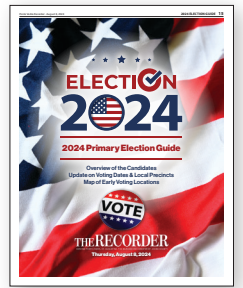


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Election Guide
Pages 15-34

Thursday, August 8, 2024

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VOLUME 55, NO. 41 \$1.00

Church finds 25 years of stability since moving to stable

By Anthony Richards

Lord of Life Lutheran Church will be celebrating a quarter century of worship at its current location, which is unique because it is a former horse stable.

The special anniversary service will be held beginning at 9:45 a.m. on Aug. 11 at its location at 276 Roscoe Blvd. N. in Ponte Vedra Beach.

The church purchased the six acres of land and the stable and moved its services to it in 1999 after previously having held them in a manufactured home on Solana Road.

However, according to Shelia Kolesaire, the church's council president, as the church's congrega-

CHURCH continues on Page 12

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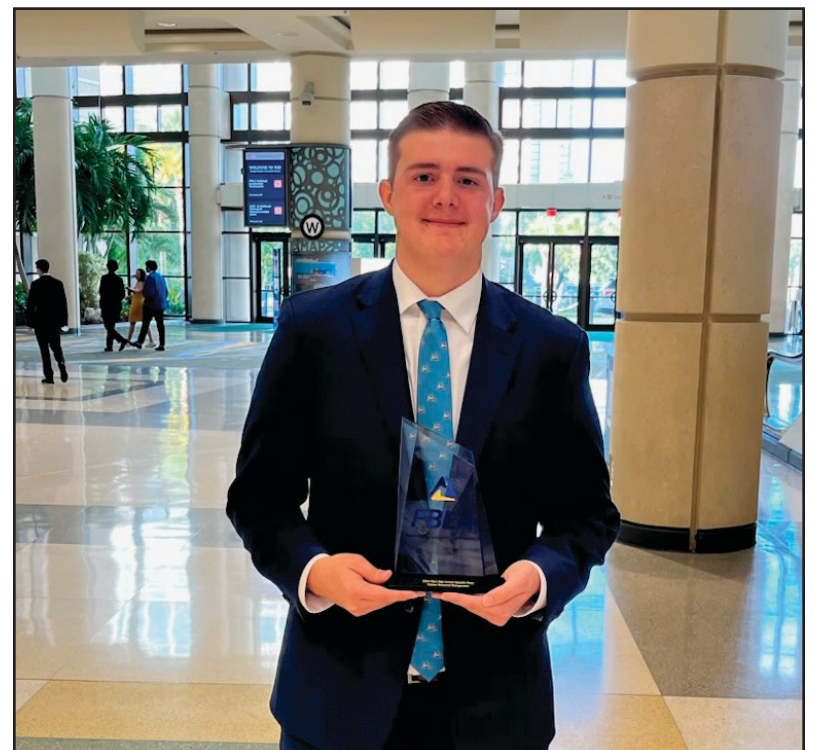
Local student takes care of business at nationals

By Anthony Richards

Nash Kersting aspires to enter the business finance world one day and that dream was verified after the Ponte Vedra High senior finished seventh at the Future Business Leaders of America National Conference in mid-July.

His top-10 finish came in the human resource management competition, where he went head-to-head against hundreds of students from across the United States.

What makes the accomplishment even more astounding is that it was also the first time he had attended the



Contributed photo

Ponte Vedra High senior Nash Kersting holds the trophy he received for placing seventh at the Future Business Leaders of America National Conference.

NATIONALS continues on Page 10

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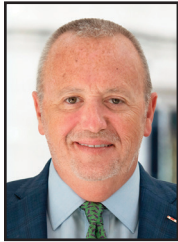


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Trump endorses Shoar



David Shoar

Presidential candidate Donald J. Trump endorsed former St. Johns County Sheriff David Shoar for Florida state senator (District 7) Sunday, Aug. 4, on his Truth Social platform, along with several other

down ticket endorsements.

In his endorsement, the former U.S. president wrote: “David Shoar is a tremendous America First Patriot who is running to represent the incredible people of Florida’s 7th State Senate District! A Gulf War Army Veteran, David bravely served our Country, and has continued to fight to protect our Communities as St. Johns

County Sheriff. As your next State Senator, David will bring that same fighting Spirit to Bring Back the Great American Dream, Grow the Economy, Stop Inflation, Secure the Border, Support our Brave Military/Vets, Advance Election Integrity, and Protect our always under siege Second Amendment. David Shoar, who is 100% MAGA, and has been with us from the very beginning, has my Complete and Total Endorsement – HE WILL NEVER LET YOU DOWN!”

“I am deeply honored and grateful for President Trump’s endorsement,” wrote Shoar in a statement released to the media. “I have stood with President Trump from the beginning in 2016 and will always have his back. I will fight side by side with

President Trump to stop the Radical Left, protect our country from illegal immigration, and make our state and nation affordable again. The Tallahassee establishment is spending millions attacking me because just like President Trump, I can’t be bought or controlled by the powers that be. I will drain the swamp in Tallahassee and fight for the needs of our citizens.”

Shoar is one of three Republicans competing for the District 7 seat, the others being Tom Leek and Gerry James.

Briefs

Continued from 2

Register today by calling 904-407-7001 or go to communityhospice.com for more information. See the Grief & Loss Support page at communityhospice.com/services/grief-loss-support for more helpful resources and information to help you and your family through grief and loss.

The next presentation will be held 6-7 p.m. Aug. 28 at the Stephen R. Chapman Family Community Campus, 1355 U.S. 1 South, St. Augustine.

— Compiled by Shaun Ryan

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Stop, slow or manage growth

To The Editor:

The SJC Primary is Aug. 20 and early voting is Aug. 10-17. Several races will be decided on primary day. Growth in our state and county shows no sign of slowing down. The influx of those wanting to move their families here is nothing new. Our county has been growing at a rapid pace for the past 14 years. It's not easy being a top-rated county and even harder to keep it a secret as Niche.com and several other rating sites have published. We need to do our homework and thoroughly vet all eligible candidates running for office. We should also take the emotion out of our decision-making and elect those with the experience and qualifications to effectively manage this future growth. No time to allow for a learning curve. There are development laws and private property rights that will help guide the way. Our county staff has been busy working on a state-mandated Comprehensive Plan for Future Growth through 2035 and there is also a county Planning Horizon Project through 2050. It is most beneficial for us to continue working together to ensure all voices are heard. We may not always get the results we want, but it is important to have open lines of communication and that is what our county staff encourages.

Victoria Corlazzoli

DeSantis endorses Primrose for State House



Nick Primrose

Nick Primrose announced Tuesday, Aug. 6, that Gov. Ron DeSantis has officially endorsed his campaign for Florida State House (District 18), a pivotal endorsement in the race for St. Johns County. This key endorsement comes on the heels of Primrose's previous endorsement by U.S. Sen. Rick Scott, U.S. Rep. Michael Waltz and state Rep. Cyndi Stevenson.

"I am pleased to endorse Nick Primrose, a proven conservative, for the Florida House in District 18," said DeSantis. "Nick was a valuable member of my general counsel's office when we fought federal COVID mandates and kept our schools and businesses open. I look forward to working with him again to keep Florida the freest state in the country when he represents St. Johns County in the State House."

"Serving the people of Florida as a trusted member of Gov. DeSantis' administration was an incredible honor," Primrose said. "We made Florida a beacon of hope and the envy of other states. I'm grateful for Gov. DeSantis' endorsement and look forward

to working with him again to pass legislation that protects individual liberties and preserves the Florida Dream."

Primrose served as the former deputy general counsel to governors DeSantis and Rick Scott, where he provided legal advice and counsel regarding economic prosperity, transportation, election security and judicial appointments. While serving DeSantis, Primrose simultaneously served as the general counsel for the Division of Emergency Management, providing legal advice during hurricane and natural disaster response, as well as navigating executive actions related to COVID-19.

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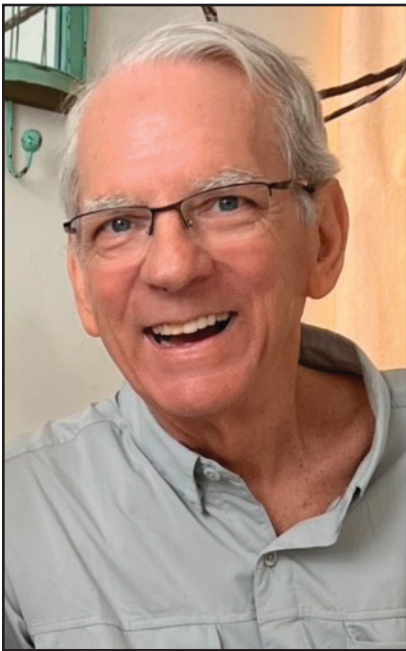
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OBITUARIES



san; son, AJ; daughters, Samantha and Ashley (AJ); son, Jeff (Samantha); grandchildren, Evelyn, Twain, Jameson, Lincoln, Julian, Quinn, Josephine; his brother, Ron; and his parents, Eleanor and Arthur Tegenborg (Susan).

Allen was known for his kind heart and his humble yet keen way of fixing anything he could put his love into. Those he loved are reminded in the constant care he poured into the lives around him and will remain reminded of that care as he watches over each of them.

A service will be held at Ponte Vedra Valley as a celebration of his life on August 17, 2024, at 11 a.m.

Allen Price

August 17, 1952 — July 31, 2024

Allen Price passed peacefully early Wednesday morning. He now watches over his beautiful wife, Su-



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DEATH NOTICES

Paul Ray Day

Paul Ray Day, 85, of Jacksonville, Florida, died July 20, 2024. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com. 904-249-1100

Patrick Demarest Egan

Patrick Demarest Egan died July 20, 2024. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com. 904-249-1100

Ken Hart

Ken Hart, 94, of St. Augustine, Florida, died July 30, 2024. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Ann V. Krawiec

Ann V. Krawiec, 82, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died July 31, 2024. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

www.quinn-shalz.com. 904-249-1100

Joyce Marie Massengill

Joyce Marie Massengill, 80, of Jacksonville, Florida, died July 30, 2024. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com. 904-249-1100

Barry Robert McGrane

Barry Robert McGrane, 73, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Aug. 2, 2024. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com. 904-249-1100

Mary-Dixon Peers

Mary-Dixon Peers, 86, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died July 18, 2024. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Thomas Randolph

Thomas Randolph, 83, of St.

Petersburg, Florida, died July 21, 2024. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Jack Reckling

Jack Reckling, 92, of Ponte Vedra, Florida, died July 21, 2024. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Peter Stocks

Peter Stocks, 67, of Satsuma, Florida, died July 11, 2024. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Mary Jo Tlsty-Rushton

Mary Jo Tlsty-Rushton, 73, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died July 30, 2024. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

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Dina “Desiree” Kotze is the owner of Beauty Ink and Beyond located at 6000 A Sawgrass Village Circle, Suite 6B in Ponte Vedra Beach. She has background in fine art, coupled with more than a decade of experience as an artist and educator before she transitioned to permanent makeup.

Dina “Desiree” Kotze

As told to Anthony Richards

Tell us a little about yourself and your background.

I’m Dina “Desiree” Kotze, and what sets me apart is my background in fine art, coupled with 15 years of experience as an artist and educator before transitioning to permanent makeup.

This foundation in artistry allows me to approach PMU (permanent makeup) with a level of precision and creativity that goes beyond typical practitioners.

Unlike many technicians who have limited training with either a six-month aesthetician diploma or just a few days of PMU training, I offer a depth of knowledge and skill honed over years of dedicated practice.

I hold a Florida tattoo artist license and have graduated from esteemed institutions like The Parisian Spa Institute in Jacksonville and Nouveau Contour in Orlando, renowned for their expertise in micropigmentation.

These renowned educators, with 23 years of experience, are masters of micropigmentation, and with this comprehensive education and training, I am equipped to deliver exceptional results and provide my clients with the highest level of care and professionalism.

How did you get involved with permanent makeup, and what does it entail?

I discovered my passion for both cosmetic and paramedical tattooing, also known as micropigmentation, when I recognized the profound impact my talent and artistic education could have on enhancing the quality of life and instilling confidence in individuals with diverse beauty and paramedical needs.

With permanent makeup, I offer you the convenience of waking up every morning feeling refreshed and beautiful.

Whether it’s dealing with poor eyesight, arthritis, or simply wanting to streamline your daily routine, my PMU services ensure your makeup is flawlessly done for the next four to 10 years.

What are some of the ways permanent makeup can help people?

Permanent makeup, also known as micropigmentation or cosmetic tattooing, involves the application of pigment into the skin’s dermal layer to enhance facial features or replicate the appearance of conventional makeup.

This technique is typically used for eyebrows, eyeliner, lip liner, and even to simulate the look of natural freckles or enhance the appearance of scars.

Want youthful freckles? Let’s make it happen!

My PMU services extend beyond aesthetics; I can camouflage vitiligo with medical-grade pigment and provide eyebrows for alopecia patients.

Additionally, I specialize in reducing breast cancer scars and creating lifelike 3D areolas.

Is your hair thinning more than you would like? No problem, I offer scalp micropigmentation to give the appearance of hair.

Permanent makeup also saves time and effort in daily makeup application routines. It eliminates the need for daily makeup application, making it particularly useful for individuals with busy lifestyles.

Unlike traditional makeup, which needs to be reapplied throughout the day, permanent makeup can last for several years with proper care.



Contributed photo

Dina “Desiree” Kotze is the owner of Beauty Ink and Beyond located at 6000 A Sawgrass Village Circle, Suite 6B in Ponte Vedra Beach.

This longevity is especially beneficial for individuals who have difficulty applying makeup due to vision impairment, arthritis, or other physical limitations.

Have you seen the success in permanent makeup over the years?

Permanent makeup can help enhance appearance by improving facial symmetry, define features, and provide a more youthful appearance.

It can also help individuals who have experienced hair loss due to conditions like alopecia or chemotherapy by recreating the appearance of eyebrows or eyelashes.

Many people feel more confident and self-assured with the enhanced appearance permanent makeup provides.

It can help individuals feel more comfortable in their own skin and improve their overall self-esteem.

To enhance your understanding of the procedures, we’ve included pictures on our website at www.beautyinkandbeyond.com or call 904-338-8011.

