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SERVING PONTE VEDRA, ST. AUGUSTINE, THE BEACHES AND GREATER ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Thursday, July 4, 2024

PonteVedraRecorder.com

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Plan ahead for St. Augustine fireworks show

By Shaun Ryan

It's time again for one of the biggest fireworks shows on the East Coast — and one of the biggest traffic challenges in the Nation's Oldest City. The keys to making this a happy Fourth are planning and patience.

The Fireworks over the Matanzas event begins at 6 p.m. Thursday, July 4, with a free musical performance by the All-Star Orchestra in St. Augustine's Plaza de la Constitucion. It's a two-hour program, featuring big band, swing and patriotic music.

But the wise visitor plans to arrive far in advance of the concert in order to secure a good parking spot. One of the best options is the city's parking garage, located at 1 Cordova St. With capacity for 1,200 cars, there's ample room for all but the tardiest revelers. The parking fee is \$20 per vehicle, and since it's a flat fee, visitors may want

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GOING FOR GOLD STATUS

The link achieves dream as environmentally friendly building

By Anthony Richards

One of the things Raghu and Gurpreet Misra, owners of the link, pride themselves in is the fact that the link is a hub of innovation and community.

In the three years since being established, the link has proven to be just that and the latest example came during a ceremony on June 27, where the link received an award for the building achieving gold status by the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification system.

LEED is a certification system founded

GOLD continues on Page 18



Photo by Anthony Richards

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The link in Nocatee became the first LEED gold certified building in Ponte Vedra during an award ceremony on June 27.





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Visit our new website at **www.pontevedrarecorder.com**

Plus, find the Recorder on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ThePVRecorder

BRIEFS

St. Johns County Parks and Rec launches app

The St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department has launched a new app, giving residents an intuitive platform for community engagement, education and exploration.

The SJC Parks and Rec app allows users to find parks and beaches (and even individual amenities like skate parks, dog parks, boat ramps, etc.) using intuitive interactive maps, register quickly and easily for programs and events, and listen to region-specific audio tours about county history.

These location-based audio tours can be downloaded by users ahead of visits to different parts of the county, allowing them to listen to the stories of our past and present while enjoying our parks and beaches well into the future.

The SJC Parks and Rec app is available to download from the Apple App Store and Google Play.

St. Johns County office hours announced

All departments of the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners, St. Johns County administrative offices, library branches and bookmobile, the Supervisor of Elections' Office, the Property Appraiser's Office, the Tax Collector's Office and the Clerk of Courts and County Comptroller's Office will be closed Thursday, July 4, and Friday, July 5, in observance of the Independence Day holiday. All offices will resume standard business hours on Monday, July 8.

Library services will resume normal hours on Saturday, July 6.

Garbage and recycling collection schedules will not be delayed. The Tillman Ridge and Stratton Road Transfer Stations will remain open during standard business hours.

Club plans Happy Hour Social

The Ponte Vedra Woman's Club will hold a Happy Hour Social from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 16, at Cruisers Grill, 319 23rd Ave. South, Jacksonville. Admission is free to members and \$10 for nonmembers. Register at pontevedrawomensclub.com.

Palm Valley Market every Tuesday

The Palm Valley Market is held from 10

a.m. to 1 p.m. every Tuesday inside the Palm Valley Community Center, 148 Canal Road. The market offers fresh produce, baked goods, local honey, tea, seasonal treats, soap, jewelry, plants and more.

Explore the beach at GTM Research Reserve

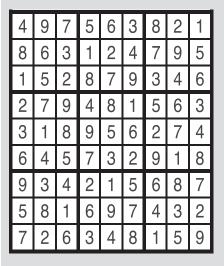
Join volunteers at the Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve (GTM) for a beach exploration 9-11 a.m. Saturday, July 20. Collect seashells,

BRIEFS continues on Page 10





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FREE admission to the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens Unlimited annual visits Exclusive members-only events and discounts

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County commissioner candidate forum set for July 9

The Palm Valley Community Association, in collaboration with the Ponte Vedra Community Association, will host a candidate forum for the St. Johns County Commissioner candidates for Districts 1, 3 and 5 on Tuesday, July 9. The event will be held at Christ Episcopal Church, 400 San Juan Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach. The doors will open at 5:30 p.m., and the event will begin at 6 p.m.

All candidates for this office who have been certified by the Florida Division of Elections to appear on the August 2024 Primary Election ballot are expected to participate. All County Commission seats are elected countywide.

The Ponte Vedra Beach Candidate Forum is a nonpartisan event that ensures all participants can share their thoughts in a fair and civil discussion. An experienced moderator will lead the process, providing a respectful and informative exchange of ideas on issues of interest to St. Johns County voters.

"Those who represent St. Johns County on the County Commission carry an enormous responsibility," said Greg Leonard, president of the Palm Valley Community Association. "Together, these five community leaders make the critical decisions that affect the services provided to our citizens and help our county navigate the significant challenges of a rapidly growing population. We need intelligent and thoughtful people in these roles, and for that to happen, we must make informed decisions."

Pearson, president of the Ponte Vedra Community Association. "They also play a strategic role in the future development of the community and county. I encourage everyone to consider attending this forum to learn more about all the candidates running for our County Commission."

For further information, contact Leonard (yrdbd@aol.com).

The Palm Valley Community Association, one of the oldest continually operating community organizations in North Florida, maintains the Palm Valley Community Center at 148 Canal Blvd., where community meetings, events and the weekly, in-season Farmer's Market occur.

The Ponte Vedra Community Association, established in 1946, strives to build a sense of community and preserve the unique qualities that make Ponte Vedra Beach a great place to live.

The association communicates news and information on community activities and matters of importance through its newsletters, website and social media presence and fosters fellowship through great member events.







800 Ironwood Dr., #835

2BD | 2 BA | 1117sf | \$305,000

This beautifully updated 3rd-floor condominium in Ocean Links offers the perfect blend of comfort and $convenience, featuring\ 2\ spacious\ bedrooms,\ 2\ bathrooms,\ and\ a\ tranquil\ tiled\ screened\ patio\ nestled$ among the treetops. The interior offers a bright and inviting living space. The open floor plan seamlessly connects the living, dining, and kitchen areas, creating an ideal setting for both relaxation and entertaining. This condo also includes the added convenience of a detached garage, proving secure parking and additional sstorage space. Short walk to beaches, shopping, restaurants and library.



82 San Juan Drive

4BD | 4.5 BA | 3312sf | \$3,150,000

Welcome to this charming custom-built home nestled in the highly desired area of Old Ponte Vedra, offering unparalleled privacy with lush landscape and gorgeous golf course views. The property boasts just under a half an acre, with a large circular drive, side-entry garage and no immediate neighbor to the north. The first floor has 2 bedrooms with ADA compliant doorways and barrier free showers in both full baths and the second floor has 2 more ensuite bedrooms. The mature trees and landscaping provide shade and privacy, creating a tranquil oasis right outside your door.

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Living shorelines promote healthy ecosystems and stabilize coasts through the strategic placement of natural materials like native vegetation.



Photos courtesy of University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences **Volunteers plant saltmeadow cord grass as part of a living shoreline restoration project.**

Living shorelines becoming more viable option to bulkheads

By Anthony Richards

The combination of hurricane season and election season has led to discussions about making coastal communities more "resilient," and it starts with its shore-

One way of achieving resiliency is with the creation of living shorelines, which is something contractors and private owners of coastal property are considering more, according to a joint study performed by Florida Sea Grant and the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium.

According to Savanna Barry, a Florida Sea Grant regional Extension agent for

Thinking of Advertising in the Recorder?

For more information call (904) 285-8831 to speak with a Sales Rep. today! the Nature Coast, the idea of living coastlines has shifted within the past decade with it seeming to be more of a viable option than was once thought, and her research backs this up.

She recalled a colleague who attempted to introduce the concept during a gathering of marine contractors about a decade ago.

"He was asked to leave," Barry said.
"Late last year, the same organization invited him to come give a talk about living shorelines at their annual conference. So, there is a change in thinking about this."

In contrast to the use of hardened structures, such as seawalls and bulkheads, living shorelines promote healthy ecosystems and stabilize coasts through the strategic placement of natural materials like native vegetation, rocks and oyster shells to act as natural wave barriers.

Generally, they are also cheaper to install and require less maintenance, which are the primary reasons behind the opinion shift.

"After shorelines are damaged in hurricanes, especially when we see widespread seawall failures but living shorelines usually faring very well; this opens people's minds to the fact that a nature-based solution may work better than they may have originally expected," Barry said.

In the study, scientists and Extension agents provided education about living shorelines to contractors through a series of workshops and training, and to property owners through demonstrations, site visits, courses and an informational website.

In Florida, FSG began offering a two-day course for marine contractors in 2019. Since that time, agents have conducted 12 training sessions.

Study evaluations indicated 58% of the 191 participants would "definitely" or "likely" add installation of living shorelines to their services.

To educate property owners, FSG

developed a three-day coastal shoreline restoration module for the University of Florida's Master Naturalist Program.

Instructors taught the course 35 times to 593 participants living in 16 Florida counties. Assessments revealed a 46% knowledge gain about living shorelines, according to the study.

Despite positive strides being made, the study's authors acknowledge the barriers to living shoreline installation that still exist, due to strict regulatory requirements

These include rules regarding the height of breakwaters as well as the distance from shore the living shoreline can extend.

"Permitting for living shorelines can sometimes take longer than permitting for a seawall, and for some people that process can be either too daunting or too frustrating," Barry said. "But state officials are working hard to improve the rules."

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6 ONE OF USPonte Vedra Recorder · July 4, 2024

Ponte Vedra Beach native Molly Ronan was recently crowned the 2024 Florida Rose of Tralee. As the winner of the title for the Sunshine State, she will travel to Tralee, Ireland, to join Roses from the world over and appear on RTE, the Irish national television network.

Molly Ronan

As told to Shaun Ryan

Tell me about the Rose of Tralee.

It's essentially a festival and pageant, all kind of rolled into one. It started in 1959 as a way to celebrate Irish women, Irish heritage and culture. Now it has grown to have international centers. Women from all over the world participate in their local events, and then those who are selected go to Ireland for an 11-day tour. It ends with the last several days in Tralee, where they celebrate the women, who are featured on a television broadcast.

There are people of Irish descent the world over.

Oh, yes. There's a Rose this year from Dubai, who's coming to participate. They have a center in Abu Dhabi. There are ones all across the U.S., of course, and Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

How did you first get involved in this?

