

Ponte Vedra Recorder

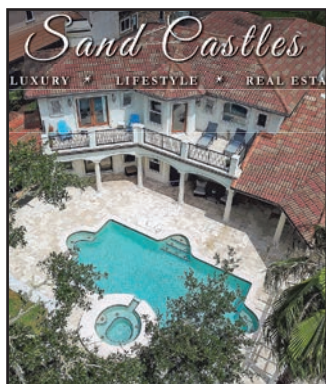
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October 26, 2017
Volume 47, No. 43
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PonteVedraRecorder.com



Breast Cancer Awareness Month



SAND CASTLES

Pages 13-36



Here's to Healthcare

INSIDE

THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP



\$8.7 MILLION FOR CHARITIES



Photos courtesy of the PGA Tour

The 2017 PLAYERS Championship raised a record \$8.7 million for area charities. *Read more on page 4.*

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Send us your news

We welcome submissions of photos, stories, columns and letters to the editor. Let us know what's happening.

E-mail submissions to pvrecorder@opcfla.com

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



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Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

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WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

Email your answer to jonb@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.

Seven readers correctly identified last week's photo as the Berry & Co. Real Estate sign. Good job, everyone! The winner of the random drawing was **Bridget Neddo**. Congratulations, Bridget – you may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during normal business hours.



ADOPT A PET

CAT OF THE WEEK

My name is Daisy, and I am 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 me today here at the pet center! #40150



DOG OF THE WEEK

My name is Brutus, and I am a 2-year-old male dog who is looking for a new home. 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 me today here at the pet center! #40101



Any new pet being introduced to a new home will need time to adjust to its 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 Road off U.S. 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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Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach executive director announces retirement

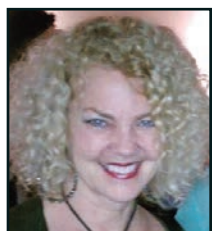
Judy Hixenbaugh recently announced that she will be retiring at the end of the month from her position as executive director of the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. Latitia (Tish) Sheesley will replace Hixenbaugh as the new executive director effective Nov. 1.

“It’s been an honor and a privilege to serve as the executive director of the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach,” Hixenbaugh said. “I’ve had the opportunity to work closely with our amazing and talented staff and board of directors, combined with the unyielding support from our generous community.

“Together, we have continued to grow our core arts programs and have begun planning for an expansion of our arts center in the near future,” she added.

Hixenbaugh began her career with the Cultural Center eight years ago as the director of development. Under her leadership, the Cultural Center introduced the PVB Home and Art Tour, now one of the largest and most profitable fundraisers for the organization.

Three years ago, Hixenbaugh was promoted to the executive director position following the retirement of Dick Williams.



Judy Hixenbaugh



Tish Sheesley

During Hixenbaugh’s tenure, the tuition enrollment set new records; the sound connections music therapy outreach program for children with special needs expanded from one elementary school to four and fundraising events grew popular enough for larger venues.

Hixenbaugh has been involved with community and board leaders to expand the Cultural Center from its current 7,800-square foot facility to a state-of-the-art, 15,000-square foot arts center. Hixenbaugh plans to remain active with the Cultural Center following her retirement. She will participate in the steering committee for the new building, and she has been invited to join the board of directors in 2018.

Sheesley, Hixenbaugh’s successor, has over 30 years of experience in nonprofit

leadership. She comes to Ponte Vedra from a state-and-county-designated local arts agency in Southwest Florida where she served as the executive director and was responsible for providing leadership and direction of the county’s cultural assets.

Sheesley has experience working with city, county, tourism development and chamber of commerce representatives, as well as local businesses and community organizations on fundraisers, cultural arts

programming and opportunities for artists, including art walks and other arts festivals.

Sheesley’s community involvement included being a county commissioner appointee to the Tourism Development Advisory Board; sitting on the “Alive After 5 Art Walk” committee and serving as missions director of the Susan G. Komen SW Florida organization. She is a graduate of University of Central Florida with a Bachelor of Arts in advertising/public relations.

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Missi Howell | 904.716.1713
MissiHowell@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



KENSINGTON
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Beautiful lakefront home in the upscale Kensington community. This 4 bedroom home offers a formal living & dining room, great room with fireplace, kitchen with large breakfast bar, stainless steel appliances & solid surface countertops, large back porch & hardwood floors throughout. MLS 888148

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\$289,900

Fabulous home in the heart of TPC Sawgrass! Enjoy the updated kitchen, bathrooms, hardwood floors, lights & great views from this 2 bedroom, 2 bath home. A portion of the garage has been converted to include inside laundry & a 3rd room, & the roof was replaced in 2012. MLS 905081

Rhonda Gummerman | 904.994.1721
RGummerman@WatsonRealtyCorp.com

2017 PLAYERS Championship raises record amount for local charities

By Samantha Logue

While last year THE PLAYERS Championship raised a then-record total of \$8.5 million for more than 300 Northeast Florida charities, it was announced on Tuesday, Oct. 17, that the 2017 tournament had surpassed that amount for a total of \$8.7 million.

The announcement was made at THE PLAYERS Charity Celebration, which was held at the famed 17th hole of THE PLAYERS Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass. Part of the organization's annual Giving Back month, the celebration honored the philanthropic work of those charities that benefit from the tournament. After guests had the opportunity to enjoy food and drinks, the record-breaking amount was announced and displayed on a scoreboard for all to see.

"The impact of THE PLAYERS on the Northeast Florida community is why nearly 2,000 volunteers put in tireless hours each year," said Kevin English, 2017 tournament chairman. "It was my privilege to serve as the 2017 tournament chairman, and I am ecstatic to see that we generated a record \$8.7 million for charity through this incredible tournament."



Photo by Samantha Logue

Vice-chair of Players Services Scot Winter (left) and 2016 Tournament Chairman Michele McManamon present Ponte Vedra High School Principal Fred Oberkehr with \$37,750 as part of THE PLAYERS' annual Giving Back events.

The day following the announcement, past tournament chairmen – also known as "Red Coats" – dispersed throughout the Northeast Florida community to surprise 21 local charities with funds generated by this year's tournament. One recipient was Ponte Vedra High School, which was presented with a check for \$37,750.

"I'm just thrilled," said Ponte Vedra High School Principal Fred Oberkehr upon receiving the news. "There is so much community support around here, and it's not just from the community, it is the community. The kids here go above and beyond the call of duty in every shape, form and fashion, so I think this is

not only a testament to what THE PLAYERS does, but it's also a testament to Ponte Vedra Beach, our community and our high school students."

Last year, the Ponte Vedra High School Booster Club raised a total of \$32,750 through THE PLAYERS' Chip In For Youth program, which allows local youth-related organizations to sell discounted PLAYERS tickets, with half of the proceeds going back to those organizations. Since the program's inception in 2011, the booster club has raised a total of \$154,345.

Including this year's record amount, THE PLAYERS has raised more than \$92 million for charities since the event was moved to Ponte Vedra Beach in 1977. Other organizations to benefit from the 2017 tournament included Angelwood, Dreams Come True, the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach and more.

"It's an honor and a pleasure to be able to hand out these checks," said 2016 Tournament Chairman Michele McManamon, who presented the check to Ponte Vedra High. "Ponte Vedra High School and the other charities are very special to our community, and overall, being a part of this organization is a blessing."

SenioRITAs take center stage in fight against breast cancer

By Paris Moulden

Almost 300 women from across the country came out to compete in the SenioRITAs tennis tournament last weekend (Oct. 20-22) at the Sawgrass Country Club to benefit breast cancer research.

The tournament, in its 18th year, was the first women's tennis tournament in Northeast Florida. All proceeds from the event go to breast cancer research at Mayo Clinic and to Baptist Medical Center Beaches for patient services.

"Last year we made a little over \$100,000, and I think we're going to do even better this year," said Karen Aaro, co-chair of the SenioRITAs. "We're an all-volunteer committee of 33 people, so all the proceeds go to research. We have very little overhead."

The RITA (Research is the Answer) Foundation is a Jacksonville-based nonprofit, and 21 years ago, Charles Jantz started the RITA women's tennis tournament to help raise money for local breast cancer research programs. Sawgrass member Mary Pappas decided

to create the SenioRITAs tournament, which is open to women age 40 and above.

"It levels the playing field," said Aaro, who also competed in the tournament.

Planning for the tennis tournament began in April, and it's just the finale of a busy Breast Cancer Awareness Month event schedule for the SenioRITAs. The group also held a kick-off party attended by more than 200 people on Oct. 3 at Pussers, and held live and silent auctions on Oct. 18, at Sawgrass.

For many of the women participating in the SenioRITAs tennis tournament, however, the cause took on a personal meaning.

"There are many survivors out there playing," Aaro said. "There are many people who lost a loved one, and they're out there playing for them. It touches so many people at this point that we all know somebody or have had a personal experience with breast cancer."

For more information on the SenioRITAs and the organization's events, go to www.the-rita-foundation.org/senioritas, or visit the SenioRITAs Facebook page.



ABOVE: Women compete in a doubles match at the SenioRITAs tennis tournament Friday, Oct. 20.



LEFT: Pink flags line the walkway during the SenioRITAs tennis tournament at Sawgrass. The flags had names written on them in honor of breast cancer survivors and those lost to breast cancer.

Photos by Paris Moulden

Ponte Vedra Beach pageant queen wants all girls to feel like royalty

By Samantha Logue

An avid beach-goer and volleyball player with a heart for charity, 17-year-old Olivia Fonville was recently selected as Miss Ponte Vedra Beach Teen USA 2018. In December, she will go on to compete for the title of Miss Florida Teen USA, but until then, this pageant queen is determined to help other girls feel like royalty, too.

A senior at the Providence School of Jacksonville, Fonville understands the many pressures of being a teenage girl. Partnering with the Stay Gorgeous Girls organization, which is a nonprofit that aims to build girls' confidence, Fonville founded Livie's Closet to help those less fortunate than herself.

"I collect prom and cocktail dresses and then donate them to the Stay Gorgeous Girls organization to give out to the girls who come to their events and who can't afford those things," Fonville



Photo courtesy of Olivia Fonville

Miss Ponte Vedra Beach Teen USA 2018
Olivia Fonville

said. "They have events where speakers come and help build up girls' confidence and teach them what true beauty is. The girls all get one free dress when they

come to the event, and it's so awesome to have them for a day and to teach them, love on them and give them a dress."

Fonville hopes that other girls will join in her efforts by donating dresses to her cause. With permission, she hopes to set up collection boxes at local schools so that girls can bring in their dresses for her to pick up.

As part of the Miss Universe organization, the Miss Teen USA competition encourages young women to make a positive impact on their communities. As she moves forward in the selection process, Fonville intends to continue using her platform to affect change.

"When you have a title and you have all those connections, then you have an opportunity to actually get something done," she said. "I hope to spread this platform, and trying to make a difference in the community as Miss Teen USA would be great."

Ponte Vedra YMCA Kids Triathlon a success

More than 25 children between ages 5-13 years participated in the Kids Triathlon—a swim, bike and run event—hosted by the Ponte Vedra YMCA on Saturday, Oct. 14.

The swim took place in the Ponte Vedra YMCA pool, the bike event took place in the local neighborhoods and the run took place at the Landrum track.

Proceeds from the race will help support children's swim programs, summer camps and after-school programs.

The next race is at the Brooks Family YMCA on Sunday, Nov. 12. For more information on the Ponte Vedra YMCA and its events, call (904) 543-9622, ext. 104, or visit FirstCoastYMCA.org.



ABOVE: Devon, Ty and Kobe Clark wear their medals after competing in the Kids Triathlon for the Ponte Vedra YMCA.



LEFT: Race organizer Gina Eubanks and triathlon training coach and Ponte Vedra YMCA Healthy Living Director Erin Dankworth

Photos courtesy of the Ponte Vedra YMCA



Santos Letourneau celebrates with his family after the race.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

All of us at Mission House would like to sincerely thank the Beaches community for all your prayers and concern over the incident that took place here at Mission House. We especially want to thank Chief Pat Dooley of the JBPD and his officers who responded within four minutes of the incident.

On Friday, Oct. 13, an unknown gunman came into the outside patio and after approximately 45 minutes shot and wounded two of our homeless clients. The JBPD caught the shooter approximately 30 minutes later in a nearby surf shop. The two wounded have been released from the hospital.

Mission House has been in cooperation with Jacksonville Beach officials, and NO staff or volunteers of Mission House were harmed. Mayor Charlie Latham was also present and gave staff incredible support by assuring a chaplain was present for any of the staff, volunteers or clients.

I also want to thank the staff for their quick thinking and professionalism during the entire event. They kept a cool head and assisted volunteers, clients and the police. I am very, very proud of them. It is sad that this extreme type of violence has affected Mission House as we have never had an incident like this in the seven years I have been executive director. We feel this is an isolated incident. We have put additional security measures in place to assure that we continue to remain the safe home for our clients to come and receive assistance.

Safety is and has always been our No. 1 priority at Mission House. Safety of clients, volunteers and staff. We depend on our community to assist us in helping those dealing with homelessness regain their independence. We have assisted 58 people obtain a home this year and could not have done that without the support of our faithful and generous supporters and volunteers. We will continue to be the answer for those needing assistance and thank all for their support during this difficult time.

Lori Delgado Anderson
Executive Director, Mission House

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John Mitsis is a senior financial advisor, vice president and retirement benefits consultant with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management in Ponte Veda Beach. Mitsis was recently named to the Financial Times' "Top 401 Retirement Advisers" list for the second time.

John Mitsis

By Jon Blauvelt

Can you please briefly tell us about your background?

I am originally from Chicago. I am a first-generation American. Both of my parents were born in Greece and immigrated to the United States. My family moved to Florida more than 30 years ago, and I have lived in the First Coast area since 1999. Both of my children were born here, and this is home. I graduated from the University of Florida with a BSBA (Bachelor of Science in business administration), and I received my MBA from the University of Florida with a specialization in finance. I live in Ponte Veda Beach with my wife, Shirin, and my two daughters, Magdalene and Alexandria.

What are your primary roles and responsibilities as vice president and retirement benefits consultant?

Our main objective and focus as a team is to help make financial lives better. Defined contribution arrangements, primarily 401(k) and profit-sharing plans, are essential retirement savings vehicles for American workers. While these plans are extremely valuable benefits for employees, from the plan sponsor's perspective, they can be complex and time-consuming to manage. Making a defined contribution plan work for employees requires good plan design, administration, communication and education.

Our approach is simple, transparent and supported by industry-leading investment guidance. We perform a thorough needs assessment and plan evaluation; we take an objective approach to plan design and implementation; we develop a communications strategy that encourages enrollment and helps employees get the most out of their retirement plan and we coordinate and conduct education meetings to help drive financial wellness.

You recently received recognition from the Financial Times. Can you please tell us about that and what that means to you?

This is a career milestone for me. The Financial Times' "Top 401 Retirement Advisers" is a roundup of the top 401k advisors in the country, and I feel blessed to be nominated, let alone recognized. My fellow advisors are focused and dedicated to the corporate retirement plan marketplace, and I am happy to be listed amongst them for the second time. I was recognized on the Financial Times' inaugural "Top 401 Retirement Advisers" list in 2015.