You’ll find many examples available online, including on platforms like Etsy and CANVA, to help you visualize the potential results.

How has the process evolved over the years?

Permanent makeup has evolved significantly in modern times. Gone are the days when settling for a tattoo artist was the only option, resulting in ink that would eventually turn gray in the dermis.

With permanent makeup, you can wake up every day looking refreshed and groomed, saving valuable time and effort.

This isn’t just for women; both men and women can benefit from permanent makeup applications.

The results are semi-permanent, lasting anywhere from 18 months to 10 years, depending on factors such as the procedure, individual metabolism, lifestyle, habits and skin type.

What is the main message you strive to pass along to your patients?

When it comes to your permanent makeup or paramedical tattoo needs, trust in the expertise and skill of a dedicated artist like me to deliver exceptional results.

Don’t settle for anything less and take the first step towards a transformative journey to enhance your life!



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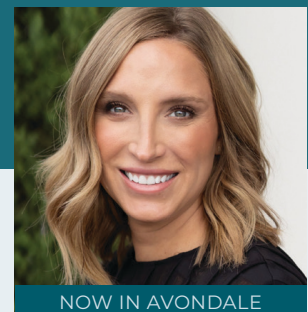
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School district poses tips for new school year

By Anthony Richards

School starts in St. Johns County on Aug. 12 and there are many things that both parents and students can consider making it a smooth start to the year.

According to the St. Johns County School District, one of the No. 1 things to

consider when preparing for a new year is establishing routines, as bedtime and wake-up routines are likely to adjust for children during the school year as opposed to the summer.

Labeling items is also an important step to take to help make sure that the school supplies searched for in recent

weeks is not easily lost.

One of the things that can be helpful throughout the year but can be especially effective at the start of the year is setting goals for your child to accomplish not just for the year, but it can also be broken down into weeks and semesters.

Parents sitting down with their children to discuss goals for the upcoming year can not only help keep everyone on the same page, but it can also create deeper involvement for parents in their child's schoolwork.

Just as when it comes to any workspace, it can be important to have an area of the house that is designated as a homework space so that children can concentrate fully on their work without the distraction.

School can be stressful for students at times and the district encourages parents to always try and keep an open line of communication with their children so that they are not weary of hiding anxieties they may bring home from school.

An extension of that includes parents staying up to date with their communication and awareness of what events and activities are going

on at school through newsletters and other informational avenues.

According to the school district, confidence is the key behind every successful student and many of the steps mentioned focus on continuing to build and focus on how to best create and maintain that confidence moving forward into the year.

Involvement in extracurricular activities and encouraging independence by giving them some freedom by helping select school outfits and organizing their backpack, are things that can naturally promote confidence.

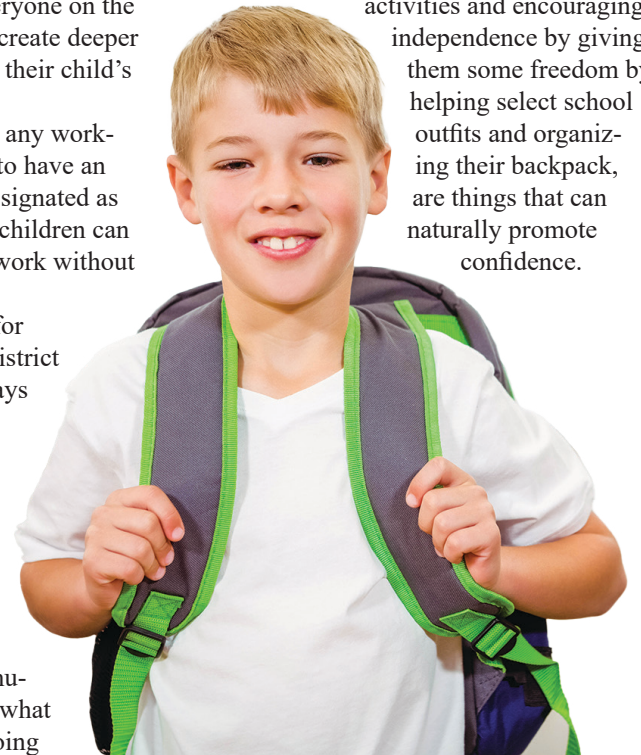


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School District hosted camps throughout summer

The St. Johns County School District had a busy summer with several camps that it put on for students in the district across all ages. Some of these camps included performing arts camp, an art camp and choir camp.

Photos courtesy of St. Johns County School District




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Nationals

Continued from 1

event after not advancing past districts one year ago.

“States was nerve-racking because I just hadn’t done it before, while nationals was something all of its own,” Kersting said.

This year, nationals were held in Orlando, which made it not only convenient for him to make the trip, but it was also where the state competition was held.

However, despite the familiarity of the site, there were differences between the state and national events due to the number of his fellow classmates at PVHS that were represented.

“At states I got to hang out with a lot of people I know from school, and it’s always fun anytime you get to hang out with like-minded people who love business as much as I do,” Kersting said.

Kersting was one of only two from PVHS to qualify for nationals compared to 31 students from the school who made the trip to states.

One of the unique things about the national conference is that the competition is only a small part of it.

“There were hundreds of workshops going on about an hour each throughout the days, from topics like ‘how to bolster your resume’ to ‘insights about the stock market,’” Kersting said. “There were a



This year’s national conference was held in Orlando.

Contributed photo

lot of people there to really share their knowledge, and I got to learn by going.”

His portion of the competition involved taking a 100 multiple-choice question test in 50 minutes in one of the convention center’s large rooms along with roughly 200 others.

“I thought I did great, but I honestly didn’t know if great was good enough to place in the top-10,” Kersting said.

Since finding out the news of his placement came through and he knew how he did the support from family and friends has been plentiful.

“I got a lot of Facebook comments following it, and it’s a nice feeling when you’re reminded of all the support you have behind you,” Kersting said.

Kersting enjoys the stock market the most and wants to be a financial analyst after college.

“I just feel like helping people save for retirement is a really cool job, and it’s something that would have a very meaningful purpose as well,” Kersting said.

He has been a member of the international business academy at Ponte Vedra High since his sophomore year and thanked some of the teachers he has had over the years that have helped keep his passion for business strong.

“The experience is something that might be a once in a lifetime opportunity,” Kersting said. “I’m thankful to have gotten the chance to go and learn from CEOs from across the country.”

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The church purchased the six acres of land and the former horse stable and moved its services to it in 1999.



Photos courtesy of Lord of Life Lutheran Church

Pastor Karen Biggerstaff is assisted by Richard Marzocchi during a service.

Church

Continued from 1

tion grew it was quickly realized that they needed more space to hold their worship services.

Although a horse stable may at first seem not like a traditional place to hold services, the potential of the spot was quickly realized by the church's leaders, and it has become a beloved home for its members over the years.

"We remind ourselves that Jesus was born in a stable," Kolesaire said.

"We love this unique and unpretentious space that frees us to focus on the preaching by Pastor Karen Biggerstaff each Sunday. This is a welcoming church that supports its members through all of life's ups and downs, and we value outreach to the community too."

The wooden posts running down the length of the building help visitors imagine the horse stalls that were once there.

Over the years, improvements have been made thanks to the contributions and efforts of local businesses, con-

gregants and Scouts working on Eagle Scout projects.

Some of these projects have included a walkway, prayer garden, tables and a Little Free Lending Library for the community to enjoy.

According to Kolesaire, Lord of Life is one of four Lutheran churches in St. Johns County and feels proud that it has remained strong and together throughout the years.

"We have an electric mix of congregants from active 90-year-olds to families with college age children," said Biggerstaff, who joined Lord of Life

during the spring. "We have a number of recent widows, and I've seen that this church has been a good place for active seniors to make friends."

One of the great things about the site is the six acres that make it up, which allows Lord of Life to host its annual pumpkin patch on the front lawn, offering hundreds of pumpkins through October.

The pumpkin patch has been going on since the property was purchased so it will be the 25th year for that event as well, and plans are underway for how to celebrate that milestone, too.



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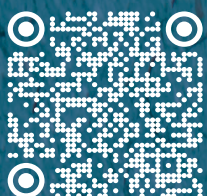
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Christmas arrives early at Wolfson Children's Hospital

Community donates more than 1,300 toys and \$13,000

The spirit of Christmas came early to Wolfson Children's Hospital this year when Santa Claus made a special mid-summer visit to distribute toys donated by generous community members for Christmas in July. The 13th annual toy and donation drive, presented by Subaru of Jacksonville, lasted the entire month of July, with Santa making his special visit on July 31.

During this year's Christmas in July, Jacksonville community members donated more than 1,300 toys. Additionally,

throughout July generous donors gave more than \$13,000 in financial gifts online. The funds will be used to purchase toys for Wolfson Children's patients.

Subaru of Jacksonville collected toys at their showroom on St. Johns Bluff Road throughout the month and delivered those with Santa on July 31. In addition to thousands of dollars' worth of toys from the community, staff and ownership, the dealership contributed \$25,000 to support the Child Life department.

"The toys we collect in our showroom are much more than just items — they are symbols of smiles and comfort for the wonderful patients at Wolfson Children's Hospital," said Phil Porter Jr., executive management with Subaru of Jacksonville. "We cherish the opportunity to play a



small role in the joy these gifts bring to the children, no matter the season."

At Wolfson Children's, certified child life specialists and master's-prepared music therapists use toys and instruments as tools to help children understand their conditions and prepare for medical proce-

dures such as blood draws and MRIs. By easing stress and anxiety, they help kids gain a sense of control in the hospital and Emergency Department environments.

Christmas in July allows child life specialists and music therapists to restock their toy shelves and identify their most needed items to continue their mission of making a patient's experience more pleasant.

Those who wish to donate toys year-round can do so by going to the Wolfson Children's Hospital Amazon wish list. To make a financial contribution to Wolfson Children's Hospital throughout the year, which allows Child Life and music therapy teams to purchase the toys and musical instruments that are needed most, go to wolfsonchildrens.com/give.




Summer Music Series
Thursdays at 6 pm
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August 8: Feedback



August 15: Str8up
www.CityStAug.com/concerts for complete line-up & more information.




Concerts in the Plaza is a free cultural event presented by the City of St. Augustine



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ELECTION

2024

2024 Primary Election Guide

Overview of the Candidates
Update on Voting Dates & Local Precincts
Map of Early Voting Locations



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

Thursday, August 8, 2024

This letter is in response to an attack letter dispersed by “the Anns”



**ST. JOHNS COUNTY
PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS
& PARAMEDICS ASSOCIATION**
An Affiliate of the International Association of Firefighters

Proudly Protecting Your Property, Lives and...Our Community.

Good Afternoon,

I am in receipt of your letter being distributed to our firefighters and have concerns about some of the blatantly false claims made by your campaigns. You claim that our board voted for the endorsements of your opponents, not the membership. I have seen this posted on social media by Ann Marie and now in a letter distributed by both of you. This is absolutely false! At our general meeting a membership vote was taken to endorse the incumbent commissioners. It was unanimous and the board did not participate in the vote. To be clear, our membership voted to endorse the incumbent commissioners.

Your letter is particularly misleading as it relates to the field training facility. A few things you may not realize, the incumbent commissioners went to Tallahassee to fight for funding for a training facility. I personally witnessed multiple meetings where they were advocating for our firefighters on many levels. They even voted for firefighter needs as legislative priorities. Telling our people that we don't have a location to put the training facility is dishonest considering it has been discussed at length at the BOCC meetings and with our members. At the BOCC meeting it was stated two sites were given as possible options. They are considering what will be the most cost-effective site, build time and fulfill the needs of fire rescue. It appears you are trying to use scare tactics against our firefighters.

You asked why our contract has not been finalized. It's simple, we have not agreed to anything yet. The county nor commissioners have delayed this in any way. I'd also like to point out that this was also mentioned at the BOCC meeting. At our general meeting we communicated to our members that waiting to see Jacksonville firefighters' contract would be beneficial. Knowing what is needed to remain competitive and not lose firefighters is critical for our department. Again, this has all been communicated to our members and the public, so it should be common knowledge. It looks like another scare tactic trying to manipulate our firefighters into thinking their contract is in jeopardy.

I applaud your statement on the commitment to firefighter mental health. I'd like to point out that our commissioners stepped up when we needed them on mental health. We now have access to mental health care that most departments in the state do not have. We are lucky to have commissioners who continually ask what more can be done to improve our mental health program. Access to this mental health care has saved firefighter lives and we are grateful to our commissioners. Further, these commissioners all voted to make firefighter health a legislative priority this year. Standing beside us in Tallahassee, our commissioners advocated for all firefighters. To say that these commissioners are not supporting firefighters is simply not true.

You ask why we stress the importance of this election. Our firefighters have never had the support from the BOCC that we have now. They voted to add additional firefighters because overtime was out of control, they voted to give us mental health access, they fought for funding for a training facility and statewide legislation for Firefighter health, they voted for hiring incentives to attract more firefighter applicants, they support new fire stations and firefighters, the list goes on. All of this support allows us to better protect our community. That support has not just been during the election year either, it has been consistent. What worries us is the talk of rollbacks. We believe there is a very strong possibility that rollbacks will stop all the forward progress we are making in our department. Many cuts were made when the 2021 rollbacks happened, and fire rescue was negatively impacted. We cannot afford to be cut anymore; it will be detrimental to the citizens we protect and firefighter health and safety. As you stated, roads and infrastructure are all important to the fire rescue mission. If rollbacks occur, what will be sacrificed in our community, what will be cut, what is the plan? These are all concerns we have and why the election is important to us. Like any organization that endorses a candidate, of course we are going to encourage supporting them.

I believe I was very open and honest with the both of you. I met with you, took you to stations, introduced you to our firefighters, and invited you to speak at our meetings. I explained very clearly how our endorsements took place, so you are very aware it was not a board vote. Our membership voted on ALL endorsements. Our Association is stronger and more united than ever before. It is my job as President to represent and advocate for our firefighters and their ability to protect our community. We are elected by the membership, and operate as a bottom-up organization. At any general meeting, the membership has the right to bring a motion and vote on the direction our organization should take. Attempts to divide us will certainly fall short and only make us more united.