I grew up doing Irish step dancing. That was always a big part of my life. When I was 16, I saw all of these girls at one of the dance competitions with these sashes that said, "The Rose of Tralee." I'd always known about the festival. I just didn't know it was in Florida.

When I saw them, I thought, "I need to take part!" So, the following year, I signed up and I participated as a junior, so I was a Teen Rose. And then I went on in 2018 to participate for the Rose and wasn't selected and then came back in 2024 and was selected as the Florida Rose.

What's involved in competing?

It's more a personality contest. It's not quite the traditional pageant model, like a Miss America. So, you do an interview with a panel of judges. Then you do a group interview, you and the other candidates. Then, in the evening, you go back in a full-length gown, and you talk on stage about the different things that you do: your community service background, your job, any passion projects that you work on, any talent, things like that.

And then I sang and played the harp.

Where was the contest held?

They hold the selection event of the pageant in conjunction with a dance competition in Orlando. So, I went to the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando.

They have an Irish dance contest during the day, and then during the evening — at around 7 p.m. — they have the selection event.

There's also the ability for young girls to participate as Rosebuds or Junior Roses like I had done the first year.

The emcee will ask you questions, and then you do your talent right there in front of the judges.

When did that happen?

That was on May 25.

How did you learn to play the harp?

I started at age 14. I just kind of had this feeling. I said, "Mom and Dad, I want to play the harp." We were blessed enough that they gave me a harp that Christmas, so I started playing then.

And then, I ended up taking lessons with the great Elizabeth Landis, who is a classically trained harpist. I studied with her for over two years, and it was just wonderful. She taught me so many things about the harp, technique, things like that. So, I've been able to play at weddings and



Contributed photo

Newly crowned Florida Rose of Tralee Molly Ronan stands next to her harp.

different events, stuff like that in the area.

I also like to sing, and play as I sing, so it's nice. And it goes perfectly, not just with Irish music, but with all different styles of music. It's just an amazing instrument. I'm just so blessed to play it.

I saw that you also play the flute.

Yes, I also play the Irish flute and tin whistle. I actually started playing flute in the Landrum Middle School band. I started on the silver, and then I transitioned into the wooden Irish flute when I was about 16 or 17.

Tell me about your Irish background.

On my dad's side, his grandparents are from County Cork and County Clare. And then, my grandma — so his mom — both of her grandparents were from County Cork. She was a flaming bright redhead growing up. She did

Irish dancing in New York City.

Her uncle actually owned an Irish pub. So she just grew up always around it and was very passionate about her Irish roots.

On my dad's paternal side, his grandparents, my grandpa's parents were both from County Cork and Clare, as well

So, my dad has always instilled in me a love of the Irish culture. He's a musician, as well, so that's how I have worked and developed these instruments that I play. We worked and we sang in places together quite a bit. We've always done our Irish music around St. Patrick's Day. We do church gigs and other local gigs.

There's a song called "The Rose of Tralee," and he would always sing it to me as a young girl; he would

Ponte Vedra Recorder · July 4, 2024 COMMUNITY NEWS 7

New residential trash collector begins Aug. 1

Beginning Aug. 1, St. Johns County's new residential curbside collection provider, FCC Environmental Services Florida LLC, will begin servicing the county. All current service levels will remain in place, including weekly curbside collection of household garbage, yard waste, recycling and bulk waste, as well as scheduled services like appliance pick-up requested by customers.

Residents can look for a postcard in the mail the week of July 8, which will provide information on their service days. For 87% of residents, service days will remain the same, but the time of service may change. Residents can also confirm their collection days on the Recycle Coach website and app, available at sjcfl.us/recycle-st-johns.

On Dec. 19, 2023, during the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners regular meeting, FCC Environmental Services Florida LLC was identified as the top-ranked firm. The board approved a residential solid waste collection contract, including household garbage, recycling and yard waste collection



Contributed photo

services.

"We are excited about this new partnership with FCC Environmental Services Florida LLC and are confident that they will sustain the current levels of quality service we currently offer our community and that are enjoyed by our customers," St. Johns County Public Works Director Greg Caldwell said. "We conducted more than 5,000 resident surveys, performed route surveys and received input from industry leaders to develop the bid process to select a new vendor. The selection of FCC Environmental Services Florida LLC was based on an assessment of their staff, qualifications, experience, approach to service and proposed pricing."

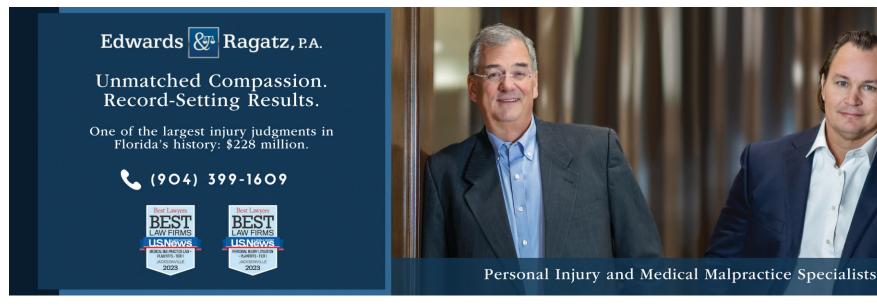
For the estimated 114,000 residential homes occupied by Aug. 1, FCC Environmental Services Florida LLC services will cost \$28,265,040 annually. The contract is for seven years with the option for two five-year renewals. There will be no increase in customer fees for the first year of service.

FCC Environmental Services Florida LLC currently provides services to Polk County, Hillsborough County, Palm Beach County, Orange County, Volusia County and other cities in the region, such as the City of Palm Coast.

For more information, go to recyclest-johns.com or contact the county's Solid Waste Division at 904-827-6980.







OBITUARIES



John Stratford Duss, IV

With great sadness, we announce the passing of John Stratford Duss, IV, on June 4, 2024. A Jacksonville native, John helped shape many of Northeast Florida's iconic real estate developments and his impact extends beyond his nearly 50-year legal career through the many projects and causes he championed throughout his life.

John was born on December 18, 1942, to John and Kathleen Duss. He attended Spring Hill College in Alabama and the University of Florida, earning a Bachelor of Science degree. He attended New York University Law School and received a Juris Doctorate from the University of Florida College of Law. After returning to Jacksonville, he practiced

law with several firms, ultimately retiring from Duss, Kenney, Safer, Hampton & Joos, P.A. in 2023.

John actively participated in leadership roles for numerous charitable, social, and professional organizations including The St. Johns County Charter Commission, The St. Vincent's Foundation, Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance, Sister Cities, Friends Across the Sea, Granaderos y Damas de Galvez, The Jacksonville Track Club, Catholic Lawyers Guild, The Alfa Romeo Club, Riding into History, The River Club and The Ponte Vedra Club. Throughout his life, John exhibited a thirst for knowledge. He enjoyed reading non-fiction on many topics for the sheer pleasure of learning. John remained highly active throughout his life, both as a runner and through regular exercise programs. An avid antique "car-guy" and a nationally renowned motorcycle expert, he could always be found discussing vehicles with others. If it had wheels and an engine, John knew an astonishing amount about it and would gladly share that knowledge with anyone who would listen. John and his wife, Susan, developed fond memories over many years traveling with close friends to carrelated events, especially in Pebble Beach, Paris, and Amelia Island. John, Susan, and their daughter also enjoyed many summers traveling with close friends - to Cuernavaca, Mexico, Darmstadt, Germany, and visiting John's Aunt at the Abbey of Regina

Laudis in Connecticut. In his later years, his trips centered around spending time with his adored granddaughters, whether in California or during their visits to Ponte Vedra.

With the support of Community Hospice of Northeast Florida, John spent his final days at home in Ponte Vedra Beach. He is survived by his devoted wife of 49 years, Susan; his beloved daughter, Christina (Lincoln) and his four granddaughters Alessandra, Ilaria, Christina and Victoria. John is also survived by his sister-in-law, Winfield Duss and her children, Charles (Dawn), Christopher (Cy) and Shields Hoida (Jeff) and their children.

John was a smart, hardworking, and unselfish family man of integrity. This loss leaves an unfillable void in the lives of his family, friends and those who knew him well. Thank you to all who were praying for him and us during his illness. We are comforted by the fact that he was a man of deep and abiding faith and we know that for John the journey continues. His life and accomplishments allow his legacy to continue through the experiences and memories of his family and of his many friends and clients.

Services and a Celebration of John's Life will be held at a later date at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, where he was a parishioner for nearly thirty years.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to the Abbey of Regina Laudis, 273 Flanders Rd., Bethlehem, CT 06751 or via their website. Please visit his online Tribute at www.quinn-shalz.com.

Arrangements by



DEATH NOTICES

James Milton Bates

James Milton Bates, 74, of Jacksonville, Florida, died June 20, 2024. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre, www. quinn-shalz.com. 904-249-1100

Charlie R. Cantrell

Charlie R. Cantrell, 71, of Jacksonville, Florida, died June 23, 2024. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre, www. quinn-shalz.com, 904-249-1100.

Maria Chiriac

Maria Chiriac, 70, of Jacksonville, Florida, died June 16, 2024. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravalley.com

Arturo Pascual Confiado, Jr.

Arturo Pascual Confiado, Jr., 80, of Neptune Beach, Florida, died June 23, 2024. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre, www.quinn-shalz.com, 904-249-1100.



UPCOMING TOPICS

Insights on Non-profits and Donation Drive

August 14, 2024 | 5:15-7:30 PM

Local Business Insights

September 11, 2024 | 5:15-7:30 PM

Closing Awards Ceremony

November 15, 2024 | 5:15-7:30 PM

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

KATHY'S GARDENING GUIDE

Succulents

"A cactus is a desert's rose."

— Matshona Dhliwayo



Kathy Esfahan

By Kathy Esfahani

Summer is heating up! Succulents are a great choice for the warmest areas of your landscape. Now is a perfect time to create a succulent garden or planter that needs minimal attention!

Succulents love dry heat and very little water. Sounds like the perfect

plants, right?

These plants have evolved in climates that are almost unbearable, with rocky terrain and desert landscapes.

They retain water in their leaves and stems and, there-

fore, only need to be watered occasionally. Due to their unique nature, they also can survive in winter single digit temperatures!

You can create a succulent garden in the ground, in a planter, or even in a rock garden.

Some of the most popular varieties are agave, aloe, cactus, crassula, echeveria, purslane and sedum.

