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Recorder

January 6, 2022

Volume 53, No. 10

75 cents

PonteVedraRecorder.com

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SHOWING SCHOOL SPIRIT



Photos by Anthony Richards

The Rutgers and Wake Forest cheer squads, dance teams and bands performed for fans and beachgoers in attendance during the schools' bowl pep rallies at Seawalk Pavilion in Jacksonville Beach Dec. 30. Wake Forest defeated Rutgers 38-10 in the 77th Annual TaxSlayer Gator Bowl. See more photos from the events at pontevedrarecorder.com.



INSIDE: CHECK IT OUT!

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



Business Weekly Featuring Dollars & Sense

Pages 15-18



Sports Pages 20-22



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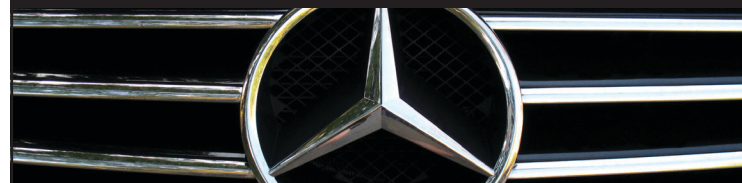
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Send us your news

We welcome submissions of photos, stories, columns and letters to the editor. Let us know what's happening. If you have hard copies of photos you want us to feature, feel free to bring them to our office — we'll scan them and hand them right back. E-mail submissions to news@pontevedrarecorder.com or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach.**



Visit our new website at
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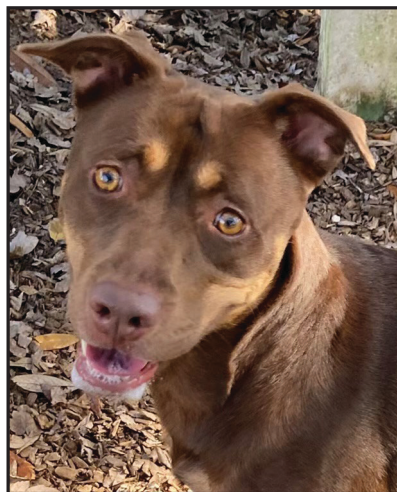
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PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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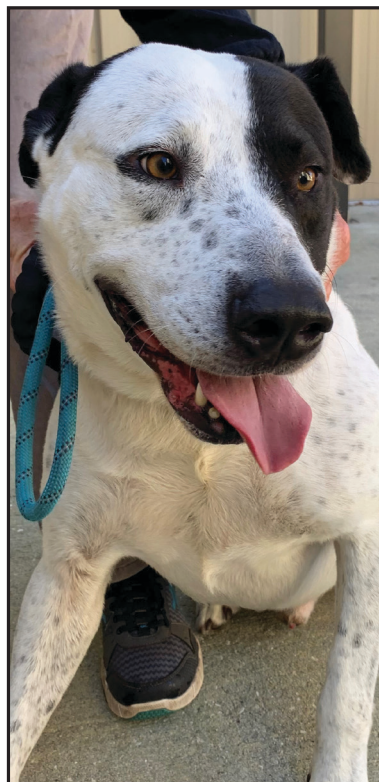
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ADOPT A PET



Freya

Hi, I'm Freya. I'm a 3-year-old female terrier mix. I'm friendly, love to go for walks and am ready to find my new "forever" home. I love kids and other dogs, but no cats for me. Another bonus, I'm housetrained! If you think we might be a match, stop by the pet center for a meet and greet with me.



Spot

Hello! I am a 4-year-old male terrier mix that came into the shelter when my owner could not properly take care of me. I will need some housetraining, but I am very smart, and the Pet Center is already helping me learn! I am HW+ but that only means I need some medicine every month and the Friends of The SJC Pet Center will not only sponsor my adoption, they will provide my new humans a \$250 voucher towards my treatment. I am truly a super sweetheart and well behaved. Please consider meeting me and making me part of your family in 2022.

St. Johns County Pet Center

Cat adoptions at the St. Johns County Pet Center 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 off U.S. 1 between County Road 210 and International Golf Parkway. Business hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. 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, call the **the St. Johns County Pet Center at (904) 209-6190.**

BRIEFS

St. Johns County's COVID-19 testing site open every day

The St. Johns County COVID-19 testing site is now open seven days a week to meet the increased demand. The site is located at the Wind Mitigation Building, 3111 Agricultural Center Drive.

The site has been experiencing long wait times, and those seeking tests should be prepared to wait in line for at least an hour.

All tests will be administered on a first-come, first-served basis. To reduce your wait time, pre-registration is strongly encouraged and can be completed at t.co/T4NOF4CW3E.

PCR and rapid (antigen) COVID-19 tests are available for those 12 months of age and older, but recipients may only choose one. Rapid test results will be available the same day, and PCR test results are typically available within 48 hours. Tests are free. Insurance is not required.

The testing site's hours are 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Sunday. For more information, contact the Nomi Health call center at 904-295-0562.

BRIEFS continues on Page 3



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Briefs

Continued from 2

Author to speak at Ponte Vedra library

The North East Florida Chapter of the Sisters in Crime is planning a presentation by Edward F. Mickolus Jr. on Saturday, July 8, at the Ponte Vedra branch of the St. Johns County Library.

Mickolus is an author, counter-terrorism expert and former CIA officer. He will speak on "How to Be(come) a Prolific Writer."

The presentation will begin at 10:30 a.m. The library is located at 101 Library Blvd.

For further information, email floridasistersincrime@gmail.com.

Democratic Club plans program

The Ponte Vedra Democratic Club will hold its monthly meeting Jan. 18 at Christ Episcopal Church, 400 San Juan Road, Room 106, in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Chat & Chew begins at 6 p.m. The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m.

Ponte Vedra resident and former U.S. Rep. Earl Pomeroy (D-ND, 18 years) will speak on "What's the Matter with Congress? Reflections of a former Member." Pomeroy plans to address "the good, the bad, and the ... challenging."

Free concert at Ponte Vedra Branch Library

The Dr. Gerson Yessin Music Series will present the Bel Suono Duo of flutist Rhonda Cassandra and harpist Kayo Ishimaru on Tuesday, Jan. 11, at the Ponte Vedra Beach branch library. Doors open at 6 p.m. The concert begins at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free.

Both performers are with the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra.

The library is located at 101 Library Blvd.

Zoom presentation to help job seekers

Job seekers are invited to a Jan. 21 Zoom meeting designed to show how to effectively target and land that dream job. Margaret MacNaughton, Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) Qualified Practitioner, will make the presentation titled "Do What You Are: Connecting Personality Types to Careers!"

The MBTI helps job seekers recognize their strengths and identify careers that are good matches for their personality type.

Register in advance for this meeting at us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZYqd-eqhrz4qHNZk9k6e0GYJQVypG-rqqWT7. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Sign in begins at 9:50 a.m. The workshop will follow at 10 a.m. to noon.

Presentation on sauce secrets is Jan. 12

Celebrity Chef Warren Caterson will demonstrate how to elevate your dishes with a variety of delicious and easy-to-prepare sauces that will leave guests craving more during a Jan. 12 presentation at the Ponte Vedra Branch Library.

"The Secret's In The Sauce: Turn Any Meal Into A Work Of Art" will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. at the library, 101 Library Blvd.

Space is limited. To reserve a spot, RSVP to sjcpls.org/upcoming-events/adult-events.

