the ability to fine non-complying owners, although the difficulty of catching someone "in the act" of not removing defecation

Freedom Boat Club to offer boating classes at the Jacksonville Spring Boat Show

Freedom Boat Club Jacksonville will offer boating classes at the Jacksonville Spring Boat Show.

The Basic BoatClass, Intermediate BoatClass + Advanced Docking and a Women's BoatClass will be offered from the dock at Metropolitan Park and Marina on April 16-18. U.S. Coast Guard certified Captains will take boaters from dock A at the marina for a three-hour on-water training class.

"It is our goal to give people the skills to operate their boats with confidence, and we are excited to be offering the women's-only boat class at the show," said Lisa Almeida, co-owner of FBC Jacksonville. "We want to show people how fun and easy boating can be when you know what you are doing."

The Basic BoatClass is at 11 a.m. Friday, April 16, and 10 a.m. Saturday, April 17, and Sunday, April 18, and the Women's BoatClass is 3 p.m. Saturday, April 17.

Both classes are three-hour on-water training courses designed for new boaters. Participants will learn lessons in

shifting and throttle control, turning and stopping drills, and how to back into open water. They will learn how to pivot and turn the boat, manage speed and momentum, and how to dock at the marina. Instructors will also teach the rules of the waterways.

The Intermediate BoatClass + Advanced Docking is at 4 p.m. Friday, April 16. This is also a three-hour on-water course with more complex boating lessons that include maneuvering the boat in tight quarters and stopping quickly and controlled.

Boaters will be taught how to trim a boat, accurately anchor and docking skills they will need for winds and currents, different slip configurations and docking between other boats.

To register, go to events.theboatclass.com. Space is limited, but if seats are available, sign-up will be allowed at the boat show.

The basic and women's-only course is available to four people per class. It is \$149 for the first seat and \$50 for each additional seat or the entire boat for \$299.



Photo provided by the Freedom Boat Club

The Freedom Boat Club Jacksonville will offer boating classes at the Jacksonville Spring Boat Show, which takes place April 16-18.

The intermediate class allows three seats per boat for \$199 per seat and \$75 for additional seats or \$349 for the entire boat.

For more information, contact Luke Bickerstaff at Luke.bickerstaff@freedomboatclub.com or call (904) 352-5522.

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Jan Gourley's St. Augustine Food & Wine Festival is around the corner – at World Golf Village

By Leigh Cort

Special to the Recorder

From advertising agencies to center-of-the-plate food-and-wine festivals, the dynamic Jan Gourley is finally bringing her delicious Food & Wine Festival to St. Augustine, May 6-9.



Jan Gourley

With the booming culinary advancements in Northeast Florida, especially in St. Augustine and St. Johns County, the May event will bring four days of food, wine, chefs, spirits and great people together to celebrate

the region's finest hospitality innovators and entrepreneurs! There are 25 incredible events to choose from that are taking place throughout the weekend!

Jan has had enormous successes in Hilton Head, Savannah, St. Simons Island and Jekyll Island during the past decade with "Whiskey, Wine & Wildlife," "Hilton Head Island Seafood Festival" and Savannah Food and Wine Festival's "An Iconic City's Epic Week of Food & Wine."

Now it's our turn to enjoy her talents at the "St. Augustine Food & Wine Festival."

The St. Augustine festival is a culinary celebration taking place in our historic city, showcasing culinary, beverage and culture while highlighting celebrity guest chefs, winemakers, local chefs, artisans and local craft spirits/beer makers.

This inaugural festival offers a wide sweep of events for all tastebuds, from wine dinners and tasting events to masters' classes.

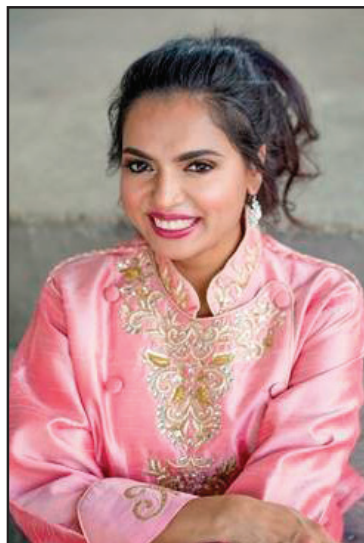
The World Golf Hall of Fame and the World Golf Village Renaissance Resort are the host location sites. The kick-off winemaker's dinner is patterned after the past Friends of James Beard Dinners that have been done in Savannah and Hilton Head, where celebrity guest chefs collaborate for a six-course wine dinner. Guests will dine on celebrity guest chef Maneet Chauhan's cuisine (TV personality and author) in addition to her Epicurean Master Class, which includes a signed copy of her new cookbook "Chaat"!

Starting The AdFish Group in 2011, Jan worked in many of the Southeast's leading advertising agencies in a variety of roles from creative director, art director and account supervisor to P.R. director. Her own company creates, brands, markets and manages the festivals with a primary focus of building the brand, creating opportunities for unparalleled guest experiences and developing relationships with talent



Photos provided by Leigh Cort

The St. Augustine Food & Wine Festival offers four days of festivities.



ABOVE: Well-known chef and Food Network personality Maneet Chauhan is expected to attend the event.



"Smoke on the Walk" will feature some of the most celebrated pitmasters and grill masters on Friday, May 7.



RIGHT and BELOW: St. Augustine's Food & Wine Festival will serve up culinary delights along with beverage tastings, live music and more May 6-9 at World Golf Village.



A FEW HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE EXTRAVAGANT WEEKEND

Thursday, May 6 – 6-10 p.m., "World Golf Hall of Fame Winemaker's Dinner"

A gourmet food lover's experience with six-course dinner and three celebrity/James Beard Foundation chefs (Maneet Chauhan, Paul Fehribach and Michael Gulotta). Outstanding local chefs include Brian Whittington, Michael Lugo, Josh Smith and DeeAnn Hobbs.

Friday, May 7 – Epicurean Master Classes "Off-Site"

10:30 a.m.-noon — Bourbon and Mixology 101

10:30 a.m.-noon — How to Order the Right Beer for You and be Cool Doing It!