Tips for creating a succulent planter:

Choose a shallow, wide planter with a drainage sys-



Succulent Planter

tem. These plants do not like sitting in water.

Look for a potting soil designed for succulents.

When purchasing succulents, remember that some varieties need more sun than others. Try to group similar plants together for appropriate care.

Space succulents 1-2 inches apart in the planter; they don't need much room to grow!

Photos provided by Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery



Agave

Add fun finishing touches such as marbles, seaglass or rocks around the succulent planter.

Stay cool and happy planting!

Flower of the Week: Agave

Please email Kathy at kcg.pvr@gmail.com for any questions or gardening tips you would like to see in the future. For more information and ideas, visit Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery, 196 N. Roscoe Blvd. The phone number is 904-655-7373.



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10 COMMUNITY NEWSPonte Vedra Recorder · July 4, 2024



District Governor Mickey Ulmer, left, and President Karen Everett



Pictured from left: Bob Wiltfong, Karen Everett and Rosemary Lorenz

Nocatee Rotary installs new president

The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra (Nocatee) has a new president. Club charter member Karen Everett was sworn in as the group's new leader during a "Pass the Gavel Celebration and Installation" event at Maggiano's in Town Center last week.

After Everett recited the oath of office and received her president's pin, she told the assembled audience, "My goal this year is to encourage current and future engaged members to improve our community and world with fellowship, friendship and fun along with a dose of Rotary magic."

The Magic of Rotary is the 2024-25 Rotary International theme that clubs will embrace.

In addition to Everett's swearing in, the club's outgoing president, Joshua Hull, presented gift baskets to his board and handed out three special recognition awards. Rotarian Rosemary Lorenz received the President's Award for her service to the Rotary Youth Exchange Program. Everett collected the Dr. Leona Farrell Award for working quietly behind the scenes for years in service to the club. And the Rotarian of the Year award went to the immediate past club President and outgoing Chairman of the Ponte Vedra Rotary Foundation (the club's charitable foundation) Bob Wiltfong.



Contributed photos

The 2024-25 Board of Directors, pictured from left: DGE Dale Moe, Kelly Sastre, Past President Josh Hull, Andy Erickson, MaryBeth Murray, Michael DeMarco, Linda Lomaz, Bob Wilfong, Sarah Schmitt, President Karen Everett and District Governor Mickey Ulmer.

In return, the club gave appreciation gifts to Hull to commemorate an outstanding year under his leadership. After receiving his Past President pin, Hull told the gathering, "I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of this club this year and there were many. We learned of a need for local students who were considered homeless. As soon as our club identified the need, we partnered with a local nonprofit, Mission to End Student Homelessness (MESH), and raised \$20,000 to assist students in need. Our club continues to be

committed to the Rotary value of 'Serive Above Self' in our local community and beyond."

The District Governor of Rotary District 6970, Mickey Ulmer, from the R1otary Club of Flagler Beach was on hand to celebrate and participate in the installation ceremony, as was Dale Moe, charter president of the Rotary Club of Northwest Jacksonville and 2024-25 District Governor Nominee.

The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra, chartered in April of 2018, is one of 64 Rotary

Clubs in North Florida that comprise Rotary District 6970. Its mailing address is 101 Marketside Ave., Units 404-111, Ponte Vedra, FL 32081. Rotary is a global network of 1.4 million neighbors, friends, leaders and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves. For information about where in Nocatee the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra meets, email an inquiry to: pontevedrarotary@gmail.com.

Briefs

Continued from 2

search for shark teeth and learn about coastal wildlife. Meet at GTM Research Reserve Visitor Center, 505 Guana River Road, Ponte Vedra Beach.

Wear comfortable closed-toe shoes. Hat, insect repellent, water and sunscreen are recommended. The event is free but online registration is required. To register, go to gtmnerr.org/visit/events.

- Compiled by Shaun Ryan

\$214K donated to Builders Care

Chris Wood and Matt Roberts, owners of Riverside Homes, presented a substantial donation of \$214,000 to Builders Care on June 19. This contribution was made possible through the steadfast support of vendor partners and exemplifies the quality workmanship and creative solutions that brought the "Home from the Heart" project in the Nocatee community to fruition.

In 2017, Providence Homes introduced the "Home from the Heart" program to Builders Care. The initiative involved home builders constructing one of the homes in a neighborhood at cost, with all profits be-

ing donated. Before the contribution from Riverside Homes, Builders Care had received close to \$350,000 in donations from previous supporters of the "Home from the Heart" program, including Providence Homes, ICI Homes and MasterCraft Builder Group.

Riverside Homes' donation will allow Builders Care to assist approximately 25 homeowners in the Northeast Florida region with substantial home repairs. These repairs will range from roof repairs or replacements to the construction of home-access ramps for Northeast Florida's most vulnerable citizens.

St. Johns County offers free beach shuttle service July 4-7

The Independence Day holiday weekend is one of the busiest times on St. Johns County's beaches. St. Johns County, in partnership with the Tourist Development Council, will offer a free shuttle service to Mickler's Landing Beachfront Park and the St. Johns County Ocean and Fishing Pier from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, July 4, through Sunday, July 7, weather permitting.

The shuttles will run every 20 minutes, with the final shuttles departing from the beaches to the designated parking locations at 4 p.m. St. Johns County Beach Services will provide updates on shuttle service, beach access, and driving conditions via the SJC Connect mobile app (sjcfl.us/sjc-connect) and on Facebook and Twitter (@SJCBeaches). For additional information, the public may call St. Johns County Beach Services at 904-209-0331.

The Mickler's Landing Beachfront Park shuttle will transport beach visitors between Cornerstone Park, 1046 A1A N., and the park, which provides direct access to the beach.

The St. Johns County Ocean and Fishing Pier shuttle will transport beach visitors between St. Augustine Beach City Hall, 2200 A1A S., and the pier parking lot, which provides direct access to pier amenities and the beach.

St. Johns County lifeguards, St. Johns County Sheriff's deputies and St. Augustine Beach Police officers will work together from July 4 through July 7 to ensure the safest beach experience possible for all residents and visitors.

For details on beach access, policies, safe driving tips, and conditions, go to sjcfl.us/beaches. For guidance on beach safety, go to sjcfl.us/beach-safety.

Lifequards and Beach Flags

- Lifeguards will be on duty at various locations on St. Johns County beaches from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. throughout the Fourth of July weekend, weather permitting. In addition, marine rescue personnel will regularly patrol the beaches.
- Warning flags are in place along the beach to inform visitors of current water and surf conditions. Yellow flags indicate

a medium hazard level, including strong currents and surf. Red flags indicate a high hazard with stronger currents and more dangerous surf conditions. Purple flags indicate dangerous marine life in the area. The absence of a flag does not mean there is no danger, as beach visitors should always exercise caution when swimming in the ocean.

- Rip currents are strong, fast-moving currents of water that move seaward from the shore. Rip currents may be recognized by a foamy, choppy surface and water that appears brown from sand being churned and rapidly moved out to sea. If caught in a rip current, the most important thing to remember is to remain calm. Swim parallel with the shoreline until you are out of the current's pull, and then swim toward shore. Those who are not strong swimmers are not recommended to go beyond knee level in the
- St. Johns County asks beachgoers to observe flag colors, swim near a lifeguard, and call 911 in an emergency.

On-Beach Driving

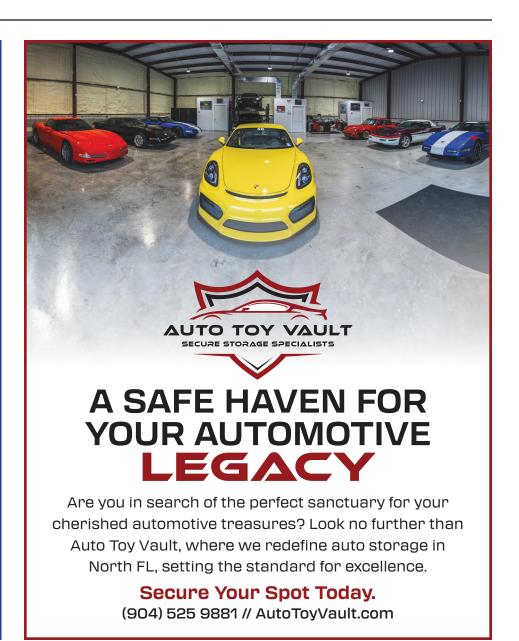
- Vehicles are permitted on the beach between 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Beach passes are required for vehicle access. Passes can be purchased with cash at any beach access ramp. For information about beach passes, go to sjcfl.us/beachservices/beach-passes. Visitors are asked to help maintain safe driving practices on St. Johns County beaches by complying with the following rules:
- Vehicular traffic must remain in the designated driving lanes as identified by
- Parking is allowed on the west side of the driving lane between the cones and the dune.
- The maximum vehicular speed allowed on the beach is 10 mph.
- Vehicles may not enter the beach at the Fort Matanzas Ramp.
- All vehicles must stop at all beach ramps and yield to all pedestrians.
- Soft sand conditions may exist, and only 4-by-4 vehicles may be allowed on some beaches.

July 4 pool party safety

Americans gather in backyards across the United States in celebration of the nation's independence each July. Festivities often include delicious food cooked on the grill, music, laughter, and, if there is a pool in the yard, hours of splashing around. Pools are great places to cool off from the hot sun. But pools also can be dangerous. Simple precautionary measures can save lives against drowning.

- Never leave a child unattended in a pool or around any body of water no matter how small, even for a minute.
 - Teach children basic water safety.
- Avoid overloading the pool with too many boisterous swimmers, especially if adults, older kids and young kids are in the water. Small children can quickly get lost
- Avoid swimming if you have been consuming alcohol.
- Designate a lifeguard, whether it's a hired, certified professional, or someone who has taken on the task and will keep eyes fixed on the pool at all times while swimmers are present.
- Establish rules and enforce them. Prohibit diving into shallow water and running around the slippery edge of the pool.





Amelia Island to host Fourth festivities

There may be no better place to celebrate the Fourth of July than Amelia Island, where friends and family gather to enjoy long summer days and a sizzling selection of star-spangled festivities. This year, Amelia Island has a variety of options for locals and travelers alike, including free fireworks displays and several premier events at the Omni Amelia Island Resort and The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island.

Hometown Fourth of July Fireworks Show — The island's most popular celebration is the free fireworks show in downtown Fernandina Beach along the harbor front on July 4 from 6 to 9 p.m. Past and present collide with small town charm, creating a stunning setting along the Amelia River. The evening includes a DJ, food trucks and fun options for the whole family. Fireworks launch at approximately 9 p.m. Information available online.

