

Your Community Voice for 50 Years

PONTE VEDRA



Recorder

May 20, 2021
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Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

PonteVedraRecorder.com

BMX-TREME ENTERTAINMENT



The Perfection on Wheels BMX Stunt Team perform for attendees during the BMX-Treme Extravaganza at the Nocatee Farmers Market on Saturday, May 15.

For more photos from the Farmers Market, go to page 7

Photo by Susan Griffin



INSIDE: CHECK IT OUT!

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



National Pet Month

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Beautiful Inside & Out

Pages 18-19



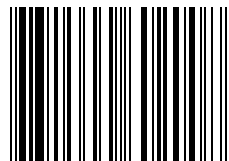
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Send us your news

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.



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

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

DOG(S) OF THE WEEK

Hi! My name is Mali. I am a 4-year-old female English bulldog. I came to the shelter as an owner surrender. I will need a patient home that with older children. No young children. I get along with other dogs, not sure about cats as I have never met any. I also need to be housetrained. The shelter is already beginning to help me with that as well as teaching me how to walk on a leash! Please visit me soon and see what a sweet girl I am! #58599



Hi! My name is Sam. I am a 8-year-old male labrador retriever. Sadly, my owner of over six years suddenly found himself unable to care for me. I am a sweet old boy who is looking for a place to enjoy the rest of my life. I am very sweet and extremely gentle. I am housetrained, good with kids and other dogs. I do have a bit of an allergy and will require a special diet, but trust me, I am worth the little extra care I need. Come visit me at the Pet Center today! #21329

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

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

The State of Florida is hosting Johnson and Johnson COVID-19 vaccination pop-up sites at four locations in St. Johns County over the coming weeks. Each vaccination site will have 200 single-dose Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccines available for those 18 years of age and older. All vaccines will be administered on a first-come, first-served basis at the following locations:

- Thursday, May 20 – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Main Branch Library, 1960 N. Ponce de Leon Blvd.
- Friday, May 28 – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Southeast Branch Library, 6670 US 1 S.
- Saturday, May 29 – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Main Branch Library, 1960 N. Ponce de Leon Blvd.

Each site will remain open until all vaccines have been administered. For more information, call the St. Johns County COVID-19 Vaccination Hotline at (904) 295-3711.

BRIEFS continues on Page 10

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

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Send us your nominations for Best of the Best of Ponte Vedra

The Ponte Vedra Recorder will launch its third annual Best of the Best of Ponte Vedra contest, covering ZIP codes 32082 and 32081, on May 21.

Readers currently have the chance to nominate their favorite businesses, professional services, organizations and more in multiple categories online. From best new business to best charity event, best real estate agent to best personal trainer and

best seafood to best boutique, the categories run the gamut and are sure to include your favorite things.

Nominations can be made on the website at pontevedrarecorder.com/bestof2021.

Anyone can nominate a business or person — there is no limit to the number of nominations each person can submit. Online voting will begin once nominations are complete. The nominees who

receive the most votes will be named 2021 Best of the Best of Ponte Vedra. Nominations and voting are completely free and open to the public.

The Best Of platform on The Recorder's website will feature lists of nominees in an easy-to-use format. Nominees can participate in advertising packages that promote their entry by expanding their listing to feature additional details on the business.

Winners will receive a free framed certificate and a Best of the Best of Ponte

Vedra window cling. Each winner will also be listed in our Best of the Best of Ponte Vedra special section and on the winner's website. Winners will be notified by Ponte Vedra Recorder staff at the end of July.

For more information or to find out how to get your nominated business or product involved in promotions that will be going on throughout the contest cycle, contact your sales representative, email susan@opcfla.com or call (904) 686-3938.



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Welcome to this unique home on a double platted lot in the heart of Selva Marina. Prospective buyers may want to inquire about the ability to sub-divide the two lots. This one-story ranch home is nestled comfortably under large oaks with lots of different spaces that wrap around the property. You will love dipping your toes in the screened pool which is heated by solar panels. New roof installed in 2018 and new A/C system is 3-months old. MLS 1109166

For more information, contact Murray & Elise Beard: 904.465.2784 | MurrayBeard@WatsonRealtyCorp.com

County imposes restrictions on short-term rentals

By Shaun Ryan

Short-term vacation rentals in St. Johns County will see some new restrictions under action taken earlier this month.

By a unanimous vote, the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners on May 4 approved changes to the land development code regarding the rental properties.

The action is expected to provide some relief for homeowners who live near rentals, but some affected landlords see the amendments as having a negative impact on their source of business.

The vote came two months after the county last addressed the issue. At that time, the board approved hiring two ad-

ditional code enforcement officers to work weekends when, some homeowners say, violations have been committed.

The issue arises primarily from concerns about noise, parking and trash due to large groups of renters acting irresponsibly.

The commission had postponed action on the amendments until after the state legislature addressed a pair of bills on the docket for the latest session. These bills would have impacted county governments' ability to impose restrictions on local rentals.

Both bills died in committee.

One of the key provisions of the amended code is a reduction in the number of people who can occupy a rental property

at one time. It limits by half the 20 previously allowed.

The changes will be phased in so that landlords who have invested in enlarging their properties to accommodate more renters will be able to benefit from their investments, to a degree at least.

As of May 4, 2022, the maximum transient occupancy drops to 17. One year later, it is reduced further to 14. On May 4, 2024, it falls to the permanent limit of 10.

An accommodation was made for children. Those age 12 and younger do not count toward the maximum of 10.

The occupancy is further restricted if the rental is smaller. Two people are allowed per sleeping room, as well as two for the common room.

In addition, one parking space must be provided for every three occupants.

To limit the amount of garbage sitting out, the board imposed a 36-hour time frame when trash receptacles may be placed outside.

Trash may be put out the night prior to scheduled pickup, no earlier than sunset, and cans must be taken in again no later than sunrise of the day following pickup.

The commission also mandated that landlords get identification from the renter who is responsible.

In cases of violations, fines would first be imposed upon the renter. If, however, there are three violations within a 180-day period, the property owner may be held responsible.

Jay Fund Celebrity Golf Classic returns to the course

Celebrities, community come together to raise support, awareness for families tackling childhood cancer

By Shaun Ryan

A quarter century after coach Tom Coughlin launched the Jay Fund Foundation Celebrity Golf Classic, the initiative to help families facing childhood cancer is still going strong.

The event was held virtually last year due to COVID-19, but golfers returned to the course this week for the 26th annual event, which was held in partnership with The PLAYERS at TPC Sawgrass. As in the past, the tournament had the full complement of 155 players.

The two-day event began Sunday night with a celebrity dinner and auction and continued Monday with tournament play.

Returning to the course this year, Coughlin was all smiles.

"It feels like a perfect day for golf," he said, adding, "We're excited. I mean, it's just fun to get back into the swing of things, continue to build relationships, continue to find new friends involved in helping the Jay Fund."

He said the players were ready to get out on the course the prior evening.

"We had to hold them off a bit," he joked.

The Celebrity Golf Classic raises funds and awareness, helping families with financial, emotional and practical support so that they can put all their resources and energies toward helping their children get better. In its first 25 years, the foundation raised nearly \$9 million at the Celebrity Golf Classic.

Coughlin called the work of the Jay Fund critical.

"There's nothing worse than hearing your child has cancer," he said, adding, "The Jay Fund is there to support them, to help them in all the practical ways — keeping a roof over their heads, food on the table, gas in the tank. All of those things. And, unfortunately, funeral expenses."

He said the foundation was proud to be a help in the community.

One of the highlights of the event is participation by celebrity guests.

This year, that included:

- NFL Hall of Fame inductees Harry Carson and Bill Polian
- Former NFL players Bryan Barker, Tony Boselli, Kyle Brady, Steve Deossie, Mark Herzlich, Tom Jackson, Pete Mitchell, Brian Moorman, Josh Scobee, Chris Snee, Marcus Stroud, Fred Taylor and Tim Tebow



ABOVE: Golfers take some practice rounds Monday morning prior to commencement of the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund Celebrity Golf Classic.

LEFT: Coach Tom Coughlin (right) poses for a photo with Jacksonville Jaguars Director of Player Development Marcus Pollard during the Jay Fund gala last Sunday.

Photos by Shaun Ryan



ABOVE: Rock of the Community: Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach President Sam Hall and President-Elect Lori Anderson present MaliVai Washington (center) with the club's Rock of the Community Award.

RIGHT: Ponte Vedra Beach Rotarians in-person and watching virtually from home participate in a line dancing lesson provided by Dance Alday.

Photos provided by Jon Blauvelt



Ponte Vedra Beach Rotary supports local charities, honors community figures at annual fundraiser

Local Rotarians donned their finest flannels, cowboy hats, and boots earlier this month at the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach's "Bourbon and Boots"-themed fundraiser.

Hosted virtually and in small groups throughout Ponte Vedra, the club's annual Mineral City Celebration raised support for several First Coast charities, including the MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation. The founder of the nonprofit, tennis great MaliVai Washington, was also the recipient of the club's "Rock of the Community" award.

"We are honored to support this tremendous role model for our First Coast youth," said Sam Hall, president of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach. "His foundation's mission to support at-risk youth and develop champions in classrooms, on tennis courts, and throughout communities is commendable. We are proud to contribute to his team's efforts."

The club also honored Tabitha Furyk, cofounder of the Jim and Tabitha Furyk Foundation and the Rotary's 2020 Rock of the Community award recipient. Due to the pandemic, the club was unable to

hold its Mineral City Celebration and honor Furyk in 2020. However, the club still directed support toward Furyk's charity of choice, Alex's Dragonfly Coalition, which strives to destigmatize and raise awareness about mental health.

The Ponte Vedra Beach Rotary Foundation has distributed \$1.5 million to area nonprofits. Some previous beneficiaries of the foundation include Beaches Habitat for Humanity, BEAM, Betty Griffin Center, Bright Holidays, Community Hospice, Vision Is Priceless and Council on Aging, among several others.

In addition to honoring these community figures and supporting local charities, the Rotary fundraiser featured line dancing lessons from Dance Alday, music by Nashville-based country trio Brassfield, stand-up by comedian Johnny Mac, a silent auction and trivia. The event was emceed by Rotarian Wayne Gordon.

"The past year has been challenging, and I'm so proud of our club for its perseverance in organizing this event and

AWARDS continues on **Page 12**

Beak performance: Record-breaking amount raised at Rubber Ducky Regatta

"This is a dream come true."

Those were the words of Ann Breidenstein, CEO of Learn to Read of St. Johns County, moments before the seventh annual Rubber Ducky Regatta kicked off last Sunday.