According to the Financial Times, the list is a roundup of top professionals who specialize in advising on US employers' contribution plans. The FT 401 is based on data gathered from financial advisors, regulatory disclosures and the FT's research. The listing reflects each advisor's status in seven primary areas, including Defined Contribution (DC) plan assets under management, growth in DC plan business, specialization in DC plan business and other factors.



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

What inspired you to pursue a career as a retirement advisor?

My inspiration comes from my family. Both of my parents came to United States as immigrants looking for a better life, to realize the American Dream. When I think about the courage it took to leave everything you have ever known for the promise of a better life for you and your future family, I am incredibly motivated. In realizing their American Dream, my parents became small business owners. I witnessed trials and tribulations of owning several different service-based companies. I have a keen understanding of the unique struggles that business owners face. The entrepreneurial spirit that was engrained in me by my parents is why I have chosen to focus on working with business owners within the financial services industry.

What's the best piece of advice you could give someone regarding retirement planning, trust and estate planning?

The hardest part of any financial planning is taking the initial first step. We talk to business owners, CEOs, CFOs and their employees every day about starting the process. One of my sayings is that if you "fail to plan ... you plan to fail."

What do you enjoy most about living in Ponte Veda?

The initial reaction is the beach or some of the best golf courses in the world. I have always said that if we are going to live in Florida, we should take advantage of it. We live in paradise, and we should enjoy it every day. In addition, Ponte Veda is a fantastic place to raise a family. We have great schools, great community programs and a true sense of community and pride that comes from living at the beach. I feel that this is shaping my daughters' vision of their own American Dream.

To watch a video portion of the interview, visit pontevedrarecorder.com and click One of Us.

CHECK OUT THE WEEKLY WRAP-UP

The Ponte Vedra Recorder's Weekly Wrap-up is a quick podcast-like review of the week's most important stories. Hosted by Benjamin Naim, the wrap-up is the best way to stay connected with the latest news in less than 10 minutes. New episodes appear Fridays on www.PonteVedraRecorder.com. Click the "Weekly Wrap-up" tab on the top menu to access the archive.



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Thursday, Oct. 26	Friday, Oct. 27	Saturday, Oct. 28	Sunday, Oct. 29
<p>Yoga for Survivors The Y Healthy Living Center at the Ponte Vedra YMCA will host a "Yoga for Survivors" class Oct. 26 at 11:30 a.m. Cancer patients, survivors, caregivers and others with range of motion and pain limitations are invited to join in this gentle and safe yoga practice, which is free and open to the public. Call (904) 202-5376 or visit www.baptistjax.com/ymca to reserve a spot. The Ponte Vedra YMCA is located at 170 Landrum Lane.</p> <p>Team Halloween Charity Fundraiser Party for a cause at Hope at Hand's Team Halloween Charity Fundraiser set to take place at Hyperion Brewing, located at 1740 N. Main St. in Jacksonville from 7 to 10 p.m. This event will feature costume contests, music provided by DJ Kamren and more. The cost to participate is \$50 per person (price includes two complimentary drink tickets) or \$150 for a group of four. You must be 21 or older to participate; all proceeds will support the poetry mission of Hope at Hand. To purchase tickets, visit EventBrite.com and search for "Team Halloween Charity Fundraiser" or contact Destiny@HopeAtHand.org.</p> <p>'LinkedIn Online' UF Adjunct lecturer and author Dr. Priscilla Berry will host this presentation Oct. 26 from 9 a.m. to noon at Christ Episcopal Church's Parish Center Conference Room (second-floor). Guests are encouraged to bring laptops or tablets and copies of resumes to begin sketching a LinkedIn summary. To RSVP, email Pam Ottesen at pottesen66@gmail.com. The Parish Center Conference Room is located at 400 San Juan Drive at Solana Road E. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Deana Carter at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, located at 1050 A1A N., will present country pop artist Deana Carter with guest Sweet Tea Trio live in concert Oct. 26 at 8 p.m. (Doors open at 7.). Admission ranges from \$44 to \$75; visit www.pvconcerthall.com to purchase tickets.</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 in Ponte Vedra Beach. Taste six wines for \$10. For more information, call (904) 395-3520.</p> <p>Cannon firing demonstrations at Castillo de San Marcos National Parks Service volunteers and personnel demonstrate a cannon firing at the Castillo de San Marcos museum/monument every Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Rangers and volunteers demonstrate the weapons and relate the experiences of the colonial Spanish soldier of 1740s St. Augustine. Firing times are subject to change depending on weather conditions and staff availability. Castillo de San Marcos is located at 1 S. Castillo Drive in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Haunted Trail Collage Day School will host a Haunted Trail Oct. 27 through 30. Winding through the woodlands on the school's 8-acre campus, guests will encounter Halloween tricks and treats designed to create a fun experience for all ages. Guests under 13 and their parents can enjoy a hayride along the trail, treats, characters and more from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Guests 13 and up can enjoy a scarier version of the Haunted Trail from 7 to 9 p.m. Visit www.eventbrite.com and search for "Haunted Trail" to purchase tickets. Contact info@collagedayschool.org or call (904) 900-1439 for more information.</p> <p>Free exercise program THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center in Ponte Vedra is partnering with the Arthritis Foundation to provide a free exercise program on Wednesdays and Fridays through Dec. 1 from 2 to 3 p.m. The class will feature a low-impact workout proven to reduce pain and decrease stiffness, and gentle range-of-motion exercises suitable for all fitness levels and abilities. Call (904) 280-3233 to reserve a spot. The PLAYERS Community Senior Center is located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra.</p>	<p>Garage sale and mini farmer's market The Women's Missionary Union of Palm Valley Baptist Church at 4890 Palm Valley Road will host a garage sale and mini farmers market Oct. 28 from 8 a.m. to noon. All proceeds will go to the Florida State Mission Offering. Call (904) 285-2447 or visit www.palmvalley-baptistchurch.org for more information.</p> <p>Virginia Collage Spooktacular Virginia College in Jacksonville will host a Halloween Spooktacular Oct. 28 from noon to 2 p.m. on campus located at 5940 Beach Blvd. The event is free and open to the public. It will feature refreshments, face painting, a costume contest, music, trick-or-treating, a bounce house, pumpkin decorating and more. All attendees can win prize giveaways such as Amazon gift cards. For more information about Virginia College in Jacksonville, visit vc.edu/jacksonville.</p> <p>'Boo-lievers' carnival St. Paul AME Church in St. Augustine will host a "Boo-lievers" Carnival Oct. 28 from 5 to 7 p.m. The event will feature hay rides and more carnival fun. Attendees are encouraged to wear God-centered costumes. For more information, call (904) 829-3918 or visit www.saintpaulfamily.com. The carnival, to be held at 85 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., is free and open to the public.</p> <p>Halloween trip aboard Pirate Ship Black Raven Enjoy a haunted evening on The Pirate Ship Black Raven during the Halloween season. There will be two ghost trips aboard the ship Oct. 27-28; the 6:15 p.m. trip is for families and the 8:15 p.m. trip is for adults only. Both trips will feature a Halloween costume contest. Admission is \$34.95 for the family trip, \$24.95 for youth ages 3-12 and \$29.95 for the adult trip. The Pirate Ship Black Raven departs from the St. Augustine Municipal Marina, located at 111 Avenida Menendez. Visit www.blackravenadventures.com for more information.</p>	<p>Pink Out Sunday St. Paul AME Church is promoting a "Pink Out Sunday" worship service Oct. 29 at 10:45 a.m. Church service attendants will be asked to wear pink to commemorate breast cancer awareness month. For more information, call (904) 829-3918 or visit www.saintpaulfamily.com. St. Paul AME Church is located at 85 M. L. King Ave. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>'Opera's Most Haunting Melodies' First Coast Opera will present "Opera's Most Haunting Melodies" Oct. 29 at 4 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall (gates open at 3). This concert will feature music from gypsies, phantoms, "mad" scenes and a séance, as well as many of the most iconic ensembles from opera. The program is not intended to frighten, but to inspire and uplift. The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Jazz Jam The St. Augustine Jazz Society's monthly Jazz Jam, to be held on the last Sunday of each month (except December), will take place Oct. 28 from 2 to 5 p.m. at Royal St. Augustine Golf Club (301 Royal St. Augustine Parkway). The event will feature live music, dancing and drinks. Visit www.staugjazzsociety.org for more information. Admission costs \$7 for non-members and \$5 for members.</p> <p>Save Ponte Vedra Beach meeting Save Ponte Vedra Beach is a group committed to restoring and preserving the community's beaches. Members plan to present a joint solution for beach preservation. The group will hold a meeting at Sawgrass Country Club Oct. 29 at 3 p.m. to review its action plan and answer questions from Ponte Vedra locals. Guests should inform security they are attending the beach restoration meeting to be let through.</p> <p>International exchange opportunities CISV Jacksonville Chapter will reveal its 2018 international exchange opportunities at the Davis College of Business at Jacksonville University Oct. 29 at 4 p.m. Jacksonville University is located at 2800 University Blvd N.</p>

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Monday, Oct. 30	Tuesday, Oct. 31	Wednesday, Nov. 1	Thursday, Nov. 2
<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>Alzheimer's Association Caregiver College session This is an interactive workshop hosted by the Alzheimer's Association in which participants will discuss tips for caregivers on what they need to know, what they need to plan and more. All programs will be held at noon on Mondays through Oct. 30 at the Ponte Vedra Memory Center located at 1048 A1A N. Call (800) 272-3900 to RSVP. Seats are limited.</p> <p>Pumpkin Patch Lord of Life Lutheran Church's pumpkin patch, located at 276 Roscoe Blvd. N., is open Monday to Friday from 2 p.m. to dusk; Saturdays from 9 a.m. to dusk; and Sundays from 11 a.m. to dusk. It will be available through Oct. 31 while pumpkins last.</p> <p>'Jigsaw' showing at IMAX theater "Jigsaw" is about a mysterious madman who rounds up a group of victims to play sadistic games of life and death. Police soon find evidence that link the crimes to Jigsaw, the infamous killer who died 10 years earlier. This film is showing at 2, 4:30, 7 and 9:30 p.m. at the IMAX theater at the World Golf Hall of Fame.</p> <p>Kids spooky crafts Prepare for Halloween with spooky crafts at the St. Johns County Public Library's Southeast Branch. All supplies will be provided by the Friends of the Library, and several prepared crafts will be available. This event will take place Oct. 30 from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. at 6670 U.S. 1 S. in St. Augustine.</p>	<p>Prenatal Yoga Prenatal Yoga, taking place from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Y Healthy Living Center at 170 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach, is a class for women to empower themselves through yoga, meditation and guided visualization. This approach is gentle and safe for women in all stages of pregnancy. Interested participants should bring a yoga mat, towel and water to class. There is a \$13 entrance fee per attendee. Call (904) 202-5376 or visit baptistjax.com/hlc to register.</p> <p>Free Admission at Cummer Museum Every Tuesday, the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens offers visitors free admission to its galleries and gardens through its "Florida Blue Free Tuesday" promotion. The Cummer Museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Family fitness and running club Join the St. Johns County Library's fitness and running club for kids, teens and their guardians Oct. 31 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Ms. Akilah will lead warm-ups, running and a kid-friendly work out. Water will be provided by the Friends of the Library; attendees should wear comfortable clothing and appropriate shoes. St. Johns County Library's Southeast Branch is located at 6670 US 1 S. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Anastasia Baptist Church fall festival Anastasia Baptist Church, located at 1650 A1A S. in St. Augustine, will host a fall festival at its campus from 6 to 8 p.m. The event will feature trunks with treats, fun jumps, games and more. Admission is free.</p> <p>Jacksonville Zoo Spooktacular The Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens will present its 30th annual Spooktacular Oct. 27-31. Children and adults are encouraged to dress up in their favorite family-friendly costumes to enjoy trick-or-treating, music, dancing and optional scare zones. The zoo will be open each night from 6:30 to 10 p.m., with ticket sales ending at 9 p.m. To purchase tickets in advance, visit spooktacular.jacksonvillezoo.org. The Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens is located at 370 Zoo Pkwy.</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 help attendees improve public speaking and gain leadership skills. The senior center is located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach. Email Lucy Reep at lucyreep@gmail.com for additional information.</p> <p>Free seminar for veterans at funeral home Robert W. Breuer will be conducting a seminar Nov. 1 at the Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home at 3600 3rd St. S. in Jacksonville Beach. Guests will learn about the Veterans Burial Benefits Program, which shaves thousands of dollars off burial or cremation expenses.</p> <p>'Penumbra: The Space between Light and Dark' Experience this exhibition showcasing the work of Julianne French, Debra Mixon Holliday and Masha Sardari at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach, located at 50 Executive Way. The exhibition includes many mediums, such as photography, monochrome transfers and print making. Admission is free. The gallery is open Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.</p> <p>Erica Courtney visits Underwood's Jewelers Erica Courtney will be visiting Underwood's Jewelers in San Marco and Ponte Vedra Beach to present her entire jewelry line to the public. She will also be taking private appointments for those interested. Courtney is based in Los Angeles and caters to celebrities such as Jessica Alba, Julia Roberts and Sandra Bullock. The first event will take place Nov. 1 at Underwood's San Marco, located at 2044 San Marco Blvd. in Jacksonville. Call (904) 398-9741 for more information. The second event will take place Nov. 2 at Underwood's Ponte Vedra, located at 330 A1A N., Suite 204 in Ponte Vedra Beach. Call (904) 280-1202 for more information.</p>	<p>Yoga for Survivors The Y Healthy Living Center at the Ponte Vedra YMCA will host a "Yoga for Survivors" class Nov. 2 at 11:30 a.m. Cancer patients, survivors, caregivers and others with range of motion and pain limitations are invited to join in this gentle and safe yoga practice, which is free and open to the public. Call (904) 202-5376 or visit www.baptistjax.com/ymca to reserve a spot. The Ponte Vedra YMCA is located at 170 Landrum Lane.</p> <p>Episcopal School of Jacksonville Fine Arts Department presents 'The Wiz' A beloved Broadway gem, "The Wiz" infuses L. Frank Baum's "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" with a mix of rock, gospel and soul music. This timeless tale of Dorothy's adventures through the land of Oz is a family-friendly, fun and modern musical. "The Wiz" will be shown Nov. 2 and 3 at 7 p.m. and Nov. 4 at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and senior citizens; purchase tickets at www.esj.org/fine-arts/events-tickets/fine-arts-event-tickets.</p> <p>'Easy Rider' at the Corazon Cinema and Cafe "Easy Rider," a film about two counterculture bikers who travel from Los Angeles to New Orleans in search of America, will be playing at the Corazon Cinema and Cafe Nov. 2 at noon as a part of "Throwback Thursday."</p> <p>Cummer Beaches lecture series: Women artists of the 18th Century Cummer Beaches and the Beaches Museum & History Park will partner for a lecture series entitled "Women Artists from the Renaissance to Abstract Expressionism" by Cummer Museum Director of Education Lynn Norris. This event will take place Nov. 2 from 6 to 8 p.m. Contact Wendy Mayle at wmayle@cummuseum.org or (904) 899-6007 for more information.</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 recorderintern@opcfcla.com, post online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com using the automated form or call (904) 686-3939.</p>



BOOK SALE

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Seymour's book store is located inside the Ponte Vedra Library, 101 Library Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach

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FALL FESTIVITIES ABOUND AT FARMERS MARKET

Fall was all around at the Nocatee Farmers Market last Saturday, Oct. 21, as residents enjoyed hayrides and built their own scarecrows at Nocatee Town Center. The day also featured local band, Who Rescued Who, as well as a Blessing of the Animals ceremony offered by St. Francis in-the-Field Episcopal Church. As is the case at every farmers market, over 70 local vendors also offered items such as organic produce, herbs, spices, unique foods, crafts, jewelry and more. The next farmers market is Saturday, Nov. 18, and the theme of the event is "Pet Lovers Day," offering visitors the opportunity to watch performances by the world-famous Disc-Connected K9 Frisbee Dog. Local pet adoptions and special pet vendors will also be incorporated into the event.