Omni Amelia Island Resort — This award-winning resort has a nonstop lineup of fun activities for guests to enjoy all weekend long, including the signature Party on the Pool Deck with Fireworks (July 4), unique Golf Cart Parade (July 4), Build Your Own Boat event (July 4 and 6), Mini Golf Tournament (July 5) and Red, White and Blue Bash (July 6). Open to the public, fitness-focused fun includes the Treat

Yourself Spa special (July 4-6) and Firecracker 5K (July 6). Go to OmniHotels.com/hotels/amelia-island for more information and to book online.

The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island — Check in to this five-diamond luxury resort to check out three delicious weekend festivities. The Red, White and Deep Blue Celebration (July 4) is a spectacular barbecue featuring lawn and carnival-style games, a generous barbecue buffet, and dazzling fireworks show. The resort is also hosting Holy City Hogs Pitmaster Tank Jackson Unlocks the Secrets of Slow Roast BBQ (July 5) with their very own Executive Chef Garrett Gooch to

demonstrate slow roasting techniques, and the Holy City Hogs Barbecue Party (July 6), an al fresco event featuring a slow roasted whole hog, local craft beer and breathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean. Learn more and book online at RitzCarltonAmeliaIsland.ipoolside.com.

Residents and visitors alike are invited to celebrate the Fourth of July on Amelia Island. Along with an awardwinning collection of resorts, hotels and bed-and-breakfasts, Amelia Island is also home to ocean front vacation rental properties that are perfect for big groups and families. Go to AmeliaIsland.com to explore options and book

What you don't know about fireworks can cost your sight

Every year, people suffer serious eye injuries from backyard fireworks displays. Most of the victims are children and bystanders located nowhere near the pyrotechnics. As Independence Day nears, the Florida Society of Ophthalmology and the American Academy of Ophthalmology are working to dispel the myths that put people at risk of blindness.

"Most people just don't see the harm in sparklers, spinners, firecrackers and bottle rockets, and they learn too late the necessity of wearing eye protection," said Dianna Seldomridge, M.D., clinical spokesperson for the American Academy of Ophthalmology. "It's best to leave fireworks to the professionals. But if you choose to celebrate with fireworks, wear safety goggles and take all the necessary precautions to keep your family safe."

"Last year, more than 6,000 fireworksrelated injuries were treated in U.S. emergency rooms around the Fourth of July period and eyes are among the parts of the body most often injured," said



Megan Scott Carlton, M.D., a member of the Florida Society of Ophthalmology board and owner of Palm Valley Eye Care & Surgeons in Ponte Vedra Beach. "There are many myths surrounding consumer fireworks, and it is important to understand all the risks before deciding

on how to celebrate Independence Day this year."

Myth 1: Consumer fireworks are harmless. Reality: Fireworks can cause blinding eye injuries, such as chemical and thermal burns, corneal abrasions or retinal detachment. If you live

in a state where consumer fireworks are legal and have plans to use them, wear eye protection.

Myth 2: Sparklers are made for kids and aren't dangerous. Reality: Don't let their small size fool you; sparklers burn at more than 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit. That's hot enough to melt certain metals.

Myth 3: Duds are harmless. Reality: Malfunctioning fireworks should be handled with caution. Never look down the barrel of a firework and make sure to point it away from others. Do not try to relight faulty fireworks. Instead, soak it in water and throw the dud away.

Myth 4: Only those handling the fireworks are at risk. Reality: The majority of firework-related eye injuries happen to bystanders. Watch fireworks from at least 500 feet away and make sure everyone is wearing eye protection.

If an eye injury does occur, seek medical attention right away.

For more tips and information, go to eyesmart.org.



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Fireworks

to maximize the expense by arriving as early as possible and spending the day shopping, dining and seeing the sights in and around the city's historic district.

For more information about the parking facility, go to citystaug.com/502/ Historic-Downtown-Parking-Facility.

Alternately, parking is available throughout downtown St. Augustine, though road closures will affect traffic flow beginning at 8:30 p.m. Note that some streets have restricted or no parking. In addition, visitors should note that some parking areas are private and there is no access to the lot at the Castillo de San Marcos during the latter hours of Independence Day.

A free park-and-ride shuttle will be available on the island from 6 to 11 p.m. Access the shuttle at Anastasia Baptist Church, St. Augustine Amphitheatre and R.B. Hunt Elementary School. Parking will be available at St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zoological Park, though access to the shuttle will be at R.B. Hunt.

The 20-minute fireworks show begins at 9:30 p.m. More than 5,000 shells will be shot from a barge in the Intracoastal Waterway. They can be widely viewed throughout the bay area.

Exiting the downtown area requires a heightened degree of patience, and



Photography by Jackie Hird, contributed photo

Spectators view the fireworks from the grounds around the Castillo de San Marcos.

motorists should take care to watch for pedestrians or unexpected conditions. Note that the Bridge of Lions will not be open to automobiles until 11 p.m.

It is advisable to plan one's exit prior to the event. Traffic rerouting will be underway between 8 and 11 p.m. Vehicular traffic will be prohibited on Avenida Menendez, Cathedral Place and South Castillo Drive.

King Street will have two westbound lanes and one eastbound lane west of

MLK Boulevard. East of MLK to Avenida Menendez, it will have one lane in each direction.

There will be no eastbound traffic on West Castillo from U.S. 1 to North Cordova. North Cordova will be closed from Orange Street to the entrance of the parking garage.

To plan your exit strategy, go to citystaug.com and click on the link titled "City of St. Augustine prepares for annual Independence Day celebration."

Pool

Continued from 11

- · Learn how to administer CPR to both children and adults.
- If a child goes missing, look for him or her in the pool first.
- Minimize the use of pool floats that can obscure the view of the pool floor when there are many swimmers present.
- Keep a phone handy at all times. Promptly call for emergency services if the need arises.
- Ensure everyone immediately exits the pool if thunder is heard or lightning
- Turn off the filter pump while guests are swimming, particularly to protect against entrapment on pool drains or
- The American Association of Pediatrics advises against allowing infants and toddlers in hot tubs. Older children should not be in a hot tub for more than 20 minutes at a time.
- Be sure the water chemistry is balanced in pools and spas so that swimmers are not irritated by the chemicals and the water is sanitary. Also, keep in mind that swim diapers are not foolproof. Check youngsters often so that waste does not end up in the pool.

These are just some pool safety tips to keep everyone protected during July 4 festivities or anytime a pool is used.

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St. Johns County receives \$26.5M in state appropriations

St. Johns County announced it will receive \$26.5 million in the fiscal year 2025 State of Florida appropriations for five projects, including public safety, transportation, beach restoration and cultural affairs. Adam Tecler, director of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, updated the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners on June 18.

On June 12, Gov. Ron DeSantis signed the "Focus on Florida's Future" Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-25. St. Johns

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County will receive state funding for the following projects:

All Hazards Regional Fire Training Facility & Unified Command Center

FY 2025 State Appropriation: \$7.5 million

With the capacity to address the five regional counties' NFPA and ISO training requirements, this facility will feature training infrastructure for fire suppression, urban search and rescue, hazmat response and EMS. The Unified Command Center will provide a coordinated response to large-scale incidents on I-95 and the Florida East Coast rail corridor.

State Road 16 — Phase 1

FY 2025 State Appropriation: \$7.5 million

The existing two-lane high-speed arterial will be widened to a four-lane divided highway from the International Golf Parkway to the I-95 interchange. To improve safety and mobility, the project prioritizes the construction of bike lanes, sidewalks and medians to prevent illegal passing.

County Road 2209 — Central Segment Phase 2

FY 2025 State Appropriation: \$6.5 million

County Road 2209 is a strategically planned north-south corridor that enhances access to the St. Johns County interior and provides traffic relief to I-95 and U.S. 1. This appropriation will initiate the construction of Phase 2 from International Golf Parkway to State Road 16.

South Ponte Vedra Beach Dune Restoration

FY 2025 State Appropriation: \$4.75 million

This appropriation matches \$9.75 million in federal funds for a critical beach erosion project south of the GTM beaches. Once complete, this engineered beach will provide durable protection of property, public infrastructure and vulnerable ecosystems. The project also provides additional recreational opportunities for residents and tourists.

Lincolnville Museum

FY 2025 State Appropriation: \$225,000

This appropriation will be used to further the preservation of African-American history and culture in St. Augustine. The project will install exterior security enhancements, such as lighting and security cameras, sound domes and Braille to make exhibit content more accessible

and inclusive.

The Board of County Commissioners, reflecting the community's values, continues to prioritize the protection of natural resources and conservation of water and land. Tecler addressed funding opportunities that support the board's effort to preserve natural habitats and actively engage and educate residents about conservation efforts, encouraging community involvement.

During the update, Tecler mentioned the budget provides the county access to state conservation funds.

"There is approximately \$440 million in unexpended funds available for land acquisition through the Florida Forever Program, the state's blueprint for conserving Florida's natural and recreation lands, including those located within the Florida Wildlife Corridor," said Tecler. "In addition to funding the Florida Forever Program, the state's budget makes available \$200 million to protect Florida's working agricultural lands and family farms, including up to \$100 million in recurring funds for the Rural and Family Lands Protection Program. The budget presents a significant funding opportunity for critical conservation projects in St. Johns County."

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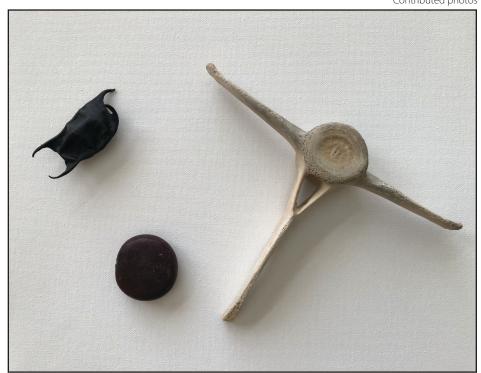
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COMMUNITY NEWS 15 Ponte Vedra Recorder · July 4, 2024

Contributed photos



A display of teeth and bone fragments Jacqueline Reimann gathered during her beachcombing outings.



Connected animal bones that resemble a toy airplane and other strange objects from Jacqueline Reimann's collection.

Beachcomber discoveries reveal area's secret past

By Mike Mulhern

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second in a series of stories about what local residents have found at the beach in Ponte Vedra. The first story ran in our June 13 edition.