For further information, call 904-827-6950.

Blocker to hold office hours in Ponte Vedra Beach

St. Johns County Commissioner Jeremiah Blocker will hold office hours by appointment on three dates in the upcoming quarter to listen to residents' concerns. All three office hours will be held at Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library, located at 101 Library Blvd.

The three dates with availability are Jan. 28, Feb. 28 and March 25. Times for each of the days are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All residents who would like to meet with Blocker should call 904-209-0300 to schedule an appointment.



South Jax Beach Oceanfront

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Atlantic Beach Townhouse

Don't miss this chance to live in the highly-coveted Atlantic Beach community only 2 blocks from the ocean and 2 miles from Beaches Town Center! Tucked away in the lush, tropical, Florida foliage, this 1,489 sq ft townhome is like living in a modern tree house, and just a short walk or bike ride to the sparkling Atlantic! The seller recently completed a full makeover including new exterior and interior paint, rebuild of all decking, new carpet in bedrooms and new garage door.

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OBITUARIES

Nancy Adele Glasstetter Goin



Nancy Adele Glasstetter Goin, the inspirational leader of her family, a loving and mentoring mother, grandmother and great grandmother, who spent her life making the world a better place for every life she touched, died peacefully surrounded by family in her home in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL, on December 22, 2021. Her death came after months of a hard-fought fight with cancer. Nancy has

now rejoined her husband of 62 years, Bob Goin, who preceded her in death in October of 2019. She was the mother of four children; Doug (Carol), Brian (Marshia), Janice (Charlie) Lowe and Bruce; grandmother to Nicole, Robert, Andrew, Zachary, Matthew (Cassi) and JD; great grandmother to Madison, Gage, Bella, Kain, Autumn and Sofia.

Nancy's story started on November 5, 1937, in Pittsburgh, PA, when she was born to William and Agnes Glasstetter. She was the youngest of three children, brother, Robert Glasstetter and sister, Jane Glasstetter Hoffman, with all of whom she is reunited. She was a 1955 graduate of Penn Hills High School, PA, where she

met and married her high school sweetheart, Bob, in 1957.

Nancy's lasting legacy is the strength, determination, love and spirit she instilled in her family and the many lives she positively impacted during their years at Bethany College, West Virginia University, Florida State University and the University of Cincinnati, as well as the years she owned and operated Evangeline's Florist in Mandarin, FL, and during her time serving other through numerous volunteer and church related organizations.

Her family is especially grateful for the love and friendship she received from her friends and neighbors over the years and her church family at Ponte Vedra Church.

A Memorial Service will be held at Ponte Vedra Church on January 16, 2022, at 3 pm. She will be interred at Ponte Vedra Valley Cemetery in a private family service, at a different time. The family asks that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Ponte Vedra Church, 76 S. Roscoe Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082. Please sign the online guestbook at www.pontevedravalle.com.



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Daniel George Fraed

Daniel George Fraed, 39, passed away on December 29, 2021. He was born in Jacksonville, Florida. He graduated from Nease High School and attended Savannah College of Arts & Design.

Daniel was predeceased by his father, F. George Fraed. He is survived by his loving mother, Marcia Chambers; stepfather, Albert Chambers; uncle and aunt, Shelton and Marleen Hobbs; best friends, Jeremiah Brown and Lee Wiscovitch; sisters, Pam Blunt, Cindy Fraed and Janet Clements; niece, Laura Blunt; nephew, Robert Bonnicksen; great nieces, Theia Taylor, Taylor

Bonnicksen; and great nephew, Jacob Bonnicksen.

His Memorial Service will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, January 8, 2022, in the Chapel of Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Community Hospice & Palliative Care or Love Me True Rescue.

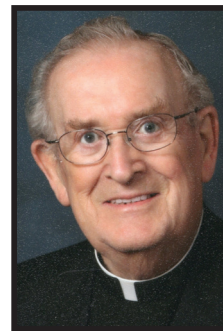
Please visit his Tribute online at www.quinn-shalz.com.



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Msgr. Daniel Bernard Logan



"Well done, good and faithful servant" (Matt 25:23)

Msgr. Daniel Bernard Logan, a leader in the Diocese of St. Augustine, went home to the Lord on Dec. 27, 2021. He was 83.

He was born on Feb. 3, 1938, in County Kildare, Ireland, to Peter Logan and Ellen Hynan Logan, and he had two brothers, John Joseph and Thomas Patrick.

Following his ordination to the priesthood in 1963, Logan was recruited to serve in the Diocese of St. Augustine, Fla., by Archbishop Joseph P. Hurley. His first parish assignment was assistant pastor at St. Paul's in Riverside (1963-1967). He also served as assistant pastor at Sacred Heart Parish, Jacksonville (1968-1970), pastor at St. John the Baptist Parish, Atlantic Beach (1970-1974), the founding pastor of Holy Family Parish, Jacksonville (1974-1999) and pastor of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, Ponte Vedra Beach retiring from full-time ministry in 2013.

In addition to his parish duties, Msgr. Logan had a long and influential career in Catholic education. He began teaching religion at Bishop Kenny High School in 1965. Two years later, Msgr. Logan earned a master's degree in religious education before being appointed the school's vice-president in 1968. In 1971, Bishop Paul Tanner named the 33-year-old priest president, serving the school until 1989. As pastor of Our Lady Star of the Sea, Msgr. Logan opened Palmer Catholic Academy,

which educates students in pre-kindergarten through 8th grade.

Since 1974, along with his duties as president of Bishop Kenny and pastor of a growing parish, Holy Family, Msgr. Logan was part of a weekly panel of religious leaders in Jacksonville on the television program "For Heaven's Sake," airing on Sundays at 7 a.m. on WJXT-TV. His media talents also included a regular "Question & Answer" column for Community, a diocesan-sponsored page in the Florida Times-Union and Gainesville Sun newspapers. He also wrote for the St. Augustine Catholic magazine and served as a key spokesperson for the diocese with local news media.

Msgr. Logan was a humble and humorous man passionate about his vocation as a priest. He was a man who lived his faith daily, modeling God's teachings.

He is survived by his brothers Tom (Sally) and Jay (Bridie), nieces and nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews and cousins. He will be dearly missed by his family, brother priests, parishioners, students and a wide circle of friends in Ireland.

The Vigil Service will begin at 6:00 p.m. with visitation to follow until 8:00 p.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church, 9800 Baymeadows Road, Jacksonville, FL 32256. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 8, at Holy Family. Interment will occur in County Kildare, Ireland. Please visit the online Tribute at www.quinn-shalz.com.

Arrangements by



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DEATH NOTICES

Steven Troy Downing

Steven Troy Downing, 55, of Atlantic Beach, Florida, died Dec. 23, 2021. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. 904-249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

David Bruce Seely

David Bruce Seely, 73, of Atlantic Beach, Florida, died Dec. 31, 2021. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. 904-249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

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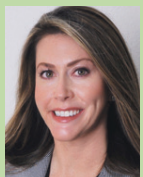
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**Contact us for any of your real estate needs and for
a complimentary estimate of your home's value!**

Jim Bush is Florida Power and Light's director of external affairs for most of the northern tier of Florida. As such, he is one of the many people who helps ensure that residents have the power they need.