Photo by Samantha Logue

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GWEN BERLIN CELEBRATES NOCATEE STORE GRAND OPENING



Photo by Ed Johnson

Alexis Alexander, Anita Kelly, Blair Landry and Gwen Berlin celebrate the grand opening of the new Gwen Berlin store at Nocatee Town Center Thursday, Oct. 19. Located on Capital Green Drive southeast of Publix, the women's boutique raffled off a pair of Humanity jeans and offered all-day giveaways, discounts, goodie bags and snacks at the grand opening event. Visit <https://shopgwenberlin.com/> for more about the business.

COASTAL WINE MARKET HOLDS 'MEET THE WINEMAKER' EVENT



Photo by Ed Johnson

Coastal Wine Market (CWM) & Tasting Room co-owner Steve Lourie stands with Lisa Peju of Peju Province Winery (Rutherford, California), who was the featured guest for CWM's "Meet the Winemaker" event on Thursday, Oct. 19. Peju signed bottles of her highly esteemed wine, and attendees of the event enjoyed a tasting, as well as the opportunity to buy the wine at a discounted price.

BICYCLES ETC. OPENS DOORS IN NOCATEE

Owner Michael Scarbrough and sales associate Riley Peters pose for a photo in their newly opened Bicycles ETC. at Nocatee Town Center. The store "soft opened" about three weeks ago and held its grand opening event last weekend. The business is located on Capital Green Drive, just southeast of Publix, and offers bicycles (ranging from kids' bikes to fast road racers), parts and accessories, as well as repair services and rentals. For more information on the business, visit <http://bicyclesetc.net>.

Photo by Jon Blauvelt



OBITUARIES

James McElroy

James E. McElroy wore many hats throughout his 80 years, but the gift he shared in all aspects of his life was his ability to teach, encourage and inspire others. At 5 feet 5 inches, Jim was usually one of the smallest in the crowd, but what he lacked in physical stature, Jim made up for in heart.

From his early days in Hancock and Sidney, New York, where he competed in sports, to serving as a jungle warfare survival instructor in the U.S. Marine Corps, Jim McElroy was a natural leader of men. His tenacity and unwavering optimism helped him lead a platoon of Marines at age 19 and later lead the Ithaca College football team as quarterback. His capacity to uplift those around him and to inspire with his words and actions ensured success in many aspects of his life.

The man known as Chip, Jimmy Mac, Hondo, Dad and Papa, left an indelible impression on his students at Liverpool High School as the head football coach and physical education teacher. His ability to motivate made him an instant success with Ryan Homes in Atlanta, Georgia, and then at Arvida Corporation, where as vice president of construction, he helped build Sawgrass into the thriving community it is today. Unfortunately, this success was followed by the most challenging time in Jim's life. He emerged from that painful time with humble gratitude and a raw honesty about his own shortcomings that is hard to find. Jim used his own experiences to mentor countless teenagers during his time as the director of the Nancy Reagan TPC Village Rehabilitation Center. He was selfless in his commitment to helping others. There's no doubt his impact on the Jacksonville recovery community will live on long after his departure from this world.

Jim had the uncanny ability to make a friend wherever he went. He developed meaningful relationships in every stage of his life, starting with his boyhood to Cascadilla Prep, University of Southern Mississippi, Adirondack



James McElroy

Woodcraft Camp, Syracuse and Ponte Vedra Beach. They were like a second family to him. During his 40 years of living in Ponte Vedra, he was dubbed the "mayor" for his outgoing, uplifting personality.

All those who loved him knew Jim possessed a remarkable ability to weave words into a compelling story. His storytelling ability eventually led to the fulfillment of a lifetime dream to publish a novel. His book, "The Tampa Kid," embodied many of his own life lessons: the underdog overcoming and finding a spiritual and meaningful solution to the challenges of life.

Those lessons undoubtedly helped Jim to have meaningful relationships with his adult children and through the final stage of his life. He faced a litany of diagnoses, but he faced them with dignity, courage and grace. Instead of complaining, he focused on brightening the days of those around him. On Aug. 26, 2017, he joined his first-born grandson Trenton McElroy in heaven. He leaves behind his sons and daughters-in-law, Steven and Leigh Anne McElroy and Robb and Isabella; his daughter and son-in-law, Laura and Jeff Fenske; and his grandchildren Luke, Blake, Drew, Lindsey, Chloe and Morgan. He is also survived by his sister and brother-in-law, Mary and Quentin Beagle and their three children Liz, Jeffrey, John and his wife Chris. Jim loved his family dearly and was immensely proud of his three children and grandchildren.

OBITUARIES continues on Page 37

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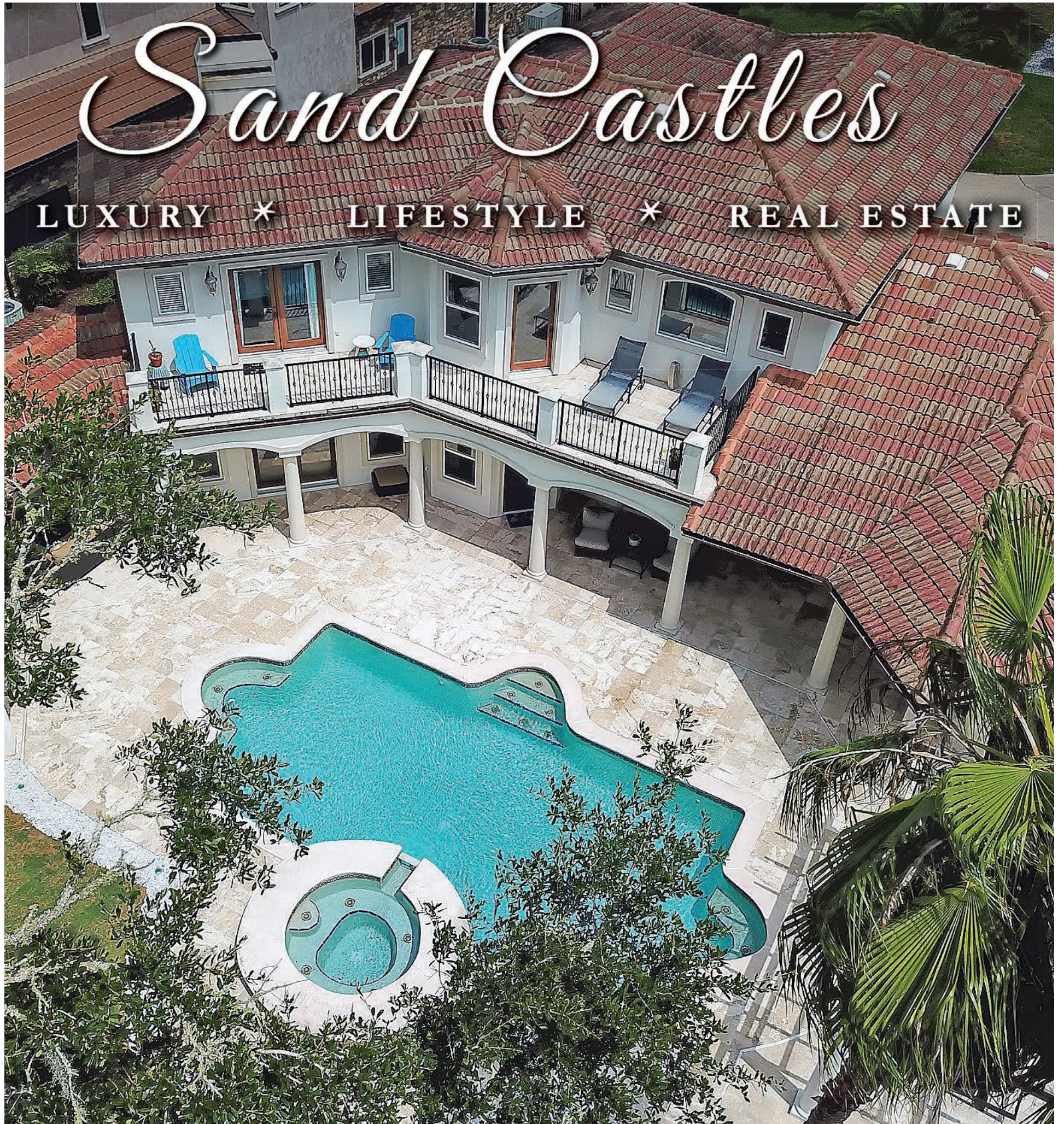
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Sand Castles

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OCTOBER 26, 2017 • SPECIAL SECTION

Ponte Vedra 

Recorder

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

- TWO INSURANCE TIPS TO BEAR IN MIND FOLLOWING HURRICANE IRMA
- MARSH LANDING HOME OFFERS ONE-OF-A-KIND EXPERIENCE
- A GRAND EUROPEAN ADVENTURE

Welcome to the fall issue of Sand Castles



By Janet Westling
Contributing Editor

Welcome to our fall issue and our fourth anniversary edition of Sand Castles—a luxury, lifestyle and real estate seasonal publication.

Our fall weather has finally arrived and after weathering Irma, we look forward to welcoming our Georgia neighbors to Jacksonville and our beaches.

Since 1915, the Florida/Georgia game—sometimes referred to as the biggest outdoor party—has been played, and since 1933, Jacksonville has been proud to host the successful event. Many fans arrive early to this destination game, with our hotels and resorts filled to capacity. Georgia is our No. 1 feeder state for real

estate and while we may be rivals on the field, off the field Georgians enjoy our restaurants, beautiful beaches and lifestyle!

Also in this issue, our market watch written by RE/MAX WaterMarke broker Tami Glover delves into the current market after the hurricane. In addition, Billy Wagner from Brightway Insurance shares some great information in his article, “Two insurance tips to bear in mind following Hurricane Irma.”

All indicators point to a continuing healthy market, and in this issue, several of our top real estate agents in the area share their stories about their distinctive properties currently for sale. Mortgage broker David Johnson also writes about the housing market and the effect that more mortgages have on sales.

Our First Coast is a wonderful place to live and is filled with caring people, wonderful foundations and fundraisers that are changing lives and helping others! In this

issue, Judi Zitiello tells the story of her successful foundation with a cause close to her heart. We also hear about the Red Shield Ball benefitting the Salvation Army and the rescheduled Delicious Destinations benefitting St. Vincent’s Foundation.

Watson real estate agent Babs Bowler writes about her grand European adventure from Budapest to Amsterdam on a Viking River Cruise that she took this past summer.

Sharon Leahy, a realtor with Berkshire Hathaway, is interviewed about her other career as an artist and her most influential mentor — Pierre Matisse, the grandson of Matisse!

I spent a recent weekend in New York with my daughter and granddaughter with her Ponte Vedra APEX Theatre group. I share some of our adventures in one of my favorite cities!

While it is always wonderful to travel, when I land in Jacksonville I am always

happy to return to Ponte Vedra Beach, “Florida’s best kept secret!”

Not a secret anymore is the recent unveiling of EvenTide, a soon-to-be beautiful community in the heart of Ponte Vedra Beach. GreenPointe Holdings’ new venture marketed with Berkshire Hathaway is an exceptional, intimate enclave of 23 estate-sized home sites just steps from the beach!

Our home is our castle, and at the beaches, it is our castle in the sand. From palm trees to sand dunes and golf courses to resort living, Jacksonville, Ponte Vedra Beach and the Beaches communities offer the most desirable living in Northeast Florida!

Janet Westling, Realtor, GRI, CIPS
Berkshire Hathaway Homeservices Florida
Network Realty

Sand Castles creator and contributing editor www.janetwestling.com

MARKET WATCH Post-hurricane observations

By Tami Glover
RE/MAX WaterMarke

Listed by Forbes and Trulia as No. 1 on the top 10 most promising real estate markets for 2017, Jacksonville is a can’t miss opportunity for families and savvy investors alike.

Not only is Jacksonville the largest land-based city in the continental U.S., it has a vast selection of employment prospects as well. Boasting a nearly 4 percent job growth rate increase in 2016 alone, the city has the opportunity, space and infrastructure to thrive not only throughout 2017 but into the future as well.

Having endured two major hurricanes in two years (Matthew and Irma), Jacksonville has shown its resilience with massive community cleanup efforts. The real estate market has continued to operate steadily, with only minor delays in daily operations. Understandably, the sellers and homebuyers, both in and out of town, have undergone renovations and yard maintenance procedures such as tree removal, fence paneling replacement, roof repairs, etc. However, real estate transactions have moved forward despite short delays for updated appraisals and inspections from the storm.

Low inventory continues to dominate the market, with so many new jobs available and so few families electing to leave such a beautiful city. This is an enormous boon to sellers as we see prices continue to rise, leading to multiple offers and even larger increase in price.

However, there is no such thing as a perfect market. There has been a recent trend with appraisals coming in under value, which has forced agents to rene-



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

gotiate sales prices. Though this trend has appeared as of late, homes continue to sell for a greater price and at a quicker pace. As owner/broker of RE/MAX WaterMarke, I believe this is the perfect environment to prepare your home to sell. Whether it be minor repairs from the storm or general home renovations, the

housing and workforce demand are making Jacksonville one of the hottest tickets around. Many of us anticipate increased sales in both November and December, as there will be higher than normal closing activity due to the delays caused by the storm.

All of this, plus the continued benefit

of low-interest rates, have created an environment that is conducive to both home buying and selling. With plenty of well-priced luxury homes and no shortage of people looking to buy them, the future of the real estate market in Jacksonville is as bright as the sun on any beautiful day here in the city.



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Separate spacious adults lounge and separate large playroom, which could also be used as a dining room if preferred. Good sized laundry room and large garage with new electric door. Plot extended via land purchased from neighbor, resulting in an unusually large yard space which has undergone stunning landscaping. Minutes walk to the beach.

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Information: 904-417-5555

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PV2-LV43930

Two insurance tips to bear in mind following Irma



By Billy Wagner
Brightway Insurance

It has been a month since Hurricane Irma struck, with Ponte Vedra Beach making headlines with images of homes devastated by the massive storm. While much of the

cleanup is behind us, reminders such as debris that lines our streets and shorelines remain.

Whether or not you suffered damage, Irma served up a good reminder of why it's important to understand what your homeowner's policy covers and what it doesn't.

In the days following Irma, I saw many heartbreaking losses that I want to do everything I can to protect my friends and neighbors from experiencing. Here are two things to think about now to ensure you don't suffer incredible loss at the hands of a hurricane.

First, while your homeowner's policy probably covers water damage from household mishaps like burst pipes, sump, sewer backup or an overflowing bathtub, it doesn't cover damage to your home caused by floods.

