

PONTE VEDRA RECORDER

April 28, 2022
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75 cents

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PonteVedraRecorder.com



Teens launch dance company
Page 9



Nease Powderpuff photo page
Page 44



First Coast Nonprofits
Page 17



Lending a helping hand

Photo by Anthony Richards

Mark Flaschner lifts a box of donated household items into a truck during the AB Loves Ukraine supply drive. The City of Atlantic Beach and Catholic Charities collected an overwhelming amount of donations that will go toward helping Ukrainian refugees arriving in Jacksonville feel at home.

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INSIDE

One of Us

Page 6

Business Weekly

Page 41

In the Arts

Pages 42-43

Sports

Pages 44-46

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BRIEFS

St. Johns County closes COVID-19 testing site

The NOMI Health COVID-19 testing site at the St. Johns County Wind Mitigation Building is no longer operational due to a lack of sufficient federal funding.

Since early March, daily testing numbers at the county site have been steadily declining, averaging fewer than 100 tests a day. This is a result of widespread testing availability in the private sector, the federal program that mails free COVID-19 tests to individuals and a decrease in COVID-19 infections.

The following locations continue to offer COVID-19 testing in St. Johns County:

- AVECINA Medical (Fruit Cove) — avecina.com/location/julington-creek
- CareSpot Urgent Care (all St. Johns County locations) — carespot.com/locations/florida/jacksonville
- CVS (all St. Johns County locations) — cvs.com/minuteclinic/clinic-locator/fl/st-augustine/coronavirus-testing.html
- MedOne Urgent Care (St. Augustine) — medoneatsaintaugustine.com
- Walgreens (all St. Johns County locations) — walgreens.com/findcarecovidui/covid19/testing

More than \$60M awarded for emergency beach repairs

St. Johns County will receive up to \$62 million in federal funding from the

Jacksonville District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for emergency repairs on two beach projects.

The projects include the St. Johns County Shore Protection Project in St. Augustine Beach and the St. Johns County South Ponte Vedra Beach and Vilano Beach Coastal Storm Risk Management Project.

The Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies funding resulted from USACE evaluations of erosion impacts on the federal beach projects following the November 2021 nor'easter.

The St. Johns County Shore Protection Program will include placing about 2 million cubic yards of sand on 2.5 miles of federally authorized shoreline beginning about three miles south of the St. Augustine Inlet and extending south. The federal funding made available for this project is roughly \$37 million.

The St. Johns County South Ponte Vedra Beach and Vilano Beach Coastal Storm Risk Management Project will include placing about a million cubic yards of sand on 2.6 miles of shoreline north of the St. Augustine Inlet. The federal funding available for this effort is about \$25 million, including the district's costs for design, permitting, contract acquisition and three years of post-construction monitoring.

Both projects will use sand from offshore sources.

DeSantis awards \$1.7M to local projects

On Friday, April 22, Gov. Ron DeSantis awarded more than \$15 million to 10 Florida communities through the Rural Infrastructure Fund and the Community Development Block Grant program. Among the recipients of the latter were St. Augustine and St. Johns County.

The City of St. Augustine was awarded \$1,251,229 through the Community Development Block Grant program to rehabilitate the St. Francis House Crisis Center to meet increasing demands for service.



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Briefs

Continued from 2

St. Johns County received \$406,633 to construct an annex building to the county's Emergency Operations Center to allow for interface with first responders and the public.

The grant program primarily benefits low- and moderate-income residents. Activities may benefit workforce housing, training and sustainability, as well as broadband infrastructure and planning.

For more information about the Community Development Block Grant program, go to FloridaJobs.org/CDBG-CV.

Mailing of St. Johns County voter registration cards temporarily halted

St. Johns County is currently in the process of redrawing and approving precinct lines and new voting locations following the 2020 census and the federal, state and local redistricting process. As a result, the mailing of new voter information cards has been

suspended to allow for the adoption of the new precincts.

Once the redistricting process is complete, all registered voters in St. Johns County will receive new voter information cards and mailing of the cards will resume. These actions will occur prior to the Aug. 23 primary election.

Updated voter information cards will reflect the new districts, precincts and election day polling places. All voters are advised to review the new voter information cards carefully as their precincts and polling places may have

changed.

The St. Johns Board of County Commissioners and School Board adopted new districts in December. As voting precinct lines are based on County Commission and School Board district lines, they are being redrawn based on the new districts and all polling places are under review.

In addition, new Florida Senate and House districts were recently adopted by the state legislature and have been approved by the Florida Supreme Court and new Federal Congressional districts are currently before the state legislature.

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OBITUARIES

Edward Grey Cooke

Edward (Ed, Eddie) Grey Cooke, 86, died February 6, 2022, in Jacksonville, FL, where he resided with his loving wife, Barbara.

Mr. Cooke was born May 3, 1935, in Pilot Mountain, NC, to Porter Cooke and Chonnie Denny. Ed grew up with four brothers, Phillip, James, William and Bruce. As a young man attending Granby High School in Norfolk, VA, Ed made phenomenal contributions to athletics, and, after becoming an outstanding athlete for University of Maryland, where Ed graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree. Ed was the 3rd draft choice by the Chicago Bears. He played 9 seasons (AFL/NFL, LB and DE) for six teams: Chicago Bears, Baltimore Colts (Championship ring in 1959), NY Titans, NY Jets, Denver Broncos, culminating with the Miami Dolphins, as their first Captain in 1966. Ed retired in 1967 after his best year in football. Ed excelled in all athletics and loved the water, fishing, weight training, and living life to the fullest!

Following a successful football career, Ed became a

successful entrepreneur and real estate developer. Ed developed and built the town of Greenbrier Chesapeake in Virginia. He brought Volvo to “his” town, became President of the Chamber of Commerce, flew his own small aircraft, enjoyed his own radio show, and “competed” in as many golf tournaments as time would allow, including the Tahiti Open!

He is survived by his beloved wife, Barbara Stark Cooke; two brothers; two daughters, Carolyn Cooke Elgin and Julie Ann Cooke; their spouses; and four grandchildren, Matthew, Andrew, Olivia, and Sydney.

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Joan Letitia Maxwell Dockins

Joan Letitia Maxwell Dockins was the youngest of three children born to Donald Maxwell and Mary Kirkpatrick in Yonkers, NY, October 24, 1945. Joan grew up in Yonkers. She graduated from Gorton High School and attended college at Hunter and SUNY Oneonta. Joan married Darryl Dockins in San Francisco, CA, January 15, 1969. She had three sons: Matthew Dockins, Mark Dockins (twins) born January 8, 1970, and Michael Dockins born May 22, 1972. With birth of the twins, Joan and Darryl moved from Palo Alto to be closer to Joan’s family in Yonkers. Joan spent most of her career helping companies relocate employees to new locations. Upon retirement, Joan and Darryl moved to Alliance, NE. Joan became Associate Director of the Carnegie Arts Center until they moved October 2012 to Ponte Vedra Beach, FL. After a full life, she passed away Thursday, April 21, 2022. She leaves behind her husband, three sons, two brothers, one daughter in-law, two grandchildren and a large family. Please sign the online guestbook at www.pontevedravally.com.



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OBITUARIES

Thomas Janocko



Thomas Janocko

THOMAS JANOCKO, 98 years old passed away peacefully at home on April 22, 2022.

Born March 11, 1924, in Forest City, PA to Michael Janocko and Eva Homisak.

A graduate of Forest City High School, Thomas was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1943. He trained at Camp Mackall, North Carolina with the 11th Airborne Division "Angels" as a paratrooper and served in the Pacific Theater to liberate the Philippines and occupy Japan after its surrender. He was awarded the Good Conduct Medal; Philippines Liberation Medal with 2 Bronze Stars; American Theater Service Medal; Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal

with 3 Bronze Stars and 1 Arrowhead; WWII Victory Medal. In 2020, he was honored with a ceremony and presented with The Congressional Gold Medal for his service to the United States and The Philippines during WWII.

After discharge from the army, Thomas met his loving wife, Helen Terry, and they wed in 1953. Married for 68 years, they raised eight children and resided in Elizabeth, N.J. for 55 years. His legacy continues as they were further blessed with many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was child of the Great Depression and World War II and had seen the world go through many changes during his lifetime. As a member of The Greatest Generation, he was humble, but known to greet everyone with his big smile, twinkling blue eyes, quick wit, and sometimes uncompromising honesty. Tom had boundless energy, loved long walks,

was an avid reader, bowler, skilled pool player, and a trained carpenter who was always tinkering and could fix anything. A dedicated worker, he retired from General Motors Assembly Plant in Linden, N.J. as an Inspector, after working there for 36 years.

In 2008, Tom & Helen moved to Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, where they enjoyed meeting new friends, attending YMCA Silver Sneakers classes, many travels, and especially visits and celebrations with their ever-growing family.

He was a communicant of St. George Byzantine Catholic Church in Linden, NJ then became a parishioner of Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, during the past 15 years.

Thomas was predeceased by his parents; his son, Stephen; and all thirteen of his siblings. He is survived by his wife, Helen; three daughters: Carol Sauer of Jacksonville, FL; Jane Hall (Leon) of

Spring, TX; Theresa Picco (Michael) of Ponte Vedra Beach, FL and four sons: Thomas (Gladys) of Oceano, CA; Michael (Donna) of Avenel, NJ; Mark of Avenel, NJ; and Joseph (Eve) of Ponte Vedra Beach, FL; sixteen grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren, all of whom adored him as the patriarch of the family.

A funeral service will be held at Our Lady Star of The Sea Catholic Church, Ponte Vedra Beach on April 29th at 1 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in honor of Thomas to Our Lady Star of The Sea Church or Community Hospice. Please visit his online Tribute at www.quinn-shalz.com. Arrangements by



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DEATH NOTICES

Shirley Christ

Shirley Christ, 93, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died April 18, 2022. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Joan Dockins

Joan Dockins, 76, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died April 21, 2022. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Mary Megley

Mary Megley, 84, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died April 16, 2022. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Cynthia Prince

Cynthia Prince, 98, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died April 20, 2022. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Michael Joseph Stewart

Michael Joseph Stewart, 38, of Jacksonville, Florida, died April 19, 2022. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com. 904-249-1100

Helen Diane Teachey

Helen Diane Teachey, 73, of Jacksonville, Florida, died April 17, 2022. Arrangements by Quinn Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. 904-249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

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Sharon Gesek is most proud of the help she can provide older residents and caregivers across St. Johns County as the program director of the county's Council on Aging. She lives in Nocatee after moving from Connecticut in 2019 and she enjoys spending time with her grandsons.

Sharon Gesek

As told to Anthony Richards

Can you tell us a little about your background?

I grew up in small town Connecticut. I received my bachelor's degree in social work, and my first job out of college was as a case worker in my hometown, where I saw my community through a completely different lens.

I followed this with several years in the mental health field working in both inpatient and outpatient clinical settings.

After I started my graduate coursework in recreational and leisure studies, one of my professors surprisingly inspired me to work with the aging population. That is when my career path took a somewhat dramatic turn, and I began working in the elderly service field in several municipalities in Connecticut.

My last position in Connecticut was as the program director for the Southwestern CT Area Agency on Aging, which is very much like ElderSource in Northeast Florida.

I oversaw the Older Americans Act programs, information and referral and the SHIP State Health Insurance Assistance Program (in Florida, it is called SHINE.)

How long have you been with the Council on Aging and how did you get involved?

I started working at the St. Johns County Council on Aging as the program director in May of 2019 shortly after deciding to move to Florida to be close to my son and daughter-in-law, who were expecting their first child that year.

I saw an opening online at the COA in St Augustine, applied and interviewed virtually.

The COA is the embodiment of a true nonprofit agency; everyone's focus is on providing worthwhile services and programs to as many seniors living in St Johns County.

What are the most rewarding parts of the job?

There are some incredibly rewarding aspects when working at the COA. For me, being able to offer services and resources to seniors and caregivers who thought no one cared or understood their situation is so gratifying.

Coming out of COVID shutdowns and now hearing the laughter and seeing the smiling faces at our COA senior centers, or the genuine appreciation when you deliver a simple meal and newspaper to a homebound senior, is priceless.

Witnessing the instant relief on a caregiver's face when you simply listen to their journey and then share the various resources available to them through COA and our sister agencies is so rewarding.



Photo courtesy of Sharon Gesek

Sharon Gesek has been the program director for the St. Johns County Council on Aging since May 2019.

Are you one that lays out goals? If so, what are some of your goals for the future?

Sometime in the near future, I would like to work with Dementia Friends USA to bring a chapter to Northeast Florida.

My more far-reaching dream would be to offer congregate breakfast or dinner via a food truck in some of the more rural communities like Hastings and Elkton, with the intention to reach folks who may not be familiar with the COA or may be unable to travel to senior center meal sites.

What are some of the challenges that you face with the job?

Funding is always a challenge since the COA relies predominantly on federal, state and county funding. The administration and boards for St Johns County have been a constant, supportive and responsive partner to the initiatives of the COA on so many levels throughout our 49-year history.

Another challenge is reaching the county's most vulnerable seniors and caregivers who may not know of our agency or the variety of services and resources we offer.

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

Being involved with my grandsons on a regular basis is the best. Climate for sure, except August – that's no fun.

I love to hear stories from native Floridians, since they are a rare breed in Nocatee. My neighborhood is so wonderful; the neighbors really look out for one another, so I feel like I am right back to my small town roots.

What do you like to do in your free time?

Spend time with the family and my adorable grandsons! Since two of the three years I've been in Florida have been during COVID, I'm looking forward to exploring a bit more now. I plan to volunteer with an animal shelter and hope to take advantage of the amazing offerings in Nocatee and surrounding areas.

Pancake event to focus on community togetherness

By Anthony Richards

What brings people closer together better than pancakes? That is what went through the minds of Jack Parker, Matt Berquist and Amy Wacaster when they came up with the idea for the Ponte Vedra Pancake Festival and Community Table.

It is a grassroots event designed to bring the local community together and will be held from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 14, at Christ Episcopal Church in Ponte Vedra Beach.

“We tried to be conscious of the fact that families have busy Saturday mornings, so hopefully they can just stop by when they get a chance to take part,” Berquist said. “Marsh Landing, Sawgrass

and all the Ponte Vedra communities are welcome.”

It is not a church-sponsored event; Christ Episcopal Church is just providing the use of the location along with tables and chairs.

According to Parker, who is the “brain-child” behind the event, he came up with it after being in the Ponte Vedra Beach area for years and believing there was a need for community activities that bring friends and neighbors together.

“We wanted to set up something simple that allows different groups to come together and get to know each other,” Parker said.