Jim Bush

As told to Shaun Ryan

Many people don't give a lot of thought about the power coming into their homes beyond flipping a switch and seeing the lights come on. But I believe FPL has a lot of people working behind the scenes and a lot of resources devoted to ensuring that the electricity is there when we need it. Can you give us an idea of what it takes to meet the needs of FPL customers?

There is a whole lot that goes on behind the scenes that enables FPL to be consistently recognized as a national leader in service reliability.

We have invested more than \$5 billion over the past 15 years in our system to make our system stronger, smarter and more resilient to severe weather. We have hardened our main power lines, replacing wooden transmission structures with new ones made of steel or concrete. We have installed over 5 million smart meters and more than 155,000 intelligent devices and switches along the energy grid using advanced technology that helps detect problems and restore service faster if outages occur.

We also proactively review about 15,000 miles of power lines each year to trim and remove vegetation where necessary to keep lines clear and prevent outages. Our service reliability has improved by over 40% over the past decade and FPL has been named the most reliable electric utility in the United States in five of the past six years.

This is something that doesn't happen by accident but happens because we are focused on our customers and the communities we serve. Our entire FPL team works hard each day to deliver the most reliable electricity possible, which also happens to be among the most affordable and cleanest in the nation.

Has FPL made any improvements or taken on any initiatives in recent years that consumers should know about?

FPL's investments in highly efficient power plants that run on clean, U.S.-produced natural gas have saved customers nearly \$11 billion in fuel costs since 2001. As of 2021, FPL ended its coal-powered generation in Florida. All of FPL's new energy centers are more than 30% more fuel-efficient than their predecessors, which will help keep our customers' bills low.

FPL also began the Storm Secure Underground Program, a three-year pilot to determine cost-effective ways to replace overhead power lines with more reliable underground lines in select neighborhoods to enhance reliability in good weather and bad.

Additionally, Florida is in the midst of the one of the largest solar expansions in U.S. history, and FPL is the driving force behind this endeavor. Several years ago, FPL announced a plan to install 30 million solar panels by 2030 (the motto is 30 by 30) and we have already made a lot of progress in fulfilling this vision, which will also represent a 67% reduction in carbon emissions. By the time it is said and done, Florida will be a world leader in solar energy production and, most importantly, the air that all Floridians breathe will be much cleaner because of it.

Expanding zero-emissions solar energy is not only good for the environment, but it is also good for our customers as it helps us drive down their energy costs.



What is your role at FPL?

I am FPL's Director of External Affairs for the North and Northwest Regions – which covers from St. Augustine to Pensacola.

Can you give us an idea of your career arc, how you got to where you are today?

I joined FPL directly out of the U.S. Army where I served as an infantry officer. FPL, together with its parent company NextEra Energy, proudly employ nearly 2,000 veterans. That is nearly 13% of our workforce.

I believe there are a lot of similarities between the military and FPL as both are mission-driven organizations. The majority of my career at FPL has been in operational roles in the Power Delivery division, which directly oversees the energy grid.

I have also been fortunate to serve in other departments within FPL, which has helped me gain appreciation of how much is involved in providing the best service possible to customers.

What do you like best about what you do?

I'm all about service, and the most rewarding part of being with FPL is that it allows me to serve my community as well as all FPL customers throughout Florida.

What do you like about living here on the First Coast?

Throughout my life I have lived in many different locations, and I was even stationed overseas in the military, so I definitely have an appreciation for where we live and feel blessed to call North Florida and the First Coast home. We have the best of everything – climate, people and culture. I couldn't ask for a better place to live and raise my family.

How do you like to spend your free time?

I like to spend as much time with my family as possible and also try to find ways to give back to the community, whether it be serving on a local board, as a volunteer with Boy Scouts or a youth sports coach. Personally, I also like to stay active and exercise as well as spending time in the outdoors.

Community PedsCare hosts holiday event for patients, families

Community PedsCare, a pediatric palliative and hospice program of Community Hospice & Palliative Care for children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions, hosted a holiday drive-through event Dec. 18 for patients and families.

It was held at the Earl B. Hadlow Center for Caring at the main campus of Community Hospice & Palliative Care.

Community Hospice & Palliative Care welcomed 381 patients and family members to the festive, lit-up, outdoor holiday setting created by employees. The families drove through a designated route named Candy Cane Lane, playing games and collecting goodies and holiday gifts while remaining safely in their cars.

Before leaving the holiday drive-through experience, patients were able to take socially distanced photos with Santa around a fire truck.

“It is simply magical, a moment to remember and a time to smile,” said Patrice Austin, director of PedsCare. “We will ‘shine on’ for our pediatric families and join them during this holiday time; joy, love, and celebration means everything to all of us, and their appreciation is priceless.”

Community PedsCare thanked Stellar; Jax Woodworkers Club; St. John’s Cares Giving Tree; Coquina Crossing Retirement Community; Darlene and Tony Callamatti; Eric Gills, owner/operator of Chick-Fil-A Mandarin; Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church; all the gift donors for the children; and many members of



Contributed photo

Community PedsCare hosted a holiday drive-through event Dec. 18 for 381 patients and family members.

the community who support the Community PedsCare families.

To learn more about Community PedsCare, go to Support.CommunityHospice.com.

Stevenson files voter privacy bill

State Rep. Cyndi Stevenson filed House Bill 983, a bill regarding voter privacy, on Dec. 20. The bill would restrict who has access to a voter’s registration information.


“House Bill 983 exempts voter registration information from public records to protect our citizens from scams,” said Stevenson. “It is important to protect this information, as it can and has been misused by those seeking to do harm.”

House Bill 983 seeks to strengthen privacy laws by removing voter registration data, such as date of birth, telephone number, e-mail address and party affiliation, from public records. The bill would limit who can request this data to: the individual whose records are confidential and exempt; a canvassing board or an election official in their official capacity; a political party, party official, a candi-

date who has filed qualification papers, or a registered political committee for political purposes only; or a person who receives permission to access the information from the Secretary of State’s office.

“We thank Rep. Stevenson for helping to address the number one complaint we hear from our voters, that misinformation or excessive texts and calls come from the data that a voter has on file with us on issues completely unrelated to their right to vote,” said Craig Latimer, 2021 president of the Florida Supervisors of Elections. “It is an open opportunity for personal information to be abused.”

For more information on this bill, as well as other bills filed during the 2022 session, go to myfloridahouse.gov or contact Stevenson’s office. The local phone number is 904-823-2300.




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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Gift-wrapping service collects record donation

We don't get white Christmases in Florida, but each December Beaches-area residents do get more and more generous. 2021 was no exception. In an eighth year of holiday gift wrapping, National Multiple Sclerosis Society volunteers greeted more shoppers, wrapped more gifts, collected a record donation amount and created awareness that far exceeded any previous year. 179 volunteer hours were invested during the month in south Jacksonville Beach, where local residents and repeat customers have come to expect and rely on MS gift wrappers to complete their holiday experience. Keep up the support and generosity and one day we actually will have a world free of MS.

Bruce Reid
Project Organizer



Photos provided by Bruce Reid

National Multiple Sclerosis Society volunteers collected a record donation during their holiday gift-wrapping service this year.

Lighthouse display continues to Jan. 21

Lighthouse Illuminations: Tides, Tidings & Trees runs through Jan. 21, so there's still time to see the 21 uniquely decorated trees on the grounds of the St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum.