And in Hurricane Irma, we saw areas of our town flood that had never before experienced one. This is why everyone (not just those in mandatory flood zones) needs flood insurance. When you talk with your insurance agent about flood insurance, pay



The Brightway Insurance, Ponte Vedra Beach team

Photo courtesy of Billy Wagner

attention to the limits of coverage. Flood policies through the National Flood Insurance Program, for example, have limits of \$250,000. If you carry \$400,000 in Coverage A (the amount the insurance company will pay to replace your home) and your flood policy has limits of \$250,000, you'll either be out \$150,000 in the event of a total loss of your home, or you'll need to buy an "excess flood" policy to cover the difference.

The great news? Both flood and excess flood policies are very affordable, and relative to a \$400,000 or even a \$150,000 out-of-pocket cost, are great investments

to make to ensure your peace of mind.

Second, while a typical Florida homeowner's policy does cover damage from hurricanes, a hurricane deductible on a standard homeowner's policy is 2 percent of your Coverage A (dwelling replacement cost). Therefore, if you've chosen a Coverage A amount of \$400,000 and you suffered damage caused by the hurricane, your hurricane deductible would be \$8,000. This means you would pay \$8,000 before your insurance company would begin to pay on the covered loss.

There are a couple of solutions to this. You can now buy a policy with a hurri-

cane deductible as low as \$500 from some carriers.

Or, you can buy a policy that covers your deductible amount in the event of a covered loss. This is a brand new product on the market called Cat4Home, and the policies cost as little as \$141 per year.

If you haven't done so already post-Irma, please take a minute to review your current homeowner's and flood policies. You'll be glad you did.

Billy Wagner owns Brightway Insurance stores in Ponte Vedra Beach and Deland. He is one of Brightway's top-selling agents in the U.S.

More mortgages keep housing market booming



By David Johnson
Ameris Bank

Mortgage standards have been loosening during the second half of 2017. Creditors are more willing to offer borrowers slack, with the average borrower credit score dropping

from 742 earlier this year to 725 on refinance and purchase transactions. One recent example of loosening mortgage guidelines that affects us happened in July with one of the two Government Sponsored Enterprises (GSE), Freddie Mac. Freddie eliminated maximum income standards for its 97 percent loan to value purchase product in Federal Disaster Declaration areas, including Ponte Vedra Beach. The goal was to offer a loan program that allowed high income, first-time homebuyers a low down payment option to spur more sales in the Hurricane Matthew affected areas. At the time, we didn't realize our city would become the victim of another damaging hurricane called Irma.

However, I believe the ongoing loosening

of mortgage lending standards—because of a continuing, improving housing market and borrower mortgage payment trends—will more than blunt the effects of Irma to the local housing market.

For instance, niche mortgages known as Alt-A non-government or GSE programs for self-employed borrowers and investors have begun to enter the market. One example requires a 20 percent down payment and decent credit scores, but offers a reprise in other areas that stimulate investors that want to buy multiple properties to rent.

The GSEs Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae have increased their debt to income ratio from 45 percent to 50 percent. Debt to income is the percentage of a household gross monthly income compared to the proposed mortgage payment, including the principal, interest, homeowner's insurance, property taxes and homeowner's association dues. This also includes recurring debts such as car payments, credit card payments and student loans. GSEs are the largest source of mortgage backing for non-government loans and represent the largest monetary source of mortgage funding in the world. When the GSEs make a change as substantial as this, it means they feel confident

with the housing market, home values and the prospects of lenders being repaid by homeowners.

A 97 percent loan to value mortgages offered by GSEs offers first time homebuyers a non-government loan program requiring a relatively low down payment.

Government lending options include the Federal Housing Administration (FHA), Veterans Administration (VA) and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Immediately following the housing decline of 2009, the major lending source was the FHA. In my opinion, the FHA, backed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), was primarily responsible for providing a lending option during those dark days when most lending sources dried up, especially for first-time home buyers.

If not for the FHA back in the post-housing bubble bust days, builders and realtors would have lacked a source of financing for their customers, and possibly the last slimmer of hope of preserving what was left of the U.S. housing market would have been lost. Fortunately, thanks to expanded lending standards, we do not have to worry about a lack of mortgage options, which also ensures the government and taxpayers

aren't carrying the risk of as many defaults in the case of overreliance on government-insured lending options.

If expanded mortgage offerings weren't enough to ensure a continuing improvement in the Ponte Vedra Beach and surrounding housing market, I need to mention interest rates across the board remain historically low, benefiting all homebuyers and refinances. Rising home values in PVB partnered with low rates create an appealing refinance environment. Traditionally, lowering interest rates created a refinance market. However, increasing home values create an additional refinance opportunity because the more your home or condo is worth, the lower your loan to value. A low loan to value gives creditors incentive to lower interest rates.

I know what some of you are thinking. Before you suggest what I am describing sounds like the same risky lending patterns that less than a decade ago contributed to the worst economic recession since the Great Depression, allow me to address what is different. Dodd-Frank finance legislation and the intense effort through mortgage

Marsh Landing home offers one-of-a-kind experience

By Clare Berry
Berry & Co. Real Estate

Marsh Landing was designed differently from most communities. It has one main road, with lots of cul-de-sac streets running off “the parkway.” This creates little mini-neighborhoods within the greater planned unit development. Merganser Drive is one of its most charming.

Well-named, since every time I go down Merganser I see Merganser ducks or other birdlife, this lane is also known for private homesites. 8290 Merganser’s site is .83 acres along a natural preserve. Custom-built by the current owners, they sited this home for sunlight all day

through its many windows. The inviting, brick-trimmed patio is surrounded by lush landscaping, a perfect perch for relaxing after a busy day. It’s obvious that master bricklayers installed the home’s trim with great attention to detail.

Inside, the easy-care flooring is either wood or tile. Ground floor ceiling heights are 10 feet or more.

Some rooms are particularly interesting. One is the paneled study on the owner’s side of this home. It is part of a larger suite, leading into a full bath opening to the oversized closet full of built-ins. On the other side of the closet,

MARSH LANDING continues on **Page 19**



8290 MERGANSER DRIVE

Photo courtesy of Clare Berry

Salt Creek estate provides expansive lake views, various amenities

By Murray and Elise Beard
Watson Realty Corp.

Welcome home to this beautiful estate home located on the 7th hole of the Oak Bridge Golf Club in the desirable Salt Creek neighborhood.

Gracing an oversized corner lot, this more than 4,800 square foot home at 1209 Salt Creek Island Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach has spectacular water to golf views from the large patio and pool/spa. There is a ton of living space for both intimate gatherings with family or hosting big neighborhood parties. The vaulted two-story ceilings and windows provide a grandness in the primary living areas, and the sets of patio doors let the party flow out on to the lanai and pool deck in the back. You and your guests can soak up the expansive views of the lake behind the house and the golf course beyond. The summer kitchen situated off the family room under a jasmine-clad pergola is the perfect place to chill with a glass of wine.

The chef of the family will enjoy the big kitchen and family room space. Complete



with a two-sided fireplace on those cool evenings, this gathering space allows the family to be together in one area. There is plenty of kitchen storage including a separate walk-in pantry.

The master suite overlooks the back patio and includes a separate study for either an office or private relaxing area. The bedroom fireplace completes this room on

those cool evenings. The owners love the “his and her” walk-in closets and of course, their own sinks in the bathroom too. The

massage jets in the shower make taking a bath a different kind of experience.

There are three bedrooms upstairs, and each has its own private bathroom. The kids will love two of the bedrooms that have lofts accessible by a ladder. Even cooler is the 200 square feet of “secret” space behind the walk-in closets of two rooms. This place can be the ultimate hideout for kids or a big indoor storage room for holiday decorations.

Living in Salt Creek provides the owner lots of alternatives for club choices. From the world-class TPC Sawgrass just down the street to nearby Sawgrass Country Club and the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, there are plenty of options to meet the specific needs of the family.

This property is represented by Watson Realty Corp, listed by Murray and Elise Beard and offered for \$1,089,000.

1209 SALT CREEK ISLAND DRIVE



Photos courtesy of Murray and Elise Beard



Scot A Regner Achieves Milestone

Matthew R. Foxhall, CFP®, Executive Vice President, Southeast Region of AXA Advisors, LLC would like to thank and recognize the efforts of Scot A. Regner, Financial Consultant and Retirement Planning Specialist*, who has recently received AXA Advisor’s prestigious Hallmark 5 distinction.

Foxhall noted, “Only a few Financial Professionals have obtained this milestone and during his 37 years with AXA Advisors, LLC, Scot has displayed a model of integrity with his clients, helping them toward achieving their investment and risk management goals. He is a pillar in his community, continues to serve his clients, and embodies all of the core values of our firm.”



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PV2-LV43963

Mortgages

Continued from 16

financing regulation has forced creditors and GSEs to guarantee a borrower's ability to repay the mortgage.

Subprime loans that did not require income or asset verification aren't available. The collateral value of the home does not overshadow a borrower's ability to repay. Even more encouraging to know is that many of the loosening standards are based

on years of statistical analysis that report to the contrary, for example, that a 50 percent DTI borrower is any more likely to default than one at 45 percent.

Continuing demand to live in beautiful Ponte Veda Beach and St. Johns County will keep local home prices rising. Relatively low interest rates enable buyers to afford more home with lower monthly payments. Expanding loan programs will allow more people to qualify. In my opinion, all these factors bode well for our local housing market now and well into the future.

NEW LISTING IN THE PLANTATION



Sweeping views of the golf course and lakes from a sunny sunroom will delight the fortunate new owners of this beautifully updated one-story garden home. A screened heated pool with outdoor dining areas and a summer kitchen invite relaxation and fun. Wonderful floor plan that includes a separate guest house and a studio by the pool that could double as an office or exercise room. Elegant finishes and warm neutral colors enhance the appeal of this jewel of a home.

3 BD, 3 BA ~ 2,684 sq. ft.
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Jacquelyn Bates
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PV2-LV43788

The Island at Twenty Mile



52 Glen Ridge Court ~ Ponte Veda
5 Bedrooms 4 Baths ~ 5,720 s.f. Built in 2016

Why wait to build!? This stunning one-year old home is located in The Island at Twenty Mile, a gated Nocatee community. Spectacular design with open floor plan, flowing hardwood floors, spacious great room opening to outside for luxury indoor/outdoor living.

The covered lanai features a stacked stone summer kitchen and dining area overlooking pool and private nature preserve. You will love the chef's kitchen equipped with double ovens, gas cooktop, center island, breakfast bar, walk-in pantry and separate breakfast room. Owner's suite designed with three custom closets and lavish bath. The upstairs bonus room, large bedroom suite and bath is perfect for guest! Don't miss this one!
\$1,249,000



Susan Froman, GRI

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
Florida Network Realty
333 Village Main Street, Suite 670, Ponte Veda Beach, FL 32082
904.635.9832 | susanfroman@comcast.net | www.susanfroman.com

Susan Froman has dedicated herself to exceeding the expectations of her clients, a commitment that has placed her in the ranks of top-producing realtors time and time again. Susan is proud to have over 20 years of continued commitment to her clients who benefit from her extensive market and industry knowledge, professionalism, integrity, strong negotiating skills and progressive approach to technology.

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PV2-LV43945

Marsh Landing

Continued from 17

the master bathroom has a great shower as well as a soaking tub. The spacious master bedroom has wood floors ready to host a fabulous Oriental rug!

The ceilings in this house are interesting. Some are cathedral ceilings, some are wood-trimmed. They are anything but standard!

Upstairs was designed to be perfect for their extended family's visits. One bedroom has a charming dormer ceiling. The other bedroom, with its plentiful natural light, made a great artist's studio. Its closet is set up with compartments for canvases and supplies.

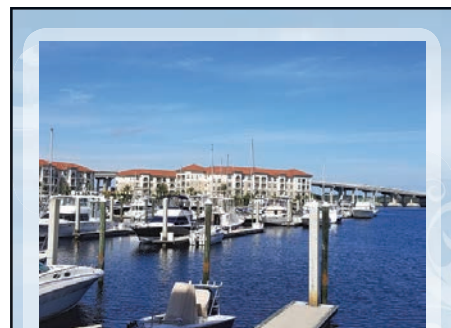
Off the hall, behind bi-fold doors, the owner created two sleeping nooks for the little ones—each has its own light, air conditioning, shelving and storage. These charming spots were the treasured hideaways.

As is true of many Marsh Landing homes, this is one of a kind. We are sure the next owners will love its smart design and attention to detail as much as this family did.

This property is represented by Berry & Co. Real Estate, listed by Clare Berry and offered at \$989,000.



Photos courtesy of Clare Berry



WATERFRONT LIVING

Amazing 3/3 1/2 townhome on the Intracoastal Waterway is full of surprises: private 2-car garage, pool and fireplace in the courtyard, custom cabinets/storage, media/party room on top floor, plus balcony with spectacular views. Priced to sell fast: \$845,000 or \$885,000 for townhome/boat slip package!
Contact Clare Berry for details.



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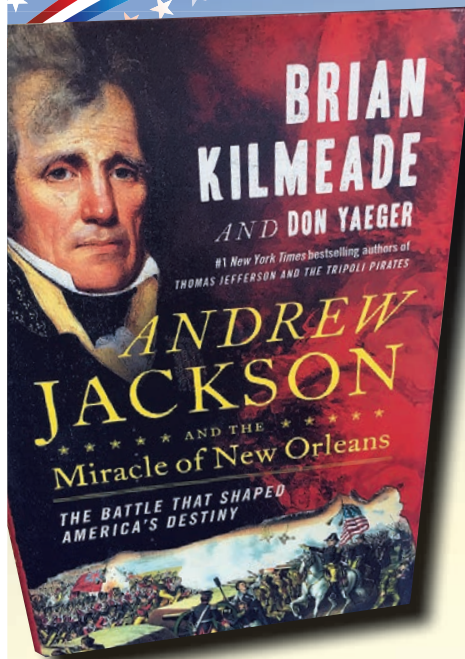
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HomeServices

Champions for hope: The story behind the JT Townsend and Funk-Zitiello foundations



By Judi Zitiello

Have you ever met someone who has taken their seemingly impossible situation and turned it into good by helping others? That is what happened when I met J.T. Townsend. I wanted to discover how a 19-year-old could handle a life-altering incident with faith and grace, and turn it into a platform that would live on long after his passing.

J.T. was a senior at Episcopal School of Jacksonville (ESJ) in 2004 when he took a freak hit on the football field, suffered a near fatal spinal cord injury and became a quadriplegic. 2005 PLAYERS Championship winner Fred Funk led the community by building a wheelchair accessible home for J.T. and his family. J.T. was so moved that he formed the J.T. Townsend Foundation (JTTF), a nonprofit with a mission to help others with disabilities. Sadly, J.T. passed away in 2013 at just 26 years of age. But, his foundation lives on, helping First Coast families with no means to purchase items that can make their lives easier. J.T. was a true champion.

As board chair for JTTF, I saw to it that his dream continued. To date, we have helped over 270 families, providing countless adaptive strollers, iPads for non-communicative children, hospital beds, wheelchair ramps and money. Today, J.T.'s mother Carmen delivers each piece of equipment personally just as her son had, bringing hope to the hopeless.

Just 10 months after my friend J.T. passed, I was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, the deadliest form with a five-year survival rate of just 9 percent. After surgery

and treatment that lasted eight months, JTTF funds were depleted and faced an uncertain future.