Jacqueline Reimann caught the beachcombing bug right away after moving to Ponte Vedra from New Jersey during the '90s. It soon became an addiction, nurtured by the frequent endorphin rushes she experienced every time she salvaged

a shark's tooth from the sand or snatched it from the clutches of an encroaching wave.

"Sharks' teeth were all I knew about," she says, "until a gentleman approached me on the beach one day and told me, 'Pick up everything and anything that's

black, regardless of its size. You'll be surprised at what you can find.' I followed his advice, then went and got the books that were supposed to tell me what I had found. They didn't help much. I still can't

BEACHCOMBER continues on **Page 17**



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Contributed photos

Beverly Flanagan accepts the gavel as the new president of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach as more than 15 of the club's past presidents look on.

Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach installs new president

The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach installed its new president, Beverly Flanagan, at the club's final meeting of the 2023-24 year, held June 27 at Marsh Landing Country Club.

More than 15 of the club's past presidents were in attendance to participate in the passing of the gavel to Flanagan, who succeeds 2023-24 President Jennifer Logue.

Prior to passing the gavel, Logue offered a review of the club's many activities and accomplishments during the previous year. In addition to raising

funds to support Rotary International's

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Since 1966



campaign to eradicate polio, Logue said, the club completed several international service projects — including supporting clean water projects in Nicaragua and Honduras and hosting an international delegation from Armenia that came to the First Coast to study women leaders.

Club members also participated in numerous local service activities, from conducting food drives for BEAM and picking up trash along A1A to renovating homes for Habitat for Humanity and preparing and serving meals for organ transplant patients at Gabriel House of Care.

Flanagan's installation as president was also highlighted by the announcement that the club's annual Mineral City Celebration gala, which Flanagan cochaired, raised \$120,000 for distribution to Beaches-area charities.

The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach holds weekly breakfast meetings Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. at Marsh Landing Country Club. To learn about becoming a member or for more information, contact pvbrotaryclub@gmail.com.



Ponte Vedra Beach Rotary President-elect Chris Eckols, President Beverly Flanagan, Foundation Chair Billy Wagner and Immediate Past President Jennifer Logue display a check for \$120,000 representing the amount the club will distribute to local charities from its recent Mineral City Celebration gala.



Beachcomber

figure out what everything is!"

Most of those black things she gathered up were teeth not from sharks, but from animals that inhabited this land eons ago. These weren't possums and armadillos. Some of them were big animals that were hardly people-friendly.

In ages past, this place was a jungle! Go stand out in your yard and imagine the clock rolling back 20,000 years. You'd better be equipped with a spear because — if you're not — it's likely you're going to get eaten! On the flip side, if you can use that spear well, you've got a nice menu to choose from.

What was the most unusual tooth she found? She produces a fossilized tooth that's obviously a molar.

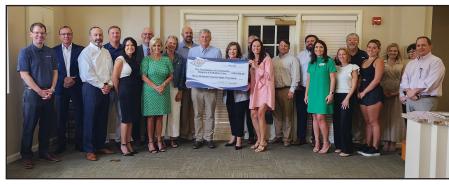
"I thought this was from an animal," she says. "But upon closer inspection, it looks like there is a crown over the tooth. Some of it is broken off, exposing the tooth underneath. I researched this online to find out when crowns were first made and learned that applying tooth crowns dates back to ancient times, and different materials were used when doing so. I can't come to any conclusion other than that this is the tooth of a human being!"

Perhaps she is correct. After all, each incoming wave is like turning the page of a mystery novel, delivering more



Fossilized crowned molar tooth, the size and shape of which indicate it may have come from a human.

questions than answers. So, who was the owner of this tooth? Was it a swimmer who drowned? An Indian who once resided here whose grave site was consumed by the waves? A passenger on an ancient ship that sank to the bottom of the ocean? Whatever the case, one thing is for certain: It's another tasty morsel of unsolved riddles for area residents to munch upon!



Contributed photo

The recent Children are Rock Stars benefit event raised \$328,000.

\$328K raised at event that supports children in need

The Foundation of Community Hospice & Palliative Care has announced that the recent Children are Rock Stars (C.A.R.S) benefit event, presented by Ring Power and held at The Brumos Collection, raised \$328,000.

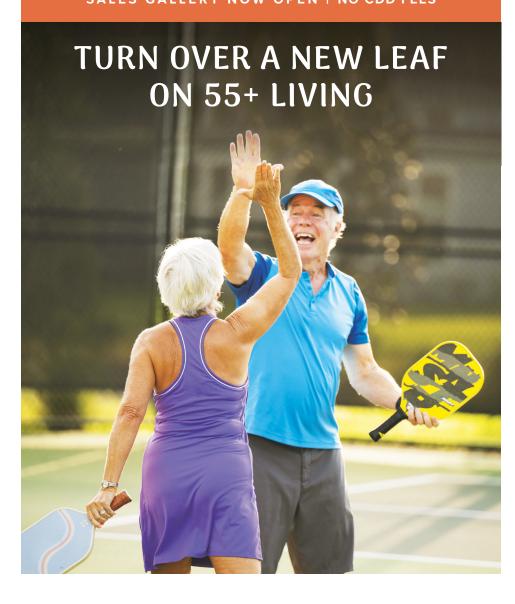
"We extend our heartfelt thanks to Ring Power and the dedicated C.A.R.S. committee for their incredible effort and unwavering support, which were instrumental in making this event a success," said Annie Tuttle, executive director of The Foundation of Community Hospice & Palliative Care. "Their commitment to our cause and the generous contributions from our donors and sponsors have made a significant impact."

The annual C.A.R.S. event directly

benefits Community PedsCare in Jacksonville, the pediatric program of Community Hospice & Palliative Care, which offers support to children living with serious and life-limiting illnesses and their families. Additionally, it supports Every Child Counts in the Abaco Islands, an institution providing alternative education for children with learning, developmental and physical disabilities. The funds will support unfunded programs and provide quality care to Jacksonville and Marsh Harbour children.

For more information about the Foundation of Community Hospice & Palliative Care and its programs, go to TheFoundationCares.org.





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Photos by Anthony Richards



Raghu Misra presented Matt Taylor with an award for his help on the project.

Gold

Continued from

by the U.S. Green Building Council and it is the most widely used green building rating system in the world, with 197,000 LEED projects worldwide in 186 countries and territories.

"Our goal was to be nothing less than gold," Raghu Misra said.

Although gold status is very rare with the link being the first in Ponte Vedra and one of less than a handful buildings in St. Johns County, it was the top priority for the Misras when devising a building plan.

"There were two motivating factors for why we wanted to do it," Gurpreet Misra said. "Our motivation was to bring the best indoor environment quality to our occupants, because my older son has asthma and Raghu has asthma. The second thing, was that we wanted to reduce as much carbon footprint for our building as possible, and we have exceeded it."

According to Raghu Misra, the LEED certification does not just come through the application of a building's design and the difference it makes, but it is a very intense and drawn-out process that requires in-depth documentation.

He credited his wife for being the one that did the work to push it across the finish line and get them to where they are today.

"Since the building was built I've been living that process every day," Gurpreet Misra said. "The day I got the e-mail with the news, I just couldn't believe it. Getting that plaque and sharing it with the community is like getting a degree."

They hope that more businesses and developments in Ponte Vedra and St. Johns County will follow suit and use the link as an example to show that environmentally



Mike Koppenhafer (right) received an award from Raghu Misra.

conscious buildings are worth the investment moving forward.

Matt Taylor with Serrafin Master Builders and Mike Koppenhafer with Fisher Koppenhafer Architecture and Interior Design both played major roles in the construction of the building and were in attendance to see the link get recognized.

"Raghu came to us and had this vision in mind," Koppenhafer said. There was a lot of thought that went into the space, and this is an exceptional building because a cookie-cutter owner, who just wants to push out a building space, Raghu is not."

According to Koppenhafer, it was refreshing to hear the Misras' vision for the space and something that as an architect he embraced.

"It's nice to do a space that has so much life in it," Koppenhafer said. "Kudos to Raghu and his team to do this thing to this level." There are many ways the link went about gaining points in the LEED system with their design decisions, but one of the most impressive is probably the lighting throughout the facility.

According to Koppenhafer, an average building's expense to power its lights is a couple thousand dollars per month, which equates to roughly \$35 to \$65 per day.

However, with the link's lighting system, it costs \$3.90 a day on average to light the building.

Koppenhafer and Taylor were both presented awards as well courtesy of the link for their help on the project and for making the dream for the building a reality.

"The building is great, but it's really all about the human beings behind it," Raghu Misra said.

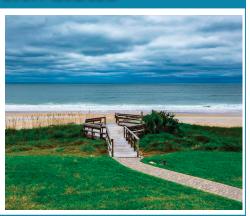
The building is 22,500 square feet and features flexible activity spaces on the first level and an open workspace and offices on the second level.



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Ponte Vedra Recorder · July 4, 2024 COMMUNITY NEWS 19



Fourteen summer campers from FSDB enjoyed a unique sailing experience aboard St. Augustine Sailing yachts.



Photos by Kim Kelly

Captain Dale Edgar teaches a student about sailing.

FSDB students set sail for unique experience

For the past four years, St. Augustine Sailing has partnered with the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind (FSDB) to provide a unique experience. FSBD is a fully accredited, tuition-free state public school for eligible pre-K and K-12 students who are deaf/hard of hearing, blind/visually impaired and deafblind. On June 18, St. Augustine Sailing welcomed 14 of FSBD's summer campers with vision impairments and six companions on board two of their yachts

for a morning of sailing.

But this wasn't just a passive boat tour. The captains and crew engaged the students in all aspects of running the boats, using learning techniques devised from many years of teaching sailing to students of all abilities.

"We try to go all out to give them a really great experience," said Toste Muniz, office manager at St. Augustine Sailing. "We have a photographer come on the sails, so each child gets a beautiful photo

behind the helm. It's just a really special sail, not just for the kids, but for us, too. One of the little girls hugged me so tightly at the end and told me she loved it so much she never wanted to leave. It's really an indescribable feeling."

St. Augustine Sailing captains Chris De Hart and Dale Edgar departed the docks on the sailing yachts Wind Dancer and Far Niente. The crew tied different knots and allowed the kids to feel each turn of the line, learning the shapes through touch. The captains talked about the wind, and the children experienced tacks and maneuvers by feeling the wind on their faces. They used sounds to learn how to adjust the sails, and every child got a chance to take the helm and feel the pull of the water on the rudder.