Although pancakes are the thing that is bringing people together in this case, it

is much more than just an event centered around pancakes.

“The deeper meaning of community is what this is all about,” Wacaster said.

Having been through the pandemic, the three thought that the timing seemed just right to put on an event like this.

“We’ve had this influx of people in our community in the last couple of years,” Wacaster said. “We’ve all had to be so inward thinking of late, so it’s nice to be outward now.”

The plan is to have one long table that people can eat pancakes at and enjoy conversation.

There will also be a pancake-eating contest, where the community can showcase their appetite, as well as other

contests for adults and children to take part in and live music performing.

Ten group organizations from the local community will be the “chefs” at the event and will have the honor of cooking and serving the pancakes.

The unique twist is that each organization will have their own tent setup and will cook the pancakes based on their own recipe, which will allow for creativity to be on display and a variety of pancakes for attendees to sample.

“I think it’s just a really awesome concept,” Berquist said. “We definitely have a fun morning planned.”

There is a \$5 entry fee per person or \$20 for a family of four to attend the event. Each ticket is all-you-can-eat.

The Yards prepares to introduce pickleball

By Anthony Richards

Pickleball will soon be added as one of the featured aspects at The Yards in Ponte Vedra Beach.

The Yards has put an emphasis on pickleball, and it is evident by facility upgrades, which includes the construction of an entirely new pickleball complex.

The complex will be highlighted by various courts that will be painted in various colors, with each color signifying differing competitive levels.

According to The Yards Pickleball Director Maria Nili, the colors will allow players to know which courts are designated as beginner, intermediate and advanced.

The goal is to have the painting on the courts finished by the end of April and have the club ready to fully open at some point this summer once the finishing touches are added to the complex.

Nili played tennis in college and spent years as an official at some of the largest events in professional tennis and admits

that she was not sure what to make of pickleball when she first saw the sport.

However, it only took one time of playing it before she was hooked and fell in love with the game.

One of the things Nili has come to love about pickleball is the fact that it allows for people of varying ages and skill levels to play alongside each other and allow for competitive fun to still be had by all.

“They (tennis and pickleball) are very similar, but at the same time they are so different,” Nili said. “The ball bounces completely different, and it will need a little bit of adjustment, but I promise you that every single tennis player is ready for the intermediate play right from the start.”

Other differences between tennis and pickleball include a smaller paddle and a smaller court size.

The smaller playing surface means a lot of fast-paced action for everyone involved.



Photo by Anthony Richards

The Yards Pickleball Director Maria Nili stands on freshly paved pickleball courts prior to them being painted.

PICKLEBALL continues on Page 8

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Tunnel to Towers director to speak at Newcomers Alumnae lunch

Patty Trousdell, volunteer event director for the Tunnel to Towers Foundation, will be the guest speaker May 4 at Newcomers Alumnae monthly luncheon held at Marsh Landing Country Club, 25655 Marsh Landing Parkway, Ponte Vedra Beach. The meeting is from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The Tunnel to Towers Foundation honors the sacrifice of firefighter Ste-

phen Siller, who laid down his life to save others on Sept. 11, 2001. They also honor the military and first responders who continue to make the supreme sacrifice of life and limb for the country.

In addition to the many programs it offers, the foundation builds mortgage-free smart homes for the most catastrophically injured veterans and first responders injured in the line of duty,

and have committed more than \$150 million in support of the nation's heroes and their families.

For more information, go to t2t.org.

The cost to attend the May 4 luncheon is \$23. Members will also vote on a new slate of officers for fiscal year 2022-23. The officers will be installed at the June luncheon. Reservations must be made by contacting bartshar@comcast.net as

soon as possible. The deadline to sign up is Friday, April 29.

Newcomers Alumnae is a women's social group that encompasses Ponte Vedra Beach, Nocatee, Jacksonville, Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Atlantic Beach, St. Augustine and the surrounding area.

Pickleball

Continued from 7

"You can play singles, but the majority of pickleball is played as doubles," Nili said. "You think it's not going to be the workout and require the same fitness as tennis, but when we checked to see how many calories we were burning, it was easily comparable to tennis. It's

really crazy when you think about it, because you run a lot less, but it's just a constant movement."

Not only will The Yards introduce an option to play pickleball, but they will also offer classes for beginners to learn the rules of the game as well as some proper technique.

"Whenever I teach beginners, I have seen that one hour is enough for them to hit the ball back and forth to each other

and really start having fun," Nili said.

According to Nili, there is such a family atmosphere surrounding the pickleball world and it is something she has really come to appreciate since she began playing.

A mixture of competitions and social events is what Nili sees as the plan for the pickleball club at The Yards once it opens.

"That is what I envision from a pickleball club," Nili said. "We've had about 10 to 15 people driving by and stopping in everyday just wanting to know what's going on. The majority want to join and just be a part of it."

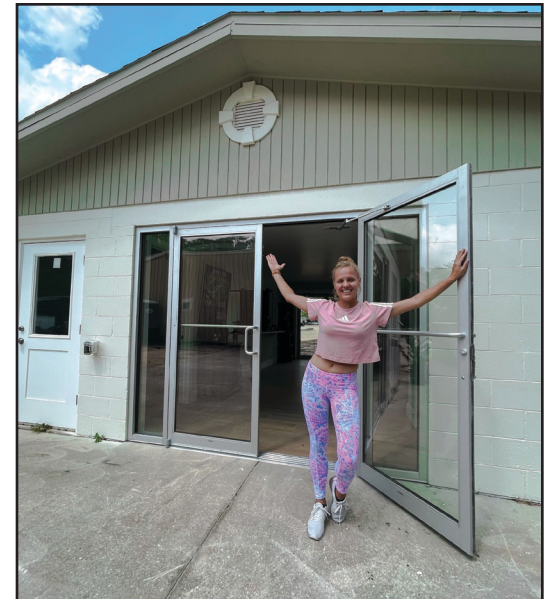
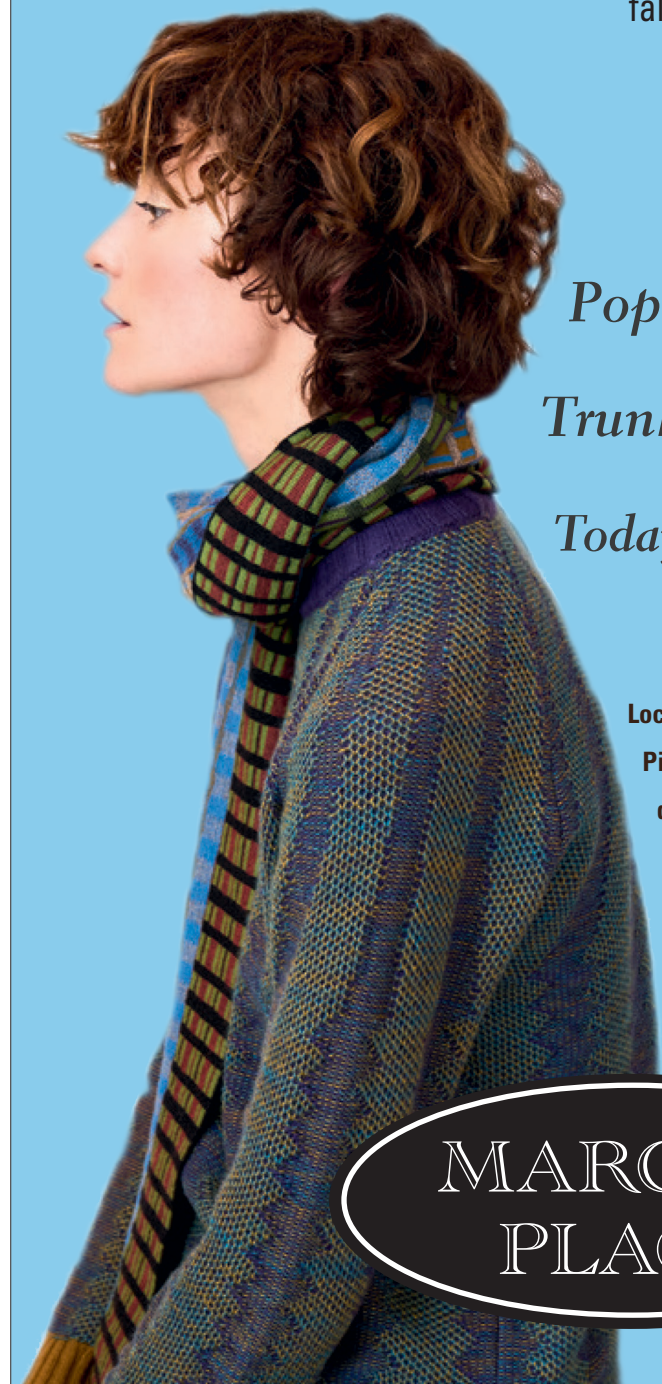


Photo courtesy of The Yards

Nili and The Yards are preparing to fully open its new pickleball club during the summer months.

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Teen entrepreneurs have big dreams for dance company

By Anthony Richards

Sisters Reilly and Madison Hughes always dreamed of one day operating their own dance company, but they did not expect it to come so soon in their lives, as they are only teenagers.

Despite being young, Reilly and Madison, 16 and 14 years old respectively, decided to team up to create Level Up Dance in November 2021.

“Originally, we were just going to teach a couple of classes, until we started growing pretty big and pretty fast,” Madison said. “We decided that we’re going to start a team for next season and begin going to competitions and conventions, and also doing community performances.”

Girls and boys from 5 to 16 years old and any skill level are welcome to be part of the classes, which are held at the link in Nocatee. Tryouts for the next season’s competition team will be held May 15 at the link.

“It’s pretty much open to whoever wants to show up, and we’ll put everyone in smaller groups from there,” Madison said.

Summer classes will be offered once a week after tryouts so that the team can maintain good technique and be ready for the next competition season, this will

include an intensive week of classes starting July 25, before regularly scheduled classes get underway Aug. 1.

“We want to dance at places like Disney or Universal (Studios),” Reilly said. “We want to go to really great conventions where we can learn from really great choreographers.”

There are different levels of classes based on a child’s degree of experience and skill. The levels include beginner, intermediate and advanced.

The sisters have been involved in dance since they were 2 years old and have been performing in competitions since they were 6 years old. Their family moved to Florida from North Carolina five years ago.

“We’ve had a very high technique of training in all styles of dance, such as jazz, ballet and tap,” Reilly said. “We came from a very competitive dance studio in North Carolina, and we just couldn’t find what we were looking for, so we just said, ‘Why not create the perfect dance studio?’”

One of the things the Hughes have found throughout their years dancing is that they enjoy the unique mixture of competition and comradery that exists in the dance world.

Part of that comradery they believe is making sure the dancers are involved in their community.

Level Up Dance has already held a food drive in its first couple of months, and another initiative they plan to do with their team this upcoming season is “25 Days of Giving,” which focuses doing a deed of charity or kindness each day between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

“It’s more than just about dance,” said Kim Hughes, Reilly and Madison’s mom. “When the dance team becomes your family, they become your best friends and they become your community.”

“We love being role models for all of the young dancers and understand the importance of hard work,” Reilly said. “You want to be successful but by working hard in a fun way. It’s about being there to lift each other up.”



Photos by Anthony Richards

Madison and Reilly Hughes are teen sisters that started Level Up Dance company in November 2021.



Madison and Reilly Hughes teach a class at the link in Nocatee.



Photo by Kim Hughes

The Hughes sisters perform a routine together during a competition.

Making sure they maintain a fun atmosphere, after each class they usually go outside at the front entrance of the link and play on the giant “link blocks.”

“All the kids love it,” Reilly said. “We’re their teachers, but we’re also still kids, so we’re happy to go outside and play with them.”

Reilly and Madison are both home-schooled and they continue to learn about the balance of schoolwork and making sure a business operates smoothly.

They credit their mother, also known as

their “momager” for being there to support them every step of the journey and for helping with the behind-the-scenes aspects.

“It’s a lot and you just don’t realize how much goes into doing something like this,” Kim said. “It makes me proud as a mom.”

For more information or to get involved email levelupdanceandtumble@gmail.com or go to the Level Up Dance pages on Facebook or Instagram.

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Preschoolers celebrate Earth Week

The Goddard School of Ponte Vedra Beach provided environmental, hands-on lessons for area Pre-K children the entire week of Earth Day, and the lessons were aimed at helping develop lifelong environmental and green behaviors in kids.

Activities included:

- Making birdfeeders to take home
- Turning classrooms into “entomologist laboratories”
- Going on nature scavenger hunts
- Planting flowers
- Participating in an “Upcycling Challenge” — Students created artwork out of recycled materials to be on display in the school’s lobby. Families voted for their favorites and the winners received a special class prize.

“Trash to Trendy” fashion show

The Goddard School of Ponte Vedra Beach is a preschool located at 45 Executive Way.



Photos provided by The Goddard School
A Goddard School student shows off her one-of-a-kind “upcycled” dress made from old newspapers during The Goddard School in Ponte Vedra Beach’s annual Trash to Trendy fashion show.



A student from The Goddard School of Ponte Vedra Beach dresses up as a robot created from recycled materials for the school’s annual “Trash to Trendy” Upcycled Fashion Show, which wraps up a week of activities hosted by the school around Earth Day.

Amp brings back reusable cups

In an effort to eliminate single-use plastic cups and uphold sustainability initiatives within the live entertainment industry, The St. Augustine Amphitheatre will reinstate its reusable Amp cup program beginning with Billy Strings’ three-night run from Friday, April 29, to Sunday, May 1.

The St. Augustine Amphitheatre’s Green Hands Initiative first established a reusable cup in April 2019.

The Reusable Amp Cup Program will drastically reduce the amount of single-use plastic by utilizing a high quality, reusable, BPA-free, No. 5 plastic cup.

Considering patrons order an average of two drinks per show, and that a sold-out show at the venue welcomes 4,700 people, The St. Augustine Amphitheatre was distributing around 9,000 single-use plastic cups in a single night.

With the Reusable Amp Cup Program, patrons will be handed an Amp cup when they order their first beverage at concessions — no deposit required.

Should they return for a refill, patrons will receive \$1 off their next purchase.

At the end of the event, patrons will return their reusable Amp cup to a designated bin so they can be properly washed, sanitized and restocked.

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Young musicians win top honors at music fest

By **Natalie Jackson,**
Jacksonville Country Day School

The Jacksonville Country Day School Band won first-place in the Elementary Concert Band category and the title of Grand Champion and received the highest rating of “superior” at the Music USA Festival on April 9 at Universal Studios Orlando.

