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Football Playoffs
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Thursday, November 14, 2024

PonteVedraRecorder.com

VOLUME 56, NO. 2 \$1.00

PLAYERS auditions National Anthem performers

For The Recorder

THE PLAYERS Championship is once again inviting the talented individuals and groups of Northeast Florida to audition for the honor of performing the National Anthem at the annual Military Appreciation Ceremony and Concert, taking place on March 11. In its continued commitment to inclusion, THE PLAYERS is now also accepting applications for American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters to sign the National Anthem during the ceremony

“We’re excited to invite local talent to be part of this special ceremony as we honor the brave men and women who serve our country,” said Lee Smith, executive director of THE PLAYERS Championship. “The Military Appreciation Ceremony is one of the most meaningful traditions of THE PLAYERS Championship and having a community performer deliver the National Anthem adds a unique and personal touch to this powerful moment. It’s a way for us to bring together the spirit of service and the heart of Northeast Florida as we celebrate the dedication and sacrifice of our military.”

Local soloists and groups of all ages are encouraged to submit a video of their rendition of the National Anthem by 5 p.m. Jan. 15. Submissions will be reviewed by a panel of judges, and selected performers will be notified via email. Any questions regarding the application process should be directed to mirandarossum@pgatourhq.com.

To apply, go to www.theplayers.com/anthem.

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Rare Ferrari stands out, wins Ponte Vedra Auto Show

By Anthony Richards

Martin Clark never thought he would own a Ferrari, but now not only does he own one, but he was also chosen as the winner of the “best in show” at the 2024 Ponte Vedra Auto Show.

He won with his 1967 Ferrari 330GTC, which is not just a European classic, but it is a vehicle that stood out a little more than usual because of the rare nature of it.

“There was only 597 of them made originally and only 17 coupes and convertibles made in this color ‘nocciola,’ which translated (from Italian) means hazelnut,” Clark said.

According to Clark, when he first saw the car it was sitting in a body shop and the owner was not sure if he wanted to



Photo by Anthony Richards

Martin Clark and his 1967 Ferrari 330GTC won “best in show” at the 2024 Ponte Vedra Auto Show on Nov. 10.

AUTO SHOW continues on Page 28

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BRIEFS

St. Johns County denies development project

The St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners unanimously denied a proposed development project for 3,332 residential dwelling units on Nov. 5 after conducting a public hearing during its regular meeting.

The proposed development by Robinson Improvement Co. would have required the rezoning of more than 2,600 acres on the north side of County Road 214, south of County Road 208 and between Interstate 95 and County Road 13A North.

Chair Sarah Arnold moved to deny the requests, citing a transportation deficiency on State Road 16 and emphasizing the need to get the road expansion built before any other consideration is given to future developments in that area of the county.

Judge Matthew Foxman to retire

Seventh Judicial Circuit Judge Matthew M. Foxman will retire effective Nov. 29 to focus on his health.

Foxman received his undergraduate degree from Florida State University and law degree from Stetson University College of Law. He was admitted to The Florida Bar in 1999 and was elected to a circuit judgeship in 2010. He was subsequently reelected in 2016 and 2022 without opposition. As a circuit Judge, he served in the Family Law and Felony divisions in Volusia and Flagler counties. Before joining the court, he worked as an assistant state attorney.

Foxman's position will be filled by gubernatorial appointment.

Help JFCS brighten the holidays for families in need

The LJD Jewish Family & Community Services (JFCS) is now collecting gifts for its annual Holiday Gift Giving program. This longstanding tradition has brought joy to thousands in the Jacksonville area, supporting people of all faiths.

JFCS caseworkers collect holiday wish lists from children and seniors in need, including children recently placed in foster care, isolated seniors and Holocaust survivors. With community support, JFCS staff and volunteers work to ensure each person feels the warmth of the season, said Donna O'Steen, JFCS food programs and volunteer specialist.

Last year, more than 1,600 clients received

Christmas and Chanukah gifts thanks to the generosity of local donors. This year, supporters can participate by shopping for gifts to fulfill a child's or senior's wish list and delivering them to JFCS by Dec. 9. Monetary donations are also welcome and can be made online at JFCSjax.org.

For more information or to sponsor a child or senior, contact O'Steen at Holidays@jfcjsjax.org.

Ribault Garden Club plans open house

Ribault Garden Club will hold an open house from 10 a.m. to noon Nov. 21 at 705 Second Ave. North, Jacksonville Beach. There will be refreshments, door prizes and a raffle. Admission is free.

Duval County Master Gardener Candance Barone will discuss the benefits of foodscaping, edible landscaping and merging them together.

Family Color Run 5K set for Saturday

The St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department will host a Family Color Run 5K at 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 16, at the St Johns County Fairgrounds, 5840 S.R. 207 E., Elkton.

The Color Run was initially scheduled for September but was rescheduled with the approach of Hurricane Helene. The event will be suitable for all ages and fitness levels, whether one is a seasoned runner or ready to enjoy a leisurely jog. The 5K will be mostly off-road and will feature colored powder for participants to fill the air with. So, bring running clothes you don't mind getting a little colorful.

Register at <https://runsignup.com/Race/FL/Elkton/FamilyColorRun5k>. Cost is \$40. Participants get an event T-shirt and a commemorative medal.

Explore the beach at GTM Research Reserve

Join volunteers at the Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve (GTM) for a beach exploration 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 16. Collect seashells, search for shark teeth and learn about coastal wildlife. Meet at GTM Research Reserve Visitor Center, 505 Guana River Road, Ponte Vedra Beach.

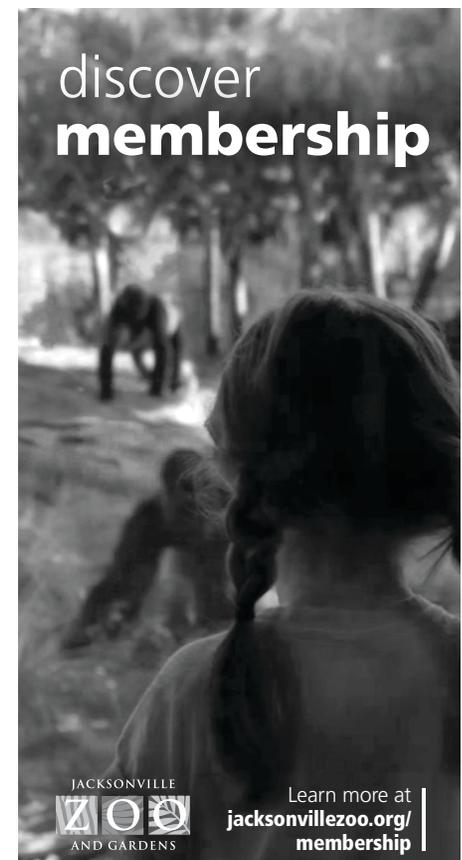
Wear comfortable closed-toe shoes. Hat, insect repellent, water and sunscreen are recommended. The event is free but online registration is required. To register, go to gtmnerr.org/visit/ events.

— Compiled by Shaun Ryan

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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TrailMark's Groove in the Grove Music Festival is Saturday

The nature-first community of TrailMark will host Groove in the Grove, a day of live music and fun from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16. The free music festival is family-friendly, pet-welcoming and open to everyone.

Groove in the Grove will showcase some of Northeast Florida's top musical talent, including the country vibes of Chris James and the Southern soul sounds of Dustin Monk and the Hustle.

A lineup of local food trucks will be onsite, including 904 Gyros, What's the Catch, Mama's Food, Hapa Li, Tikiz and Mister Softee. A variety of beverages will be available for purchase. For the little ones, a family fun zone will offer face painting and plenty of activities to keep everyone entertained. Follow TrailMark on Facebook and Instagram for the latest event updates.



TrailMark has been designed around its natural environment, creating opportunities for residents to connect with nature and their neighborhood. While at Groove in the Grove, visitors are invited to explore TrailMark's miles of trails and parks, community amenities center with beach-entry pool overlooking a large central lake, fitness center, a variety of sports courts, playing

fields and more.

TrailMark's premier builder team, which includes Dream Finders Homes, Drees

Homes, Lennar and Richmond American Homes, offers single-family, one- and two-story homes in a conservation area setting priced from the \$400,000s to the \$900,000s. Dream Finders Homes' Reverie at TrailMark, a 55+ community for active adults, offers single-family homes enhanced with abundant recreational amenities priced from the \$300,000s to the \$700,000s. Decorated model homes are open daily.

To learn more about tGroove in the Grove, go to eventbrite.com/e/2024-groove-in-the-grove-tickets-1048316602177?aff=oddtcreator.

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Students support military through Treats for Troops

The Jacksonville Country Day School Parents' Association, through its Community Connections committee, partnered with Soldier's Angels this year to support the Treats for Troops program, which brings comfort and resources to active-duty military members, veterans and their families. Following Halloween, JCDS students and families gathered to

donate candy and treats for troops. Their generosity filled three large wagons with donations, symbolizing the school's gratitude for service members' dedication and sacrifices.

Through these initiatives, Jacksonville Country Day School cultivates respect and appreciation for veterans and active-duty service members. From creative projects to community service, JCDS students are learning the importance of honoring and supporting those who serve and protect the nation.



Contributed photos

Nights of Lights
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Sat. November 23, 2024

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5:30 PM - The All Star Orchestra
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6:30 PM - LIGHT-UP! Ceremony

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Fleming Island Rotary chili adds spice to K9s for Warriors

By Don Coble

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Mark Easterling admits there were no medical elixirs in The “Doctors” Chili he submitted Saturday night at Rotary Club of Fleming Island’s Chili Cook-Off.

Although his sign read his chili “Cures Everything,” he said it was because it had the perfect blend of spices, beans and meat that brought a “little kick.”

So, what was the secret ingredient? “Six 12-ounce bottles of Dr. Pepper,” he said.

Hence the name “Doctors Chili.”

Twelve Rotary members stewed for weeks to create their best recipes to win the coveted cook-off apron, wall art and, most importantly, bragging rights for another year to raise money for Nocatee-based K9s for Warriors.

Green Cove Springs Club members also joined the festivities at the Mangus Family Hangar at Haller Airpark. With small cups, members, family and guests moved down the serving line, tasting each entry — some going back for sec-



onds and thirds.

Easterling had entry No. 1. He looked to his left and told Starr Keating, who had chili No. 2, “Why didn’t you bring an appetizer because your chili doesn’t have a chance against mine. I have the best chili.”

Keating smiled for good reason. Along with Fred Woods, her chili was voted

third overall.

“I made a trial chili on Halloween,” she said. “I tweaked it a little bit. I took out the corn. I didn’t think it really added that much. I added a little more meat, and I changed the beans. I took out the black beans and changed them to two cans of kidney beans. I made the new chili yesterday (Friday, Nov. 8), and I put it in the

refrigerator.”