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. — Bordeaux Blending Class

1 p.m.-1:45 p.m. — Cooking Aloo Chaat with Maneet Chauhan

2 p.m.-2:45 p.m. — Class TBD with Morgan Norman – Greg Norman Estates

3 p.m.-3:45 p.m. — Experience Grilling on Urban Asado's Argentine Inspired Live Fire Grills

4 p.m.-4:45 p.m. — Class TBD with Jan Stephenson Wines

Friday, May 7 – 6:30-8:30 p.m., "Smoke on the Walk"

BBQ Extravaganza is a showcase of the Southeast's most celebrated pitmasters and grill masters; 21 years and older event, no pets allowed!

Saturday, May 8 – 1-4 p.m., "St. Augustine Food & Wine Festival – The Main Event"

A fun afternoon of culinary and beverage tastings with live music. Tickets include a souvenir glass for unlimited beverage tastings from hundreds of wines, beer and spirits exhibitors. The Walk of Champions will be filled with a variety of exhibitors from artisans and farmers to the South's best restaurants and food trucks.

Sunday, May 9 – 10 a.m.-2 p.m., "The Jazz Brunch"

(family-friendly event).

This lavish Mother's Day brunch spread with carving stations, indulgent sides, made-to-order omelet station, seafood station and wide variety of desserts — plus live music with Sam Pacetti!

A detailed outline of dates and events can be found on: www.staugustinefoodandwinefestival.com.

Advance ticket sales are now available! Go to tickets.staugustinefoodandwinefestival.com/p/tickets.

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When the police are on trial



Janet E. Johnson
Guest Columnist

Nine minutes and 29 seconds. That's how long former Minneapolis police officer, Derek Chauvin, pressed his knee into George Floyd's neck on May 25, 2020. We know this because remarkable cell phone video

was shown to the world, and to the nine women and six men who make up the jury in the murder trial of Derek Chauvin.

It's hard to believe that it has only been 10 months since Floyd's death. So much has happened in America since that Memorial Day weekend but it's really a short amount of time for a high profile case like this to come to trial. Chauvin faces three charges: second-degree unintentional murder, third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter. If convicted on the highest charge, Chauvin could serve up to 40 years in prison.

We know that historically very few police-related deaths are charged as crimes. And when they are tried, jurors are often hesitant to convict police officers, allowing them wide latitude in using force in the line of duty. In the United States, between 2005 and 2020, of the

42 nonfederal police officers convicted following their arrest for murder due to an on-duty shooting, only five ended up convicted of murder.

The most common offense officers were convicted of was the lesser charge of manslaughter, but even then there were only 11 convictions. (Statista Research Department, June 10, 2020). But the Chauvin trial may be one of the rare instances where an officer is convicted, even of the high crime of murder.

Chauvin's trial has been groundbreaking in many ways. The chief of police testifying against a former officer/defendant, as was the case in this trial, is almost without precedent. This is significant because even jurors who sympathize with the police will be able to stay loyal to their allegiance to law enforcement and still convict Chauvin, as he will be portrayed as a rogue cop. It is also significant that there were so many bystanders who were able to testify, often with great emotion, about the last moments of George Floyd's life.

When considered along with the video depicting the entire nine-plus minutes, jurors are seeing these events through the eyes of the victim, something that is rarely available in a murder trial. And this may

JOHNSON continues on **Page 20**

Janet E. Johnson, P.A.

Criminal Defense Attorney

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

Areas of criminal law that are handled by Janet Johnson:

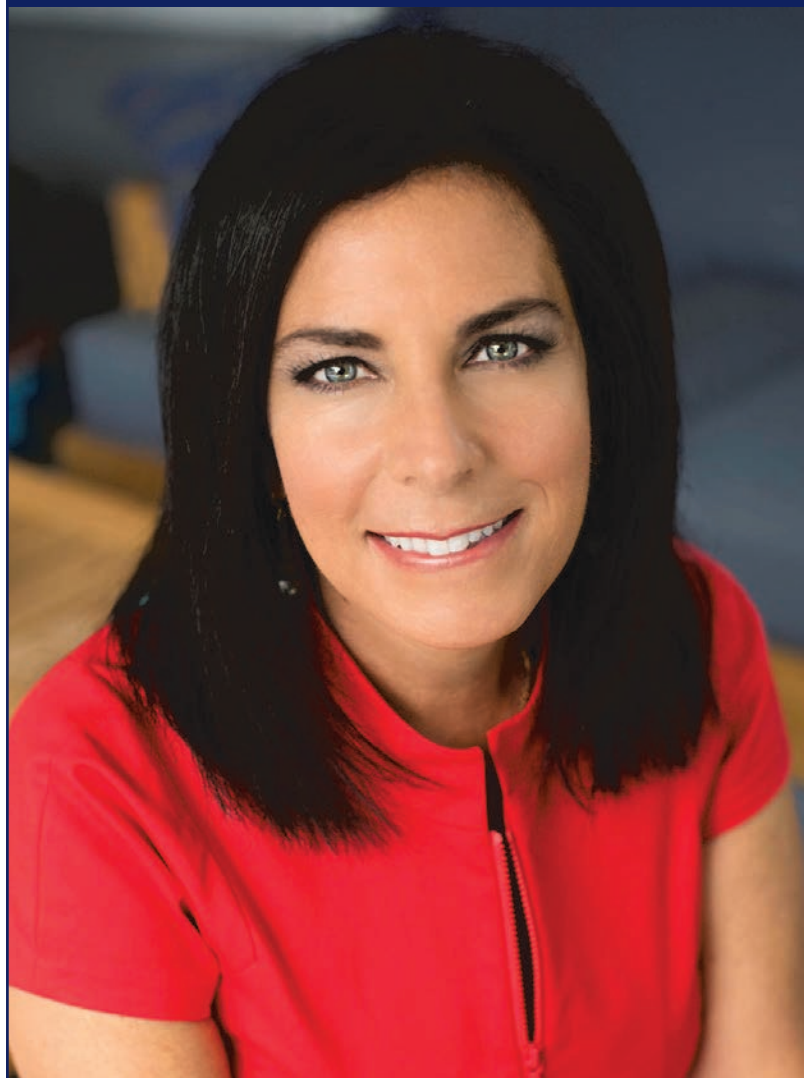
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Olea at Nocatee hosts Chamber After Hours

Olea at Nocatee hosted an After Hours event with the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division on March 24.