"To have [the duckies] dumped over the bridge is something we've always wanted, and it took the partnership of Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra to get it done," Breidenstein told those assembled at Palm Valley Outdoors Bar & Grill.

The restaurant was the headquarters for this year's event (which, in years past, had been held in the lazy river of Nocatee's community water park). The new location proved to be a great fit for the event as beautiful weather greeted onlookers watching the spectacle of 3,028 rubber duckies being dropped from the 210 bridge into the Intracoastal waters below.

Several Rotarians and their families took to the water in boats and kayaks to corral the duckies — even when the tide and wind worked against them. About 20 volunteers from the local high schools of Bartram Trail, Creekside and Nease helped work the event on land.



Photo provided by Bob Wiltfong

Thousands of rubber duckies are dropped into the Intracoastal Waterway during the seventh annual Rubber Ducky Regatta last Sunday. The event raised about \$8,000 for charity.

REGATTA continues on **Page 12**

Joe Bryant is president of Triserv Appraisal Management Solutions and board chair for The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. From Nashville originally, he now enjoys living in this Northeast Florida community.

Joe Bryant

As told to Shaun Ryan

Tell us a little about your professional background and how it led to the career you have today.

I'm an accountant by training but couldn't stand working with numbers all day long. I then moved over to the residential mortgage business where I had a great career with GE Capital, Travelers Insurance, Prudential Insurance and Long Island Savings Bank. Eleven years ago, I met two partners that had started an appraisal management company right before the mortgage meltdown. Best move I've ever made. I'm president and partner with Triserv Appraisal Management Solutions, one of the industry's largest appraisal management companies.

What do you like best about what you do?

Interacting with senior executives in the banking, credit union and mortgage banker world.

What are some of the challenges in your industry, and how do you meet them?

As most people know, the residential real estate market is in hyper-drive. This has created significant challenges for the industry, as it's taking much longer to get an appraisal assigned and completed. On top of that, we have most properties selling for much more than the list price. Many people can't understand that under appraisal guidelines that the sales price is not the appraised value.

You are also chairman of The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach board of directors. How did you get involved with the center?

Most people don't realize that our largest program is the Sounds Connections Music Therapy Outreach Program, which is music therapy for children with special needs. I attended two classes and saw the phenomenal impact this program does for these wonderful kids. We are currently providing this program in five different St. Johns County schools, working with over 300 children with special needs. St. Johns County doesn't have the budget for a program like this, so The Cultural Center funds this all-important program through our outreach efforts in the community.

Tell us a about the importance of having such an organization in our community.

The Cultural Center is the cornerstone in our community to create, understand and experience the arts. We do this

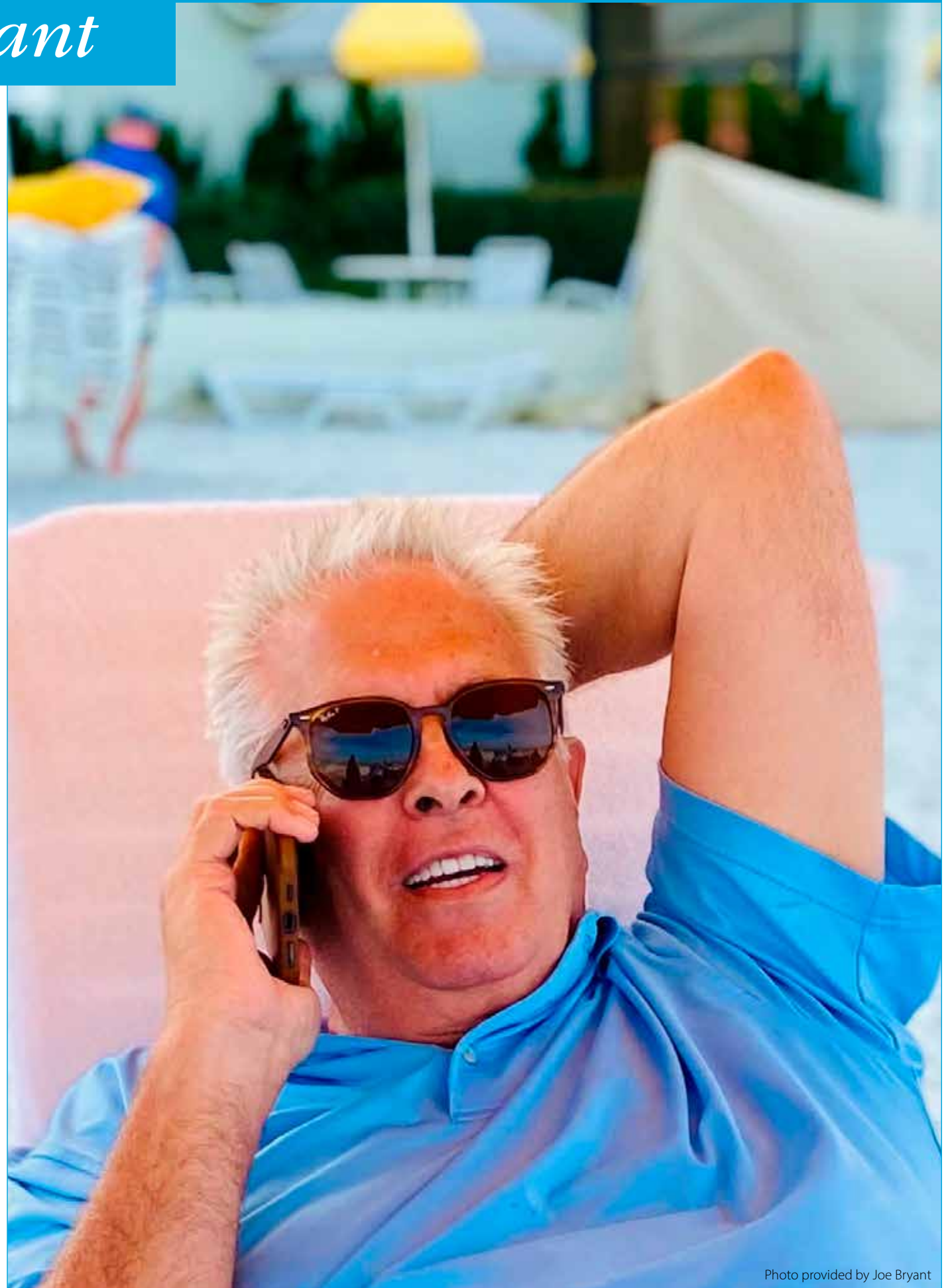


Photo provided by Joe Bryant

through exhibitions of local, regional and national artists in a variety of media as well as having exciting events for the community and through quality arts classes, lectures and workshops.

Where are you from originally, and what brought you to Ponte Vedra?

I'm originally from Nashville,

Tennessee, and as a corporate guy I moved all up and down on the East Coast. I spent 10 years on Long Island before moving here in 2003.

What do you like best about living here?

PVB is a unique place. It's in the most beautiful area of Florida and has a

quaint, laid-back lifestyle.

How do you like to spend your spare time?

I'm addicted to reading. Long story about speed-reading classes in high school. I love dining out very frequently, and along with my "amigos" I love to travel.



NOCATEE FARMERS MARKET GOES TO EXTREME HEIGHTS TO ENTERTAIN

The Nocatee Farmers Market went extreme on Saturday, May 15, at the BMX-Treme Extravaganza! Attendees enjoyed three different action-packed shows by the Perfection on Wheels BMX Stunt Team. Along with the exciting theme, the market included shopping from more than 70 local vendors, as well as information booths, food and more.

Photos by Susan Griffin



Fit 20's Cathy Battreall and Connor Battreall



Ponte Vedra Wellness staff member Janine Parker



Ultimate Atlantic Beach Lifestyle

Live the ultimate beach lifestyle in this midcentury modern on double corner lot just one block from the ocean and only 6 blocks from Atlantic Beach Town Center. Large open great room and kitchen with barn door pantry looks onto private backyard with pool and outdoor kitchen. Spacious master, 3 additional bedrooms & bathrooms plus laundry upstairs.
4 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms. \$3,800,000



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



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. \$760,000.



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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Ponte Vedra Gardens residents receive cheerful greetings from PGA TOUR employees across U.S.

By Shaun Ryan

Residents of Ponte Vedra Gardens Alzheimer’s Special Care Center got a nice surprise Thursday, May 13, when representatives of the Tesori Family Foundation and PGA Tour delivered greetings from around the country.

Handmade greeting cards, postcards, drawings, paintings and more came in from PGA Tour employees and their families from as far away as Hawaii.

The delivery was part of a program that began a couple of years ago. Children and youth would visit the center at various times of the year, like Valentine’s Day, Easter and Halloween. According to Genna Lancaster, executive director of the Tesori Family Foundation, the idea was “to bridge the gap between youth and the elderly, to kind of bring joy to the residents here.”

But COVID-19 rendered it impossible to continue in-person visits, so organizers had another idea: a pen-pal arrangement wherein people would send letters to the residents.

LETTERS continues on Page 10



ABOVE: Gathered around the special deliveries Thursday are, from left, back row: Tesori Family Foundation Executive Director Genna Lancaster, Taylor Tibbets of the PGA Tour, Connect YOU co-chairs Kari Smith and Courtney Wagner, Ponte Vedra Gardens Administrator Linda Jones and program director Jennifer McCormick; front row, residents, by first name only, Ellie, Charlotte, Margaret and Rita.

LEFT: The “mail” delivered to residents of Ponte Vedra Gardens Alzheimer’s Special Care Center is displayed on a table in the lobby. Photos by Shaun Ryan



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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

"Mother Nature has the best box of crayons."



Kathy Esfahani
Columnist

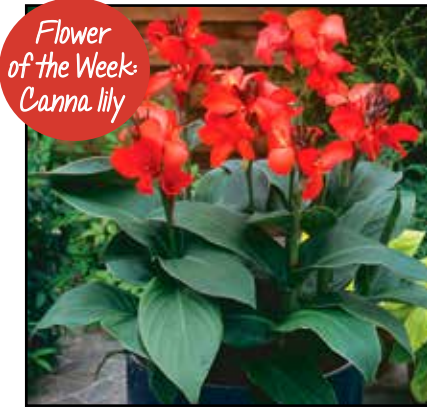
We have been highlighting some of the most popular landscaping genres that I see here in Northeast Florida.

Many homeowners choose to stay within one type of landscaping design to create the beautiful ambience they are picturing. In the next month,

you will learn what plants, palms and flowers are used to create a tropical landscape, Mediterranean landscape, traditional landscape and coastal landscape.

