

Ponte Vedra 

Recorder

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PonteVedraRecorder.com



Health Care Profiles

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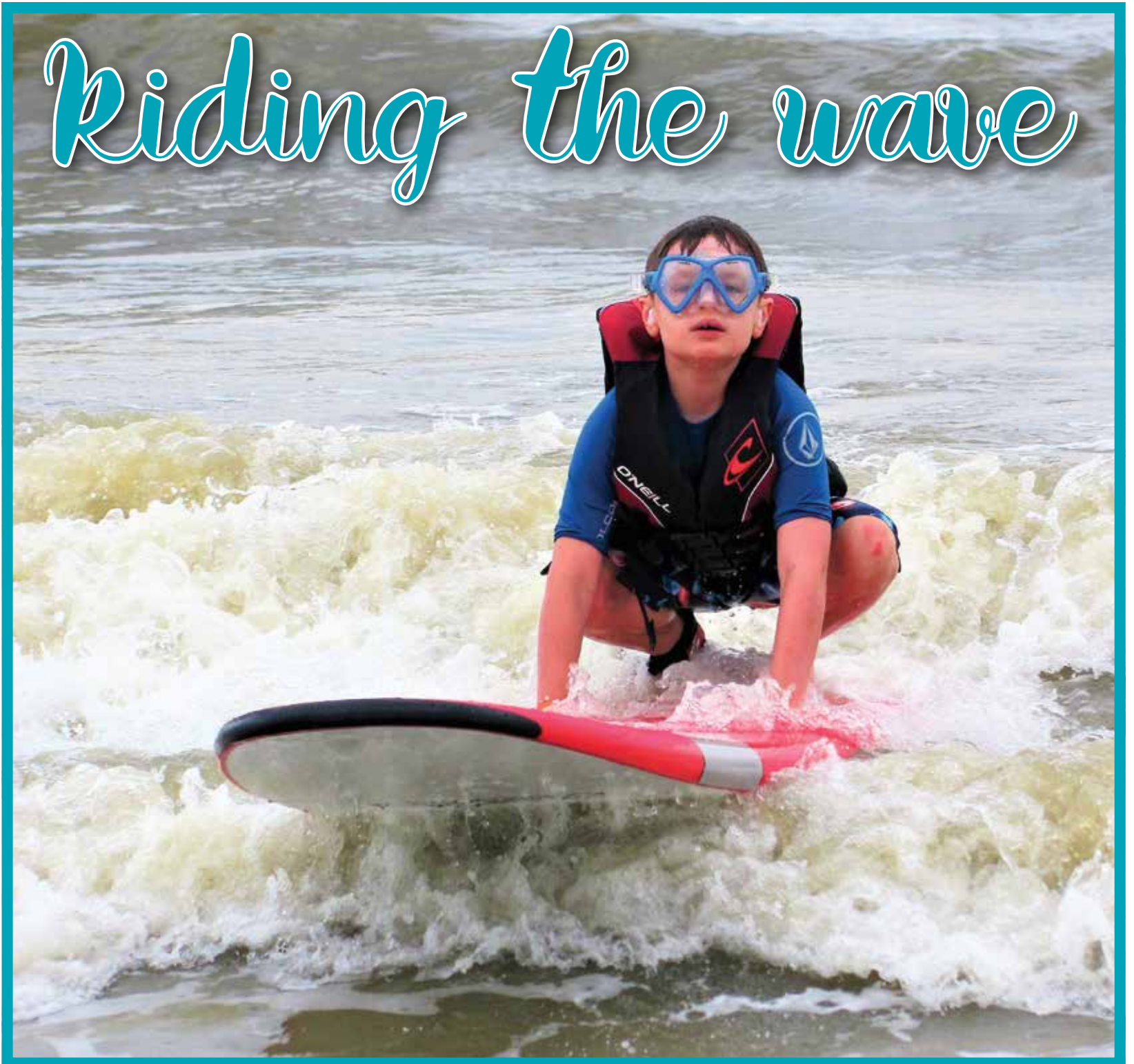
Business Weekly: Featuring Distinctive Homes

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Raising an Olympian:

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A local child learns to surf at the 10th annual Riding the Wave of Autism Surf Camp. Read more on page 34.

Photo by Jon Blauvelt

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Send us your news

We welcome submissions of photos, stories, columns and letters to the editor. E-mail submissions to

pvrecorder@opcfla.com or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach.**



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

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

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

C	L	A	M	P	C	G	I	S	C	A	D		
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7	6	2	8	4	3	1	9	5				
5	4	8	1	9	2	6	3	7				

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

Email your answer to **jennifer@opcfla.com** by Monday at 5 p.m.

All correct entries will be entered into a random drawing to win tickets for two adults and two children to the Jacksonville Zoo. In order to allow as many families as possible to win, participants are only eligible to win a ticket prize pack once every four months.

Two readers correctly identified last week's photo as Fishman Pediatric Dentistry. Winner of the random drawing was **Andrea Middlebrook**.



Congratulations, Andrea – you may pick up your prize at the Recorder offices during normal business hours.

ADOPT A PET

CAT OF THE WEEK

I am Dinah, a 1-year-old female cat. I was brought to the pet center as a stray. As this animal was a stray there may be some traits that are unknown at this time. Come visit us today here at the pet center! #38274



DOG OF THE WEEK

My name is Nellie and I am a 1-year-old female dog looking for a new home. I was brought to the pet center by my family because they could no longer care for me. Come visit me today here at the pet center! #38448



Any new pet being introduced to a new home will need time to adjust to their new environment. Please reinforce house-training and behavioral training and be mindful of interacting with other pets.

St. Johns County Pet Center

Cat adoptions at the St. Johns County Pet Center are \$30 for males and \$40 for females. Dog adoptions are \$45 for males and \$60 for females. Adoption fees include microchipping, neutering/spaying, rabies vaccinations and shots. The pet center is located at 130 N. Stratton Rd., off US 1 between County Road 210 and International Golf Parkway. Business hours are Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The center is closed to the public on Sunday. On Monday, the office is open by appointment only to claim a lost pet. For more information, please call the **St. Johns County Pet Center at (904) 209-6190**.

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Susan Griffin

Publisher
susan@opcfla.com
(904) 686-3938

Jennifer Logue

Managing Editor
jennifer@opcfla.com
(904) 686-3943

Jon Blauvelt

Reporter/Production
Coordinator
jonb@opcfla.com
(904) 686-3939

Samantha Logue

Reporter
sam@opcfla.com
(904) 686-3945

Rob Conwell

Circulation Manager
rob@opcfla.com
(904) 686-3936

Ed Johnson

Senior Account Executive
ed@opcfla.com
(904) 686-3940

Kristin Flanagan

Account Executive
(904) 285-8831

April Snyder

Sales Assistant
aprils@opcfla.com
(904) 686-3937

Leigh Mitchell

Cary Howard
Page Designers
pagedesign@theitem.com

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Nease band director resigns amid allegations of inappropriate relationship with student, other misconduct

By Jennifer Logue

The director of the Nease High School band resigned last month after school district officials launched an investigation into allegations he engaged in a sexual relationship with a former student and other charges of inappropriate behavior.

Michael Johnson was suspended by the St. Johns County School District March 27 after it received complaints that the teacher had engaged in a sexual relationship with a student. On May 8, Johnson submitted his resignation after being interviewed by school officials, who also conducted in-depth interviews with both current and former students and teachers.

“Upon learning of the allegations of inappropriate conduct, (Johnson) was immediately placed on suspension with pay (3/27/17) pending the outcome of the investigation,” school district spokesperson Christina Langston wrote in an email to the Recorder.

Yet a review of Johnson’s personnel file indicates that between December 2016 and late January 2017, school officials received several anonymous letters and emails alleging sexual misconduct by Johnson – communications that went unanswered, prompt-

ing frustration on the part of the person reporting the alleged misconduct.

“Michael Johnson, the band director currently working at Nease High School, needs to be reported,” the person wrote in a Feb. 1 letter that followed several emails asking whether the allegations were being investigated. “... This is about a true physical relationship between himself and an underage student. And the potential of more

BAND continues on Page 4

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Spend your weekends out on the green and practice your swing or enjoy views of the 8th tee from the covered lanai of this stunning home. The interior has recently been upgraded and boasts a generous sized owner’s suite, gourmet kitchen, an expansive bonus room and more. MLS 882787

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Fatal collision claims life of Neptune Beach man

A Neptune Beach man died Saturday after an SUV collided with the motorcycle he was riding on SR A1A in South Ponte Vedra Beach.

Neil Phelps, 44, was riding his motorcycle north on A1A in South Ponte Vedra Beach shortly before 4 p.m. June 17 when a black SUV traveling south turned left into his path near 2477 S. Ponte Vedra Blvd. The motorcycle and SUV collided in the northbound lane of A1A.

Phelps, a father of three who worked

for D.R. Horton of North Florida, was flown to UF Health Jacksonville, where he later died from his injuries. According to the authorities, the driver of the SUV was Kelly Saltman, 30, of Ponte Vedra Beach. She and her two passengers – a 5-year-old girl and 1-year-old boy – were uninjured.

A GoFundMe account has been established for Phelps's children at <https://www.gofundme.com/amazing-father-of-3-killed-in-crash>.



St. Johns Fire Rescue photo

An SUV traveling south on A1A in S. Ponte Vedra Beach collided with a motorcycle traveling north Saturday afternoon. The driver of the motorcycle, Neptune Beach resident Neil Phelps, later died of his injuries.

Band

Continued from 3

than just one.... Ruining children's lives is inexcusable...."

According to school records, new Nease Principal Lisa Kunze responded that evening, saying that school officials had sought guidance from district personnel and requesting more information to initiate an investigation.

The most serious allegations involve charges that Johnson engaged in an inappropriate relationship with a student. According to notes taken during school officials' interviews with Johnson, the band teacher admitted to the relationship. When asked when the relationship became sexual, Johnson initially answered, "I don't remember" before saying it was after the student had turned 18 and graduated from Nease.

That statement was contradicted by others interviewed as part of the school district's investigation, which uncovered additional charges of misconduct. Among the allegations raised was the claim that Johnson had a "Fight Club" where he encouraged students to wrestle one another.

Johnson received a written reprimand from the school for a December 2016 incident in which a student was injured during in-class

wrestling.

One student claimed that Johnson made a student spin a rifle in his underwear in front of the band, while others alleged Johnson insisted on personally measuring male students for band uniforms, sent photos of himself in his underwear to students and bought "revealing underwear" for other students.

Additional charges include claims that Johnson publicly ridiculed African American and Asian students with racially insensitive remarks and hazed freshman students during band camp, requiring them to crawl in the dirt and grunt like animals.

Students told investigators that despite being afraid to come forward, they wanted to "protect" younger classmates from Johnson because he "put students in dangerous, unsafe situations." According to the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, deputies investigated the allegations regarding Johnson's relationship with the student, but could not move forward because the student did not want to be identified and would not sign a sworn statement.

Johnson, meanwhile, has launched a GoFundMe campaign seeking donations to support a new education career. "I am horribly excited to start a new chapter in my life," the page reads. "Exploring this career opportunity is actually a revisit to my original dream."

Mallory Suppa receives Alpha Delta Kappa scholarship



Photo courtesy of Alpha Delta Kappa

The Delta Omicron Chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa recently awarded Ponte Vedra High School graduate Mallory Suppa a \$1,000 scholarship. Suppa will pursue a degree in music education at the University of Florida in the fall. Alpha

Delta Kappa is an international honorary organization of women educators. From left: Scholarship Committee Co-Chair Linda Villadoniga; Mallory Suppa with her mother, Linda Suppa; and Scholarship Committee Co-Chair Sarah Page.

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Jaguars' Malik Jackson hosts foundation fundraiser at 3 Palms Grille

By Jon Blauvelt

Jacksonville Jaguars defensive lineman Malik Jackson hosted teammates, friends and community members at 3 Palms Grille in Ponte Vedra June 15 for "A Night of Giving," the first annual fundraiser for his foundation, Malik's Gifts.