The outdoor event gave Chamber members and guests the opportunity to network as well as enjoy refreshments and gifts.

Olea at Nocatee is a luxury apartment community that offers resort-style amenities, spacious grounds and an active community.



Amy Yorio and Brandy Lewis



Chris Smith and Malcolm Anthony



Photos by Susan Griffin



MiMi Summers and Lauren Kruta



Refreshments are served during the Chamber PVB Division After Hours on March 24.

Judge John

Continued from 14

is very difficult. Judge John requests all citizens' cooperation in asking violators to please comply. Nothing spoils a day at the beach more than a family member stepping in dog-poop left behind.*

The recent Jax Beach law means that the rules regarding when dogs are allowed on the beach are the same between Jax and Neptune Beaches. While always being on a leash, dogs are allowed at any time during the months between October and March inclusive. In all other months, dogs can only be on the beach before 9 a.m. and after 5 p.m. This is both because in our sub-tropical climate the heat can be unhealthy for canines and because our beaches are more and more crowded during those hours raising the opportunity for conflict. Dogs are allowed (again leashed) more hours in both Ponte Vedra and Atlantic Beach.

Leashes are an area where the laws differ. The new Jax Beach law requires a leash of no more than 8 feet — while the 12-foot rule is in effect in Atlantic and Neptune Beaches.

Our understanding is that the 8 feet standard was adopted both for the safety of the dogs themselves and especially for other people enjoying beach activities such as jogging. Judge John can speak from personal experience on the hazards of beach jogging while trying to get around a very long leash, a small dog, and an oblivious owner.

Related to leashes are tethers. In Jacksonville and Jax Beach, it is no longer legal to leave a dog tethered 24/7. In fact, a dog tethered in a yard must be in plain

view of a person at all times. It is our understanding that tethering is unhealthy for a canine and has the tendency to make them vicious. Also, it is required that any dog in the bed of a truck be attached to two tethers. Please report any violations to Animal Control.

Another change in the Jax Beach law is that dog licenses are no longer required.

Both because the rules/laws are different from city to city, and that many beach visitors are not beach residents, Judge John heartily recommends that dog rules be prominently posted at beach accesses, to promote the likelihood of them being followed. We also request that all beach citizens help to gently educate our guests on beaches dog etiquette and laws.

Many thanks to all of the public officials who helped in the preparation of this article, and especially to Jax Beach City Council-Person Sandy Golding of Beach Watch, and Officer Denzel Dehm of Neptune Beach.

We would love to hear from our fellow beach residents any ideas for future articles concerning our Sand Life.

* – For example:

Neptune Beach 6-31 Any person having a dog on the beach during the above-enumerated hours must carry with and on such person suitable materials and utensils with which to remove from the beach any fecal matter deposited by such dog and must remove any fecal matter immediately upon its deposit by the dog under the person's supervision and control.

John Miller is the Special Magistrate for the City of Neptune Beach. His law firm, Rock Solid Law, provides expert guidance in all areas of Estate Planning, Trust & Wills, Real Estate, Closings, Title & Escrow and Small Business Representation. 904-241-1113

Armstrong

Continued from 14

surviving spouse is usually the automatic beneficiary of a 401(k), although there are some exceptions. With an IRA, you can name your preferred beneficiary.

■ **Investments in transfer on death accounts.** Some stocks and bonds are held in accounts that transfer on death to a named beneficiary. These accounts will bypass probate and go directly to the beneficiary.

In addition to not being able to transfer certain types of property with a will, there are other things that you cannot use a will for. The following are examples of items that should not be included in a will:

■ **Funeral instructions.** A will is not the best place to put your funeral instructions. Wills are often not found until days or weeks after death. It is better to leave a separate letter of instruction that is located in an easily accessible location.

■ **A provision for a child with special needs.** If you are leaving money to a child with special needs, a will is

not the best instrument. Receiving an inheritance directly can make the child ineligible for benefits. It is usually better to set up a special needs trust to provide for the child.

■ **A provision for a pet.** You cannot leave money directly to a pet in a will. You can name a caregiver for a pet and provide money to them to care for the pet, but the caregiver is not legally obligated to use the money on the pet. A pet trust is the most secure way to provide for a pet and about 20% of my clients use this method

■ **Certain conditions on gifts.** You may be tempted to make gifts conditional on the recipient's behavior or actions. However, there are certain conditions that are not allowed. The condition cannot be illegal, and the gift cannot be contingent on the marriage, divorce, or change of religion of the heir.

A will is not the only component of an estate plan. To make sure your estate plan covers all your needs, talk to your attorney.

Dan Armstrong is an attorney based in Ponte Vedra Beach. He specializes in elder law, estate planning and corporate law.

Johnson

Continued from 18

be why the verdict will favor the prosecution: the witnesses were distressed because they could not intervene. EMS workers and bystanders all described the guilt they felt watching a man being killed in front of their eyes and not being able to do anything to help. This could

be a call to action to the jurors who actually can do something to help. They can convict Derek Chauvin.

Janet E. Johnson is a criminal defense attorney in Northeast Florida. She is a member of the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the Florida Bar Association and has been featured as a legal expert on ABC News, CNN, Headline News, First Coast News in Jacksonville and NPR radio, among others.

St. Augustine Sailing to sponsor St. Augustine Race Week

Annual event, which runs April 17-24, has activities for adults and children

Rose Ann and Chuck Points, owners of St. Augustine Sailing Enterprises, Inc. and Yacht Sales by Rose Ann will sponsor St. Augustine Race Week from Saturday, April 17 until Saturday, April 24, with a variety of adult and children's-themed races and activities. The sixth annual event will be held at the historic St. Augustine Yacht Club, 442 Ocean Vista Ave. in St. Augustine, and various locations in the area.