Daytime general admission tickets get visitors in the door to enjoy the seasonally decorated grounds and buildings. As the sun goes down, visitors can purchase after-hours Lighthouse Illumination tickets for an extraordinary experience.

Here's a chance to explore the Keepers' House and grounds illuminated by lights and garlands and enjoy a view of the lighthouse's night mark.

Tickets are available at store.staugustinelighthouse.org/SelectEvent.aspx?eventid=1000137. To see a video about this event, go to [youtube.com/watch?v=LL-ram8nVZ4&t=2s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LL-ram8nVZ4&t=2s).

The museum is located at 81 Lighthouse Ave. in St. Augustine. For more information, go to staugustinelighthouse.org.



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Starling residents donate bicycles



Contributed photo

The residents of Starling at Nocatee Independent Living community donated funds to purchase bicycles to support the "Firefighters for Families" toy drive, benefiting St. Johns County families. As a result of the donation, 52 children received bicycles this year. "This is the second year we collected donations for bicycles and, thanks to so many generous residents at Starling, we almost tripled the number of bikes we were able to purchase from what we purchased last year!" said Starling resident John Saunders. Scott Saunders donated his time and truck to transport the new bicycles to Starling.

Winter arrives at Nocatee Farmers Market

The Nocatee Farmers Market on Dec. 18 was a winter festival, featuring live music by Who Rescued Who! The event included more than 60 local vendors and an always popular petting zoo, and the Blue Water Bar was open. The festivities were open to the public. Here are some images from the event.

Photos by Susan Griffin



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Nease alum and Jacksonville University lacrosse player Matt Pounder hosted a youth clinic at Christ the King Catholic School in Jacksonville for those looking to learn the game.



Matt Pounder focused on teaching the fundamentals of lacrosse during the clinic.

Photos by Anthony Richards

Pounder passes on his love of lacrosse with clinic

By Anthony Richards

Ever since Matt Pounder developed a passion for lacrosse, he has been looking for opportunities to give back and help grow the sport he loves.

The Nease grad and Jacksonville University sophomore recently found the chance to do just that by hosting a lacrosse clinic for children at Christ the King Catholic School in Jacksonville.

“I’ve had lacrosse stick in my hands

since I was 3 (years old), and it has really given me a ton, so I just feel like I owe everything to the game of lacrosse,” Pounder said. “Honestly, it’s the least I could do.”

The clinic was made possible thanks to a partnership with Vantage Sports, which is a company JU is using if its student-athletes are interested in holding such youth clinics.

As soon as Pounder got word of the

opportunity on the table, he was quick to take advantage of it.

“They organized pretty much everything for us, and their platform even has a payment feature and the registration links,” Pounder said. “You just put in when your free, so it’s pretty awesome.”

According to Pounder, doing clinics through companies like Vantage Sports is an entirely new venture prompted by the changes to a player’s name, image

and likeness status, which now allows players to get compensated by promoting, partnering or representing brands or companies.

Clinics like the one at Christ the King bring Pounder back to when he was first starting out and learning the techniques and nuances of the game.

He believes that is where his pas-

LACROSSE continues on **Page 12**

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Lacrosse

Continued from 11

sion for lacrosse was developed and he hopes to do the same for the next generation.

“I’ve been working with the youth for a while now,” Pounder said. “It only helps to get more exposure and coaching of the game out there for these kids. These types of clinics are the same things I did growing up.”

During the clinic Pounder worked on fundamentals, but the degree of focus on skill and position development can vary depending on the age and the experience level of the participants.

Many of the children at the clinic were relatively new to lacrosse.

Although lacrosse has been a part of Pounder’s life for some time now, he still remembers how he initially got involved.

“I’m the first one in my family to actually play lacrosse, but our neighbor growing up showed us,” Pounder said. “My mom went to Johns Hopkins (University), and we were living in the Baltimore area at the time, so I got to go to a lot of games. I’ve been hooked ever since.”

CBV Cares donation to Betty Griffin Center



Contributed photo

On Dec. 23, the Coldwell Banker Ponte Vedra Realtor Group CBV Cares presented a \$500 donation to Kelly Franklin, Betty Griffin Center CEO, to help the nonprofit, which provides shelter and healing to victims of domestic and sexual abuse. Pictured from left are Sheryll Sharp, domestic violence outreach coordinator, Betty Griffin Center; Jennifer Sills, office administrator, Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty (CBVR)-Ponte Vedra Beaches; Nancy Hammond, Realtor, CBVR-Beaches; Inez Peel, chief operating officer, Betty Griffin Center; Franklin; and Carole Bayer, broker associate, CBVR-Beaches.

Historic museum plans program on women and slavery

The Ximenez-Fatio House Museum, a long-standing fixture of St. Augustine’s historic Aviles Street, will re-launch its “I Lived Here, As Well” specialty tour on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. 17.

“I Lived Here, As Well — A Woman’s Story” is told by the women who may have spent their entire lives in this house, yet never used the front door. Guests will be introduced to several women whose lives were restricted due to the color of their skin. Some were enslaved. Some were free. Some had hopes for freedom, and some saw no hope at all.

For guests who had the opportunity to experience the first “I Lived Here, As Well” series told from an enslaved man’s point of view in spring of 2021, the new program will continue the story of urban slavery from the woman’s perspective.

The tour will be open to the public, led by costumed historical actors and last approximately 60 minutes. The program will include stories and accounts not heard during the traditional museum tour, and guests will also have access to the newly opened Servants Hall exhibit.

Regularly scheduled performances will take place at

10 a.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings. Ticket sales can be purchased at ximenezfatiohouse.org/IL-HAW.

The Ximenez-Fatio House Museum has stood on Aviles Street for 223 years and has been owned by the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Florida since 1939.

“I Lived Here, As Well – A Woman’s Story,” is presented by the Ximenez-Fatio House Museum with support from the Jessie Ball duPont Foundation and Florida Humanities.

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Students demonstrate musical talent during school's Winter Showcase

The Jacksonville Country Day School band held its Winter Showcase on Dec. 14.

The Winter Showcase is a culminating event of the semester that allows band students to demonstrate some of the techniques they have learned, enabling them to develop their ability to both read and perform music from the most basic level to a more advanced degree.

The band is composed of musicians in grades 3-6 learning brass, woodwind and percussion instruments. For many of these students, it is their first exposure to ensemble performing.

Band is an enrichment activity at the school and is led by Chrystal Staples, who shares her own talents and passion for music.

"It's quite amazing how much these young musicians can absorb and play with great success and zeal," said Staples.

The showcase moved through a variety of performance groups, highlighting the concepts used to grow in proficiency. The beginning band started with a short and simple unison of melodies followed by

more lengthy and complex holiday tunes such as "Jolly Old St. Nicholas" and "Up on the Housetop."

The advanced band demonstrated their widened note range and rhythmic abilities, as well as their grasp of varying styles in pieces such as "Too Much Homework Blues," "Jingle Bell Rock" and "The Angels Mix."

"I was so excited for the showcase, because this is the first time in a long time we have had a live audience; a video just doesn't feel as real," said fifth-grader Lynn Ibrahim of Ponte Vedra.

Lynn plays the saxophone and has been practicing with the Jacksonville Country Day School band for three years.

"I had never played an instrument before I joined the band, but it has given me confidence and I found something I love doing," she said.

Lynn has two younger siblings also at the school. She said her little brother, a second-grader, will take part in the enrichment activity next year, following in her footsteps, but he will be playing the flute.