The event served as an opportunity for Jackson to introduce his nonprofit organization to the Greater Jacksonville community. The defensive lineman arrived in Jacksonville in 2016 after playing for the Denver Broncos from 2012 to 2015.

"I've been doing a few things for a while, and I wanted to be able to let people know what I've been able to contribute," said Jackson, whose foundation benefits at-risk children, military children and families, animal rescue missions and family emergency assistance. "To be able to have an event like this that brings people together that are like minded and wanting to help the same things

is just a blessing."

Event attendees enjoyed live music from The Band Be Easy, food, drinks, a live auction and remarks by Jackson. Malik's Gifts' Development Director Rodney Smith and various community members also spoke about the foundation, including Paul Martinez of the Boys & Girls Club of Northeast Florida and Denise Deisler of the Jacksonville Humane Society.

Attendees enjoyed the opportunity to engage with Jaguars Paul Posluszny and Mychal Rivera. First Coast News Sports Director Chris Porter emceed the event.

Within a year of Jackson arriving in Jacksonville, Malik's Gifts has raised more than \$80,000 for local organizations addressing the issues pertinent to the foundation.

"It's all about helping the community," said Jackson. "It's a blessing to be able to have you guys come out for this wonderful cause."



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

Jaguars tight end Mychal Rivera and his wife Siera, Jaguars defensive lineman Malik Jackson, Realtor Nikki Stevens and Barry Grahek



Adam Petrus, Brandon Schwartz and Case Walther



Eleven South Partner Rocco Larizza, Malik Jackson, and 3 Palms Grille Owner and Eleven South Owner/Partner John Nagy



Ryan Schmitt, Rick Ingram and Chriss Spires



Alisa Abbott, Amy Frank, Megan Kerr and Jaguars linebacker Paul Posluszny

As one of the founding principals of Rolland, DelValle & Bradley, Inc. (RDB), Carlos DelValle is actively involved in every facet of the architectural and interior design firm's projects. A Ponte Vedra Beach resident, he and his wife, Terry, are the parents of two adult sons.

Carlos DelValle

By Jennifer Logue

What are your primary duties and responsibilities with Rolland, DelValle & Bradley?

I'm one of the three founding principals and owners of our 22-year-old firm. My responsibilities include architectural design, business development, company management, contract administration, overseeing construction documents production and basically anything else that needs to be done...including turning off the lights at the end of most days. I have two business partners and all three of us worked for large firms before we started our firm. None of us liked the fact that, as we moved up the corporate ladder in these large firms, we were spending less hands-on time on design, so we decided that RDB would follow a different business model. At RDB, all three principals are directly and actively involved in design and client relationships. Every associate is a self-directed, experienced professional and everyone is involved in the production of projects. For these reasons, we have fought the temptation to grow much larger, and our firm's portfolio demonstrates that a mid-sized firm can design and deliver very large, complex, quality projects.

What prompted your interest in architecture?

As far back as I can remember, I was always sketching and building things. I grew up in a small coastal town in North Carolina and I remember as a kid going to construction job sites and asking for lumber scraps so I could build tree houses with my buddies. I also have to credit my father for giving me guidance. Dad was not an architect; he was a college professor in a totally different field. However, he had a natural, self-taught, artistic ability and he introduced me to architecture when I was very young. By the time I was in middle school, I knew this is what I wanted to do. I worked in construction every summer from the time I was 16 all the way through college, and I attribute that experience to really learning how buildings come together. My design development I attribute to my undergraduate architectural degree from N.C. State and master's degree in architecture from Virginia Tech. Both schools have excellent architectural programs. My 14 years of work experience prior to starting RDB was also critical for my understanding of the business and marketing aspect – knowledge that no university can teach.

RDB has designed everything from corporate offices and government buildings to churches and libraries. What was the most challenging project on which you've worked and why?

Our firm is currently extremely busy and every project we have under design or construction is challenging, so it's really difficult for me to pick one project over another. I've been really blessed to have two great business partners and to be surrounded by very talented associates. We have designed projects as far north as New York and many throughout the Southeast. Locally, some of the more recognizable projects include the 14-story EverBank Plaza High-rise on Riverside Avenue, our collaboration design for the Jacksonville Downtown Library, several exciting projects at Mayo Clinic, the eight-story Fidelity National Financial Building and approximately 15 large mid-rise corporate office buildings that house many of Jacksonville's major local companies, such as Web.com. The beauty of my profession is that every



Photo by Jennifer Logue

project and building is different and each has its own unique design challenges, so the work never gets old.

Do you have an architectural project that is a personal favorite?

The thing about architecture is that it's a lot more than simply solving a problem and designing a building. On average, most of our projects require two to three years to complete and several have required over four years. It's a huge investment of time that requires constant input from many very talented people, so each project becomes a chapter in my life, with memories of people and experiences that stay with me for a lifetime. One of my favorite designs was the Reichhold Chemicals Research Laboratories and Corporate Headquarters facility located in the Research Triangle Park outside of Raleigh, North Carolina. It was a large project totaling approximately 360,000 square feet. One of the things I love about my job is that in order to design a building, you need to learn as much as possible about your client – their business, how they function, their vision, goals, needs, requirements... This project brought together research scientists from four different locations and each group had completely different ideas and desires. It also brought together their corporate and research divisions...two polar-opposite cultures under one roof. This facility provided the collaborative

environment they desperately needed, and the consolidation significantly increased their operational efficiency.

What brought you to the First Coast?

This is an easy answer. While my wife and I were both attending graduate school at Virginia Tech, we experienced one of its coldest-recorded winters, with wind-chill temperatures dipping down to 20 below zero. During our last semester in school, we both were offered jobs in Jacksonville. It was an easy decision! We knew very little about Jacksonville and had never even heard of Ponte Vedra Beach. Moving here 30 years ago was one of the best decisions we've ever made. It's been an incredible place to call home, make incredible friends and raise our two sons.

How do you enjoy spending your free time?

Pretty much any time I spend with family and friends is enjoyable. I grew up surfing, and our home is a short walk to the beach, so being able to grab my board and do impromptu surf sessions any day of the week is incredible. Moving to Ponte Vedra introduced me to golf as an adult and I enjoy it, but I must say that it definitely can be a humbling experience. My wife and I also love to travel and we're always planning our next adventure.

Palmer Catholic Academy students named finalists in Crayola national art exhibition

Four students at Palmer Catholic Academy in Ponte Vedra Beach were recognized recently through Crayola's 2016-2017 Empowering Students through Creative Art Exhibition.

Students Sarah DosSantos, Delaney Porazinski, Ramey Neace and Jacob Valenzuela were named finalists in Crayola's National Art Exhibition. The four finalists will receive a plaque featuring a replica of their original artwork and artist's statements while all 10 students and art teacher Katie Corrigan will receive \$200 in Crayola products.

Open to students from Pre-K to 12th grade, the national contest offered students in each grade level a different challenge related to the theme "What Creative Leadership Means to Me."

"The finalists' artwork showed a true connection to the theme, had stunning visual appeal, presented age-appropriate critical thinking and responded to the theme with originality," said Crayola Art Expo Representative Susan Dobias in a congratulatory letter to Corrigan.

Thousands of pieces were submitted from students across the country, with the top 30 finalists becoming part of the U.S. Department of Education's permanent curated collection of "globally inspiring" children's art on display in Washington, D.C.

"We are very grateful to Crayola for such a wonderful opportunity to build creative leadership and encourage self-expression in our student artists," Principal Linda Earp said.

In addition to the finalists, artwork created



Photo provided by Palmer Catholic Academy

Crayola Art Expo finalists Sarah DosSantos, Ramey Neace, Jacob Valenzuela and Delaney Porazinski of Palmer Catholic Academy

by Palmer students Kate Fennell, Isabella Bushkell, Mary Clare Stinneford, Miel Reyes, Jacob Norgart and Sara Valenzuela was selected for inclusion in Crayola's Education Resources.

"Each submission provided a look into the mind of the student artist," Dobias said. "We were truly inspired by the powerful ways students connected creative leadership to their personal experiences."

Woman's Exchange awards scholarships

The Woman's Exchange of St. Augustine has awarded eight scholarships to women who are pursuing degrees at St. Johns River State College.

Recipients of Women's Exchange Scholarships include Antoinette Dendler, Diana Farina, Yvonne Haire and Jennifer Pennington. The Bessey Family Scholarship in Memory of Donald Bessey was awarded to Melissa Hagerman, while The Bessey Family Scholarship in memory of Christine Bessey Jonswold was presented to Neonilla Hanekom.

The Talmage-Noyes Endowment scholarship was awarded to Mary Givens, while Jennifer Cahan received the Riggle Family Scholarship.

The Woman's Exchange adopted its scholarship program in 2000. The first award was made in 2001. Today, the Woman's Exchange makes multiple awards annually of \$1,000 each to women who are pursuing college studies to have greater opportunities in the work force, or, who are returning to the workforce after being away from it for various reasons.

The Woman's Exchange also has an award fund at First Coast Technical College to assist women enrolled in their job-training programs. The scholarship funds are derived from an annual breakfast prior to the March regular meeting, additional member contributions, memorials, and Exchange revenues from other activities. In addition to the Woman's Exchange scholarships, there are four named awards established by individual members.

Founded in 1892, the Woman's

Exchange is celebrating its 125th anniversary of helping women achieve economic stability and promoting hand-crafting through the sale of unique items made by consignors. The organization also preserves the historic Peña-Peck House, located at 143 St. George St. in St. Augustine's historic district. Tours are offered daily. For more information, visit www.pe-napeckhouse.com or www.facebook.com.