Donna Solomon won the competition, while Lindsey Mangus’ chili was deemed second-best. The real winner, however, was K9s for Warriors, which got about \$2,000 to help more veterans with life-saving service dogs while continuing to rescue more than 2,000 dogs.

To end veteran suicide, K9s for Warriors provides highly trained service dogs to military veterans, many of whom are suffering from PTSD, traumatic brain injury or military sexual trauma. Many of the dogs are rescue dogs.

According to the organization, K9s for Warriors programs are backed by scientific research. They allow veterans and service dogs to build an unwavering bond that facilitates collective healing and recovery.

“This event is really nice,” said Karen Breakell, K9s for Warriors Development Manager of Major Gifts. “The flyover (by the Dreamland Squadron) was amazing. The chili was good. I know we appreciate what Rotary has done for us.”

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Patrick Caulfield grew up in Jacksonville and has called the First Coast his home for some time. He has volunteered at THE PLAYERS for the past 41 years and is a staple in the media center for the event.

Patrick Caulfield

As told to Anthony Richards

Tell us a little about yourself and your background.

I was born in New York City and raised in Jacksonville. I attended Englewood High School but graduated from Terry Parker High School.

I attended Florida Junior College for my freshman and sophomore years and then went on to the University of North Florida for my junior and senior years where I majored in health science.

I served in the United States Marine Corps for four years and the vast majority of my working career was with the U.S. Treasury Department.

I retired after 32 years in 2011, and my wife and I reside in Green Cove Springs. We have two sons and a daughter and eight grandchildren. Our family is made complete by Sparky our cavapoo dog.

What led you to volunteering at THE PLAYERS and how many years have you been doing it?

I first got interested in volunteering at the PGA when a gentleman from there offered to sponsor the Multiple Sclerosis 150-mile bike ride in which I took part.

We discussed volunteering opportunities for THE PLAYERS, and I soon signed on and have been working as a volunteer for 41 years now.

What are some of the ways you have helped as a volunteer over the years?

I have been chairman of the media center at the PGA for 35 of my 41 years with the organization.

It's been interesting to be a part of the many changes that have taken place over the time. When I first started, the media room was located under the old clubhouse, and we were involved with less than 100 reporters.

In time, we outgrew the space, and a new million-dollar media center was built to accommodate our expanding needs and 48 to 52 volunteers.

Media needs were supported by a bank of eight to nine phones that fielded hundreds of daily calls and copy machines that ran 110,000 to 125,000 copies of pertinent information consisting of interviews, stats, and other information. Then along came technology; fax machines, computers and cell phones changed our world.

In 2024, we had seven volunteers, and our bank of phones has been replaced by individual cell phones and information is largely disseminated via computers.

This is also reflected by the fact that we now only make about 1,000 copies a week, and our involvement has expanded to hundred of reporters from more than 16 countries.

It has been an interesting experience to witness the changes over my 41 years.

What do you enjoy most about volunteering?

Volunteering at THE PLAYERS has given me a chance to meet some incredible volunteers and PGA staff personnel.

Some of these friendships have lasted several decades, and I have enjoyed this aspect very much.

Are there any fun memories you have from over the years?

I have so many great memories. I have met some of the greatest golfers in the world and have had the opportunity to talk and interact with many of them.



Photo by Anthony Richards

Patrick Caulfield has volunteered at THE PLAYERS for the past 41 years and has plenty of memories from over the years.

A lot of this interaction between me and the players occurred when we transported the players out for photo shoots. It gave me an opportunity to talk with them about their love of the game and outside interests as well.

The funny thing is most of the players are now on the Champions Tour. I guess that must mean I'm getting older.

Are you a fan of golf?

I initially got interested in golf when a co-worker at the Treasury Department asked me if I would be interested in playing golf. I said no, but he encouraged me to consider it.

He was a five handicapper, and he sold me his complete set of clubs, balls, gloves, etc. for \$50, and I became

a golf fan and player after that.

I did find out that the clubs and balls he sold me weren't very good because the first time I played I scored about 110. Yep, naturally I blamed my score on his clubs.

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

My wife and I are both retired so we have a lot of free time. We love Florida weather, people, beaches and state parks.

We enjoy traveling and have several trips planned over the next few months. I am also involved with the North Florida Officials Association, volunteer at the Mayo Clinic and I am a member of The Elks.

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- **S.A.F.E. Saving Animals from Euthanasia** - Provides a safe haven for cats and dogs living in an animal shelter waiting for adoption.



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- Zimmiz Hair Designers - Haircut & Blow Dry/Gel Manicure \$\$
- Marsh Landing Country Club - Golf for 4 \$\$\$\$
- Youthful Medical Spa - Hydrafacial Gift Certificate - 2 winners \$\$\$\$
- Alhambra Theatre & Dining - 2 Tickets \$\$
- Jacksonville Zoo - 4 Tickets \$\$
- Youthful Medical Spa - Cool Sculpting Gift Certificates - 2 winners \$\$\$\$
- Jacksonville Symphony - Tickets for 2 (with restrictions) - 2 winners \$\$
- Brumos Car Museum - Guided Tour for 4 & Subaru of Jacksonville - 1 free oil change \$\$\$\$
- TPC Valley Course - Golf for 4 \$\$\$\$
- Boat House Restaurant - \$100 Gift Certificate \$
- SoNapa Grille Restaurant - \$100 Gift Certificate \$
- Medure Brothers at Mayo Restaurant - \$100 Gift Certificate \$
- J. McLaughlin - Light Pink Cashmere Throw \$\$
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- Argyle Restaurant - \$100 Gift Certificate + Bottle of Champagne & 2 glasses \$\$
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Marsh Landing hosts Elite Invitational

Clara Ding made par on the second playoff hole, and Miles Russell made two birdies on the back to secure the girls' and boys' championships at the fifth running of The Elite Invitational at Marsh Landing Country Club.

Ding, the youngest player in the field and the only one from the class of 2029, rallied from a late two-shot deficit against fellow Canadian and UCLA commit Michelle Xing with a birdie on the 17th before Xing's bogey on 18 forced a playoff.

"I wasn't thinking too much when I was putting," said Ding, of her winning stroke and the relief that came after tapping in from two feet. "It was really fun [today] because we were all having fun, even in the last group."

Ding's teammates that had followed the group for the last few holes mobbed

her and showered her with water bottles in the immediate aftermath for a story-book scene.

Russell, the defending Rolex Junior Player of the Year, returned to the home course of his youth and converted the overnight lead into a three-shot victory on a muggy, challenging afternoon for the field. The sophomore left little doubt on the back, birdieing 16 and 18 after an up-and-down day for the rest of the final group.

"I didn't put too much pressure on myself," said Russell, whose resume includes a quarterfinal berth at the U.S. Junior and a PGA Tour entry. "Some of the lines are a little different now playing the different tees, but I remembered pretty much everything about the course which gave me a little bit of an advantage."



Contributed photo

Clara Ding and Miles Russell won the girls' and boys' championships, respectively, at the Fifth Annual The Elite Invitational at Marsh Landing Country Club.



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

KATHY'S GARDENING GUIDE

Crotons

"The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature. To nurture a garden is to feed not just the body, but the soul." — Alfred Austin



By Kathy Esfahani

As fall arrives, the colorful leaves of croton plants begin to stand out around Northeast Florida. Crotons ("crow-tun") are tropical plants known for their bright and varied foliage featuring hues of red, orange, yellow, green and pink. There are an unlimited number of shapes and colors of croton leaves. These plants are easy to maintain and perfect for adding a splash of color to a landscape!

Crotons are perennials in the warm, humid climate of a tropical environment. Because they love the heat, they may lose their leaves in cooler temperatures, but they will typically recover as warm weather returns. Northeast Florida's climate supports these plants, but they can struggle if temperatures stay too cool for too long — a freeze lasting several days will cause crotons to drop their leaves and may kill the plants.



Crotons in landscape

Crotons look stunning when grouped together! They can be planted to line a walkway or fence, surround a palm tree or accentuate an entryway. In a landscape, crotons grow well with hibiscus, ixora, loropetalum, podocarpus and viburnum. Crotons are also successful in containers and can be potted to add interest to a patio, porch or pool area.

Consider the space available when selecting croton plants. There are dwarf varieties and also larger options that can grow up to 10 feet tall. When planting crotons, space the plants two to three feet apart. Crotons are well suited to areas of full and/or shifting sun, but some varieties can tolerate partial shade. A reliable light source will allow the plant to develop and maintain its vibrant colors. Remember to water crotons regularly, but be very careful not to overwater. The plant needs water

Photos provided by Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery



Flower of the Week

Croton

if the soil is dry to the touch or new leaves begin to wilt. The most popular croton varieties in Northeast Florida are the "Mammy" and "Petra" crotons.

Although crotons can be a wonderful addition to a landscape, they can be dangerous to curious children or pets! All parts of these plants are poisonous to humans and animals, particularly the seeds. In addition, the milky substance that oozes from a damaged Croton can be irritating to the skin. Careful consideration of placement can allow safe use of this beautiful plant!

Happy planting!

Flower of the Week: Croton

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

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Fall Festival of Art returns to Hastings

Historic downtown hosts artists, demonstrations, food, music and more

For The Register

The Hastings Fall Festival of Art is returning for its second year, bringing art, culture and history to life on the

streets of St. Johns County’s agricultural epicenter, Hastings.

From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 30, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 1, guests can enjoy a full weekend of immersive art, a cottage artisan market, meet-and-greets with renowned artists, kids’ activities, live music, food trucks and more. Held in collaboration with the St. Augustine Art Association, the festival will be held on North Main Street in downtown Hastings.

“There’s something about the energy of Main Street during the Fall Art Festival,” said Jena Dennis, chair of the Hastings Main Street Board of Directors. “We’ve come a long way revitalizing the downtown district while maintaining its quaint feel. This is the perfect time to enjoy the intersection of history and art.”

This is the second year that the Fall Festival of Art has called Hastings



HASTINGS continues on **Page 12**

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Boris Johnson opens the Florida Forum Speaker Series

Speaker series events benefit Wolfson Children's Hospital

For The Recorder

Rt Hon Boris Johnson, former prime minister of the United Kingdom, journalist and author, recently shared career and personal insights during an appearance at the Florida Forum Speaker Series, presented by The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital. More than 1,000 guests attended the program.

Johnson engaged in a memorable conversation with Flagler College President and former Jacksonville Mayor John Delaney, who moderated the program. The discussion covered a range of topics including Brexit and its legacy, climate change and environmental policy, support for Ukraine, and domestic politics and reform. Johnson shared many personal stories during his time as prime minister.