According to Rose Ann Points, she and husband Chuck, along with company team members and additional crew, will participate in and serve as a major sponsor in a myriad of activities along with participation from local sailing companies, clubs and businesses to orchestrate ocean, river and bayfront racing, a youth sailing regatta, skipper's briefings, awards ceremonies, parties, live music and more. For information about schedules, activities, rules and fees to register, go to www.staugustineraceweek.com. For health and safety protocols, go to www.staugustineraceweek.com/sarw-2021-20-covid-19-protocol/. The public is invited to attend specific activities and view the races free of charge.



Photo provided by St. Augustine Sailing

"The 'Big Boats' will race off the coast of St. Augustine in the Atlantic Ocean and inshore racers will sail in the Tolomato River, just north of the Vilano Bridge," Points said. "We'll have great fun cheering on the youth sailors in the Matanzas Bay between the Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, the oldest masonry fort in the continental United States, and the renowned Bridge of Lions that spans the Intracoastal Waterway in St. Augustine."

A highlight of Race Week includes the Pointses racing their Hunter 216s sailboats, the Enchantee luxury Jeanneau 410 Mono-Hull, along with Allons-Y, a Jeanneau 349, among other U.S. and Frenchmade, plus internationally manufactured vessels from 21-to-45 feet. Tours of the boats and more will be featured during Race Week at St. Augustine Sailing Enterprises, Inc., Cam-

achee Cove Yacht Harbor, 3076 Harbor Drive in St. Augustine.

St. Augustine Sailing Enterprises serves the community as a certified American Sailing Association Training Facility with a well-maintained fleet of best-in-class sailboats from 21-to-45 feet at the harbor-front office located along the Intracoastal Waterway and Matanzas River, near historic downtown St. Augustine and Vilano Beach.

As company owners and St. Augustine residents, Rose Ann and Chuck Points have been boating and sailing most of their lives. Rose Ann began her boating life in the Northwest cruising on the Columbia River on board a 27-foot powerboat during weekends and vacations on the water with her family. In 1996, she moved to Florida to live aboard a Morgan

Out-Island Ketch with her three children for 13 years. She has sailed along the East coast from Maryland to the Tortuga and up the west side of Florida, spent about nine months traveling throughout the Bahamas, and time in the Caribbean such as Puerto Rico's Spanish Virgin Island and British Virgin Island as well as other Caribbean locations. Rose Ann has been associated with St. Augustine Sailing for more than eight years in a variety of positions and purchased the company with her husband Chuck in 2017. She holds a 50 GT United States Coast Guard masters license with Aux Sail Endorsement.

Chuck Points has sailed Asia, Europe and a variety of different sailing environments from Lake Superior to the South China Sea. He has more than 22 years of sailing experience. In addition to holding a Masters 100 GT Captain License with an Aux Sailing Endorsement, he is a certified American Sailing Association Instructor. In 2007, he was named an ASA Outstanding Instructor of the Year. He is also a dive instructor and oversees all sailing operations at the company and is the main Delivery Captain.

Rose Ann and Chuck also own the local SailTime franchise and support St. Augustine Yacht Club and the area's youth sailing and scholarship programs.

For more information, call (904) 829-0648 or go to www.sta-sail.com.

Festival

Continued from 16

(chefs, sommeliers, authors, artisans). This includes developing corporate/media partnerships which are crucial to building a successful overall festival. Jan doesn't settle for second best which means waiting for the most opportune year to implement her full vision of a grand festival.

The local economic impact from this festival is immeasurable, being fortunate enough to receive a St. Johns County Tourist Development Council grant for the 2021 festival. It's already creating economic impact for its host hotel, the

World Golf Village Renaissance Hotel & Resort, with record occupancy for Mother's Day weekend (not seen since The Players Championship moved off the May dates).

Ticket sales have been brisk with almost 50% of the tickets sold from out-of-market ZIP codes.

"Our festival creates back-to-back events that guests want to stay in town for and enjoy — and usually don't want to drive to multiple venues. Most out-of-town guests will want to venture to St. Augustine's historic district or the beaches — so this year we're starting off with a four-day event, but quickly see events expanding to a full week in the future. The

resort is a perfect host site with beautiful, expansive outdoor spaces and unlimited parking," states Gourley.

Unlike many food-and-wine festivals, the culinary events that Jan's company brings to each distinctive market offer world-class culinary and beverage tastings. The main event on Saturday will feature nearly 300 varietals of wines, beers and spirits — all included with a souvenir glass for the ticket price. Culinary tastings

will be available for purchase through culinary credits on an RFID wristband (contactless payment)! The main event will also feature a music stage and culinary demo stage ... a VIP lounge that is fully catered and offering private restrooms.

There is a VIP meet-and-greet celebrity stage with open bars for mixed drinks/cocktails. The Friday night Smoke on the Walk features some of the South's most renowned pitmasters and chefs!




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Exhibit features local artists in St. Johns County

Art in Public Spaces program takes artwork to the people

By Shaun Ryan

The rotunda of the St. Johns County Administration Building has been transformed into an art gallery for “Outside the Box,” an exhibition of works by 20 local artists.

Hosted by the St. Johns Cultural Council and ArtBox, this Art in Public Spaces exhibit features paintings, photography and wood sculpture.

This is not the first Art in Public Spaces exhibit, but previous ones were limited to a single featured artist. This exhibit is the first time an entire gallery has been represented.

“It was quite an undertaking,” said Lisa Myers, one of the ArtBox owners. “My business partner, Laura O’Neal, did all the curating. And it’s all artists here at ArtBox.”

In addition to Myers and O’Neal, artists whose works are represented are: Mel Bashore, Kathryn Carlyle, Charles Edelman, RoAnn Elias, Joyce Hutchinson, Deane Kellogg, Don Kight, Deborah Lightfield, James Macdonald, Patrick Madden, Mare Martelli, Harry McCormick, Anna Miller, Kirsten Miller, Susan Thomas Novy, Michele Renaud, Jim Rivers and Ken Vallario.