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.

Music USA Festival is an event where students of all grade levels across the United States gather to showcase their musical talents; this competition is adjudicated by a group of highly qualified music-educators.

“The kids received a rave review from a panel of university music professors who could not believe the incredible maturity and talent far beyond their years,” said Chrystal Staples, JCDS band specialist.

Music education is provided weekly during music specialist class time taught by Jessica Barker at Jacksonville Country Day School. The Pre-K 3 through 6th grade music program includes singing, speaking, movement, drama and instruments; guitars, drums, ukuleles and keyboards. Students in the band, an enrichment activity, meet up to five times a week in the mornings before school to practice with their ensembles in preparation for both competitions and performances.

“I am so proud of our young instrumental musicians and am thrilled to be their conductor and teacher,” said Staples.



Contributed photos
The Jacksonville Country Day School Band won first-place in the Elementary Concert Band category at the recent the Music USA Festival at Universal Studios Orlando.



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Beaches Museum Chapel: 525 Beach Blvd. Jacksonville Beach
Free parking is available off Pablo Ave. Doors open at 2 p.m.



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- Google Review



Contributed photos

OPE students competed in jump rope challenges as part of the American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge.

Ocean Palms students full of heart, Goodwill

Ocean Palms Elementary School participated in Goodwill's 25th annual Bag it Up! donation drive where students, over the course of two days, brought in used items to donate to the cause.

Additionally, students were tasked with a heart challenge. Jennifer Bouaziz, physical education teacher at Ocean Palms, led students in the American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge.

Here students were educated about the importance of heart health, heart-related diseases, such as stroke, and ways to exercise with jump-rope challenges. Students in third, fourth and fifth grades were given one, two and three-

minute challenges, essentially, attempting to jump consecutively, without mistakes, for the allotted time. Meanwhile, the younger students attempted to join the Kangaroo Club, which required jumping 5, 10 or 20 times consecutively. Students not only met the challenge, but hopped right over their goal to raise more than \$9,000 for the American Heart Association.

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Free shredding events at real estate offices

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty will host free community shredding events at its branch offices in Fleming Island, Mandarin, MuraBella at World Golf Village and St. Augustine. At each event, the real estate company will collect donations for charitable organizations that serve the office's area.

The events include:

- MuraBella at World Golf Village — From 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 30, in the parking lot across the street from the company's office located at 196 Capulet Drive, near State Road 16 and Pacetti Road/World Golf Village International Parkway. The company will collect

nonperishable food items and cash donations for Pie in the Sky and Our Lady of Good Counsel in St. Johns County.

- Fleming Island — From 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 7, at the company's office located at 3535 State Road 17 in Fleming Island. Donations will benefit AMI Kids of Clay County.

- St. Augustine — From 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 14, at the company's office in the SeaGrove Town Center, 112 SeaGrove Main St. in St. Augustine. The company will collect nonperishable food items and cash donations for Port in the Storm and St. Francis House in St. Johns County.

- Mandarin — From 9 a.m. to noon

Saturday, May 21, at the company's office at 12636 San Jose Blvd. in Jacksonville. The company will collect nonperishable food items and cash donations for Feeding Northeast Florida.

Community members are welcome to bring personal documents and other sensitive materials, which will be securely shredded free of charge by UltraShred Technologies.



MOSH gala is this Saturday | MOSH Museum of Science & History JACKSONVILLE • FLORIDA

Tickets are available for the Museum of Science & History's inaugural GALAXY fundraiser, presented by Dream Finders Homes, on Saturday, April 30.

Attendees will enjoy live entertainment by DJ Jacob Towe, interactive experiences throughout the museum, culinary creations from The Chef's Garden and handcrafted cosmic cock-

tails by Oliv'r Twist. Proceeds from the black-tie gala will support the MOSH Genesis capital campaign to build a new Museum on the Northbank of Downtown Jacksonville.

MOSH has operated in its current location on the Southbank of Downtown Jacksonville since 1969. The museum's operations have outgrown the

77,000-square-foot facility; building a new museum will significantly expand the organization's capacity to serve more students and visitors.

A preliminary project analysis by ConsultEcon estimates that the new Museum will increase annual attendance from 175,000 (2017-2019 average) to 469,000, a 168% increase; triple tour-

ism attendance; increase the Museum's operating budget to \$8 million, nearly tripling its pre-pandemic budget; and create 78 new jobs, contributing \$2.3 million in new salaries and wages to the local economy.

To purchase tickets, go to themosh.org/galaxy.

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Award winners chosen for Junior Achievement Hall of Fame

Junior Achievement of North Florida will hold its Hall of Fame Luncheon on May 10. The Hall of Fame is the non-profit's largest annual fundraiser and will be held this year at the University of North Florida's Adam W. Herbert University Center.

Sponsorship opportunities are now available for the event, which helps JA of North Florida continue its mission to inspire and prepare young people for future success. Sponsorship levels range from the top \$15,000 presenting level to the \$2,500 chairman level, and 100% of the funds raised will provide financial literacy programs to North Florida's students.

"Our programs help to shape our youth and put them on the path to economic success, but we can't do it alone; we need the community to help," said Shannon Italia, president of JA of North Florida. "That is why we are asking businesses, organizations and individuals to join us for this event to learn more about how we can work together to help create the leaders of tomorrow."

The JA of North Florida's Hall of Fame is not only a fundraiser but also an opportunity to recognize outstanding individuals and businesses within the community. The awards that will be presented at the event include the Thompson

S. Baker Award, the Educator of the Year Award, the Volunteer of the Year Award and the Company of the Year Award.

The most prestigious award of the day is the Thompson S. Baker "Solid as a Rock" Award which will be given to Richard Sisisky, president of The Shircliff & Sisisky Co., a management consulting firm and a partner with SilverSolutions Consulting, a transportation and logistics consulting firm.

Sisisky is the 23rd recipient of the award, which is given to an individual dedicated to bettering the community through leadership, hands-on involvement and philanthropic deeds. It was named after Thompson Baker, the founder of Florida Rock Industries and the award's first winner.

Sisisky was chosen for the award for his dedication to serving not-for-profit organizations on the First Coast. Sisisky has been chair for Baptist Health System, Jacksonville Children's Commission, Jewish Federation of Northeast Florida, Jewish Foundation of Northeast Florida and the Public Policy Institute at Jacksonville University. He has also served on the board of many other organizations



Karen Blutcher



Charlie Kauffman



Lt. Col. William Liptrot



Richard Sisisky

including The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, The Bolles School, WJCT Public Broadcasting, United Way of Northeast Florida, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and Raven Transport Holdings.

"Mr. Sisisky has been such a great asset to our community, and I admire his commitment to doing what he can to make our region of Florida better," Italia said. "He is an inspiration for others, including the students we serve."

Another prestigious honor that will take place at the Hall of Fame event is the induction of Charlie Kauffman into JA of North Florida's Hall of Fame.

Kauffman is the regional vice president of middle market banking for Wells Fargo. He has been an advocate of JA of North Florida for years and served on the board of directors for 13 years from 2008

to 2021 and was board chair from 2014 to 2016.

Italia said Kauffman's leadership and service has left a lasting impression on the organization.

Three other awards will be presented at the Hall of Fame Luncheon.

The Educator of the Year Award will be presented to Lt. Col. William Liptrot, the ROTC officer in charge at William M. Raines High School. The Volunteer of the Year Award will go to Karen Blutcher from JEA and the Company of the Year award will be presented to Ernst & Young.

For more information on sponsorship opportunities or to register for the event, contact Stephanie Saman at ssaman@janfl.org, call 904-398-9944 ext. 228 or go to northflorida.ja.org/events/ja-of-north-florida-hall-of-fame.



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Baptist Clay Medical Campus
1771 Baptist Clay Drive, Fleming Island, Florida
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Baptist North Medical Campus
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- 5 **Baptist/Wolfson Children's Emergency Center (Oakleaf)**
9868 Family Place, Jacksonville, Florida
- 6 **Wolfson Children's Emergency Center**
Baptist Medical Center South
14550 Old St. Augustine Road, Jacksonville, Florida



Emergency Centers

Library system adds new databases

The St. Johns County Public Library System will celebrate National Library Week through April 9 by providing critical resources, programs and expertise to build strong communities.

National Library Week is a time to highlight the essential role libraries,

librarians and library workers play in transforming lives and strengthening communities.

This year's theme is "Connect with Your Library," which promotes libraries as places to get connected to technology by using broadband, computers

and other resources. Libraries also offer opportunities to connect with media, programs, ideas, classes and books.

The St. Johns County Public Library System will launch two new databases, Brainfuse VetNow and Universal Class, that will continue to support its mission of bringing a variety of resources that promote lifelong learning and connection to the digital world.

Brainfuse VetNow provides St. Johns County veterans and their families crucial access to live online trained assistants to help navigate VA bureaucracy and connect them to benefits and community resources. In addition, VetNow's job tools and educational resources are designed to assist veterans with career coaching, resume building, live interview preparation, live tutoring in a wide range of college-level subjects and more. VetNow is available to all St. Johns County library cardholders and may be accessed from any computer or mobile device.

The library system is also launching Universal Class through the Libby app. Universal Class brings more than 600 lifelong learning courses in more than 30 subject areas, many of which offer continuing education units. Courses include computer literacy, career training,



cooking and baking, self-help and many more. All courses are self-paced and accessible at any time. Patrons will be able to access this database by tapping "Extras" on the library's homepage in the Libby app.

"The St. Johns County libraries inform, enrich and strengthen our community," said Debra Rhodes Gibson, library director. "These new electronic resources will take our work to the next level with expanded learning and cultural opportunities for everyone in St. Johns County. We're thrilled with the possibilities of these new services."

To learn more about the library system, go to sjcpls.org.

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FEATURING

- Trucks of donations gathered to help Ukrainian refugees feel at home PAGE 18
- Making wishes come true for nearly three decades PAGE 19
- Chemo Noir race and wine tasting set for June 18 PAGE 23
- Ponte Vedra students clean Mickler Beach PAGE 24
- BEAM celebrates re-opening of second full-service site PAGE 26
- Community Hospice marks National Volunteer Month PAGE 28
- 'Night in the Vineyard' to benefit programs that protect children PAGE 29
- **AND MORE!**

PONTE VEDRA
RECORDER



Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

Thursday, April 28, 2022



Photo by Anthony Richards

The City of Atlantic Beach and Catholic Charities teamed up to host a refugee resettlement supply drive April 22 and 23 as part of an event called AB Loves Ukraine.

Trucks of donations gathered to help Ukrainian refugees feel at home

By Anthony Richards

The City of Atlantic Beach and Catholic Charities partnered to give residents of the Beaches communities an opportunity to help those affected by the war in Ukraine.

The two entities came together and held a two-day refugee resettlement supply drive April 22 and 23 as part of an event called AB Loves Ukraine.

Chris and Mark Flaschner of Atlantic Beach helped the idea turn into a reality after they had been looking for ways to get involved and help the cause.

“I was looking for a place to donate to Ukraine and was pulling up some websites when I saw that Catholic Charities of Jacksonville was a resettlement port for refugees (displaced by the war in Ukraine) to come in,” Chris Flaschner said. “I was thinking that maybe I could do a drive on my own to help.”

However, one of her neighbors heard

what she was thinking about doing and urged her to reach out to the City of Atlantic Beach and connected her with the mayor about a week later.

“Some really kind residents of Atlantic Beach came to city hall with this idea about a month ago and we embraced it,” said Kevin Hogencamp, Atlantic Beach deputy city manager. “It’s all volunteer driven.”

There were about 40 volunteers that helped receive, sort and load the donated items during the two days.

The event turned out to be a grand gesture by the community, as people from around the area came out to show their support for the Ukrainians coming to the United States.

According to Hogencamp, there are roughly 100 refugees that are expected to be placed in Jacksonville through the

Making wishes come true for nearly three decades

Make-A-Wish Central and Northern Florida creates life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses and has been proudly serving the Jacksonville and Northeast Florida communities since 1994.

The organization believes the power of a wish can restore hope in a child and family when they need it most. Studies have shown a wish experience can lead to improved mental and physical health.

A wish creates lifelong memories for children and their families outside of a hospital setting and that of treatments and tests.

It is an opportunity to restore a sense of normalcy to a family so they can remember what it feels like to just be a kid. A wish is limited only by a child's imagination, whether they wish to meet a unicorn or become a robot superhero!

In 2010, Make-A-Wish led a study that defined for the first time the impact of wishes on the children and families that are part of the wish journey.

This research provided quantitative measures of the breadth and depth of the

impact of the Make-A-Wish mission – previously supported by anecdotal knowledge and assumptions – that wish impact is not limited to the immediate emotional effects on wish children. Rather, Make-A-Wish broadly enhances the quality of life for children and their families by promoting resilience and increasing well-being.

Now in 2022, this research has been expanded to include a much larger population of Make-A-Wish children and parents, in addition to medical professionals.

Over a decade later, a large majority of Make-A-Wish alumni, parents, and medical providers overwhelmingly agree that the wish experience contributes to improved physical, mental and emotional health.

Wish families reported feelings of increased hope, strength, joy, confidence, self-esteem and quality of life during their wish experience. Additionally, a wish served as a coping mechanism for children undergoing treatment and marked a turning point in their medical journey.

Overwhelmingly, the families reported that a wish brought them closer together and gave them the space they needed to overcome traumatic stress, hopelessness and depression that accompanies a critical illness diagnosis.

In short, a wish provided them hope.

Wishes are not possible without the support of our local communities. Here are some ways that you can support wish granting efforts right here in your backyard.

Jacksonville Walk for Wishes
May 7 | 8:30 a.m
Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens
Jaxwalkforwishes.org

This is the organization's largest community event in the Jacksonville area: The Field's Auto Group Walk for Wishes presented by W.W. Gay Mechanical Contractor Inc. This is a family friendly and fun event where wish families, volunteers, staff and supporters all gather together to walk in support of granting more wishes!

Fields Auto Group Wishmaker's Ball
August 27
Sawgrass Marriot Resort & Spa
wishmakersballjax.com

The organization hosted its Inaugural Wishmaker's Ball in Jacksonville last year, shattering its wish granting goal and bringing its signature black tie gala event to the Northeast region. Through this event alone, it was able to grant nearly 50 wishes in one evening.

This year, the ball will return to the Sawgrass Marriot Resort & Spa in Ponte Vedra with an even bigger goal to reach more children. This evening event is mission immersive and includes a three-course-dinner, silent and live auctions, and an after party you don't want to miss. Sponsorship opportunities as well as tables for the event are still available.