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Thursday, June 22	Friday, June 23	Saturday, June 24	Sunday, June 25
<p>Concerts in the Plaza St. Augustine's Plaza de la Constitución will once again host the oldest city's summer-long concert series, "Concerts in the Plaza." Returning for its 27th season, the series will provide free, two-hour concerts featuring local musical entertainment every Thursday night at 7 p.m. On June 22, Rob Ellis Peck & Friends will perform southern R&B and classic rock & roll. All of the "Concerts in the Plaza" shows are free to attend and visitors are encouraged to bring lounge chairs for seating. Picnic dinners are allowed, but alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the plaza.</p> <p>Summer Nights Art Class: Etching Local printmaker William McMahan will host a workshop on etching techniques June 22 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens. Attendees will create a print using the artful techniques of Whister and McBey. Supplies, wine, beer and snacks will be provided. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave. Registration is \$30 for members, \$40 for non-members. To register, visit www.cummermuseum.org.</p> <p>Houses of Hogwarts at the Library Harry Potter fans ages 8 to 12 are invited to dress up in the colors of their favorite Hogwarts House for a "Houses of Hogwarts" Board Game Bash and Movie event at the Ponte Vedra Beach Public Library. To be held June 22 from 2 to 5 p.m., the event will enable kids to play Wizard's Chess, get sorted by the Sorting Hat, make crafts and more. "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" will also be playing in the Common Room. Kids age 10 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. The library is located at 101 Library Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Lincoln-Reagan Dinner at Sawgrass The St. Johns County Republican Party and the Ponte Vedra Republican Club will host their Lincoln-Reagan Dinner June 22 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Florida House Speaker Richard Corcoran and Dr. Peter Wood will speak on "Exceptionalism in our Schools." The event will be held at Sawgrass Country Club at 10034 Golf Club Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, visit www.sjc.gop.</p>	<p>Palm Valley Baptist VBS Palm Valley Baptist Church will offer a free, three-day weekend Vacation Bible School program June 23-25. To be held at the church at 4890 Palm Valley Road, the program will begin Friday, June 23 from 5:30 to 8:10 p.m. and continue Saturday, June 24 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The program will conclude Sunday, June 25 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Classes will be offered for children in kindergarten through fifth grade, and dinner and lunch will be provided Friday and Saturday, respectively. To register, call the church at (904) 285-2447.</p> <p>Live Music at Table 1 Table 1 at 330 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach will host live music starting at 7:30 p.m. In addition to the entertainment, guests can enjoy bar bites starting at \$7 and 2-for-1 well drinks, domestic drafts and house wine by the glass.</p> <p>PV Professionals Networking Group The Ponte Vedra Professionals Networking Group meets Fridays at 9 a.m. at Watson Realty Corp., 615 Highway A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, visit www.pvpng.com or email pontevedrapng@gmail.com.</p> <p>Coastal Wine Market Wine Tasting Coastal Wine Market hosts Friday wine tastings from 6 to 8 p.m. at 641 Crosswater Parkway, Suite B, Ponte Vedra Beach. Taste six wines for \$10. For more information, call (904) 395-3520.</p> <p>The Secret Garden Apex Theatre presents the hit Broadway musical "The Secret Garden," based on the children's novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett. The show will start at 8 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall at 1050 A1A North, Ponte Vedra Beach. Other performances will include a matinee performance at 2 p.m. on June 24, followed by an evening performance at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25. For more information, visit www.pvconcerthall.com or call (904) 209-0399.</p>	<p>Big Bang 5K The 8th annual Ponte Vedra Big Bang and Fun Run will take place June 24, with the 5K beginning at 8 a.m. and the Fun Run at 9 a.m. The event will start at Christ Episcopal Church at 400 San Juan Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach. The first 25 runners to finish will receive custom Big Bang medals, and there will also be a celebratory post-race banquet. Registration ranges from \$11 to \$36. For more information, visit www.bigbang5k.itsyourrace.com or call (904) 318-8104.</p> <p>John Mellencamp at Amphitheatre John Mellencamp continues his "Sad Clowns and Hillbillies" tour with a June 24 performance at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre at 1340C A1A South, St. Augustine. The show starts at 7 p.m., and Mellencamp will be joined by Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter Emmylou Harris, his Plain Spoken tourmate Carlene Carter and folk-pop sister duo Lily & Madeleine. Every online ticket purchased comes with a CD copy of Mellencamp's "Sad Clowns and Hillbillies" album. For more information, visit www.staugamphitheatre.com or call (904) 209-0367.</p> <p>Cutter & Cutter Exhibit of American Impressionists Cutter & Cutter Fine Art will host an "American Impressionists Exhibition" at its St. Augustine gallery on Friday, June 23 and Saturday, June 24. The exhibition will offer visitors a chance to meet artists Lyn Asselta, George Gallo and Mary Dolph Wood while viewing their works. An opening reception will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. on June 23. The works will also be on display from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 24, when the event will include artist appearances, demonstrations and more. Cutter & Cutter's St. Augustine gallery is located at 25 King St. in the historic district. For more information, visit www.cutterandcutter.com.</p>	<p>Katz 4 Keeps Adoption Event Join Katz 4 Keeps June 24-25 for an adoption event helping cats and kittens find their forever homes. The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Katz 4 Keeps facility located at 935B A1A North in Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information about this event or organization, call (904) 834-3223 or email info@katz4keeps.org.</p> <p>New Exhibits at the Cultural Center The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach recently opened two new exhibits. The first is a summer-themed exhibit named "Fluidity & Nature, Life's Pleasure," capturing the simple themes of summer with scenes of reflective water and bold, bright hues of color. The installation of paintings was created by artists Sharon Goldman, Doug Gerhart and Judy Gerhart. Their art will be displayed in the Cultural Center's main gallery. The second exhibit is the First Coast Pastel Society's 2017 Member Show and Sale, which showcases the beauty of the versatile pastel medium. The exhibit will be judged by a team of jurors, including Jeanette Toohey, Maureen Kirschhofer and Anthony Whiting. This exhibit will be in the Cultural Center's scene gallery. The works will be displayed for purchase until July 7. For more information, visit www.ccpvb.org/index.php. The cultural center is located at 50 Executive Way in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Life Enrichment Group The Life Enrichment Group is designed for those with memory changes who want to remain mentally, physically and socially active, while giving caregivers and loved ones some free time for themselves. The program is offered daily, serving Jacksonville Beach and Ponte Vedra area. For more information call (904) 417-7354 or email life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com.</p>

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Monday, June 26	Tuesday, June 27	Wednesday, June 28	Thursday, June 29
<p>Camp Cummer Week 4 of Camp Cummer sessions kicks off June 26 through through June 30. During these day camp sessions, children will print, draw, paint, work with clay and learn new facts and techniques behind the art in the museum's galleries and gardens. Sessions are intended for children in grades 1 through 6. Registration is required and costs \$180 per week for members and \$215 per week for non-members. For more information, email education@cummermuseum.org or call (904) 355-0630.</p> <p>MOSH Daily Programs Join Jacksonville's Museum of Science and History for its Daily Animal shows. On Monday at 2 p.m., explore "Skin and Scales" in the Florida Naturalist's Center, during which guests learn about the cold-blooded world of reptiles and amphibians. Prior to the program at 1 p.m., museum-goers can witness the exploration of space in the Bryan-Gooding Planetarium during "Astronaut," an interactive venture lead by a test astronaut named Chad. For tickets and additional information, visit www.themosh.org.</p> <p>Meals on Wheels Drivers Needed Volunteer drivers are needed for the weekly delivery of "Meals on Wheels" to seniors. On Mondays, drivers are needed for Route 9, Old Moultrie and St. Augustine South and Route 11, South US1 to 206. For additional days and routes, call (904) 209-3686 or send an email to aleach@stjohnscoa.com.</p> <p>'Friends for the Arts' Get involved in the arts by joining a team of fellow art supporters at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. Help develop and support fundraising projects and help initiate special projects to benefit and promote the Cultural Center and the arts in our community. For more information, visit www.ccpvb.org/friends-for-the-arts.</p>	<p>Alejandro Escovedo Band Alejandro Escovedo Band will perform with guest Pat Puckett Trio June 27 at 8 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall. The concert will promote Escovedo's latest album, "Burn Something Beautiful," which is his first solo album since his "Big Station" in 2012. The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A North, Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information about this event, visit www.pvconcerthall.com or call (904) 209-0399.</p> <p>Planning for Uncertainty Workshop Rock Solid Law will host a workshop on "Planning for Uncertainty: Knowing the Essentials to Handle the Unexpected" June 27 from noon to 1 p.m. Light refreshments will be provided, and topics of discussion will include what legal documents are needed and why, helping loved ones with daily care, and information on the Neptune Society and its services. The presentation will be held at Movement Mortgage at 102 Sixth Ave. North, Suites 8 and 9 in Jacksonville Beach. To RSVP, email yasmin@rocksolidlaw.com.</p> <p>Sunset Rotary Club Meeting The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset meets Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn. Community leaders are welcome to attend. For more information, call club President Janeene Hart at (904) 412-5409 or email jwhart1208@gmail.com.</p> <p>Tapas Tuesday The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens presents Tapas Tuesday at the Cummer Cafe every Tuesday from 5 to 7:30 p.m. View the sunset on the Cummer Cafe patio while listening to local musicians and enjoying beer, wine or artfully inspired tapas for sale at the Cafe. Reserve your table by calling (904) 899-6022. For more information, visit www.cummermuseum.org. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave.</p>	<p>Annie Opens at Alhambra The classic Broadway musical "Annie" opens at the Alhambra Theatre & Dining on Wednesday, June 28. The Alhambra's summer family show, "Annie" tells the story of a Depression-era orphan who is chosen to live with a millionaire for a short time. A three-course dinner will be served starting at 5:30 p.m., and the curtain will rise at 7:30 p.m. The show will run from June 28 to August 13. The Alhambra is located at 12000 Beach Blvd, Jacksonville Beach. For tickets and additional information, visit alhambrajax.com or call (904) 641-1212.</p> <p>Toastmasters Club Toastmasters Club #5199 of Ponte Vedra Beach meets every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. at the Players Community Senior Center. These meetings will help attendees improve public speaking and gain leadership skills. The senior center is located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach. Email Carmen at carmenjsardinas@gmail.com for additional information.</p> <p>Emergency Preparedness Workshop The St Johns County Chamber of Commerce will hold an emergency preparedness workshop June 28 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The session will provide businesses with helpful tips for surviving public emergency situations, and will include insight from local businesses that were impacted by Hurricane Matthew. The workshop will be held at 1 News Place in St. Augustine. Tickets are \$5 per person and can be purchased at www.sjccchamber.com.</p> <p>Music by the Sea Concert Series The "Music by the Sea" concert series returns to the St. Johns County Pier for its 15th year, bringing free weekly concerts in a variety of genres from 7 to 9 p.m. every Wednesday. Visitors are encouraged to bring a chair or blanket. Dinner is offered for \$10 or less beginning at 6 p.m. The June 28 concert will feature the Jax English Salsa Band. The St. Johns County Pier is located at 350 A1A Beach Blvd. in St. Augustine Beach. For more information, visit www.sabca.org.</p>	<p>Headache and Migraine Workshop Dr. Sharyl Truty, MD and Dr. Nick Scotto PT will discuss natural ways to heal migraines and headaches in this June 29 workshop. The event will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. at 115 Professional Drive, Ste. 104, Ponte Vedra Beach. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$20 at the door. Seating is limited to the first 20 registrants. For additional information on the workshop, contact membership@balancedphysiciancare.com or call (904) 930-4774.</p> <p>'Synthesize: Art + Music' Jacksonville's Museum of Contemporary Art recently introduced a new exhibit to its gallery space. "Synthesize: Art + Music" presents a blend of visual and aural pieces comprised of video, sculpture and light installation. The exhibit, which calls to mind references of film and pop culture, combines the work of French composer and artist Céleste Boursier-Mougenot with artists James Clar, Rashaad Newsome, Farrah Karapetian and more.</p> <p>Adult Coloring at the Library As part of their Adult Summer Reading program, the Ponte Vedra Beach Public Library will host an adult coloring event June 29 from 1 to 4 p.m. Guests are invited to relax and de-stress as they color their own "Build A Better World" coloring journals. Attendance is free and supplies will be provided. The library is located at 101 Library Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Concerts in the Plaza St. Augustine's Plaza de la Constitución will host the oldest city's summer-long concert series, "Concerts in the Plaza." The series will provide free concerts featuring local musical entertainment every Thursday night at 7 p.m. On June 29, Big Pineapple will perform the sounds of the Hawaiian Islands. All of the "Concerts in the Plaza" shows are free to attend and visitors are encouraged to bring lounge chairs for seating. Picnic dinners are allowed, but alcoholic beverages are not.</p> <p>Free calendar listings for community groups and nonprofit organizations are published at our discretion on a space-available basis. Send your event at least 10 days before publication. Submit events to jasmine@opcfla.com, post online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com using</p>

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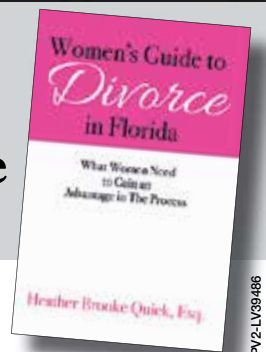
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Psychedelic Furs return to Ponte Vedra Concert Hall in September

British rock luminaries the Psychedelic Furs will return to the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall in September, performing with special guest Bash & Pop.

Scheduled to appear Sept. 23, the band is well-known for its hits “Love My Way,” “Pretty in Pink,” “Heaven,” “The Ghost in You” and “Heartbreak Beat.” Led by vocalist and songwriter Richard Butler, the Furs released seven studio albums, spawning several compilations, a boxed set and a live concert DVD.

Born out of the post-punk UK rock scene, the Furs quickly developed as one

of the premier bands on U.S. college and modern rock radio scoring a multitude of #1 singles. With the advent of MTV in the early 1980s, the band took off when John Hughes approached the band with his film built around the Furs’ song “Pretty in Pink.” After a brief hiatus in the 1990s, and a side project called Love Spit Love, the band regrouped at the dawn of the new millennium. The Psychedelic Furs touring lineup consists of Richard Butler (vocals), Tim Butler (bass), Rich Good (guitar), Mars Williams (saxophone), Amanda Kramer (keyboards) and Paul Garisto



(drums).

Special guests Bash & Pop will be fronted by Tommy Stinson of The Replacements.

Tickets for The Psychedelic Furs with

Bash & Pop begin at \$43 and are available now at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall and St. Augustine Amphitheatre Box Offices, ticketmaster.com, all Ticketmaster outlets and by phone at (800) 745-3000.