"As a captain and instructor, it really reminds us how important it is to utilize all the senses," said De Hart. "So much

EXPERIENCE continues on **Page 20**





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A student learns the shape of a sailboat using a model.



Photos by Kim Kelly **An FSDB student practices tying knots.**

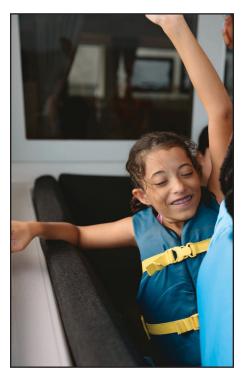
Experience

Continued from 1

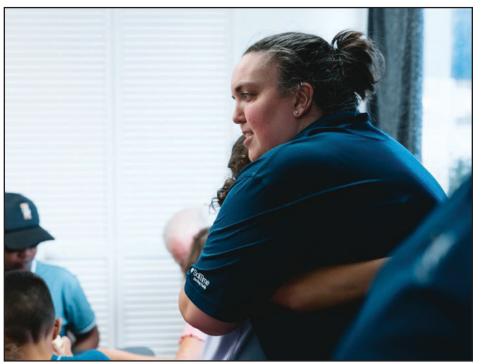
of sailing is being in tune to the sounds and feel of the boat, engine and weather."

Back at the dock, the instructors used custom-built miniature boats with tiny sails that moved and gave each child their own small block of wood with a little cleat and piece of line to keep.

"This is an experience we return to each year because it's exciting and interactive," says Jenny Enache, FSDB summer camp director. "So often, our kids end up being passive passengers. St. Augustine Sailing takes the time to provide true hands-on learning, allowing them to explore and ask questions and giving them time to process and get comfortable. They're not just learning about sailing, they're gaining confidence. Rose Ann [Points] and her staff are always incredibly kind and thoughtful, and they consider the kids' safety."



An FSDB student enjoys her sailing adventure.



A student hugs Toste Muniz, office manager at St. Augustine Sailing.

Ponte Vedra Recorder · July 4, 2024 COMMUNITY NEWS 21

Whitney Lab begins construction of new research building

The Whitney Lab has begun the construction of the long-awaited Marine Research Institute Building and Sea Turtle Research Center and Hospital. Once complete, the new facilities will bring high-technology and science education outreach to the shores of St. Johns and Flagler counties.

University of Florida's Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience, situated on State Road A1A near Marineland, is a research institute specializing in the basic biology of marine organisms. The current building — once reported as "squat and durable enough to withstand a hurricane, but hardly a posterboard for aesthetics" — is showing the wear and tear of more than 50 years of scientific discovery.

"Our existing building is dilapidated with small rooms, poor lighting and insufficient airflow," said Director Mark Martindale back in 2021. "We're looking forward to filling [the new building] up with more of the best and brightest scientists in the country."

The construction site was previously occupied by Whitney Hall (used as event space, dormitory and offices over the years) and two modular homes. With a



Contributed image

A rendering of the forthcoming Marine Research Institute Building and Sea Turtle Research Center and Hospital.

project budget of \$41.2 million and more than 38,000 square feet in size, the new building and Sea Turtle Research Center and Hospital overlooking the Matanzas estuary will more than double current research space.

Twelve state-of-the-art collaborative faculty laboratories will include specialized research areas, such as space for advanced microscopy training and a natural products chemistry suite for drug discovery from our environment.

Plans also include an interactive Marine Research and Conservation Discovery Lobby designed so visitors can learn about the Whitney Laboratory's research programs, surrounding environment and efforts in sea turtle conservation.

Construction is slated for completion in summer 2025. The building is planned

for LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) gold certification, a globally recognized symbol of sustainability achievement and the most widely used green building rating system.

The building design was created through a collaboration with Whitney scientists, UF Planning, Construction and Design, and the architecture firms Lord Aeck Sargent (Atlanta) and TTV Architects (Jacksonville). DPR construction firm, centered in Jacksonville, is the construction manager for the ambitious project.

"The significant philanthropic support from the community has been instrumental in partnering with the state to support and push science and education forward through Whitney's new building," said Jessica Long, senior director of advancement for the Whitney Lab. "We are excited to be at the precipice of a new chapter for the lab's next 50 years."

There are still interior naming opportunities available. For more information, contact Jessica Long at jessicalong@ whitney.ufl.edu, Heather Krumholtz at heather@whitney.ufl.edu or Brent Foster at brent.foster@whitney.ufl.edu.









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Ronan

Continued from 6

always change the name from Mary to Molly. So, I grew up just loving it.

Now, it's like a self-fulfilling prophecy in a way!

I see you're going to be on Irish TV.

I'm very excited. Growing up, I watched the television program a lot. And I watched, especially, all the other girls from Florida who go.

You're from Ponte Vedra originally.

I still live in Ponte Vedra. I went to PVPV Rawlings, Landrum and then Ponte Vedra High School. (Go Sharks!) I went to UF for college. And I ended up moving back home. Now I'm here and I work as a substitute teacher at St. Paul's Catholic School. I'm also a freelance wedding and event harpist, and I work with my mom. She has her own business, Key Deer Consulting. So, I also work with her, as well.

What do you like best about living here?

When I see friends from school who have gone to other places and then ended up coming back either to visit or live, I think: Why would you leave here? It's paradise!

It's truly just beautiful. I grew up here, so I can't compare it to anything else, but it's truly just the most laid-back, beach



Contributed photo

Molly Ronan of Ponte Vedra, far right, stands with all of the young women in the selection process at the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando.

life.

What are your plans for the future?

Teaching Irish music. I very much want to pass the tradition to the next generation. With my time at the school, I've really uncovered my love of teaching and sharing it.

How do you like to spend your free time?

I've actually really gotten into running 5Ks. I'd never been a runner, but I did one

on St. Patrick's Day, and now I'm hooked.

Anything else?

When I was selected as the Florida Rose, I met some of the most incredible women and girls at that event. They truly, I can say, will be my lifelong friends. That's something that I will be forever grateful to this experience for. This really is just such a big celebration of women and just such a big celebration of lifelong friendship and Irish heritage and culture.

That is unique, I think, to this organiza-

tion and to this festival as a whole, and it's something that I really just am so glad to be part of.

Truly, all of the girls here, they're from different parts of Florida and they have so many cool careers and different passion projects and things that they've done, so to be chosen to represent them, I hope to do them proud. It's just been the most wonderful experience.

I'm excited to go to Ireland to make even more friends and more sisters. We're all really Rose sisters, I would say.

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BUSINESS WEEKLY 23

Business news, go to facebook.com/ThePVRecorder

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www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

PGA TOUR internship program in-depth, competitive

By Anthony Richards

The PGA TOUR is known for its involvement in the community and that includes the development of the next generation of workforce.

This is done thanks to their internship program, which has been around since 1992, but according to Jim Clarke, PGA TOUR vice president of talent and culture, beginning in 2010, the program was enhanced with a classroom-based curriculum to provide opportunities for personal and professional growth.

"We designed this very specifically to ensure that there was a strong focus on how they are actually taking what we teach them and then being able to make it practical," Clarke said. "Every year one of the things that is consistent, is that I ask them, 'So what did you do on Friday night after your first week of work?' and everyone's like, 'We went to bed.' Because as college students they are just not used to a 40-hour straight work week."

That is an example of the practical sense that the internship program

seeks to capture, and according to Maiah Jaffa, from the University of Florida and a Creekside High alumna who is interning in the PGA TOUR's digital department it is exactly what she was hoping for from an internship.

"I had another internship prior to this, but it just wasn't as in-depth," Jaffa said. "It definitely crams a lot of work in a short period, but I really enjoy that."

Noahan Dacanay is also from St.

PROGRAM continues on Page 25



Photo courtesy of PGA TOUR

The members of the 2024 PGA TOUR summer internship program.

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24 BUSINESS WEEKLY Ponte Vedra Recorder · July 4, 2024

GUEST COLUMN

Ask these four questions to help you prepare for retirement

Written by/for Wells Fargo Advisors

To determine how much you will need to fund your retirement, it's helpful to estimate what your budget will look like. These four questions could help you identify your retirement lifestyle and plan for the related costs.

1. What will I be doing?

- Do I plan to continue working past age 65 or after I reach my full retirement age? Full time or part time?
- Are there hobbies I want to pursue that will either cost money or make money?
- Is there volunteer work that may also have costs associated?
 - Do I plan to travel? Where?
 - Are there things I enjoy that have related costs?

2. Where will I be living?

- Will I stay in my current home or downsize to something smaller or a rental property?
- Will I move to a retirement community or assisted living facility?
- Will I sell my home and replace it with an RV or other alternative living option?

3. What situations could impact my expenditures?

- What health care coverage do I need for my health conditions?
- Do I have an emergency fund for unexpected situations such as a health care crisis or property loss due to a natural disaster?



Contributed photo

- What if I stop working sooner than expected?
- What happens if I experience a significant income loss?

4. What barriers are keeping me from investing?

- I have nothing extra to invest.
- I have education loans or other debt.
- I don't know how to start an investment plan.
- I have time to start saving later.

Next steps

Prepare rather than panic. Create an outline from your answers to these questions. It should give you the framework to calculate the income you may need to support your retirement lifestyle.

Decide to adjust your spending patterns today.Choose something you really don't need and redirect that

amount into your retirement savings. Take advantage of growth potential over time. Pay yourself first instead of spending money on something that won't support your future retirement needs. Creating that nest egg now could reduce your stress about money.

Start or add to an emergency fund. Even if the amount seems very small, it's important to take the first step. As that amount grows and the behavior becomes a habit, you will likely gain confidence and momentum in your investment activities.

Meet with a financial adviser to review your answers and turn your outline into a plan to help you work toward your goals.

This article was written by/for Wells Fargo Advisors and provided courtesy of Ponte Vedra Wealth Management Group in Ponte Vedra Beach at 904-273-7918.

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Chamber After Hours at Wells Fargo

The St. Johns County Chamber After Hours was held at Wells Fargo on June 26. It was a great opportunity for networking and catching up with Chamber members to end the work day.

Photos by Susan Griffin



Garth Greer, Regional Banking Manager at Wells Fargo, with Ambassador Josh Hull (at right) draws a name for the raffle winner.



Kathy Larsen, Membership and Events Manager for the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, speaks to attendees.