For more information go to wish-makersballjax.com or send an email to jnormandin@cnfl.wish.org. Go to wish.org/cnfl to donate or volunteer.

Help sought for local kids in need



Hugs Across the County has identified some ways local residents can help St. Johns County kids in need.

Clothing program co-leader(s) needed

Every year, Karen Burke and her volunteer team pack emergency clothing bags filled with tops, bottoms, underwear, socks, shoes and toiletries for more than 500 local kids who are referred by their school counselors, social workers and nonprofit partners.

The effort needs co-leaders who would volunteer during flexible hours, one or two weekday mornings each week. For further information, email info@stjohnshugs.org.

School-based pantry program wish list

Holly Ross, Jen Bachman and their volunteer team continue to stock pantries at 13 St. Johns County schools and after-school program locations for food-inse-

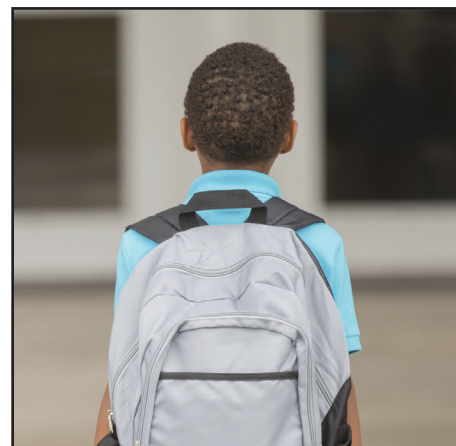
cure kids. Local residents can help them restock each month by shopping from their Amazon Wish List or by picking up individual snacks (Goldfish, Cheez-its), mac and cheese cups, cereal bars, canned chicken or fruit cups and arranging a pick-up or drop-off.

The wish list can be found at bit.ly/hugsfoodlist.

Teen volunteers needed for reading program

High school student leaders are needed for the 2022 SummerSOAR Reading Buddy and Book Giveaway Program. Student volunteers can earn service hours and leadership experience reading with K-5th grade kids at two St. Augustine locations, one day each week in June and July.

For more information, email info@stjohnshugs.org



BEACHES GO GREEN

WE STRIVE TO CREATE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS & SPREAD EDUCATION AROUND THE WASTE THAT WE PRODUCE AND HOW IT'S IMPACTING OUR PLANET!

HOW CAN YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

- LEAD OR SPONSOR A BGG SCHOOL CLUB
- SPONSOR OUR REUSABLE BOTTLES FOR SPORTS PROGRAM FOR A LOCAL TEAM/SCHOOL/EVENT
- VOLUNTEER AT OUR COMMUNITY EVENTS!
- EDUCATE YOURSELF!
- PUT YOUR BELIEFS INTO ACTION!



TOGETHER,
 WE ARE THE CHANGE.

- INSTAGRAM * FACEBOOK * LINKEDIN
- WWW.BEACHESGOGREEN.ORG
- ANNEMARIE@BEACHESGOGREEN.ORG

Stuffed animals donated to help 'alone and scared' Ukrainian children



Photos courtesy of Rhonda Goodall

Sage Goodall, 11, started Hugs for Children of Ukraine, which is an initiative that collects stuffed animals for Ukrainian children.

By Anthony Richards

Sage Goodall knows what its like to be a child, as he is 11 years old himself, which is why it hit him so hard when he heard about the children that were being displaced by the war in Ukraine.

"It's sad to think about what they are having to go through," Goodall said. "I don't know what I would do if I put myself in their shoes."

According to Goodall, he first heard about the tragic tales of children being sent from Ukraine to Poland as part of the evacuation process while watching the news one night.

He knew right away that he had to do something to help and asked his parents about what the next step would be.

Goodall came up with the idea to collect stuffed animals in an initiative called "Hugs for the Children of Ukraine."

"The stuffed animals will hopefully give them something to hold on to and hug when they feel alone or scared," Goodall said.

The initiative began in early April after developing a partnership with Aspire Church in San Marco, which has sent shipments of donations overseas to help the cause and they have agreed to include Sage's stuffed animals on an upcoming shipment.

The requests for donations started small with Sage making signs and spreading the word throughout their neighborhood and eventually led to him decorating donation boxes to be placed at various businesses and locations around town.

There are currently donation boxes at Mr. Chubby's Wings in Ponte Vedra, Ponte Vedra Palm Valley-Rawlings Elementary School, Emtec, Inc., Trasca & Co. Eatery, Cabana Beach Club, outside of Winn Dixie, Two Dudes Restaurant, Jacksonville Brain Balance Center, in the Publix break room, in the Fresh Market break room, Optimal You Wellness Center and at their house in the Sawgrass community.

"It's so nice to see people coming



More than 500 stuffed animals were donated during a fundraising event at Mr. Chubby's Wings in Ponte Vedra April 23.

together to care for others and not just thinking of themselves," Goodall said.

According to Rhonda Goodall, Sage's mother, some of the most donations have come from the parents at PVPV-Rawlings, where Sage goes to school, by the employees of Emtec, Inc. and the box that sits outside Winn-Dixie.

"People just keep giving and giving," Rhonda Goodall said. "I've been getting more and more calls and e-mails for boxes, so that list will be growing."

However, the biggest supporter of Sage's has been Mr. Chubby's Wings in Ponte Vedra, which has donation boxes set up inside the restaurant and hosted an event called "Sage's Karaoke Night for the Children of Ukraine" April 23 to help the cause.

More than 500 stuffed animals were either left at Chubby's throughout the day or brought to the event that night.

According to Rhonda Goodall, there were even people at the bar that donated money for Sage to go buy stuffed animals, which he could not wait to do and went to Walmart the next day and bought as many stuffed animals as he could with the money that was donated.

Sage plans to continue collecting stuffed animals until the crisis comes to an end. He currently has more than 1,800 stuffed animals.

Anyone who wants to get a donation box at a certain location or wants to donate themselves can e-mail Rhonda at goodallrlg@aol.com.



HELP FIGHT LOCAL HUNGER

As thousands of First Coast families continue struggling to make ends meet, Catholic Charities Jacksonville has continued to be a resource for our most vulnerable neighbors. We provide fresh food to more than 140 families per week and now offer two new programs to reach food-insecure children and low-income seniors.

But we need your help. Please support our current Feed a Family campaign, which aims to raise \$100,000 to provide nutritious food to local families.

CATHOLIC
CHARITIES
Transforming Lives

Donate today at
ccbjax.org/feedafamily.



More than 1,800 stuffed animals have been collected since the drive began in early April.

Refugees

Continued from 18

Catholic Charities program.

“They’re off to a great start thanks to these beautiful people that came out and donated,” Hogencamp said. “They’ve really answered the call.”

Flaschner believes the drive showed that there are so many people wanting to help any way they can, but they just do not know how to get started and the drive gave them that outlet to give back.

An assortment of household items was donated throughout the event, such as kitchen and bedroom accessories, hygiene products and children’s toys like soccer balls.

They had initially thought that one 20-foot U-Haul truck would be enough, but they received so many items on the first day that they had to get a second 26-foot truck to handle all the items. Together, more than 2,500 cubic feet of space in the trucks was filled with new and like-new items.

One resident arrived during the morning of the first day and handed Hogencamp a list, which he realized as he looked over it, that she had taken the suggestion list from the city’s website and gotten each item listed, as well as other items she thought would be appreciated that were not on the list.

“It was remarkable how everything



Photo by Anthony Richards

The amount of support from the community during the supply drive was so much that they filled up a 20-foot U-Haul truck on the first day.

came together,” Flaschner said. “We never dreamed that it would be this big.”

There have been several organizations and individuals that have donated toward helping Ukraine and its people in their time of need, but what made the AB Loves Ukraine drive so unique was that it focused on furnishing refugee families

with the essential items needed in everyday life.

“It’s a shame that they’re going through this, and I can’t even imagine what it’s like,” Flaschner said. “This is one of the biggest tragedies in our lifetime.”

At the end of the day, the message during the drive was clear, and it was

all about collecting items to make the Ukrainian families feel as much at home in their new country as they possibly can.

“Catholic Charities will set them up in an apartment and now they will have sheets on the bed, dishes in the cupboard and clothes in the closets,” Flaschner said. “It’s powerful what they do.”

There is value and potential in every single girl.

Pace Center for Girls provides girls and young women an opportunity for a better future through education, counseling, training, and advocacy.

Strong communities begin with strong girls; learn how you can be a part of the change by visiting pacecenter.org.



Serving more than 3,000 girls a year in 23 communities and growing, including Jacksonville and Clay on the First Coast.





Contributed photos

The 10th annual Derby Run will be held at St. Augustine's Tringali Barn.

Derby Run to benefit Community Hospice & Palliative Care

Tip your hats and celebrate the 148th Kentucky Derby at St. Augustine's Tringali Barn from 4 to 8 p.m. May 7 with food, fashion and fun at the 10th annual Derby Run, a benefit for Community

Hospice & Palliative Care.

Attendees will enjoy the Derby's signature drink, the mint julep, and be treated to delicious hors d'oeuvres, festive live music and a silent auction. Racing fans

are encouraged to wear their finest and fanciest Derby attire.

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

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

For more information, go to Derby-Run.CommunityHospice.com or contact Community Hospice & Palliative Care Foundation at 904-886-3883.

HELP LOCAL CHILDREN THRIVE

By Supporting Daniel Today

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- strengthen and reunify high-risk families

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Live music will entertain those attending the 10th annual Derby Run.



Racing fans are encouraged to wear their finest and fanciest Derby attire at the 10th annual Derby Run.



File photos

The Annual Chemo Noir One Mile Race and Wine Tasting Event is set to be held June 18 at Jacksonville Beach.

Chemo Noir race and wine tasting set for June 18

By Anthony Richards

The Annual Chemo Noir One Mile Race and Wine Tasting Event is set to be held June 18 beginning at 8 a.m. with race check-ins at the Casa Marina Hotel and Restaurant in Jacksonville Beach followed by the race start at 8:30 a.m.

The event will be the latest event helping to drive the nonprofit's mission of raising money to help those in the Northeast Florida area that are fighting cancer.

What makes Chemo Noir so unique compared to other nonprofit initiatives

is that it focuses on hosting events with wine being a focal point, as well as a party-like atmosphere that promotes having a good time by all.

The race route will begin near the Jacksonville Beach Pier and go half of a mile down the beach before turning at "Tara's Turn," where runners will have an opportunity to rehydrate while getting cheered on before heading back down the beach for the second half of the race.

Tara's Turn is named in honor of Tara Newton Richardson, who was one of

Chemo Noir's initial supporters when the nonprofit was founded roughly seven years ago.

The race will not just end once the runners cross the finish line, because afterwards all participants are invited to take part in a wine tasting event in the Casa Marina courtyard.

Awards will be handed out at the conclusion of the race to the top three male and female finishers.

Swag bags will be given out to each of the participants, expect for those that

choose to do the race virtually, which became an option while the pandemic was going on and will remain in place for this year.

Instead of a swag bag, virtual participants will get an event sticker and a wine key.

Entry fees will be required to take part in the event. The one-mile run will be \$30, while the virtual option will be \$20.

The number of in-person participants will be maxed out at 750 and the event is expected to sell out.



Make-A-Wish
CENTRAL AND NORTHERN FLORIDA

"Together, we create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses."

A spark of **hope** changes everything.

Restore **hope** with a wish today.

To Donate Visit:
Wish.org/cnfl

Address:
3938 Sunbeam Road, Suite 3
Jacksonville, FL
32257

Phone Number:
(904) 580-5906



Contributed photos

Ponte Vedra students clean Mickler Beach

More than 40 volunteers from the Ponte Vedra High School Beaches Go Green Club turned out to clean up Mickler Beach and spread environmental awareness about pollution on the beaches and in the ocean this past weekend. After cleaning for two hours, club members collected six bags of waste. Their total trash abatement and volunteer contribution to the community was more than \$2,575.

YOU'RE INVITED TO AN IN-PERSON EVENT!

Thursday • May 5, 2022
5:30-7:30pm

Casa Marina Hotel
691 1st Street North
Jax Beach, FL

Fiesta at the Beach!
in person!

BENEFITTING SULZBACHER'S BEACHES HEALTH CENTER

CELEBRATE CINCO DE MAYO AT THE BEACH!

Join us for a lively evening of fiesta, food and fun as we celebrate our **HEALTHY HERO, Mayo Clinic** Jacksonville! Your support means homeless and disadvantaged people at the Beaches Clinic receive the healthcare they need!

Tickets & Sponsorships: SulzbacherJax.org/Fiesta2022



For more information email AllisonWenzel@SulzbacherJax.org



Habitat for Humanity readies for Giving Day 2022

Have you dreamed of making history? Of course, we all have.

And now you have a chance to be a part of your community's day of giving - an opportunity to unite the community around causes which we truly believe and help nonprofit organizations connect to the larger community.

Your help is needed. Join the campaign and help Habitat for Humanity reach its goal of \$10,000 and 200 donors.

Habitat needs people to tell their friends and family members about the important work they do and ask them to

join in helping to make a difference.

Get ready to give on May 4 and 5, as those are the days the public can go to www.GivingDay2022.com and donate to any of the great participating nonprofit organizations in your community.

All giving will end at 11:59 a.m. on May 5, so make sure to get your gift in on time.

Anyone with questions or looking for more information can call Habitat for Humanity of St. Augustine/St. Johns County program manager Carolina Morrow at 904-826-3252 ext. 2005.

Fiesta to benefit Beaches Health Center

Cinco de Mayo is almost here, and it's time to celebrate at Sulzbacher's Fiesta at the Beach.

The event will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 5, at Casa Marina Hotel, 691 1st St. North, Jacksonville Beach. It promises to be a big party featuring plenty of food and fun.

This is Sulzbacher's only fundraiser to benefit its Beaches Health Center, which provides critically needed services to people who are homeless or at risk at the beaches.

This year, the celebration will recognize an important "Healthy Hero," Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville. Since coming to Jacksonville in 2008, Mayo Clinic has shared its expertise with Sulzbacher as the latter expanded its medical services to meet the needs of the community.

Sulzbacher opened its doors in December 1995 as the I.M. Sulzbacher Center for the homeless in response to the explosion of homelessness in the '90s, both in Jacksonville and nationwide. The agency was founded by three groups: the City

of Jacksonville, a group of area businesses and the United Way of Northeast Florida. Unlike other homeless shelters, Sulzbacher was founded on the premise that homeless people need and deserve more than just a meal and a bed to end their homelessness. Sulzbacher provides a continuum of care approach, addressing all aspects of homelessness, including housing, income and health care.