The next Florida Forum Speaker Series event supporting Wolfson Children's Hospital features physician, author and world-renowned pioneer in integrative medicine and personal transformation Deepak Chopra in a conversation with Jacksonville Jaguars team owner Shad Khan on Jan. 15. The series concludes with Floridian, journalist and novelist Carl Hiaasen in a conversation with Florida Times-Union Columnist Mark Woods on Feb. 12. The Florida Forum series events are held at the Jacksonville Center for the Performing Arts. Programs begin at 7 p.m. The series is made possible by long-time partners and sponsors Landstar, Wells Fargo and Florida Blue.

Subscriptions for the Florida Forum events start at \$170 each for general seating, \$235 for preferred seating, \$300 for one reserved Bronze level ticket, \$600 for two reserved Bronze level tickets, \$1,500 for two reserved Silver level tickets and \$3,000 for four reserved Gold level tickets. The purchase of a Silver or Gold ticket package includes invitations to the private receptions honoring the speakers following the lectures. Patrons under the age of 30 may purchase Young Subscriber tickets for \$100 each. To purchase tickets, go to thefloridaforum.com, call 904-202-2886, or email womensboard@bmcjax.com.

The Florida Forum raises awareness and funds for Wolfson Children's Hospital, supporting its mission to ensure the finest available pediatric health care for all children.

The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital is committed to raising \$1.5 million for two new Kids Kare Mobile Intensive Care Units (ICUs) and other Wolfson Children's Hospital programs. The Kids Kare Mobile ICUs are part of Wolfson Children's Hospital's Neonatal and Pediatric Critical Care Transport fleet and include necessary life-support equipment for the transportation of critically ill and injured

infants and children.

Kids Kare vehicles and helicopters safely transport nearly 3,000 infants and children a year to Wolfson Children's Hospital for emergency neonatal and pediatric critical and trauma care.

For more information, go to womensboardwch.com.



Contributed photo

Former Prime Minister of the U.K. Boris Johnson shared insights during an appearance at the Florida Forum Speaker Series, presented by The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital.

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Hastings

Continued from 10

home, after being previously held in St. Augustine for many years. Through a dynamic relationship with the St. Augustine Art Association, Hastings Main Street was able to resurrect the event.

The Fall Festival of Art will feature meet-and-greets with two renowned members of Florida's Highwaymen: R.L. Lewis will do a live painting demonstration while Curtis Arnett will sell his artwork. Painters Obie Hunter and Rosamond Parrish will offer plein art demonstrations, capturing the beauty of Main Street in real-time. Muralist Brook Page is collaborating with Lewis and bringing one of his commissioned works to life on a large scale.



The Cottage Artisan Market features the area's best makers and wares, including jewelry, ceramics, glasswork, pottery, art and textiles. Art enters a new dimen-

sion as the Tale Tellers of St. Augustine delight festivalgoers with live storytelling and street performances. Saturday's Kids Zone is packed with

fun and an extra special kids' workshop, "Celebrating Sunflowers: Nature's Food Source." Offered in collaboration with the Smithsonian Institute, the workshop allows youngsters to create their own sunflower paintings while discovering how sunflowers help the environment and provide tasty seeds and oil.

The Kids Zone will also offer face painting, crafts and games.

Live music sets the mood, beginning at 11 a.m., and no one goes hungry with a selection of food trucks and Hasting's Coffee Co. serving up delicious food and drinks.

To learn more about the Hastings Fall Festival of Art, go to hastingsfl.org/festival-of-art.

This event is presented with support from the St. Johns County Tourist Development Council.

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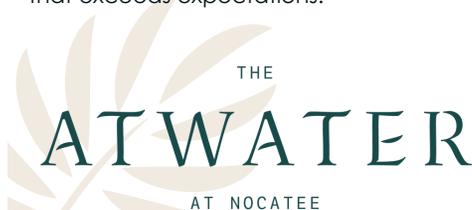
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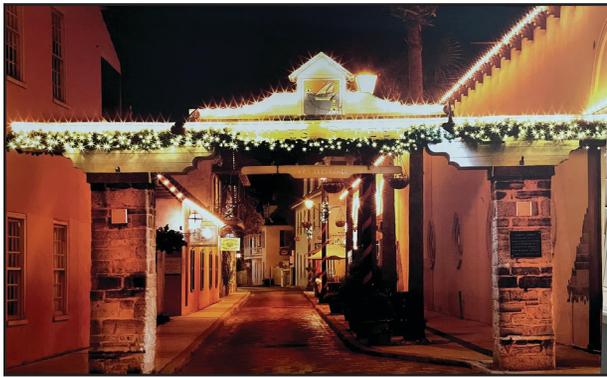
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Nardo Villaboy's photograph of Aviles Street in downtown St. Augustine.



Nardo Villaboy's photograph of St. Augustine's Bridge of Lions.



Nardo Villaboy's photograph of the Lightner Museum.

THE ART OF FRIENDSHIP

Association hosts artists from St. Augustine's sister city for centennial celebrations

For The Recorder

Throughout its 100 years, St. Augustine Art Association (STAAA) has thrived as an organization through deep community relationships built around the shared love of art. It is only fitting that its year-long centennial celebration culminates with an exhibit that is a tribute to the power of friendship.

"St. Augustine Sister Cities Exhibit" is a multimedia show that features two artists and longtime friends from Aviles, Spain, St. Augustine's sister city for the past 100 years. The exhibit will be displayed at the St. Augustine



Amado "Favila" González Hevia

Art Association, 22 Marine St., and online at staaa.org now through Dec. 29.

"We're excited to celebrate two significant centennial milestones through art," said association Executive Director Jennifer Flynt. "St. Augustine, Florida, and Aviles,



Nardo Villaboy

Spain, have enjoyed 100 years of shared community. We're thrilled to welcome two Aviles' talented artists to our city for an exhibit based on that friendship."

ARTISTS continues on Page 16



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Runners, walkers, cyclists gear up for Freed to Run Challenge

The 2024 Freed to Run Challenge Nov. 23-24 benefiting Jacksonville Area Legal Aid's Shelter for Elders initiative is drawing lawyers, judges, business leaders and other civic-minded athletes to help fund an endowment for housing-related legal assistance for indigent seniors.

The runners and walkers will complete half-mile laps around the Duval County Courthouse in a period of either 12 or 24 hours beginning Nov. 23, or run a 5K on Nov. 24, while the cyclists will bike from the St. Johns County Courthouse to the Duval County Courthouse Nov. 24. All are gathering financial pledges for JALA.

"We have a wonderful group of people ready to hit the pavement for JALA, but we would like to see more people getting involved, and there is still time," said event founder and Gunster Shareholder Mike Freed.

The Delores Barr Weaver Legacy Fund is matching a gift of \$25,000 from a single donor, dollar-for-dollar, provided that at least \$50,000 can be raised from additional major donors. The challenge grant is designed to help the Freed to Run Challenge raise \$100,000 from large donors.

"We can't say enough about how Delores Barr Weaver and the entire community has come out in support of Northeast Florida seniors through the Freed to Run Challenge," said JALA President and CEO Jim Kowalski. "In 2023 we served nearly 1,500 seniors, while our attorneys helped prevent 297 evictions and 132 foreclosures. We couldn't do this work without our many loyal supporters."

Donations of any amount are welcome and needed. Supporters can donate in support of individual runners, walkers, relay teams or cyclists at jaxlegalaid.org/freedtorun.

Participants can also register at the same link. So far, the participating individuals and teams are:

24-Hour Challenge Teams:

- SooPage — Regina Soeey
- Harrell & Harrell — BJ Taylor
- Ameris Bank — Paul Ferrara
- JALA Staff — Dennis Harrison

12-Hour Challenge Teams:

- JALA Board of Directors — James Poindexter
- Active Senior Advocates — Patricia Vail

5K Teams:

- The Crowell's — Kenneth Crowell
- Team Encanto — Judge John Guy

35-Mile Bike Challenge Teams:

- Tailwind Please — Dana & Rich

Lucas

- Judge Casey Woolsey
- Litigation into Submission — Jim Kowalski
- Judge Howard McGillin
- The Defenders — Jeanine Sasser
- Judge Kenneth Janesk

• City of Jacksonville — Laura Boeckman

The Shelter for Elders endowment supports JALA's work to prevent and address housing issues such as reverse mortgage foreclosures, door-to-door

scams, wrongful evictions, substandard living conditions, discriminatory practices and other shelter-related challenges faced by vulnerable seniors.

For more information, contact Dennis Harrison at dennis.harrison@jaxlegalaid.org.

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Amado "Favila" González Hevia's painting of downtown St. Augustine featuring The Treasury on the Plaza.



Amado "Favila" González Hevia's painting of St. Augustine's Plaza de la Constitución.



Amado "Favila" González Hevia's painting of the statue of Don Pedro Menendez with Flagler College in the background.

Artists

Continued from 14

The "St. Augustine Sister Cities Exhibit" features the works of longtime friends Amado "Favila" González Hevia and Nardo Villaboy.

González Hevia is a renowned painter and sculptor whose works grace cities and public spaces worldwide. In 2015, he was commissioned to create a painting and statue of Pedro Menéndez by Don Felipe VI, King of Spain, to be gifted to the governor of Florida.

Villaboy is a professional photographer whose photos have graced the covers of international magazines and publications. He is the author and photographer of more than 30 books and contributed the photographs to 2016's "St. Augustine-Aviles: A 90-Year History of Two Sister Cities." Villaboy has exhibited his work throughout Spain and the United States.

"Sister Cities of St. Augustine (SASCA), in collaboration with STAAA, is honored to present their final

project to the city, which is part of the 100-year celebration of friendship with Aviles, Spain," said Cynthia Jean Watts, board member of SASCA. "A two-month exhibition at STAAA will feature two brilliantly talented Spanish artists."

For information and exhibit updates, go to staaa.org/

event/sister-cities-of-st-augustine.

The exhibit is sponsored in part by grants from the St. Johns County Tourist Development Council, the St. Johns County Cultural Council, the Community Foundation of Northeast Florida and the Benjamin & Jean Troemel Arts Foundation.



Nardo Villaboy's photograph of the intersection of St. George Street and Hypolita in downtown St. Augustine.



Amado "Favila" González Hevia's painting of the Castillo de San Marcos.