COASTAL LANDSCAPE

What do you think of when someone says coastal landscaping? Landscaping with minimal lines, very flowy, not neat and tidy. Coastal landscaping takes an organic approach to landscaping with plants "blowing in the breeze." Most popular colors used are whites, greens,



Flower of the Week: Canna lily

blues and splashes of pink. We usually cluster grasses such as muhly or fountain grass to create the windy look. Another great addition to coastal landscaping is the addition of climbing vines, such as confederate jasmine. Use a trellis or pergola to climb the vine to create your oasis. Coastal landscaping is very relaxing and reminds you of the beach, if it's not already in your backyard!

When creating an whimsical coastal landscape, we can use a mixture of the following:

■ **Palms:** sylvesters, queen palms and bismarcks and ribbon palms.

■ **Plants and flowers:** muhly grass, fountain grass, gaillardia, gaura, dune sunflower, dwarf fakahatchee, foxtail fern, blue daze, confederate jasmine and sea oats on dunes.

With all landscapes, the key to success is knowing the



Photos provided by Kathy Esfahani

An example of coastal landscaping.

sun/shade ratios in your yards, as well as what each plant requires and planting accordingly. Annuals are always welcome in any landscape to add seasonal color to your gorgeous design.

Happy planting!

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

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



Coach Tom Coughlin greets guests arriving for the celebrity dinner Sunday night.

Jay Fund

Continued from 4

- Former NFL coaches Dave Campo, Mike Mularkey and Dick Vermeil
- Jacksonville Jaguars head coach Urban Meyer, General Manager Trent Baalke and Director of Player Development Marcus Pollard
- U.S. Women's National Soccer Team coach Jill Ellis
- Former Major League Baseball player Daniel Murphy
- Former NBA player Patric Young
- Golfing great Jim Furyk
- UConn head football coach Randy Edsall
- Actor Kevin Chapman
- Former Miss Universe Demi-Leigh Tebow
- ESPN sportscasters Chris Berman, Chris Mortensen and Ed Werder



Photo by Shaun Ryan
Mark Herzlich shows his Super Bowl ring while standing next to coach Tom Coughlin.

■ Radio personality Scot "Froggy" Langley
Coughlin initiated the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund Foundation in 1996 during his tenure as head coach of the Jacksonville Jaguars. He named it after Jay McGillis, who played football for Boston College but succumbed to leukemia in 1992.

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| ½ carat* | \$ 895.00 | \$ 760.75 |
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| | Reg. | Sale |
|----------|-----------|------------|
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| ½ carat* | \$1695.00 | \$ 1440.75 |
| ¾ carat* | \$3300.00 | \$ 2805.00 |

*Total weight may vary by 5%.

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New scholarship for Nease, PVHS seniors announced

The Palm Valley Community Association (PVCA) and the Palm Valley Community Charities (PVCC) have announced the update to their annual scholarship for graduating seniors from both Allen D. Nease High School and Ponte Vedra High School.

“Many may not realize there are hundreds of students living in St. Johns County navigating high school while experiencing challenging circumstances, such as homelessness and food insecurity,” said

Beacham Still, PVCC board president.

The Palm Valley Community Association worked closely with St. Johns School Board member Kelly Barrera and the administration of both high schools. All agreed that the purpose of the new Perseverance Award is to reward students who have risen to school and life challenges with grace and determination.

The recipients do not apply; instead, they are selected by their schools and approved by the PVCA Board.

“After much discussion regarding the needs of our local high school students, both the PVCA and PVCC boards agreed to update our scholarship program,” said Garry Philips, PVCA board president. “We want to help graduating seniors who, despite extraordinary life challenges, persevered and are not only graduating but are entering college. As these remarkable young people take a step into adulthood, the PVCA would like to recognize their success to date.”

Recipients will receive a \$3,000 scholarship paid directly to their college, according to Philips.

“Our goal was to provide a sum large enough to help cover tuition for one term at most state colleges,” he said.

The recipients will receive their scholarships at their respective high school awards ceremonies.

The PVCA and PVCC will begin raising funds for the 2022 scholarships in the coming months.

PVB resident inducted into University of Mississippi chapter of Phi Kappa Phi

Davis Calhoun Lazzara of Ponte Vedra Beach is among the more than 200 students who were inducted into the University of Mississippi chapter of Phi Kappa Phi for the spring 2021 semester.

Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest, largest and most

selective honor society that is available across all academic disciplines. It was founded at the University of Maine in 1897.

Membership in Phi Kappa Phi is based on a student's sound character and academic standing. Juniors must

have completed 72 credit hours and rank in the top 7.5 percent of their class, while seniors and graduate students must rank in the top 10 percent of their class.

Lazzara is a marketing major in the School of Business Administration.

Ponte Vedra student awarded Oklahoma State University scholarship

A St. Johns County student was honored recently by the Oklahoma State University Ferguson College of Agriculture with a scholarship for the 2021-22 academic year.

Dana Kusch is an animal science stu-

dent from Ponte Vedra. Kusch received the Joseph Fleming Memorial Continuing Scholarship.

The scholarship is part of the more than \$1.8 million that students will receive from the college and its academic

departments.

“Our students have a diverse set of backgrounds, experiences and career interests, and it is an honor to award scholarships to help fund their academic goals,” said Cynda Clary, Ferguson Col-

lege of Agriculture associate dean of academic programs. “These scholarships are possible because of the generosity of our alumni and friends, and we truly appreciate their continued support of our college and its students.”

Letters

Continued from 8

PGA TOUR employee resource groups proved essential to the success of this program. Two of these groups, Connect YOU and TOUR Life have partnered with the Tesori Family Foundation's “Isaiah Smiles” initiative to offer a “volunteer from home” opportunity. “Isaiah Smiles” is named after the son of Paul and Michelle Tesori, who founded the Tesori Family Foundation. It brings positivity and smiles to Ponte Vedra Gardens residents.

Since the initiative was launched, PGA TOUR offices from around the globe have sent in letters, paintings, homemade crafts and more.

Thursday, Connect YOU chairs Kari Smith and Courtney Wagner, as well as Taylor Tibbits, who is also with PGA TOUR, joined Lancaster, center program director Jennifer McCormick and administrator Linda Jones to make the delivery.

“We asked everyone to make some cards and bring some sunshine to the folks here at Ponte Vedra Gardens,” said Smith.

Residents chatted happily with their visitors and examined the pictures and greetings with smiles.

Connect YOU also helps the Tesori Family Foundation with its All-Star Kids Clinic and Buddy Baskets, baskets of goodies given to Northeast Florida families who adopt or give birth to children with Down syndrome.



Courtney Wagner, Connect YOU co-chair, chats with a couple of residents of Ponte Vedra Gardens Alzheimer's Special Care Center.



Photos by Shaun Ryan

This child's drawing was among the items delivered to residents of Ponte Vedra Gardens Alzheimer's Special Care Center.

Briefs

Continued from 2

St. Johns County job openings now posted on GovernmentJobs.com

St. Johns County is transitioning to a new employee recruitment and selection system that will streamline and expedite the evaluation, interviewing and selection processes for all job applicants. Beginning May 17, all St. Johns County job openings will be posted on GovernmentJobs.com.

GovernmentJobs.com will allow the county to deploy a strategic recruiting program where applicants will be able to track the hiring process and upload supporting documents, including resumes and cover letters, in a variety of digital file types. Prospective job applicants must create a www.governmentjobs.com account to apply for open positions. For more information, contact St. Johns County Human Resources at (904) 209-0635 or BCChiring@sjcfl.us.

Crist attends virtual meeting with local Democratic Club

The Ponte Vedra Democratic Club welcomed former Florida Governor and current Congressman Charlie Crist to a Zoom meeting on Wednesday, May 12.

Crist underlined his recently announced candidacy for a return to the governor's mansion, now as a Democrat. He said his platform focus was a Florida for all — every ethnicity, gender and economic status, and for every part of the state.

Crist decried Gov. Ron DeSantis's handling of COVID-19 in which more than 35,000 Floridians have died and a change of voting protocols.

FPL work will cause lane closures on Ponte Vedra Boulevard

South Ponte Vedra Boulevard will experience daytime lane closures from Tides Edge Place to Beachside Drive from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. through June 28 for replacing FPL utility hardware.

E ATHLETICS

Episcopal Thanks And Congratulates Our Senior Athletes!

The school and your classmates appreciate all of your contributions to our community and our sports programs.



Twenty-seven members of the Class of 2021 will be playing a sport at college next year.

BASEBALL

Clayton Hodges – Jacksonville University
Dillon Haines – Stetson University
Brogan Napier – University of Central Florida
Layton Perry – Jacksonville University

FOOTBALL

Nick Elksnis – University of Florida
Tucker Tomberlin – Stetson University
Jack Bogan – Davidson College
CJ Tremble – University of Pennsylvania

LACROSSE

Mia Carter – Flagler College
Winnie Pajcic – Sewanee: The University of the South

GIRLS SOCCER

Abigail Jones – Ave Maria University
Julia Kato – American University

BOYS SOCCER

Mitchell Fenton – Rhodes College

ROWING

Emilee Podvia – Rollins College
Cooper Richart – Rollins College

SOFTBALL

Kami Eppley – Stetson University
Maddie Latta – Yale University

SWIMMING

Julian Smith – University of Florida
Mary Kate Kelley – University of Florida
Scott Haney – Georgia Institute of Technology
Grant Himes – Swarthmore College

TENNIS

Justin Bobo – Rhodes College

CROSS COUNTRY/TRACK AND FIELD/ TRIATHLON

Sabrina Wingert – University of South Florida

BEACH VOLLEYBALL

Jordan Cooper – University of North Florida

VOLLEYBALL

Cate Hale – Montreat College

WRESTLING

Joe Jackson – Roanoke College
Noah Meyer – Roanoke College



Awards

Continued from 5

supporting the community,” said Lori Anderson, event chair and president-elect of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach. “We couldn’t have done it without our sponsors, so I extend my deepest gratitude to them. And I thank everyone for rallying together to host an event that was fun, safe and impactful.”

The fundraiser’s top sponsors were the PARC Group and the Carn Family Foundation. Other corporate sponsors included Berry & Co. Real Estate, Vicar’s Landing, Baptist Medical Center Beaches, ATP, BKS Partners, Aegis



Photo provided by Jon Blauvelt

Rotarians Debra Smith, Todd Hickey, and Andre Green enjoy the Mineral City Celebration.

Pension Services, Pivot CPAs and KFA Search. Nine Rotarians in the club also served as sponsors of the event.



ABOVE: High school volunteers enjoy lunch during the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Rubber Ducky Regatta on Sunday.