In addition, four of the artists have painted large-scale canvases specifically for the exhibit to represent and showcase the beauty of the county. These works, measuring six-by-10 feet, hang around the top tier of the rotunda.

Here’s a look at these featured paintings:

■ Don Kight’s “Early Marley Morning” emphasizes a series of swirls reminiscent of the surf. He calls his style “abstract expressionism mixed with prehistoric pop art.” He has decades of freelance experience creating works that include murals, portraits and graphic design.

■ Patrick Madden’s “Matanzas” depicts the local coastline. The name suggests that it is set on the Intracoastal Waterway. Madden has been an artist, master shaper and surfer for more than 40 years. He has shaped more than 10,000 boards since 1980 and founded Madden Surfboards, where he makes custom-painted and inlaid boards.

■ Lisa Myers’ “Emergence” is a dynamic swirl of blues highlighted in red that grow from a point of origin to fulfillment across the canvas. Myers studied art history at Old Dominion University, where she learned how abstract impressionists like Willem de Kooning and Mark Rothko approached the canvas.

■ Ken Vallario’s “Full Moon Marsh” depicts the grasses and waters of the marsh at night. Originally from New England, the landscape painter now lives in St. Augustine. Inspired by American realists Andrew Wyeth and Edward Hopper, he paints coastal scenes with a crisp edge and contemporary sensibility.

“That’s the largest thing I’ve ever painted,” said Myers about “Emergence.” “It was so much fun.”

She said the show has generated interest in the gallery, and vice versa.

“It’s been a good fit,” she said.

She added that anyone who missed the exhibit at the county administration building can find work by the same artists at ArtBox.

“It’s a constant show in here,” she said.

The exhibit is supported with funding from the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs and the St. Johns County Cultural Council.

Visitors can see the exhibit between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays at the administration building located at 500 San Sebastian View. It is on display through April 29.

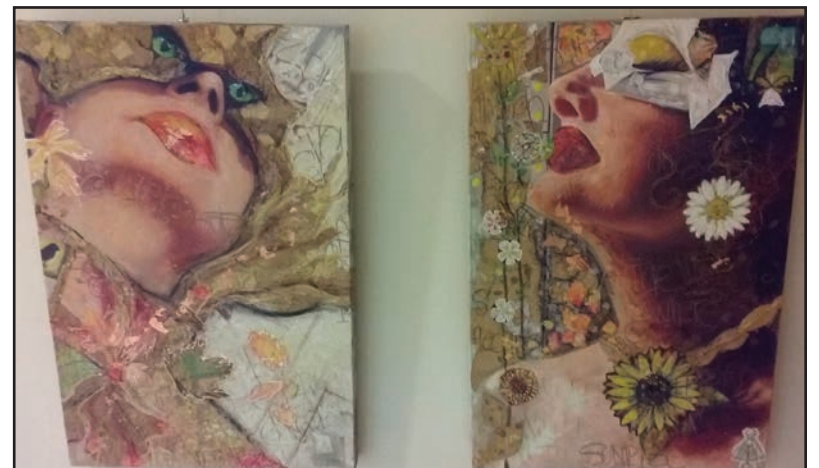
ArtBox is a gallery located at 137 King St., St. Augustine. Though it was closed briefly last year for the pandemic, it reopened to the public in May.



ABOVE: Several works of art are seen on one wall in the administration building.



RIGHT: “Imagination,” a wooden sculpture by Jim Rivers



ABOVE: “Solar Energy,” two works by Laura O’Neal

LEFT: “Summerhaven” by Patrick Madden



Two paintings by Ken Vallario hang on one wall of the rotunda. The top one is “Golden Marsh” and the one below it is “Under The Boardwalk.”



“The Bar at the Collector” by Harry McCormick



ABOVE: “Tropical” by Anna Miller

LEFT: “Dragonflies” by Lisa Myers

Photos by Shaun Ryan

Plein Air Paint Out returns to St. Augustine

One of the signature artistic events of the Nation's Oldest City is happening this month: the fifth annual St. Augustine Plein Air Paint Out, hosted by the St. Augustine Art Association.

From April 22 to 25 artists will set up their easels throughout the area, painting pictures of historic locations, like the Lightner Museum, the Castillo de San Marcos, Aviles Street and the Ximenez-Fatio House. Others will go to the beaches or the marshes of Anastasia Island to create their works.

This year, the Paint Out takes on special significance as painters will capture locations found in the Lightner exhibit, "St. Augustine in a New Light: American Impressionism from the Collection of the Lightner Museum." That exhibit opened April 8.

The event celebrates a style of painting known as "en plein air," which translated means "outdoors." It is an approach to painting outside that is fundamental to French Impressionism, beginning around 1860.

It is also a style that Henry Flagler patronized when he brought artists to St. Augustine from around the country to paint the historic town. The Art Association, founded in 1924, marketed this approach, declaring it "like painting in Europe"; the campaign helped the organization survive



Photo provided by St. Augustine Art Association

the Great Depression.

Plein air artists strive to capture what they see at a particular moment, as lighting, shadows and colors constantly change

from sunrise to sunset. Claude Monet is one of the most notable plein air painters and was a forerunner of French Impressionism.

Last year, difficulties posed by COVID-19 altered the Paint Out event. It was called Plein Air on the Porch. This year, however, the artists will be back in town as they were in 2019, when 70 artists participated.

One focal point of the event is the Quick Draw competition. At 11 a.m. Saturday, April 24, artists will gather in the Lightner Museum courtyard and gardens. They will have two hours to complete a painting. A judge will decide the winners.

The Paint Out is a favorite among passersby, who often stop to watch the artists at work and speak with them about their art.

"There is a sense of comradery and support for the arts during this event that we don't necessarily get to see every day," said Jennifer Flynt, administrator of the Art Association. "I've been a part of the Plein Air Paint Out since its inception in 2017, and it's certainly one of the highlights of the year for our artists."

Artwork completed during the Paint Out will be the subject of a Plein Air Pop Up exhibit during May's First Friday Art Walk.