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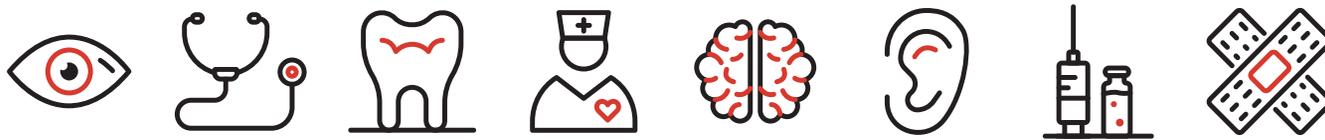
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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2024 PAGE 17

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GUEST COLUMN

IEP vs. 504: Getting your child the support they deserve

By Jessica Wick, executive director of Brain Balance Center Jacksonville

When your child is struggling with a learning disability, ensuring they receive the right support at school is essential. That's where special education plans come in, specifically the Individualized Education Program (IEP) and the 504 Plan. Understanding these plans, how they differ and how to prepare for the meetings can make a significant difference in your child's education experience.

The difference between IEP and 504 plans

An IEP is a formal education plan for students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Students with an IEP must have an annual meeting to review and update their specialized instruction and support services. During the IEP meeting, parents and teachers discuss the child's progress, required accommodations and necessary therapies to ensure the student can meet educational goals.

On the other hand, a 504 Plan is governed by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which ensures that students with disabilities are not discriminated against in schools that receive federal funds. While an IEP focuses on specialized education, a 504 Plan is designed to provide accommodations that ensure students

have equal access to school programs and activities.

The students who typically qualify for a 504 Plan may not need the intensive support of an IEP but still require accommodations, such as extra time for tests or modified classroom setups, to ensure they can succeed in a general education environment.

How to prepare for an IEP or 504 Plan meeting

Whether you're preparing for an IEP meeting or a 504 Plan review, being organized and informed can help ensure your child gets the support they need. Below is a checklist to guide you through the process.

1. Review your rights

The first step is to understand your rights under IDEA or Section 504. Schools provide a copy of your rights before meetings; reviewing them thoroughly is critical. For IEP meetings, familiarize yourself with IDEA to ensure you understand your child's legal protections, the IEP process and what you can expect from the school.

For a 504 Plan, ensure you have documentation of your child's diagnosis, which can come from a doctor or psychologist. This will help the school assess the accommodations your child needs.

2. Prepare your questions

It's easy to forget what you need to ask

during the meeting. Write down a list of questions in advance. Some you might consider include:

- Is my child progressing toward the goals set in the previous meeting?
- What new accommodations or modifications does my child need?
- How can we address my child's social or behavioral challenges at school?

3. Build your support team

You don't have to go through the meeting alone. If possible, bring a support person. Having someone who knows your child's needs can provide additional insight and help advocate for your child.

4. Review evaluations and forms

Before the meeting, review any evaluations or forms prepared by the school. For IEP meetings, these forms will outline your child's progress and proposed goals for the next year. Be sure to sign and return forms ahead of time, and if you've had any private evaluations done, send those to the school team in advance. Doing so helps keep all team members on the same page during the meeting.

5. Create a student profile

As a parent, you know your child better than anyone. Prepare a profile that describes your child's strengths, challenges and any special accommodations they need. This will help the team understand your child's needs beyond academics.

During the meeting

Once the meeting begins, stay focused on the end goal, making sure your child is set up to succeed. It's the school's responsibility to figure out the steps necessary to reach that goal. Don't hesitate to ask for clarification on any terms you don't understand.

If you've brought a guest, let the IEP or 504 team know in advance and ask for a copy of the IEP or 504 Plan to take home before signing it. Sometimes, reviewing the plan on your own time can offer clarity, and you may think of changes you'd like to suggest.

After the meeting

Once the meeting ends, you'll likely receive a draft of the IEP or 504 Plan. This is the time to request any modifications if certain areas need adjustment. For example, you may want to revise goals or add accommodations not included in the initial plan.

It's also important to talk to your child about the plan in an age-appropriate way. Help them understand the academic or behavioral expectations moving forward and how the plan will support them.

Maintaining communication

IEP and 504 Plans are living documents, so stay in touch with your child's teachers and special education staff throughout the year. Regular updates on

IEP continues on Page 20



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West Eastern Health welcomes nurse practitioner

Provider launches Integrative Mental Health Services

West Eastern Health has announced the addition of Lauren Marchefka, a highly skilled and experienced board-certified family nurse practitioner, to its team of health care professionals. Marchefka brings a wealth of expertise in integrative mental health, expanding services to offer a more comprehensive, holistic approach to mental wellness.

With her arrival, West Eastern Health is launching Integrative Mental Health Services, providing patients with personalized care that blends traditional, evidence-based treatments with holistic therapies. This unique approach addresses the whole person — mind and body — to deliver optimal mental health outcomes.

Marchefka is passionate about working with patients to uncover the root causes of mental health challenges and specializes in treating conditions such as mood dis-



Lauren Marchefka

orders, stress, hormonal imbalances and nutritional deficiencies. She integrates cutting-edge techniques like psychedelic-assisted therapy and functional nutrition with mindfulness practices and breathwork to create individualized care plans. “We are thrilled to have Lauren Marchefka join West Eastern Health,” said Dr. Paulus, CEO and founder of West Eastern Health. “Her expertise and passion for integrative health care aligns perfectly with our mission to provide comprehensive, patient-centered care. With her leadership, our Integrative Mental Health Services will provide patients with

innovative and effective treatment options for lasting mental and emotional well-being.”

The launch of Integrative Mental Health Services at West Eastern Health underscores the growing demand for personalized, holistic care options in mental health. This service is designed for patients seeking to improve their mental wellness through a combination of proven therapies and holistic practices.

Marchefka’s background in anti-aging and regenerative medicine, psychedelic-assisted therapy, Maharishi Ayurveda and East-West medicine ensures patients receive integrative, compassionate care tailored to their unique needs.

West Eastern Health is a leading mental health care provider dedicated to offering integrative, patient-focused care. The team of skilled professionals combines traditional and holistic treatments to provide comprehensive care solutions, including mental health services, ketamine therapy, nutritional guidance and wellness support.

Exercise solutions for busy people

Here are some ways busy people can get the exercise they need.

- **Wake up early.** Starting your day 30 minutes early can allow you to fit exercise in before a day becomes hectic. Put workout gear out the night before, and when the alarm sounds in the morning, get up and out, whether it's to head to the gym or go for a morning walk or jog around

the neighborhood.

- **Use your lunch hour.** If you're not a morning person, use a portion of your lunch break for exercise and then eat your lunch afterwards.

- **Take part in high-intensity workouts.** High-intensity exercise regimens typically pack exercises into routines that get the heart rate going, but don't require a lot of time. They may only be 20- to 30-minute sessions, which is doable for most people.

- **Recognize exercise comes in many forms.**

Many people would be surprised that activities they engage in each day can be classified as exercise. Intense gardening or lawn care sessions and even home cleaning and improvement projects can work the body. Also, exercise can be built into regular activities, such as taking the stairs rather than an elevator or parking further away in parking lots to ensure a lengthy walk.

- **Consider doing the "Daily 50."** The Daily 50 is an informal exercise routine that can occur anywhere and utilizes body weight to get the job done. Exercises can include 50 squats, 50

lunges, 50 wall push-ups, 50 crunches, and/or holding a plank position for 50 seconds. Some also perform 50 knee lifts or hold a wall sit for 50 seconds. These exercises don't require much time and work most of the major muscle groups.

- **Exercise as a family.** Turn family leisure time into enjoyable exercise time. Take hikes, go for bike rides or even kayaking trips together to get everyone up and moving.

Busy people can make time for exercise with some easy solutions.



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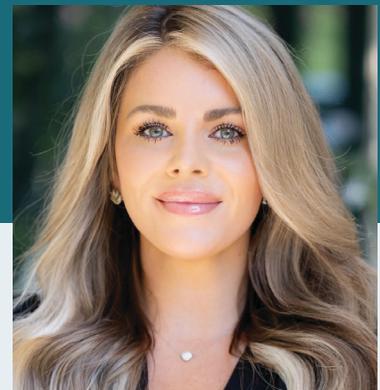
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Continued from 17

your child's progress are essential, and maintaining a collaborative relationship with school staff ensures your child's evolving needs are met.

Final thoughts

Both IEP and 504 Plan meetings are crucial steps in supporting students. By understanding the differences between these plans and taking the time to prepare, you can advocate effectively for your child. Throughout their school years, your support will be crucial — no one will care about their success as much as you.

Jessica Wick was inspired to help families after witnessing the program's transformative impact on her son, Dylan, in 2017. A University of Florida graduate with degrees in anthropology and criminal justice, Wick is also a board-certified cognitive specialist. She's passionate about advocating for Lyme Disease and enjoys Florida Gator football. Jessica lives in Nocatee with her husband, Kris, their two children, Dylan and Maddie Rose, and their dogs, Onyx and Storm.

Baptist Health recognized for excellence in patient care, value

Baptist Physician Partners (BPP), Baptist Health's clinically integrated hospital-physician network, was recently named to Becker's Hospital Review's list of "44 Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) to Know" for 2024. The network, which provides high-quality, value-based care to communities throughout Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia, is one of just two ACOs in Florida to make the list for the past two years.

"Success in value-based care is paramount to our entire organization, and this recognition is an honor and testament to the work of our ACO and clinically integrated network," said Mary Leen, vice president of clinical operations for BPP, who leads care coordination teams at Baptist Health. "Fostering collaboration among health care providers ensures patients receive comprehensive and seamless care whatever their health care need. It also empowers patients to confidently navigate their health care journey, assured that their providers are collaborating for their best interests."

Accountable Care Organizations are groups of clinicians, hospitals and

other health care providers who work together to provide highly coordinated, patient-centered care. Care coordination teams help to ensure continuity of care throughout a patient's health care journey. This collaborative approach promotes value-based care, which emphasizes quality over quantity in the delivery of health care.

The triple aim of ACOs is to:

- Improve the patient experience, including quality and satisfaction,
- Reduce the cost of care and increase value through efficiency and effectiveness, and
- Improve population health and well-being by focusing on prevention.

In addition, many ACOs such as BPP also focus on improving provider well-being and reducing burnout by addressing the needs of the care team as well as the patient and family.

Through the use of evidence-based practices, standards and analytics, ACOs have been proven to reduce unnecessary hospital admissions, improve chronic disease management and help create healthier communities.

Becker's praised BPP and the other ACOs on its list for saving "patients

and health systems alike millions of dollars, providing excellent patient care at a lower cost," and stated they are among the first adopters of the Medicare Shared Savings Program.

Since its inception in 2014, BPP has generated millions in savings through value-based agreements, meaning payment models that connect reimbursement for health care services to the experience and value delivered to patients. BPP became an ACO in 2018 through the Medicare Shared Savings Program, and in 2022, it was ranked in the top 10% for total savings as compared to all participating ACOs. It has since recruited more than 1,280 physician members and added 86,000 patients.