RIGHT: Lilly Leitao-Ann Breidenstein (from left), County Commissioner Jeremiah Blocker and Gary Smith attend the Rubber Ducky Regatta.

Photos provided by Bob Wiltfong



Regatta

Continued from 5

National Honor Society students from those schools sold duck adoptions for the event, helping push the club's fundraising total to a record-breaking \$21,961. For comparison, the last time the Regatta was run (in 2019), the total fundraising amount was about \$8,000. Proceeds benefit the Rotary Club Foundation and Learn to Read of St. Johns County.

“Partnering with students from the honor societies of our local high schools was truly genius. Making that connection helped make this year’s Duck Race the huge success that it was,” said Gary Smith, committee chairperson for this year’s regatta.



Rubber Ducky Regatta mascot Eddie Sarnowski poses with kids at the event.

Club member and St. Johns County Commissioner Jeremiah Blocker, local school board member Kelly Barrera and corporate sponsor Harrod Law kicked off the race.

OBITUARIES

Dana Shuman Giardina

Dana Shuman Giardina of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida passed away peacefully on May 5, 2021. She courageously battled Multiple Sclerosis and Parkinson’s disease most of her adult life. Dana was a creative and artistic woman who loved fashion and designed jewelry. She will be remembered by her family and friends as a charismatic, warm, and loving woman.



Dana Shuman Giardina

Born in St. Mary’s City, Maryland on October 14, 1960 into a Navy family, Dana grew up in Virginia Beach, Virginia where she was a 1978 graduate of First Colonial High School and attended Virginia Tech and Old Dominion Universities. She lived in Annapolis, Maryland for many years where she raised her two children and worked in the hospitality industry as a Director of Sales for several prominent Annapolis properties. She and her husband Tom ultimately settled in Ponte Vedra Beach where they were members of Ponte Vedra Inn and Club.

Dana was a unique soul who brought joy and shared her love with those fortunate enough to cross her path. She possessed an innate ability to see the best in people and form lasting friendships. Dana enjoyed being around people she loved and having a good time. She loved to dance to Motown music, shop, and spend time sailing and at the beach. Dana was a phenomenal mother who loved her children deeply and enjoyed spending time with her three grandchildren.

Dana is survived by her husband, CAPT Thomas J. Giardina, USN (ret), her brothers Mr. J. Brant Shuman of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan and CDR Edwin Arthur Shuman IV, USNR (ret) of Annapolis, MD and their spouses, and by her two children CDR John N. Van Wagoner, USN of San Diego, CA, and Mrs. Helen Rosemont of Tunbridge Wells, UK and their spouses. She was blessed with and survived by her three grandchildren Freddy, Mary, and Eleanor. She is pre-deceased by her parents CAPT E.A. Shuman III, USN (Ret), and Mrs. Eleanor Sue Matthews Shuman. Information on memorial services will be forthcoming. In lieu of flowers or charitable donations, Dana’s family requests that you purchase something nice for yourself or a loved one, because that’s what she would have done. Please visit the online Tribute at www.quinn-shalz.com. Arrangements by



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

Richard W. Jewett Jr.

Richard W. Jewett Jr., 78, passed away April 30, 2021 surrounded by his wife and children.



Richard W. Jewett Jr.

Rick was born June 2, 1942. He grew up in Glendale, CA, and graduated from Glendale High School in 1960. Never being one to sit idle, Rick had 2 careers: 37 years with Lockheed Martin Skunk-

works where he proudly contributed to the success in producing some of our nation’s greatest military aircrafts know to date. At the same time Rick worked 33 years retiring as a Capitan for the Los Angeles Sheriff Department.

Rick is survived by his wife of 29 years; his children: Richard III (Lori), Audra (Greg) Newman, Jonathan (Erin) Brackney; Grandchildren: Connor, Brandon, Aubree (Marcos) Flores, Deklan Brackney; Brother, David (Karen); Sister-In-Law, Joanne Jewett-Burt.

Rick is predeceased by his brother, John.

Services will take place in California. Please visit the online Tribute at www.quinn-shalz.com. Arrangements by



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

Edna Mae Thomas Courson

Edna Mae Thomas Courson, 91, of Jacksonville Beach, Florida, died May 11, 2021. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, On-site Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

William Mullen

William Mullen, 90, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died May 8, 2021. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Beverly Napper

Beverly Napper, 91, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died May 13, 2021. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Joyce Jean Patrick

Joyce Jean Patrick, 73, of Jacksonville Beach, Florida, died May 12, 2021. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. (904) 249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

Victor “Vic” Potter

Victor “Vic” Potter, 63, of Ponte Vedra, Florida, died May 9, 2021. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, On-site Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

The power of pets

By Holly Tishfield

The use of therapy animals has become less stigmatized over the years, and can be seen more and more often in hospitals, schools, and even colleges.

Community Hospice & Palliative Care, an innovative national leader in palliative and hospice care that was established in

1979, has taken a forefront on the use of therapy animals for its patients with the use of a Pet Therapy Program.

“Each Pet Therapy team is unique and skilled in providing just the right amount of love and attention to our patients and their families,” said Dan Batty, manager of

PETS continues on Page 14



Photo provided by Michelle Cardinal

Therapy animal Sooshi the cat with owner Lorri Reynolds greet a family.

National
PET
Month

PAGES 13-15

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Heartworm tests important part of pet care

The American Heartworm Society advises dog owners to have their furry companions tested for heartworm annually. Such tests can typically be conducted during routine preventive care visits to the veterinarian.

The AHS notes that such tests are necessary even for dogs that are taking year-round heartworm prevention medications.

Tests can confirm that such programs are working or indicate if they are not effective. The American Veterinary Medical Association notes that antigen tests are the most commonly performed tests. These tests detect the presence of adult female heartworms and they are typically highly accurate. If a test is positive, veterinarians may recommend further testing, includ-

ing radiographs, a blood profile and an echocardiogram. Such tests can determine a number of things about the infection, including its severity.

The AVMA also notes that the additional testing can help determine the best course of treatment. Cat owners should know that it's more difficult to detect heartworm in cats than in dogs. The AHS

indicates that cats are much less likely than dogs to have adult heartworms, making the disease harder to detect in felines. Veterinarians may recommend cats receive both the antigen test and an antibody test, which detects exposure to heartworm larvae. The AVMA notes that more testing may increase the likelihood of detecting the disease in cats.



Pawsitive Healing hosts artisan market, donates to Jacksonville Humane Society

Dr. Carla Rodrigues, owner of Pawsitive Healing, Veterinary Rehabilitation and Acupuncture in Jacksonville, recently hosted a local artisan market with artists who displayed and sold handmade woodworking, pottery, ceramics, jewelry art, pet portraits, photography, crystals and more to benefit Jacksonville Humane Society, a no-kill, pet adoption shelter.

The nonprofit received an \$800 donation from the proceeds along with additional donations from sixth-grade students at Presbyterian Riverside School who painted their own pet portraits for purchase.

The market was held May 8 at 1617 Thacker Ave. in the San Marco neighborhood of Jacksonville. Rodrigues said she regularly holds events and activities as her philanthropy to benefit pets and people in need throughout Northeast Florida.

Participating artisans and organizations included The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach, Riverside Presbyterian Day School, Old Colony Woodworks, Jade Paws, Switzerland Animal Hospital, Marshland Pottery, Ingravity Art and Utter Chaos Creations, among others.

Rodrigues focuses on alternative pet wellness and medicine and is certified in reiki energy healing, canine rehabilitation and veterinary acupuncture. She completed her clinical year of veterinary school at the University of Minnesota and practiced medicine in California and North Carolina before moving to Jacksonville in 2017.

“Whether I am treating a young, injured pet or an arthritic senior dog, there is something so special about being a part of the happiness and fulfillment that comes with alternative and integrative medicine,” said Rodrigues.

Rodrigues specializes in creating a home environment for pets and their owners while practicing rehabilitation and arthritis management, laser therapy, injury and surgical recovery, muscle relaxation, hydrotherapy, strengthening exercises, massage, acupuncture, reiki energy healing, herbal and traditional medicine.

For more information, call (904) 257-3336 or email info@pawsitivehealingvet.com. Practice hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, and by appointment.

The website is pawsitivehealingvet.com.

ABOVE: Artists participating in the Pawsitive Healing artisan market sold handmade woodworking, pottery, ceramics, jewelry art, pet portraits, photography, crystals and more.

RIGHT: Pawsitive Healing owner Dr. Carla Rodrigues recently hosted an artisan market to benefit Jacksonville Humane Society.

Photos provided by Dr. Carla Rodrigues



Pets

Continued from 13

volunteer services, in a press release.

The Pet Therapy Program began in the late 1990s but did not really pick up popularity until the last decade or so. The rise in popularity comes from new studies conducted on the benefits of therapy animals in social and medical situations, such as their ability to lower blood pressure and decrease stress/anxiety.

Maria Oehler, a Pet Therapy Program volunteer with Community Hospice, has been bringing her therapy animals to patients in long-term facilities for years now. All pet therapy volunteers are onboarded through other therapy teams and trained on how to assist patients. The animals brought to the therapy program are all registered through the state.

Not only do the dogs in the Pet Therapy Program benefit the patients, but Oehler said the animals also help both the families and the staff, too. They can often provide



Photos provided by Michelle Cardinal

ABOVE: Spot and Sade are two of the therapy dogs utilized by Community Hospice and Palliative Care in their Pet Therapy Program

RIGHT: Sooshi the cat and owner Lorri Reynolds meet Buc the pony, another therapy animal.

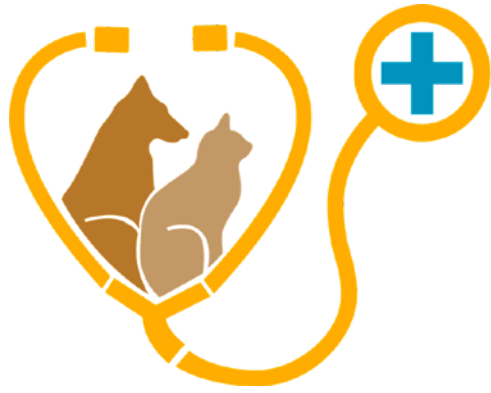
happiness and laughter in an otherwise dark situation, Oehler explained.

It is easy for the dogs to develop relationships with the patients Oehler visits in the facilities, and she said it can some-

times be difficult for the animals when the people they have formed relationships with are no longer around, but the joy that the dogs bring and the light in people's faces can make it all worth it.



“I have shown dogs for over 40 years,” said Oehler. “I would give it all back just to do this. Nothing I have ever done with my dogs has been as rewarding as this.”