For complete details, schedule and artist registration, go to staaa.org/pleinair or call (904) 824-2310.

The Art Association, 22 Marine St., is open free to the public. Hours currently are 1-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday.

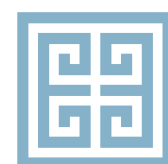
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HUGO'S
INTERIORS

Rock legends Blue Oyster Cult take stage May 22 at St. Augustine Amphitheatre

On Saturday, May 22, The St. Augustine Amphitheatre will welcome rock legends Blue Oyster Cult with special guests Mark Farner's American Band for a limited-capacity concert with distanced seating. Enhanced safety measures and protocols are in place, including contactless digital ticketing, face covering requirements and mobile ordering for concessions.

For more than four decades, Blue Oyster Cult has been thrilling fans of intelligent hard rock worldwide with powerful albums loaded with classic songs. Indeed, the Long Island, New York-based band is revered within the hard rock and heavy metal scene for its pioneering work. Blue Oyster Cult occupies a unique place in rock history as one of very few hard rock/heavy metal bands to earn both genuine mainstream critical acclaim as well as commercial success.

The band is often cited as a major influence by other acts such as Metallica, and BOC was listed in VH1's countdown of the greatest hard rock bands of all time. BOC's smash hits include three stone-cold classic songs: The truly haunting "(Don't Fear) The Reaper" from 1976's "Agents of Fortune," the pummeling "Godzilla" from 1977's "Spectres," and the hypnotically melodic "Burnin' for You" from 1981's "Fire of Unknown Origin."

Legendary all-American frontman and guitarist Mark Farner was the engine that pulled the original Grand Funk Railroad to the top of the charts, and today he's a platinum recording artist 30 times over. At age 67, Farner commands the stage with the same intensity and outpouring of love as he did at



Photo provided by the St. Augustine Amphitheatre

Blue Oyster Cult will rock the audience at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre on May 22.

20 during the summer of '69, and his fans are still flocking to their captain. The rock patriot's synergy and open heart come through in epic hits that defined a generation — "I'm Your Captain (Closer to Home)," "We're An American Band," a recut of "The Loco-Motion" and "Some Kind of Wonderful" — and "rock star" is only one facet of this Michigan-born son's legacy. Farner is also a husband, in his fourth decade of marriage to wife Lesia. He's a family man with five adult sons,

BLUE continues on **Page 26**

Jacksonville Symphony partners with Black Knight Partnership to provide free show tickets to active military, veterans

The Jacksonville Symphony and Black Knight recently signed a sponsorship agreement that will bring free Symphony tickets to veterans and active members of the U.S. military. Titled the "Black Knight Veterans Ticket Program," the sponsorship will provide 300 free tickets for veterans and active members of the U.S. military throughout the remainder of the 2020-21 Jacksonville Symphony season.

"The Jacksonville Symphony is committed to expanding access to the arts," said Symphony President and CEO Steven Libman. "We are incredibly grateful that Black Knight's sponsorship will provide us the amazing opportunity to expand that access to active members of our military, veterans and their families."

The Black Knight Veterans Ticket Program will allow veterans and active members of the U.S. military with valid documentation to receive two complimentary tickets to select performances. Additional tickets can also be purchased at a reduced price point unique to members and veterans of the U.S. military.

"Black Knight is proud to help the Jacksonville Symphony honor our nation's veterans and Gold Star families," said Black Knight CEO Anthony Jabbour. "Supporting those who sacrifice so much for this country is important to us as an organization, and to me personally as a board member of the Folded Flag Foundation. Through this sponsorship, we are honored to be able to support both our community and our local service members."

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

To take advantage of this program, participating members will be required to provide documentation of their U.S. military active duty or veteran status in one of three ways:

- Physically present the ID at the symphony box office, located at 300 Water St., Jacksonville, FL 32202

- Scan a copy of ID to boxoffice@jaxsymphony.org

- Fax a copy of ID to (904) 354-9238

Tickets are available for most upcoming Jacksonville Symphony performances in the Florida Blue Masterworks and Fidelity National Financial Pops Series. There are a limited number of complimentary tickets available for each performance, and ticket reservations will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis..

Butterfield Garage Gallery invites artists to share works

Butterfield Garage Art Gallery, 137 King St., St. Augustine, is inviting artists to create and share works honoring their mothers or celebrating motherhood in its invitational exhibition, "To Mom with Love."

Anyone may participate. The gallery supplies the canvas. Any medium may be used. Works created on materials other than the canvas supplied must conform to the 8-by-8-inch dimensions.

Interpretation can be broad. For instance, the work may depict a mother's favorite flower or a treasured memory.

Entry forms and canvases are available at the gallery. Entry forms are also available on the Butterfield Garage website <http://butterfieldgarage.com> and Facebook page.

An entry fee of \$10 includes an 8-by-8-inch canvas.

All entries must be received at But-

terfield Garage Art Gallery no later than Friday, April 30. The exhibit's opening reception will take place on Friday, May 7, and the exhibition will continue through May 31.

All submitted work will be on exhibit; the participant determines if work will be for sale. Butterfield Garage will handle any sales.

For further information, email: info@butterfieldgarage.com.

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Coolio, Sister Hazel duo to headline AS IF! The 90's Fest

Ancient City Entertainment has announced two new headliners for the inaugural AS IF! The 90's Fest, which will be held from noon to 9 p.m. Saturday, May 15 at Francis Field in downtown St. Augustine.

With tunes like "Gangsta's Paradise," "Fantastic Voyage," "1, 2, 3, 4 (Sumpin' New)," and "C U When U Get There," Coolio is a rapper and 1990s icon. He'll be joined by fellow headliners Ken and Drew of Sister Hazel, a Gainesville-formed pop-rock band with singles like "All for You," "Change Your Mind," and "Happy."