"We are proud to be recognized for the strength and quality of our clinically integrated network," said Timothy G. Groover, MD, senior vice president and chief medical officer of Baptist Health. "Quality over quantity is the right choice for us and our patients. Efficiently providing high-quality care results in better patient outcomes and allows us to reinvest in technology and services, maintaining the availability of health care services for the community."



On this Nurse Practitioner Week, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all the Nurse Practitioners who tirelessly provide care, compassion, and expertise to those in need. Your commitment to healing and comfort is truly inspiring. Thank you for your unwavering dedication and the difference you make every day. **Happy Nurse Practitioner Week!**

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Clay, Duval, and St. Johns counties. CarePlus is an HMO SNP plan with a Medicare contract and a contract with the Florida Medicaid Program. Enrollment in CarePlus depends on contract renewal. The Part B Premium Reduction benefit pays part or all your Part B premium and the amount may change based on the amount you pay for Part B. CareNeeds Platinum (HMO D-SNP): This plan is available to anyone receiving both Medicare and Medicaid: Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries (QMB/QMB+), Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries (SLMB/SLMB+), Qualifying Individuals (QI), Qualified Disabled and Working Individuals (QDWI) and other Full Benefit Dual Eligibles (FBDE). Allowance amounts cannot be combined with other benefit allowances. Limitations and restrictions may apply. Referrals and/or authorization may be required for certain specialists. CareComplete (HMO C-SNP): This plan is available to anyone enrolled in Medicare with a diagnosis of diabetes, cardiovascular disorders or chronic heart failure.

Contributed photos



Tour company adds Nights of Lights outings

St. Augustine Experiences features local history, craft breweries, restaurants, cocktail hot spots and hidden gems

For The Recorder

St. Augustine Experiences walking tours offers visitors a different way to enjoy the marvel of the Nights of Lights holiday event.

This year marks the 31st anniversary of the celebration, and once again the city will be illuminated with more than 3 million white lights, creating a dazzling spectacle that runs each evening, Nov. 23 through Jan. 26.

St. Augustine Experiences is offering a special evening time for the popular history walking tour. In addition to regular times at 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 3 p.m., a special History Under the Lights tour will depart at 6 p.m.

Join professional guides as they delve into four-and-a-half centuries of St. Augustine's rich history, illuminated by the enchanting Nights of Lights. Named by National Geographic as one of the 10 Best Holiday Light Shows in the world, this is truly a magical time to visit St. Augustine. The History Under the Lights tour will run through Jan. 26.

Afternoon culinary tours, including the Wine, Cocktail & Food Experience; the Beer & History Crawl; and the Bourbon, Whiskey & History Experience, provide the perfect daytime activity as guests await the evening's stunning light display. Starting at 2 p.m. and finishing

around 5:30 p.m., these tours offer a unique way to explore the city as the sun sets, culminating in a breathtaking light show as night falls.

For families and those looking for nonalcoholic options, the daytime Sweets & History Walking Tour and St. Augustine Food Tour are ideal. The sweets tour features a collector insulated bag that guests will fill along the route with delectable pastries, pralines, chocolates and more. The St. Augustine Food Tour focuses on favorite restaurants and dishes in town, making it perfect for all ages, including family members younger than 21 and those who don't drink alcohol.

"We are celebrating five awesome years in St. Augustine," said tour owner Alex Drywa, who opened St. Au-

ST. AUGUSTINE continues on Page 23



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St. Augustine

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gustine Experiences in 2019 just before COVID. He and his business partner, Garry Zafrani, also own Manhattan Walking Tour in New York City, which was founded in 2010 and features small group history and culinary walking tours.

In 2022, St. Augustine Experiences was voted TripAdvisor's Travelers' Choice Best of the Best for Top Wine, Beer & Spirits Experiences in the world. In 2023, St. Augustine Experiences was featured in Southern Living's "The South's Best Small Town."

Drywa met the author of the article to discuss why he loves giving tours in St. Augustine and his favorite spots to bring guests for food and drinks.

To reserve a tour and learn more, go to staugustineexperiences.com.

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Students honor veterans with performance

At Jacksonville Country Day School, the significance of Veterans Day is brought to life in third-grade social studies, where students study foundational American values, including the rights and freedoms protected by the Bill of Rights, the structure of the U.S. government and the history of national symbols like the American flag and the Pledge of Allegiance. As part of this curriculum, students perform a Veterans Day show that celebrates the contributions of military service members, blending music

and history in a tribute to those who have served the country.

This year, the students had an opportunity to perform at the UF Health Veterans Flag Ceremony. Singing songs like the “Armed Forces Medley” and “Thankful for the USA,” they honored veterans in the community through patriotic music and heartfelt messages, adding an extra dimension to their learning experience and building a deep sense of appreciation for those who protect the nation.

Contributed photos



Students celebrate veterans

At Jacksonville Country Day School (JCDS), third graders took part in a flag ceremony and fourth and sixth graders are embracing the school’s “Live to Give” philosophy by creating handmade cards for veterans.

Under the guidance of Teresa Gore, JCDS’s fourth-grade assistant and enhancement teacher, students in the Enhancement class crafted heartfelt messages for veterans, expressing gratitude for their service. These cards will be delivered to the VA Hospital in Tampa as part of the Florida School Counselors Convention’s annual service learning project.

Contributed photos



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A vendor from Shanky's Whip Irish Whiskey offers a samples to guests.



Melinda Cordi, Sammy Obi and Steven Gubba

Whiskey, Wine and Wildlife returns to Vilano Beach

By Holly Tishfield

Whiskey, Wine and Wildlife made a vibrant return to Vilano Beach, offering attendees a unique blend of gourmet bites, award-winning beverages and immersive wildlife experiences — all in support of local causes.

The beloved annual event raises funds and awareness for Vilano Beach Main Street and the Guana Tolomato Matanzas (GTM) Reserve, drawing some of the South's finest chefs and local culinary talents to showcase their craft through curated tastings and culinary experiences.



Photos by Holly Tishfield

Attendees sampled an array of food and drinks, enjoying an afternoon filled with fun flavors and community spirit.

During Saturday's event, attendees explored the scenic GTM Reserve on private guided tours, concluding with a wine-and-cheese tasting sponsored by Cabot Cheese. The W3 Grand Tasting followed, featuring hundreds of unlimited food and beverage samples, from craft spirits to local wines and beers, with businesses competing for titles like Best Overall, Best BBQ, Best Dessert and more.

With an atmosphere of fine food, drink and community spirit, this culinary weekend offered guests an unforgettable experience while supporting vital local organizations.

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A copperized coral wood sculpture created by Bo Gibbs.



Bo Gibbs' Art Deco wooden table.



Bo Gibbs' Whale Cabinet

Gallery welcomes handcrafted furniture maker and artist Bo Gibbs

For The Recorder

Bo Gibbs, furniture designer and maker has joined the Professional Artists of St. Augustine (PAsTA), which maintains a gallery on Charlotte Street in the Nation's Oldest City.

For the first time, the gallery includes the heirloom quality, sustainably sourced hardwood furniture, stained glass and sculptures of this third-generation wood worker and Florida native.

"The process to build these objects takes time, passion and hard work," said Gibbs. "They are built to last. It is my hope that my work will be passed down from generation to generation. No two pieces are alike; they are truly unique one-of-a-kind objects. I don't have production lines or mass assembly line pieces; each item you see on this site was individually designed and made by



Contributed photos

Bo Gibbs prepares to start a new project with a new piece of wood.

me, from ideas and details inspired by nature."

Gibbs is founder and owner of Gibbs Fine Designs studio, located near St. Augustine.

He has been crafting unique pieces for more than 30 years, having learned

the craft of woodworking at this father's knee. A woodshop class in high school confirmed his passion for creating objects that combined art with functionality by incorporating beautiful hardwoods with inlay, metals and stained-glass features.

His contemporary furniture designs

include cabinetry, tables, lamps and lanterns. He adds stained glass features to several of his furniture pieces, such as his exquisite Whale Cabinet that not only includes stained glass depicting sea life, but carefully detailed carved embellishments to the piece. In the gallery, the Whale Cabinet invokes a "wow!" by every customer.

In addition to his furniture line, Gibbs creates stained-glass pieces featuring the creatures, both real and mythical that call the ocean home. His unique wall and free standing copperized coral wood sculptures are meant to be touched.

Customers who purchase any of Gibbs' furniture can also have it delivered for free if they live within a 125-mile radius of the gallery.

Stay up to date with all that is happening at PAsTA by going to pastagalleryart.com.



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Photo Credit: Mandarin United Methodist Church

Mandarin United Methodist Church as seen in 1895, 21 years after its founding.

Mandarin church to celebrate 150th anniversary

For The Recorder

Mandarin United Methodist Church in Jacksonville will celebrate its 150th anniversary (1874-2024) on Sunday, Nov. 17. Located at 11270 San Jose Blvd., Mandarin United Methodist Church is the second oldest continuously operating church in the Mandarin community and among the oldest congregations in Jacksonville.

The celebration will be held during the 11 a.m. worship service and carry over to an old-fashioned dinner on the grounds at about 12:30 p.m. Lunch attendees are asked to bring side dishes and desserts and RSVP their participation to the church.

Various singing groups will also perform. The performance will include the debut of a special 150th anniversary song. A short film covering the history of the church will also be shown.

“This anniversary provides an opportunity to give thanks for many generations who have faithfully worshiped God and served this community,” Mandarin United Methodist Church Senior Pastor Britt Gilmore said. “As we remember past challenges and accomplishments, we witness afresh the resilience, creativity and compassion of those who have gone before us. We hope this anniversary celebration may inspire us to love God and neighbor in a new season.”

Mandarin United Methodist was formed in 1874 at a similar time to when famous author Harriet Beecher Stowe had a home in the Mandarin community. The first pastor, Dr. Theophilus Wilson (T.W.) Moore, rode by horseback to the first church site and would go on to discover the nearby Fruit Cove community, became an expert on citrus and become the fourth president of Florida Southern College.

The congregation worshiped in three



The current location of Mandarin United Methodist Church.

Mandarin locations during this time: just south of its current location at San Jose Boulevard and Loretto Road; north of I-295 at the intersection of San Jose Boulevard and Old St. Augustine Road; and at its current location since 1960.

With this history, it is evident that Mandarin United Methodist Church has always been at the “heart” of the thriving Mandarin community. This church precedes the formation of the international United Methodist Church (1968) and the completion of the essential Buckman Bridge (1970) across the neighboring St. Johns River.

The congregation currently meets at the 10-acre location and has had a membership of 3,000-plus for much of the last two decades. There have been nearly 60 pastors serving this community, from Dr. Moore to Rev. Gilmore.

In addition to weekly services and five years of worship at the sister church, Longleaf in St. Johns County, an assortment of activities has been vital to Mandarin, most prominently Upward Sports at the gymnasium and fields, the pumpkin patch and crafts festival each fall, Christmas tree lot and Learning Ladders preschool.