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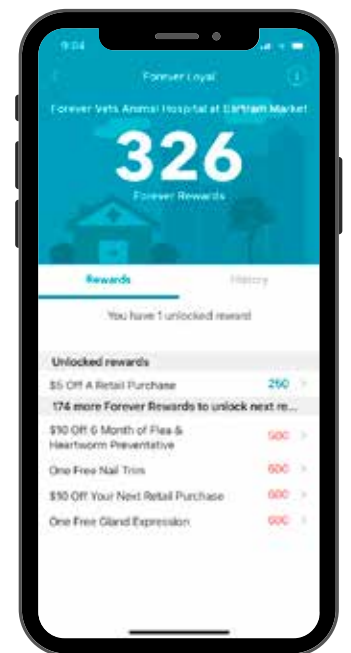


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| Auburn University | Kenyon College | University of Georgia |
| Ave Maria University | Lewis & Clark College | University of Miami |
| Barnard College | Lipscomb University | University of Mississippi |
| Belmont University | Massachusetts Institute of Technology | University of Nebraska |
| Boston College | Montreat College | University of North Carolina |
| Bowdoin College | Pennsylvania State University | University of North Florida |
| Colgate University | Princeton University | University of Pennsylvania |
| College of Charleston | Purdue University | University of Richmond |
| Colorado School of Mines | Randolph-Macon College | University of South Carolina |
| Dartmouth College | Rhodes College | University of South Florida |
| Davidson College | Roanoke College | University of Tampa |
| Duke University | Rollins College | University of Tennessee |
| East Tennessee State University | Samford University | University of Texas |
| Eckerd College | Santa Fe College | University of Virginia |
| Elon University | School of the Art Institute of Chicago | Vanderbilt University |
| Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University | Sewanee: The University of the South | Virginia Polytechnic Institute |
| Fashion Institute of Technology | Southern Methodist University | Wake Forest University |
| Flagler College | Stetson University | Warren Wilson College |
| Florida State College at Jacksonville | Swarthmore College | Yale University |
| Florida State University | Tallahassee Community College | |
| Furman University | Texas Christian University | |
| Georgia Institute of Technology | Tulane University of Louisiana | |
| Georgia Southern University | University of Central Florida | |



BEAUTIFUL INSIDE & OUT

New doctor brings years of experience to local clinic

By Holly Tishfield

Bluewater Health and Wellness is no stranger to offering unique, world-class services. This clinic, founded in August of 2020, has hit the Ponte Vedra community with a wealth of offerings that have patients walking away both feeling and looking their best.

The clinic not only offers patients regular well visits, annual exams and sick visits, but also offers more cosmetic treatments such as laser rejuvenation and removal, facial rejuvenation and botulinum toxin/dermal filler injectables.

With their optimal-aging medicine, patients can choose from a list of services such as hormone replacement therapy, peptide therapy, and hair restoration.

“We use an integrative approach to help you feel your best on the inside and look your best on the outside,” said Jaclyn Taylor, a nurse at the clinic. “Whether you are looking to reduce wrinkles or age spots, change the shape of your body, improve your energy and libido or navigate sexual concerns — be ready to step out with a bold and



Photo provided by Jaclyn Taylor

The staff at Bluewater Health and Wellness, Dr. Edward Secunda, Irma Jakupi, MSN Jaclyn Taylor, MSN Brittney Schmidt Day, provide integrative approaches to have patients looking and feeling their best.

confident new sense of self because we have a recipe customized to you.”

Bluewater is provider-owned-and-operated, which means they can call the shots and offer specifically tailored services for their patients. Their multi-modality treatment plans, specialty testing and in-house lab services make them unique to the area.

Most recently, the Bluewater Health and Wellness team added Dr. Edward Secunda to its ranks, a board-certified family physician and member of the American Board of Family Medicine and the Florida Osteopathic Medicine Association. He has practiced in the Jacksonville area for nearly 27 years and spent 15 years as the medical director at Mission House Clinic in Jacksonville Beach. Secunda provides comprehensive preventative medical care and chronic condition management including hypertension, diabetes, pulmonary disorders and orthopedic conditions.

“We are thrilled to have Dr. Secunda working with us,” said Taylor. “His commitment to patient care is unparalleled.”

To learn more about Bluewater Health and Wellness go to www.blueh2ohealth.com or call (904) 595-2583.

Kathleen Floryan gets advice from Conner Battreall, fit20 Nocatee franchise owner, during a workout session.

Photo provided by Roger Karsten



Strength training first

By Roger Karsten

As a physical therapist, many of my patients are surprised when I recommend strength training first to those who have not exercised for a while.

Many people have the false belief that cardio training should be first. The fact is that strength training offers a variety of health and fitness benefits in much less time than cardio training. It also offers benefits that you do not typically get from cardio.

When done correctly, strength training also has a significantly lower risk of an exercise-related injury and is appropriate for adults of all ages and abilities. Almost anyone can learn to do it effectively and safely in just a few sessions.

INTENSITY MATTERS A LOT

One of the advantages of strength training is the high level of intensity control you have during training.

The reason this matters is that we know that a higher intensity of effort during training produces amazing results in much less time. Essentially, your training stimulus is telling your body (and brain) to improve everything. This method is fully adjustable to your individual abilities.

REVERSING MUSCLE DECLINE

After age 35, we see a significant decrease of lean muscle and strength with each year. While this process is natural, it is very undesirable since it has a negative impact on how we feel and how our body functions as a whole. Doing cardiovascular exercise is an inefficient strategy for reversing muscle loss.

Strength training reverses muscle decline very effectively and in much less time than most people think. As little as one session of about 20 minutes per week is sufficient for most people.

What you need to know about aging eyes: May is Healthy Vision Month



Dr. McGregor Lott, M.D.
Florida Eye Specialists

In the United States, the leading causes of blindness are age-related. If you're over age 60, you're at risk for a whole host of eye diseases, and yet recent surveys show less than half of individuals receive regular eye exams. If you think your eyes don't need ongoing care, you may be taking

risks with your sight. Age-related eye conditions develop slowly, and patients often don't notice the signs until it's too late. This May Healthy Vision Month, take the time to review some of the common age-related eye conditions and options to preserve your vision.

CATARACTS

Cataracts are a clouding of the normally clear lens of the eye, and they can begin to develop in your 40s and 50s. Cataracts develop slowly and painlessly over time — in fact, in the early stages, symptoms may be so mild that you don't even realize your vision is changing. But as a person ages, cataracts grow to the point where they can get in the way of living an active, independent life.

As cataracts become more dense, you may begin to notice symptoms such as a painless blurring of vision, sensitivity to light and glare, poor night vision and a fading or yellowing of colors. In the long run, cataract surgery may be your best option to restore sight. The latest technology is laser cataract surgery, which uses a precise form of energy to remove the cataract. This results in a gentler procedure with effective results.

GLAUCOMA

An estimated 50 percent of glaucoma patients don't realize they have this common eye disease. When left untreated, glaucoma can lead to blindness — and by the time patients realize, it's too late to save vision. That's why early detection and diagnosis are crucial for effective treatment.

Some patients may be treated with the use of eye drops, but some need laser treatment or various incisional eye surgeries. For these patients, a Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty can be used as a safe and effective treatment. Among the available treatments for glaucoma are the trabulectomy and tube shunts.

AGE-RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION

Macular degeneration occurs when the center of the retina begins to deteriorate. Two different versions of the disease exist: the generally less severe, “dry” macular degeneration, and wet macular degeneration. As fluid leaks into the retina, the disease will evolve into “wet” macular degeneration, resulting in more rapid and severe damage.

People over the age of 60 are typically the most vulnerable to the disease. Symptoms include blurred or distorted vision, blind spots, reduced central vision and difficulty adapting to low light levels. If untreated, this condition can lead to blindness.

Since age is a critical factor in macular degeneration, you should take extra precaution as you get older to preserve your eye health. Many treatments are available that can help relieve symptoms and stall its progression, if the condition is caught soon enough. These in-



Photo by Susan Griffin

Maura McKee (left) and Lisa Petges have opened Waves Aesthetics in Ponte Vedra Beach, where they held a Chillin' with Cryo night last Thursday to showcase their cryo technology.

Lady Boss duo brings face and body rejuvenation to Sawgrass

By Holly Tishfied

Long time friends Lisa Petges and Maura McKee made their dream of opening a health-and-wellness spa a reality last year when they opened Waves Aesthetics in Ponte Vedra Beach.

The original plan was to open the spa in March of 2020, but after the pandemic hit, they readjusted those plans and opened Waves Aesthetics in mid-summer.

With more than 25 years of experience in the spa-and-beauty industry, Petges and McKee now offer a wide variety of services at their shop that span wellness both inside and out.

There are over five different kinds of facials that guests can select while at the spa, such as an elevated oxygen facial, which is designed to strengthen skin's elasticity and help eliminate bacteria, or the Hydra Luxx facial, which provides a stunning combination of gentle exfoliation, pneumatic suction, extraction and hydration serum infusion. This spa also offers waxing, lash/brow tinting, teeth whitening, acne treatments, RF micro needling, dermaplaning and more.

Perhaps their most popular offerings are their cryotherapy treatment options, which

include a chin cryo, a cryo body treatment, and a cryo facial.

Last Thursday night, Waves Aesthetics hosted a Chillin' with Cryo night at Nona Blue Tavern to offer specials and demonstrations of their new cryo technology. The event was limited, due to pandemic-related concerns, but the cocktail party was an opportunity for Waves Aesthetics to meet more people in the Ponte Vedra community.

"I think that everybody got to see the results from the demonstration that we did," said Petges when asked about her favorite part of the night. "People got excited because you can actually see immediate results when we use the cryo-machine."

Waves Aesthetics is unique to the area thanks to their friendly staff and flexibility. Petges said that the initial consultation is an important step in a patient's wellness journey because it allows the staff to access a clear and efficient path.

"We think about the wellness of the patient. We do not sell them something that we do not think is going to work," she said.

To book an appointment with Wave Aesthetics, or learn more about their treatments, go to wavesaesthetics.com.

Training

Continued from 18

STRENGTH & SO MUCH MORE

Strength training improves strength and endurance, but it also works to prevent common diseases such as diabetes, heart disease and cancer.

It also has a positive effect on our mood and cognitive ability. It even helps to balance our hormone profiles. All with that one session of 20 minutes! Isn't that great news? To get the results you want, you don't have to spend hours in a crowded gym.

HOW TO START SMART

To maximize both your results and

your safety I always recommend starting with a personal trainer. Good trainers will teach you what you need to know about smart strength training by providing you with feedback on your posture, breathing and movement techniques.