Jacksonville symphony names Deanna Tham assistant conductor and principal conductor of youth orchestras

Deanna Tham has joined the Jacksonville Symphony as the orchestra’s assistant conductor, Symphony President Robert Massey recently announced.

Tham, who will begin July 1, will also serve as principal conductor of the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestras. In her new roles, Tham will work with symphony staff to create and conduct its education programs, including family concerts, preludes and young people’s concerts. She will conduct the JSYO Philharmonic and Repertory orchestras as well as actively manage recruitment initiatives, curriculum, orientation, retreats and concerto competitions. She will also serve as cover conductor for Music Director Courtney Lewis and will conduct select Jacksonville

Symphony concerts.

“I am delighted to welcome Deanna to the Jacksonville Symphony family,” Lewis said. “Her experience leading the Louisville Youth Orchestra and working with professional orchestras makes her the perfect fit for our new assistant conductor position. I’m very excited to watch her lead the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestras during this time of unprecedented growth, and to work with her as she conducts the Jacksonville Symphony.”

Tham was selected in an international search process that included eight semi-finalists, each of whom visited Jacksonville to conduct the symphony. Three candidates were invited to the final round, where they made educational presentations replicating the work

the symphony does in its Preludes Youth Concerts. The candidates also each coached a brass quintet made up of young musicians. Tham was unanimously selected as the winner by a committee comprised of Lewis, Massey, Associate Conductor Nathan Aspinall, Director of Education and Community Engagement Kathryn Rudolph and Director of Artistic Operations Tony Nickle along with the ballots of each participating musician in the Jacksonville Symphony.

“I’m beyond excited to come to Jacksonville and work with the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestra family,” Tham said. “It is one of my greatest joys to help young musicians discover their voices, be in awe of what those voices can create, and take



Photo courtesy of Jacksonville Symphony

Deanna Tham

that into the world. It is an honor to come into a community with so much passion for and dedication to developing the creativity and voices of their young people. I am eager to continue that spirit, push boundaries and reach new heights with the incredible potential that the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestras have.”

Prior to joining the Jacksonville Symphony and its youth orchestras, Tham served as music director of the 350-piece Louisville Youth Orchestra. In addition, she was previously the music director of the Boise Philharmonic Youth Orchestra and has conducted the Boise Philharmonic and Ballet Idaho, and Opera Idaho. A California native, she has conducted and guest conducted across the United States, most recently working with renowned conductors Marin Alsop and James Ross at the Cabrillo Contemporary Music Festival.

Tham has served as the assistant conductor for the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra, where she also received a Professional Studies Certificate from the Cleveland Institute of Music in Orchestral Conducting, studying with Maestro Carl Topilow. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Horn Performance from Carnegie Mellon University and a Master of Music degree in conducting with honors from Northwestern University.



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'A Day Without Violence' calendar to showcase winners of Betty Griffin Center contest

Thirteen drawings and 12 poems have been selected to be featured on the Betty Griffin Center's 2018 calendar.

The works were selected as part of the organization's "A Day Without Violence Art and Poetry Contest," which gave St. Johns County School District students the opportunities to submit works of art related to that theme.

"We received more than 1,400 entries, representing about 1,300 drawings and 100 poems, which made it extremely difficult for our judges to choose 13 drawings and 12 poems to feature in the calendar," said Betty Griffin Center Executive Director Joyce Mahr. "Despite the large number of submissions to choose from, they were able to narrow it down to some exceptional entries from our students."

The 2018 calendar winners include:

Art winners

Bartram Trail High School:

Taylor Mattson, 12th Grade; Lucie Horton, 10th Grade

Creekside High School:

Megan Lui, 9th Grade, Second Place; Sidney Usina, 11th Grade

Fruit Cove Middle School:

Tejashree Vijay, 7th Grade- First Place; Gabriel Willens, 7th Grade; Isabella Aalto-Luque, 8th Grade; Anna Katherine Yarborough, 7th Grade

Patriot Oaks Academy:

Ryan Hong, 7th Grade

Palmer Catholic Academy:

Elizabeth Weldon, 6th Grade

PVPV Rawlings:

Michelle Abboud, 4th Grade; Joy Qiu, 4th Grade

W.D Hartley Elementary:

Kymra Koloss, 4th Grade



Poetry Winners

Bartram Trail High School:

Jennifer Sloan, 12th Grade, First Place; Geethika Kataru, 10th Grade; Hannah Nierenhausen, 10th Grade; Rebecca Jaeger, 11th Grade; Kalis Figueroa, 11th Grade

Fruit Cove Middle School:

Paul Wood, 7th Grade; Anna Esmond, 7th Grade; Ryley Cetnar, 7th Grade

Ketterlinus Elementary School:

Gabrielle Duncan, 2nd Grade

Patriot Oaks Academy:

Josie Caruso, 7th Grade, Second Place; Landon Mickey, 7th Grade; Lily Clarke, 6th Grade

Contest judges were Dr. Nadia Ramoutar, director of Enlighten Productions; and Ann Kiyonaga-Razon, a poet, painter and yoga teacher who holds a Master's Degree in International Studies from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

The judges selected the winning entries based on their effectiveness in conveying a positive impression of peacefulness and cooperation, artistic merit, originality, diversity of images and geographical diversity within St. Johns County.

"The work of these students will be published and distributed to every classroom in St. Johns County this fall," Mahr said. "In addition, the winning art will be exhibited at the St. Johns County Administration Building throughout October, which is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month."

The students will also be honored during an award ceremony to be held at the school board meeting in October 2017.

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Keep your heart healthy during the summer heat



Dr. Anthony Magnano
Guest Columnist

By Dr. Anthony Magnano

Special to the Recorder

While we think of summer as a time of rest and relaxation, your heart has to work harder than usual as we expose ourselves to the summer sun. Heat and humidity create extra strain on your heart, so it's important to protect your circulatory system during this time of year, especially if you have heart disease. With a few simple precautions, though, you can stay heart-healthy while enjoying the outdoors.

The effects of heat on your heart

The main effects hot temperatures can have on the body are overheating and dehydration. When you're exercising outside during the summer months, the heat and humidity make it harder for your heart to pump blood throughout the body and keep it cool. The body stays cool by relaxing a large network of tiny blood vessels in your skin to release heat from the body surface. As these blood vessels dilate, the blood pressure may drop to produce a fainting spell.

Moreover, as your heart strains to maintain your temperature, the body also begins

producing sweat to help in the cooling process. The danger occurs when the body produces too much sweat, leading to dehydration and depleted salt levels.

When extreme stress is put on the heart, it can lead to serious heat-related illnesses, like heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Symptoms of these issues include dizziness, nausea, cramps and rapid heartbeat – and in some cases, they can be deadly. According to the CDC, about 300 Americans die every year from heat-related illnesses, and people with heart disease are an especially high-risk population.

Heart-healthy tips for the summer

The good news is heat-related illnesses are usually preventable by making a few lifestyle choices. The most important one is to help your body stay cool by hydrating. Drink plenty of water before, during and after being active outside. Try to avoid excessive alcohol and caffeine intake within a few hours of exercise, as they can accelerate dehydration.

Another important step is to stay inside during peak heat time, which is generally from noon to 3 p.m. While outdoor activities are generally safer during the morning or evening, you should always check the heat index first to make sure it's safe to exercise outside. If a heat wave occurs, change any plans that involve being outdoors and head inside for activity, whether

at the local recreation center or even in your own home. It's particularly important for people with heart disease to monitor the weather so that they avoid putting extra strain on their bodies.

When you're planning a trip to the beach, make sure to protect your family from the sun. Wear wide-brimmed hats, apply sunscreen with at least SPF 15 and reapply it every two hours. Children are not often aware of the signs of dehydration, so it's important to make sure they are well protected and hydrated.

If you feel or notice someone experiencing the symptoms of a heat-related illness or

a heart issue, act immediately. For heat exhaustion, move to a cool place, drink water and monitor the condition. For heat stroke and heart issues, call 911, as they could be life-threatening conditions.

With the right preparations, you can keep your heart healthy while enjoying a great summer filled with outdoor activities and plenty of sun.

Dr. Anthony Magnano is a Ponte Vedra resident and cardiac electrophysiologist at St. Vincent's Medical Center Riverside. For more information on Dr. Magnano and his specialty treating atrial fibrillation, visit AfbJax.com.

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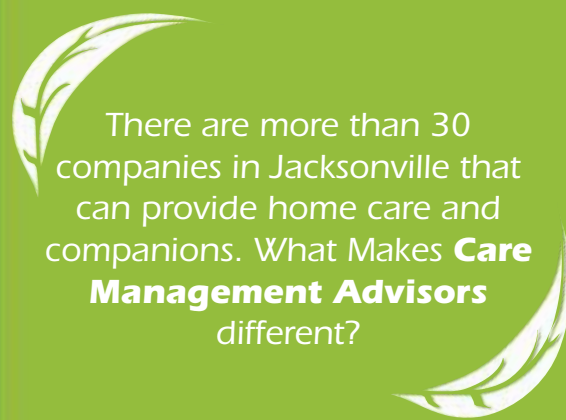
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A more natural approach to headaches and migraines



Dr. Sharyl Truty
Guest Columnist

By Dr. Sharyl Truty
Special to the Recorder

The most important step in treating headaches, especially migraines, is getting an accurate diagnosis. There are contributing factors – including stress, hormone problems, sinus issues, muscle strain and neck arthritis issues – and having a migraine with aura can have long-term implications in your health.

Once you have an accurate diagnosis, there are a variety of treatments beyond medications. In fact, overuse of certain medications can actually make certain headaches worse. Looking beyond prescriptions, there are holistic options that show great promise.

In the realm of diet, food additives seem to be the biggest triggers. For some, a gluten elimination diet may provide answers. Surprisingly, medical evidence is also showing that for some people, skipping meals or fasting may prove to be another trigger, especially for those sensitive to sugar. On the positive side, there are some nutrients that seem to be critical to preventing migraines. Magnesium is by the far the most important. It may be worth getting your levels checked, because there is a wide range of dosing and not all magnesium supplements have the same effects on the body. There are other nutrients that can be helpful as well, and a consultation from a natural health care practitioner can be invaluable in targeting the diet and nutrients best for you.

There are a variety of herbals that show promise in migraines. Two herbals that have been recognized by the American Academy of Neurology are butterbur and feverfew. Butterbur has the most impressive studies behind it. The correct dosage, however, can vary widely from person to person. Butterbur also contains a substance, a pyrrolizidine alkaloid, that can be toxic to the liver and cause cancer; therefore, be sure any product you buy guarantees the removal of these alkaloids. Feverfew may not be as effective as butterbur, but it is safe and well tolerated. Feverfew seems to work well when combined with ginger, but mouth ulcers and withdrawal headaches can occur if abruptly stopped.

There is one treatment that has amazing medical evidence, very little downside, and does not require taking a pill: acupuncture. In the medical community, it has the highest levels of studies behind its effectiveness both in helping with an acute migraine and with preventing it from occurring. One healing theory is that acupuncture calms the nerves in the brain and body from a biochemical standpoint. Despite what most have experienced in Western medicine, the needles used are very thin, sterile needles that are hardly noticeable during a treatment. Acupuncture treatment is often very calming and only lasts about 35 to



45 minutes.

The good news for headache and migraine sufferers is that there are a plethora of holistic options available to help. Consulting a local integrative physician is a great way to understand what options are best for you. Those who are interested in exploring a more holistic, healing option or trying acupuncture are welcome to attend a neck pain and headache workshop hosted by Balanced Physician Care and River City Physical Therapy on June 29.

Dr. Sharyl Truty, MD is an integrative/functional medicine & acupuncture physician, board certified in family & sports medicine, and owner of Balanced Physician Care in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Cypress Village celebrates National Senior Health & Fitness Day



Photos courtesy of Cypress Village

Cypress Village residents recently participated in National Senior Health & Fitness Day.