The motto for the anniversary event is: “150 Years and Our Story is Still Unfolding.”

For more information, go to www.mumc.net. For more on the church history, go to www.mumc.net/150th-anniversary-celebration.



NOMINATIONS HAVE BEEN EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER 20TH!

The Recorder presents the second annual **Best of the Beaches**, featuring your favorite businesses in Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Atlantic Beach and Ponte Vedra Beach! This includes businesses in zip codes 32250, 32266, 32233, and 32082.

Readers have the chance to nominate their favorite businesses in various categories online, such as auto & transportation, home & finance, food & drink and more! Online voting will begin once nominations are complete.

Give your favorite business the recognition they deserve, and nominate them as the Best of the Best in their category!

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www.pontevedrarecorder.com/bestofbeaches2024



Auto Show

Continued from 1

keep the car or what color to paint it.

It had been painted red at the time before Clark bought it in May 2023 and brought it back to its original hazelnut color.

In many ways the car is still so new to him and the process to what it is has been a gradual one, but he is proud of how far its come and is excited to see the finishing touches continue to be put on it.

“It spent six months in my garage on jack stands as I just continued working away on it,” Clark said. “I’ve still got three more years of work to do on it to get it to really top level.”

Ferrari has always been a manufacturer that has been close to his heart but owning one seemed more like a dream. However, that dream recently became a reality and now Clark is soaking it in.

“I worked at a Porsche and Ferrari dealership back in England in the ‘90s before I moved here,” Clark said. “I owned a Porsche but never thought I’d own a Ferrari. I’ve got a high school edu-



cation, but I worked my tail off, so you can definitely achieve it, and I always tell people that.”

The Port Orange resident first attended the Ponte Vedra Auto Show as spectator about five years ago and entered another car as a participant a couple of years ago.

However, this year marked the first time he had entered his Ferrari in any show, and it paid off with a victory and plenty of fanfare surrounding it.

The fact that he won it in his first showing with it left him honored and somewhat speechless.

“Looking at the cars that have won this show in the past, it’s like wow,” Clark said. “It’s a great show, and you really get a nice variety of cars and there were so many spectators who came out today.”

PONTE VEDRA AUTO SHOW 2024 WINNERS

Here are the winners of the 2024 Ponte Vedra Auto Show:

- **Modern Porsche Award:** 2016 Porsche 718. Owner: Eric Griffith
- **Fantastic 50s Award:** 1956 Ford Fairlane Club Sedan. Owner: Arthur Hill
- **European Excellence Award:** 2016 BMW M4 GTS. Owner: Maximilian Josten
- **Exceptional Exotic Award:** 2012 McLaren MP4-12C. Owner: Steve Palmer
- **Contemporary Corvette Award:** 2024 Chevrolet Corvette. Owner: Patrick Sarubbi
- **Outstanding Truck or SUV Award:** 1973 Ford F250 Ranger XLT Highboy. Owner: Justin Kempf
- **Best of the UK Award:** 1972 MG MGB. Owner: Craig Greenhill
- **Outstanding Classic Muscle Car Award:** 1969 Pontiac Firebird-400. Owner: David Brady
- **Best Pre War Vintage Award:** 1930 Oakland Sedan. Owner: Paul Adams
- **Best Classic Japanese Award:** 1970 Datsun 240Z. Owner: Lamar Fontaine
- **Contemporary Muscle Car Award:** 2021 Ford Shelby GT500 Mustang. Owner: Douglas Young

- **Most Outstanding Corvette Award:** 1957 Chevrolet Corvette. Owner: Ronnie Edge
- **Classic Porsche Award:** 1997 Porsche Carrera S. Owner: Robert Sewell
- **Best European Classic Award:** 1961 Mercedes Benz 190SL. Owner: Sam Joiner
- **Best In Show Award:** 1967 Ferrari 330GTC. Owner: Martin Clark
- **Resto Mod Award:** 1969 Chevrolet Camaro. Owner: Brett Neff
- **Best Hot Rod Award:** 1932 Ford Roadster. Owner: Fred Ritenour
- **Modern Asian Excellence Award:** 1998 Toyota Supra. Owner: Loi Tran
- **Best Early Porsche pre 1969 Award:** 1961 Porsche 356B (T-5) Cabriolet. Owner: Kim Thorpe
- **Best Military Vehicle Award:** 1945 Dodge WC-51. Owner: Philip Piscitelli
- **Best Jaguar Award:** 1960 Jaguar Mark IX. Owner: Ed Lewis
- **American Classic Award:** 1964 Shelby Cobra 289. Owner: Andre Desmarais
- **Spirit of the Ponte Vedra Auto Show:** 1965 Chevrolet Corvette. Owner: Sherry Andreo

Photos by Anthony Richards



Business Weekly

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www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

GUEST COLUMN

Setting goals: The first step in creating an investment plan

Written by/for Wells Fargo Advisors

We plan our weekends. We plan our weddings, careers and futures. Planning not only helps set us up for successful outcomes in the future but can also help immensely in the present. It helps us define and refine our goals, align tactics, proactively address risks and chart our progress.

Too often, however, the planning that could be the most valuable is overlooked. The same people who would not dream of embarking on a two-week vacation to Italy without an hour-by-hour itinerary may have just a basic outline of a plan for their retirement, which could last 20 to 30 years.

What drives this disconnect?

Many of us are intimidated by the thought of putting our plans on paper. Others fail to grasp the value of the planning process. One common mistake is thinking your situation is very simple and straightforward, so you don't need a plan.

This misconception can stem from a misunderstanding of exactly what constitutes a plan and an assumption that planning ought to be comprehensive enough to meet the needs of the rest of your life. Planning should meet you where you are and reflect your current situation. Your investment goals and your plan will



Contributed photo

evolve with you over time.

Effective plans are generally the ones that take your individual circumstances and those of your family into account. They should start with your goals and objectives and may encompass planning for investments, retirement, taxes and wealth transfer.

As you map out your goals, consider the following:

- Are you thinking of starting a business?
- Are you exploring buying a second home or is there another big purchase that you would like to make at some point in the future?
- Do you want to travel extensively after you retire?
- Have you promised your children or grandchildren that you'll help pay for their college education or for them to

study abroad?

- Do you need to build or rebuild an emergency fund for unforeseen expenses?
- Is there a community program or charitable cause you'd like to support more robustly?

One way to express your goals is to think of them as your own personal story that you are intending to write. For example:

"Now that I have my first grandchild, I'd like to save enough to help me comfortably retire so I can spend more time with my family. My spouse and I have had a lifelong dream of road tripping across the country once I retire. As we get older, I want to build up a savings fund for medical needs and start a legacy fund to help financially support my children and my grandchild."

After identifying your goals, the next

step is to understand how much money you will need for each goal. This information will help you determine your saving and investing priorities, your time horizon for each goal, and the amount of investment risk you're comfortable taking to achieve each goal.

There's no one-size-fits-all answer to achieve each goal. Life throws curveballs and your priorities may change; however, people who have a plan may be more prepared for life's events and feel more comfortable that their goals will be met.

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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UF Health Flagler Hospital Chaplain Program marks 25 years

UF Health Flagler Hospital is celebrating the 25th anniversary of its chaplain program, a key part of patient care since 1999. Over the past 25 years, hospital chaplains have provided comfort and emotional support to countless patients, their families and staff.

Starting small, the program has grown to include 25 dedicated volunteer chaplains. These volunteers come from diverse backgrounds and faith traditions, but all share a common goal: to provide spiritual care, comfort and hope to those in need. Whether offering prayers, listening or simply being present, these chaplains play a crucial role in helping patients and their loved ones navigate challenging health situations.

Volunteer chaplains are essential to the hospital's mission of compassionate care. When patients face illness, injury or loss, chaplains provide a calm and reassuring presence. Their support can make a huge difference in the emotional and spiritual well-being of patients and their families.

"As we celebrate 25 years of this important program, we express deep gratitude to the chaplains who have dedicated their time and care to our community," said Kerry Watson, interim CEO of UF Health St. Johns.



Contributed photo

A chaplain from UF Health Flagler Hospital comforts a patient.

"Their compassion and kindness continue to be a cornerstone of the patient experience at UF Health Flagler Hospital. We look forward to many more years of service through the chaplain program, providing comfort and

spiritual care to patients, families and staff when they need it most."

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer chaplain, contact Kaylee Olsen at 904-819-4789.

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Benchmarks of Success

A look at major career developments in the area



St. Johns County hires new economic development director

Sara Maxfield was confirmed as the new economic development director at the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners' regular meeting on Sept. 17. Maxfield has 15 years of economic and business

development experience, including serving as the manager of economic & business development for Riviera Beach, Fla.; director of economic development for the City of Delray Beach, Fla.; and executive director for the Athens County Economic Development Council and the Athens County Port Authority in Ohio.

A few highlights of her experience include public-private partnership solicitations, marketing campaigns, community redevelopment agency development projects and project negotiations.

Maxfield also served on the Florida League of Cities Economic Development and Land Use Committee for the past three years. Prior to joining the ACEDC, she taught at the School of Health Sciences at her alma mater, Ohio University.

Maxfield graduated cum laude with a B.S. in Health from Ohio University and earned her Certified Economic Developer designation from the International Economic Development Council. She is also a certified Economic Development Finance Professional.

Maxfield is a member of the International Economic Development Council, the Florida Economic Development Council and the National Rural Economic Development Association.



David Corring named business development manager

Office Images, a full-service workplace furniture and architectural products dealership, has announced that David Corring has joined the team as business development manager. In this role, Corring's responsibilities include driving

Office Images' growth by identifying new business

opportunities, workplace consulting and fostering strong client relationships and project satisfaction.

Corring brings more than 13 years of business-to-business sales success to Office Images. His previous experience includes management, training, marketing, e-commerce and project management. Corring earned an associate's degree in business from Bergen Community College.



Laura Heald

Heald joins Berry & Co. Real Estate

Broker Clare Berry has announced that Laura Heald has joined Berry & Co. Real Estate as a real estate sales professional.

Heald was born in Jacksonville, raised in Ponte Vedra Beach, graduated from Nease High School and is a third-generation graduate of the

University of Florida. She spent the first 15 years of her professional career in visual journalism, first as a photographer's assistant for Sports Illustrated, and later as a photographer, videographer and multimedia producer of clients such as ESPN, NPR, Sports Illustrated, Apple Education and Nikon.

These jobs took her around the country and the world. Heald has worked in all 50 states.

Since returning to Northeast Florida, Heald has married and is mother to two preschoolers. She worked for the past five years in investment real estate, which included multifamily property management.

Heald can be reached at laurahealdrealtor@gmail.com or 904-699-2839.