I also recommend using resistance machines to start out. Slow-motion resistance training with a high intensity of effort is particularly effective and safe of these machines, and it takes very little time. It is a safe and effective way to start strength training as a health practice.

Check out fit20, a local fitness studio that specializes in a customized strength training program led by a personal trainer, with three locations in Jacksonville – Jax Beach, Tapestry Park/Southside and Nocatee.

Lott

Continued from 18

clude ocular injections that inhibit new blood vessels or special eye vitamins.

HOW TO PREVENT VISION LOSS AND CARE FOR YOUR EYES

The most important step to take is to see your eye doctor for regular screenings, because prevention and treatment of eye conditions starts with a single eye exam. Many eye diseases have minimal symptoms or none at all, until the disease has progressed. That makes

early detection critical.

Your sight makes a huge difference in your quality of life. It's important to take care of it. At Florida Eye Specialists, we recommend that patients ages 60 and older have a comprehensive dilated eye exam at least once every two years. Why take any chances with your vision? If you have questions or are due for your exam, call our Ponte Vedra Beach office at (904) 564-2020.

Dr. McGregor N. Lott, M.D., is an ophthalmologist at Florida Eye Specialists. For more information on Dr. Lott or to schedule a virtual appointment, visit FloridaEyeSpecialists.com.



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Business Weekly

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Northeast Florida Association of Realtors helps raise \$250K for disaster victims

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www.PonteVedraRecorder.com



LOCAL BARBER SHOP CELEBRATES NEW OWNERSHIP

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Wednesday, May 12, for a change in ownership for Don's Barber Shop, 226 Solana Road in Ponte Vedra Beach. Raquel Turnbull, a third-generation master barber with 25 years of experience in the profession officially bought the shop March 10. Don Brown opened the barbershop in 1990 and was joined by wife Ann Brown and daughter Shirley Dutcher in the family business. Brown has retired after 59 years of barbering.

Photos by Susan Griffin



Goodwill helps those with barriers to find work, CEO says

By Shaun Ryan

Ask someone what they know about Goodwill, and they will likely tell you it's a thrift store.

And that's not incorrect. But it is incomplete.

In fact, Goodwill is a source of employment opportunities for many people, especially those who face challenges in getting hired.

"We're a local not-for-profit organization dedicated to removing barriers to employment," according to David Rey, CEO and president for Goodwill Industries of North Florida. "We do that through education, training, placement services and career opportunities. We have a vision of a community where every persons finds meaningful employment and career opportunities."

Rey spoke Wednesday, May 12, at a virtual Chamber at Noon meeting of the Ponte Vedra Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce.

Goodwill of North Florida operates 19 retail stores and 20 donation centers in its 14-county territory, as well as a 19,000-square-foot e-commerce distribution center, and employs nearly 850 people.

Through military contracts, about 33 people with severe disabilities are employed to serve food at NAS Jacksonville and Naval Station Mayport.

In 2012, the organization acquired Landscape Consultants Inc., which employs 45.

"We're always looking to employ, and offer that opportunity to anyone with a barrier," said Rey.

But Goodwill is more than an employer. It is also a resource.

It operates free career centers, where people can search for a job, work on a resume, use a computer and apply to positions. Last year, 30,000 people took advantage of these services.

In addition, 300 high school students have gotten work through internship programs in Duval County.

IBERIABANK First Horizon expands services at Ponte Vedra Beach location

IBERIABANK First Horizon recently welcomed Tina Bodnar and Chris Oberly to the bank's Ponte Vedra Beach banking center. This expansion allows the bank to offer enhanced private banking services in the North Florida market.

Bodnar joins IBERIABANK First Horizon as a senior vice president and private banking relationship manager. In this role, she will provide holistic banking and financial planning services to meet clients' wealth management needs and help them attain their financial goals.

Bodnar brings nearly 10 years of private banking experience to IBERIABANK First Horizon. Throughout her career, Bodnar held positions at two of the nation's largest banks where she was consistently a national achieving banker in the region.

Oberley also joins the Ponte Vedra Beach Banking Center, providing financial advice and supporting clients' financial goals. Oberley joins the bank with similar experience at major national banking institutions and has received national recognition for his financial service to clients.

"As we continue to grow our office in Ponte Vedra Beach, we're excited to add private banking to the services we offer," said Abel Harding, North Florida market president, IBERIABANK First Horizon.



Tina Bodnar



Chris Oberley

zation. "Tina has extensive experience as a private banker in the Ponte Vedra Beach community, and Chris is known for his exceptional service. These bankers are valuable additions to our team and look forward to serving our clients in the North Florida and Southeast Georgia markets."

IBERIABANK First Horizon's philosophy is to exceed client satisfaction by delivering unparalleled customer service at every point of contact. Bodnar and Oberley are positioned to fulfill this mission and serve the local community by offering comprehensive financial service and assistance to customers in their new roles on the private banking team.

IBERIABANK First Horizon's Ponte Vedra Beach banking center is located at 250 A1A North, Suite 300, in Ponte Vedra Beach. To learn more about IBERIABANK First Horizon's Ponte Vedra Beach banking center, call (904) 543-7055.

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Realtors help disaster victims with \$250,000 donation

Members of the real estate community, including Northeast Florida Association of Realtors (NEFAR), are doing their part to assist others when disaster strikes.

Over the past two decades, the Realtors Relief Foundation (RRF) has had a major role in helping victims of hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, earthquakes and wildfires keep a roof over their heads in the wake of catastrophe.

This year, in honor of the foundation's 20th anniversary, NEFAR has donated \$250,000 to the Realtors Relief Fund's campaign to ensure the fund will have a sustainable reserve and be ready to provide housing-related assistance at a moment's notice.

"Realtors understand the strength of community, and they realize the enormous benefit of people being able to quickly repair or rebuild what they have lost," said Cathy Whatley, a NEFAR member who served as first vice president of the National Association of Realtors (NAR) in 2001 when RRF was founded.

She stressed the importance of having funds on hand so financial assistance can immediately be sent to individuals in areas



Members of the Northeast Florida Association of Realtors make a \$250,000 donation to the Realtors Relief Foundation.

Contributed photo

hit hard by a disaster.

"This generous contribution by the Northeast Florida Association of Realtors will help ensure the Realtors Relief

Foundation can continue to be positioned to quickly respond should a disaster strike," she said. "While we hope that our First Coast area is spared from needing

assistance, RRF will be there to help us if a disaster should occur."

Established in September 2001, the day after Sept. 11, RRF was created as a Realtors-driven response to the terrorist attacks in New York City. Since its inception, the fund has distributed more than \$33 million to more than 17,000 families in calamity-afflicted communities.

The goal of the Realtors Relief Foundation is to never say "no" to those in need during a time of disaster, said Whatley. In receiving a grant from RRF, disaster victims are not bogged down by bureaucracy or paperwork. Since the National Association of Realtors covers all administrative costs, 100 percent of donations to the fund go directly to disaster-impacted families.

In recent years, RRF money has assisted wildfire victims in Washington state, flood casualties in North Dakota and those who suffered the impact of hurricanes Sandy, Irene, Lee and Michael, as well as tornadoes in Alabama and Missouri. Members of the national, state and local Realtor associations have aided community members in 39 states and U.S. territories through more than 80 natural disasters.

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GreenPointe names new VP of development

Gregg Kern to focus on NE Florida communities

GreenPointe Developers, LLC recently announced the promotion of Gregg Kern to vice president of development.

Kern is responsible for providing development leadership and managing all field and business operations for communities in the company's Northeast Florida division.

"I am pleased to announce Gregg's promotion to vice president of development," said GreenPointe Developers



Gregg Kern

President Grady Miars. "Gregg is a valued and trusted leader who is passionate about the industry and executes development practices to ensure the greatest benefit and positive results. I am confident he

will continue to play an integral role to our company's growth and continued success."

In his role, Kern coordinates and implements strategic initiatives and ongoing processes related to community development from the early planning stages through completion. His development management responsibilities include quality control,

compliance, schedule management and cost control.

Kern joined the company in 2013 and most recently served as Northeast Florida construction manager. Prior to joining GreenPointe, Kern's extensive professional experience spans both residential and commercial construction and real estate development.

A certified building contractor licensed in Florida, Kern earned his master's degree in business administration focused in finance, a bachelor's degree in building construction management and an associate's degree in business from the University of North Florida.

GreenPointe is developing communities throughout Florida. For more information, go to www.GreenPointeLLC.com.

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Nominations begin May 21



The Ponte Vedra Recorder, celebrating 52 years of community news excellence, will launch our third annual **BEST OF THE BEST of Ponte Vedra, 32082 and 32081.**

YOU, our valued readers, now have the chance to nominate your favorite businesses in various categories online. Online voting begins on June 15th after nominations are complete. **HURRY, last day to nominate is June 14th!**

www.pontevedrarecorder.com/bestof2021

Mayday to mark anniversary with new ice cream flavor

While it's been a tough year for many small businesses in North Florida, Mayday Handcrafted Ice Creams is grateful to be celebrating its third birthday on Friday, May 21.

To celebrate, Mayday is releasing a new flavor just in time to kick off summer.

Passionfruit Turmeric is a tropical flavor accompanied by subtle earthy undertones and a nice tang. Its creamy, custard-like texture has a soft yellow hue reminiscent of the Florida sunshine.

All six Mayday locations will also give out free swag with each purchase made on May 21 while supplies last.

"Passionfruit is one of my all-time favorite flavors," said Stephen DiMare,

owner of Mayday Handcrafted Ice Creams and its sister-company, Hyppo Gourmet Ice Pops. "It's bold, bright, quirky and enduring. Turmeric is subtle, earthy and colorful, providing a wonderful stage partner to passionfruit without taking the spotlight.

The combination of these fun flavors really captures the heart of Mayday, being both quirky and approachable at the same time. I love bold flavors, and my work with The Hyppo over the years has driven my love for fruits into the stratosphere."

In the past three years, Mayday has opened six locations around Florida, including two locations in St. Augustine, Lakeland, Jacksonville San Marco, Jacksonville Beach and Jacksonville Riverside.

The artisan ice cream purveyor offers classic ice cream flavors with a modern twist, such as Blue Sky Blues, Cloud 9, Strawberry Fields, Coffee + Donuts, Blackberry Earl Grey, Lavender Melange, as well as non-dairy options.

"Mayday's rapid growth over the last three years is nothing short of a miracle," said DiMare. "For it to grow so quickly makes our team — from top to bottom — feel like we are doing meaningful work and adding value to our community. That sends ripple effects into everything we do as a company."