Photos provided by Jacksonville Country Day School

The Jacksonville Country Day School band saxophone section performed during the Winter Showcase. Ponte Vedra resident Lynn Ibrahim is seen at left.



Ponte Vedra residents Peyton Humphrey, class of '23; Hailey Humphrey, class of '25; Lynn Ibrahim, class of '23; and Audrey Whitaker, class of '24, from left, participated in the Jacksonville Country Day School band's Winter Showcase.

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Democrats celebrate the holidays

More than 100 Democratic guests gathered Friday, Dec. 17, to wish each other an in-person holiday greeting and join together for merry-making — and food catered by Bono's Pit Barbecue.

The holiday party was hosted by the Ponte Vedra Democratic Club and the St. Johns Democratic Party.

Guest speakers addressed the audience in order of their upcoming elections: Tracye Polson, who is seeking a

seat on Jacksonville City Council; Trish Becker, who is running for re-election to Anastasia Mosquito Control; and Donna Deegan, who is running for Jacksonville mayor.

Members and guests of the Ponte Vedra Democratic Club, the Northwest United for Progress (Durbin/St. Johns area), the Democratic Womens Club of St. Johns County, and the various caucuses came together in anticipation of the year ahead.

Photos by Bonnie Evans



Donna Deegan, a candidate for Jacksonville mayor, speaks during the holiday party.



Tracye Polson, a candidate for Jacksonville City Council, speaks during the holiday party.



More than 100 guests attended the holiday party hosted by the Ponte Vedra Democratic Club and the St. Johns Democratic Party.



Bonnie Evans and Jack McEvoy enjoy the party.

Republicans host annual Christmas party

The St. Johns County Republican Executive Committee held its the annual Christmas party on Dec. 2 at the Renaissance Hotel Convention Center in World Golf Village. The committee was joined by the St. Johns County Young Republicans, the Ponte Vedra Republican Club and the Federated Women's Republican

Club.

Guests enjoyed finger sandwiches, sliders, meatballs, cookies, brownies, iced tea and coffee and had access to a cash bar.

Music was provided by Republican Executive Committee Hospitality Chair and DJ Gary Hiatt.

Photos by Susan Griffin



Tamara and Doc Renuart enjoy the festivities.



Kim Hardwick and Jo Lancaster at the St. Johns County Republican Executive Committee's annual Christmas party.



Among those at the Christmas party were, from left, Angelica Gross, John Reardon, Mary Joan Hinson and Doug Matthews.



Henry and state Rep. Cyndi Stevenson attended the party.

Business Weekly

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2022



Photo courtesy of IBERIABANK/First Horizon
Matt Price was recently hired as vice president and senior business banking relationship manager at IBERIABANK/First Horizon in Ponte Vedra.

More than a loan

Price brings his passion for business finance to IBERIABANK

By Anthony Richards

It has only been two months since Matt Price has been in his new role as vice president and senior business banking relationship manager at IBERIABANK/First Horizon in Ponte Vedra.

He has 20 years of experience, the last 10 of which he has been working closely with local businesses to help them with their financial questions and situations.

“I had the opportunity to come to IBERIABANK/First Horizon, and it was too good to pass up,” Price said. “It’s really just taking what I’ve been doing for 20 years and continuing to do it within the local community,

but just do it for a new brand.”

According to Price, IBERIABANK and First Horizon have already merged, but will officially converge President’s Day (Feb. 21) weekend.

He received a phone call from First Horizon Regional President Marty Lanahan about the position, and he was intrigued by the opportunity to help be on the ground floor of establishing the First Horizon name to the local community.

Price understands how important it is to surround oneself with people you enjoy being around and working for.

This was the case, as he had worked for

Lanahan about eight years ago and knew what type of leader she was.

“I knew that if I ever had the opportunity to work for and with her again, that I would explore it,” Price said.

Within the Ponte Vedra office alone, there are several departments that specialize in different aspects of the financial landscape, including the branch itself, as well as a mortgage broker and wealth adviser next door and private wealth advisers in the building ready to assist.

“One of the main things is that it’s not about me,” Price said. “What makes our

PRICE continues on **Page 16**



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Realtor Roxane Felder named company's education manager



Roxane Felder

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty has announced the expansion of its training department and the promotion of Realtor Roxane Felder as education manager of the company's training and coaching programs.

In her new role, Felder is responsible for leading and managing the company's Rising Star program. The course is designed to provide the highest level of training and support to the company's newest associates.

"Education and training programs

provide the necessary tools to achieve an individual's personal goals while providing clients with the most knowledgeable and professional service possible," said Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty President Ann King. "Roxane is passionate about guiding and mentoring Realtors to achieve their greatest success, and I'm thrilled to see her move into this new position."

Felder joined Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty in 2017, and recently served as assistant manager of the company's Fleming Island and Mandarin offices. As a Realtor, she has earned the Leading Edge award and numerous five-star reviews from buyers and sellers.

A veteran of the U.S. Army, Felder pursued a real estate career after teaching and working in education for more than 20 years. She earned her bachelor's degree from Trinity International University and her master's degree from Walden University. Felder is a resident of Clay County.

For more information about Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, go to FloridaNetworkRealty.com or call 904-296-1906.

Rocket Man



Scott A. Grant

On April 19, 1932, Robert Goddard led his students and staff out into the desert near Roswell, New Mexico, to launch a rocket. This was nothing unusual. Goddard had been launching liquid-fueled rockets for two decades. He had a Ford Model A truck with a homemade trailer to haul those rockets to the launch site.

What made today's rocket special was it was the first to use a gyroscope. The gyroscope allowed the rocket to be aimed. Dr. Goddard built the rockets in his garage. He called this new model the A-4. It blew up eight seconds into the flight, but Goddard decided the gyroscope worked.

Goddard would build more A-4 rockets, eventually flying almost four miles high. He publicly speculated that humans would travel into space and to the moon and maybe even to Mars. Most Americans considered him a quack.

But, across the Atlantic, in Nazi Germany they were taking Dr. Goddard's work very seriously. The Nazis had their own rocket program led by Dr. Wernher Von Braun. Hitler loved Von Braun and poured millions of marks into his program.

Von Braun and his team built a rocket initially called the A-4. The name was changed to V-2, the V stood for "Vengeance Weapon." The Germans built five-thousand V-2 rockets at Pennemunde in northern Germany. Most of those were launched at London, randomly killing innocent women and children.

After the war, we sent teams into Nazi Germany to collect important scientists. So did the Russians. We won the race to collect Von Braun and his team by one day. We then smuggled them all into the United States and put the former Nazis to work building rockets for us.

Von Braun became the head of NASA and literally built the rocket that took us to the moon. In the '50s, Wernher Von Braun was a regular on Disney. He talked

about traveling to space and to the moon, and maybe even to Mars. There was some controversy during the '60s when it was revealed that Von Braun had been a Nazi and a member of the SS. But, by then we were in a Space Race with the dreaded Soviets.

Today, we find ourselves in a new space race between billionaires competing to rule space tourism. Within a generation, humans will vacation on the moon. It will be a favorite destination for newlyweds seeking the ultimate wedding pictures and give new meaning to the term "honeymoon."

Elon Musk is the face of this new space race. He often talks about sending humans to space and to the moon and even to Mars. If he gets us to Mars, and many people think he will, the rocket that takes us there won't be all that much different than the liquid-fueled rockets that Goddard invented and launched in the desert, just bigger.