Dr. Ellen Talos

Talos accepts Community Hospice & Palliative Care post

Community Hospice & Palliative Care has announced the appointment of Dr. Ellen Talos as director of medical operations. Talos brings a wealth of experience in family medicine and hospice care to her new role.

Before joining Community Hospice & Palliative Care,

Talos served as a dedicated physician with the Haven Medical Group since June 2011, following a successful tenure with her private practice in family medicine at the Putnam Community Medical Center and is an affiliated clinical assistant professor at the

University of Florida College of Medicine.

Talos's commitment to excellence in hospice and palliative care is underscored by her achievement as a Fellow of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine in 2019. She was named the 2009 Resident Teacher of the Year at Beaumont Hospital in Grosse Pointe, Michigan. She was also honored with the 2008 Beaumont Hospital SEMMES/Resident of the Year Award.



Rachel Cunningham

Rachel Cunningham joins local real estate company

Rachel Cunningham has joined Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty.

Originally from Michigan, Cunningham quickly fell in love with Northeast Florida, drawn to the area's friendly people, warm weather and vibrant lifestyle.

Her background as an interior designer allows her to provide clients with valuable insights into property potential, making her an invaluable asset for anyone looking to maximize the appeal of their home.

Cunningham's dedication to her clients, coupled with her knowledge of design and her love for the local area, make her a valuable addition to the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty family.

Cunningham is now available to assist clients with their real estate needs. For more information or to schedule a consultation, contact her at Rachel.Cunningham@FloridaNetworkRealty.com or 517-610-6307 RCunningham.FloridaNetworkRealty.com.

The Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office is located at 333 Village Main St., Suite 670, Ponte Vedra Beach. Broker/Manager Erin Spalding can be reached at 904-285-1800, Erin.Spalding@FloridaNetworkRealty.com, and floridanetworkrealtycareers.com.

— Compiled by Shaun Ryan

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In the Arts

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www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

Moonlight Market to feature handmade goods, food, music, more

The Moonlight Market, presented by Jenna Alexander Studio and Sunday Gathering Table, will be held 5-9 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16, at 73 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine. Admission is free.

This evening market celebrates local creatives by bringing together artists and art lovers to peruse and purchase unique artisan items, including handmade goods, art, ceramics and vintage items. DJ Zach Engh spins mood music, while Sunday serves up fresh burgers with vegetable jardiniere. A market highlight is the release of Jenna Alexander's third annual St. Augustine holiday illustration.

"I love capturing our sweet town in a whimsical illustration," said Alexander. "This year's artwork highlights St. Augustine's hallmarks — bricked paths, historic church architecture, the Bridge of Lions and the twinkling holiday lights. A super fun way to enjoy this year's artwork is with a custom 500-piece puzzle! The illustration will also come as an 8-by-10 and 11-by-14 print and a 5-by-7 postcard. As a special treat, I busted out my puzzles from 2022 and 2023 and added this year's to create a limited Christmas bundle."

The Moonlight Market will feature almost 30 local vendors, including



Misty Lake, owner of Sunday Gathering Table, and Jenna Alexander

some new, first-time artisans. The SoulShine Co. of Orlando offers cheery prints, stickers, cards, totes and more. Kelly Evans creates utterly original ceramics from her College Park space, Invisible Twin Studio. St. Augustine's own RIG ReInvented Goods makes durable and classy bags using recycled materials in an array of styles and prints. Jon and Jess of grumpshine candles pour imaginative candles using sustainable materials and healthful intent.



Contributed photos

A scene from last year's market.

Vendors are curated and selected by a jury of creative directors. For event information, go to jenna-alexander.com/pages/moonlight-market.

"In addition to creating a spread to enjoy during the market, we'll be offering some of our scrumptious staples to take home," said Misty Lake, owner of Sunday. "No true Southern larder is complete without loaves of sour-dough bread, fresh preserves and tangy pickles."



Contributed photo

Empty bowls

Creatives, community battle hunger

The fine arts of ceramics, food and music are merging at The Art House on Saturday, Nov. 16, for the Empty Bowls Event, raising funds to support Epic-Cure and the St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank. The event is designed to combat the prevalence of food insecurity within the community by raising funds for organizations that work on the front lines and support locals in need.

The event will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at The Art House, 3920 A1A South in St. Augustine Beach.

"Being able to host an event that helps organizations that make an impact on local hunger is such an honor," said Melissa Noeth, owner of The Art House. "It's important to recognize the reality that people living in your community may be unable to fill their bowls and provide nourishing meals for themselves and their families. I was inspired when I learned about the Empty Bowls project, which is an international movement to assist in alleviating hunger in local communities."

At the Empty Bowls event, guests will select their own locally made ceramic bowls. The handmade bowls have been made in-studio by The Art House instructors and two volunteer artists. Guests can then fill their bowls with a tasty meal prepared by two beloved local chefs.

Chef Gaston Buschiazio creates good food and good vibes at his café, Buena Onda, serving up scratch-made vegetarian and vegan dishes. Chef Barry Honan is the culinary force behind Lotus Noodle Bar. This bespoke, fine-dining establish-



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Hunger

Continued from 32

ment channels the simplicity of Japanese cuisine and fuses it with Chef Honan's Michelin-star fine dining experience.

Tickets for the Empty Bowls fundraiser are \$65 per person and include a hand-crafted bowl, the meal and one beverage (beer, wine and nonalcoholic options are available). Tickets may be purchased at 904arthouse.com/upcomingevents/empty-bowls-event.

For those who cannot attend but still wish to show their support, donations may be made to Epic-Cure.org.

Local businesses that donated their time and talents to this cause include Buena Onda, Lotus Noodle Bar, Dog Rose Brewing Co., St Johns Illuminations, Laguna Clay, Tula Rose Floral Design and musician Jeremy Weinglass.

Since 2018, Epic-Cure has worked towards four core goals: eliminating food insecurity, ending food waste, cutting greenhouse gases and providing cooking classes to veterans and Title I school children. They have rescued and distributed more than 24 million pounds of food and provide groceries to approximately 7,700 families monthly.

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank provides grocery goods to individuals, families, seniors, veterans and those with disabilities living with food insecurity.



Contributed photo

Gaston Buschiazzo and Amy Tarmey, owners of Buena Onda Café

They provide groceries to about 3,000 families and individuals every month.

The Art House offers art classes, workshops, team-building experiences, memberships, open studio and custom events. Located at 3920 A1A South in St. Augustine Beach, the studio is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.

For more information, go to 904arthouse.com and follow along on social media @904ArtHouse for upcoming holiday workshops.

Jacksonville Symphony presents 'Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows'



Contributed photo

It's time to go hunting for Horcruxes once more: part one of "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows in Concert" is nearly here. A live symphony orchestra performs Alexandre Desplat's epic score as the franchise's seventh film is projected onto a giant screen.

Join all your favorite characters — and not-so-favorite ones! — as they encounter familiar dangers, new threats and powerful friendships in this once-in-a-lifetime event.

The show will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 15, and Saturday, Nov. 16, at the Jacksonville Symphony, 300 Water St., Jacksonville.

Shih-Hung Young will conduct the musicians of the Jacksonville Symphony.

Tickets to the events are currently on sale at my.jaxsymphony.org/overview/harry-potter-7-part-1.

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Sports



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Photos by Anthony Richards



The Ponte Vedra Sharks will host the Beachside Barracudas in the first round of the playoffs at 7 p.m. on Nov. 15.



The Panthers will look to start a run for a state title when they face the Tate Aggies at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 15.

2024 FOOTBALL PLAYOFF PREVIEW

By Anthony Richards

The postseason is here and both the Nease Panthers and Ponte Vedra Sharks earned the opportunity to host their first-round matchup following successful regular seasons.

However, the playoffs are considered the “second season,” and anything can happen which is what makes it so captivating.

For some it will be a second season short-lived while others will enjoy weeks more of thrilling games as they set their sights on a possible state title run.

The Panthers enter as the favorite to reach the semifinals as the winner of quadrant one in Class 6A.

As they should be, after an undefeated regular season, in which they controlled many of the games they played and heading into the playoffs as the top-ranked team in the state.

That No. 1 ranking assures them home field advantage throughout the regional rounds and their first matchup will be against Tate High School, which will be making the 383-mile trip from the Florida panhandle.

The Aggies are the No. 8 seed in Class 6A's quadrant one and earned a playoff spot as a wildcard team after finishing 7-3 and third in District 1-6A. They are ranked No. 24 in Class 6A.

They got off to a fast start winning their first five games out of the gate before hitting a rough stretch once they

entered district play, including a 42-7 loss to Pace, who is a top five team in Class 6A and the closest competition the Aggies would have faced similar to the Panthers.

The Aggies are led by a senior-laden team, especially on offense where running back Carson Secchiari leads the team with 12 touchdowns and averages 91.3 rushing yards per game and Taite Davis who has 22 touchdown passes on the year.

If the Panthers continue to play complimentary football and get the production they have from the offense and defense all season long, the Panther Den will be rocking, and they will be keeping the undefeated streak going with another convincing victory, because the Aggies will have not seen a defense like the Panthers.

Jacob Curry and Joe Miracle have combined for 14 sacks and 23 quarterback hurries on the season and Elisha Lockett has a team-high five interceptions to make opposing offenses pay for any errant throws due to that pressure.

With a win the Panthers would advance to face the winner of the Mandarin vs. Oakleaf matchup in the regional semifinals next week.

The Ponte Vedra Sharks also get a home contest to open the 2024 postseason in Class 5A, and it comes against a familiar foe in the Beachside Barracudas, as the two will meet in the No. 4 vs. No. 5 matchup in quadrant one.

The teams met during the season on

Sept. 13 and the Sharks edged out the Barracudas 17-14 en route to an 8-2 season.

That served as the Barracudas' first loss of the young season, and they went on to finish 7-3 and third in the district behind the Sharks.

Although it was a close game, the Sharks seemingly controlled things in the first half thanks to a relentless push they were able to get from their defensive front, as Beachside quarterback Eddie Jordan took a while to find a rhythm passing.

However, according to Ponte Vedra head coach Steve Price, teams change and develop so much as the season moves along and being the two teams met a couple of months ago, it can be difficult to read into the previous meeting too much.

One thing for sure is that the Barracudas are the definition of a pass-heavy offense, and they have the quarterback and receivers that make it work, but they may have to lean on the running game a little more to help the passing game as a whole.

Becoming one dimensional is never a recipe for success against the Sharks' defense and the Barracudas' offensive line against the Sharks' defensive line will be a key matchup to watch which group has the edge throughout the contest.

The Sharks will host the Barracudas at 7 p.m., while the Panthers welcome in the Aggies at 7:30 p.m. Both games will be on Nov. 15.