Mayday's production manager, Kyle Whalen, agrees.

"Passionfruit Turmeric is a great representation of what we strive to be at Mayday and there's no better way to celebrate than a birthday," said Whalen. "The flavor is accessible, innovative, and fun and it's the perfect scoop of creamy ice cream to kick off summer fun."

Goodwill

Continued from 20

The organization has also added the Goodwill Temps program, a community-based, nonprofit, alternative staffing organization that provides soft skills and industry-specific training, education and employment services.

It offers temporary, temporary-to-permanent and direct-hire opportunities and serves 15 organizations.

"Anyone looking for an immediate position, a quick job right away, we can put them to work," Rey said.

In Duval County, Goodwill is the lead agency for Take Stock In Children, providing mentorship to about 360 high school students. The program's success can be gauged by the students' graduation rate: 98%.

One of its big successes is the Academic Support Through the Employment Process (A-STEP) program. It helps working adults access higher education in order to raise earning potentials and job security.

The program helps to get people enrolled in a vocational school or certification program. So far, almost 190 adults have graduated through A-STEP.

These opportunities are made available due to the thrift stores for which Goodwill is most well-known. Donations to the stores essentially turn into jobs.

"This is all we ask of the community: To support Goodwill by donating their gently used items," said Rey.




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In the Arts



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Beaches, A Celebration of the Arts to be held Sunday

By Shaun Ryan

The second annual Beaches, A Celebration of the Arts will be held from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Sunday, May 23, at The Surf Club at Ponte Vedra Inn & Club.

The event recognizes individuals, businesses and organizations within the coastal counties from Amelia Island to St. Augustine Beach that have made a significant impact on the arts in the community.

“I’m excited to honor the Beaches nominees for their talent, creativity, innovation and philanthropy,” said Donna Guzzo, Cultural Center president and executive director. “The Cultural Center is a center for everyone to connect, engage and experience the arts. Success is imminent!”

Several awards will be presented at this Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach event. Nominations were submitted by

community members. Winners will be selected by a committee of judges unaffiliated with the Cultural Center.

Here’s a look at the nominees.

EMERGING ARTIST AWARD

This is awarded to an emerging artist who has displayed great accomplishment within his or her fine art or craft medium.

Nominees are Jenn Peek, who has two works installed at the sculpture park in Jacksonville Beach, and Caelen Proctor, who has one installation at the park and is planning a show at the Beaches Museum.

ARTS EDUCATION & ADVOCACY AWARD

This is awarded to an artist or arts advocate with a track record of advancing the arts and/or educating the public, business leaders, elected officials and students about the value of arts in the Beaches

community.

Nominees are Jenny Hager, an associate professor of sculpture in the Department of Art & Design at UNF, and Beaches Go Green, which uses art to communicate information about waste and its impact on the planet.

THE ART OF GIVING AWARD

This is awarded to a business or individual committed to funding and/or sustaining arts and culture programs within the Beaches community.

Nominees are All American Air Charitable Foundation, Dubow Family Foundation and Preston Haskell.

COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD

This members’ choice award will go to an individual, business or organization that has demonstrated a tangible and mea-

surable development of arts and culture in the Beaches community.

Nominees are Beaches Go Green and Word Revolt, a nonprofit studio gallery dedicated to hosting free events that benefit artists, charities and the community.

IRENE LAZZARA’S BEACHES, A CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS AWARD

This is awarded to an individual, business or organization dedicated to ensuring that arts and culture are ingrained in the everyday life of the Beaches community.

Nominees are Word Revolt and All Beaches Experimental Theatre, a not-for-profit, volunteer-based community theatre that brings the excitement of live theatre to diverse audiences.

For further information or to purchase tickets, go to ccpvb.org/events/upcoming-events.

Nease Honors Chorus wins competition, performs spring concert

By Shaun Ryan

From the moment the 80-voice Nease High School Honors Chorus launched into its spring concert Thursday, May 13, the reason for their recent competition victory was manifest.

The tones were rich, the harmonies perfect and the enunciation crystal clear despite the students having to sing through masks.

The Music in the Park Festival, held at Kissimmee High School and sponsored by Universal Orlando, marked the first time in Nease history that its honors chorus went to a competition, according to chorus director Madeline Poe.

“They sang so beautifully,” she said. “I’m just so proud of them.”

She said the students did not complain about having to sing behind face coverings.

“It’s just been unbelievable how they persevered,” Poe said. “I watched their glasses fog up while they were trying to sing, and they just kept going. It’s inspiring to be around young people who don’t give up.”

“It is extremely difficult to sing with masks, because when you’re trying to get air, the mask gets sucked back into you, and it’s harder for the sound to get out,” said chorus member Alexis Boris. “So, it affects your singing a lot.”

Chorus member Blythe Gouker had another take on this challenge.

“In a way, it’s improved our skills as musicians,” she said, “just because we have to overcompensate with our blending and our tones so we can make sure the audience can hear even through the masks.”



The 80-member Honors Chorus performs during a concert at Nease High School on Thursday, May 13.



Alexis Boris and Seth Relampagos perform “Stop The World” from “Come From Away” during the Nease Honors Chorus concert.



Soloist Darby Dinger delivers a strong performance as an airline captain who rises above discrimination with “I Am Here” from “Come From Away.”

Photos by Shaun Ryan



Photo by Ian Bartlett

Attendees of the Sister Hazel Booze Cruise celebrate with band members Ken Block and Drew Copeland aboard the Sabrage Charters catamaran as part of the AS IF! The 90s Fest celebration on Sunday, May 16.

Inaugural AS IF! The 90s Fest proves to be a success

The inaugural AS IF! The 90s Fest was a big hit last weekend in St. Augustine. The music festival is likely to be more than a one-hit wonder after a large turnout to Francis Field on a breezy, sunny Saturday.

The event, hosted by Ancient City Entertainment, featured numerous musical acts, including headliners Coolio and Ken Block and Drew Copeland from Sister Hazel.

The festival also featured the reunion show of Spider Monkey, a Florida-based rock band, Salt & Pine, Kapowski, Nerd Kill Overdrive, Bad Dog Mama, Ramona + the RIOT and Chillula.

Guests at Francis Field were also able to enjoy a 27-foot water slide, a '90s-tribute slime zone, photo booth, adult



Photo by Charity Naud

Ken Block and Drew Copeland, of Sister Hazel, perform for a limited audience aboard the Sabrage Charters catamaran in St. Augustine.

FEST continues on Page 27

St. Johns Cultural Council to receive grant of \$10,000

Funds provided by National Endowment of the Arts to aid Art in Public Spaces program

The St. Johns Cultural Council has been approved for a \$10,000 Grants for Arts Projects award to support an expansion of the Council's existing Art in Public Places Program.

This grant will provide seed money for new public art projects throughout St. Johns County, and will help to fund an online directory of existing art in public spaces to increase access to visual arts by residents of, and visitors to, the county. A portion of the grant will support the St. Johns County 200th Anniversary Photography Exhibition, opening in July 2021 and including the work of local photographers selected by a public art committee.

The Cultural Council's project is among the more than 1,100 projects across America totaling nearly \$27 million that were selected during this second round of Grants for Arts Projects fiscal year 2021 funding.

"As the country and the arts sector begin to imagine returning to a post-pandemic world, the National Endowment for the Arts is proud to announce funding that will help arts organizations such as the St. Johns Cultural Council reengage fully with partners and audiences," said NEA acting Chairman Ann Eilers. "Although the arts have sustained many challenges during the pandemic, the chance to gather with one another and share arts experiences is its own necessity and pleasure."

"We are thrilled to receive this support from the National Endowment for the Arts — the first NEA grant awarded to the St. Johns Cultural Council! — to expand our Art in Public Places Program. Until now, that program has been limited to exhibitions in the Rotunda of the County Administration Building, and we can't wait to bring new public art to other areas of the county," said Christina Parrish Stone, executive director of the Cultural Council. "Public art projects create economic opportunity for local artists, increase visits by cultural travelers and enhance the quality of life for residents. We look forward to working with the community to make our county even more beautiful and vibrant through public art."

The Cultural Council is in the early stages of creating a new Art in Public Places Committee to guide its efforts to expand the APP program, and encourages residents and businesses interested in participating in the committee or providing other support for public art to Stone at christina@historicoastculture.com.

For more information about the St. Johns Cultural Council, go to stjohnsculture.com and historicoastculture.com.

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Photo by Holly Tishfield

Coolio performs during an afterparty for the AS IF! The 90s Music Fest last Saturday at Prohibition Kitchen in St. Augustine.

Fest

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capri-suns and other 90s-themed entertainment.

There were more than 40 sponsors for the event, such as 904 Happy Hour and iHeartRadio, and a portion of the proceeds of the event go directly towards Ancient City Entertainment's nonprofit, the ACE Alliance, which provides artists and industry members disaster relief and wellness impact in cases of emergencies.

There were also opportunities to spend time with the event headliners. Coolio had meet-and-greet afterparty at Prohibition Kitchen on Saturday night after the event, and Ken and Drew from Sister Hazel per-



Photo by Charity Naud

Ian Bartlett (right) and Jon Cordero, of Sabrage Charters, serve guests at the Sister Hazel Booze Cruise last Sunday.

formed live for a limited audience aboard the Sabrage Charter's catamaran, which offered hors d'oeuvres and drinks during a two-hour trip along the Matanzas Bay.

Nease

Continued from 25

The singers proved they were up to the challenge. The chorus received a near perfect score, winning both their class and the competition as a whole.

At Thursday's concert, the chorus performed the two classical pieces from the competition before launching into the concert proper.

In the first half of the concert, the Honors Women's Chorus performed songs by the 1970s Swedish pop group Abba, which were featured in the Broadway hit "Mama Mia!"

Chorus member Genevieve Bahr said her favorite part of the whole concert was during one of the pieces from the show, "I Have A Dream," because she got to sing in a small group with Blythe and Alexis.

In the second half, the Honors Mixed Chorus presented songs from the musical "Come From Away," which tells the story of how a small Canadian town cared for 6,579 airline passengers stranded there on Sept. 11, 2001, when 38 planes were diverted to its doorstep.

"It's a really neat story about people coming together," said Poe.

Alexis said her favorite part of the concert was a duet that she and Seth Relampagos sang. "Stop the World" is about two of the passengers — one from Texas, the other from England — who meet as a result of the forced landing.

"It's actually a lovely and a very true love story, and I think it's really awesome to portray something so amazing that happened in real life," Alexis said.

Poe praised the students for their resiliency and desire to continue learning despite the challenges they faced.