Scott A. Grant is a local historian and author and a frequent contributor to The Recorder. By day, he is chief investment officer at Standfast Asset Management.




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Price

Continued from 15

bank unique is that we take a team approach to everything. We've got a lot of smart people that I work with, that I introduce to clients and prospects. We think that adds more value to the relationship and more tools and resources available to the customers."

Price is familiar with some of these other aspects, as he spent the first 10 years of his career working on the retail side of banking in branch lobbies.

"What I learned from that experience is that I liked getting outside the bank and helping business owners with their banking," Price said. "You really get to know them."

He transitioned from the retail side to business and commercial banking in 2012 and he has felt right at home. It is the business relationships that make Price so passionate about what he does.

"When you make a loan to a business owner, it's not just a loan," Price said. "You've helped them buy a building to expand their business or finance a piece of equipment that is going to grow revenue for them. All banks have a loan or an account, but it's the story behind that loan, and every business is different.

Price is also the chair of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division.

"This area means a lot to me, so I'm going to do what I can from the business side of things to help the community thrive," Price said.



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Arndt named general manager of local Hilton Garden Inn

McKibbon Hospitality, an award-winning leader in hotel management, has announced the appointment of Bob Arndt as general manager of the Hilton Garden Inn Jacksonville Ponte Vedra Sawgrass.

An accomplished hospitality professional with more than 25 years of experience and a proven track record of building cohesive teams, driving revenues and producing excellent guest service, Arndt is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the 127-room hotel and its onsite restaurant, Mulligan's Irish Pub.

Arndt joins McKibbon most recently from his post as general manager of the Hilton Melbourne Rialto Place in Melbourne, Florida, where he oversaw operations of the 238-room property and a team of nearly 100 associates.

From 2013 to 2017, he served as area general manager for Advance Hospitality, overseeing the Hilton Garden Inn/Hampton Inn complex in Jacksonville preceded by his time as area general manager for Remington Hotel's Hampton Inn Jacksonville, Residence Inn Jacksonville and

Jacksonville Hilton Garden Inn.

A well-rounded hospitality leader, Arndt also brings an extensive food-and-beverage background to his new post, having served as general manager of the Frankenmuth Brewery in Frankenmuth, Michigan, in the early-2000s and director of food and beverage for the Double Tree Hotel in Bay City, Michigan, where his superior performance was recognized with Hilton's renowned Connie Pride Hotel Award of Merit.

"We are extremely pleased to welcome

Bob to McKibbon as general manager of the Hilton Garden Inn Jacksonville Ponte Vedra Sawgrass," said Kari Eloffson, McKibbon Hospitality's regional vice president of operations. "His deep understanding of all areas of hotel management, especially his tenured and award-winning food and beverage experience, will help ensure the continued success of this premiere property and its onsite restaurant."

McKibbon Hospitality assumed management of Hilton Garden Inn Jacksonville Ponte Vedra Sawgrass earlier this year.

North Florida Land Trust promotes Elliott

North Florida Land Trust has announced that Rianna Elliott has been promoted to director of land stewardship.

Elliott has served as a land management specialist for the nonprofit land conservation organization since February. She has had many responsibilities, including fee property monitoring, conservation easement monitoring, preserve maintenance and habitat restoration. She was also responsible for fire planning and implementation, timber management and maintaining preserve infrastructure.

In her new role, Elliott will oversee the

stewardship department and will be responsible for the management, restoration and maintenance of North Florida Land Trust's preserves and conservation easements. Her duties include a supervisory role of the stewardship department and the direct implementation of certain program areas.

Elliott will also serve on the leadership team and will contribute to the organi-



Rianna Elliott

zational development and strategic decision-making of the nonprofit.

"Rianna has been an outstanding employee and was exemplary in her role as land management specialist," said Jim McCarthy, North Florida Land Trust president. "Given her 13 years of experience, we expect she will excel in her new role. We look forward to having her as part of our leadership team. Her

input will be quite valuable as we continue our mission to preserve Florida's natural spaces."

Elliott came to North Florida Land Trust with more than a decade of experience with the Florida Park Service, where she was focused on resource management and prescribed fire. She is a certified prescribed-burn manager and holds other certifications that enable her to better restore and protect lands. Before her time with the Florida Park Service, Elliott worked at a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping at-risk youth.



Happy New Year!

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In the Arts



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Photographer is Butterfield's featured artist



Photo by Tina Henle courtesy of Butterfield Art Gallery
Hunters Moon, framed photograph, 16-by-20 inches

Tina Henle is Butterfield Art Gallery's first featured artist of 2022.

She is an award-winning freelance photographer with more than 40 years of experience with fine art, portrait, wedding and commercial photography.

Growing up on the island of St. Croix, she acquired her first cameras at the ages of 14 and 18: a 35mm Rollei and a twin-lens Rolleiflex from her father, Fritz Henle. Thus began her love for photography and passion for travel and diverse cultures.

In 1984, she received a bachelor's degree in art and anthropology from the University of New Mexico and worked and mentored with her father throughout the 1980s. She has exhibited her work in numerous group and solo shows and was co-owner of the Henle Gallery in St. Croix for 27 years.

For January's exhibit, Henle has fo-

cused her camera on the sky.

"Nature is my solace," she said. "From aerial landscapes over tropical islands to miles of pristine beaches to the stormy skies of summer to the full moon's mystique, Earth's beauty has captured my eye."

Her viewpoint has an abstract quality, even as the image is purely descriptive. This visual "juggling" is present in many of her photographs.

Henle resides and freelances in St. Augustine. She continues to travel worldwide, always adding to her portfolio of creative fine art photography. She has been a member of the Butterfield Art Gallery since 2017.

The gallery will host the exhibit's opening from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 7, during Artwalk. It will continue to feature Henle's fine art photography throughout the month.



Contributed photo

Pianist Hyunsoon Whang will perform music by Debussy and Fauré at a Jan. 16 concert.

Pianist Hyunsoon Whang returns for Jan. 16 performance

The Florida Chamber Music Project will welcome pianist Hyunsoon Whang back on Jan. 16 to play Debussy's *Estampes* and Fauré's *Piano Quartet No. 1 in c minor*. Whang is a favorite of The Florida Chamber Music Project's audience and was a school mate of its artistic director, Susan Pardue. The concert is scheduled for 3 p.m. at the Beaches Museum Chapel in Jacksonville Beach.

Estampes has three movements, which evoke different locales. The first movement, *Pagodes*, features Indonesian gamelan music. It mimics traditional Indonesian melodies. *La soirée dans Grenade*, the second movement, sounds like guitar strumming to evoke images of Granada, Spain.

The third movement, *Jardins sous la pluie*, describes a garden in the Normandy town of Orbec during an extremely violent rainstorm.

Gabriel Fauré's *Piano Quartet No. 1*, in C minor, Op. 15, is one of the two chamber works he wrote for the piano quartet combination of piano, violin, viola and cello.

Whang was born in Seoul, Korea, and began her piano studies at the age of 4. She attended North Carolina School of the Arts with Pardue and also studied at the St. Louis Conservatory of Music, The Julliard School and Indiana University.

Beaches Museum Chapel is wheelchair-accessible and has free parking along Pablo Avenue near 4th Street North of Beach Boulevard. Guests are required to wear masks.