"Our original headliner, Eve 6, couldn't make it over to Florida from California because of the pandemic, so we secured Coolio and Ken and Drew of Sister Hazel to co-headline," said Jeanetta Salyer, owner of Ancient City Entertainment and the organizer of the festival. "We're pretty excited about these new acts and look forward to bringing a full-day concert line up with some of the raddest music from the 1990s while also raising money for ACE Alliance, a nonprofit set up to help local members of the tourism, enter-



Photo provided by Old City Public Relations
Coolio (top) and Ken and Drew of Sister Hazel will be co-headliners of this year's AS IF! The 90's Fest on May 15.

FEST continues on Page 26

THEME: FICTIONAL MONSTERS

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ACROSS

- 1. "Turkey" dance
- 5. X minus III
- 8. Accounting acronym
- 11. Angel's glow
- 12. Like list of chores
- 13. Inside info
- 15. "National Velvet" author Bagnold
- 16. Heavy Metal band Quiet _____
- 17. *Worn by monster hunters and dragon-slayers

- 18. *Sea monster with atomic breath
- 20. Brooms and cauldrons to a witch, e.g.
- 21. Subject of biographies, pl.
- 22. _____ of Aquarius
- 23. Saudi's southern neighbor
- 26. Ceremonial flight
- 30. "I" problem
- 31. Sweet-talk
- 34. Marine eagle
- 35. The Revenge of the _____, 1984

- 37. _____ you sure?
- 38. Desires
- 39. Russia's Romanov, e.g.
- 40. Comfy pants
- 42. Preceding month
- 43. Google Maps predecessor, pl.
- 45. Blackbird-like birds
- 47. Crow sound
- 48. Group of professionals
- 50. Like a bow string
- 52. *Witch of Russian fairytales
- 55. _____ con carne
- 56. G in 1000 g., e.g.
- 57. Loose hood
- 59. Was rebroadcasted
- 60. Prospector's mother?
- 61. Bassoon cousin
- 62. Nod up and down
- 63. *He played Dracula and Count Dooku
- 64. *Like Sendak's Things

- 9. Like the Weasleys of "Harry Potter"
- 10. Second qtr. calendar month
- 12. Alex Trebek's forte
- 13. Drooping
- 14. *Jeepers _____, sing.
- 19. Coats with Zn
- 22. Tap order
- 23. Yiddish busybody
- 24. Opposite of digest
- 25. Like high ground
- 26. Pestilence pest
- 27. Lock horns
- 28. Darlene or Jacob of Ozark
- 29. MCAT and LSAT
- 32. *Amity Island fish
- 33. Bonanza find
- 36. *Transylvanian bloodsucker
- 38. Shylock's practice
- 40. Use a Singer
- 41. Up until now, 2 words
- 44. Like luxurious sheets
- 46. Another name for manatee, 2 words
- 48. Not kayak
- 49. Follow rules
- 50. Shakespearean "you"
- 51. What snob puts on
- 52. *Minotaur is half man, half _____
- 53. Mongolian desert
- 54. Deserter's acronym
- 55. _____, The Beloved Country
- 58. Zeppelin predecessor

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Timucuan Parks Foundation's 'Celebrate & Explore Our Parks' exhibition now open at Beaches Museum

Timucuan Parks Foundation's 20th anniversary exhibition "Celebrate & Explore Our Wilderness Parks" opened last weekend during the Beaches Museum's Annual Springing the Blooms Festival.

The exhibition showcases Northeast Florida's parks and preserves through paintings, photographs and video drone footage from local artists. It also provides information on the history of the Timucuan Parks Foundation and its partner focuses including the 7 Creeks Recreation Area and the Barrier Islands Parks.

TPF's "Celebrate & Explore Our Wilderness Parks" Exhibition at Beaches Museum has eight new paintings from fine artist Kathy Stark, as well as four of her park paintings original to the exhibition. The exhibition also features video drone footage captured by Tom Schifanella, and still images taken by photographer Will Dickey. Prints of Stark's new paintings will be available for purchase in various sizes.

Panels throughout the gallery highlight

TPF's accomplishments as well as its current resiliency, health, engagement and park development initiatives. The purpose is to help the community identify parts of town that incorporate numerous preservation areas they can visit. The exhibition opened in October of 2019 at MOSH and was displayed at the Fernandina Beach Branch Library from July of 2020 through March 2021.

The Beaches Museum is located at 381 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville Beach. The "Celebrate & Explore Our Wilderness Parks" exhibition will be on display through the end of October. Visitors will be able to enjoy virtual and small in-person presentations by the artists and other notable speakers. The first speaker event will take place May 20 and will feature TPF's Program and Outreach Director Felicia Boyd who will speak about the nonprofit organization's health initiative and recreational opportunities in Jacksonville's parks and preserves.



Photo provided by Kelly White

Timucuan Parks Foundation's 20th anniversary exhibition "Celebrate & Explore Our Wilderness Parks" is on display at the Beaches Museum through the end of October.

Rock and roll soul group St. Paul & The Broken Bones returns to amphitheater May 23

Rock and roll soul group St. Paul & The Broken Bones will perform May 23 at The St. Augustine Amphitheatre for a limited-capacity concert with distanced seating. The group previously performed at The Amp in 2019 during Sing Out Loud Festival.

Enhanced safety measures and protocols are in place, including contactless digital ticketing, face-covering requirements and mobile ordering for concessions. Tickets are on sale now.

From an early age, singer Paul Janeway realized that the way he thought about the world was a little different from those around him, and he began to seek an outlet from which to share what was in his heart and on his mind. Blessed with a powerful voice, a magnetism for connecting with people, and a gift for making music, he traded in a career in ministry to start his own band.

St. Paul & The Broken Bones formed in 2012, releasing their debut album "Half the City" in 2014 and its follow up, 2016's "Sea of Noise," to much acclaim. The band's new album is "Young Sick Camellia."

Those strong efforts helped place the band on the national scene, and the group worked hard to prove they were no mere retro-soul band. They toured the world relentlessly and were selected to open for The Rolling Stones. Their TV appearances included "The Late Show with David Letterman," "Jimmy Kimmel Live," "Conan" and "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert."