In closing, we respectfully ask that you retract all statements from social media, websites, advertisements, letters or any other locations that claim our membership did not vote on endorsements or any other statements known to be false. We encourage letters of substance and facts that clearly define what you will do for firefighters, how you can help, and your plan to accomplish it. As always, I am available for a call or meeting if you have questions or simply wish to have a productive conversation. I truly hope we can move forward in a more positive direction.

V/R

David Stevens, President
St Johns County Professional Firefighters Association
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PAC of lies.



Whose \$1.2 million is helping to fund the lies about the Anns through 8 dark money PACs ?

7 companies donating to attack ads + 3 incumbents' campaign accounts:

MEGA DONOR	BUSINESS DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT DONATED
THE PARC GROUP	Mega developer - 14,000+ approved homes in Nocatee.	\$299,500
HUTSON COMPANIES	Mega developer - 16,000+ approved homes in Silverleaf.	\$251,877
DREAM FINDERS HOMES	National homebuilder based in Jacksonville. One of the largest homebuilders in Nocatee and Silverleaf.	\$211,000
VALLENCOURT CONSTRUCTION	Mega residential/commercial site developer, including clear cutting, roads, utility lines, etc. Major client of Nocatee.	\$180,000
ICI HOMES	One of the largest homebuilders in Florida, including Nocatee and Silverleaf.	\$120,000
GATE PETROLEUM	Major land owner and development company in St Johns and Duval counties.	\$101,000
J.B. COXWELL CONTRACTING	Mega residential/commercial site developer, including clear cutting, roads, utility lines, etc. Major client of Silverleaf.	\$50,000
TOTAL		\$1,213,377

Source FL Division of Elections and SJC Supervisor of Elections

A deep dive into the PAC dollars pouring into an intense advertising blitz of lies to keep three St. Johns County commissioners in office, reveals that SEVEN major St. Johns County developers and builders are investing heavily to maintain control of our government - and our tax dollars - for FOUR more years. The seven have already spent a staggering \$1.2 million to convince you to elect the commissioners they control. Blatant lies are used plentifully in attack ads against Ann Taylor and Ann-Marie Evans who will NEVER RAISE YOUR TAXES. What's more, our commissioners just voted *against* the rollback on the millage rate (except for Commissioner Joseph).

Dean and Whitehurst tried to raise your sales tax by 15% in 2022 despite record property tax revenues. And they won't stop trying. In a debate between Henry Dean and Ann Taylor, only Taylor said she would not consider a 1-cent sales tax referendum. Dean said "not now." (7/8/23) The incumbents are not slowing the growth as they claim. In four years, the number of overcapacity roads has increased by 65% and our overcrowded schools have lost their #1 ranking in the state.* Kids suffer, and so will everyone's property values that are tied to our school ranking.

Why can't one of the wealthiest counties in the state afford parks and fire stations without going heavily into debt? Ann-Marie Evans and Ann Taylor's top two issues are controlling growth and being a **conservative** steward of your tax dollars. Learn more about **Ann-Marie Evans** and **Ann Taylor**, and see their responses to the absurd lies about them at SlowTheGrowth.com. **Both are endorsed by the St. Johns County Republican Party** and by Commissioner Joseph.

Roads: SJC Transportation Analysis Spreadsheets, 2020 - 2023
Schools: FL Dept. of Ed.

SlowTheGrowth.com

Paid electioneering communication paid for by Our St. Johns County, 1174 Neck Rd. Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This guide was produced by the staff at The Recorder to prepare area voters for the 2024 primary election.

ELECTION DATES

Primary Election Day: Aug. 20. Polls open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Primary Early Voting: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Aug. 10-17

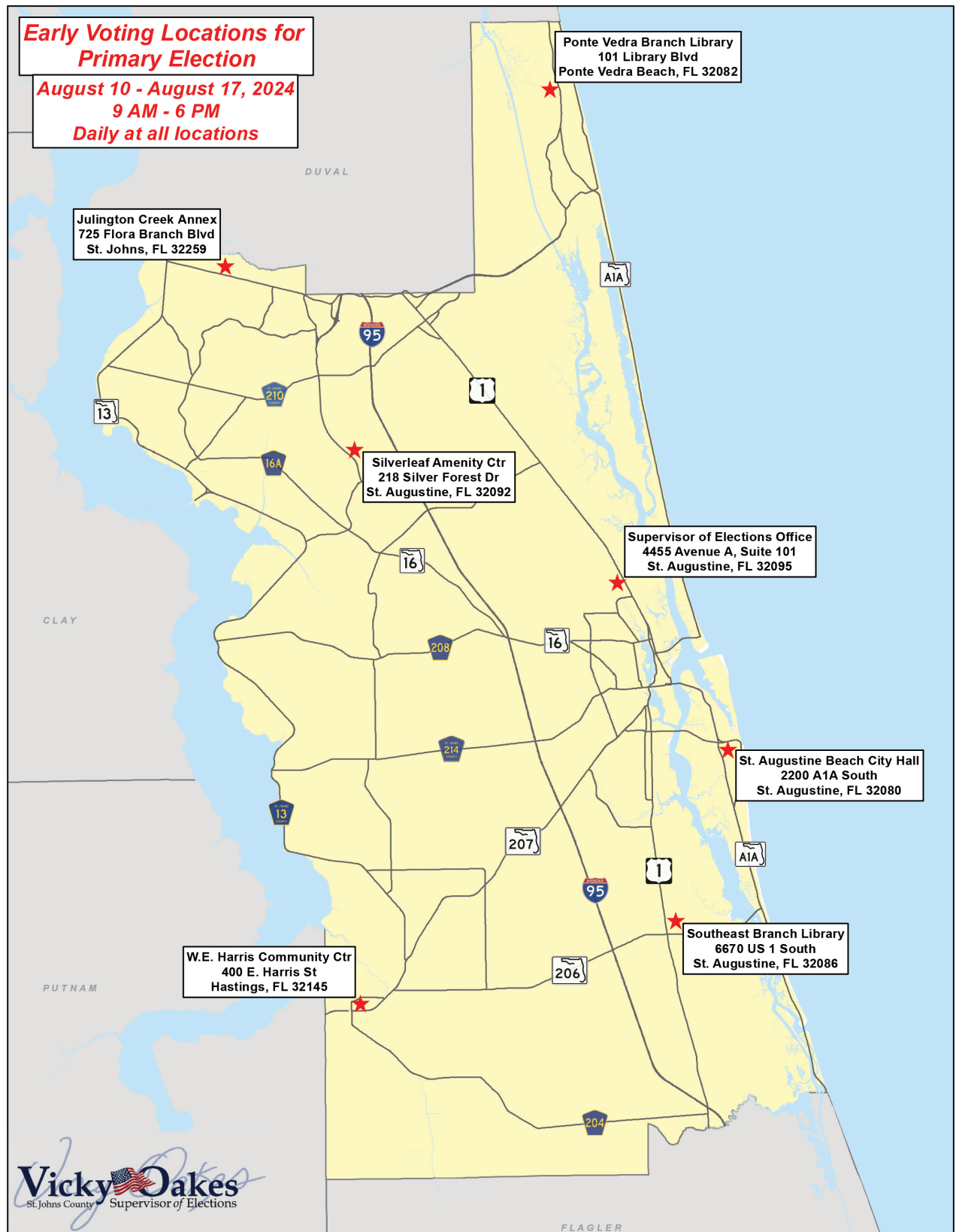
General Election Day: Nov. 5. Polls open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

General Election Early Voting: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Oct. 21 to Nov. 2

PRECINCT LOCATIONS

St. Johns County has 53 voting precincts. Note that only six of these are being used as Early Voting sites. The rest are for election day.

- **101:** Julington Creek Annex, 725 Flora Branch Blvd., St. Johns. *This is also an early voting site that transitions into a precinct come election day.*
- **102:** Julington Creek Plantation Rec Ctr, 350 Plantation Club Parkway, St. Johns
- **103:** Switzerland Community Church, 2179 S.R. 13 N, St. Johns
- **104:** Bartram Trail Branch Library, 60 Davis Pond Blvd., St. Johns
- **105:** Creekside Christian Church, 150 Lifespring Way, St. Johns
- **106:** Switzerland Community Church, 2179 S.R. 13 N, St. Johns
- **107:** Aberdeen Amenities Ctr, 110 Flower of Scotland Ave., St. Johns
- **108:** Shearwater Amenities Ctr, 100 Kayak Way, St. Augustine
- **109:** RiverHouse at RiverTown, 140 Landing St., St. Johns
- **201:** Creekside Christian Student Ctr, 92 Lifespring Way, St. Johns
- **202:** St. Johns Golf and Country Club, 205 St. Johns Golf Drive, St. Augustine
- **203:** Shearwater Amenities Ctr, 100 Kayak Way, St. Augustine
- **204:** Silverleaf Amenities Ctr, 218 Silver Forest Drive, St. Augustine. *This is also an early voting site that transitions into a precinct come election day.*
- **205:** St. Johns Convention Ctr, 500 S Legacy Trail, St. Augustine
- **206:** Trout Creek Community Ctr, 6795 Collier Road, St. Augustine
- **207:** Trout Creek Community Ctr, 6795 Collier Road, St. Augustine
- **208:** Heritage Landing Amenity Ctr, 370 Heritage Landing Pkwy., St. Augustine
- **209:** Village Church, 4229 Pacetti Road, St. Augustine
- **210:** Agricultural Ctr, 3125 Agricultural Center Drive, St. Augustine
- **211:** Anastasia Baptist S.R. 16 Campus, 110 Circle Drive E, St. Augustine
- **212:** Heritage Baptist Church, 1480 Wildwood Drive, St. Augustine
- **213:** W.E. Harris Community Ctr, 400 E Harris St., Hastings. *This is also an early voting site that transitions into a precinct come election day.*
- **301:** Anastasia Baptist S.R. 16 Campus, 110 Circle Drive E, St. Augustine
- **302:** Solomon Calhoun Community Ctr, 1300 Duval St., St. Augustine
- **303:** Solomon Calhoun Community Ctr, 1300 Duval St., St. Augustine
- **304:** Heritage Baptist Church, 1480 Wildwood Drive, St. Augustine
- **305:** Good News Church, 1357 Wildwood Drive, St. Augustine
- **306:** Community Bible Church, 3150 U.S. 1 S, St. Augustine
- **307:** Community Bible Church, 3150 U.S. 1 S, St. Augustine
- **308:** Anastasia Baptist Church, 1650 A1A S, St. Augustine



- **309:** Riverview Club, 790 Christina Drive, St. Augustine
- **310:** Southeast Branch Library, 6670 U.S. 1 S, St. Augustine. *This is also an early voting site that transitions into a precinct come election day.*
- **311:** St. Anastasia Catholic Church, 5205 A1A S, St. Augustine
- **401:** Ponte Vedra Branch Library, 101 Library Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach. *This is also an early voting site that transitions into a precinct come election day.*
- **402:** Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, 545 A1A N, Ponte Vedra Beach
- **403:** Ponte Vedra Church, 76 S. Roscoe Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach
- **404:** Christ Episcopal Church, 400 San Juan Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach
- **405:** Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, 1050 A1A N, Ponte Vedra Beach. *NOTE: Voting will take place in a building behind the concert hall, which is currently under construction.*
- **406:** St. Francis in the Field, 895 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra
- **407:** Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, 1050 A1A N, Ponte Vedra Beach
- **408:** Crosswater Hall at Nocatee, 245 Nocatee Center Way, Ponte Vedra
- **409:** The Palencia Club, 600 Palencia Club Drive, St. Augustine
- **501:** Creekside Christian Student Ctr, 92 Lifespring Way, St. Johns
- **502:** The Clubhouse at Beacon Lake, 850 Beacon Lake Parkway, St. Augustine
- **503:** WGV-Good News Church, 573 W Twincourt Trail, St. Augustine
- **504:** San Sebastian Catholic Church, 1112 S.R. 16, St. Augustine
- **505:** The Palencia Club, 600 Palencia Club Drive, St. Augustine
- **506:** Fullerwood Training Ctr, 10 Hildreth Drive, St. Augustine
- **507:** North Shores Community Ctr, 120 Meadow Ave., St. Augustine
- **508:** National Guard Armory, 190 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine
- **509:** River House, 179 Marine St., St. Augustine
- **510:** Elks Lodge, 1420 A1A S, St. Augustine
- **511:** St. Augustine Beach City Hall, 2200 A1A S, St. Augustine. *This is also an early voting site that transitions into a precinct come election day.*

On election day, voters are required to vote at their assigned polling place based on their address. To find your polling place, go to votesjc.gov and click the "Find My Polling Place" link.

U.S. SENATOR (REPUBLICAN)

JOHN COLUMBUS REPUBLICAN



John Columbus is a native of Winter Garden, Florida, and was raised in Orlando. He is the author of “My Great American Novel,” which his website describes as a “fictionalized autobiography and historical fiction.”

He earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from New York University and has been employed as a theatre professional, according to one online bio.

Columbus says he leans conservative, but his positions on pre-eminent issues vary at times from those espoused by self-identified conservative leaders.

RICK SCOTT REPUBLICAN



Rick Scott was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2018, defeating incumbent Democrat Bill Nelson, and is serving his first term representing the state of Florida. Previously, he served two terms as governor of Florida.

He sits on the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Committee on Armed Services, Committee on the Budget and the Special Committee on Aging.

Scott served in the U.S. Navy and graduated from the University of Missouri — Kansas City and the Dedman School of Law at Southern Methodist University.

He co-founded Columbia Hospital Corp., which later merged with another corporation to form Columbia/HCA.

KEITH GROSS REPUBLICAN



Keith Gross was born in Panama City, Florida, and served in the U.S. Army National Guard from 2015 to 2017.

An alumnus of Florida State University, Gross went on to earn a law degree from the University of Montana. He returned to Florida after graduation and is head of Gross Law Group in Melbourne.

Issues that he has identified as important to him are government spending, immigration and individual accountability.

On his website, Gross calls himself an “unapologetic Trump supporter” and a “freedom absolutist,” referencing the U.S. Constitution and his opposition to government control.



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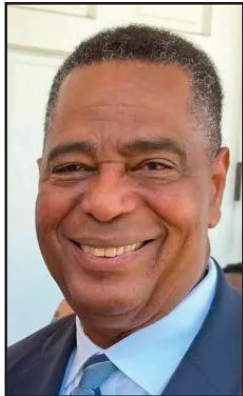


Scan Here to Learn More About Roy



U.S. SENATOR (DEMOCRAT)

STANLEY CAMPBELL DEMOCRAT



Stanley Campbell was born in Miami Beach and earned a bachelor's degree from Florida A&M University in 1976. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1976 to 1982 and was a Navy pilot and test pilot. He has worked as a CEO and member of the NASA Advisory Board.