There are several ways to advocate for and support Sulzbacher's Beaches Health Center. One can make a donation, become

a sponsor or host a peer-to-peer fundraiser. A peer-to-peer fundraiser is when any group or individual engages participants to raise funds, within their social sphere, on behalf of an organization they support.

There are several opportunities to sponsor this year's fiesta and at various levels. Each comes with special perks.

To see the sponsorship opportunities or to simply purchase tickets, go to bit.ly/3JzYz53. Or go to sulzbacherjax.org and click on "Fiesta 2022" at the top of the page.

Pet Peace of Mind to be featured during MRC Spring Fest

The Metabolic Research Center's Ponte Vedra Beach location will be having its MRC Spring Fest and open house May 9 to 14.

Part of the festivities include a day celebrating Pet Peace of Mind, which is a community hospice program.

Pet Peace of Mind will be honored May 11 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The program's focus is to find new

homes to adopt pets that have most often times suffered the loss of an owner and are without the loving home they are used to.

Not only does Pet Peace of Mind help pets, but it also does its part to help pet owners as well.

This is done by offering assistance to Hospice patients that are still at home and need to care for their pets.

Part of the special way MRC will be giving back May 11 is by collecting dog and cat food and other pet supplies for the Pet Peace of Mind initiative.

Residents are invited to donate food and pet supplies while also enjoying in the daily games and door prizes available.

Speckles the certified therapy dog will also be on site for any visitors to meet and May 11 will also be MRC Margarita Day.



We're bringing the vineyard to Jacksonville Beach!

Tuesday, May 3, 2022

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

SoNapa Grille

A NIGHT
IN THE
Vineyard

PRESENTED BY



BENEFITING



PREVENTION EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Join us for **A Night in the Vineyard**, a fun, charitable evening featuring fine wines, savory food, and live music at SoNapa Grille in Jacksonville Beach.

Proceeds from this event will help support MBF Prevention Education Programs which educate and empower youth with strategies to protect themselves from child abuse, bullying, online dangers, human trafficking, and more.

For tickets and more information, please visit www.ANightInTheVineyard.com!

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:



BEAM celebrates re-opening of second full-service site

Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry (BEAM) hosted its grand re-opening and ribbon cutting ceremony April 1 at their newly expanded Mayport Pantry and Service Center located at 1447 Mayport Road in Atlantic Beach with more than 50 guests in attendance to celebrate the expansion of services.

BEAM began renovations in the fall of 2019 to expand the pantry operations to include office space for in-person assistance.

The buildout was complete in March 2020, but the COVID-19 pandemic delayed BEAM's re-opening plans for the site. Two years later, BEAM clients are now able to access not only the Mayport Pantry, but also make appointments for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits assistance, nutrition counseling with BEAM's registered dietitian and emergency financial assistance.

Guests enjoyed refreshments and hors d'oeuvres with fresh ingredients from BEAM's Grace Garden, prepared by BEAM registered dietitian Maryori Tello. Partners from local churches, schools, the Mayport USO, Atlantic Beach city officials and staff, Neptune Beach officials

and dedicated BEAM volunteers were among attendees. Visitors toured the food pantry and renovated office space alongside BEAM staff members and volunteers to see the facility and learn more about the comprehensive services now offered at the Mayport location.

"This pantry was dedicated in memory of my mother, Audrey Kirschner, who was a longtime volunteer and supporter of BEAM," said Kristie Kirschner, BEAM board member. "It is such an honor to see the Mayport location grow into a second full-service site. She would be so proud that BEAM continues to find new ways to help individuals in need of food assistance and wraparound services."

Since 2014, the Mayport Food Pantry has operated as BEAM's second pantry location and the first food pantry is located at BEAM's main office in Jacksonville Beach. Individuals who are food insecure and live or work within BEAM's service area may call to make an appointment for either site. BEAM's service area includes Mayport, Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach, Jacksonville Beach, Ponte Vedra Beach and San Pablo ZIP codes.



Photos provided by BEAM

BEAM hosted a grand re-opening and ribbon cutting ceremony April 1 at its newly expanded Mayport Pantry and Service Center.



Port in the Storm's
3rd Anniversary Celebration

CASINO Royale

Save the Date for an evening of cocktails,
hors d'oeuvres and casino games

Saturday, July 9, 2022

6-10 pm

Art 'N Motion | 283 San Marco Ave. | St. Augustine

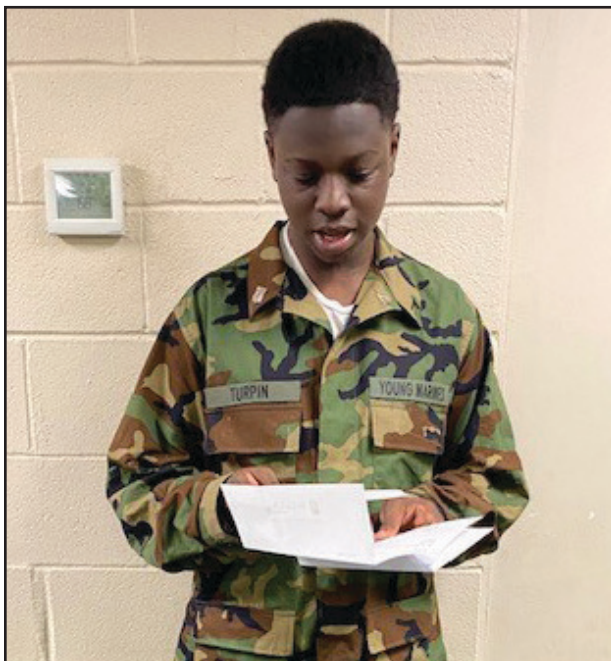
SILENT AUCTION ♦ VIP LOUNGE
♦ AND MUCH MORE! ♦

For tickets or sponsorship information
contact Joy Burton at
joy.burton@stfrancisshelter.org

TO BENEFIT

PORT
in the Storm





Young Marine Kevon Turpin receives his bonus.



Young Marine Joshua Roman receives his bonus.



Contributed photos

Bill Karandos, USMC Vietnam War veteran, spoke to the Young Marines.

Young Marines honored at weekly drill

Two Atlantic Coast Young Marines were recently honored at their weekly drill with generous bonuses donated by the We Can Be Heroes Foundation volunteers.

Young Marines Kevon Turpin and Joshua Roman stepped up to work part-time and summers to help their families' loss of income due to the pandemic. Both Young Marines maintained good

attitudes, juggled schoolwork taught virtually, achieved good school grades and remained dedicated to the Atlantic Coast Young Marines.

Kevon received the Young Marines Honor Graduate from his recruit class and was recently inducted in the National Junior Honor Society at his school.

Both Young Marines were overwhelmed with their bonuses and ex-

pressed gratitude to donors.

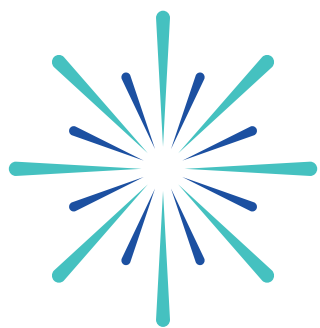
Commander Vernon of the Atlantic Coast Young Marines expressed appreciation for the assistance provided to the Young Marines in-need.

Bill Karandos, USMC Vietnam War veteran, held a Q&A for the Young Marines on the honor of serving in the Marines. All the Young Marines expressed the traditional "welcome home" as they

shook Karandos' hand.

"I felt so honored to be with these Young Marines," Karandos said, "Vets who fear being forgotten don't need to worry here; our Jacksonville Young Marines always remember vets."

For more information, go to wecanbeheroesfoundation.org.



KATE AMATO
FOUNDATION



KATE'S KINDNESS PROJECT



KATE KUP

LIGHTING THE FIGHT AGAINST CHILDHOOD CANCER

Kate Amato Foundation is dedicated to finding safer, smarter and more effective treatments for children with cancer by fundraising to support innovative research that accelerates the pace of progress and saves young lives. To donate, sponsor or get involved with any of our **signature events**, please contact us.



KATE KLASSIC

Thank you to our Corporate Partner





Community Hospice & Palliative Care has been celebrating volunteers throughout National Volunteer Month.



Volunteers bring their many talents and educational backgrounds to help in a variety of areas.

Photos provided by Community Hospice & Palliative Care

Community Hospice marks National Volunteer Month

Community Hospice & Palliative Care is celebrating volunteerism during April, which is National Volunteer Month. Volunteers are diverse and special members of the community, offering companionship and a listening ear to patients and family members.

Community Hospice & Palliative

Care has more than 800 volunteers who bring their many talents and educational backgrounds to help with pet therapy, veteran’s projects, thrift shops, music therapy, bereavement outreach, patient and family support, spiritual care and administrative duties and to make a difference in the community.

“Volunteers make up an integral part of Community Hospice & Palliative Care,” said Dan Batty, manager of volunteer services. “They provide valuable support for every discipline within our organization. The COVID pandemic did not prevent our volunteers from finding ways to meet needs of our patients. Now

that the restrictions have been lessened, our volunteers are excited to be getting back to volunteering in meaningful ways.”

If you are interested in being a volunteer, go to Volunteer.CommunityHospice.com more information.

CALLING ALL CANCER HATERS AND WINE LOVERS!



Join us on Saturday, June 18th from 8a-12p at Casa Marina for our 2022 Chemo Noir 1 Mile & Tasting Event. This is a 1 mile walk/run on the beach with a brunch-themed wine tasting after party in the Casa Marina courtyard. We hope to cheers you there!

OUR 2022 EVENT IS PRESENTED BY: 

REGISTER AT: CHEMONOIRRACE.COM

'Night in the Vineyard' to benefit programs that protect children

The Monique Burr Foundation for Children Inc. will host "A Night in the Vineyard," presented by River Bay Investments, from 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, May 3, at SoNapa Grille, located at 2400 3rd St. South in Jacksonville Beach.

Formerly known as "A Night at Roy's," the charitable event will celebrate 25 years of protecting children, with all proceeds benefitting the foundation.

"A Night in the Vineyard" will feature fine wines, craft beer, savory food, live and silent auctions, live music by Colleen Orender, and a live painting by artist Penelope Moore. Using vivid colors and texture, the artist will paint the flavors she tastes while drinking a glass of Oceano wine during the party.

Other special guests include Rachel Martin, co-founder and vintner of Oceano Wines, and other wine makers from Napa Valley, including Cufflinks, California Wine Co., Plank Walker, Gamba, Stelareese and Tarpon Cellars.

Tickets are \$125 per person and

must be purchased in advance at anightinthevineyard.com. A limited number of tickets is available.

Proceeds from "A Night in the Vineyard" will help support the foundation's prevention education programs, which educate and empower youth with strategies to prevent, recognize and respond to child abuse, bullying, digital dangers, exploitation and human trafficking.

Event sponsors include Casa Marina Hotel & Restaurant, Clockwork Marketing Services, Coastal Wine Market, Dennis and Becky Rosa, Drummond, Dream Finders Homes, The Fiorentino Group, Go Bright Marketing, GreenPointe Holdings, Hampton Golf, JAX Utilities Management, Kent and Lynn Shoemaker, Intuition Ale Works, MasterCraft Builder Group, Pepsi, PRI, River Bay Investments, Ron and Hilah Autrey, Sunbelt Rentals, Tarpon Cellars, Vallencourt Construction Co., Vulcan Materials Co., West Coast Wines – Florida and Waste Management.



Rachel Martin, co-founder, Oceano Wines



Photos provided by The Monique Burr Foundation for Children

Penelope Moore, artist, Art of Taste

Health Equity Is Not One Size Fits All



Last year, WeCareJax connected 1,649 uninsured patients with advanced diagnostics, specialty provider consultations, treatment, and support, resulting in 5,079 appointments and services.

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Rotary honors Bono at Mineral City event

By Jennifer Logue

Sequins, bell bottoms and gold medallions were on full display Saturday night, when the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach held its annual Mineral City Celebration.

Held April 23 at the Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort and Spa, the disco-themed “Rotary Night Fever” event honored Ernie Bono as the 2022 recipient of the Rock of the Community Award. Bono was honored for his charitable work with Catholic Charities and Baptist Beaches Medical Center and as secretary of the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund, where he has helped raise more than \$5 million for families impacted by childhood cancers.

Rotary Club President Lori Anderson also noted Bono’s prison ministry, aiding the incarcerated.

“I am proud to present this award to Ernie Bono,” she said, “but I’m even prouder to call him my friend.”

In accepting the award from Anderson and President-elect/event chair Ron “Doc” Renuart, Bono highlighted the importance of giving back to the community, saying he lives by the credo “everything is gift.”

“Whether it’s to the church or the community, you can give time – the most precious commodity because you can’t get it

back,” he said. “You can also give talent. Everybody here has a talent. If you don’t know what your talent is, ask someone else and they’ll tell you. And the third is treasure. This community is the greatest community in the United States in terms of giving to charitable causes.

“I’m very proud of this community, and I’m grateful for this award. It’s very much undeserved, but very much appreciated.”

In addition to honoring Bono, the Rotary fundraiser also featured entertainment by the Boogie Freaks.

Major sponsors included The Jay Fund, the Coughlin Family, Autrey Research, Baptist Health, Miller Electric, Gary Chartrand and Friends, the PARC Group, Ascension St. Vincent’s, Berry & Co. Real Estate, Vicar’s Landing, Sawgrass Marriott, Daniel and more.

To date, the Ponte Vedra Beach Rotary Foundation has distributed \$1.7 million to area nonprofits. Some previous beneficiaries of the Mineral City Celebration include Beaches Habitat for Humanity, BEAM, Betty Griffin Center, HEAL Foundation, MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation, Beaches Dial-a-Ride Community Hospice, the Council on Aging and many more.

For more information on the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach, go to pvbr.org.



Photos by Norwin Voegeli

Ponte Vedra Beach Rotary Club President Lori Anderson and President-elect/Event Chair Ronald “Doc” Renuart present the Rock of the Community Award to Ernie Bono.



Bethany Mathewson and Dan Perrotti



Eva and Tobias Huning with Andrea Voegeli



Vinnie and Holly Grassia



Lori and Mark Farrell



Jennifer and David Logue



Past president and event emcee Michael Bruce

Builders Classic Golf Tournament to benefit Beaches Habitat

On Monday, May 9, Beaches Habitat for Humanity and title sponsor Larry and Nancy Huang invite the community to participate in the annual Builders Classic Golf Tournament.

Queen's Harbour Yacht and Country Club will host this year's tournament, with all proceeds benefiting Beaches Habitat's mission of building affordable homes in the Jacksonville Beaches.