BUSINESS WEEKLY 25 Ponte Vedra Recorder · July 4, 2024

West Eastern Health unveils mental health and wellness center



For The Recorder

West Eastern Health has launched its first center offering a groundbreaking approach to mental health and wellness. The center delivers cutting-edge treatments, such as evidence-based, timerestricted ketamine-assisted psychotherapy (KAP), a revolutionary method designed to achieve maximum results for patients seeking comprehensive mental health care.

According to West Eastern Health, there is a growing need for innovative solutions to address complex mental health challenges. The Wellness Optimization Center is dedicated to providing personalized, evidence-based therapies that prioritize patient well-being and long-term recovery.

Innovative Treatment for Optimal Results

Time-restricted KAP combines the effects of ketamine, a medicine with an established safety profile used in hospitals throughout the world. However, the scientific/medical community has more recently discovered that low-dose ketamine (meticulously timed with psychotherapy) has remarkable and fastacting effects (within hours) to relieve depression.

In addition to depression, this combination of low-dose ketamine and focused psychotherapy has been shown to offer rapid relief from symptoms of

chronic pain, OCD, anxiety, PTSD, patients dealing with a cancer diagnosis and other mental health conditions.

Commitment to Patient-Centered

At the heart of West Eastern Health's philosophy is a commitment to patientcentered care.

The center offers a holistic and individualized approach, ensuring that each patient receives tailored treatment plans that address their specific needs and goals. The center's team of highly trained professionals, including psychiatrists, psychologists, therapists, nurses, research scientists and holistic practitioners work collaboratively to provide comprehensive support throughout the treatment process.

Expert Team and State-of-the-Art Facilities

West Eastern Health's Wellness Optimization Center is staffed by a team of experts with extensive experience in the field of mental health, neuroscience and holistic wellness. The center is equipped with state-of-the-art equipment, providing a safe, private and comfortable environment for patients to undergo treatment.

The Team

The team includes:

• Founder and CEO Dr. Aneel Paulus, a physician-scientist and consultant with more than 15 years of experience in translational oncology, clinical trials and drug development from pre-clinical to early-stage clinical phases. Noticing dramatic mental improvements in

patients who had undergone ketamine therapy, Paulus felt inspired to provide a safe and knowledgeable center where all could have access to the new developments in ketamine therapy.

- Julie Norman, a licensed professional counselor and a certified Masterslevel eye movement desensitization and reprocessing (EMDR) practitioner, specializing in providing comprehensive mental health care. Her therapeutic techniques include EMDR, talk therapy, mindfulness, outdoor therapy, somatic work and VR exposures, ensuring a holistic and personalized approach to mental health care.
- Dr. David Mathai, a board-certified psychiatrist and volunteer assistant professor at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He has advanced training as a behavioral pharmacologist and completed a postdoctoral research fellowship with the Johns Hopkins Center for Psychedelics and Consciousness Research.

West Eastern Health will host an open house from 1 to 6 p.m. July 13. The event will include a free introduction to breathwork with mini classes scheduled throughout the day, an opportunity to meet the staff and a guided tour of the center. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. Attendees will also have the chance to participate in a raffle for a wellness package and other prizes.

The center is located at 4210 Valley Ridge Blvd., Suite 101, Ponte Vedra.

To RSVP for the event, call Kortney Webb at 904-593-8480 or 904-234-8288.

For further information, go to westeasternhealth.com.

Program

Johns County and the University of North Florida student is part of the program as a finance intern.

"I've been working a lot with the new digital studios building that's being built, and helping forecast a budget for the studios," Dacanay said. "I've always been a math person and just been into numbers.'

Both Dacanay and Jaffa have different backgrounds in golf with Dacanay having volunteered at THE PLAYERS for the past five years, while Jaffa is not a golfer herself and is having to learn the common terms of the golf world now that she's in it.

However, Clarke believes that the diversity of the program's interns is something to be proud of and it shows that the PGA TOUR can use talented people regardless of whether they know the game of golf or not.

"Your talent is there no matter what, and now you just have to learn the product you're working with," Clarke said.

Since 2010, the PGA TOUR has received nearly 1,000 applications each year for the internship program with 14 to 16 candidates being selected to take part in the program through a rigorous selection process.

"It is a very competitive program, and I joke, but if you compare our stats to Harvard or Yale, we're more competitive to get in with only 1.6% of those who applied getting in," Clarke said. "The biggest compliment I can get is when someone finishes the program and asks, 'How do I go about working for you? Even if they don't work for us, I'm guessing in five to 10 years they'll be leaders at an organization and maybe they'll partner with us. It's really a win-win situation at the end of the



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Artist to exhibit new series of collagraphs

For The Recorder

The Butterfield Garage "Artist of the Month" for July is printmaker Debra Mixon Holliday, who is debuting her new series of collagraphs, "Once Around the Sun." An artist talk will be offered at 6 p.m. July 5 during St. Augustine's First Friday Art Walk. This will provide an opportunity to meet the artist and hear her behind-thescenes perspective on the printmaking process.

Her series celebrates and spotlights the native flora and fauna of Northeast Florida. With each image representing a month in the calendar year, the series presents an artist's interpretation of places and living creatures people can actually encounter here. The artist began the series earlier this year after winning an "Arts for All" grant from the St. Johns Cultural Council.

Collagraph etching, Mixon Holliday's chosen medium for the series, is a nontraditional printmaking technique that uses low-tech, low-toxicity materials, such as matboard, to create etching plates. Traditional etching uses metal plates and a number of chemicals that can be avoided with collagraphs.

In her home studio, Mixon Holliday uses an artist's press to create one-of-a-kind, hand-pulled etchings from the collagraph plates, which she then enhances with watercolor. Winning the Arts for All grant set her on a challenging path to create a large body of collagraph etchings in a much larger format than she had ever made

In her current work, Mixon Holliday seeks to integrate her experience as an artist and printmaker with a naturalist's eye for flora and fauna. Sharing with viewers her passion for our native environment, she hopes to open pathways for viewers to connect to the wildness, however small, that can still be found here.



Mixon Holliday feels this low-tech approach is an appropriate way to convey the stories and the specialness of the creatures and the environments upon which they

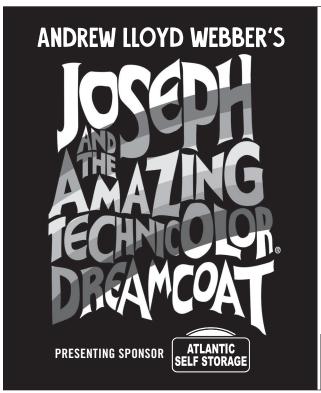
Mixon Holliday is a life-long resident of Florida, having grown up along the central Gulf coast of the state. As a child, she had free rein to wander her grandparents' farm and ranch there. Those wanderings began a foundation of watching and observing the flora and fauna of the



Southeast that now influence her art.

She holds a BA in visual arts from Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida, and a BA in English from the University of South Florida.

She will demonstrate collagraph printing from 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 6, and July 20 at the Butterfield Garage Art Gallery. She will have her portable "baby" press to show how a collagraph print is made.





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'Disney's Beauty' to be staged

For The Recorder

The Florida State College at Jacksonville High School Summer Musical Theatre Experience is celebrating its 18th year providing theatrical opportunities to First Coast-area students in grades 6-12. This summer, from July 19 through 28, more than 70 student performers and technicians will present "Disney's Beauty Ponte Vedra Recorder · July 4, 2024 IN THE ARTS 27

Beauty

Continued from 26

and the Beast." The Summer Musical Theatre Experience provides an opportunity for students to work handson with some of the most recognized local theatre professionals at the Nathan H. Wilson Center for the Arts to prepare for this production.

"Disney's Beauty and the Beast" has been produced in 37 countries worldwide. Based on the Academy Award-winning animated feature, the stage version includes the songs written by Alan Menken and the late Howard Ashman, along with new songs by Menken and Tim Rice. The original Broadway production ran for more than 13 years and was nominated for nine Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

The classic story tells of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped under the spell of an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end, and he will be transformed into his former self. But time is running out. If the Beast does not learn his lesson soon, he and his household will be doomed for all eternity.

This "tale as old as time" is filled with spectacular costume and set opportunities or, even more simply staged, "Disney's Beauty and the Beast" provides an opportunity to bring the community together for a family theater event. Appropriate for all audiences and groups.

Performances will be 7 p.m. July 19, 20, 26 and 27, and 2 p.m. July 21 and 28 at Florida State College at Jacksonville, South Campus, Nathan H. Wilson Center for the Arts, 11901 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville.

Tickets are \$30 for reserved seating, \$20 for FSCJ students and employees (limit two with each valid ID).

\$25 for non-FSCJ students and children age 12 and younger, seniors age 55 and older and military (limited to four discounted tickets. A valid military ID is required.)

Purchase tickets online at fscjartist-series.org. To order tickets by phone, call the Artist Series Box Office at 904-632-5000; hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday. They can also be purchased between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday at the Wilson Center for the Arts Box Office at 904-646-2222.



Collagraph demonstrations July 6 and 20

Artist Debra Mixon Holliday will demonstrate collagraph printing from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 6, and July 20 at the Butterfield Garage Art Gallery, 137 King St., St. Augustine. She will have her portable "baby" press to show the "behind-the-scenes" process for making a collagraph print.

Collagraph etching, is a nontraditional printmaking technique that uses low-tech, low-toxicity materials, such as matboard, to create etching plates. Tra-

ditional etching uses metal plates and a number of chemicals that can be avoided with collagraphs. Mixon Holliday uses an artist's press to create one-of-a-kind, hand-pulled etchings from the collagraph plates, which she then enhances with watercolor.

The phone number for Butterfield Garage Gallery is 904-825-4577. The email address is info@butterfieldgarage.com.

For further information, go to butter-fieldgarage.com.



Contributed photo

MOCA receives artworks to honor centennial

For The Recorder

The Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville (MOCA Jacksonville), a cultural institute of the University of North Florida, has announced an important gift from Los Angeles-based scholar, advocate and collector Gordon W. Bailey, in honor of the museum's 100th anniversary. Consisting of 21 artworks, the gift expands MOCA Jacksonville's permanent collection and significantly adds to the museum's holding of works by untrained artists.

One hundred years ago, a group of visionary, trailblazing women envisioned the kind of city they wanted Jacksonville to be: a community in which their families and others could thrive. The core of their vision was a rich, vital, dynamic city with a focus on art, culture and education.