He has made contributions to the TSA's Passenger Screening and Security initiative and has 14 patents in artificial intelligence. He currently runs a global health care technology company that prevents Medicare fraud.

Issues that he has highlighted include: Medicare, women's rights, veterans/military and jobs/housing.

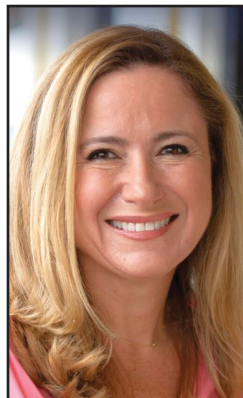
ROD JOSEPH DEMOCRAT



Rod Joseph was born in Haiti and went on to serve in the U.S. Army, receiving the Purple Heart. He earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and forensics and a master's degree in military studies and has been an immigration lawyer and military lawyer, according to his Facebook page. He attended Ashford University and Hawaii Pacific University.

He has identified health care access, economic equality and immigration reform as his priority issues.

DEBBIE MUCARSEL-POWELL DEMOCRAT



Debbie Mucarsel-Powell is a former member of the U.S. House of Representatives, representing Florida's 26th Congressional District from 2019 to 2021. She served on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the House Judiciary Committee.

She earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Pitzer College in 1992 and a master's degree in international political economy from Claremont Graduate University in 1996. She has worked as director of development and associate dean at Florida International University.

BRIAN RUSH DEMOCRAT



Brian Rush is a native of St. Petersburg. He earned both his bachelor's degree and law degree from the University of Florida. He has practiced law in Tampa for more than 30 years.

He is a former member of the Florida House of Representatives. He was majority whip for the Democratic Caucus and served on several committees, including the Education K-12 Committee, the Committee on Finance and Taxation and the Judiciary Committee.

BRANDON
PATTY

FOR ST. JOHNS COUNTY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER





**TAMARA
RENUART**

FOR
REPUBLICAN STATE
COMITTEEWOMAN

Meet Tamara

- ★ 4th Generation Florida Native
- ★ Republican Party of St. Johns County, Vice-Chair, 2020-2022
- ★ Republican National Convention TRUMP Delegate, Elected 2020
- ★ St. Johns County State Committeewoman, 2019-2020
- ★ North Florida Outstanding Republican Volunteer Award, 2006
- ★ North FL Victory Chairwoman, Republican Presidential Campaign, 2008
- ★ Legislative Aide, Florida House of Representatives, 2004-2012, representing St. Johns & Duval County
- ★ Delegate Alternate, Republican National Convention, 2008

Endorsed by:
Trump Club of
St. Johns County

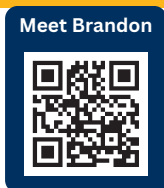


St. Johns County

✉ Tamara4SCW@gmail.com




Devoted Husband & Father
US Naval Reserve Officer
Dedicated Clerk & Comptroller



Paid by Brandon Patty, Republican, for St. Johns County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller. Use of military rank, job titles, and photographs in uniform does not imply endorsement by the Department of the Navy or the Department of Defense.

Conservative Republican Values



PAID FOR AND APPROVED BY TAMARA RENUART, REPUBLICAN,
FOR REPUBLICAN STATE COMMITTEEWOMAN.

CONGRESS (DISTRICT 5)

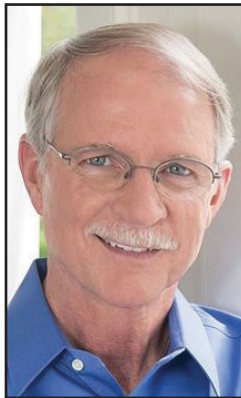
MARA MACIE



Mara Macie is a Navy spouse who has settled in Jacksonville with her husband Ted, and her four children. She has been involved in several political and advocacy groups locally and has worked to expose the corruption in government at all levels.

Mara believes that current government is not representative of the people and that “we must replace the elected officials who have created and sustained the mess we are in” with new representatives who want to restore the power to the hands of the people, and that representatives should serve out of calling and duty, not personal benefit.

JOHN RUTHERFORD REPUBLICAN



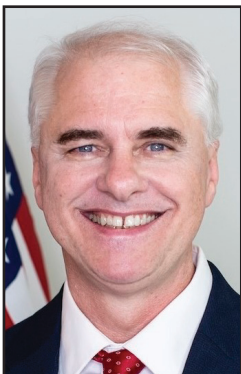
John Rutherford (FL-05) is serving his fourth term in the U.S. House of Representatives. He sits on the House Ethics Committee and the House Appropriations Committee, where he serves on three subcommittees: Homeland Security, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Transportation and Housing and Urban Development.

He has lived in Jacksonville since 1958, and attended Florida Junior College and Florida State University where he studied criminology. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, 171st Session and the National Executive Institute.

In 2003, 2007, and 2011, Rutherford was elected sheriff of Duval County.

CONGRESS (DISTRICT 6)

JOHN GROW REPUBLICAN



"Our American systems are broken: currency is based on debt, not wealth; health care is based on disease ‘management’ (we pay as long as we’re still sick); over 6,000 inventions and patents (including cures for disease) are locked away for ‘national security’ reasons; the FDA allows seeds to be genetically altered (and patented); the defense industry needs conflict and wars to sustain itself (not peace). In essence, our systems are inverted, and no amount of ‘rearranging deck chairs on the Titanic’ will solve this. I intend to reform the systems that have prevented our real prosperity."

MICHAEL WALTZ REPUBLICAN



Congressman Michael Waltz is a retired colonel in the National Guard, a combat-decorated Green Beret, former White House and Pentagon policy adviser, a small business owner and an author.

Born in Boynton Beach, he grew up in Jacksonville. He graduated from the Virginia Military Institute with Honors and served 27 years in the U.S. Army and National Guard, retiring during his second term in Congress.

He chairs the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness and is a member of the House Oversight and Accountability Committee and House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. He serves on the House China Task Force.

CHRISTIAN WHITEHURST

County Commission

Fighting For St. Johns

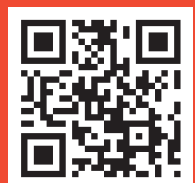


- ✔ Never Raised Taxes
- ✔ Slowed the Growth
- ✔ Led Effort for 4 New Regional Parks
- ✔ Increased Infrastructure
- ✔ Protected Our Beaches
- ✔ Held Developers Accountable

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Paid by Christian Whitehurst, Republican, for St. Johns County Commission.

STATE SENATOR (DISTRICT 7)

GERRY JAMES REPUBLICAN



Gerry James said he is running to legislate for the people of his district, not for big insurance, big development or trial attorneys.

“We must fix our insurance crisis, and I have a plan to do so. We must take the lead nationwide in voter election reform and security. This is not difficult, but we must have leaders with the courage and will to pass permanent voting legislation. We must secure our borders, airports, waterways and roads from illegal alien invasion ... We must replace the establishment do-nothing political class with patriots willing to fight for its citizen constituents.”

TOM LEEK REPUBLICAN



“Thank you to Gov. DeSantis, Reps. Waltz and Mills, all four SD7 sheriffs and others for your strong endorsement of my candidacy. As a member of the state Senate, I will continue serving the people of Northeast Florida by establishing Florida as the most law enforcement-friendly state in the union, and by working on many of the recent conservative advances in school choice, economic development and important social issues that strengthen the family. I ask for your vote and thank you for participating in the political process to make our community and our state the freest in the nation.”

DAVID SHOAR



David Shoar is a Gulf War veteran who began his career as a police officer in St. Augustine. He later became the city’s chief of police and then was elected to serve as the St. Johns County sheriff for 16 years, from 2004 to 2020. Shoar was selected to serve as president of the Florida Sheriffs Association in 2014. Shoar retired from the Florida Army National Guard with the rank of major after a 24-year career. Shoar and his wife Laura live in St. Augustine.



★ — CLAY — ★

MURPHY

FOR ST. JOHNS COUNTY
COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 3

VOTE!

EARLY VOTING: AUGUST 10-17
PRIMARY ELECTION: AUGUST 20

- 39 Years in Law Enforcement in FL
- 30+ Year Resident of Districts
- Local Businessman
- Non-Profit Board Leadership
- Conservative Christian Values


ClayMurphyforStJohns.com

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ClayMurphyforStJohns

Paid for by Clay Murphy for St. Johns Commissioner District 3 and Approved, SJC D3 R

“KNOW ME BY THE COMPANY I KEEP!”



VOTE

DR. MICHEL S. PAWLOWSKI

**ST. JOHNS COUNTY
STATE REPUBLICAN
COMMITTEEMAN**

I WILL LISTEN TO YOUR CONCERNS!
YOUR VOICE IS MY VOICE!

I WILL BE YOUR VOICE AT THE STATE GOP MEETINGS!
I WILL BE YOUR VOICE AT THE MEETINGS I ATTEND!

I WILL GIVE YOU FEEDBACK!
I WILL REPORT TO YOU ON EVERY STATE GOP MEETING I ATTEND!

I WILL BE ON TIME!
I WILL FOLLOW THROUGH ON ST. JOHNS COUNTY ISSUES!

I WILL WORK WITH OUR CITY AND COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR YOU!

I WILL SUPPORT THE AGENDA OF PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP!

MICHELSPAWLOWSKI@OUTLOOK.COM

(410) 271-6820 CELL 24/7

THE AD IS PAID FOR BY THE CAMPAIGN TO ELECT DR. MICHEL S. PAWLOWSKI FOR ST. JOHNS COUNTY STATE COMMITTEEMAN, 109 KINGS QUARRY LANE, ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH, FL 32080.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE (DISTRICT 18)

KIM KENDALL
REPUBLICAN



“FAA air traffic controller, small business owner, extensive work and endorsements at state and local levels — yes, these are all a part of who I am, but what makes me uniquely qualified is my heart and fight for this community.

“I have battled the establishment to protect our children, to protect our faith and to keep our community intact. I’ve gone toe-to-toe with developers and special interest groups who have tried unsuccessfully to make me go away.

“I have and will continue to fight for us. You can count on me to always show up and to never back down.”

NICK PRIMROSE
REPUBLICAN



“Growing up with a single mom, my American Dream was owning a home and creating a better future. I found that in St. Johns County. As a husband and father, I will support our law enforcement, keep our schools number 1, secure infrastructure funding and protect our natural resources. My experience as deputy general counsel for Governors Scott and DeSantis makes me the most qualified candidate to deliver results on day one. I am a proven conservative, endorsed by Sen. Rick Scott, state Rep. Cyndi Stevenson, the FOP and PBA, and many trusted leaders. I humbly ask for your vote.”

STATE REPRESENTATIVE (DISTRICT 19)

DARRYL BOYER
REPUBLICAN



Darryl Boyer, of Palm Coast, is a native of Flagler County. He earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of North Florida and a master’s degree from Florida State University and is a business owner. He has served as a former travel aide to the Florida House speaker, staffer to the Florida House clerk and former legislative aide to state Rep. Webster Barnaby.

Issues that he has identified as important include fighting illegal immigration, making Florida more affordable, keeping the economy strong and upholding conservative principles.

SAM GRECO
REPUBLICAN



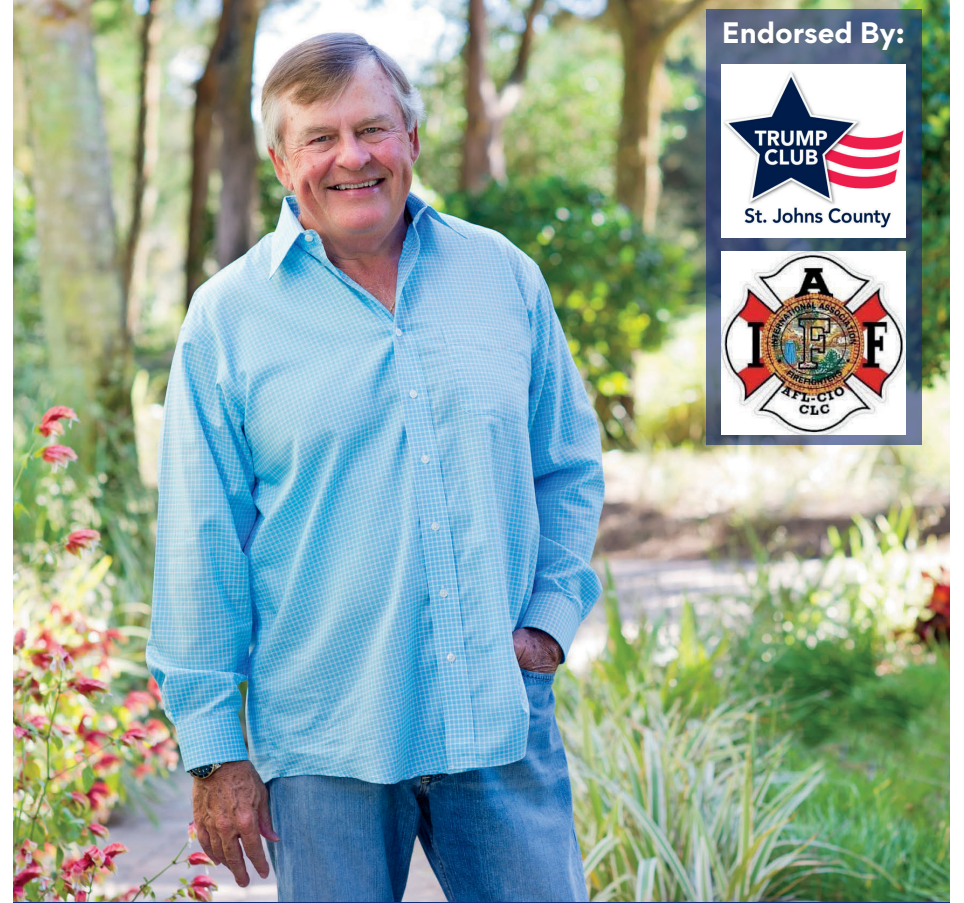
Sam Greco is a conservative Republican candidate for the Florida House of Representatives, District 19. He served as an active-duty JAG officer in the U.S. Navy from 2019 to 2024 and continues to serve in the U.S. Navy Reserve today. Greco said he is blessed to live in a state where the American Dream remains alive. He said he believes that Northeast Florida is the best place in America to raise a family, start a business and buy a home. In Tallahassee, he plans to continue his mission of service, deliver for District 19 and keep Florida free.