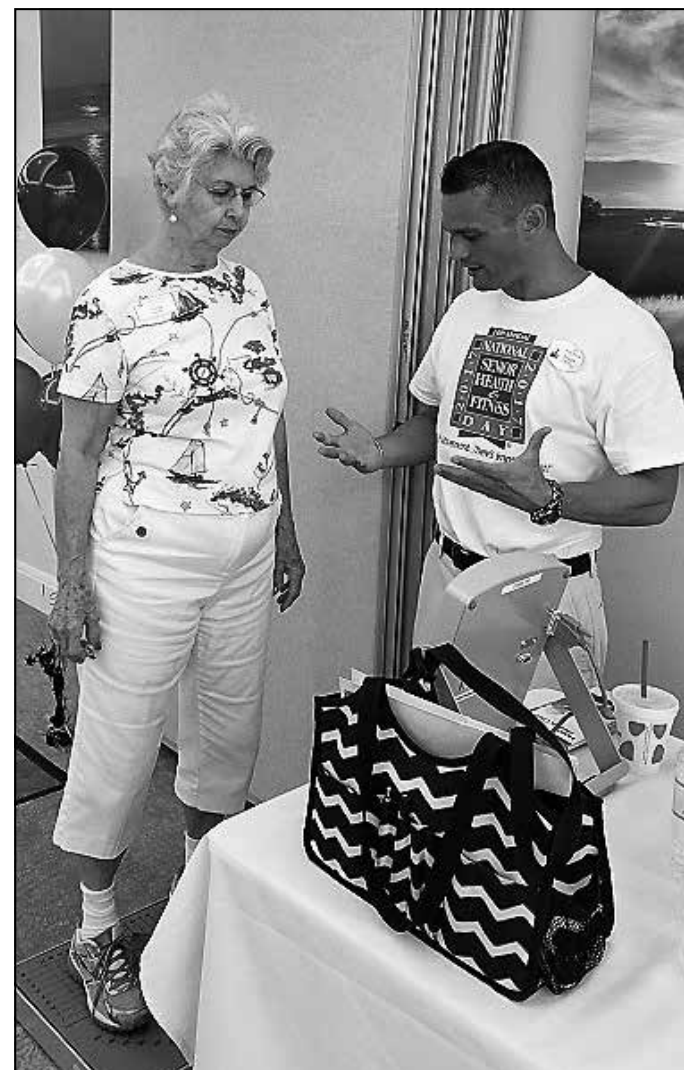
Residents of Brookdale Cypress Village recently participated in National Senior Health & Fitness Day, joining an estimated 100,000 seniors nationwide in special events and activities aimed at helping them stay healthy and active while having fun.

Events at Cypress Village included a variety group exercise demonstrations, a 1K/1mile walking event and other interactive activities and games. One of the most popular events was

the introduction of a new combination exercise and yoga class known as “Sky Styx.” In the “Sky Styx” class, exercises are performed while holding onto a long, lightweight wooden pole with rubber ends used for balance, stretching and more.

A health fair with physicians and other health care professionals, meanwhile, provided information about relevant health topics as well as health screenings.

“Our goals for National Senior Health and Fitness Day were to make exercise fun, to increase awareness of the benefits of a regular exercise program, and to encourage all older adults to take advantage of the many health and fitness programs offered in our community,” said Meredith Lord, health and wellness director for Cypress Village.



Ponte Vedra equipment finance company expects continued growth

By Jon Blauvelt

The founder and CEO of Ponte Vedra Beach-based Navitas Credit Corp. said his goal is to grow the business into a billion-dollar equipment finance company and top 10 industry player in the United States.

“We’re almost halfway there,” said Gary Shivers, whose company has accumulated more than \$400 million in assets since he established it in 2008. “All our existing divisions are growing at 15 to 20 percent per year on their own, and our growth rates are 25 or 30 percent per year.”

With its headquarters located in the Veranda Complex on A1A adjacent to Ruth’s Chris Steak House, Navitas is a non-bank finance firm that provides loans to small and medium-sized businesses to help them finance equipment and working capital.

The business has 140 total employees across its seven U.S. offices, with 40 based in Ponte Vedra. To support its growth, the firm plans to hire an additional 20 to 30 new employees in sales, credit analyst and administrative positions over the next year or so, 80 percent of which would be based in Ponte Vedra.

The company provides financing for businesses across the country, with several of its customers located in Northeast Florida. The firm’s clients come from multiple industries, including trucking and specialty vehicles, food services, healthcare, technology, software and automotive repair. The company is organized into seven different operating divisions that are targeted at different markets.

Shivers said the business’ value proposition is its ability to provide clients with quick access to capital and terms that are more flexible than those established by banks.

“We’re able to make our credit decisions and close our transactions in less than a day,” remarked Shivers. “Our customers can apply online, receive electronic documentation and consummate a loan.”

Shivers refers to his company as a “spread margin” business, meaning the company borrows money at one rate, lends at another rate and gains its profit based on the difference. He added that the firm raises money through accessing the capital and securitization markets and utilizing its bank credit facilities.

According to Shivers, the biggest chal-

lenge for Navitas currently is the rising interest rate environment. With rising rates, he said, the company’s borrowing costs go up, and they sometimes have to pass those costs onto customers, which can lead to the firm’s margins being squeezed. He added that when rates are increasing, however, the overall business environment is typically improving, which can also lead to increased demand for his company’s services.

Mike Santos, the president and CEO of ACI Communications Corp., has been working with Navitas for three to four years. His Jacksonville-based company sells data and voice networks to small and medium-sized businesses, many of which prefer to lease the equipment rather than pay for it up front in cash. As a result, Santos said Navitas provides his customers with an alternative in paying for equipment that can total tens of thousands of dollars. And, he added, the company doesn’t require his customers to place a down payment, which allows them to quickly install the equipment without initially spending a dime.

“They make it easy for customers to

acquire and upgrade their technology,” Santos said.

Prior to founding Navitas, Shivers established and managed two similar financial services companies in New Jersey, with the most recent being Marlin Business Services. After accumulating a significant amount of stock with that company and cashing in a lucrative return, Shivers decided to move to Ponte Vedra, a place he had visited and loved. He was also interested in building another successful company, so Florida’s low taxes made the area an even more attractive destination.

Unfortunately, Navitas kicked off just a few months before the 2008 financial crisis, which Shivers said led to a few years of the company going “sideways.” Then in 2010, he said, Navitas raised its first successful round of capital, and ever since, the business has experienced strong growth.

Navitas has historically grown organically, explained Shivers, as well as through acquisitions of smaller companies. The business is planning to expand its operations to the West Coast by either starting an



Gary Shivers founded Navitas Credit Corp. in 2008.

operation there or acquiring a company in the region that could complement its existing portfolio of assets, he said.

Overall, Navitas has experienced sales growth (including its acquisitions) of more than 300 percent over the past three to four years, receiving recognition as one of the fastest-growing private firms in the country and largest financing companies in its sector.

“Cash is king and very important to a small business customer,” said Shivers. “We love to grow and grow our customer base and reward our investors.”



Navitas Credit Corp. employees gather for a team photo at the company’s Ponte Vedra Beach headquarters.

Photos courtesy of Navitas Credit Corp.

DISTINCTIVE HOMES



Photos courtesy of The Pineapple Corporation

The Pineapple Corporation is now selling homes in The Vista at Twenty Mile.



Two model homes in The Vista at Twenty Mile are under construction and planned to open in late summer 2017.

The Pineapple Corporation now selling homes in The Vista at Twenty Mile

The Pineapple Corporation is now selling homes in the Vista at Twenty Mile, a new gated, luxury home neighborhood of 44 home sites in Nocatee just west of the Intracoastal Waterway.

“We are thrilled to open our sales office in our new Ponte Vedra community,” said Spencer Calvert, president of the Pineapple Corporation. “Our newly designed custom home plans at The Vista at Twenty Mile exemplify architectural excellence, luxurious finishes

and sophisticated building sciences.”

With prices starting in the \$900,000s, homes range in size from 4,150 square feet to more than 5,800 square feet. The Pineapple Corporation is offering five courtyard floor plans for the neighborhood, with each design featuring a choice among three exterior elevations and an expansive portfolio of interior selections and options. Two model homes at The Vista at Twenty Mile are currently under construction and are

planned to open in late summer 2017.

Each of the homes in the neighborhood will feature gourmet kitchens with large islands, spa owner’s baths and attractive outdoor living spaces. The homes, which feature Spanish architecture components, are also designed with Sub Zero and Wolf kitchen appliances, The Pineapple Corporation by Dura Supreme customer cabinetry, solid surface countertops and more.

Residents of The Vista at Twenty

Mile will enjoy the secluded preservation land surrounding the community and easy access to Nocatee’s amenities, Ponte Vedra’s beaches, the Intracoastal Waterway, Jacksonville business centers, shopping at the St. Johns Town Center, St. Augustine’s historic attractions and more. The neighborhood is zoned for St. Johns County School District, including Ocean Palms Elementary School, Landrum Middle School and Nease High School.

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DISTINCTIVE HOMES



Photos courtesy of Markland

Markland sees strong sales increase

Markland had 20 home sales ranging from \$305,000 to \$750,000 in April. Featuring homes priced from \$280,000 and up, Markland offers a variety of home plans from six of the area's premier builders, with five models currently open for tours. Located east of I-95 on International Golf Parkway, the community includes a private enclave of homes coupled with amenities that include swimming, tennis, fitness, neighborhood parks and more.

Linda Sherrer of Berkshire Hathaway said that in April, Northeast Florida only had about 100 days of inventory, yet sales continued to be strong. Given the lack of attractive resale homes available for purchase, Realtors say, some buyers are finding the new home market to be a better match for their housing needs. Terri Bradley-Pa'ala of Dream Finders Homes has met many of the prospective homebuyers visiting Markland.

"People want to live in St. Johns County because of the A-rated schools, new construction and the natural environment," Bradley-Pa'ala said. "The County Road 210 corridor is very active and traffic is increasing every day. Markland is just south and outside of all that traffic, yet still close to everything we need. Our location is really perfect."

Markland is set against a backdrop of thousands of acres of protected preservation forest and features two 15-acre



recreational lakes.

"We bought a home site on the sparkling lake," said Whitney Murray, a current Nocatee resident. "From the moment we drove through the grand entrance gate to Markland with the Manor House in view, we knew we wanted to live here. Only a minute from I-95 and with easy access to US 1,

too, it was welcoming and convenient. We really liked the larger lots on the lake and are thrilled to get a nice piece of property where you are not right on top of your neighbor. We looked at all of the model homes and fell in love with the Cahaba model by Riverside Homes. Tracy Ponto and the Riverside Homes team were a pleasure to

work with. We are looking forward to moving into a more private community and taking advantage of the access to the first-class amenities available for residents."

For more information about Markland, visit www.markland.com.

DISTINCTIVE HOMES



A Drees Homes model in the Woodlands

Photos courtesy of Shearwater



A DS Ware Homes model in the Woodlands

Shearwater celebrates grand opening of the Woodlands

Shearwater, the new master-planned residential community on County Road 210, recently celebrated the grand opening of its first gated neighborhood, the Woodlands.

Dozens of families and individuals toured the newly built home models by D.S. Ware Homes and Drees Homes,

which offer homes ranging in size from 2,850 square feet to 4,000 square feet and starting in the \$400,000s.

The Woodlands features larger, 70- and 80-foot lots, with available natural preserve or lake views. Designed for more than 130 lots, the community has two different access points to Shearwater's

trail network, including a trail that leads to Timberlin Creek Elementary School.

"At Shearwater, we are dedicated to providing homebuyers with a variety of styles and options when it comes to purchasing a home that fits their needs," said Andy Smith, director of the Southeast Division for Freehold Communities,

which is the master developer of Shearwater. "The Woodlands was the perfect opportunity to provide homebuyers with a gated neighborhood experience, while still being part of a larger community and having access to our first-rate, resort-style amenities."

Walking, cycling trails among RiverTown amenities

Miles of walking and bicycling trails on the banks of the St. Johns River are among the healthy-living style amenities that residents enjoy at Mattamy Homes' RiverTown.