The Florida Chamber Music Project was founded nine years ago by Pardue. Joining her are violinists Patrice Evans, Siyu Zhang and Ann Hertler and cellist Laurie Casseday. All are members of the Jacksonville Symphony.

For advance tickets online, go to flchambermusic.org.

Jacksonville Symphony announces upcoming concerts

Guest conductor Matthew Halls returns to the Jacoby Symphony Hall stage this month and pianist Conrad Tao joins Courtney Lewis for a concert featuring the symphony's new Steinway concert grand piano.

The FIS Symphonic Night at the Movies Series returns for the first time since 2020 with "Star Wars: Return of the Jedi."

Jacksonville's own The Chris Thomas Band takes the stage with the symphony in February for a concert featuring the songs of Sammy, Frank and Dean.

Here's a look at the performances.

Florida Blue Classical Series

What: "Brahms' Pastoral Symphony"

When: 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Jan. 7 and 8

Featuring: Ralph Vaughan Williams, *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis*; Maurice Ravel, *Pavane for a Dead Princess*; Johannes Brahms, *Symphony No. 2*
Conductor: Matthew Halls
Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia* highlights the symphony's lush string sections. Ravel's *Pavane* features one of the most captivating French horn solos ever written. And Brahms' *Second Symphony* carries the origins of his famous lullaby.

Fidelity National Financial Pops Series Raymond James Coffee Series

What: "Classic Broadway"

When: 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Jan. 14, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 15

Conductor: Stuart Chafetz

Vocalists: Ashley Brown and Jordan Donica

Return to the golden age of Broadway. Hear classic songs from "The Sound of Music," "Oklahoma," "South Pacific," "Porgy and Bess," "Carousel" and many more.

FIS Symphonic Night at The Movies Series

What: "Star Wars: Return of The Jedi"

When: 7 p.m. Jan. 21, 22

Conductor: Gonzalo Farias

The Empire prepares to crush the Rebellion with a more powerful Death Star. The Rebel fleet counters with a massive attack on the space station. Luke Skywalker confronts Darth Vader in a final climactic duel.

Florida Blue Classical Series

What: "Mozart's Defiance: Piano Concerto No. 24"

When: 7:30 p.m. Jan. 28, 29

Featuring: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, *Piano Concerto No. 24, K. 491*; Jean Sibelius, *Symphony No. 1*

Conductor: Courtney Lewis, Haskell Endowed Chair

Piano: Conrad Tao

According to *The New York Times*, "Conrad Tao was never just another

prodigy." This young phenom is certain to bring new life and ideas to Mozart's C minor Concerto, a piece so outside the conventions of the day that more than a few Viennese eyebrows were raised at its 1786 premiere.

Courtney Lewis notches another Sibelius symphony en route to a complete cycle with the Finnish composer's *First Symphony*, a work with traces of Tchaikovsky yet distinct with Sibelius' voice.

Fidelity National Financial Pops Series

What: "The Chris Thomas Band: The Rat Pack"

When: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 4, 5

Conductor: Gonzalo Farias

Performers: The Chris Thomas Band, featuring Chris Thomas and Cortnie Frazier, with Olivia Donalson
"Fly Me to the Moon," "My Way," "You're Nobody Till Somebody Loves You" and more will be performed by Jacksonville's renowned big band alongside the Jacksonville Symphony.

For tickets, go to jaxsymphony.org/concert-tickets.

Jacoby Symphony Hall is located in the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts, 300 Water St. Jacksonville.

Sports



THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2022 • PAGE 20

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Giant next step

Berman drives mission with tour purchase

By Anthony Richards

Mark Berman continues to look for ways to grow the women's golf game and think outside the box to create more opportunities for golfers at the developmental level.

He took another step toward accomplishing that mission, and a huge step it was, by recently purchasing the former Florida-based National Women's Golf Association Tour and quickly rebranding it as the East Coast Women's Pro Golf Tour.

"We're doing this all on credit cards and faith," Berman said. "At the end of the day, it's all about giving these players a taste of what it means to be a professional athlete."

One of the biggest differences is that the former tour solely focused on events in



Mark Berman's mission with the East Coast Women's Pro Golf Tour is to create more opportunities for women golfers as they pursue their dream of reaching the LPGA Tour.

Florida, compared to the new tour, which has contests tentatively scheduled up and down the East Coast.

Another change Berman has instituted is the introduction of a winter series that starts Jan. 17-19 with a championship at Black Bear Golf Club in Eustis.

The winter series will consist of eight events with the finale March 28-30, while the spring/summer series (official money tour) will have about 8 to 10 events starting in April and ending with the PXG Women's Match Play Championship Oct. 30 to Nov. 3.

"It was always part of the plan to rebuild it from scratch," Berman said. "I'm not just trying to add to the development landscape, but we're trying to find opportunities for these women and create an environment where they can chase their dream."

According to Berman, creating opportunities means scheduling more events for them to showcase their skills and earn money, which is one of the primary reasons behind the creation of the winter series to go along with the already established spring season.

Berman hopes that the tour will help fill a void that currently exists along the East Coast.

It is not the first time Berman has taken



Photos by Anthony Richards

Mark Berman created and directed the inaugural PXG Women's Match Play Championship this past October. That experience led him to purchase the East Coast Women's Pro Golf Tour, which begins play January 17.

on a massive undertaking designed to grow the game of women's golf, as he created and directed the inaugural PXG Women's Match Play Championship at World Golf Village this past October.

He understands going from operating a tournament to running an entire tour is quite the leap, but it is not something he had not thought about before.

In fact, Berman looked into purchasing the tour three years ago, but when the talks fell through, he turned his attention to putting on "the Super Bowl of women's developmental golf."

It was the experience at the championship that convinced him to pursue the tour once more.

"It all goes back to me being inside the ropes," Berman said.

His passion stems from not only directing the PXG Women's Match Play Cham-

pionship, but also from years of watching his daughter Hannah Berman learn and play the game over the years, including at the college level at Jacksonville University and during her quest to become a professional.

Player feedback is an important aspect in the way Berman plans to run the East Coast Women's Pro Golf Tour, as he hopes to create a tour that always has the best interest of its players in mind.

"I've listened to what the things are that would make for a meaningful tour," Berman said.

Some of the best feedback he received was in conversations he had with players during a rain delay at the Match Play Championship.

According to Berman, the stories of what players are willing to go through to see their golf dreams come true are endless.

"One player works in an oil refinery at night and practices golf six hours during the day," Berman said. "That just shows the dedication."

Berman hopes to continue to promote similar stories taking place, while doing what he can to help lay the groundwork for future career paths in women's golf.

"It's a mission-driven effort, and people are buying into the mission," Berman said.

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Ponte Vedra captures holiday tournament in Naples



Photo provided by Scott and Stacy Bunkosky

The Ponte Vedra Sharks basketball team won the Kelleher Law Holiday Hoopfest.

The Ponte Vedra Sharks made their long trip deep into southern Florida for a remarkable success by winning the Kelleher Law Holiday Hoopfest with a 64-57 victory over Evans High School of Orlando in the 16-team tournament finale.

The Sharks earned the right to play for the title following convincing wins over Gulf Coast (59-26), Doral Academy (60-31) and Somerset Prep (62-39). Meanwhile, Evans High, which welcomed back a number of their regulars who missed most of their previous games before the Naples tourney, completely overwhelmed their first three opponents by scores of 81-26, 86-72, and 67-29.