HENRY DEAN

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

FOR COUNTY COMMISSION - DISTRICT 5

Conservative Champion for St. Johns



Henry Dean’s Conservative Record

- ✓ Proud Conservative Republican
- ✓ Supports Small Business & Economic Growth
- ✓ Stands with Our Veterans & First Responders
- ✓ Backs Our Tourism Industry
- ✓ Invested in Infrastructure to Fix Our Roads
- ✓ Held Developers Accountable
- ✓ Slowed the Growth

St. Johns County early voting times, locations announced

Early voting for the Aug. 20 primary election will be available in St. Johns County between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. daily Aug. 10-17. The eight-day early voting period includes two Saturdays and one Sunday at the following locations:

- **Ponte Vedra Branch Library**, 101 Library Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach
- **Julington Creek Annex**, 725 Flora Branch Blvd., St. Johns
- **Silverleaf Amenity Center**, 218 Silver Forest Drive, St. Augustine

- **Supervisor of Elections Office**, 4455 Avenue A, Unit 101, St. Augustine
 - **St. Augustine Beach City Hall**, 2200 A1A South, St. Augustine
 - **Southeast Branch Library**, 6670 U.S. 1 South, St. Augustine
 - **W.E. Harris Community Center**, 400 E. Harris St., Hastings
- The 2024 primary election is open to all registered voters in St. Johns County. Eligible voters may vote at any St. Johns County early-voting location during the

early-voting period. Voters must present a current and valid photo and signature ID when voting in person. Voter information cards are not a valid form of identification when voting.

Go to votesjc.gov for a list of acceptable forms of ID.

The deadline to request a vote-by-mail ballot to be mailed for this election is 5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 8. Vote-by-mail ballots must be received by the Supervisor of Elections Office by 7 p.m. on Election

Day, Aug. 20, to be counted.

Secure ballot intake stations are available inside all early voting locations between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. daily for voters to drop off completed vote-by-mail ballots. Vote-by-mail ballots can also be dropped off at the Elections Office, Monday through Friday during business hours.

Call the Supervisor of Elections Office at 904-823-2238 or go to votesjc.gov for additional information.

St. Johns County School Board Candidates Forum is Aug. 8

The League of Women Voters of Jacksonville First Coast (LWVJFC) and the American Association of University Women — St. Augustine, Florida Branch (AAUW) are planning a St. Johns County School Board Candidate Forum on Aug. 8.

All candidates who have qualified to be on the ballot in the upcoming August primary election have confirmed their participation. The forum will be held at the St. Augustine Main Library, 1960 Ponce De Leon, St. Augustine, and will be divided into two segments as follows: District 2 from 5 to 5:30 p.m., and Dis-

trict 5 candidates from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m.

The host organizations encourage members of the public to attend, as there will be an opportunity to ask questions of the candidates. Registration is encouraged at facebook.com/events/s/st-johns-county-school-board-c/839391591374721.

School board members play a vital role in creating educational policy for school districts and hearing from the candidates directly is an important way to learn more about a candidate before voting.

This forum will provide the public

with the opportunity to hear the candidates' views on issues important to voters of St. Johns County School Districts 2 and 5.

"Voters often don't realize that local elections get decided in the primary election," said Lanelle Phillmon, President of the LWVJFC. "This is especially true in the St. Johns School Board race for District 2 where only two candidates are running. The candidate who wins the primary will become the District 2 representative on the School Board."

"AAUW is proud to co-sponsor this event as we support an informed elector-

ate so that voters can make an educated choice when they cast their ballot," said Cathie Altman, president of the AAUW.

The forum will begin with opening remarks from the moderator. Each candidate will then make an opening statement followed by a question period, with questions from LWVJFC and AAUW as well as written questions from the audience.

The LWVJFC and the AAUW are nonpartisan organizations that promote participation of citizens in government. The LWVJFC and AAUW do not support any political parties or candidates.

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Residents get to know candidates at Chamber event

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce hosted a Meet the Candidates event at Solomon Calhoun Community Center in St. Augustine on July 31.

Photos by Susan Griffin



VOTE AUGUST 20TH
(PAID FOR)
Heather Harley-Davidson
Republican For Trees
Dist. 3, St Johns County
Commission Candidate
The "Compromised" are sacrificing our quality of life by approving over development at a rate unsustainable. Our schools, roads, emergency services are feeling the crunch & crowd. Enough is enough!

A campaign graphic for Amy Demi. It features a woman in a straw hat and a blue shirt with white stars. To the right is a stylized eagle head with an American flag pattern. The text "AMY DEMI" is written in large, bold, blue letters. Below it, it says "Vote August 20th". At the bottom, it says "Paid for by Amy Demi, Republican for State Committeewoman" and "It is time for a change in SJC for Republican State Committeewoman". There is a QR code in the bottom left corner.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

DENVER COOK REPUBLICAN



Denver Cook of Ponte Vedra Beach is a veteran of Desert Storm, serving with U.S. Air Forces Europe, Air Training Command, Pacific Air Forces and Joint Service with Army, Navy and Marine Corps, according to his website. He was a founding member of the Joint Intelligence Center Pacific and served with U.S. Army Central Command intelligence staff during Desert Storm.

He has worked as a corrections officer at the Bucks County Prison and the County Community Corrections Center in Pennsylvania. He has been a board member for the PVPV/Rawlings PTO and is founding chair for the St. Johns County Poly-Drug Task Force.

BRANDON PATTY



Brandon Patty is a devoted husband and father, dedicated Clerk and Comptroller, and proud U.S. Naval intelligence officer. He has fought to improve our legal system, securing an additional county judge in 2020. He launched the Property Fraud Notification and Prevention Campaign to combat white-collar crime and protect St. Johns residents. He has been recognized with the Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting for four years and is committed to transparency and fiscal responsibility. Patty and his wife Brittney are raising their young boys in St. Johns. Brandon Patty is currently deployed overseas in service to our country.

SHERIFF

ROB HARDWICK



"I am Rob Hardwick — your St. Johns County Sheriff. Through community policing and use of technology, we have reduced violent crime by 10%, provided first-class customer service and utilized taxpayer dollars wisely.

I am a combat veteran who served 25 years in the U.S. Army and the Florida National Guard and 30 years in law enforcement.

My wife, Kendell, and I have been married for 33 years and have two adult sons.

I would be honored to earn your vote on Aug. 20 to continue serving as your Sheriff of St. Johns County."

JIM PRIESTER



"I'm Jim Priester, a 27-year veteran of the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office and candidate for sheriff. As a fourth-generation Florida law enforcement officer, I will focus on fiscal responsibility, transparency and effective leadership. As your sheriff, I will host public safety town hall meetings to prioritize community engagement and safety. We'll maintain open communication on social media, respect free speech and post our budget quarterly for transparency. I've dedicated my life to serving St. Johns County and will always put the safety of your family and our community first. I'm proudly endorsed by the Trump Club of St. Johns."



Endorsed
by St. Johns
County
Republican
Party



★★★ FEARLESS ★★★
CONSERVATIVE

Kim
KENDALL

KIM KENDALL for STATE HOUSE, DISTRICT 18!

VoteKimKendall.com

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ST. JOHNS COUNTY
PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS
& PARAMEDICS ASSOCIATION
An Affiliate of the International Association of Firefighters
Proudly Protecting Your Property, Lives and...Our Community.



MEET KIM KENDALL

Kim Kendall has been a local community leader and a strong advocate for education and parental rights in Florida for many years, chairing statewide literacy initiatives, working on state-appointed education task forces, and serving as state education chair for the Florida Federation of Republican Women.

AND SHE'S A TRUE LOCAL: Kim and her family have lived in St. Johns County for over 20 years!

- Served as an FAA Air Traffic Controller
- Married to Her Husband, Kelly, for 30 Years and has Two Adult Children
- Owned Two Dry Cleaners
- Grew up on Naval bases, including Guantánamo and the Philippines

COUNTY COMMISSIONER (DISTRICT 1)

ANN-MARIE EVANS
REPUBLICAN



“Our county is in decline. Make no mistake, this election will determine the future of St. Johns County. Having owned a thriving law firm (WA only) and served as a public records officer, I bring the skills necessary to slow the growth and fix our infrastructure while not raising taxes. Why is it that the wealthiest county in Florida is unable to fund infrastructure and support our teachers, police and firefighters? I know why, I’ve researched the last year and found unbelievable waste. Developer-funded PACs want you to believe blatant lies, I want you to know the truth.”

WESTON FERGUSON
REPUBLICAN



Ferguson is a lifelong Republican and wants to protect what she believes makes St. Johns County so special. To do this she plans to find creative ways to end the practice of clear cutting and strive to protect the environment. She also wants to put a moratorium on development and promises to vote for a moratorium on growth in the county on day one in office. Ferguson is an avid boater and beach enthusiast and wants to do what she can to protect the local waterways.

CHRISTIAN WHITEHURST



Christian Whitehurst is a small business owner and lifelong conservative Republican. He fought for St. Johns by eliminating wasteful spending and opposing new taxes, including the tree tax. He has also led the charge to use developer impact fees to fund road projects, new parks and libraries and fire stations. He fought to secure federal and state funding to ensure these projects did not use property tax dollars. He is a proud supporter of veterans and first responders and says he will “always fight to make sure we take care of the people who sacrifice so much for us.”



Every VOTE COUNTS!

JIM
PRIESTER
FOR
SHERIFF

TRUMP CLUB
St. Johns County

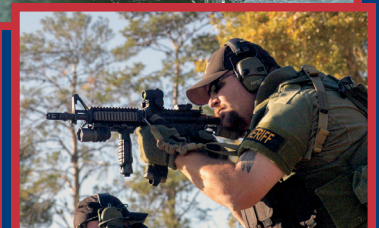
Proudly Supported by Veterans and Law Enforcement

Jim’s Experience and Leadership

- ★ 4th Generation Law Enforcement Officer
- ★ 27 Year Career at the St. Johns County Sheriff’s Office
- ★ Began as Reserve Deputy and promoted through the ranks to Lieutenant
- ★ Experience in every agency department including:
- ★ SWAT Team - 13 Years
- ★ Dive Team - 8 Years
- ★ Bomb Squad - 6 Years



Check out Jim’s TV Commercial



LIFESAVING AWARD

COMBAT AWARD

3X MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

2X SHERIFF’S COMMENDATIONS

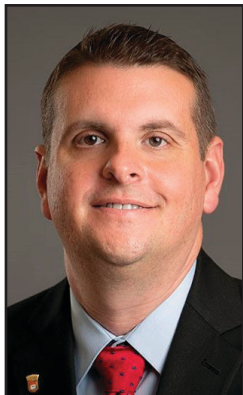
20 YEAR COMMENDATION

Jim and his wife, Paula, live in the southern part of St. Johns with their two horses and loyal pup Cadey. They enjoy attending services at the historical First Baptist Church of Hastings.

Paid by Jim Priester, Republican, for St. Johns County Sheriff.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER (DISTRICT 3)

ROY ALAIMO REPUBLICAN



Roy Alaimo is a conservative Republican endorsed by Gov. Ron DeSantis. Alaimo has been a staunch advocate for limited government, lower taxes and protecting small businesses. Alaimo is committed to supporting veterans and first responders and is proud of the work he did to help the Veterans Village along with voting for four new fire stations paid for by developer impact fees. Born and raised in St. Johns, Alaimo is dedicated to protecting what makes the county the best place to live, work and raise a family.

HEATHER HARLEY-DAVIDSON



Harley-Davidson, a resident of Ortega and Crescent Beach since 1970, graduated high school in 1982 and was a lifeguard for 15 years.

She received Associate of Art's Degree from St. Johns River Community College then UNF for a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology Construction Management and business minor.

She married Warren Michael of 23 years and has two children and five grandchildren.

Harley-Davidson owned Advanced Building Company of North Florida, Channel Marker 71 Barrier Island Inn & Restaurant, and A1A Crab Shack.

She is a licensed general contractor, real estate broker, award-winning artist in the St. Augustine Art Association.

MICHAEL MCDONALD REPUBLICAN



“My name is Michael McDonald. I am thrilled to be on the ballot as an honest local to stand up and represent us. That is my goal, to represent the people instead of the powerful. Being born and raised here, I have gained intimate knowledge of our issues and ways to give logical solutions. My commitment is to St. Johns County, and that will never change. When elected, I will ensure our departments are fiscally responsible and bring transparency and accountability to our decisions. I hope to bring down the cost of living and bring up the quality of life.”

CLAY MURPHY



A native of Kentucky, Clay Murphy was born in 1960. His family settled in Palatka in 1971.

After graduating from high school, Murphy worked for the Putnam County, and later the Jacksonville, Sheriff's Offices. In 1982, he joined the Florida Highway Patrol as a trooper, serving 26 years in that position. He moved to St. Augustine in 1991.

After retiring from the Florida Highway Patrol in 2008, Murphy and his wife became the owners of Sonny's BBQ in St. Augustine. Murphy is also co-owner and lead instructor at Ancient City Traffic School and Ancient City Motorcycle Training.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER (DISTRICT 5)

HENRY DEAN REPUBLICAN



Henry Dean is a conservative Republican who has dedicated many years to serving the people of St. Johns. From eliminating wasteful spending and keeping taxes low, he put the best interest of county residents first. He put more than 60,000 acres of land in St. Johns into conservation so it can never be developed. He led the charge to hold developers accountable by denying projects that did not meet his strict requirements of compatibility and infrastructure. He fought for the tourism industry, ensuring that small businesses are not burdened by government regulations to allow for a thriving local economy.

JOHN HIGBEE III



John Higbee III lists his address at Jacksonville. He did not respond to our inquiry.

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ANN TAYLOR



My first priority is to slow residential growth. The number of overcapacity roads has increased by 65% in four years. Our overcrowded schools have now dropped in the state ranking to number 2. This hurts our children's educations and will impact our property values.