"RiverTown is designed to complement an active family lifestyle and the natural beauty of the St. Johns River," said Jason Sessions, vice president of land acquisition and development for Mattamy Homes. "A large portion of RiverTown is dedicated to green space. Our trail system promotes healthy living and connectivity, enhancing the sense of community at RiverTown."

In addition to its trails, the community has a scenic riverfront park for fishing or relaxing by the water, and a kayak launch, offering residents easy access to the river.

The RiverHouse Amenity Center includes a junior-sized Olympic pool and a kid-friendly zero-entry recreational pool with a corkscrew slide. There are three Har-Tru lighted tennis courts, a state-of-the-art fitness center, social clubhouse and play fields. RiverTown also has a full-time social programming director who plans events and activities for residents of all ages.

The RiverClub, the community's upcoming, second amenity center, will be located directly on the St. Johns River and is expected to open in late 2017. A state-of-the-art \$6 million facility, the RiverClub will feature a 5,100 square foot clubhouse, luxurious pool, river boardwalk, children's playground, second kayak launch, event lawn and more.

Located in northwest St. Johns County, RiverTown offers a wide variety of single-family homes ranging in size from 1,700 square feet to more than 3,500 square feet, featuring spacious front porches and covered lanais to enjoy the community's natural setting. More than 30 home designs are available at Rivertown, with prices starting in the \$240,000s.



Photo courtesy of RiverTown

Miles of trails are among the healthy-living style amenities that residents enjoy at Mattamy Homes' RiverTown.




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TRIBUTE TO REALTORS & BUILDERS

Shearwater donates to St. Johns County Schools



Bartram Trail High School



Switzerland Point Middle School

Photos courtesy of Shearwater



Timberlin Creek Elementary School

Shearwater recently presented the proceeds from its Earth Day “5K on the Trails and Fun Run/Walk” to three St. Johns County schools.

Checks were presented to representatives from Timberlin Creek Elementary School, Switzerland Point Middle School and Bartram Trail High School to implement various well-being initiatives for students. As the last day of classes for St. Johns County Public Schools was May 24, each school will have time to utilize the funds prior to the upcoming school year.

“Shearwater is committed to being a good neighbor in St. Johns County and supporting the local school system,” said Dylan Read, Shearwater’s lifestyle director. “We are honored to present these three schools with a donation that will support

students’ health and well-being.”

In April, Shearwater raised more than \$1,300 from its Earth Day 5K and celebration, which had more than 160 runners. Participants ran along Shearwater’s trail network and community pathways, which border natural preserves and habitats. The Earth Day celebration also featured kids’ crafts, various outdoor vendors, craft beer, root beer floats and food trucks.

The Shearwater amenities information center is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Model homes from David Weekley Homes, Lennar, Richmond American Homes and MasterCraft Builder Group are available for tour, along with D.S. Ware Homes and Drees Homes models in Shearwater’s new gated neighborhood, the Woodlands.

The Bailey Group recognized as one of the healthiest companies in Northeast Florida

The Bailey Group has earned the Gold Level Award for 2017’s Healthiest Companies presented by the First Coast Worksite Wellness Council (FCWWC) and the Mayor’s Council on Fitness & Well-Being.

“This is our third year earning this award level, and we are overly grateful for our leadership team’s continued sup-

port of wellness,” said Jaime Sanders, director of health promotion at The Bailey Group. “With their continued support, we have successfully built a culture of health within our organization by offering daily wellness walks, annual on-site screenings with health coaching and monthly fitness center reimbursements, encouraging

our staff to have a work/life balance and offering various wellness initiatives that motivate our staff towards healthy behaviors.”

To earn the recognition, the St. Augustine-based employee benefits firm demonstrated that they have a well-rounded and sustainable workplace wellness program that is a strategic and

integral part of the business. The Bailey Group’s health promotion department, consisting of Sanders, Hanna Chester, Bailey Mullin, Savannah Tinlin and Gabrielle Lobban, accepted the award at a ceremony in May at the University of North Florida.

The FCWWC is an initiative of Healthy Jacksonville 2020.

The mission of the council is to improve the health of the First Coast community by sharing resources and providing guidance to the member businesses. This group was charged with impacting community health through the business community and creating a platform for local businesses to be recognized for excellence in worksite wellness.

TRIBUTE TO REALTORS & BUILDERS



Jim Hoener

Jim Hoener joins Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty

Jim Hoener has joined the Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty.

A Northeast Florida resident for nearly 50 years, Hoener has experienced firsthand the growth and development of Ponte Vedra for the past 37 years. During that time, he has developed many ties to the local community, including being a charter member and past president of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach, past president of the Greater Jacksonville Area USO Council, past president of Sawgrass Country Club, and an elder at Palms Presbyterian Church.

In addition to being a retired naval officer and a small business owner, Hoener has 13 years of experience as a real estate investor and manager. His background will enable Hoener to help clients navigate the fast-paced Northeast Florida real estate market, guiding them through each step of the home buying and selling process.

"I am proud that Jim has joined Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty as an agent," said Kevin Waugaman, broker/manager of the Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office. "His experience in real estate, as well as his insider knowledge of the area and its neighborhoods, is sure to help his clients have smooth and successful real estate transactions. Finding not just a home, but a community, is important, and I am positive that Jim has the knowledge and ability to help his clients find not just their house, but their home."

Pineapple Corp. promotes Johnson, welcomes new team members

The Pineapple Corporation recently promoted Amanda Johnson to director of sales and marketing, and welcomed three new staff members.

Joining the luxury builder's team are Casey Conner as director of construction operations (Design-Build), Steven Mossbrooks as process manager/master scheduler and Karen Darling as controller.

"We are pleased to welcome Casey, Steven and Karen aboard and extremely proud of Amanda and all she has accomplished," said The Pineapple Corporation President Spencer Calvert. "Their respective experiences are a tremendous asset to The Pineapple Corporation as we continue to grow

and expand in Northeast Florida."

Johnson, who joined The Pineapple Corporation in 2014 as controller, was promoted to marketing manager in 2016, followed by a promotion to her current position. She has more than 13 years of experience in the construction industry, including credentials in the management of finance, accounting, and sales and marketing. Johnson earned a master's degree with a concentration in entrepreneurial finance from Jacksonville University and a bachelor's degree in marketing from Florida State University.

Conner is a dynamic construction professional who has extensive experience in quality control and construction science

with an emphasis on design conception implementation. He earned a bachelor's degree in construction management from the University of Florida and is a licensed general contractor. Conner has managed the build of more than 1,500 homes. His expertise includes subcontractor management specifically related to scopes of work and budgets, safety program procurement, warranty programs and overall project management.

Mossbrooks is an expert scheduler, project/program control manager and reporting analyst. He has more than 25 years of experience with project and program management, inspection, CPM schedul-

ing, reporting, forecasting and estimating. Mossbrooks has served in leadership positions within industry leading companies including ExxonMobil and the Army Corps of Engineers.

Darling is a seasoned executive accounting professional and financial manager with experience spanning from Fortune 500 companies to small business management and ownership. She earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from Auburn University and has been involved in professional development leadership throughout her career. Darling's performance history includes significant achievements in cost control and increasing revenue.



Amanda Johnson



Casey Conner



Karen Darling



Steven Mossbrooks

Photos courtesy of The Pineapple Corp.

MOVERS & SHAKERS



THE PLANTATION

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MARSH LANDING

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Clark to represent Northeast Florida Paralegal Association

Kristi Clark, paralegal at The Quick Law Group, has been selected

to serve as the National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA) liaison on the board for the Northeast Florida Paralegal Association (NEFPA). Clark will represent NEFPA at the 2017 NALA Annual Convention held in Orlando in July. She has been a member of NEFPA for three years and she is currently

-serving her second term as a board representative.

St. Augustine Distillery appoints Hannon

Katie Hannon has joined St. Augustine Distillery as the company's new North Florida Market Development Manager. She brings more than a decade of experience in beverage sales to the position. Hannon's responsibilities will include strengthening customer relationships and growing case volume while upholding the company's core values of education, environmental sustainability and a commitment to Florida's agriculture.



IBERIABANK hires Gardner

Carole H. Gardner has joined IBERIABANK as senior vice president, commercial relationship manager for the Jacksonville market. Gardner, who has more than 30 years of private and commercial banking experience, will work with professional firms and middle-market companies to provide working capital, SBA and ABL secured loans, owner-occupied mortgage loans and trade-related lines of credit. She is a graduate of St Johns Junior College and attended the University of Florida.

GARDNER

Anthony named to AIDUIA'S "10 Best" List

The American Institute of DUI/DWI Attorneys ("AIDUIA") has named Malcolm Anthony as one of 2017's "10 Best DUI Attorneys for Client Satisfaction." The AIDUIA is a third-party attorney rating organization that publishes an annual list of the top 10 DUI attorneys in each state. To be selected, attorneys must pass a rigorous selection process involving client and/or peer nominations, research, and AIDUIA's independent evaluation.



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Thacker joins Berkshire Hathaway

Donna Thacker has joined the Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty. Thacker has lived in Northeast Florida for over a decade and has years of experience as a Realtor in St. Johns and Duval counties. She brings to the company with a background in residential sales and luxury properties.



THACKER

Lakeview Health appoints Arnold and Gwaltney

Keith Arnold has joined Lakeview Health as chief marketing officer. Arnold is responsible for overseeing outreach, marketing and alumni services, as well as professionally enhancing the team and community engagement.



ARNOLD

With Arnold on board, Derek Gwalt-

Fidelity Bank hosts chamber event

The Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce hosted a “Before Hours” networking event last week at Fidelity Bank.

Held June 14 at the Fidelity branch

located at 110 A1A North in Ponte Vedra Beach, the event featured continental breakfast and the opportunity to meet and network with other local business and community leaders.



Scott Raines helps Toni Boudreaux select the winner of the Before Hours door prize.



Scott Raines, Toni Boudreaux, Mary Price, Suzanne Brown and Ed Mercel



Photos by Susan Griffin

Katie Rider of Gregory Paul's catering

Oh, my!



Harry Pappas
Columnist

By Harry Pappas

“Oh, my!” The trademark exclamation coined by Dick Enberg, one of the most prominent and respected play-by-play sports announcers in network television history, is a good way to express what happened in the financial markets since Donald Trump won the presidential election. Since the presidential election, the S&P 500 is up 11.4 percent excluding dividends (as of 4/28/2017),

and the Dow is now over 20,000 (as of 04/28/2017)! This so-called “Trump Rally,” just like the entire 2009-2016 bull market, which pushed up stocks more than 200 percent, has, of course, its detractors. As my favorite bean counter (economist) Brian Wesbury says, “We heard it over and over in the past eight years, and now we hear it again – the market has moved too far, too fast. This rally, they say is based on ‘Hope and Faith.’ After all, nothing has changed yet. It is just dreaming.”

While I understand the doubter’s position, my response is that instead of asking why the market is up, we should be asking why it was not rising much more before. Do you remember January of 2016, which I refer to as the Great Panic

of 2016? During the first two weeks of that year the stock market, measured by the S&P 500 index, declined 8 percent. This decrease was the first time we were down that much that early in the year in over three decades! Furthermore, many “head-for-the-hills” doomsayers masquerading as sophisticated investment analysts were predicting an alarming scenario that called for a repeat of 2008. They wanted us to think the unthinkable. As Charlie Brown would say, we were doomed.

Of course, these pouting pundits of pessimism were wrong once again, but as we know, it is only a matter of time before we have another decline, perhaps of 5 percent or more. Therefore, we should always be prepared so that when the messenger of misery pays us a visit, we will not hit the panic button because we understand that volatility and stock market declines are the prices we must pay to earn above average returns. History has clearly taught us that periodic crises are inevitable, but recovery has always followed. Consequently, I am mentally and financially prepared for adverse stocks market conditions because they are normal and expected. If we cannot wrap our mind around the notion of periodic gut-wrenching declines, I suggest that we wave the white flag and surrender our involvement with the game of investing. As difficult as it is, we must have perseverance and self-control during the inevitable stock market declines.