"We are very grateful to have Larry and Nancy Huang as our title sponsor for the second consecutive year," said President and CEO Curtis Ford. "The Huangs'

generosity over the past 16 years has made a tremendous impact in the community. Dozens of families have achieved their dream of homeownership thanks to their support."

Jeff Prosser of 1010XL's "The Drill" is the Builders Classic's honorary host. Prosser will be on hand at Queen's Harbour to play and also welcome the golfers and sponsors. In addition, he will lend his name and support to all advertising, social media and public relations platforms related to the 2022 tournament.

The format for the tournament is best

ball with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. There will be four Par 3 hole-in-one contests with prizes including a Pebble Beach golf vacation, 2022 Land Rover Defender from Fields Auto Group and a 2022 vehicle from Nimmicht Buick GMC.

There will also be prizes for longest drive, closest to the pin and putting contests. One player will have the opportunity to shoot for \$1 million, plus four lucky golfers will win a chance to shoot for \$100,000. All golfers will enjoy a boxed lunch at registration, complimentary drink tickets and an awards banquet

following tournament play.

Beaches Habitat's Builders Classic features a wide variety of sponsorship opportunities, perfect for a local business or organization interested in partnering with a respected and recognized 501c3 nonprofit. Individual golfers and foursomes are also welcome.

More information, including online registration and sponsorships, can be found at buildersclassic2022.com or by contacting Mary Anne Christensen at 904-595-5794.

Girls learn healthy lifestyles as part of shopping event

Recently, Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida invited 1,000 young ladies ages 8 to 18 from all 38 Boys & Girls Clubs across Northeast Florida to a SMART Girls Pop-up Shopping Experience that included a self-esteem enhancement session, shopping, free food and more.

Girls from these local Boys & Girls Clubs in Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Gainesville attended this special event highlighting the SMART Girls program

with an educational session, light hors d'oeuvres, a self-esteem enhancement session and giveaways.

SMART Girls is a featured program at all Boys & Girls Clubs. The program provides a safe place for girls to address health and social issues that are unique to them. They learn skills for resisting negative influences, having healthy relationships and maintaining a positive self-concept.

At the event, stations were set up where

the girls reviewed SMART Girls key messages, took a SMART Girls pledge and received a certificate of completion. Girls also had the opportunity to "shop" while there, thanks to generous donations of new clothing from Under Armour and new shoes from New Balance.

This event let girls know that Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida continues to offer a safe haven for them to feel a sense of belonging and a place to be their unique selves as they experience an

atmosphere aimed at encouraging healthy attitudes and lifestyles.

The SMART Girls Pop-up Shopping Experience was held March 21-24 at the previous location of Beall's Department Store in Arlington at 860 Commerce Center Drive.

This event was made possible through support from Boys & Girls Clubs of America, New Balance, Sleiman Enterprises, The Church of Eleven22 and Under Armour.



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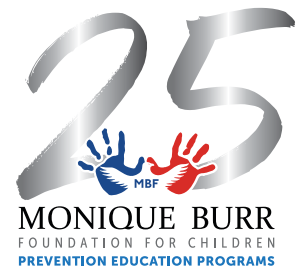
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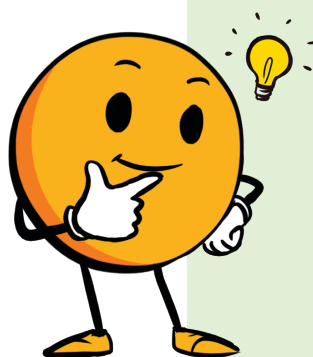


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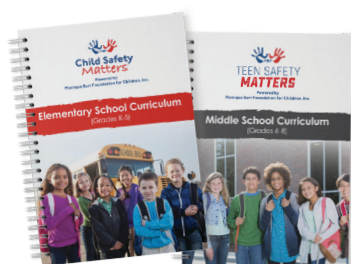
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To learn more about these topics, visit our **LET'S TALK ABOUT PREVENTION** library of webinars at www.mbfpreventioneducation.org/lets-talk-prevention/.



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Interested in bringing MBF's Programs to your child's school or organization? Contact us for more information.

This project is supported by Agreement No. K05187 through funds issued by the State of Florida, Office of the Attorney General.

DONNA Foundation to debut Mother's Day 5K

The DONNA Foundation will debut a new 5K race this spring in Jacksonville's Riverside neighborhood: the Black Knight DONNA Mother's Day 5K, to be held on May 7.

Funds raised through the Black Knight DONNA Mother's Day 5K will support The DONNA Foundation's mission to provide economic assistance and emotional support to those living with breast cancer and fund groundbreaking breast cancer research.

Approximately 34% of the patients served by The DONNA Foundation in program year 2021 were mothers with children at home. By hosting this event on the Saturday of Mother's Day weekend, foundation leaders hope to inspire moms everywhere to take steps toward understanding, improving and protecting their breast health.

"Mothers who are actively raising children while undergoing breast cancer treatment face unique challenges," said Amanda Napolitano, executive director of The DONNA Foundation. "Our events help breast cancer patients and families face their diagnosis from a place of love instead of fear. We're excited to debut this new race in Riverside on Mother's Day weekend as a way to surround all moms with love and support — especially moms who are patients and survivors."

This new event is the first Mother's Day race in Riverside in the foundation's 19-year history. The course will begin and end at the historic Friday Musicale at 8 a.m. Along the way, participants will experience the beauty of the neighborhood's architecture and gardens at the height of the spring blooming season.

For Melissa Circelli, chief human resources officer of Black Knight and a board member of The DONNA Foundation, the purpose behind this new race hits close to home in more ways than one.

"Black Knight's headquarters are located in Riverside, and we are delighted to be the title sponsor for The DONNA Foundation's very first Mother's Day race in our neighborhood," said Circelli. "I also know firsthand how important it is to uplift families and celebrate survivorship. Black Knight is a longstanding supporter of The DONNA Foundation, which has helped many members of the Black Knight family and their loved ones as they battle and have survived breast cancer. This includes our race honoree, Leah Strommer, who recently beat triple-negative breast cancer and benefited from the research funded by The DONNA Foundation. Together with our colleagues across the Black Knight enterprise, I look forward to joining The DONNA Foundation to celebrate the start of a new tradi-

tion this Mother's Day weekend."

During the 30 days leading up to Mother's Day (April 8 through May 8), The DONNA Foundation is celebrating moms locally and across the nation.

Supporters can join in this effort by:

- Registering to run or walk in the Black Knight DONNA Mother's Day 5K.

With its hybrid format, runners can choose to gather in person or run virtually throughout the weekend. Register at mdyw.breastcancermarathon.com.

- Honoring your mom by posting a photo to the DONNA Tribute Wall presented by Florida Blue.

Follow The DONNA Foundation on social media for stories celebrating moms over the coming weeks. Share your photo at mdyw.breastcancermarathon.com/donna-tribute-wall.

- Contributing to the "Every Mom" gift challenge by making a donation in support of the critical programs of The

DONNA Foundation, starting a fundraiser or joining an existing fundraising team.

Organizations can go the extra mile by hosting a fundraiser in partnership with their place of business. Give or raise funds at support.thedonnafoundation.org/goto/celebratemoms.

- Talking with the moms in your life about breast health.

According to the American Cancer Society, an estimated 5-10% of breast cancer cases are thought to be hereditary. Discussing your family's breast cancer history with relatives and medical providers is an important step toward monitoring, managing and maintaining your breast health.

- Partnering with The DONNA Foundation to become a sponsor of the 2022 Black Knight DONNA Mother's Day 5K event.

DONNA continues on Page 35



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How to Choose the Best Gift for a Memorable Mother's Day

By Benji Rust,
Miriam's Jewelry

Mother's Day is almost here, and it's time to choose that perfect gift to show her how much you care. Finding the right gift for someone as special as Mom can feel overwhelming or even stressful, but it doesn't have to be. Celebrate your mother, or the mother figure in your life, by choos-

ing a memorable gift to say thanks for all she does.

Take Clues From Her Lifestyle

The best place to start is with Mom in mind. Think about what she enjoys. Maybe she loves to garden, is an avid runner or is a movie buff. Take clues from these interests to pick out a gift that speaks

to her personally — especially something she would not splurge on for herself.

You should also keep her lifestyle in mind when choosing more traditional gifts like jewelry. The best jewelry gifts are the pieces that can be worn both every day (casually) and still pair well with the dressier events in life.

Customize a Gift as Unique as Mom

Nothing is so personal as something handmade or customized just for Mom. For example, photo books are a great way to capture memories she'll love to keep. These days, you can customize just about anything from kitchen tools to home decor to add that personal touch.

Another unique option is to restore or refinish a family heirloom, such as a piece of furniture or jewelry. It's a shame when sentimental jewelry sits gathering dust in a box. At Miriam's Jewelry, we recreate heirloom jewelry into modern pieces customized to her taste, which she'll love to wear again.

Give Her an Experience to Share

For some moms, the most meaningful gift of all is the gift of time. Think of an



experience that gives you the chance to spend time together, like concert tickets, cooking classes or spa day appointments. These experiences are more than just a gift — they give her a moment to remember.

Another idea is to give her a gift card for a shopping trip together. Miriam's Jewelry offers a memorable experience for its jewelry clients. This experience creates a memory you'll share together and gives her a keepsake she'll always treasure.

GIFT continues on Page 35



Photos provided by She Exposure

Mother's Day is almost here. Celebrate your mother, or the mother figure in your life, by choosing a memorable gift to say thanks for all she does.

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Mother's Day celebration with Mozart set for May 8

The Florida Chamber Music Project will be celebrating Mother's Day with Mozart and more on Sunday, May 8 at 3 p.m. at the Beaches Museum Chapel in Jacksonville Beach.

The program begins with American composer Jessie Montgomery's "Strum: Music for Strings."

Her work salutes American folk music and interweaves classical music with the spirit of dance and movement. Montgomery is one of the most relevant interpreters of 21st Century American sound and experience.

Mozart's "String Quartet in B Flat Major, K 589" is part of what is referred to as the Prussian Quartets. They were dedicated to Prussian King Friedrich Wilhelm II. The King was an amateur cellist, so Mozart favored the cello in this work.

Grammy and Pulitzer Prize winner William Bolcom's "Three Rags for String Quartet" will also be part of the program.

Bolcom taught at the University of Michigan for 35 years. His interest in rags led him to write three pieces for the piano and collaboration with Eubie Blake. He wrote the rags in the early 1970s and then they were arranged for string quartet in 1989.

"Once again we are excited to present new music to our audience along with old favorites," FCMP Artistic Director Susan Pardue said. "We think it will be a great program to celebrate mothers."

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 fellow violinists Patrice Evans, Siyu Zhang and Ann Hertler and cellist Laurie Casseday. All are members of the Jacksonville Symphony.

For advance tickets go flchambermusic.org. Follow Florida Chamber Music Project on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @FLChamberMusic.

DONNA

Continued from 33

Sponsor and vendor opportunities are available. Companies can also sponsor race registrations for employees. Learn more at mdyw.breastcancermarathon.com/become-a-sponsor-2022.

The Black Knight DONNA Mother's Day 5K is the third and final event of The DONNA Foundation's 2022 Fearless Series. Registration is open at mdyw.breastcancermarathon.com.

Gift

Continued from 34

Make it Personal for a Memorable Mother's Day

Whatever you choose, make it heartfelt. Include a personal, handwritten note to tell her how much she means to you. As long as your gift comes from the heart, your mom will love it.

Benji Rust is a co-owner of Miriam's Jewelry, a family-owned jewelry store in the Sawgrass Village Shopping Center in Ponte Vedra Beach. To learn more about Miriam's and their specialty in custom, heirloom jewelry, go to MiriamsJewelry.com.

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Mayday for Moms is Sunday

PAM Jam Florida First Coast will present Mayday for Moms from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 1, at 137 King St., St. Augustine. The event celebrates “the arts, Mother Earth and mothers in Heaven and on Earth.”

Participating venues include ArtBox Gallery, Butterfield Garage Art Gallery and WildHeart Boutique. The event will benefit local organizations that help

“moms in distress”: Matanzas Riverkeeper Litter Gitter and hopefullhandbags.org and the Two TitMice Vodka Foundation, through which the Carol Whitney Green Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to a local poet, artist or musician battling breast cancer and facing financial hardship.

The event will feature music from Sisters Caragh & Camille and jazz band Teal

Cabana Club; poetry readings by Natalie Beltrami, Patricia Konover, Lee Weaver and others; original poetry and artwork, clothing, jewelry and more for sale; a meet and greet with live models; PAM Jam videos; and a gift raffle.

For a \$5 donation or a handbag filled with necessities for Hopefull Handbags, attendees will receive a raffle ticket for Heart for the MayPole. For a \$20 dona-



tion or a receipt from ABC Fine Wine & Spirits for a bottle of Two TitMice Vodka, attendees will receive five raffle tickets.

Those who cannot attend the event can donate to the fundraisers at pam-jam.com.

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Mother's Day culinary class is Saturday

The link is hosting a “Mommy & Me” culinary class celebrating Mother's Day from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Saturday, April 30. The cost is \$40 and it is open to both members and nonmembers. It is for children ages 5 to 13. The host is Corina Danielson.

Go to healthyinstructor.com/corina-danielson/upcomingclasses/thatsapasta1 to register and note any allergies — even if you have none.

This is a fun, interactive “Mommy & Me” class. Participants will make pasta and sauce, and then enjoy it.

The link is located at 425 Town Plaza Ave., Ponte Vedra.

How to make Mom's Day special

Mother's Day is a great time of year to honor mothers and attempt to give back just a portion of the tireless love and devotion moms offer their children. Some children provide large gestures, while others feel it's the little things that can help a mom to feel appreciated. For those needing a little inspiration, consider these ideas.

- Make breakfast in bed with her favorite morning treats.
- Have a movie day with mom - let her pick the flick and snacks.
- Agree to not bicker for the entire day, especially if you are prone to getting into arguments with siblings.
- Put together a collage of photos with mom or your family.
- Cook a meal together and learn about everyone's favorite recipes.
- Treat mom to a day off from her chores. Tackle all of the jobs she normally does for the family.
- Bake a delicious dessert that mom will absolutely devour.
- Tackle a task that she may not want to do herself, such as cleaning her car.

Mother's Day gift ideas should come from the heart and can show mothers near and far how much they are appreciated and loved.