When local businessman Jacques Klempf heard about our situation, he was moved to step up in a huge way. Within an hour, his wife brought us a \$50,000 check to cover all pending applications. JTTF was still in the miracle business.

But, my husband Tommy knew that we needed to do more to sustain JTTF. Just like J.T., Tommy had a dream of establishing a charity golf tournament on the course he had awakened to every morning for 24 years—TPC Sawgrass. And he had a friend he could call to make it happen—Fred Funk.

The Funk-Zitiello Foundation was formed in 2016 with a mission to help champions like J.T. to sustain programs that change lives. Father's Day weekend in June 2017, we held our first annual Champions for Hope Gala and Celebrity Golf Tournament at TPC Sawgrass, raising \$881,000 to fund JTTF programs and Mayo Clinic for pancreatic cancer research for early detection. Countless lives will be impacted by this effort.

If you want to do something to help others, don't waste another moment thinking about it. Take action; we promise your life will be richer and fuller than you could ever dream possible. You too can be a champion for hope.

To learn more about J.T.'s life, visit www.jtgivesback.org to view First Coast News' own Casey DeSantis' Emmy-nominated film "Champion: The J.T. Townsend Story."

To participate in the 2018 Champion for Hope Celebrity Golf Classic, visit www.championsforhopegolf.com.



ABOVE: Judi Zitiello and J.T. Townsend

LEFT: Maya Goodman and J.T. Townsend's mother Carmen, who is the giving committee coordinator for JTTF

Photos courtesy of Judi Zitiello



Tommy Zitiello and Fred Funk

Fourth annual Red Shield Ball exceeds expectations

By Janet Westling

The Salvation Army raised approximately \$200,000 from its Oct. 14 Red Shield Ball, which benefitted the organization's Red Shield Lodge shelter for women and families.

This year's honorary Chairs Michael Ward and Jennifer Glock joined over 300 guests at a sellout affair at the University of North Florida's Adam W. Herbert University Center.

Mugwump Productions transformed the space with crystal chandeliers, red lights and touches of gold and draperies



Photos courtesy of Francesca Rutherford and The Salvation Army

Michael Ward and Jennifer Glock

that created an elegant setting.

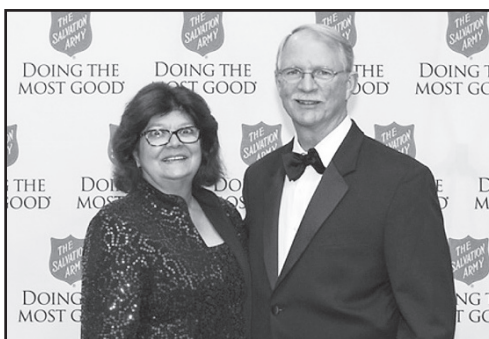
"The Salvation Army has a heart for our community," said Michael and Francesca Rutherford. "It was such a pleasure to help with this year's ball."



Over 300 guests enjoy the fourth annual Red Shield Ball.



Shannon and John Falconetti



Congressman John (right) and Patricia Rutherford



Red Shield Ball attendees had the opportunity to bid on silent auction items.

Coastal Oaks beauty offers Nocatee's quality lifestyle



135 CUMBERLAND ISLAND CIRCLE



Photos courtesy of Kelly Whitaker and Wanda Petersen

**By Kelly Whitaker
and Wanda Petersen**

REMAX Unlimited

This wonderfully appointed four-bedroom/four-bathroom home located in Coastal Oaks is situated on a large corner lot. The backyard is fully fenced with plenty of room for a pool, and the oversized screened and paved lanai add to the charm of this Toll Brothers home. In this open floor plan, the kitchen and breakfast area open up to the gathering room that feature sliding doors opening to the lanai, making it perfect for entertaining and family gatherings.

In addition to the four bedrooms, this home features a large bonus room and a study. Custom closets and quartz countertops in the master; hardwood floors; beautiful cabinets in the fantastic kitchen and an oversized garage are just a few upgrades in this home that any owner will appreciate.

At 135 Cumberland Island Circle in Ponte Vedra, this home is conveniently located near Nocatee's fabulous amenities, shopping, restaurants and of course, St. Johns County's A-rated schools. As a result, it's perfect for

a growing family. So, jump into the Nocatee lifestyle where the fun never ends.

This well-planned coastal community blends homes, schools, shopping, recreation, offices, medical and emergency services, restaurants and more together for the convenience and enjoyment of its residents. It truly is a quality lifestyle appreciated by all who live there.

Nocatee continues to add amenities to enhance the community as it grows. The greenway, fitness trails, kayak launch, splash park, spray park, swim team, zip line, dog parks, tennis courts, recreational fields, playgrounds, the farmers market and other special events are only some of the perks of living in this fabulous community of Nocatee.

In addition, Coastal Oaks features its own members' clubhouse, two swimming pools, an exercise room and basketball courts adding to the lifestyle of this featured home. So why wait to build when you can move right in?

This property is represented by REMAX Unlimited, listed by Kelly Whitaker and Wanda Petersen and offered for \$610,000.

Roscoe Road home provides 'beach life' in an upscale fashion

By Katie Hughes

RE/MAX Specialists

Welcome home to paradise along the Intracoastal Waterway! A boater's dream, this coastal-inspired home is Florida living at its best.

The outdoor oasis allows for ultimate entertaining with an oversized 56-foot wide dock, including a brand-new steel-enforced bulkhead. Bring your water "toys" with two covered boat lifts—a 16,000-pound lift and a 10,000-pound lift, plus a jet ski lift and 30-amp shore power. The expansive dock has multiple lounge areas, including a sun deck and a complete summer kitchen with an industrial cooktop, Big Green Egg grill, fridge, sink and oversized granite countertop bar. The pool and spa area feature a travertine paved deck, arbor covered sun area, large covered dining area and an additional summer kitchen with adjacent fireplace lounge area.

249 North Roscoe Blvd. is situated on a large 1-acre lot among estate homes in desirable Ponte Vedra Beach. On the Intracoastal Waterway and minutes from the Atlantic Ocean, it is in the prime location! With a private gated entrance and inviting curb appeal, this Mediterranean home boasts 5,100 square feet, five bedrooms, four full bathrooms and one-half bathroom, as well as a large upstairs bonus room,

a second upstairs bonus room or gym area and an en-suite office in the master bedroom.

The flexible floor plan and multiple living/entertaining spaces make this a great home for a variety of families. In addition to the breathtaking views, the home is finished with designer details, including hardwood flooring, stone flooring, a chef's kitchen with white wood cabinets, granite countertops and high-end stainless steel appliances (double ovens, gas cooking and a chimney hood). The adjoining family room with a coffered ceiling and floor to ceiling stone fireplace affords views of the pool and Intracoastal and provides the perfect amount of natural light.

The first floor expansive master suite opens to the lanai along the pool and offers wonderful water views. A nice sitting area with fireplace creates the perfect ambiance to take in the stunning views. The custom finished master bathroom features wood cabinets, premium granite, a large garden tub and walk-in shower with dual showerheads. An en-suite office plus a large walk-in closet make this the ultimate master suite. The first floor has three additional guest bedrooms, two full bathrooms (one that is a cabana pool bathroom) and a powder bathroom.



249 NORTH ROSCOE BLVD.

Photo courtesy of Katie Hughes



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PV2-LV43975

Upscale

Continued from 21

Enter the upstairs portion of the home up the elegant wood foyer staircase with a two-story ceiling. The second floor holds a large bonus room with bar area and balcony overlooking the water, a gym area or play room and a fifth bedroom with full bathroom.

Everything about the home is completely custom, from the quality construc-

tion with Spanish tile roof to the beautifully designed kitchen and bathrooms, extensive moldings, coffered ceilings, wood and stone flooring, upstairs balcony, finished closets, extensive storage, walk-in wine room and a three-car garage. Combined with a large waterfront lot and an amazing backyard, this home will truly provide "the beach life" in an upscale fashion!

This property is represented by RE/MAX Specialists, listed by Katie Hughes and offered for \$2,100,000.

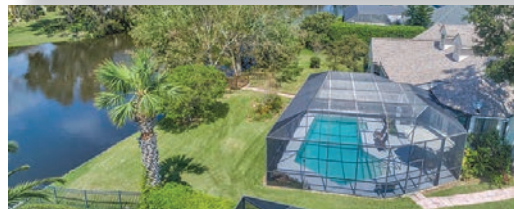


Photos courtesy of Katie Hughes

OLD BARN ISLAND – SAWGRASS COUNTRY CLUB



Offered at \$900,000



AMAZING NEW PRICE. Lakefront house IN SAWGRASS CC, Ponte Veda Beach, Florida. Enjoy a cozy fishing dock, 4 car garage, screened in-ground pool, 5BR, 4.5BA, 5659 sqft is waiting for you in desired Sawgrass Country Club. Located in 4 man-gated, golf-cart friendly neighborhood with cart drive to grocery, terrific restaurants, shops, and to the beach club (separate membership required). You'll love the flexibility of all of the rooms in this house. Your owners suite is exactly that with an ante room, sleeping quarters & bathroom suite with double organized closets on the first floor which leads out to a private patio & Spa. Formal living room, dining room, sun room, half bath, laundry, and ginormous kitchen with island prep area and breakfast space completes the first floor.

Find amazing storage throughout the house especially over the added garage. Second floor two office areas or bonus rooms and four bedrooms/3 baths. There is room for an elevator if you want to install one.

HOA fee is only for Master Association for Sawgrass CC, there is no additional HOA fees or CDD fees like other neighborhoods.

Included is a one year home warranty with the purchase of this house. In addition Preferred Membership Initiation Fee pricing for the Ponte Veda Inn & Club and The Lodge & Club is available to the Purchaser(s) of this listing; certain restrictions may apply.

Don't miss this house if you are looking in Ponte Veda Beach, Florida to be 3 minutes to the beach, 2 minutes to 27 holes of golf, 40 minutes to Jax International Airport, near Starbucks, Fresh Market, & Trader Joes, 20 min to downtown Jacksonville, 15 min to St Johns Town Center. 25 min to Historic St. Augustine. Top A-Rated Public Schools. It's all about the lifestyle. Priced \$210 K below March 2017 appraisal. No hurricane damage or water intrusion. Master Bedroom could convert to in-law suite.



Kathleen Floryan
(904) 687-5146 • KathFloryan@gmail.com

Ponte Veda Club Realty
280 Ponte Veda Boulevard
Ponte Veda Beach, FL 32082
Office: (904) 285-6927
www.pvclubrealty.com

PV2-LV43967

Take Advantage of our Powerful Affiliation! Ask about Preferred Membership Initiation Fee pricing to The Ponte Veda Inn & Club and The Lodge & Club available exclusively through Ponte Veda Club Realty!

200 Feet on the Intracoastal in Ponte Veda Beach - 341 S. Roscoe Blvd.



200 ft on the Intracoastal in Ponte Veda Beach just REDUCED \$50,000 to sell quickly! No water damage from Hurricane Irma or Matthew. The last 100 ft vacant lot on Roscoe sold for just under \$700K. This gated estate takes full advantage of the outdoors w/lush landscaping, screened pool/spa & covered boat dock w/2 boat lifts along w/a floating dock. A outdoor firepit & Koi pond complete this beautiful backyard oasis. The home has 4 bedrooms/3 baths, 2900 sq ft w/3 car garage. Large open kitchen/family room for entertaining. There is a second owner's suite w/ensuite bathroom & private living space. This home was built in 1994, roof was replaced in 2014, other major components have been replaced/updated as needed. This home could be just what you have been waiting for to make your own! Price is now \$ 1,424,900. MLS# 903629



For more info, contact
Kellie Jankowski
Broker Associate, REALTOR®, MBA, SFR
(904) 838-8919
KJ.MarcJosephRealty@gmail.com

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PV2-LV43927

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PV2-LV43911

Classic ranch home features stunning water views

By Sally Sergeant
Ponte Vedra Club Realty

Every beach town has its “sweet spot” and in our town, this is it! Commonly referred to as “Old Ponte Vedra,” this community offers a relaxed and casual lifestyle where walking, biking and beach strolls are a daily must. Ponte Vedra Beach offers abundant choices when it comes to golf, tennis, boating, shopping, dining and outdoor entertainment. With its close proximity to St. Augustine and Jacksonville, the options are endless.

Many of the original homes from the 1950s are still in existence, giving this area the classic charm that it exudes. Such is the case with this featured home at 197 San Juan Drive. This beauty is located only one block away from the Atlantic Ocean and within steps from the Five-Diamond Ponte Vedra Inn & Club Resort and Spa. With one of the best water views available, this well-appointed home has been updated to create a beautiful beach chic environment with style and casual elegance. Some of the features include a family and dining room combination with a classic

original brick fireplace, a secondary family room or reading room overlooking the pool.

The white and bright spacious kitchen has been updated with beautiful new granite, a glass tile backsplash, new appliances (GE Profile), new undermount lighting, open shelving and white shaker style cabinets with pullouts and ample storage. There is a mud room/laundry room with built in cubbies and more storage. The inviting screened and paved pool area has a cabana style summer kitchen that is an entertainer’s dream come true. There is plenty of room for an outdoor dining table and multiple lounge chairs.

Not only is this classic ranch style home located close to the beach, it is also situated on a lot large enough for future expansion. But keep in mind, it’s also perfect just the way it is. As an added bonus, preferred membership initiation fee pricing for the Inn & Club and the Lodge & Club is available to the purchaser(s) of this listing (Certain restrictions may apply.).

This home is represented by Ponte Vedra Club Realty, listed by Sally Sergeant and offered for \$1,750,000.



197 SAN JUAN DRIVE



Photos courtesy of Sally Sergeant



307 SOUTH ROSCOE BLVD.



Photos courtesy of Barbara Maple and Carol Cantalupo

Waterfront compound offers boating lifestyle oasis

By Barbara Maple and Carol Cantalupo
Watson Realty Corp.

Two homes, a 100-foot wide waterfront lot and a dock with a covered boat lift create a boating lifestyle oasis.

Turn onto the long driveway at 307 South Roscoe Blvd., pass the 1,894-square foot guest house with an oversized two-car garage and pull up to the entrance steps of the main house. A sidewalk with beautiful hydrangeas and a fruit-bearing lime tree will lead to the front door, opening to magnificent views.

Gleaming oak wood floors cover the foyer and combined dining and living rooms. The focal point of the main house is a 30-foot by 21-foot country kitchen. It was expanded in 2004 and now features heart of pine wood floors, a cooking island with a five-burner gas stove, a prep island with wine cooler, two corner pantries, two dishwashers, a separate ice maker and all the normal appliances. The spacious breakfast nook offers a large bay window overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway. The downstairs is rounded out with a family room, full bath, large screened porch, brick patios and an attached two-car garage with storage room.

Stepping through the back door leads to an ample backyard with plenty of room for

a pool, and even room for a spa, summer kitchen or gazebo or two! The dock has a nice large sitting area to watch the boats, jet skis and paddleboarders cruise up and down the waterway. It also has a covered boat lift to store your boat right at home.

Upstairs in the main house are the master suite with balcony overlooking the water, two bedrooms with a Jack and Jill bath, an office, a laundry room and huge porch. A third level offers a nice flex loft area that can be used as a playroom, office, den, gym or anything you desire.