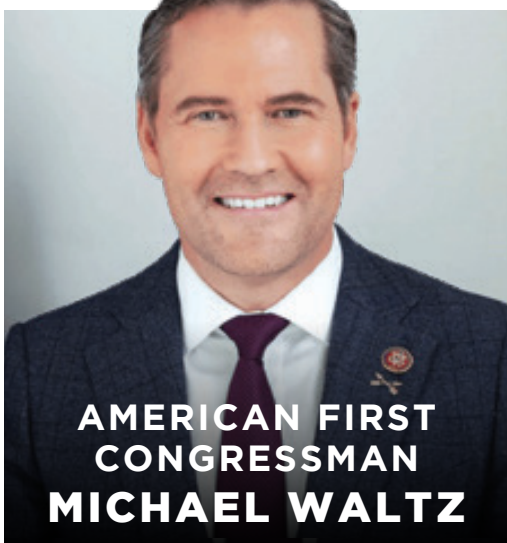
Curbing wasteful spending in government will also be a top priority. As a fiscal conservative, I oppose any new taxes, contrary to the blatant lies about me in attack advertising that claim I'll raise taxes.

Preserving our quality of life while maintaining a vibrant economy is my goal.

REPUBLICANS ENDORSE
**CONSERVATIVE
TOM LEEK**
FOR ST. JOHNS' SENATOR



LEARN MORE AT
VOTETOMLEEK.COM



VOTE BY MAIL and
EARLY VOTING
INFORMATION
at VoteSJC.gov
for the AUGUST 20th
REPUBLICAN PRIMARY.

VOTE TOM LEEK
IN THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY STATE SENATE DISTRICT 7

Paid by Tom Leek, Republican, for State Senate

SCHOOL BOARD (DISTRICT 2)

ANTHONY COLEMAN



Anthony Coleman graduated from Hastings High School, where he played varsity football and ran track and was the state champion for the 100-meter in 1982. After graduation, he completed the St. Augustine Technical Law Enforcement Academy and graduated from Vincennes University.

Coleman served as a deputy with the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office for more than 30 years. For 20 years, he was a youth resource deputy, coach, mentor, teacher and role model to thousands of county children.

He was named Officer of the Year in 1999 and received the Guy White Award, the highest award given by the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office.

FRANCIS 'FRANK' CUMMINGS



"I'm running for the School Board in D2 to address the disconnect between what St. Johns County parents/taxpayers want versus what we're currently getting. My goal is to prioritize our children's education, ensure fiscal responsibility and advocate for higher teacher salaries. I believe in transparency, community involvement and having the courage to do what's right for our kids.

Thank you for considering me to represent you on the School Board for District 2, SJC."

SCHOOL BOARD (DISTRICT 5)

LILIANA BRISTOW



Bristow dedicated a decade to serving in the Air Force in the intelligence arena, where she honed her skills and discipline while earning her bachelor's in business with a focus on Labor Relations.

"I am a firm believer we all want the same thing: a better, brighter future for our kids. We want our kids to be safe. We want our kids to have happy, healthy childhoods. And, yes, of course, we want our district to be the best in the state. But that requires figuring out how to get there collaboratively, and that's why I'm getting into this race."

BETHANY HILBERT



Hilbert is a married mom of two children in St. Johns County schools and a veteran teacher experienced in both educating students and providing training and mentorship to teachers.

She graduated from Flagler College in 2003 with a degree in Education and has since acquired multiple certifications and endorsements.

In 2020, she was recognized as Teacher of the Year at Ketterlinus Elementary School. She also serves on the School Advisory Committee and as the school's Robotics coach.

Hilbert is dedicated to putting students over politics by focusing on great teachers, safe schools, and a balanced budget. Her website is hilbertforschoolboard.com.

LYNN STRAUGHAN



Straughan's background in education, social work, and volunteerism is supported by strong civic leadership. She has expertise in nonprofit management, training, and fundraising.

She has served as PTO President at Ketterlinus Elementary, is President of the St. Augustine Community School for Performing Arts and is the current President of Kids Bridge Family Visitation Center.

She is recognized with numerous awards, including the 2003-2004 St. Johns County School District Volunteer of the Year and 2018 Sertoma Person of the Year.

Straughan aims to elevate educational standards and foster community engagement in schools. She holds a BA in Sociology from Mercer University.

LINDA THOMSON



Linda Thomson lists her qualifications thus: 41 years of educational experience, including in Fairfax County, Virginia, where she was principal of Fairfax High School. In St. Johns County, she served as principal of Nease High School, and as director of curriculum. She has a doctorate in educational leadership from University of Houston and is qualified to be a school superintendent.

Her top issues: No indoctrination — back to basics with reading, writing and arithmetic; attracting and retaining quality educators (50 unfilled positions last year); engaging classroom instruction to prepare students for career or college; and district growth: buildings, portables, staffing, technology.



RE-ELECT *Our Sheriff*
Rob Hardwick
Republican for St. Johns County Sheriff

★ **VETERAN** ★ **CONSERVATIVE LEADER** ★ **OUR SHERIFF** ★

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Republican Primary: Aug. 20

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2024 Primary Election · August 20, 2024

OPEN TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS IN ST. JOHNS COUNTY



Florida is a Closed Primary State

- Democrats receive a **Democratic** ballot
- Republicans receive a **Republican** ballot
- Voters with No Party Affiliation or a minor party receive a **Nonpartisan** ballot and cannot vote for party candidates

Exception:

Universal Primary Contests are the exception. There is one Universal Primary Contest on the 2024 Primary Election ballot: Clerk of Circuit Court and Comptroller (Rep). This contest is open to all voters and will appear on **all** ballots.

Voting by Mail?

The deadline to request a vote-by-mail ballot to be mailed for the 2024 Primary Election is August 8 by 5 PM. Visit www.votesjc.gov or call the Elections Office to request your ballot.

Vote-by-mail ballots must be returned to the Elections Office by 7 PM on Election Day, August 20, to be counted.

Vote-by-mail ballots can also be returned to Secure Ballot Intake Stations available at all seven early voting locations during the hours of voting.

Election Day

To vote on Election Day, you must go to your assigned polling place between the hours of 7 AM and 7 PM on Tuesday, August 20, 2024.

Some precincts have changed since the last election. Verify your Election Day polling place at www.votesjc.gov before heading out to vote!

Early Voting

August 10 - August 17, 2024

9 AM to 6 PM

Daily at all locations

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STATE COMMITTEEWOMAN (REPUBLICAN)

AMY DEMI
REPUBLICAN



“My goal and the duty of this position is to be a spokesperson for every Republican in St. Johns County, not just those associated with a particular club or group.”

Demi is a Constitutionalist; Local Chairman of the Republican Liberty Caucus; organizer of many Republican events, including the Patriot Soup Cook-off; an experienced public speaker; a college instructor with a Science Degree in Biology and a Master’s Degree in Education; and an active supporter of America First and Florida First candidates for many years.

TAMARA RENUART
REPUBLICAN



Tamara Renuart is a fourth generation Florida native. She and husband Ronald "Doc" Renuart have seven children and 10 grandchildren.

She lists her qualifications thus: Republican Party of St. Johns County, vice chair 2020-22; Trump delegate to the Republican National Convention, 2020; St. Johns County state committeewoman, 2019-20; North Florida chairwoman, Republican Presidential Campaign, 2008; North Florida assistant director and grassroots coordinator, Republican Presidential Campaign, 2004; North Florida Outstanding Volunteer Award, 2006; legislative aide, Florida House of Representatives, 2004-12; delegate alternate, Republican National Convention, 2008; endorsed by the Trump Club and The Conservative Coalition of St. Johns County.

KO ROBINS
REPUBLICAN



Ko Robins said she was the only delegate at the RNC convention representing SJC — as a state committeewoman, this is her only job. This is a volunteer position. Her responsibilities include: Advocacy — Representing the interests and concerns of her community at the state level. Communication — Acting as a liaison between the local party members and the state party organization. Organizing — Assisting in organizing local events, campaigns and initiatives. Voting — Participating in state party meetings and voting on key issues, resolutions and party leadership. Supporting candidates — Helping to recruit and support candidates for office. Engagement — Encouraging community involvement and voter engagement.

STATE COMMITTEEMAN (REPUBLICAN)

MANUEL P. ASENSIO
REPUBLICAN



Manuel P. Asensio of St. Augustine was born in Cuba and escaped the island as a child with his family two weeks after the Bay of Pigs confrontation in 1961. He grew up in Brooklyn and earned degrees from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School and Harvard University Business Graduate School. He is the founder of Asensio & Co., a FINRA and SEC registered investment firm.

He ran for election in 2022 for the U.S. House of Representatives but did not prevail in the primary.

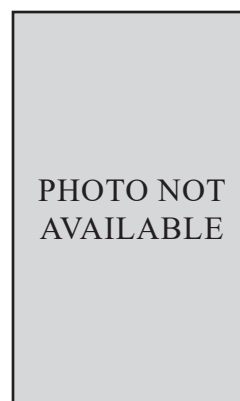
STATE COMMITTEEMAN (REPUBLICAN)

BILL MAC DOWELL
REPUBLICAN



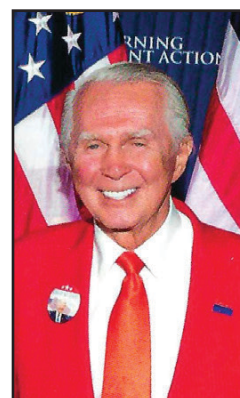
Bill Mac Dowell is a 25-year resident who says he loves this county and this country. He has spent 15 years working for the City of St. Augustine. As for the state committeeman position, he said, “My aim is to be a light in a dark world. Thank you.”

DAVID OGBURN
REPUBLICAN



David Ogburn is a resident of St. Johns, according to the Supervisor of Elections office. He did not respond to our inquiry.

MICHEL PAWLOWSKI
REPUBLICAN



Qualifications: Proven leadership within the local St. Johns GOP, state and national level. Polish Coalition Coordinator for Donald J. Trump Campaign, 2016, 2020 and 2024.

Issues to address: “I will listen to your concerns, be your voice at state GOP meetings, give you feedback, be on time, address St. Johns County issues, work with city and county officials and support the agenda of President Donald J. Trump!” This position is not paid. It is voluntary.

TOM RIVERS
REPUBLICAN



" I am a candidate for re-election to represent the Republicans of St. Johns County in the Republican Party of Florida. Having served in this capacity for several years I have developed relationships with Republican leaders all over Florida and consider myself a friend of the State Chairman Evan Power and Vice Chair Jesse Philips. I attend state party meetings quarterly and feel I am best equipped to help with local party issues in concert with state leaders."



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I am pleased to endorse Nick Primrose, a proven conservative Republican State House candidate in District 18. Nick was a valuable member of my general counsel’s office when we fought federal COVID mandates and kept our schools and businesses open. I look forward to working with him again to keep Florida the freest state in the country when he represents St. Johns County in the Florida House.”

GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS



NickPrimrose.com

Paid for by Nick Primrose, Republican, for State House.

EARLY VOTING AUGUST 10TH - 17TH

ELECTION DAY IS AUGUST 20TH



St. Johns County Republican Candidates OFFICIAL VOTER GUIDE



STATE SENATOR, DISTRICT 7

Tom Leek



SHERIFF

Jim Priester



STATE HOUSE, DISTRICT 18

Nick Primrose



COUNTY COMMISSION, DISTRICT 1

Christian Whitehurst



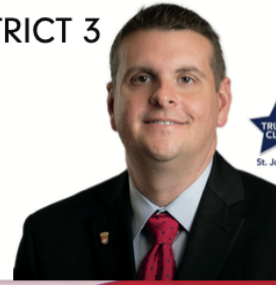
STATE HOUSE, DISTRICT 19

Darryl Boyer



COUNTY COMMISSION, DISTRICT 3

Roy Alaimo



CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

Brandon Patty



COUNTY COMMISSION, DISTRICT 5

Henry Dean



STATE COMMITTEEWOMAN

Tamara Renuart



SCHOOL BOARD, DISTRICT 5

Lynn Straughan



STATE COMMITTEEMAN

Tom Rivers



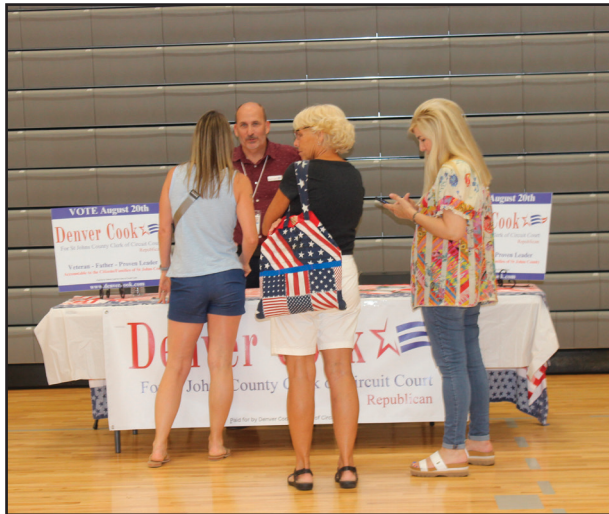
Vote **NO** on amendments 3 and 4

Vote **YES** on amendments 1,2,5,6

Chamber hosts Meet the Candidates

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce hosted a Meet the Candidates event at Beachside High School in St. Johns on July 23.

Photos by Susan Griffin



Bob Porter, Vice President Public Policy, and Berta Odom, Board Chair, with the St. Johns County Chamber.



Chamber

Continued from 35

Photos by Susan Griffin



Elizabeth Middlebrooks, Director of Marketing and Communications, Kathy Larsen, Membership and Events Manager, Elizabeth Bernardino, Vice President Program Development and Marketing, Isabelle Renault, President, and Scott Maynard, Senior Vice President of Economic Development with the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce.

Business Weekly

For MORE business news, go to facebook.com/ThePVRecorder

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024 PAGE 37

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

Special cruise planned for Jimmy Buffett Day

Jimmy Buffett's music and casual vibe make him the epitome of island escapism. Florida Water Tours is celebrating Jimmy Buffett Day, which is recognized by the State of Florida on Aug. 30, with a themed cruise that promises to put passengers in an island state of mind. Departing from Camanche Cove Yacht Harbor Marina, Florida Water Tour's Jimmy Buffett Sunset Cruise will be a Parrothead's dream, full of fun, food and music.