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Luke Zardavets of Nease and Penny Zarczynski of Ponte Vedra each won all four of the events they were entered in and were the only two swimmers in Class 3A to achieve that feat this year. Nease head coach Gus Calado and Ponte Vedra head coach Kyle Berry are also in the photo.



Sisters Anna and Charlotte Driesse each won state titles for the Panthers.

Contributed photos

Sharks, Panthers continue dynasty in the pool

By Anthony Richards

The run of dominance in Class 3A continued for both the Ponte Vedra and Nease swimming programs, as the Sharks won their fourth-straight girls team state title, while the Panthers' boys squad made it three in a row at states.

The Sharks scored 312 points in the team competition at FAST Aquatics in Ocala, which bested the rival Panthers, who finished runner up, by 50 points.

For the seniors who have been with the Sharks' swim team throughout high school they do not know what it feels like to not win a state title.

One of those seniors was Penny Zarczynski, who capped an incredible career with one last memorable night as she won gold in all four of the events she was entered in, which included the 50-yard freestyle, 100-yard butterfly, 200-yard medley relay, and 200-yard freestyle relay.

Her times of 22.78 seconds in the 50-yard freestyle and 53.74 seconds in the 100-yard butterfly were both new school records and qualified for an automatic All-American time.

Along with the team title, she brought home five gold medals and was the only athlete in Class 3A to have a perfect postseason by winning every race entered at districts, regionals, state preliminaries



The Ponte Vedra High girls swim team won their fourth-straight team state title at FAST Aquatics in Ocala on Nov. 8.

and the state finals.

Another streak that continued for the Sharks' girls was also winning their fourth straight state title in the 200-yard medley relay and the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Kate Pelot, Sydney Player, Makenna Biernacki and Zarczynski accompanied the group that won the medley relay, while Ainsley MacAdams and Sophie

Fox joined Zarczynski and Pelot to capture gold in the freestyle relay.

Helping lead the way for the Nease boys team en route to racking up 321 points and beating out Tallahassee Chiles which finished with 189, was sophomore Luke Zardavets, who just like Zarczynski, earned golds in all four of his events.

He and Zarczynski train together at Planet Swim, so it was only fitting that

they were the only two athletes in all of Class 3A to achieve that rare feat in this year's state competition.

The Panthers also received memorable performances from sisters Anna and Charlotte Driesse, with each one winning a state title as well.

Charlotte Driesse showcased her versatility on the big stage by winning her gold in the 200-yard individual medley and Anna Driesse topped the state in the 100-yard breaststroke.

When it came to the relays, the Nease boys took care of business by winning all three of the relay events and compiled crucial points toward the team title in the process.

Anatoli Monsalve, Jack Mainville, Nate Caswell and Lincoln Driesse teamed up to win the 200-yard medley relay, while Mainville was back at it but teamed up with Zardavets, Brandon Gear and Walker Lanoue to also win the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Lanoue was voted homecoming king during the Nease High football regular season finale on Nov. 7 but was unable to attend due to competing at states, but he made it well worth it and earned another gold in the 400-yard freestyle relay, teaming up with Gear, Zardavets and Lincoln Driesse.

The Sharks' boys team finished fifth in Class 3A with 128 points.



The Nease offensive line went up against Bartram Trail in the regular season finale.



Senior guard Brandon Strout is the lead blocker for running back K.J. Perry on a red zone play.

Offensive line paves way to Panthers' unbeaten regular season

By Anthony Richards

Being perfect is what so many people strive to do in life and the Nease Panthers football team can now say they know what that feels like after they finished the regular season with an unbeaten 9-0 record following a 56-42 win over Bartram Trail High on Nov. 7.

“Coming in here as a freshman we’ve been doing pretty good and have had some ups and downs, but we’ve never had a season like this,” Senior center Eason Windsor said. “Going 9-0 is so huge for the school and it’s something that will be with me forever. It’s a legacy.”

The Panthers still have a lot in front of them as they have hopes to keep the undefeated streak going with a state

title at the end, but so far to this point they have checked off several boxes they had as goals heading into the season.

Those triumphant checkmarks include, winning every game en route to becoming champions of their district, St. Johns County and they will enter the postseason ranked No. 1 in Class 6A.

“It feels so surreal that all this is happening my senior year,” Windsor said. “It’s been pretty cool to see the leadership from these seniors and how it’s been what has helped build us up to this point where we’re 9-0.”

There has been so much go right this year for the Panthers that can be pointed to for the success, but one of the key places to start with on the offensive side of the ball is the play of the

offensive line.

Windsor and fellow seniors offensive tackle Samuel McConnell and guard Brandon Strout have been the leaders along the line throughout the season and are part of the veteran presence that is mixed with young talent in the group.

The offensive line lost a lot in terms of starters from a season ago and there were questions heading into the year about how the new group would mesh.

It did not take long for those questions to get answered emphatically as the group quickly developed a trust in each other and a relentless nature with their play in both pass protection and in the running game.

“In the four years I’ve been here, I think this is the most glued together o-line I’ve been a part of,” Windsor

said. “We don’t have a lot of big guys or guys who are going D-I, but what we do have is chemistry and that’s something we’ve just been able to continue to build on all season.”

Two of the young starters on the offensive line are sophomore Sloan Davis and freshman John O’Dwyer, who have filled valuable roles and adjusted quickly to the varsity level.

“After our spring game we were still a little unsure about where everyone was going to be, but then we came out of the gates with a big win and week after week we’ve been just proving people wrong,” McConnell said. “We’ve always got each other’s back.”

Photos by Anthony Richards



Perry chats with offensive linemen Sloan Davis (No. 55) and Eason Windsor (No. 68) on the sideline.



Sophomore Sloan Davis (No. 55) is one of the young talents the Panthers have along the offensive line.

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Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. CP24-0775
Division 59
IN RE: ESTATE OF DARNELL LEVERLE GATEWOOD, Deceased.

The administration of the estate of DARNELL LEVERLE GATEWOOD, deceased, whose date of death was March 25, 2024, is pending in the Circuit Court for St. Johns County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 4010 Lewis Speedway, St. Augustine, FL 32084. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

The personal representative has no duty to discover whether any property held at the time of the decedent's death by the decedent or the decedent's surviving spouse is property to which the Florida Uniform Disposition of Community Property Rights at Death Act as described in ss. 732.216-732.228, Florida Statutes, applies, or may apply, unless a written demand is made by a creditor as specified under s. 732.2211, Florida Statutes. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is November 7, 2024.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Gloria F. Gatewood
GLORIA F. GATEWOOD

128 Jupiter Road
St. Augustine, Florida 32086
Attorney for Personal Representative:

/s/ James E. Bedsole
JAMES E. BEDSOLE, ESQ.
FL. Bar No.: 500194

2450 Old Moultrie Road, Ste. 104
St. Augustine, FL 32086
Tel: (904) 797-8701

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Legal 106069 Published 11/7/2024 and 11/14/2024 in St. Johns County Ponte Vedra Recorder newspaper

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L D P W I W E O Z I N G R O U N D D O O
N E L L V M D A D P Y I O L B O P Y L W
H P A R M L A L I P L K S E I B K T B R
E T S I Z D N U O R G E V O B A D S E Z
D H K U O P D K V I L G K D S C D Z A B
I S O F B K C H B U E T M Z I C I W L K
M F D Z W O L F K C A B N F L L G K N M
O L I S H N Z S U F P F R E I G C R F U
R O B S H T Z B W B V A A B Z C A H B I
B C U C A E B F A N B N A E C H C H T C
Z C T T E O K C C Z E T O K A L O S S L
R U N V E A K G Z R S H K R F O V Y U A
D L Z I M Y G A D L H E E I E R E O E C
D A W E A L G L V F L Z Z A T I R S M V
R N E R S R V A A A L T N V T N Z N S B
N T D B D E D Z C P K C G H K E P E M H
Z S E V L A V S C C R F G F I L R R I V

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

- | | | | |
|--------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| ABOVE GROUND | CHLORINE | FLOW | SCALE |
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56				57		58				59				
60			61		62					63			64	
65		66							67			68		
	69								70					

- ACROSS**
- 1. Schoolhouse tool
 - 7. Martens
 - 13. Slags
 - 14. One who scrapes
 - 16. Centiliter
 - 17. White wine
 - 19. Of I
 - 20. Former Syracuse great Warrick
 - 22. Relating to the ear
 - 23. Sandwich shops
 - 25. Victories
 - 26. White (French)
 - 28. Self-immolation by fire ritual
 - 29. Genus of parrots
 - 30. Unhappy
 - 31. Talk incessantly
 - 33. Type of Squad
 - 34. Unit of perceived loudness
 - 36. Violent seizure of property
 - 38. Agave
 - 40. Sound units
 - 41. Removes from record
 - 43. Partner to Mama
 - 44. Mythological bird
 - 45. Dash
 - 47. Hair product
 - 48. Two-year-old sheep
 - 51. Signs a deal
 - 53. Conifer
 - 55. Autonomous republic in NW Russia
 - 56. Wife of Muhammed
 - 58. British Air Aces
 - 59. Ears or ear-like appendages
 - 60. Not caps
 - 61. Deep-bodied sea dweller
 - 64. Rural delivery
 - 65. Feeling
 - 67. Study of relations of organisms to one another
 - 69. Room to argue
 - 70. Question
 - 5. Cologne
 - 6. Recounted
 - 7. Garment of cloth
 - 8. Airborne (abbr.)
 - 9. Reproduced
 - 10. Emits coherent radiation
 - 11. "Westworld" actor Harris
 - 12. Smallest interval in Western music
 - 13. Unstressed central vowel
 - 15. Lives in
 - 18. When you expect to get somewhere
 - 21. Storage bags
 - 24. One who covers with plastic
 - 26. Cast out
 - 27. Automobile
 - 30. Repaired shoe
 - 32. Belonging to the bottom layer
 - 35. Possesses
 - 37. Soda
 - 38. Programs
 - 39. In an unexpected way
 - 42. A bag-like structure in a plant or animal
 - 43. For each
 - 46. Unbelief
 - 47. Seized or impaled
 - 49. Arrive on the scene
 - 50. Especially happy
 - 52. Classic western film
 - 54. Split pulses
 - 55. Frida __: Painter
 - 57. Start again
 - 59. Employee stock ownership plan
 - 62. Young women's association
 - 63. Frozen water
 - 66. "The First State"
 - 68. Computers need one

SUDOKU								
			3					
	5	9		4			2	
1				8		7		
2		4		1			5	
		6	4					8
	8			6				
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		5					3	9
			1				8	

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:

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

- DOWN**
- 1. Cream puff
 - 2. Road open
 - 3. Stressed syllable
 - 4. Thailand's former name



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