Lastly, we come to the guest house with its own two-car garage. The owners lovingly built it in 2004 for a grown daughter and grandchild, who have since moved. The downstairs includes a living room, full kitchen and half bath. Upstairs offers two bedrooms, two baths and an office with a Murphy bed. The master bath in the guest house is always a surprise for first-time viewers. It is an amazing retreat that seems more fit for a large main house. With long dual sinks, a beautifully tiled shower, a spacious garden tub, a walk-in closet that never seems to end and laundry hook-ups, it has everything a guest could need.

This property is represented by Watson Realty Corp, listed by Barbara Maple and Carol Cantalupo and offered at \$1,395,000.



BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices

Florida Network Realty



MAGNIFICENT HOME IN EPPING FOREST

Luxury 4 bedroom, 3.5 baths pool home features 4910 square feet with upgrades galore! Close to Bolles private school. Offered at \$1,540,000



Call Michele Stewart
904-707-5225

PV2-LV43874



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Call Jennifer Kaus
904-315-7127

PV2-LV43928



PONTE VEDRA BEACH OCEANFRONT LIVING!

Situated in the middle of the most desired oceanfront location in NE Florida! This first floor condominium was totally renovated with the finest finishes and craftsmanship. 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath plus powder room, plus office. Has saturna floors, mahogany doors and built-in custom cabinetry. Includes 2 underground parking spaces and 2 storage units. Offered at \$1,800,000



Call Sarah Alexander
904-334-3104

PV2-LV43904



UNDER CONTRACT

OCEAN CAY BEAUTY

See what happens when you wait! Although this beautiful Ocean Cay home is already taken, we can find you another! Need a rental... no problem! Let me show you how to rent a home that is for sale! Offered at \$459,000



Call Bill Irwin
304-646-9994

PV2-LV43970



EXEMPLARY OCEANFRONT LIVING ON PONTE VEDRA BLVD.

Hacienda style home nestled on 1.47 acres of pristine oceanfront. Spanning 4,527 SF this bright airy, 4bd/5ba, home offers a resort like atmosphere with large oceanfront pool/spa and private beach walkover. Offered at \$3,990,000



Call Elizabeth Hudgins
904-553-2032

PV2-LV43871



ODOM'S MILL

Welcome home to this beautifully updated and move-in ready 4BR/4BA + offc. home. This home has gorgeous stone tile throughout all the living areas & new carpet in the bedrooms. The updated kitchen offers a gas range, ss appliances, granite counters & high-end wood cabinetry. The baths have also been updated with granite & new fixtures. Entertain with ease in the heated & cooled lanai overlooking the patio & private preserve. Offered at \$514,000.



Call Karen Sheltz
904-610-7066

PV2-LV43937



ATLANTIC BEACH OCEANFRONT CONDO

The perfect weekend getaway, this ground floor, 3BR/2BA, 1654sf condo features tile floors throughout, updated Kitchen and Baths, French doors that lead to an oceanfront Florida Room to enjoy the ocean breezes and direct access to the beach. Conveniently located just 8 blocks north of Beaches Town Center. Offered at \$770,000.



Call Lee Elmore
904-699-4503

PV2-LV43922



UNDER CONTRACT

COASTAL LIVING MASTERPIECE!

Completely renovated & decorator designed home across the street from the Atlantic Ocean on the front & the 3rd green of the PVC Ocean course in the backyard. Private country clubs are steps steps away to the north & the south. Main house has 6 BR, 6.5 BA. 1,000 SF guest house off of the olympic size saltwater pool/spa with slide has 1BR/1.5BA. Offered at \$4,100,000.



Call Lisa Sandifer
904-254-5462

PV2-LV43932



CUSTOM BUILT ESTATES HOME

Amazing custom built 5BR/4.5BA, 4592sf pool home with office, bonus room and exercise room, chef's kitchen and stunning outdoor living area with summer kitchen! Large lot surrounded by beautiful oaks! Offered at \$995,000



Call Tina Webster
904-982-7330

PV2-LV43970



HARBOUR ISLAND HIDEAWAY

Step inside this "Harbour Island Hideaway" and experience the perfect synergy of luxury & comfort in this sensational, custom designed European inspired estate. Enjoy spectacular marsh front views on Harbour Island, a prestigious one of a kind yacht club community tucked inside the gates of Marsh Landing in Ponte Vedra Beach. Launch your boat or yacht from your private 40ft boat slip. \$1,500,000



Call Janet Westling
904-813-1913

PV2-LV43884



SAWGRASS COUNTRY CLUB

Come live the Sawgrass Country Club lifestyle for only \$295,000. This 2 bed/ 2 bath Rough Creek Villa is less than a 5 minute walk to the beach and across the street from the Golf Clubhouse.



Call Cherie Hughs
904-233-8958

PV2-LV43916



ATLANTIC BEACH COUNTRY CLUB

Atlantic Beach Country Club is a boutique size new construction community in the heart of Atlantic Beach. With 178 Coastal Style homes surrounded by a championship 18 hole golf course and Club, it promises to be one of the beaches most sought after neighborhoods. Call me for details.



Call Lee Elmore
904-699-4503

PV2-LV43924



**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY**
HomeServices
Florida Network Realty



GOLF HOME IN THE PLANTATION AT PV
Overlooking the golf course's recently renovated 11th tee boxes, this beautifully landscaped one-story 3BR/4BA 3,251sf home features an open concept floor plan with 2 gorgeous outdoor living areas. Enjoy dining al fresco in the very private walled patio. Or relax poolside in the huge screened lanai with its serene hot tub. Offered at \$829,000

Call Doug Mathewson
904-860-0145



SOPHISTICATED COASTAL LIVING AT ITS BEST!
This 2-story, 5-bedroom, 4+ bath, home is the epitome of southern charm with over 8,400 sq. ft. that showcase spectacular ocean views. The open living areas, including large formal dining room with grand fireplace, lend themselves to entertaining everything from casual dinners to large celebrations. \$6,375,000

Call Donna Thacker
904-228-0198



SPINNAKERS REACH CONDO
Fully Renovated 2BR/2BA, 1568sf condo in Sawgrass Beach Club! Get ready for the Sawgrass Lifestyle! Stunning condo features two balconies and open floor plan! Offered at \$739,000.

Call Tina Webster
904-982-7330



LIVE THE PALM VALLEY LIFESTYLE
Enjoy the freedom of living the Palm Valley lifestyle in this open, beautiful & professionally decorated 3BR/2.5BA home that sits on a 1/2 acre of land. This 3271sf home features a large bonus room/4th BR and a wonderful gas fireplace with hand carved mantle. Lots of storage space! No HOA or CDD fees! \$594,000.

Call Wendy Patton
904-382-0527



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Build your custom dream home in the heart of Ponte Vedra Beach with ocean access across the street. This enclave of 23 estate-sized home sites on Ponte Vedra Boulevard is surrounded by majestic Live Oaks with pristine preserve and lake views. Starting at \$625,000.

Call Elizabeth Hudgins
904-553-2032



WATERSEdge AT HARBORTOWN
Located on the Intracoastal Waterway with a private marina & boat slips available for purchase. Relax on one of the three balconies in this townhome and enjoy your morning coffee while watching the gorgeous sunrise. You're within minutes to the beaches, shopping & great restaurants. And, you will meet the friendliest people in the community when you're strolling on the walkway along the waterway. Such an amazing place to call home! \$680,000

Call Beverly Hecht
904-610-7652



JUST TWO BLOCKS TO THE OCEAN
This immaculate Atlantic Beach pool home is located East of Seminole Road. Built in 1995, it has been completely updated to today's lifestyle. It features 5BR/3BA, 2786sf, hardwood and travertine floors, granite counters, gas fireplace and wonderful outdoor terraces and balconies to enjoy the sound of the surf and the afternoon sea breezes. A short 5 minute bike ride to the new Atlantic Beach Country Club, where friends and families gather for outdoor sports activities or dinner in one of three restaurants. Offered at \$985,000.

Call Lee Elmore
904-699-4503



MARSH VIEWS IN MARSH LANDING CC
Built in 2006 this Mediterranean style home has superb quality including: weather shield windows, custom window coverings, chiseled stone and wood flooring, wood floors sanded on site, library/office with coffered ceilings, an incredible chef's kitchen with Schrock cabinets, game room with balcony to screened pool below and gorgeous marsh views. Offered at \$1,495,000

Call Helen Kelble
904-552-1977



LOCATION! LOCATION! LOCATION!
Mediterra Coastal Luxurious condo is open and spacious! Only a 5-minute walk to the ocean. This exquisite condo has been elegantly designed! A must see! 3 bedrooms + den/ 2.5 baths/2 car garage/2929/personal elevator in unit. Offered at \$675,950

Call Michele Stewart
904-707-5225



UPDATED NORTH JAX BEACH CONDO
Steps from the ocean and white sandy beaches (east of A1A) this 3-Story, 4 bedroom 3 1/2 bath townhome will instantly rejuvenate the spirit with fresh ocean breezes and the sounds of waves crashing onto the shore. \$599,000

Call Sarah Alexander
904-334-3104



SAWMILL LAKES
Live the beach lifestyle in this 5BR/4BA, 3422sf Decorator's waterfront home! Grill and chill on spacious lanai, Corallock pavers surrounding a gorgeous salt water pool & spa. Entertain in chef's kitchen featuring granite countertops, under cabinet wine fridge, stainless steel appliances & gas range. Walk to grocery stores, restaurants, shopping and more! Offered at \$679,000

Call Lisa Sandifer
904-254-5462



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Estate boasts perfect floorplan for oceanfront living

By Michelle Floyd

Marsh Landing Country Club Realty

Our buyers' questions have changed over the last few months! The first question a buyer now asks when looking at a home is, "Did this home have any hurricane damage?" After living in Ponte Vedra for 40 years, I now have the question on hurricanes that never was on a buyer's mind or seldom on anyone's mind. There were no major hurricanes for this area in 53 years, and now there have been two in 11 months!

Located at 1299 Ponte Vedra Blvd., this oceanfront estate incurred absolutely no damage and is situated on 200 feet of direct oceanfront! There are a few factors that made this possible. First, the home is 30 feet above sea level with 2.3 acres of bulkheaded dunes. The bulkhead is three-tiered and 12 feet high. It features marine-grade materials and "dead man" tie backs. The house, gardens and dunes sustained no damage.

The home also features full concrete block construction, while so many of the other homes on the oceanfront feature frame or "stick" construction. (Remember the story of the three little pigs and the wolf trying to blow the home down?). All windows, doors, skylights, garage doors and the roof are built to "Miami Dade" standards. The home is built well and maintained to perfection making the difference between water intrusion



1299 PONTE VEDRA BLVD.



Photos courtesy of Michelle Floyd and Cici Anderson

and "high and dry." A full home generator adds further protection from electric outages. A 400-foot depth-free flowing

artesian well services the home.

For the "romance" of living on the ocean, mostly every room has full views

of the ocean with the windows forming "walls of glass." For ease of washing the oceanfront windows, the owner has installed soft water spigots for "no spot" washing.

If you talk about the perfect floor plan for oceanfront living, this has to be it! A total wing of the home is dedicated to the master bedroom, the master living room with a fireplace, the dressing room, double enormous closets, the bath area—all with an abundance of windows—and a safe room. The great room with bar, dining room and kitchen all open onto each other, again all featuring views of the ocean.

A manly all wood-paneled study overlooks the gardens. Included on the first floor is a guest apartment with a living room, bedroom, bath and full kitchen—again with full views of the ocean. The second level has another full apartment with the next level encompassing two guest bedrooms with balconies overlooking the pool and ocean. The bonus is the rooftop widow's walk with 360 degree views of the ocean and Guana Preserve.

This home is solid as a fort, architecturally interesting and practical in floor plan. It boasts open living with walls of windows, all romantically set in sea dunes and manicured gardens.

This property is represented by Marsh Landing Country Club Realty, listed by Michelle Floyd and Cici Anderson and offered at \$5,750,000.

Mediterra: Life at its finest

By Michele Stewart

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty

Location! Location! Location! This is a dream lifestyle like no other.

If you're a golfer, ocean lover or nature lover who enjoys entertainment and the nightlife, you'll be in paradise! My husband and I enjoy walking to the beach. It's fabulous to watch the sunrises and sunsets. We invite you to step inside our exquisite Mediterranean luxury style condo at 130 Cuello Court (Unit 201) in Ponte Vedra Beach where you will see soaring ceilings as well as calming cool coastal colors.

These 26 condos in the Mediterra subdivision are tucked away in a very private cul-de-sac. They are designed to make you feel like you live in a single-family home, ranging in size from 2,700 to 2,929 square feet. Families are surrounded by native oak trees draped in Spanish moss. Grab your morning cup of coffee, sit on one of the two private terraces and enjoy the nature around you. Have your binoculars handy: You never know what you will see! Terraces are big enough for a summer kitchen or a table with a propane fire pit.

If you enjoy cooking, you will fall in love with the entertainer's dream kitchen.

There, you will find a Sub-Zero freezer/refrigerator, a 36-inch Asko dishwasher, a huge walk-in pantry, granite countertops, all wood Decora cabinetry, a kitchen island, a breakfast bar to gather around and a breakfast nook. A show stopper is the see-through kitchen cabinetry with glass doors and windows. The private elevator opens right next to the kitchen, which is perfect for bringing your groceries up or if you had a great shopping day!

The expansive, spacious family room has a stone gas fireplace that opens up to the formal dining room, which can be enjoyed by your guests. The home is also equipped with surround sound, a security system, plantation shutters and a Rinnai tankless gas water heater.

The master bedroom offers a huge sitting room area to sit and relax, with French doors that open to a look-out balcony. It also includes double vanities, two walk-in closets, a garden tub and a standalone shower.

This upscale elegant home also features two large bedrooms on the other side of



130 CUELLO COURT (UNIT 201)



Photos courtesy of Michele Stewart

Mediterra

Continued from 26

the home. The den is very impressive and has plenty of storage for a home office. The surround sound can be used for your listening enjoyment while you work.

A final aspect of this home—which provides the handyman a place to work—is a two-car garage equipped with the Guardian Garage Storage System installed wall to wall. This is a great system to keep

your tools organized.

Mediterra is not only close to the beach but also the Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve, which is a great area to bring your families to walk the trails, fish or take your boat/kayak and enjoy the scenery.

This incredible condo is immediately available to become your new home. It's represented by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, listed by Michele Stewart and offered at \$675,950.

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Step inside 1120 Salt Creek Drive and experience a completely updated home with amazing water to golf views! This stunning home features over 4200 sq. ft. with 5BR, 4.5BA, custom kitchen and room for a pool. Offered at \$899,000

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New York City: The City that never sleeps!

By Janet Westling

I was invited to join my daughter Katie and granddaughter Anna with APEX Theatre Studio's visit to and theatre workshop in New York City on Oct. 6

Of course I said yes, for many reasons. First, it is always wonderful to support the activities your grandchildren are doing, but it doesn't hurt if they are taking place in one of my favorite cities—New York!

I was born and raised in New York so for me I always feel like I am going home when I visit.

Our schedule was very organized and hectic, yet we found time to experience a few amazing detours not on the group schedule.

DAY 1

Delta Air Lines has some direct flights from Jacksonville to New York, and we booked one.

In fact, our flight from Jacksonville was just under two hours, and our ride from JFK to our hotel was just over one hour because of traffic.

It is always exciting to arrive in New York. As I explained to Anna, New York has an energy that is unique, exciting and representative of an All-American melting pot, from Little Italy to China Town and Wall Street to Times Square.