HOME DESIGN & REMODELING

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022 · PAGE 37 www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

Corner Lot acquires historic River House overlooking St. Johns River

Once hosted Mary Todd Lincoln

Primarily known as a residential, multi-family and commercial development company, Corner Lot’s initiative to preserve and protect some of Jacksonville’s most historic structures recently developed further when the company acquired the historic River House overlooking the St. Johns River.

Located at 2105 River Blvd., the River House has served as a hotel, a private residence and an apartment building. It also once famously hosted Mary Todd Lincoln for an extended period between 1874 and 1875. Originally called the Rochester House, it was constructed in approximately 1869 near the intersection of Leila Street and Riverside Avenue.

“When we learned the River House was available it was an easy decision for us to add it to the Corner Lot portfolio,” said Andy Allen, Corner Lot CEO. “It gave us the opportunity to preserve another chapter of Jacksonville’s history while also allowing it to remain a functional component of the Riverside

community.”

The structure was moved from its original location to its current home on River Street via a barge trip down the St. Johns River in 1911. The River House is located directly across the street from Corner Lot’s corporate headquarters at 1819 Goodwin St. Also a historic structure, the Goodwin House was renovated and preserved by Corner Lot when it was purchased in 2020.

In addition to the River House, Corner Lot is in the process of renovating and preserving the historic Jones Brothers Building on Hogan Street, the City of South Jacksonville building at 1001 Kings Ave., and the structure located on the corner of 1st and Main in Springfield.

Corner Lot is a privately-owned real estate development firm in North Florida with business lines that include residential, commercial, multi-family and mixed-use development, as well as single family home construction. Founded in 2009 in Jacksonville, Corner Lot is led by a group of experienced real estate professionals with a complementary blend of expertise and more than 50 years of combined experience.



River House once hosted Mary Todd Lincoln.

Contributed photo



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4 popular colors for 2022

Home design trends come and go. The fleeting nature of such trends can make it hard for homeowners to commit to a particular style, especially if they want their home decor to stay as current as possible. Paint provides one way to stay current and refresh a home's interior without investing in new furniture and home accessories. Paint trends change, but these colors are already making the rounds in 2022.

• **Very Peri:** Very Peri is the Pantone® 2022 Color of the Year. A brand new shade of blue, Very Peri was designed to rekindle some of the qualities that the color blue represents while simultaneously complementing a modern perspective. The home design pros at HGTV recommend pairing Very Peri with neutrals like taupes and creams or deeper shades like navy or brown.

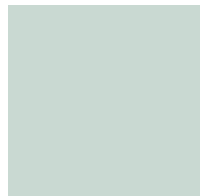


• **Evergreen Fog:** The paint experts at Sherwin-Williams note that this shade of green is symbolic of nature and a color associated with revitalization and growth. Those characteristics make it great for homeowners who

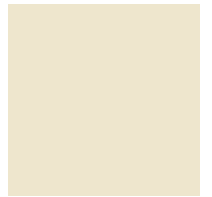


are looking to create a new beginning with their home interiors, particularly in relaxing spaces like living rooms and bedrooms.

• **Breezeway:** Breezeway from Behr® is another popular color that provides a soft look. Breezeway is the Behr® Color of the Year for 2022 and is described as a silvery green shade with cool undertones. Behr® touts the versatility of Breezeway, which the company indicates inspires awe in bedrooms, living rooms or hallways. Breezeway pairs well with creamy white, taupe, softened black, and nuanced pink.



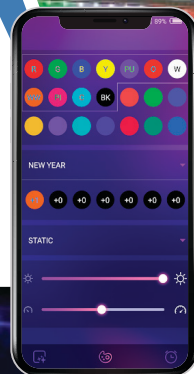
• **Gilded Linen:** Gilded Linen from Valspar® is ideal for homeowners who want a color to organize and connect spaces throughout their homes. Gilded Linen is a minimalist white that mixes well with natural elements like wood and greenery. The soft tone of Gilded Linen makes it suitable in a variety of rooms, which is one reason why it's so popular in homes with open floor plans.



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Signs it is time to overhaul your kitchen

Remodeling a kitchen adds value to a home. Remodeling Magazine's "Cost vs. Value Report" indicates mid-range kitchen remodels cost about \$66,000, and homeowners can expect to recover about 60 to 80 percent of that cost at resale.

Homeowners may wonder if remodeling their kitchens is worth the investment. But homeowners should not just consider cost, but also the current conditions of their kitchens when deciding if a renovation project is the right move to make. These signs indicate it may be time to renovate a kitchen.

- **Breakers are triggered:** If the lights go dark from a tripped circuit breaker every time you try to microwave and run the toaster oven at the same time, your wiring is likely not up to the task

of handling the workload and could be out of date. A kitchen remodel will assess wiring load needs and an electric overhaul may be necessary.

- **Lack of storage:** One of the biggest hassles homeowners encounter in their kitchens is a lack of storage space. If making a meal involves a Jenga-like stacking and rearranging of kitchen tools, or if an avalanche occurs whenever you search for an item, you might need more storage. A carefully planned redesign can achieve this, even in a smaller kitchen.

- **Outdated appliances:** Even if your appliances are not avocado green or mustard yellow relics of the 1970s, they might still need to be replaced. According to CRD Design, appliances are only expected to last around 10 to 15

years. If appliances have become unsafe or energy hogs, it could be time for a remodel.

- **Family is expanding (or shrinking):** Kitchens often are the heart of a home. They need to meet the needs of the family that resides in that home. A remodel can add space as needed. On the flip side, when a couple becomes empty nesters, kitchens can be redesigned and downsized to reflect their new needs and desires, such as the addition of a wine chiller or espresso station.

- **Poor lighting:** Task lighting is essential in a kitchen, but older homes may not be equipped with lighting where it's most needed. A carefully designed remodel can improve lighting with under-cabinet lights, pendants, overhead

lighting, and even natural light to make the space attractive and more functional.

- **Frequent run-ins:** The notion that you can have too many cooks in the kitchen refers to having too many people trying to pitch in or offer their opinions. However, it also can apply to when too many people are gathering in a small space. Redesigning a kitchen can improve the efficiency of a space and make the room feel larger.

- **Aesthetic appeal:** Many kitchen remodels have been inspired by unsightly kitchens. Cosmetic changes can lead to big improvements.

Kitchen renovations can add instant appeal and help address issues that tend to plague outdated rooms.

Key components of 3 popular home interior styles

Considerable thought goes into designing a home's interior. From which color to paint the walls to the size of the living room couch, homeowners must make a variety of decisions when planing their home interiors. One way to simplify interior design decisions is to choose a style.

1. Traditional

Homes with a traditional interior style give a formal yet welcoming feel. Many individuals associate crown molding and wainscotting with traditional interiors, so that's something homeowners aiming for this style should keep in mind. The traditional style tends to utilize period pieces made from real wood.

2. Modern

Modern interiors may differ depending on which style of modern homeowners are aiming for. Midcentury modern typically features unique furnishings that some might see as retro. However, many companies now offer updated takes on midcentury modern. Urban modern is another popular modern style, and home interiors fashioned in this style tend to be light, airy and not crowded with furnishings. Calm, soft tones are a go-to with urban modern interiors.

3. Farmhouse

Farmhouse has become very popular in recent years. The rustic charm of the countryside is never far from the mind when in a home with a farmhouse-inspired interior. Traditional farmhouse and modern farmhouse are different styles, but natural materials and bright colors, particularly white walls, are elements shared by both.

Traditional, modern and farmhouse are three popular home interior styles. Each has its own unique components, and homeowners can supplement their favored style as they see fit.



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Contest open to children ages 3-12 and will be judged in 3 categories: 3-5; 6-9, and 10-12.
Winners will receive a family four-pack of tickets to the Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens.
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Business Weekly

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ThePVRecorder

PAGE 41

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

Ponte Vedra Wellness Center hosts Chamber Before Hours

Ponte Vedra Wellness Center's Nocatee location hosted a St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division Before Hours event April 5. It offered a networking opportunity for local business leaders while enjoying some coffee and breakfast.

Photos by Susan Griffin



Isabelle Renault and Matt Price



Dr. Erika Hamer



Coffee was served complimentary for those attending the Chamber's Before Hours event April 5.

Benchmarks of Success



Frazier named partner at Zisser Family Law

Zisser Family Law has announced that long-time area attorney Sara Beth Frazier has joined the firm as a partner.

Frazier has practiced family law, personal injury, estate planning and probate law in private practice since 2009 when she founded The Law Office of Sara Frazier in Jacksonville.

"Our firm is proud of our reputation for collaboration and attracting the best lawyers to get the best results for our clients," said managing partner Jonathan Zisser. "Sara's arrival complements our already talented team of attorneys."

Zisser is a member of the Jacksonville Bar Association, Jacksonville Women's Lawyer Association, Florida Family Law American Inn of Court and is a Florida Family Law Section Member.

Prior to founding her own firm, Frazier served as a law clerk with Kenny Leigh & Associates and interned in the City of Jacksonville Office of General Counsel

while attending college.

Zisser Family Law handles marital and family matters including cases involving divorce, alimony and child support, timesharing, valuation and distribution of assets and complex valuations of businesses. With the addition of partner Sara Frazier, the firm will now handle guardianships, probate and estate planning.

Tourism Employee of the Year named

Suzanna Schuyler-Vetter, information host for the St. Augustine and St. Johns County Visitor Information Center, has received the 2022 Tourism Employee of the Year Award from the St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra and the Beaches Visitor and Convention Bureau. The award is in the government category. She was nominated by her supervisor.

In 2018, Schuyler-Vetter started working as an information host at the center after 20 years of service with the St. Augustine Police Department.

She is also a licensed tour guide and is fully trained to work in the gift shop. In the nomination, she is described by her supervisor as kind and caring, never hesitating to help wherever she can.

Sawgrass Marriott names new director

Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa has named Alex Marozzi director of memberships. She will be responsible for facilitating and enhancing the resort's membership programs for the Cabana Beach Club and Sawgrass Spa & Fitness facilities.

Marozzi previously served as the director of member relations of the Florida Yacht Club. She is a graduate of Coastal Carolina University where she earned a bachelor's degree in communications.

Cabana Beach Club is designed for both thrill and chill. Featuring 26 miles of pristine beach, the private beach club also offers water sports, oceanside dining, fire pits, a family-friendly pool and more.

Bruman named Chief Operating Officer at Navitas Credit Corp.

Navitas Credit Corp., a wholly owned subsidiary of United Community Bank, has announced that Mike Bruman has been promoted to the newly created position of senior vice president and chief operating officer. In his new role, Bruman will oversee the daily opera-



Mike Bruman

tions of the company, which includes credit, operations, sales and marketing.

Prior to this announcement, Bruman served as the chief credit officer of Navitas and has been with the company for more

than 10 years. Bruman has more than 30 years of industry experience, including experience managing the credit and operations functions at CIT, AT&T and Copelco.

"I am so pleased that Mike is taking on this new challenge," said Gary Shivers, president and CEO of Navitas. "He has demonstrated the leadership skills that will help Navitas continue to be a leader in the equipment financing marketplace. With the rapid growth we've seen over the last 14 years, it will be enormously helpful to have Mike focus on the operations of the company to ensure we continue to satisfy the needs of our employees and customers."

In the Arts

Send your arts news to
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THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022 · PAGE 42

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

EMMA Concert Association welcomes Gainesville Orchestra

In conjunction with the Romanza Festiva of the Arts, EMMA Concert Association will bring The Gainesville Orchestra back to St. Augustine in May. This will be the final concert of EMMA's 43rd season.

The Gainesville Orchestra will present "Jersey Boys & Girls" at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 7, in Lewis Auditorium at Flagler College, 14 Granada St., downtown St. Augustine. Tickets are available at emmacon-certs.com or by calling 904-797-2800.

The concert will feature songs famously performed by Frank Sinatra, Whitney Houston, Bruce Springsteen, Frankie Valli, Dionne Warwick, Lesley Gore and others from the Garden State.

Expect such hits as "Fly Me To The Moon," "My Eyes Adored You," "That's Life!," "They Can't Take That Away From Me," "Can't Take My Eyes Off You," "I Will Always Love You" and more.

"We are excited to bring The Gainesville Orchestra back to the Nation's Oldest City," said Joanne Everett, president of EMMA Board of Directors. "This talented group of musicians performed a beautiful holiday pops concert for EMMA Concert Association in December 2021."

Tickets are \$35 per guest and include free parking at the St. Johns County Council on Aging, with complimentary shuttle to and from the venue. Parking is



Contributed photo

The Gainesville Orchestra will perform at EMMA Concert Association's final concert for the season.

not available on site at Lewis Auditorium at Flagler College.

Learn more at emmaconcerts.com and

follow along on Facebook at facebook.com/emmaconcerts and Instagram @emma_concerts.

CANVAS, STAGE AND MORE

Gallery 725 welcomes Angelo Moore

Gallery 725 will present "Angelo Moore: AVANT ICONS: The Collected Works" in its limited engagement presentation May 20-29.

Moore is renowned for his work as lead singer and saxophonist for the ska and funk metal band Fishbone as well as his extraordinary works of art. Three not to be missed live appearances by the world-renowned musician, painter and actor are scheduled for 6-9 p.m. May 27 and May 28 and 1-3 p.m. May 29. All artworks will be on exhibition and available for acquisition.

The exhibition as well as the Angelo Moore in-gallery appearances are complimentary and open to the public.

For more information, contact the gallery at 904-345-9320 or gallery725@gmail.com. Go to bit.ly/3MvrARu to RSVP.

Gallery 725 is located at 1250 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville Beach.

Drumming program planned at senior center

"Into The Rhythm Drumming," a six-week program led by instructor Amber Hall, will be held at COA's

THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center in Ponte Vedra Beach beginning Wednesday, May 4. "Into The Rhythm Drumming" is an evidence-based social and emotional learning program that is fun, interactive, therapeutic and a positive experience.

The program will be held on Wednesdays from 1 to 2 p.m. from May 4 to June 8. Registration is required, and space is limited. The cost to participate is \$30 per person.

To register and for more information, contact Jones at 904-280-3233 or via email at ajones@stjohnscoa.com. THE

PLAYERS Community Senior Center is located at 175 Landrum Lane.

This program was funded in part with a St. Johns Cultural Council State of the Arts grant.

Film to be screened at The Waterworks

The St. Johns County Public Library System, in partnership with the St. Johns Cultural Council and the Friends of the Main Library St. Augustine, will screen the film "Soul of a People" at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 1, in The Waterworks, 184 San Marco Blvd.

"Soul of a People" explores the Federal Writers' Project, one of the controversial programs of the Works Progress Administration (WPA), and presents a vivid picture of one of the most challenging times in American history.