The final game between the two finalists lived up to its billing and then some, but balance scoring, airtight defense, the ability to protect the ball and some deadly free-throw shooting led to a Shark win and their seventh straight victory since tasting defeat earlier in the month at the Fortegra tournament.

The Sharks led, but barely at every

stop, and held a slim 54-52 lead with 1:21 left in the contest. It was at this juncture in the game when Evans was forced to foul as their athletic defenders were unable to steal a possession from the PVHS ball handlers. The Sharks then proceeded to make 10 clutch free throws without a miss to salt away the victory with Ross Candelino hitting all eight of his attempts with reserve Israel Nuhu netting his two tries.

The Sharks feature their own Fear-some Foursome of Luke Pirris, JT Kelly, Nathan Bunkosky and Candelino, and their talents were clearly on display in Naples. All four Sharks scored in double figures in each of the final three games of the tournament, but their scoring was only part of the story. Their trapping defense produced on average better-than-10 steals a game while on offense they committed fewer than seven turnovers per contest.

Third-year coach Kevin Whirly was

NAPLES continues on Page 22

A different kind of double-double

Kelly named PVHS December Scholar-Athlete

By Anthony Richards

J.T. Kelly is a reliable presence both on the basketball court and in the classroom, which made him a fitting choice for the Ponte Vedra High School December Scholar-Athlete of the Month.

The senior is a guard on the Sharks' boys basketball team where he averages 10.3 points per game, and is also among the top 10 academically in his class with a 4.65 weighted GPA.

"My parents were thrilled to find out about the honor," Kelly said. "It is a showcase of all the hard work that has been put in."

Although he is still figuring out what path he wants to pursue for a future career, he has begun to focus on the possibilities of something in business or finance, especially since his dad has worked in finance so he has some familiarity with how the industry works.

His dad also played college basketball, and as a result, the sport has been a big part of Kelly's life since he could walk.

"Basketball is the family sport," Kelly said. "There's baby pics of me with a basketball."

Kelly played in middle school and on the junior varsity squad as a freshman before making varsity as a sophomore.

Kevin Whirly came in as head coach

in Kelly's first year on varsity and he has seen the team's growth continue over the past three years.

"It is super intense but a lot of fun, and success has come with that," Kelly said.

The areas where Kelly has helped the Sharks the most this season is with the combination of stingy defense and lights out three-point shooting.

Among his individual goals he is striving for during his senior season include averaging 2.5 steals and three-pointers per game.

"My personal goals were involved with the building of the team in mind," Kelly said.

He is currently averaging 1.9 steals per contest and has shot 42% from beyond the arc, including draining six three-pointers

SCHOLAR-ATHLETE continues on Page 22



Photo by Anthony Richards

Ponte Vedra High senior J.T. Kelly is averaging 10.3 points per game for the Sharks boys basketball team, and is also among the top 10 academically in his class with a 4.65 weighted GPA.

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 5. Nelson Mandela's org.
 8. "___ in the shade"
 12. Andean people's chew
 13. "White Wedding" singer
 14. Like a haunted mansion
 15. South American tuber, pl.
 16. Type of cotton fiber
 17. Desired forecast?
 18. "The Underground Railroad" author
 20. Like West Wing office
 21. Not silently
 22. "When We Were Kings" subject
 23. Hand over (2 words)
 26. Barbecued
 30. The Jackson 5 1970 hit
 31. Repressed
 34. "Alice Doesn't ___ Here Anymore"
 35. State of dishonor
 37. Three, to Caesar
 38. Brightest star in Cygnus
 39. Performer's time to shine
 40. "No.1 Ladies Detective ___" book series
 42. African migrator
 43. "The Night Watchman" author
 45. "Little Women" author
 47. Poor man's caviar
 48. Analyze
 50. Canter or gallop
 52. "A Farewell to Arms" author
 56. Latin dance
 57. Club on the links
 58. Kind or courteous
 59. Los ____, CA
 60. Round feed storage
 61. Not odd
 62. Colonial times laborer
 63. Band performance
 64. Theodores, to friends

- DOWN**
1. Flat-bottomed boat
 2. Scottish lake
 3. Antioxidants-rich berry
 4. Popular primo dish in Italian restaurant, pl.
 5. Bye, to Edith Piaf
 6. Wanderer
 7. Garbed
 8. "Moby Dick" author
 9. Length times width
 10. Call someone, in the olden days
 11. Poetic "ever"
 13. Apple invention
 14. Food contaminant
 19. Run off to wed
 22. Jean of Dadaism
 23. Out of style
 24. Find repugnant
 25. Burn with coffee, e.g.
 26. *Ursula K. Le ___
 27. Jargon
 28. It happens at a certain time and place
 29. First novel, e.g.
 32. Near in space or time
 33. Not a win nor a loss
 36. "Song of Solomon" author
 38. "Chronicles" author and songwriter
 40. *NY Times bestselling author Atkins or playing card
 41. Gambling venue
 44. Smidgins
 46. Young swan
 48. Eagle's nest
 49. Young salmon
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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.



Photo provided by Scott and Stacy Bunkosky

Tournament MVP was Nathan Bunkosky.

Naples

Continued from 21

lavish in praise of his team in a post-game TV interview following the contest.

Tournament MVP Nathan Bunkosky was quick to heap praise towards his coach while holding on to his trophy following the awards presentation.

Joining Bunkosky on the first team All-Tourney team was senior Luke Pirris, who's game-leading 18 points in the championship game led all scorers. Candelino was added to the second team while defensive specialist and 3-point shooting specialist JT Kelly was added to the third team.

In addition to the four All-Tourney selections, the Sharks also received some

steady play from three other players who were part of the seven-man rotation utilized by Whirity.

Junior Israel Nuhu gave the Sharks a spark off the bench with his rebounding and defense while senior Gus Jordheim and sophomore Sam Ritchie chipped in with some valuable minutes.

The victory gave the Sharks a record of 11-2, pushing them into the top five rating among all teams along the First Coast. The team improved on that Tuesday, Jan. 4, with a 52-29 victory over Atlantic Coast, bringing their record to 12-2.

The Sharks will return home on Friday, Jan. 8, when they host Bishop Kenny with a scheduled start time of 7:30 p.m.

— Submitted by Jim Moyes

Scholar-Athlete

Continued from 21

in a game twice this season.

Kelly's defensive mindset has really increased since Whirity took over.

"He's made sure we're all buying in, and it shows," Kelly said. "We only allowed 38 points per game last year."

According to Kelly, he has had a knack for putting the ball in the basket since middle school.

He is a fan of the Philadelphia 76ers of the National Basketball Association, and he has always thought his game modeled that of J.J. Redick, who he grew up watching. His favorite current player is Joel Embiid.

Kelly has created several athletic and academic memories during his time at Ponte Vedra, and he understands that starts and ends with the school's staff.

"My teachers have been great over the years," Kelly said.

One of his most interesting courses he has taken was Martin Hillier's physics class.

"It really taught me how to think criti-



Photo by Anthony Richards

J.T. Kelly drives against an Episcopal defender during the Fortegra Tournament in Jacksonville.

cally, and try to find different routes to answers," Kelly said.

Katilyn Collazo's art history class was another that he will remember for how much he enjoyed it.

"I'm not a big art guy, but I found it so interesting," Kelly said.

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