Janeway's showmanship, thoughtful lyrics and dedication to his performance soon became the band's calling card. Paired with the inventive and skillful direction of co-band leader Jesse



Photo provided by the St. Augustine Amphitheatre

St. Paul & The Broken Bones will perform at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre on May 23.

Phillips and an eight-man roster, they soon became a must-see event.

Tickets for St. Paul & The Broken Bones are available at The St. Augustine Amphitheatre box office and online at Ticketmaster.com.

Tickets are sold in pre-configured pods (groupings) ranging from two to six seats per pod. Each pod is at least six feet from one to the next, and all seats within the pod must be purchased together. All tickets are digital. The box office is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays and 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays. It accepts payment via debit or credit card only.

Blue

Continued from 24

and a caregiver.

Tickets for Blue Oyster Cult with special guests Mark Farner's American

Band are on sale at The St. Augustine Amphitheatre Box Office and online at Ticketmaster.com. Tickets are sold in pre-configured pods (groupings) ranging from two-to-eight seats per pod. Each pod is at least six feet from one to the next, and all seats within the pod must

be purchased together. Additionally, all tickets are digital. The St. Augustine Amphitheatre Box Office is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Fridays and 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturdays. The box office will only accept payment via debit or credit card.

Fest

Continued from 25

tainment, and hospitality industries that have been affected by the pandemic."

The event will also feature the reunion show of Spider Monkey, a Florida-based rock band comprised of Todd Horn (vocals), Tony Gialluca (bass), Garrett Coleman (guitar) and Randy Rockalotta (drums). Additional bands playing the festival will include Salt & Pine, Kapowski, Nerd Kill Overdrive, Bad Dog Mama, Ramona + the RIOT and Chillula.

AS IF! The 90's Fest is sponsored by Bud Light, iHeartRadio, and T Mobile in partnership with Ancient City Entertainment, 904 Happy Hour and ACE Alliance. This action-packed, family-oriented, one-day event will feature live music, games, slime zone, photo booth, a 27-foot water slide, food trucks and more.

General admission tickets are \$15. Children under 5 are free and children ages 5-13 are \$5. VIP tickets are available for \$30 and include a lounge area and VIP bar access. Ticket prices increase at the door. Go to www.asifthe90sfest.com to buy tickets.

MEET-AND-GREET OPPORTUNITIES

Details are still being ironed out for two meet-and-greet events after the festival on Saturday, May 15, including an after-party with Coolio at Prohibition Kitchen and a special acoustic concert cruise with Ken and Drew of Sister Hazel aboard Sabrage. More information and tickets will be available at www.asifthe90sfest.com

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Sports



THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021 • PAGE 28

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Sharks softball catcher honored on Senior Night

Tara McGee is only senior on Ponte Vedra squad

By Shaun Ryan

Ponte Vedra High School softball player Tara McGee was honored Thursday, March 8, during Senior Night prior to the varsity home game against the Bradford Tornadoes of Starke.

McGee, number 32, is catcher for the Sharks. She has been playing softball since she was 10 years old and has been a dual-sport athlete for all four of her high school years, competing in varsity weightlifting as well as softball.

She received an unusual gift after the ceremony: the home plate she has presided over for her entire high school softball career. The plate was recently

replaced, something McGee had been requesting, according to the coaching staff. So the old one was given to her.

Joining her for the recognition ceremony was mom Tammy, dad Mark and brothers Kevin and Cooper.

In addition to her participation in sports, McGee has been a member of the National Honor Society, English Honor Society, History Honor Society and American Sign Language Honor Society.

She has been accepted into the honors college at University of South Carolina Aiken, where she intends to major in chemistry and minor in mathematics. She will also continue to play softball in college.

After college, she hopes to seek out a commission as a pilot in the U.S. military.



Photos by Shaun Ryan

PVHS senior Tara McGee was honored recently by the Sharks women's softball team. Pictured from left are brother Kevin, mom Tammy, Tara, dad Mark and brother Cooper.



Ponte Vedra's Tara McGee catches a pitch during a game against Bradford on March 8.



A Ponte Vedra batter prepares to swing at a pitch during the game against visiting Bradford.



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Baseball slowly welcoming fans back to stadiums



Photo provided by metrocreativeconnection.com

Sports fans have been anxiously awaiting a return to normalcy for professional athletics. In 2020, professional sporting events were played in largely empty stadiums and arenas. In instances when fans were allowed in stadiums, capacity was often limited to very small crowds.

As bleak as 2020 might have been for sports fans, good news is on the horizon. Spring heralds the return of many things, including Major League Baseball, which begins its season on April 1. But it may be May before many fans feel comfortable returning to the stands to cheer on their favorite teams.

State and local governments will continue to have major input in regard to determining how many fans will be able to attend live sporting events. In addition, the percentage of fans allowed inside stadiums is likely to change based on fluctuations in COVID-19 cases and regional vaccination rates.

As of early March 2021, a handful of the 30 MLB teams had yet to release their attendance plans. However, the number of fans who will be allowed to attend games is predicted to range from 10 to 30% capacity in various stadiums. For example, the state of New York is allowing stadiums to open at 10% capacity. That means the Yankees and Mets can seat 5,400 and 4,200 fans, respectively. The Kansas City

Royals will start the season with 30% capacity and Kauffman Stadium has been reconfigured for pod-style seating. The Miami Marlins and Marlins Park are allowing 25% capacity to begin the season, or approximately 9,200 fans.

Baseball fans who find they are unable to get tickets to games or still want to wait a while before attending in person can indulge their love of baseball in other ways.

- Continue to watch games on television and create virtual game watches with fellow fans via Zoom.

- Support local minor league baseball. Check to see what restrictions, if any, local stadiums may have regarding attendance.

- Plan a road trip to a state that has a large stadium or high capacity volumes for fans.

- Make a pilgrimage to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY. Visits may be governed by certain restrictions, which can be found at www.baseballhall.org.

- Volunteer as a coach for a youth baseball team or attend a high school baseball game.

Baseball fans have reason to rejoice as the opportunity to enjoy their favorite sport in person is once again possible in many areas.

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