The Federal Writers' Project was one of many New Deal programs put in place by the WPA, employing men and women at all levels of society. This screening is provided through a special agreement between the Friends of the Main Library St. Augustine and the producers of the film. There will be some commentary at the beginning of the program that will provide a look at various WPA projects in St. Johns County that we still benefit from today.

The program is free, and seating will be on a first come, first served basis as space is limited. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, call 904-827-6928 or email hgeorge@sjcfl.us.

2022 ALHAMBRA SCHEDULE

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GRUMPY OLD MEN

August 11 - September 18

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September 29 - November 6

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ROMANZA FESTIVALE BEGINS FRIDAY

St. Augustine's Romanza Festivale of Music and The Arts is two weeks of daily events from April 29 through May 15 featuring dozens of concerts, shows, exhibits and more at locations throughout the city. Most events are free. Here's a look at what's happening this week.

For further information, go to romanza-festivale.com/events/all.

6th Annual St Augustine Plein Air Paint Out

When: April 27-May 1, all day.
Artist locations and information: staaa.org/plein-air-paint-out.
 Works will be on display and for sale in the St. Augustine Art Association Wet Room.

High-End Spanish Wine and Cheese Tasting

When: Friday, April 29, 6-7:30 p.m.
Where: The Gifted Cork & Gourmet, 64 Hypolita St., St. Augustine
 For reservations, call (904) 810-1083.

"Trouble in Tahiti"

What: The famous opera by Leonard Bernstein
When: Friday, April 29, 8-9 p.m.
Where: Trinity Hall, 5 Artillery Lane, St.

Augustine
Featuring: musical director and pianist Ben Beck, bass-baritone Lloyd Reshard Jr., mezzo-soprano Regina Torres, soprano Lisa Lockhart, tenor Pablo Pomales-Ojeda, baritone Dirk Gavin McCoy.
 Admission is free. Donations will be accepted.
 Stay for the 1950s-themed bake sale after the performance.

"A Tribute to The Ladies of New Jazz And Soul"

Who: Akia Uwanda McDaniel
When: Saturday, Apr 30, 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Where: Trinity Hall, 5 Artillery Lane, St. Augustine
Featuring: music from Sade, Anita Baker, and Chaka Khan.
 Admission is free.

Afternoon Musicale

When: Sunday, May 1, 2:30-3:45 p.m.
Where: chapel of Memorial Presbyterian Church, 32 Sevilla St, St. Augustine
Featuring: flutist Angela Massey, pianist Chee-Hang See
 Admission is free

FloArts Students Sing Broadway

What: Florida School of the Arts Concert

When: Monday, May 2, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Where: Courtyard at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, 37 Lovett St., St. Augustine
Featuring: music from "Beauty and the Beast," "Godspell," "Hairspray," "Phantom of the Opera" and more.
 Admission is free

Afternoon Musicale

When: Tuesday, May 3, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Where: Grace United Methodist Church, 8 Carrera St., St. Augustine
Featuring: music for clarinet, piano and organ performed by three local musicians: Anna DeProspero Marr, Stephen Marr and Thomas Rodgers.
 Admission is free.

Community Drumming

When: Tuesday, May 3, 6:30-7 p.m.
Where: The Commons of St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, 37 Lovett St., St. Augustine
Featuring: Amber Hall
 Admission is free. Bring a chair.

Flamenco Rhythms and Gypsy Music


When: Tuesday, May 03 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Where: The Commons of St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, 37 Lovett St., St. Augustine
Featuring: Yael and Gabriel, who play original compositions as well as diversified styles of Gypsy music.
 Admission is free. Bring a chair.

Sam Pacetti and His Guitar

What: Sam Pacetti Concert
When: Wednesday, May 4, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Where: St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, 37 Lovett St., St. Augustine
 Admission is free. Bring a chair.

St. Augustine Youth Chorus in Concert

When: Thursday, May 5, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Where: Ancient City Baptist Church, 27 Sevilla St., St. Augustine
Featuring: music from all over the world with selections from Russia, Sweden, Africa, Brazil and the United States.
 Admission is free



ON STAGE

A roundup of musical acts appearing soon at local venues.

PONTE VEDRA CONCERT HALL
 1050 A1A North, Ponte Vedra Beach
 Purchase tickets at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre box office or ticketmaster.com.
 For further information about each act, go to pvconcerthall.com/events.

- **Houndmouth** — 8 p.m. April 28. With special guest Sam Filiatreau.
- **Béla Fleck & Abigail Washburn** — 8 p.m. April 29.
- **Madeleine Peyroux** — 8 p.m. May 8.
- **Five For Fighting** — 8 a.m. May 11. With String Quartet.
- **Tommy Emmanuel** — 7:30 p.m. May 15. With special guest Gareth Pearson
- **Dance Gavin Dance** — 6 p.m. May 17. With special guests Memphis May Fire, Volumes and Moontooth.
- **Rob Schneider** — 8 p.m. May 19.
- **Ryan Hamilton** — 7 p.m. May 21. Rescheduled from Feb. 3.
- **Heather Land** — 7:30 p.m. May 22.
- **Robert Earl Keen: "I'm Comin' Home: 41 Years On The Road"** — 8 p.m. May 28.

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 1340C A1A South, St. Augustine
 Box office hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturdays. Tickets sold at the box office are available via credit- and debit-card only. A valid ID is required for all box office transactions and ticket purchases must be made in person.
 Tickets may also be purchased at ticketmaster.com.
 For further information about each act, go to theamp.com/events.

- **Billy Strings** — 5:30 p.m. April 29, 30 and May 1. Performances over three nights.
- **Adam Lambert** — 7 p.m. May 4. Tours as lead singer with Queen.
- **Rex Orange County** — 7 p.m. May 5.
- **Koe Wetzel** — 7:30 p.m. May 6. With special guests Tim Montana & Dylan Wheeler.
- **Primus** — "A Tribute to Kings" — 8 p.m. May 7. With special guest Battles. Primus will perform Rush's "A Farewell to Kings" in its entirety.
- **John Fogerty** — 7 p.m. May 8
- **Yacht Rock Revue** — 8 p.m. May 14
- **Leon Bridges "The Boundless Tour"** — 6:30 p.m. May 19. With support from Chiiild.
- **Phoebe Bridgers** — 7 p.m. May 25.

Note: Per artist request, proof of COVID-19 vaccination or negative COVID-19 test result within 48-hours of event is required for entry. Face masks are encouraged.

- **Wallows** — "Tell Me That It's Over" Tour — 8 p.m. May 27
- **Bright Eyes** — 7 p.m. May 28. With special guest Hurray for the Riff Raff

Kids' Night Out, May 6
6-9pm, ages 4-11



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Sports

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022 · PAGE 44

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For LIVE Sports and updates, follow our Twitter, @PVR_sports

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

Pigskin and ponytails

Nease High School held its annual powderpuff games April 21, where school spirit was on display and bragging rights up for grabs.

Photos by Anthony Richards



Sharks serve up a state title



Photos courtesy of Ponte Vedra High Athletics

The Ponte Vedra Sharks won the Class 3A boys tennis state title April 26.

Boys tennis carries wave of momentum through state tournament

By Anthony Richards

Ponte Vedra High won the boys tennis Class 3A state championship following a 4-3 victory over St. Petersburg in the final matchup April 26.

Adam Logan wound up securing the state title effort with a thrilling 10-point tiebreaker to give the Sharks the advantage it needed.

Both the boys and girls Ponte Vedra High School tennis teams won their respective regional championships April 21 to advance to the state finals in Seminole County.

The Shark boys entered the state tournament as the No. 2 seed and looked the part throughout, not losing a match until the championship tilt.

They opened with a 4-0 victory against No. 7 Barron Collier in the state quarterfinals and then followed it up another 4-0 win over top-seeded Niceville in the state semifinals.

The Sharks championship game opponent St. Petersburg was the tournament's No. 5 seed.

After convincing performances enroute to a regional title, the girls team also entered the state tournament as a No. 2 seed but suffered an early exit following a 4-0 loss to No. 7 Barron Collier in the state quarterfinals.

Although the Sharks were forces to be reckoned with heading into the team competition, they will also represent District 3-3A in the individual state

tournament.

Senior Andrew Kelley qualified for state as a singles competitor, while he will also team up with fellow senior captain Callum Searle in the doubles bracket.

Kelley and Searle present a veteran presence and loads of experience that they will look to lean on along their path

to a possible state title.

Junior captain Isabella Toby will look to make a run for the Sharks as an individual and will also compete in the doubles format alongside senior Kathleen Hawkins.

The Shark girls team finished the season with a record of 14-5, while the boys had a record of 18-1.

Both squads had seen their share of victories heading into the state finals as the girls had won 61% of their matches and the boys had won a mind-boggling 85% of its matches.

In the 113 matches the boys competed in through the regional tournament, they had won 97 times, as opposed to only 16 losses.



The Sharks' girls tennis team entered the state tournament as the No. 2 seed after winning a regional championship.

CROSSWORD

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THEME: MOTHER'S DAY

ACROSS

- 1. Wild onion
- 5. Standardized testing acronym
- 8. Accounting degree
- 11. Hunted by hunter
- 12. Don Johnson's TV role, 1996-2001
- 13. Run ____ of the law
- 15. Mercantile establishment
- 16. Chemistry Nobel Hahn
- 17. *Deborah Guarino's "Is Your Mama a ____?"
- 18. Manner of controlling yourself
- 20. Tiny bit
- 21. Willow twig
- 22. Nutcracker's distinguishing feature
- 23. Like a longer route?
- 26. German white wine
- 30. *Mom's little one
- 31. Bear the expenses of
- 34. Knock about
- 35. Dodge
- 37. "____ the fields we go"
- 38. Binary digits code
- 39. Bear den
- 40. Northern peat bog
- 42. Modern address
- 43. Analyst in a chemical lab
- 45. Smooth, as in surface of the lake
- 47. Gangster's pistol
- 48. Eyelid infections
- 50. Wafting emanation
- 52. *Arrangement in Grey and Black, No. 1" portrays this artist's mother
- 55. Evil one
- 56. Simmering feeling
- 57. Prepare for publication
- 59. Give benediction
- 60. Heston's foes in 1968 sci-fi movie
- 61. Boundary
- 62. Communism or Taoism
- 63. P in #1 Down
- 64. Do like a model

DOWN

- 1. Dashboard acronym
- 2. Kuwaiti or Saudi
- 3. *Maman alternative
- 4. Kaa of "The Jungle Book"
- 5. French composer Erik Alfred Leslie ____
- 6. He made his fortune in fur trading
- 7. *Jord is mom to this hammer-wielding mythic thunder god
- 8. Chesterfield or ulster
- 9. Feline-inspired shoe brand
- 10. ____ mode
- 12. Not quite a nun
- 13. Spy's cover
- 14. *Popular Mother's Day gift
- 19. Cast somebody there
- 22. Almond-induced state?
- 23. Type of monument
- 24. Pepsi and Coke
- 25. Tiny purses
- 26. Actor Wahlberg
- 27. Loci, sing.
- 28. #39 Across, pl.
- 29. *Lorelai Gilmore's mother
- 32. *How many children does Queen Elizabeth have?
- 33. Hi- ____
- 36. *Daenerys Targaryen's "babies"
- 38. End of a shoelace
- 40. *"How I ____ Your Mother"
- 41. Knights' breastplates
- 44. Gridiron measure, pl.
- 46. In the Land of Nod
- 48. Guillermo del Toro's "The ____ of Water"
- 49. *Amy Chua's "Battle Hymn of the ____ Mother"
- 50. Rembrandt's paints
- 51. Regard
- 52. Sandwich alternative
- 53. Edible root of taro plant
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First Coast Women's Amateur set for June 22-23 at King & Bear

Registration for amateur, senior and super senior divisions opens May 2

The First Coast Women's Amateur, Northeast Florida's premier annual women's golf championship, is set to be played June 22-23 at King & Bear Golf Course at World Golf Village in St. Augustine.

The championship will feature approximately 80 amateur female golfers competing across amateur, senior and super senior divisions via a 36-hole individual stroke play competition.

The 2022 FCWA will begin accepting applications May 2 via the Jacksonville Area Golf Association (JAGA) website: jaxareagolf.org. Those interested in playing must first meet the United States Golf Association's handicap index requirements as outlined on the website and below.

FCWA is open to Florida residents as well as a select number of out-of-state participants. The entry deadline is June 13.

Brooks Rehabilitation is returning for the seventh year as the event's presenting sponsor. In addition, JAGA will continue to provide operational and tournament support.

"We are really looking forward to the 2022 FCWA championship and are so grateful to King & Bear for serving as our host course this year," said Susie Fonde, 2022 FCWA Committee Chair. "The FCWA continues to serve as an incredible showcase of the strength of women's golf in Northeast Florida, and we hope to use this championship's platform to continue to grow the game and promote female participation in it."

First founded in 1990, the First Coast Women's Amateur attracts the top high school, college and amateur golfers in Northeast Florida and boasts a strong list of past champions, including former LPGA players, collegiate champions and leaders in the golf industry.

Additionally, the FCWA will support the following nonprofit organizations this year: Moore-Myers Children's Fund, the JAGA Scholarship Fund and North Florida Junior Golf Foundation.

The 2021 FCWA saw Jacksonville's Kaitlyn Schroeder, who recently committed to play collegiate golf at the University of Alabama, win the amateur championship division by five shots. Schroeder is the daughter of University of North Florida men's golf coach Scott Schroeder.

In the Senior division, Kim Keyer-Scott of Estero took home the title after paring her last eight holes to secure a one-stroke victory, and in the Super Senior division, Nancy Smith of Venice won by eight shots.

The 2022 FCWA Championship Committee includes Susie Fonde, Committee Chair, and Committee members at large Sarah Phillips, Melissa Gotfredson and Emily Tillo. For any general inquiries about the FCWA, please reach out to Melissa Gotfredson by emailing info@fewajax.com.

Divisions, eligibility and format:
Amateur Championship Division (age 13+) - Open to female golfers at least 13 years of age by June 22, 2022, with a verifiable USGA handicap index of 10.0 or better. Championship yardage: Between 5800-6000 yards.

Senior Championship Division (age 50+) - Open to female golfers who have reached the age of 50 by June 22, 2022, with a verifiable USGA handicap index of 18.0 or better. Championship yardage: Between 5300-5500 yards.

Super Senior Championship Division (age 65+) - Open to female golfers who have reached the age of 65 by June 22, 2022, with a verifiable USGA handicap index of 18.0 or better. Championship yardage: Between 5,000-5100 yards.



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