"Who hasn't dreamed of throwing off the bowlines to their own boat and leaving all of their cares behind?" said Jessica Jadick, founder and owner of Florida Water Tours. "While we can't quite do that, we'll be able to embrace Jimmy Buffett's joie de vivre for a couple of hours at sea. We want our passengers to go all in — wear their best island wear — maybe even find a grass skirt and coconut bra! We'll set the mood by playing all the great Buffett tunes while guests can enjoy a beautiful sunset. Buffett was a dedicated environmental conservationist, which we love. So while we're having fun,



Photo by Island Sun Media

passengers can still learn all about the area and wildlife from our amazing crew."

Jimmy Buffett Day celebrates Buffett's significant contributions to the state's culture and his free-spirited lifestyle. Born on Christmas Day in Pascagoula, Mississippi, Buffett became an icon for the laid-back, beach and sailing lifestyle that prevailed in the Florida Keys. He was introduced to sailing by his father and grandfather, starting a lifelong love of the water and inspiring his ethos of following passions and living life to the fullest.

His popular hits include "Margaritaville," "Come Monday," "Cheeseburger in Paradise" and many more. He released 30 albums, with eight certified gold and nine certified platinum or multi-platinum. In total, he sold more than 20 million certified records worldwide, making him one of the world's best-selling musical artists. Buffett died after a prolonged battle with a rare form of skin cancer on

CRUISE continues on Page 40



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GUEST COLUMN

Should you be thinking about volatility? Probably

Contributed photo

Written by/for Wells Fargo Advisors



When the stock market is on the rise, investors can fall into the trap of believing the good times will never end. But in all probability, market volatility will return, and chances are it'll be when it's least expected.

Rather than waiting for it to happen and risking the possibility of panicking and making costly investment decisions, you may want to think about volatility during those good times. That way, you can be strategic rather than emotional about dealing with it, which may lead to better outcomes.

What type of investor are you?

1. You have an investment plan.
2. You don't have an investment plan.

Let's begin by addressing type 2 investors.

Quite simply, if you don't have an investment plan, you should think about creating one, and here's why: A well-thought-out plan is built around what you're investing for (goals), how long you have until you need to tap into your investments (time horizon), and, most important for this topic, the amount of market volatility you're comfortable with

(risk tolerance).

Taking these factors into consideration, your plan should include a strategic asset allocation, which is how your portfolio is divvied up between different types of investments — primarily stocks, bonds and cash alternatives.

You may be the type of investor who takes market volatility in stride. In that case, you likely have a relatively high-risk tolerance. On the other hand, volatility may make it hard for you to sleep and cause you to panic, which would mean your risk tolerance is probably rather low.

If you're the second type of investor,

a larger portion of your asset allocation would likely be in bonds, which historically have been more stable than stocks. However, along with that relative stability generally comes significantly lower returns.

What if you already have a plan?

If you have an investment plan, you should be thinking about whether your portfolio is currently aligned with your strategic asset allocation.

While it might be nice if you could set and forget your asset allocation, the fact is overtime market activity can cause your investments to drift away — sometimes far away — from where you want them to be if you don't keep an eye on them.

For example, a hypothetical 50% stocks, 45% bonds and 5% cash alternatives portfolio could become a 60% stocks, 35% bonds and 5% cash alternatives portfolio without you realizing it. While that "new" portfolio may provide better returns, it's also likely to fluctuate more in value if the market becomes volatile. In other words, you could be exceeding your risk tolerance without being aware of it.

To help avoid this situation, consider periodically rebalancing your portfolio when necessary, which may require selling some investments and purchasing

others to bring it back to your intended asset allocation.

Because creating a plan and keeping it in balance can be complicated, for help you may want to turn to a financial adviser with the necessary tools and experience.

Asset allocation cannot eliminate the risk of fluctuating prices and uncertain returns.

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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OUT WITH THE OLD
IN WITH THE NEW

Hospitals recognized for providing high-quality heart-failure care

St. Vincent’s Southside and Clay County have earned Gold Plus recognition in heart failure care through the American Heart Association’s “Get With the Guidelines” program. The hospitals earned the highest possible level in the quality achievement award for their commitment to improving outcomes for patients with heart failure. This is the fifth consecutive year that Southside has been honored and the third consecutive year that Clay County has been honored.

The Get With The Guidelines — Heart Failure quality achievement award is earned by hospitals that demonstrate a commitment to treating patients according to the most up-to-date guidelines as outlined by the American Heart Association. Get With The Guidelines puts the expertise of the American Heart Association to work for hospitals

nationwide, helping ensure patient care is aligned with the latest research and evidence-based guidelines.

“By implementing the most updated guidelines, the St. Vincent’s cardiologists and care teams are best equipped to handle complex cases and improve patient outcomes and recoveries,” said St. Vincent’s Chief Medical Officer Dr. Mario Pulido. “Our aim is to provide our patients with positive health outcomes so that they can get back to doing the activities they love and enjoy.”

About 6 million U.S. adults are living with heart failure, a number that is expected to increase to more than 8 million by 2030. While there’s no cure, patients can live a quality life by working with their health care team to create and stick with a plan that may include medication, symptom monitoring and lifestyle changes.

“We are pleased to recognize the leaders and teams at St. Vincent’s Southside and Clay County for a strong commitment to caring for people with heart failure,” said Sabra Lewsey, M.D., chair of the American Heart Association Heart Failure System of Care Advisory Group and assistant professor of medicine at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. “Hospitals that participate in Get With The Guidelines — Heart Failure often see better patient outcomes, fewer readmissions and lower mortality rates — a win for families, communities and health care systems.”

St. Vincent’s Southside and Clay County are also recognized on the American Heart Association’s Target: Heart Failure Honor Roll. Hospitals on the Honor Roll meet specific criteria that improve medication adherence, provide early follow-up care and coor-

dination and enhance patient education. The hospitals additionally received the American Heart Association’s Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll award. Target: Type 2 Diabetes aims to ensure patients with Type 2 diabetes, who might be at higher risk for complications, receive the most up-to-date, evidence-based care when hospitalized due to heart disease or stroke.

St. Vincent’s Southside and Clay County were also recently named High Performing Hospitals by the U.S. News and World Report’s Best Hospitals List for 2024-2025. Southside received a high performing rating for its heart attack care, while Clay County received a high performing rating for congestive heart failure care.

St. Vincent’s was also recently named a top 15 health system in the country for 2024 by Fortune and PINC AI.

Real estate company honored for second consecutive year

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty has been named one of Florida’s Best Companies To Work For by Florida Trend. This is the second consecutive year Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty has received the honor.

“Our company is known for its integrity, reputation and success, and also for creating a dynamic workplace environment that supports personal and professional growth,” said Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Net-

work Realty President Ann King. “We value our team and we are committed to constantly improving and enhancing our award-winning company culture.”

The list ranks companies in small, medium and large employer categories and is featured in the August issue of Florida Trend magazine. The Best Companies To Work For In Florida program is managed by Florida Trend and Workforce Research Group and is endorsed by the HR Florida State Council. Workforce Research Group

managed the registration, survey and analysis and determined the final rankings.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty has received

further recognition as a top employer.

For more information about Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, go to FloridaNetworkRealty.com or FLNetworkRealty.com.

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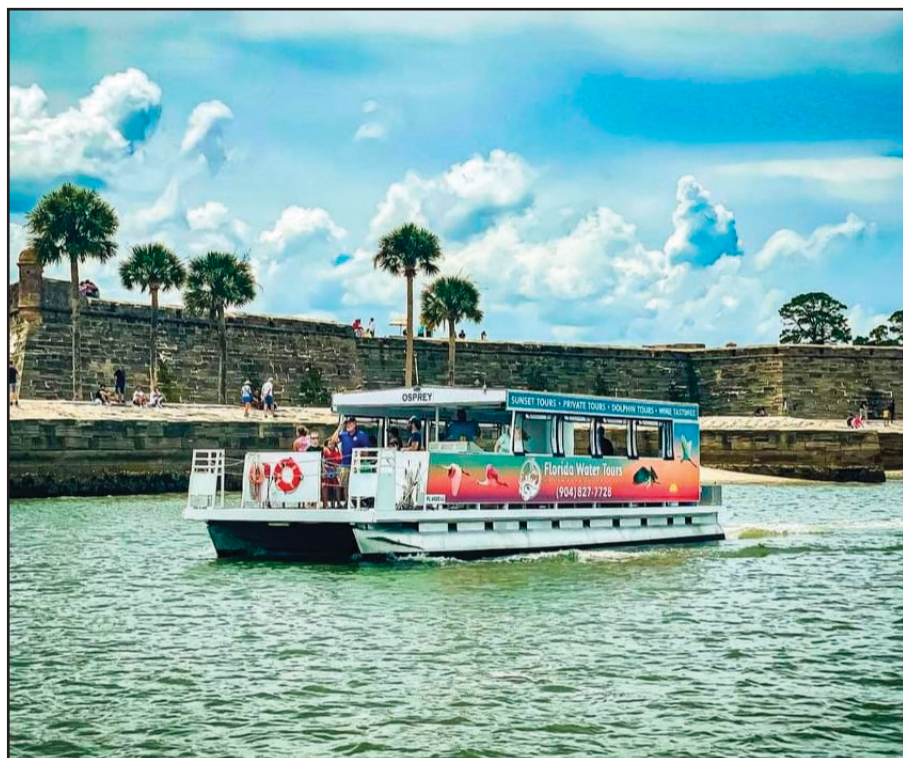


Photo by Island Sun Media

Cruise

Continued from 37

Sept. 1, 2023.

The Jimmy Buffett Sunset Cruise is a two-hour excursion and departs at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 30, returning to the dock at 8:30 p.m. The cruise is on Florida Water Tour's spacious flagship vessel, The Osprey, docked at Cam-

achee Cove Yacht Harbor Marina, just north of downtown St. Augustine, with plentiful, free parking.

The Jimmy Buffett Sunset Cruise is \$45 per person and is for adults 21 years of age and older. Drink specials, alcoholic beverages, water and soft drinks are available to purchase. Seats are limited. Guests can check availability at floridawatertour.com/jimmy-buffett-sunset-cruise.

ER, trauma center recognized for nursing excellence

Wolfson Children's Emergency and Porter Family Trauma Center has been selected as a recipient of the Emergency Nurses Association's 2024 Lantern Award for demonstrating excellence in leadership, practice, education, advocacy and research performance.

The Lantern Award acknowledges accomplishments in incorporating evidence-based practice and innovation into emergency care, as well as a commitment to patient care and the well-being of nursing staff. The three-year award recognizes Wolfson Children's Hospital's Emergency Centers' commitment to quality, safety and a healthy work environment in the emergency and trauma care settings.

"Every single day, our pediatric emergency physician, nursing and support teams care for children when they need it most," said Leslie Webber, director of Wolfson Children's Emergency Center. "We offer children and families at all of our Wolfson Children's ERs the most experienced pediatric emergency care in the region, and we are committed to guiding children and families through both the physical and the emotional healing

process."

Emergency departments that receive the Lantern Award are given an emblem to display as a visible symbol of their commitment to quality, safety, a healthy work environment and innovation in nursing practice and emergency care.

"This recognition by the Emergency Nurses Association of our highly trained staff in the Wolfson Children's Emergency and Porter Family Trauma Center, and at all of our Wolfson Children's Emergency Centers, is a testament to their dedication to providing highly skilled and compassionate pediatric emergency care," said Allegra C. Jaros, president of Wolfson Children's Hospital. "We are proud to offer access points to this exceptional level of care in all of our pediatric ER settings for children and families with urgent and sometimes life-threatening medical needs."

In 2018, Wolfson Children's Hospital became a state-designated pediatric trauma center. In 2022, the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma verified Wolfson Children's Porter Family Trauma Center as the region's only Level I pediatric trauma center.



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Ground broken for new 55+ community

The Northeast Florida Division of PulteGroup has announced that construction has begun at The Landings at Saint Johns on Greenbriar Road, St. Johns. The community will feature the area's newest 55-plus community at Del Webb Saint Johns as well as new single-family homes available at The Landings by Pulte Homes.

"We are thrilled to celebrate this milestone at the highly anticipated new community coming soon to in Northwest St. Johns County," said Justin Cook, president of PulteGroup's Northeast Florida Division. "The Landings at Saint Johns offers an appealing location, world-class ameni-

ties and the opportunity for buyers and families of all ages to create their perfect dream home."

Del Webb, a builder of active-adult communities for people of age 55 and older, is developing Del Webb Saint Johns. The community will offer a collection of open-concept, single-family home designs on 50-foot and 65-foot homesites. Homes will feature gourmet kitchens and indoor and outdoor spaces for hosting family and entertaining. In addition to low maintenance and new construction living, residents will enjoy a private 11-acre amenity center with a clubhouse and resort-style pool, on-site tavern and grill, innovative

fitness center, pickleball, sports courts, a community garden, ballroom and more.

The Landings by Pulte Homes will offer spacious consumer-inspired, one- and two-story, single-family home designs on 50-foot, 60-foot and 65-foot homesites with preserve or water views. Residents will enjoy a variety of amenities including a nearly eight-acre amenity center with a private clubhouse, resort-style pool, a bark park, walking trails, sports courts, event lawn and more.

The Landings at Saint Johns is zoned for A-rated schools in the St. Johns

County Public School District. The community is conveniently located to shopping including a new Publix less than two miles away, dining, entertainment, outdoor recreation and more.

Those interested in Del Webb Saint Johns and The Landings by Pulte Homes are encouraged to join the VIP List to receive community updates and be among the first to receive announcements about pricing, homesites, home designs, amenities and more.

For more information, call 904-604-7254 or go to pulte.com/jacksonville.



Contributed photo

PulteGroup announces construction has begun at The Landings at Saint Johns.

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In the Arts

Send your arts news to
news@pontevedrarecorder.com

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024 · PAGE 42

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

Calendar contest art, poetry winners announced

The art submission from Brigita Sniokaityte, a 6th grade student at Switzerland Point Middle School, and the poetry submission from Taryn Lee, an 8th grader at Fruit Cove Middle School, were selected as the first-place winners in the 2025 Day Without Violence Art and Poetry Calendar Contest.

Second place winners included Oliva Rieder, a 7th grader at R J Murray Middle School, for art, and Fruit Cove Middle School 8th grader Christopher Aspromonti for poetry.