Our first evening, we had reservations at Lupa, a Mario Batali restaurant that Francesca Rutherford wrote about in the last Sand Castles. Our reservation was early, simply because that was the only reservation we could get.

Because of the heavy traffic that delayed getting to our hotel, we had to change our plans and found a restaurant closer to home. Bond 45 was nearby and turned out to be a nice surprise. The staff was welcoming, and the food was just right.

DAY 2

We arranged a tour of Fox Studios and a visit with our favorite morning show, "Fox & Friends!"

We arrived promptly before 8 a.m. and spent the next hour on the set. My granddaughter Anna experienced firsthand what happens on a morning news program, behind the scenes with the anchors and crew who do an exceptional job delivering the news to us every morning.

From sitting on the set of "Fox & Friends" to the control room tour with Brian Kilmeade and a tour of his radio show, it was a very special morning! On Dec. 9, Brian Kilmeade will return to Ponte Vedra Beach for a book signing of his latest book, "Andrew Jackson and the Miracle of New Orleans: The Battle That Shaped America's Destiny."

After we left Fox News, we headed over to Rockefeller Plaza just a few blocks away for breakfast. I shared with Anna that this was my old childhood stomping grounds.



The APEX Theatre Studio group gathers for a quick photo.

Photos courtesy of Janet Westling



ABOVE: The entrance to the Westway Diner

LEFT: Brian Kilmeade, Anna Hughes, Janet Westling and Katie Hughes gather on the set of "Fox & Friends."

My dad worked for Shell Oil Company in the late 1950s until we were transferred to Houston, Texas, in 1969. We arrived at the building on Fifth Avenue that was once known as the RCA Building. This is where my siblings and I spent many hours visiting my dad at his office, including for the lighting of the Christmas tree from the 50th floor of Rockefeller Plaza!

During a shopping visit to Henri Bendel, we ran into Katie's childhood best friend, Carrie Pettit Mueller. I do not think we could have scheduled this if we tried!

While Katie and Carrie shopped, Anna and I walked across the street and headed over to Trump Tower for a tour.

Katie joined us for lunch at the Trump Grill. Our waiter, who had worked there for the Trumps the last 12 years, shared that President Trump's favorite table was the one we were sitting at.

Our day continued with our rendezvous back to our hotel – the Hotel Edison – to meet our group and plan for Anna's workshop and evening show "Waitress" at the Brooks Atkinson Theatre.

DAY 3

With day two behind us, we woke up to a restful sleep and a new day in New York!

Anna had a workshop that APEX Theatre Studio Director Ian Mairs organized with his New York connections that incorporated expert direction in acting techniques. The students loved it and soaked up all the new knowledge.

Katie and I headed out for a quick breakfast and found the Westway Diner



Anna Hughes, Ian Mairs and the APEX Theatre Studio students gather outside the Stage Company in New York City.

New York

Continued from 28

not too far away. It turns out that the TV show “Seinfeld” was created at this diner, and Seinfeld’s photo sitting in a booth is proudly on display!

Later, we were invited to attend the student workshop before our scheduled off Broadway show in Gramercy that afternoon. The Shakespeare play, “As You Like It,” was performed at the Stage Company. Award-winning actress Ellen Burstyn was one of the actors in the play. Off Broadway productions are an interesting view of theatre that are in a small setting without the bells and whistles of a full-fledged Broadway production. Again, it was a great experience for the APEX Theatre students from Ponte Vedra to see.

For dinner, we chose to leave the Gramercy Park area and head to an old

favorite, Del Posto in Chelsea, which is near the High Line. On a Saturday night, arriving for seating without a reservation is a challenge. We secured three seats at the bar that intentionally has a full menu dining option for guests without a reservation!

It was a wonderful dining experience. I highly recommend Del Posto a Mario Batali restaurant any time you visit New York. From the staff to the dining, it never disappoints!

DAY 4

Anna attended her last workshop. The moms sent their children off for their last instructions, and they immediately shopped for T-shirts that said “I love New York” for their final group photo before we departed.

For the students, and parents, it was the perfect picture ending their first theatre workshop trip to the Big Apple!



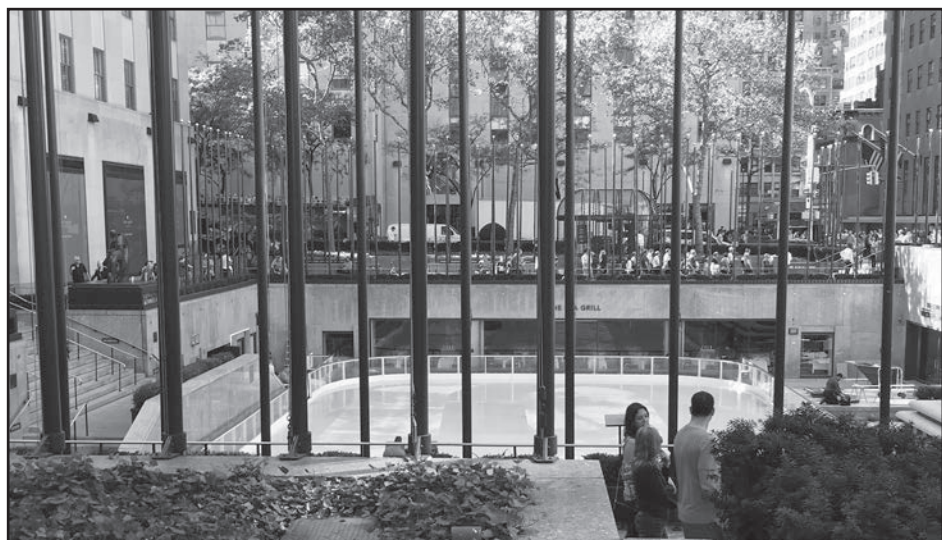
The cast from “As You Like It” performs the play at the Stage Company.



ABOVE: Katie and Anna Hughes

LEFT: Janet and her family enjoyed lunch at the Trump Grill in Trump Tower, sitting at the president’s favorite table.

Photos courtesy of Janet Westling



Rockefeller Plaza

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16th annual Delicious Destinations premier food & wine event rescheduled for Jan. 6, 2018

By Kyle Sieg
St. Vincent's HealthCare

Delicious Destinations has been rescheduled for Jan. 6, 2018 due to Hur-

ricane Irma. It will still take place at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club located at 200 Ponte Vedra Blvd.

The Food & Wine Event will be a celebration of inspired food and notable

wines. Proceeds benefit community outreach programs presented by St. Vincent's HealthCare, which provides free medical care for underprivileged children and adults throughout the area.

St. Vincent's is part of Ascension, the nation's largest Catholic and nonprofit health system.

"We knew it was the right call to postpone the event when we did," said Jane R. Lanier, CFRE, president of the St. Vincent's Foundation. "So many of our friends were affected by Hurricane Irma, and we appreciate the support of our community through all of it. We are blessed to have so many wonderful chefs, sponsors and patrons who support this worthwhile cause each and every year, and they have let us know they will be with us on Jan. 6, 2018."

The VIP sponsor exclusive reception, starting at 6 p.m., will recognize the sponsors that support St. Vincent's mission. The premier food & wine event, set to take place at 7 p.m., will see chefs from the nation's premier resorts, including The Greenbrier, The Cloister and the Montage at Palmetto Bluff. Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits will provide wines from select domestic and international vineyards.

Additionally, the event will feature live and silent auctions, a drawing of unique items including spa and restaurant gift certificates, catered dinners and weekend getaways.

Reservations and sponsorships are available; to learn more or to purchase tickets, visit www.deliciousdestinations-jax.com.

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Photo courtesy of St. Vincent's HealthCare Foundation

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Half Acre Lot Across From the Atlantic Beach Country Club This 4 bedroom/3.5 bath, 3,311 sqft home sits on a much sought after street beautifully lined with oaks and hanging moss. Walk across the street to play golf, tennis or dine! 2 car garage, lot size 150 x 180, fully renovated with wide plank wood floors and a crisp white kitchen. 1645 Selva Marina Drive ~ \$1,249,000



On the Golf Course in Glen Kernan Country Club. Water to golf views all day in this gorgeous 4 bedroom /4 bath 3780 sqft home with a private study and bonus room. Unwind in the heated pool and spa, 3 car garage to store all your toys, enjoy endless exclusive club amenities. 4568 Swilcan Bridge Lane N ~ \$769,000



Grab Your Watertoys and Come to Watersedge at Harbortown Boaters and non-boaters alike will relish in this intracoastal-front lifestyle with water views from every floor. This 3 bedroom/3.5 bath, 3,092 sqft designer townhome also offers a separate office, entertainment room, an elevator, 2 car garage, private courtyard, boat slips available on MLS. 13916 Atlantic Blvd ~ \$760,000



Oceanfront Bliss at The Waterford. Wake up to daily sunrises in this oceanfront corner unit condo! Sunlight and ocean breezes abound in this modern 3 bedroom/2.5 bath, 1,654 sqft home offering a wraparound balcony, garage parking and community oceanfront pool. 1221 S 1st Street, #9A, S Jax Beach ~ \$650,000



**1125 Neck Road
\$845,000 ~ Palm Valley**

Extraordinary 5/4 all brick private estate in the heart of PV with over 3800 SF is located on over 1 acre overlooking a stocked pond that backs to the Guana Preserve! Exceptional one level floor plan has beautiful hardwood and tile flooring. Large great room comes with home theater system. 2 Bonus rooms are perfect for home schooling, hobby room, gym or home office. 3+ car garages. Meticulously maintained, recently renovated & upgraded throughout. Foam insulation & easy to add an additional 800 SF. No HOA & 5 minute walk to the beach.



**3566 Shady Woods Street East
\$495,000 ~ Pablo Bay**

So many outstanding features in this exceptional 4/3 home with 2,748 SF! Enter through a private gate into a paved courtyard with a summer kitchen. As you enter the home you have direct views of a long tranquil lagoon on this premier lot. The home offers volume ceilings, wood & tile flooring with an open split bedroom floor plan. The entire back of the home has a huge screened lanai. A separate fully contained guest suite w/adjoining living room can be used for an in-law suite or home office.



**14322 Cottage Lake Road
\$1,325,000 ~ Pablo Creek Reserve**

From the moment you enter this spectacular home you will know you have found "The One!" Wonderful one story 4BR, 4.5 Bath open floor plan with 4382 SF is extremely versatile & has saturnia tile throughout. Offering a casual yet luxurious feel with all the upgrades buyers want! You can't get better than the backyard paradise featuring an oversized pool, spa, koi pond with bridge, summer kitchen, expansive decking, surrounded by lush landscaping & nature preserve. Extras include a tile roof, foam insulation, central vac & water purification system.



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PV3-LV43934

Property offers Ponte Vedra lifestyle in charming Atlantic Beach

By Jennifer Sexton

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty

Rarely do you find a luxury custom home in Atlantic Beach on a half-acre only steps to the sand.

A few of the home's special amenities include: a steam shower that plays music from your phone, a projector-ready media room, an insulated three-car garage and air-conditioned storage room, a heated salt water pool with fountains and a SPF 10 screen and a gravel parking pad tucked away on the side of the home to store your extra "toys."

Located at 330 Country Lane in Atlantic Beach, this six-bedroom, seven-bath, 5,346-square-foot home built in 2013 magically blends elegance with the beach. The owners carefully designed the layout and hand selected the materials used to allow for convenience and comfort for the entire family without sacrificing luxury. One can easily host large family gatherings in the chef-inspired main kitchen that features a hand-made oven from Italy and top-of-the-line appliances. The butler's pantry is equipped with a sink, ice maker, dish washer and fridge that can be used for out of view preparation.

Sliding glass doors in the living room easily retract and seamlessly connect you

with the outside living space. Most rooms in this home overlook the spacious outdoor oasis where one has no choice but to relax and unwind. With a large covered lanai as well as an expansive pool deck, your guests may choose to lounge in either the sun or the shade while listening to the sounds of the pool fountains. Continue past the pool into the yard where the oak trees provide a natural canopy over the built-in gas firepit, and watch the family cook s'mores or play games on the plush lawn. Stroll 380 yards down to Atlantic Beach Country Club for a quick nine holes and a nightcap, or walk 400 yards to the beach and count sea turtle nests.

The master suite is located on the first floor with serene views of the outdoors and a private entrance to the pool area. The expansive customized "his and hers" master closet caters to those who need extra room for an abundance of clothes, shoes and handbags. The sheer size, layout and natural light will impress even the pickiest of homeowners. Guests can comfortably retire to the private guest suite above the detached garage or to any one of the four guest rooms in the main house.

This property is represented by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, listed by Jennifer Sexton and offered at \$2,240,000.



330 COUNTRY LANE (ATLANTIC BEACH)



Photos courtesy of Jennifer Sexton



2004 OCEAN FRONT SOUTH (JAX BEACH)



Photos courtesy of Tami Glover

Oceanfront townhome offers best of Jacksonville Beach

By Tami Glover

RE/MAX WaterMarke

Imagine waking up to the soothing sound of waves gently breaking on the beach and the smell of the coastal breeze awaiting you on the patio. With just a few short steps, your toes can feel the warmth of the sand. Standing there in that moment, the sun rises: It's radiance illuminating the wonders that the day could possibly hold. The moment is yours, and the day has only just begun.

Waking up like this may seem like a daydream, but it doesn't have to be a fleeting picture in your imagination. This could, in fact, be how you spend every morning as you wake up to begin your day. Standing three stories high is a spacious, three-bedroom, two-and-a-half-bathroom townhome right on Jacksonville Beach. The location is ideal for this coastal home, as it is close to beach shops, schools and other fun things to do and see in Jacksonville Beach. Whether as a home for you and your family or as an investment, this lot has a lot to share with everyone.

Located at 2004 Ocean Front S., this property is the oceanfront dream home

so many people wish for. The rooms are bright and spacious and feature a great layout with functionality in mind. Looking out towards the balcony on the second floor is the living room, dining room and kitchen. On the third floor are the three bedrooms that give you a beautiful view of the night sky reflecting on the beach.

The best part of this property cannot be described in words. It truly is one of those homes you just have to see and feel to genuinely capture its beauty.

With recent hurricanes, it may feel uneasy looking into oceanfront properties. However, this three-story townhome has been safe and protected when it comes to the hurricane seasons. The building itself survived both hurricane Matthew and Irma with no water breaching the home. This may be because the building was rebuilt in 2006, making the structure more suitable for the location. The rebuilding of the structure has shown its value with the trials of past weather, and it is believed it will continue to do so.

This property is represented by RE/MAX WaterMarke, listed by Tami Glover and offered at \$689,000.

Local realtor shares her passion for painting

By Jon Blauvelt

Sharon Leahy feels lucky to be doing the two activities she enjoys most in life: selling real estate and painting.

A realtor with 20 years of experience who now works for Berkshire Hathaway in Ponte Vedra, Leahy is also a well-known, local artist who has cultivated her skills after travelling the world and learning from industry experts like Pierre Matisse.

Leahy specializes in watercolors, and she combines her passions for real estate and art by producing watercolor home portraits for new, existing and past homeowners. These pieces are matted and framed, she noted, and sized at 16 by 20 inches. They also include 20 notecards of the home for the client to enjoy.

“Sometimes it is of a family homestead of their grandparents’ home where generations lived,” said Leahy. “Copies of these paintings are handed down to younger generations.”