"I think it's really been good for the kids to have their normal activities back in some fashion, even though we're not exactly normal yet," said Poe. "They're very excited, more so, I think, than before COVID. I think they're not taking things for granted like they maybe once did. I think our students are really hungry for learning and opportunities, because they truly missed them when they didn't have them."

And perhaps nothing said that better than their concert, where the chorus demonstrated that obstacles cannot stop beautiful music where singers persevere.

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ACROSS

1. Ivory, in the bathroom
5. Letter of the _____
8. Kiln for drying hops
12. Marine eagle
13. Muffin Man's Drury
14. Zest
15. Landlord's collection
16. Chieftain in Arabia
17. Frequently precedes "nonsense"
18. *Tabletop fun (2 words)
20. Passage in a coal mine
21. Clear the whiteboard
22. Sean's mom Yoko
23. Alpine structure
26. Slabbed
30. Clothing border
31. Incense burning container
34. Gauche or Droite, in Paris

35. In a frenzy
37. Unagi
38. Fancy necktie
39. Eye protection, sing.
40. Not dangerous to health
42. Dwight the President
43. Worked the dough
45. *Screen-free message
47. Hairpiece, slangily
48. Libra symbol
50. Buenos _____
52. *Dirty hobby?
56. African prairie
57. Like family lore
58. Don't let it hit you on your way out
59. *Ten-pin establishment
60. Challenge
61. Purse to match a gown
62. Lake of Scottish lore
63. *Between 'game' and 'match'
64. Deliver a tirade
9. _____ spumante
10. Editor's mark
11. Craggy peak
13. Official emissary
14. Bird-deposited fertilizer
19. Same as schlock
22. Famous Bobby, on ice
23. *Sidewalk art medium
24. Macho man
25. *Tell jokes, e.g.
26. Sub station
27. Permissible
28. Extract a memory, e.g.
29. Try to prevent
32. It's not a want
33. _____ Bernie Sanders, abbr.
36. *Guessing game
38. Administer an oil
40. "Don't make me _____!"
41. With pleasure
44. Full of bunnies?
46. Full of gentleness
48. Raneer's wrap
49. *Macrame or wood carving, e.g.
50. Expunge
51. Bodily disorders
52. Hermes and Apollo
53. 'I' in Greek alphabet
54. Person, place or thing
55. John Wayne's "True _____"
56. Delivery vehicle
66. Garden cultivator

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Sports



THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021 • PAGE 28

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Photo provided by JAGA

Super Senior champion Garry Blackwell (from left), senior champion Larry Smith and Grand Senior champion Frank Perry stand together with tournament Chairman Jeff Johnstone of Sawgrass Country Club.

Larry Smith wins JAGA Senior Amateur

St. Johns Golf and Country Club member Larry Smith shot 33 on his final nine to pull away from Ken Moody and win by three shots in the 64th JAGA Senior Amateur Championship played at the champion's home club.

The Jacksonville native and Terry Parker High School graduate closed with a 70 after opening with rounds of 69 and 72 for a three-day total of 3-under-par 213. Smith led by three shots after the first round and two after the second round.

On the final day, Smith and Moody were tied making the turn after Moody birdied the par-5 8th and Smith bogeyed No. 9, a par 4. The winner pulled away with birdies on 12,

13 and 16 and pars on the other six holes. Moody could only match one of Smith's birdies, on No. 11, and it was soon offset by a bogey at 14.

Smith is well known on the local golf scene, having collected at least one club championship title at St. Johns, Southampton, Cimarrone and Deercreek. He is employed by Smith Packaging and Equipment in Jacksonville.

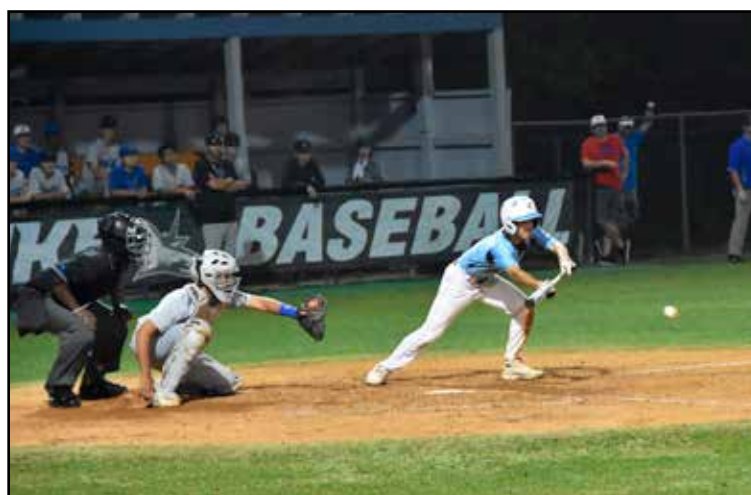
Moody, a Ponte Vedra Inn and Club member who won the 2004 JAGA Jacksonville Amateur, posted rounds of 73-70-71-214 (-2) over the 6,500-yard St. Johns layout.

SENIOR continues on Page 29

LATE SHOW FOR SHARKS

The Ponte Vedra baseball team advanced to the regional final to take on Mosley. The Sharks defeated Stanton 7-3 on Tuesday, May 11, to advance, and Mosley beat Milton 2-1 on Wednesday, May 12, to earn a trip to the Class 5A Regional championship. The regional final, which was played Wednesday, May 19, at Ponte Vedra High School, was not completed by press time. Go to pontevedracrecorder.com for the result.

Photo by John Noell



COMING NEXT THURSDAY: It's been a crazy year for student-athletes given the COVID-19 pandemic. Last year, seniors on local lacrosse teams were unable to complete the season. For the Ponte Vedra girls lacrosse team, this season was able to go on, which was a big deal for the nine seniors who finished the season with a trip to the state semifinals. Find out what the four senior team captains had to say about the topsy-turvy season, the bond they've built and what's next for them.

Tickets on sale for Furyk & Friends event on Oct. 8-10

Tickets for the Constellation Furyk & Friends presented by Circle K are on sale at www.ConstellationFurykandFriends.com, with a variety of experiences and options for fans in North Florida to enjoy golf, food, music, hospitality and more at the inaugural PGA TOUR Champions event to be held Oct. 8-10 at Timuquana Country Club.

"We are so excited to bring the Constellation Furyk & Friends presented by Circle K to our home in the greater Jacksonville area," said foundation President and Ponte Vedra Beach resident Tabitha Furyk. "The tournament is set to be a celebration of our great city and through the support of Constellation, Circle K, tournament partners and ticket sales, we will be able to have a significant charitable impact right here in our community."

Ticket options include daily general admission tickets for \$25 or three-day passes for \$60 to attend all three competition rounds Friday, Oct. 8, through Sunday, Oct. 10. General admission tickets will provide access to a number of interactive and unique fan areas and food venues while also bringing spectators close to the action as the legends of PGA TOUR Champions take on one of North Florida's most historic and exciting venues. Officials also announced that youth 17 and under will be admitted free with a ticketed adult, but fans must order youth tickets in advance through the website.

For upgraded hospitality, Club 58, named after tournament host Jim Furyk's record-breaking single-round 58 on the PGA TOUR, is the event's premier shared hospitality suite overlooking the 17th green. Club 58 tickets are also available at www.ConstellationFurykandFriends.com and include complimentary food and beverages.

Additionally, to honor those who defend the country, tickets for official tournament rounds are being provided by our military partners, including VyStar Credit Union, free of charge for active duty, military reserve, National Guard, military retirees and veterans and their registered dependents. More information for reserving military tickets can be found at constellationfurykandfriends.com/tickets/.

The Furyk & Friends concert presented by SRS Distribution will be a salute to service men and women and will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 5, at Daily's Place in downtown Jacksonville. The concert act will be announced later this summer, and fans who purchase a tournament ticket will have access to reserve a ticket to the concert.

"We are so excited about the variety of fan experiences and activations that we have to share with this event," said Tournament Director Adam Renfroe.

A resident of Northeast Florida for over two decades, Jim Furyk, together with his wife, Tabitha, launched their Foundation in 2010 to bring awareness and funding to charities throughout the region.

27 Eagles sign letters of intent to play college sports

Twenty-seven members Episcopal School of Jacksonville's Class of 2021 will play a sport in college next year. Seniors have committed to play 12 sports at 21 different schools. Here's a look:

BASEBALL

Clayton Hodges – Jacksonville University
Dillon Haines – Stetson University
Brogan Napier – University of Central Florida
Layton Perry – Jacksonville University

FOOTBALL

Nick Elksnis – University of Florida
Tucker Tomberlin – Stetson University
Jack Bogan – Davidson College
CJ Tremble – University of Pennsylvania

LACROSSE

Mia Carter – Flagler College
Winnie Pajcic – Sewanee: The University of the South

BOYS SOCCER

Mitchell Fenton – Rhodes College

GIRLS SOCCER

Abigail Jones – Ave Maria University
Julia Kato – American University

ROWING

Emilee Podvia – Rollins College
Cooper Richart – Rollins College

SOFTBALL

Kami Eppley – Stetson University
Maddie Latta – Yale University

SWIMMING

Julian Smith – University of Florida
Mary Kate Kelley – University of Florida
Scott Haney – Georgia Institute of Technology
Grant Himes – Swarthmore College

TENNIS

Justin Bobo – Rhodes College

CROSS COUNTRY/TRACK AND FIELD/ TRIATHLON

Sabrina Wingert (pole vault) – University of South Florida



Photo provided by Episcopal School of Jacksonville

VOLLEYBALL

Jordan Cooper – University of North Florida
Cate Hale – Montreat College

WRESTLING

Joe Jackson – Roanoke College
Noah Meyer – Roanoke College

Senior

Continued from 28

Finishing three shots back of Moody at 217 (77-69-71) was another former Jacksonville Amateur winner, (2006) David Anthony of Marsh Landing Country Club.

The low round of the tournament was recorded by Billy Lodise of St. Augustine. His final-round 67 was 17 strokes better than his second-round score, and it jumped him into a tie for sixth.

Defending champion Tim Cobb, another St. Johns Golf and Country Club member, was unable to defend his title due to his

son's graduation from Ball State University.

First played in 1958, the JAGA Senior Amateur is the oldest continuously played golf tournament in North Florida and features contestants who are age 50 and above.

The Senior Amateur also includes separate competitions for Super Seniors (ages

60-69) and Grand Seniors (ages 70+).

Complete tournament results may be found at jax.bluegolf.com/bluegolf/jax21/event/jax217/contest/1/leaderboard.htm

As JAGA enters the heart of its 2021 tournament season, the next event is the 11th JAGA Match Play Championship on May 21-23 at Queen's Harbour Y&CC.

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