Allow me to conclude this column by sharing with you a thought provoking and encouraging analysis performed by the highly respectable firms Morningstar Direct and Ibbotson. According to the authors, from 1965 to 2014 when the S&P 500 (stock market) declined more than 10 percent but less than 20 percent, the mean time for the market to recover from its losses has been only 107 days, or shorter than an NFL season, which always seems to go by far too quickly.

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Movers & Shakers

Continued from 28

ney, Lakeview's senior vice president of outreach and marketing, will transition into the executive vice president of national accounts position. In his national accounts role, Gwaltney will partner with Fortune 500 companies, professional organizations and managed care groups to bring addiction treatment resources to their employees.



TILLMAN

Tillman receives Blossom award

Flagler College student Amber Tillman has been awarded the Women's Food Alliance "Blossom" award. Created in memory of member Karin Sufalko, the

award recognizes junior members working in the hospitality industry. Blossom recipients must display a warm, positive attitude; professionalism; gracious service; proficient communication skills and a well-kept appearance. Tillman is a server at St. Augustine's Marsh Creek Country Club and is the first ever recipient of the award.

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Coastal Wine Market marks first anniversary with free wine tasting

Hundreds of local wine enthusiasts flocked to Coastal Wine Market & tasting room Saturday to mark the Nocatee shop's first anniversary.

Owners Steve and Shaun Lourie offered a free wine tasting from 6 to 8 p.m. to mark their first year in business. The event also featured a chance to sample some of the shop's gourmet meats and cheeses and enter a raffle to win a magnum of Veuve

Clicquot.

"We are so grateful to have met so many amazing people along the way and greatly appreciate all of the incredible support you have shown us," the Louries wrote on the Coastal Wine Market Facebook page following Saturday's celebration. "We are so proud to be a part of the Nocatee Community and very much look forward to year #2!"



James Sole, Felicia Cox, Kim Sole and Mel Cox



Leslie Ladd, Emily Jenkins and Hope Higginbotham



Photos by Susan Griffin

Shaun and Steve Lourie celebrate the first anniversary of their shop, Coastal Wine Market & tasting room, located at 641 Crosswater Parkway in Nocatee.



Michele and Kelly Alford



"The Legends of Wine" Steve Lourie, Allen Horne and Manuel Rey

Raising an Olympian: Ponte Vedra parents share their efforts to support son Ryan Murphy's dream of Olympic gold

By Jennifer Logue

When Ryan Murphy was 7 years old, he wrote a book for a school assignment at Ponte Vedra's Palmer Catholic Academy. The title: "My Swimming Life."

Complete with hand-drawn illustrations, the book described Ryan's love of swimming and concluded with, "I hope my swimming life continues and I become an Olympian when I grow up. I hope I will break the world records. I want to be the best swimmer in the world."

Ryan's parents, Patrick and Katy Murphy, displayed that book last week during a presentation to the Rotary Club of Ponte

Vedra Beach. The Murphys were on hand to attest to the fact that, just as he hoped, their son became an Olympic swimmer, winning three gold medals at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio and breaking the world record in the 100-meter backstroke.

"It's so cool that Ryan's dream came to fruition," Patrick Murphy said.

The Murphys shared stories about their efforts to support their son's love for and dedication to the sport of swimming — including traveling for meets and driving him to early-morning practices at The Bolles School.

"I had my alarm set for 4:28 (a.m.) for the longest time," Patrick said.

At the same time, the Murphys worked hard to ensure that their two older children didn't resent their younger brother's athletic prowess. That became more of a challenge, they said, when Ryan began beating his older brother in swim competitions.

"We tried as parents to always support each child based on their needs at that moment and be advocates for them," Katy Murphy said.

As a result, Ryan's siblings have supported and celebrated his accomplish-

ments.

"Shannon and Patrick are Ryan's biggest fans," Patrick said, "and that was really helpful through this whole process."

Now that Ryan has graduated from the University of California-Berkeley and become a professional swimmer, the Murphys no longer have to set the alarm for 4:28. But they have no regrets for the time they invested in nurturing their son's dream.

"It was a heck of a commitment," Patrick said, "but we wouldn't change a thing."



Photos by Jennifer Logue

Katy Murphy displays the book her son, Olympic Gold Medalist Ryan Murphy, wrote at age 7 while a student at Ponte Vedra's Palmer Catholic Academy.



Patrick Murphy displays one of the three gold medals his son won at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio.



Recorder file photo by Jon Blauvelt

Olympic Gold Medalist Ryan Murphy addresses students at The Bolles School last fall.

Cincinnati Reds draft former Shark Ricky Karcher

By Jim Moyes

Special to the Recorder

Former Ponte Vedra High School pitcher Ricky Karcher was drafted in the 13th round (377th pick) by the Cincinnati Reds.

Karcher had a 3-1 career record at PVHS in 24 innings pitched and an ERA of 2.07. His best performance in a Shark uniform was a 1-0 complete

game shutout performance against State Runner-up Clay High School during the 2014 season. In 2015, he transferred from Ponte Vedra to Saline (Michigan) High School.

The Sharks were a pitching factory from 2010-14, with many of their pitchers going on to play collegiate and professional ball. These included Max Foody from 2010, a draft pick of the St. Louis Cardinals; Elliot Warford, a 2011

grad who starred at Furman University and the current pitching coach at Ponte Vedra High; Matt Deegen (2013), who signed a D1 tender with College of Charleston; and Bryan Yelverton (2013), who played college ball at Georgia Southern

Walker Sheller (2013), the winning pitcher in the 2013 state championship game (and semi-final win over nationally ranked Tampa Jesuit), played at

Stetson and is currently pitching in organized ball for Lexington in the Kansas City organization. Jackson Johnson (2014) became the starting left fielder for Tulane in his freshman year before incurring a career-ending arm injury the following season — he now plays basketball for the Tulane basketball team — while Evan Heffner (2014) and Anthony Egelin (2014) also pitched in college at the D2 level.



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

Jacksonville Jaguars quarterback Blake Bortles (right) helps a camper in the water.

Children with autism learn to surf at 10th annual camp

By Jon Blauvelt

A group of local children with autism had a chance to experience the fun of surfing this week, as a number of local organizations came together to host the 10th annual Riding the Wave of Autism Surf Camp.

Nearly 30 children participated in the camp, which was held June 19 and 20 at Neptune Beach and organized by the HEAL Foundation (Healing Every Autistic Life) in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach. Approximately 50 volunteers, including employees from Sunrise Surf Shop and other members of the local surf community, attended each day to help with the camp. Jacksonville Jaguars quarterback Blake Bortles even made a special appearance to assist the group's efforts in the water.

The camp provides participants with the opportunity to surf, paddleboard, kayak and boogie board. The kids receive individual guidance and support from the instructors, many of whom have been volunteering at the camp since its inception. Joe Matacia, the camp's volunteer coordinator, has been working with an autistic and blind boy named Max for 10 years. At each camp, Matacia said, Max makes marked improvements, picking up right where he left off the previous year.

"It was like he was on a wave with you five minutes ago," said Matacia. "These kids love the ocean. The camp gives them an opportunity they may not have every day."

HEAL Foundation Founder Leslie Weed echoed Matacia's comments, saying the camp provides the families and kids with a unique experience.



A camper smiles as he rides a wave toward the shore.

"Watching the parents see their child accomplish something and to be able to cheer them on...it's very wonderful," said Weed. "The surfing community is a good pairing for the kids with autism because surfers are laid back. They love sharing being in the water."

Founded in 2004, the HEAL Foundation is a nonprofit organization that supports organizations serving those with autism spectrum disorders. The organization has awarded nearly \$2 million dollars in grants since its inception to help provide summer camps, sports leagues, support groups, educational enhancements (iPads for classrooms), educational seminars, recreational and social events, service dogs and more.



Two campers ride tandem on their surf board.



Max, a camp participant for the past 10 years, jets towards the shore after catching a long wave.



Volunteers Mary Brownley, Jim Tranter, Tanner Boyles, Sefton Tranter and Liam Toal



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

Volunteers Carlos DelValle, Oliver and Archie Jenkins and Richard Hana

KEEPING UP

By Barbara Boxleitner

Special to Ponte Vedra Recorder

Brooke Barlow is bringing her share of post-season softball honors to her next college.

The Bartram Trail High School graduate signed in May to continue her career at University of Central Florida.

The first baseman completed her second year at College of Central Florida by being named to the National Fastpitch Coaches Association National Junior College Athletic Association Division I All-South Region first team.

She also was selected for the Florida College System Activities Association All-state and All-

Mid-Florida Conference first teams.

Named the school's Female Athlete of the Year at the athletics awards banquet, Barlow batted .441 in 56 games. She hit nine home runs and drove in 56 runs, tied for second on the squad.

Barlow had a .990 fielding percentage in 292 chances, the second most on the squad. She leaves the junior college program as its all-time RBI leader, with 163 in two years.

Women's golf

August Kim opened her professional career at the Four Winds Invitational of the Symetra Tour. The Purdue University graduate, who competed for Allen D. Nease, shot a 216 (72-71-73) to tie for 15th. She earned \$2,034.

Women's outdoor track and field

University of North Carolina sophomore

Nicole Greene was named to the All-Atlantic Coast Conference first team in the high jump after placing second at the conference championship. The Ponte Vedra High alumnus cleared 5 feet, 11 1/2 inches.

Baseball

College of Central Florida freshman outfielder **Blake Marabell** is an All-Mid-Florida Conference second-team selection. The former Bear batted .328 in 51 games. He led the team with 20 doubles and three triples. He had seven home runs and 35 RBIs, both second on the squad.

Men's golf

Previously at Bartram Trail, LaGrange College senior **Logan Lanier** is the men's recipient of the USA South Atlantic Conference Don Scalf Award, which recognizes the conference's top student-athlete. This year Lanier was a first-year All-American and the Jack Nicklaus National Division III Player of the Year. Among his other honors, he was recognized as LaGrange's top male student-athlete.

Send updates about area athletes to Barbara Boxleitner at jdanddoc@gmail.com.



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OBITUARIES



BINNS

Clifford James Binns

Mr. Clifford James Binns, surrounded by his family, died quietly on June 5, 2017. Cliff was 87 years old.

Faithful husband to his loving bride Jane of 58 years, wonderful brother, loving father

of five, special uncle to seven nieces and nephews, grandfather, and a super grandfather (Papa) to 10 remarkable grandchildren: Such is the prelude of the proud legacy of Clifford James Binns, born Oct. 24, 1929, and gone to God June 5, 2017.

Just "a skinny kid from Inwood, New York," Cliff, known to his older brother as "Ace," was a stickball-loving, Yankee-rooting youth, living just eight subway stops from "the house that Ruth built." Sworn enemy of the Boston Red Sox, Cliff's favorite Yankee was Joltin' Joe DiMaggio since DiMaggio played with heart and class. Having enlisted in the Korean War and rising to the rank of staff sergeant, Cliff served four years, and much later wore his Korean veteran cap with unassuming, patriotic Air Force pride. Many an occasion—sitting in Andiamo's restaurant, having a dinner for six paid for by a perfect stranger on Veterans Day, or walking through the hallways of a Disney resort—Americans shook his hand and thanked him for his service. Cliff maintained relationships with many of his Air Force brothers throughout his life, which gave him much joy.

An intellectual at heart, Cliff voraciously read all genres of books (usually three at a time), The New York Times, The Florida Times-Union, and several sports, golf, variety and news magazines—if he was your teammate playing Trivial Pursuit, you always won. Moreover, his love and service to his community remained paramount, serving in various capacities including several homeowners associations both in Ponte Vedra Beach and Dix Hills, New York. A crucial member of the vestry at Saint Laurence of Canterbury Episcopal Church in South Huntington, New York, Cliff enjoyed serving his church and will be remembered for providing strong council and wise leadership. Cliff was also an active member of Christ Episcopal Church in Ponte Vedra Beach during Reverend Jim Cooper's tenure.