"Caitlin Doherty, MOCA Jacksonville's executive director,



Contributed photo

"Untitled (pregnant women)," ca. 1990s by Purvis Young. Mixed media on carpet. 23-by-13-by-1/2 inches.

has a deep appreciation of artists and an inclusive worldview," Bailey said. "She and her talented staff — especially Senior Curator Ylva Rouse, with whom I worked closely on this gift — have elevated the museum's programming. I am glad to support their efforts. The museum is a vital cultural center."

Bailey's selection features artists not previously held by MOCA Jacksonville, including Eddie Arning, Chris Benchetler, Levent Isik, Samuel Pace, Phillipa Playford, Juanita Rogers, Cher Shaffer, Robert E. Smith, Sybil Roe Thompson, Mose



Contributed photo by Douglas J. Eng

"Untitled (woman with cat in tree)," ca. 1960s by Eddie Arning. Mixed media on paper. 16-by-22 inches.

Tolliver, Myrtle von Damitz III and Willie White, along with Florida's own Eric Holmes, Mary L. Proctor and Purvis Young.

"Mr. Bailey's donation adds strength to MOCA Jacksonville's holdings of works by self-taught artists and emphasizes our commitment to being a museum that fully represents Northeast Florida, offering access points to contemporary art that engage every member of our community," said Doherty. "We are grateful for his decades-long advocacy of marginalized artists. As we celebrate the museum's 100th anniversary, the gifted works enable MOCA Jacksonville to better promote a broader understanding of the art of our time, ensuring that the museum's collection, exhibitions, and programs will continue to inspire and advance dialogue and interest in contemporary art in all its foots."

Throughout 2024, MOCA Jacksonville celebrates its centennial year, recognizing the legacy of its visionary leaders and important milestones while presenting extraordinary exhibitions and stimulating programing, providing an energized destination for all those visiting downtown Jacksonville.

A feature exhibition, "Fill My Heart With Hope: Works from the Gordon W. Bailey Collection," comprised of artworks loaned by Bailey will open July 25. **28** SPORTS Ponte Vedra Recorder · July 4, 2024

S D O I I S NAME OF THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2024 • PAGE 28

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Local teen shoots even par in PGA Tour debut

By Anthony Richards

Fifteen-year-old Miles Russell of Jacksonville Beach has made his name known in recent years in the junior golf world, and now his name has also graced the leader-board at a PGA Tour event.

The top-ranked player in the American Junior Golf Association, has already found victory several times in his young career, including the Boy's Junior PGA Championship and The Junior PLAYERS Championship last year.

Nearly one year later, from those monumental victories, Russell took the next step in his career, and a giant one it was, as he qualified for the Rocket Mortgage Classic at Detroit Golf Club last weekend.

Although he did not make the cut, he made an impression by shooting even-par over his two rounds.

After starting off with a bogey, he settled in and reeled off 10 straight pars before his first birdie at a PGA Tour event on No. 3, his 12th hole played on the day as he began on the back nine.

His first real adversity came on No. 6 in the first round as he double bogeyed, only to follow it up with another birdie.

He showed great maturity for a 15-year-old by bouncing back from a two-over performance on the first day



Miles Russell

to shoot two-under in the second round, thanks to a fast start that led to a bogey-free three-under front nine highlighted by birdies on holes one, four and seven.

It was a much smoother start to a round than the day before, as he opened with a birdie compared to a bogey.

Golf is a game that tests the patience and mental fortitude of even the best players, so Russell's approach and his ability to fight through adversity is something very special.

A birdie on the par-3 No. 11 allowed him to reach his lowest score of the tournament at four-under par.

However, a pair of bogeys down the stretch knocked him down to two-under for the day and even par for the event.

It was a tournament Russell is likely not to forget anytime soon and based on his performance it will likely not be his last.

At 15 years old, Russell is still just beginning his golf and even life journey, as many other memorable experiences will be coming soon for him, including learning to drive and the next several years in high school.

One thing for sure is, that no matter what Russell decides to do moving forward, he proved that he could hold his own on the same course and against some of the best golfers in the world for two rounds.

That spells a bright future no matter what route he takes.

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VISA



The Ponte Vedra Recorder, celebrating 55 years of community news excellence, has launched our sixth annual BEST OF THE **BEST of Ponte Vedra**, 32081 & 32082.

YOU, our valued readers, now have the chance to vote for your favorite businesses in various categories online. Online voting begins June 15th after nominations are complete. VOTE DAILY the last day to vote is July 26th at midnight!



Scan the QR code to vote now!

Legals

Notice of Public Meeting Via Zoom I Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council

Notice is hereby given that the Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council will meet via Zoom teleconference on Monday, July 15, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is for the Northeast Florida This meeting is for the Normeast Florida Fire Watch Council to consider and take action on items on its agenda. The meet-ing agenda and materials can be obtained electronically by emailing ikeane@thefire-

Interested persons desiring to attend this meeting can do so via Zoom (in-cluding by computer or telephone) us-ing the following meeting access infor-

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Pursuant to Section 163.01(18), Florida Statutes, this meeting is being conducted through the use of communications media technology. Additionally, those who unable to access the call can attend the meeting in a communications media technology facility located in the offices of Office Evolu-

ity located in the offices of Office Evolu-tion, 5011 Gate Parkway, Building 100, Suite 100, Jacksonville, FL 32256. Meetings are open to the public. All constit-uent questions or inquires will be made a part of the permanent file and all efforts will be made to address the questions during noticed meetings of the Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council.

Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council meetings are open to the public. All constituent questions or inquires will be made a part of the permanent file and all efforts will be made to address the questions during noticed meetings of the Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council. Interested persons who cannot attend this Zoom teleconference but who wish to submit public comments to be read during the public comment portion of the meeting regarding any matter on the agenda for consideration at the meeting may do so by emailing lan Keane at ikeane@thefirewatch.org up to the start time of the meeting. Public comments submitted by email must be received no later than 5:30 p.m. on the date of the meeting to be read during the pub-lic comment portion of the meeting. The meeting agenda and materials can be ob-tained electronically by emailing ikeane@ thefirewatch.org. Please contact Ian Keane by email at

riesse contact an Rearie by email at ikeane@thefirewatch.org if you have any questions regarding this notice or if you experience technical difficulties during the meeting. A recording of this meeting will be available upon request by emailing ikeane@thefirewatch.org after its conclu

Stoll. Stoll St. Johns County serves as the fiscal agent for the Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council. Inquiries/questions regarding items on the Northeast Florida Fire Watch Council agenda should be emailed to lan Keane at ikeane@thefirewatch.org or by

Pursuant to the American with Disabilities Act, accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please allow 1-2 business days quests will be accepted but may not be quests will be accepted but may not be possible to fulfill. Please submit ADA accommodations requests to ikeane@

thefirewatch.org. Legal 92394 Published 7/4/2024 in St. Johns County's Ponte Vedra Recorder

Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEV-**ENTH**

JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA Case Number: CP24-0426

Division: 59

In re: Estate of

BARRY WOODROW NEWSOME,

The administration of the estate of BAR-RY WOODROW NEWSOME, deceased, file number CP24-0426, Division 59, is pending in the Circuit Court for St. Johns County, Florida, the address of which is 4010 Lewis Speedway, St. Johns County Courthouse, Probate Division, St. Augus-tine, Florida 32084. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate, including unmatured, contingent or unliquidated claims, on whom a copy of this notice is served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

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OF THIS NOTICE.

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Date of the first publication of this notice is June 27, 2024. Personal Representative:

Kelly Newsome Cerasaro,

5121 Liberty Lake Drive South, Jacksonville, Florida 32258. Attorney for Personal Represer

Lester Makofka, Esquire, Fla. Bar No.: 0156936.

Makofka Legal Group, PLLC. 6622 Southpoint Drive South- Suite 355, Jacksonville, FL 32216,

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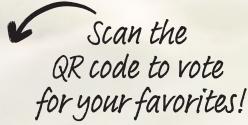


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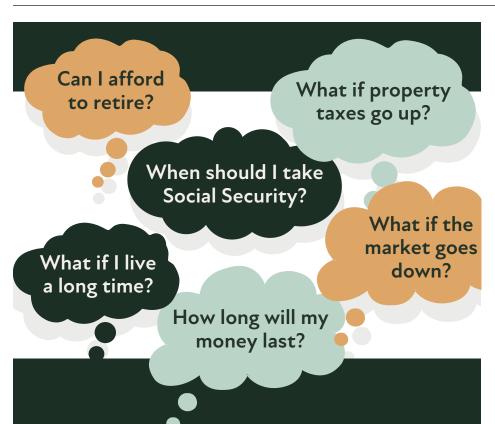
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	58									59				

ACROSS

- 1. Six (Spanish)
- 5. Invests in little enterprises
- 9. Large dung beetle
- 11. Gored
- 13. Partially paralyzed
- 15. Still a little wet
- 16. Legal field media company
- 17. Not working
- 19. 500 sheets of paper
- 21. Church structure
- 22. Sheep disease
- 23. Small drink of whiskey
- 25. Weaving tradition
- 26. Pestilence
- 27. Body part
- 29. Nabs
- 31. Places to stay
- 33. Witnesses
- 34. Looked for
- 36. Arranges
- 38. Political action committee
- 39. Middle eastern nation (alt. sp.)
- 41. Hair-like structure
- 43. Parts producer
- 44. Greek city
- 46. Subway dwellers
- 48. Norm from "Cheers"
- 52. Clean a floor
- 53. Vied for
- 54. Canned fish
- 56. Inspire with love
- 57. Sent down moisture
- 58. Wrest
- 59. Partner to carrots

DOWN

- 1. Mounted
- 2. Assign
- 3. Wrath

- 4. Self-immolation by ire ritual
- 5. Parts of an organism
- 6. Person from England7. Tropical plants of the
- 7. Iropical plants of the pea family
- 8. Body part
- 9. Practice boxing
- 10. Containers
- 11. Contrary beliefs
- 12. Bleached
- 14. Pre-Islamic Egyptian
- 15. A group of similar things ordered one after another
- 18. Innermost spinal cord membranes
- 20. Cassava
- 24. A restaurant's list of offerings

- 26. Annoy constantly
- 28. Orchestrate
- 30. Z Z Z
- 32. Astute34. Highly decorated tea urn
- 35. Teach to behave
- 37. Endurance
- 38. Urinating
- 40. Barbie friend dolls
- 42. Repents
- 43. Man-eating giant
- 45. Jewish calendar month
- 47. Accelerated
- 49. Husband of Sita in Hindu
- 50. Lump of semiliquid substance
- 51. Lying in wait
- 55. Cease to exist

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

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