“We appreciate all of the St. Johns County students who entered the contest, and the continued support of the project by the St. Johns County School District,” said Betty Griffin Center CEO Kelly Franklin. “Their involvement in this calendar project helps raise awareness of our prevention work throughout the county.”

St. Johns County School District Fine Arts Specialist Joanne Crowder, local artist Riette Gouws and author Kristin Paul, who serves as the strategic and operations administrator for the St. Joseph Neighborhood Center, judged all the art and poetry submissions.

Those receiving honorable mention include:

Art

- Yiwen Chen, Valley Ridge Academy, grade 8
- Gabriella Moura, Freedom Crossing Academy, grade 7
- Margaret Staffey, Freedom Crossing Academy, grade 7
- Avahlea Rapp, Freedom Crossing Academy, grade 8



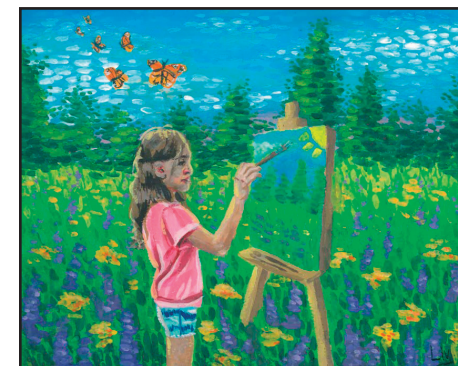
Contributed photos

Swiss Point Middle School student Brigita Sniokaityte won for the calendar cover.

- Kylie Coarsey, Beachside High School, grade 9
- Juliette Phillips, Valley Ridge Academy, grade 3
- Dhruthisri Muthyala, Fruit Cove Middle School, grade 8
- Kayleigh Battista, Fruit Cove Middle School, grade 8
- Meredith Butterfield, Beachside High School, grade 11
- Mattie Boggs, Pine Island Academy, grade 8
- Ayla Faris, Freedom Crossing Academy, grade 8

Poetry

- Lizhayla Hall, Pedro Menendez High School, grade 9
- Mudil Nair, Fruit Cove Middle School, grade 6
- Delaney Beringer, Toco Creek High School, grade 11
- Brianna Rozema, Toco Creek High School, grade 10
- Hannah Brown, Toco Creek High School, grade 9
- Daria Hrachova, Fruit Cove Middle School, grade 8
- Ricky Circelli, Ponte Vedra High



R J Murray Middle School student Oliva Rieder won second place.

- School, grade 12
- Daniel Rasner, Fruit Cove Middle School, grade 6
- Emma Soto, Hickory Creek Elementary School, grade 4
- Talia Samoeun, Toco Creek High School, grade 11

Contest winners will receive special recognition during a St. Johns County School Board meeting and have their artwork displayed at the Crisp Ellert Art Museum throughout October during Domestic Violence Awareness Month, with 3,000 calendars distributed to classrooms throughout St. Johns County this fall.

The contest was open to all St. Johns County students in kindergarten through 12th grade, whether they attended public school, private school or were home-schooled. The number of entries vary each year, depending on the number of students that participate. First-place winners will receive \$50, second-place winners receive \$25 and all students receiving honorable mentions receive \$10 each.

Art auction benefits Cuban children suffering with cancer

The second Art & Love In Action Auction to support kids with cancer in Cuba will take place at Design 100, 4905 Belfort Road, Suite 100, Jacksonville, on Sept. 12.

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The event will feature silent and live auctions of original Cuban art and a guest appearance by Carmen Vallejo from Havana who will speak about her work with kids with cancer across the island of Cuba for more than 35 years. Complimentary heavy hors d'oeuvres and cash bar provided.

Cuba is currently enduring its harshest economic crisis to date and there are extreme shortages of food and medicine. Support the Cuban People is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization based in Northeast Florida committed to providing humanitarian aid to vulnerable youth and the elderly residing in Cuba. This is the second Art

& Love In Action auction organized in Jacksonville to provide much needed aid to kids battling cancer in Cuba. The first auction took place in 2020 at the Haskell Building in Riverside.

You can learn more about Carmen Vallejo and her work in a short documentary film produced by Jacksonville-based TigerLily Media in 2019. Go to vimeo.com/976980018?share=copy.

Tickets are free, but limited, and guests are required to RSVP through the Eventbrite event page. For more details on the auction, go to artandloveinaction.com, where there is a link to RSVP.

Current company sponsors of the event

include Travel Cuba With Us, KC Evolve, Lisa Gielincki Interior Design, Studio M and Arbus Magazine.

Support the Cuban People is a non-political, Northeast Florida-based not-for-profit organization focused on initiatives that support the Cuban people residing in Cuba through programming that provides humanitarian aid, promotes cultural exchange, fosters partnerships and empowers Cuban artists and entrepreneurs. Learn more at supportthecubanpeople.org.

Get tickets at eventbrite.com/e/art-love-in-action-an-art-auction-benefiting-kids-with-cancer-in-cuba-tickets-939941950677.

Abstract art exhibit to open at First Coast Cultural Center

The public is invited to meet local artist Teresa Graham during a reception for her new exhibition at First Coast Cultural Center from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 8: “Entitled Day by Day: Abstract Collections.”

Ten percent of exhibition sales will go to the nonprofit Art with a Heart in Healthcare.

Graham knows the power of creativity to heal and inspire, and she has been featured in numerous magazines. Additionally, her ethereal and serene paintings have been shown across the First Coast, including the Haskell Gallery at Jacksonville International Airport.

A graduate of Yale University, she is currently earning a master’s degree in museum studies from Harvard Extension School.

Refreshments will be provided for this event, which is free and open to the public.

First Coast Cultural Center is located

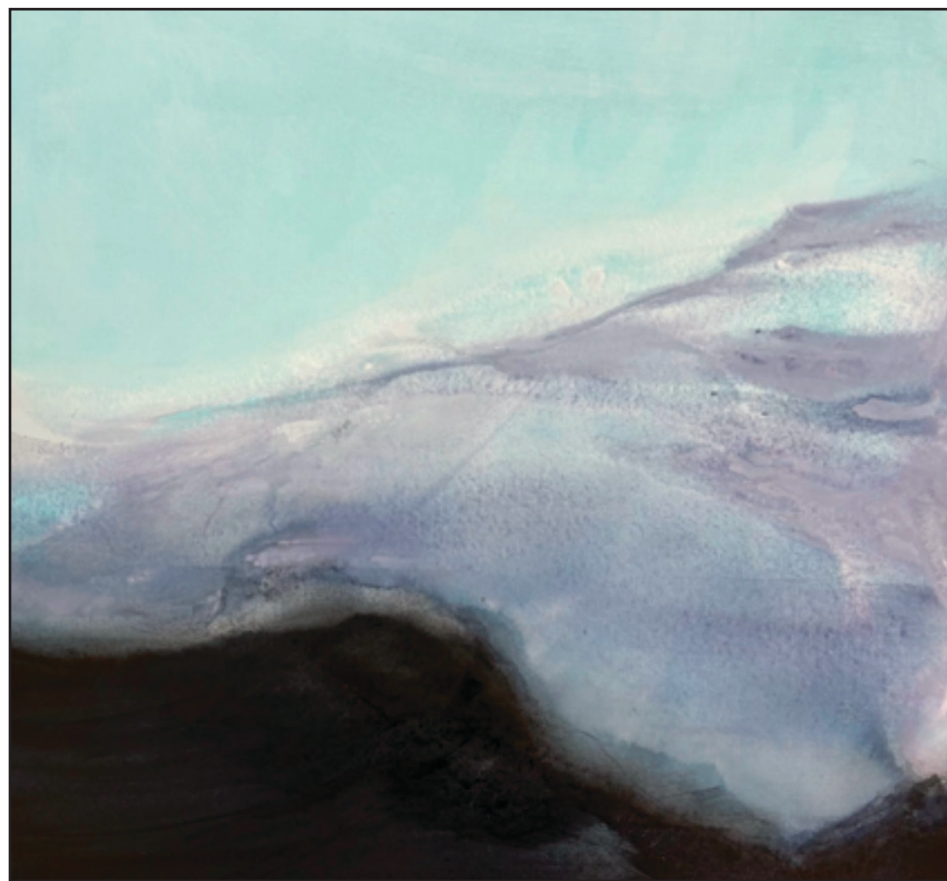


Teresa Graham will exhibit her work at the First Coast Cultural Center.

at 6000B Sawgrass Village Circle, Ponte Vedra Beach.

For more information, contact Kimberly Sheridan at 904-280-0614, Ext. 1205,

or email her at programs@firstcoast-culturalcenter.org.



One of Teresa Graham's abstract works.

Contributed photos

Woody Guthrie Tribute Concert is Aug. 11

A Woody Guthrie Tribute Concert will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 11, at Beluthahatchee as part of the Sundays at Stetson’s concert series. James Hawkins, Chuck Hardwicke and Jesse Sawyer will be featured.

Hawkins and Hardwicke are longtime award-winning favorites on the Florida Folk festival circuit, and Sawyer is an up-and-coming Gamble Rogers Folk Festival young performer.

No reservations are required, though admission is limited to the first 50 guests. These concerts sell out every time, so it’s important to arrive early. This is an indoor concert.

A donation of \$10 per attendee is suggested.

The concert series is sponsored by the Stetson Kennedy Foundation, St. Johns County Parks and the North Florida Folk Network.

Beluthahatchee is located at 1523 S.R. 13, Fruit Cove. It’s at the end of a short dirt road,

¼ mile south of Roberts Road.

For more information, contact skf.concerts@gmail.com.

Future Sundays at Stetson’s Concerts:

- Sept. 8: Larry Mangum
- Oct. 13: Songs For Stetson
- Nov. 24: Grant Peeples
- Dec. 8: Feed Your Neighbors

Theater thanks Ameris Bank for support

Ameris Bank, a corporate partner of the Florida Theatre, has announced its renewed support of the historic theater.

“We are joined today by our friend Scott Hall from Ameris Bank,” said Numa Saisselin, President of the Florida Theatre. “And we’re here to say thank you to Ameris for renewing their corporate partnership with the Florida Theatre. It’s been many, many years. And we’ve always been happy to have a marriage as a corporate sponsor, as well as to see Scott and his family at shows from time to time. So, thank you, Scott, for Ameris’

support and yours as well.”

“It’s been my pleasure,” said Hall, commercial banking market executive of Ameris Bank. “We’ve been a supporter of the Florida Theatre for about eight or nine years now. It’s been a great pleasure for me personally and for Ameris Bank. So, thank you all so much for the opportunity to be a sponsor of the Florida Theatre.”

“I know that the renovations that you all have done at the Florida Theatre turned out just beautiful,” he added. “And I know it was a labor of love and took

a long time and cost a lot of money. So, thank you all for reinvesting in the Theatre. It’s such a gem for this community.”

Saisselin noted that there was still work to do and that the Florida Theatre looked forward to the continued support from Ameris Bank.

To learn more about how an organization can become a corporate sponsor and support the historic, nonprofit Florida Theatre, email Michele Adams (development director) at michelle@floridatheatre.com.



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Sports

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024 · PAGE 44

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

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Fun times before fall practice kicks into high gear

The latest high school football season is quickly approaching and both the Nease Panthers and Ponte Vedra Sharks have been enjoying preseason events such as High School Media Day and team photo day.

Contributed photos



Photo by Kam Nedd / Jacksonville Jaguars

JAGUARS HONOR MILITARY DURING STADIUM PRACTICE

The Jacksonville Jaguars hosted a practice inside EverBank Stadium that was open to the public on Aug. 3. The team also honored the military during the day, including a post practice jersey swap on the field between players and members of the military. They host the Kansas City Chiefs in the preseason opener on Aug. 10 at 7 p.m.

Trevor Lawrence meets military members following the team's stadium practice on Aug. 3.



Photo by Kam Nedd / Jacksonville Jaguars

Evan Engram takes part in the jersey swap.

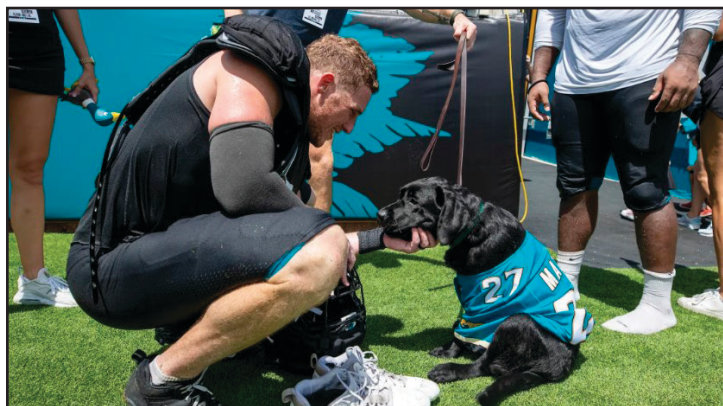


Photo by Gabriella Whisler / Jacksonville Jaguars

Chad Muma meets Mathis, the new team dog.



Photo by Gabriella Whisler / Jacksonville Jaguars

Jalen Jackson signs autographs for fans after practice.

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WORD SEARCH SOLUTION (puzzle on page 46)

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 T P F L S M S H S O I R B B U T Y C Y R
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 A Y S T R E T C H F H E I A T D D L R M
 O O N R A T H D P E S O P J H S P C R C

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

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| ASANA | CHATURANGA | MIND | SACRUM |
| BANDHA | CORE | MUDRA | STRENGTH |
| BODY | ENERGY | NAMASTE | STRETCH |
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	69								70					

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- Villains
- Cricket frogs
- German founder of psychology
- Endured
- A female domestic
- A situation you can be in
- Cigarette (slang)
- Fiber optic network (abbr.)
- Belgian composer Walter
- Employee stock ownership plan
- Belonging to the bottom layer
- Musical or vocal sound
- Yankees' great Judge
- Dickens character
- Beloved late sportscaster Craig
- South Dakota
- Exposing human vice or folly to ridicule
- Atomic #79
- Former Braves pitcher Julio
- Humor
- Shawl
- Hospital unit

- Fourteen
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- Inauthentic person
- Title of respect
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- Central Japanese city
- Garment
- Draw from
- Automobile
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SUDOKU								
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			4			1		5
9		4						

Level: Beginner

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!

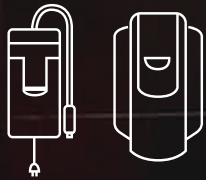
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