Aside from Cliff's most passionate love, reading, his retired years revolved around family visits, his grandkids, domestic and European vacations, weekly trips to the Ponte Vedra library, and rounds of competitive golf at Oak Bridge Country Club, scoring a hole-in-one on its third hole at 80 years young. Cliff was an active Tuesday and Thursday golfer in the men's league for over 30 years, playing the game he loved for seven decades. And as is his character, he never stopped searching for the perfect swing. His last golf game was six weeks ago. Many friendships and happy memories resulted from his years of golf. In his later

years, Cliff thoroughly enjoyed his weekly bridge games with his players and partners, as well as exercising at the YMCA.

Cliff was a first generation American whose mother hailed from London and whose father came from the British West Indies, eventually settling in Manhattan. His parents always instilled in him a sense of caring and compassion for others. It was during his time growing up in Inwood that he would become a movie buff. He saw all the great movies (The Plainsman and Gunga Din his favorites) many times, and always had exciting stories of his own times growing up on Dyckman Street. Cliff was a great storyteller and always had a new joke that was sure to make you laugh. As his brother-in-law John notes: "Thankfully, we have a treasure trove of stories about Cliff growing up in Manhattan, about memorable Yankee games, about his successful career at Exxon (then Esso at the time), and of course the trials of raising five children while seeking to maintain his and his devoted wife's sanity. Cliff was interesting to people because he was interested in people. He asked a million questions but was sincerely interested in your answers to all of them. He lived his long life in accordance with the Judeo-Christian ethic."

Cliff passed away quietly after a short illness. He will be remembered for his closing remarks in greeting cards, which says so much about him: "Love and kindness, Cliff." He will indeed be remembered as a devoted husband, father, brother, grandfather, and family man, as well as a quick witted, business savvy, politically minded, and voracious reader...the patriarch of his family. Cliff was devoted to his family, his church and to his country, and served them all with distinction.

A memorial service was held Tuesday, June 20, at Christ Episcopal Church in Ponte Vedra Beach. Military honors were rendered. Refreshments followed at Christ Church Parish Hall.

Condolences can be sent to 105 Poseidon Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, 32082. In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations to Wounded Warriors Project or the Ponte Vedra Beach Public Library.

Cliff is survived by his wife, Jane; his brother, Ted (Pamela and Robin); and his children and grandchildren, Craig; Beth Ann and her husband Jeff (Carson, Brin, Aidan); Allison and her husband Keith (Amy, Elly, Claire); Todd and his wife Lisa (Riley and Tanner); and Scott (Colin, Ethan). Cliff is also survived by sisters-in-law Jill and her husband John Schwartz (Jennifer, Jim, Beth, Kristen); Mary Ann and her husband Paul Hayes (Joanne); and Joyce Binns.


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AHRENS

Conrad Frederick Ahrens

Conrad Frederick Ahrens, 90, of Ponte Vedra Beach, died June 14, 2017. He was born Jan. 23, 1927, and was the son of Elizabeth and Frederick Ahrens.

He grew up on Long Island and graduated from Port Jefferson High School in 1944. A week later, he entered the U.S. Army and served in the Pacific Theater. After his service, he attended Syracuse University, where he played lacrosse and was a member of Delta Upsilon. Conrad was cadet commander for the ROTC unit and entered the Air Force in 1951. After he graduated from flight school, he joined the 74th Fighter Squadron and served in Maine and Thule, Greenland.

After completing his service, he was accepted into the management training program at the First National City Bank of New York. He obtained his law degree from New York University in June 1959. After serving in many positions at Citibank both here and abroad, he retired as a senior vice president in 1979. He immediately was named president of the Depository Trust Company of New York and served until 1992. Conrad was a trustee of Elfun Trusts, a director of Cologne Life Re Company and Cologne Re Company of America and was a trustee of Syracuse University.

Since retirement, he had lived in Ponte Vedra Beach with his deeply beloved wife, Sandra. The couple traveled the world on many cruises and enjoyed hiking and vacations in North Carolina, where they had a summer home in Cashiers. They enjoyed golf and croquet, plus shooting clays. He was a member of Wade Hampton Golf Club, the Chattooga Club, the Plantation Club, Ponte Vedra Inn and Club, the Ponte Vedra Croquet Club and the Siwanoy Country Club in Bronxville, New York.

Along with his wife Sandra of 27 years, Conrad is survived by his sister, Matt Trope; nephews, Jamie Trope and John Ahrens; nieces, Suzanne Gullledge and Cindy Trope. He is predeceased by his brother, Peter Trope.

The family is very grateful to his wonderful caregivers from Brooks Rehab and Community Hospice.

A memorial service will be held Thursday, June 22 at Palms Presbyterian Church of Jacksonville Beach.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Palms Presbyterian Church or Community Hospice of NE Florida.

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Kellon Neal Wilson

Kellon Neal Wilson, 21, of Ponte Vedra Beach, died June 10, 2017, as a result of a motor vehicle crash on Interstate 10. He was born July 13, 1995, in Ponte Vedra Beach, the son of Linda and Jeff Wilson. He attended Ocean Palms Elementary School, Landrum Middle School and graduated from Ponte Vedra High School in 2013, where he was a member of the men's basketball team and served as captain his senior year. He was finishing up classes at Florida State University where he was studying meteorology.

Kellon played many sports throughout his childhood both competitively and with friends, and was most well-known for his love of basketball. From physical education classes at Landrum and PV, to travel teams, high school teams and more, he was always on the court with a ball in his hands. Many friends at FSU relied on him for tutoring, as a gym or rock climbing buddy, and of course, for his quick wit and great sense of humor.

Kellon is survived by his parents, Linda and Jeff of Ponte Vedra, and his sister, Olivia, currently living in Los Angeles. He also leaves his paternal grandmother, Jane Burdette, and many close friends, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Arthur D. Dague

Arthur D. Dague, 92, died Wednesday, June 14, 2017, in Ponte Vedra Beach. He was predeceased by his beloved wife of 56 years, Emilie. They lived in New York City; Bogota, Colombia; Mexico City; and Southport, Connecticut, before moving to Ponte Vedra Beach in 1991. Mr. Dague was regional director and vice president of Westinghouse Electric International Company.

He is survived by his daughter, Susan Dague; his son, Arthur Dague, Jr. (Laura); and two grandchildren, Nikolas and Olivia.

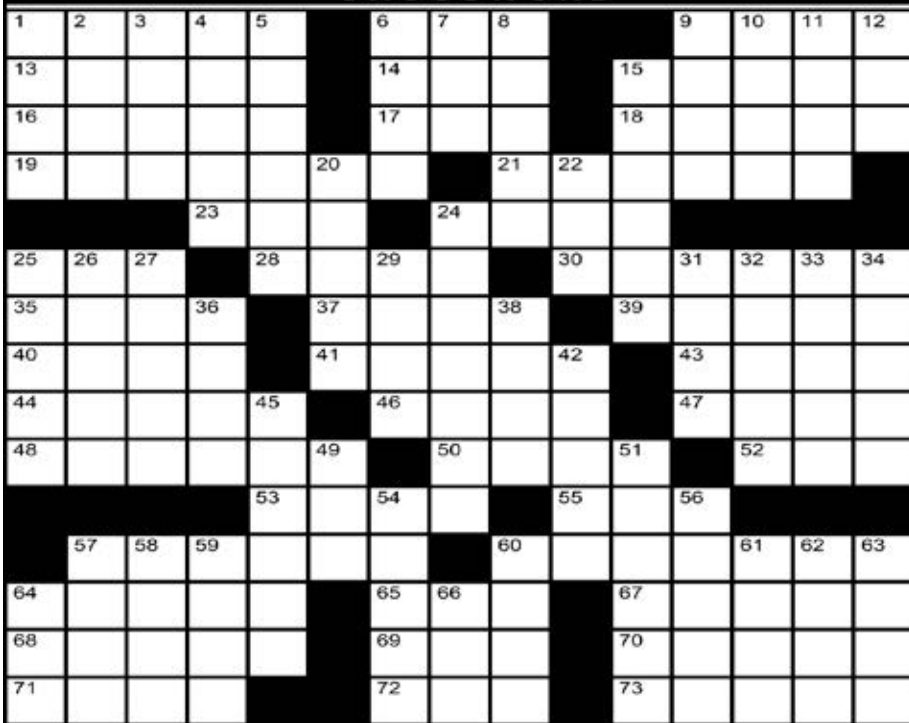

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ACROSS

1. Like Catherine or Peter, in Russia
6. Norwegian band of "Take on Me" fame
9. "I call first ____!"
13. "Home on the ____"
14. Charlie Parker's style of jazz
15. Comedian Silverman
16. Not upright
17. Greek H
18. Acrobat maker
19. *Like the July 4th holiday
21. *Pre-state state
23. Thanksgiving tuber
24. Hold as a conviction
25. Ides mo.
28. Expunge
30. Catching like a cowboy
35. ____ 'n' Andy
37. Trash containers, e.g.
39. Of war and sea?
40. It wasn't built in a day
41. Happily ever when?
43. Car with a bar
44. Loud noise
46. Dublin land
47. Lecherous look
48. Lampoon
50. Pouches
52. Not sweet, as in wine
53. Plant anchor
55. Brown truck

57. *Traditional July 4th meal
60. *Fire ____
64. Filthy dough
65. Bird word
67. Tee off
68. Enclose in a recess
69. Big coffee server
70. Dine at home
71. Shakespeare's metrical unit
72. Hi- ____
73. Type of wheat

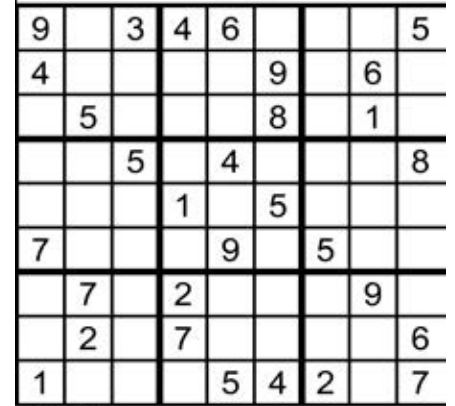
DOWN

1. Tennis' Steffi
2. Denote as "PG," e.g.
3. Children's author Blyton
4. "The best laid schemes o' mice an' men gang aft ____"
5. Foursome
6. Cain's brother
7. *Like a dog
8. Rapidly
9. Type of cabinetry joint
10. De-wrinkler
11. "Rosemary's ____"
12. Anything female
15. Omega 3 source
20. Naked protozoa
22. "____ the fields we go"
24. ADA member
25. Jacobs and Anthony, e.g.
26. ____ or a spy
27. * ____ candle
29. * ____ Liberty
- and the pursuit of

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- Happiness"
31. ____ Mall, London
32. Like a Harvard building?
33. Name-chooser
34. *Old ____
36. Seal with a kiss and do this
38. Plural of serum
42. Happen again
45. Patient's bed
49. Interesting person, acronym
51. Queen of these
54. Happen
56. Junk yard stuff
57. Wild feline
58. Ballistic missile acronym
59. Dungeness, e.g.
60. Flipside of pros
61. Flying toy
62. Reagan's reference to Russian "empire"
63. As opposed to own
64. Hula girl's flower
66. Metal-bearing rock

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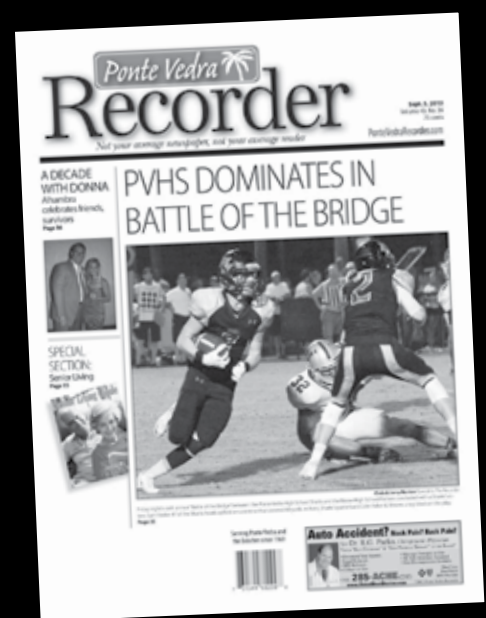
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