The local realtor was inspired to pursue oil painting while living for four years in Spain, where she said there is something to paint on every corner, including old ruins, colorful fiestas, flamenco dancers, bull fights and fascinating architecture. It also didn’t hurt that the influences of esteemed artists El Greco, Francisco Goya and Salvador Dali were widespread.

Leahy nurtured her watercolor interests in Saudi Arabia, where her husband Scott was stationed with the Navy and she served as a temporary business manager



ABOVE: Sharon Leahy (right) sits with Pierre Matisse during an art demonstration.

LEFT: A watercolor painting of Key West by Leahy

FAR LEFT: One of Leahy's home portraits

Photos courtesy of Sharon Leahy

at the U.S. Consulate. While there, she produced paintings representing cultural aspects of Saudi life that were made into notecards and used in correspondence with Sheiks and other foreign nationals.

“We saw a great deal,” said Leahy on her time in Saudi Arabia. “The people themselves are really quite nice.”

Then in the 1990s, Leahy’s husband was stationed in Key West, and she once again made use of her artistic talents. She was a member of one of the area’s art galleries and won several awards for her paintings, including one at the Key West Women’s Club’s state art show.

“Key West is an artist’s dream,” said

Leahy, whose travels have also brought her to France, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Yemen, Bahrain, Jordan and more.

Leahy is now expanding her artistic capabilities thanks to a friendship and mentorship with Pierre Matisse, a Florida-based artist who is the grandson of renowned artist Henri Matisse.

“I learn so much from him,” said Leahy, who met Matisse at his art showing in St. Augustine in 2002. “He does encourage me to get out of my comfort zone and try new and different things, and I do appreciate that.”

Leahy explained that Matisse has encouraged her to try more impressionistic work with the use of palette knives.

The two relate to each other, she said, because they both have military backgrounds. Leahy served in the U.S. Marine Corps for two years, and Matisse was in the French resistance during World War II and later the Commandos in the French Navy.

“The friendship is wonderful,” said Leahy, who is also a two-time past president of the Jacksonville Semper Fidelis Society. “We have great conversations on everything going on in the world because we’ve been to those places.”

When Leahy reflects on the places she’s seen and the adventures she’s embarked on, she does so with humility.

“I’m just a person that likes to paint and sell real estate,” she said. “I just feel kind of lucky ... Not everybody is that lucky to be able to do just what they want to do.”

EvenTide: Where memorable becomes unforgettable

By Gaynelle James

GreenPointe Communities

A new community in the heart of Ponte Vedra Beach offers all the expectations of modern luxury living and is garnering significant interest to prove it.

EvenTide by GreenPointe Communities offers elegant living in an exquisite setting. They say the location, with private beach access and expansive home sites for custom home designs, makes EvenTide a great opportunity for homebuyers in search of a community that’s close to everything, yet worlds apart.

“EvenTide is an exclusive gated community of single-family custom homes just steps from the ocean,” said GreenPointe Holdings President and Chief Executive Officer Ed Burr. “The community is surrounded by nature’s beauty, offering spectacular views and some of the largest home sites available within Ponte Vedra Beach.”

Surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean and the Guana River, EvenTide is an intimate enclave of 23 estate-sized homesites ranging in size from approximately a third of an acre to more than one acre. Located on

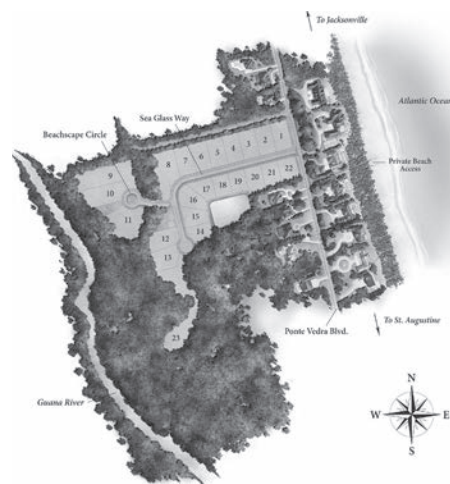


Photo courtesy of GreenPointe Communities

EvenTide is an intimate enclave of 23 estate-sized homesites ranging in size from approximately a third of an acre to more than one acre.

Ponte Vedra Boulevard between Sawgrass Drive and Mickler Road, the community has been planned to highlight its location and geographical features. Homeowners will enjoy private beach access and a neighborhood park with a sunset deck offering views of the Guana River. At EvenTide, homebuyers have the opportunity to purchase a homesite and design/

build a custom home.

“EvenTide homebuyers may engage with their own builder to bring their dream home vision to reality,” said GreenPointe Communities North Florida Division Manager Mike Taylor. “We have established design guidelines, to promote the architectural and community vision and to ensure the highest construction standards are incorporated in the design of each home.”

EvenTide’s homes will feature a coastal-eclectic style with touches of contemporary design to complement each homesite’s setting. Homes at EvenTide will be elevated because the topography at EvenTide encourages elevated design to maximize the views of the preserve and its location in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Homes will feature a connection between architecture and environment, blurring the distinction between indoor and outdoor living spaces to accommodate the owner’s lifestyle. Featuring open, spacious designs with high ceilings and expansive windows, EvenTide’s homes will showcase classical architectural elements, natural materials and state-of-the-art smart home technology.

“It’s an outstanding property and the last chance to create a true new community in Ponte Vedra Beach,” said Burr. “This area has few opportunities for new construction and limited new home inventory. GreenPointe recognized the need and demand for an upscale community like EvenTide in Ponte Vedra Beach.”

EvenTide is zoned for A-rated public schools in the St. Johns County School District including PVPV/Rawlings Elementary School, Landrum Middle School and Ponte Vedra High School. The community is located within minutes of elite clubs and golf courses including the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, the Ponte Vedra Golf & Country Club and TPC Sawgrass, home of THE PLAYERS Championship.

EvenTide is exclusively marketed by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty. Homesites are priced from the \$600s with pre-construction incentives for a limited time. Located at 1044 Ponte Vedra Boulevard in Ponte Vedra Beach, the community is near specialty shopping and dining destinations with easy access to Jacksonville, St. Augustine and major employment centers.

A grand European adventure: Budapest to Amsterdam on a Viking River Cruise

By Babs Bowler
Watson Realty Corp.

Eighteen days and six countries made for an exciting and educational trip up the Danube, Main and Rhine rivers. My sister-in-law Lucy was my traveling companion. We nicknamed ourselves “the merry widows” as we were celebrating our 70th birthdays in grand fashion. The Viking team arranged every detail from greeting us at the airport to attending to our every need. Throughout the next 18 days, every meal, tour and entertainment was flawlessly handled.

We began with a three-day pre-cruise trip to the Czech Republic. While in Prague, we enjoyed a trip into the countryside, passing farmlands and rolling hills to visit Kutna Hora and St. Barbara Cathedral, a UNESCO site and one of Central Europe’s most impressive Gothic structures. Another excursion took us to a Bohemian village where we feasted on traditional Czech food, local wines and joined in the dancing at a rustic country inn.

Then by motor coach, we headed south traveling through Slovakia arriving in Budapest, Hungary, to get our first peek at the luxurious Viking Ship “Skirmi.” An afternoon walking tour included the huge

city market, the local place to buy your daily portions. After dinner, an evening cruise up the Danube set the tone for the next 15 days. Budapest is a beautiful city. Architecture representing Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque and Neoclassical buildings express the wealth and power of Europe’s “rebirth” between 1150 to 1875. The following day, we toured St. Stephen’s Cathedral and enjoyed a Heurigen dinner in a countryside vineyard.

As we sailed through the Wachau Valley, we saw beautiful landscape, small villages, terraced vineyards and of course more church steeples. Our next port of call was in Melk, Austria. The Melk Abbey was a highlight on my cruise. It is a beautiful setting high on a cliff above the Danube. In Vienna, we conducted our own coffee tasting tour with the required apple strudels. Yum!

The following day we arrived in Passau, Germany. A walking tour through the historic town brought us to St. Stephen’s Cathedral (yes, another St. Stephen’s) where we enjoyed an unforgettable organ concert. The next day, we hopped on a Bavarian cruiser and sailed up small channels drinking beer and eating pretzels.



Photo courtesy of Babs Bowler

Babs and Lucy enjoy the landscape of vineyards, castles and churches along the Rhine River.

EUROPEAN continues on **Page 35**



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Our next port of call was Regensburg, Germany. It is the oldest city on the Danube and is one of the best preserved medieval towns in Europe. The city center escaped damage in the war, and its half-timbered buildings and architectural gems exude a timeless charm. Still standing are the Roman gates of 179 AD. We had a special treat this day. My next-door neighbor Mary Ann has a sister who lives in Regensburg. Loretta met us for mass at the beautiful St. Peter's Cathedral and then for lunch in a lush courtyard. Loretta plays the violin in the city orchestra so we got a backstage tour.

Traveling now on the Main River the next four days, we visited Nuremberg, Bamberg, Wurzburg, Wertheim, and Koblenz, Germany. On this section of the river, we passed dozens of castles, with the vista including hilltop vineyards. They plant their vines vertically so they can get the most sun exposure. Their shortened harvest time for the grapes lessens the possibility of erosion.

The Marksburg Castle was breathtaking. Sitting high on a hill, this medieval castle has been perfectly preserved since the 13th century. The Marksburg serves as the German Castles Association's headquarters, working to preserve medieval fortifications.

Sailing now on the Rhine River, we made a port call at Cologne, Germany, which featured more beautiful architecture. One of the tours included an opportunity to ascend to the roof of the Cologne Cathedral. This required riding a lift on the outside of the cathedral and then entering the ceiling to see the vast tower spaces, before going through a rooftop door onto the roof for an incredible view. We passed on that adventure.

Before our cruise came to an end, we visited Kinderdijk, Netherlands, where the famous windmills intrigued me (This is another UNESCO site.). These windmills represent the courageous fight of the Dutch against the sea. Families lived in these windmills in exchange for operating the huge blades to channel out the constant inflow of water from the surrounding low lands.

Amsterdam was our last port. Lucy and I had walked miles on cobblestone streets, crossed ancient bridges, wondered through museums, climbed hills that I didn't think I could and lit candles in churches along the way for our beloved husbands who have gone to heaven.

Our Viking Cruise was so awesome. Onboard staff took excellent care of the 160 passengers. The food was delicious, the state room was very comfortable, the local guides in all the ports provided vast information and the weather was moderate with clear skies (60 to 85 degrees). The chef even knew about our birthday celebration and provided a special dessert. It was a wonderful ending to a fabulous vacation.

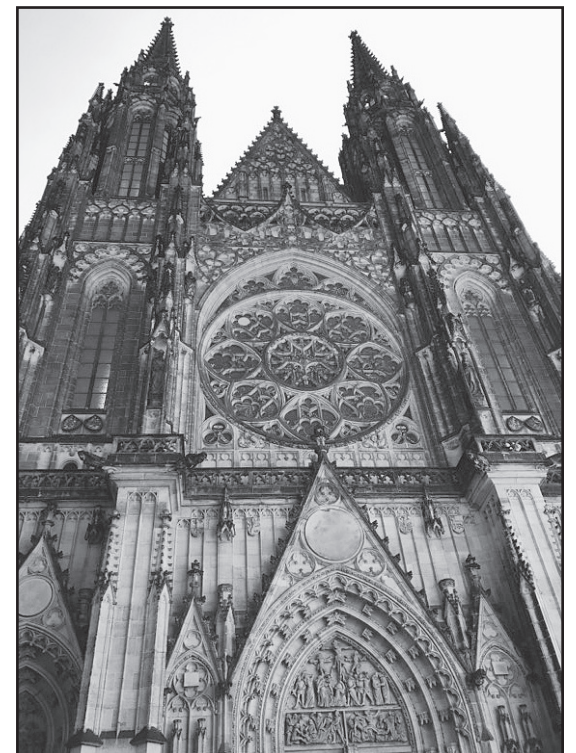


The Hungarian Parliament Building in Budapest

Photos courtesy of Babs Bowler



Babs and Lucy take in the views from the Marksburg Castle in Germany.



This church in Prague, Czech Republic, represents the Gothic architecture throughout the entire region.

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Obituaries

Continued from 11

Jim McElroy's Memorial Service will take place Sunday, Oct. 29, 2017, at 2 p.m. at the Crosswater Community Church at 211 Davis Park Road in Ponte Vedra Beach. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to www.trentstouch.com.

Norma Ricca

Norma Ricca, (née Castana), 91, died Sunday, Aug. 6, 2017. Beloved wife of 65 years to James (Jim) Ricca; loving mother of Susan (Tom) Arnold and Jamie (Ray) Russo; cherished grandmother of Justine Ferriter (Chris) and Jason Russo; sister of Joseph Castana and the late Marie Burnett, Josephine Viaggio and Violet Falcone. Dear aunt, cousin and friend to many.

Norma was born in Brooklyn, New York, and always maintained her New York style and elegance. She graduated from Woods Secretarial College and married Jim, the love of her life. Norma was a homemaker and made a wonderful home for her family in New York and then in Massachusetts. She retired to Ponte Vedra Beach, where she was very active in her community. She was involved in and was a Charter Member of the Oak Bridge Women's Club and served in many capacities. Norma was happiest spending time with "Jim and the



Norma Ricca

girls" and her extended family, and loved cooking and entertaining for relatives and friends.

A memorial mass will be held Saturday, Oct. 28, 2017, at 11 a.m. at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Please visit the online tribute at www.quinn-shalz.com. Services are under the direction and care of Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home.



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Dustin Bishop

Dustin James Bishop, 33, of Jacksonville, died Oct. 11, 2017. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com.

Isidoro Greco

Isidoro "Sonny" Greco, 82, of Ponte Vedra Beach, died Oct. 14, 2017. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com.

Katelyn Jacobs

Katelyn "Kate" Christine Jacobs, 25, of Jacksonville, died Oct. 11, 2017.

Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com.

William Langston

William Robert "Bobby" Langston III, 62, of Jacksonville, died Oct. 13, 2017. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com.

Helga Newell

Helga Newell, 76, of Atlantic Beach, died Oct. 19, 2017. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com.

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Business Weekly

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2017

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www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

When it comes to custom headwear, DOME gets it done

By Paris Moulden

You've got to take your hat off to someone who starts a business in their living room with \$500 and grows it into an international company with millions in sales ... or, in Jeff Whitaker's case, put your hat on.

Whitaker, a Nease High graduate and former Florida Gators football player, is the co-owner of DOME Headwear Co., one of the country's largest providers of custom headwear, headquartered on 3rd St. S., in Jacksonville Beach.

After graduating from the University of Florida in 2004, Whitaker moved to Colorado and got a job selling custom hats to area high school coaches for a small business owner. During his time in Colorado, Whitaker got married and had his first of three children, prompting his desire to move back to the Jacksonville area to be near family.

He also decided to open his own custom headwear company and incorporated DOME in August 2010. About three months later, he was joined by co-owner Chris Hetland, also a Nease grad and former Gators football player, and the two began working out of Whitaker's living room with an initial bank deposit of about \$500.

Whitaker said the two owners grinded it out for about three years, selling direct from high school to high school. But things really took a positive turn for the business in 2014, thanks to an exclusive partnership with Riddell, which is the leading manufacturer of football helmets and football pads. Whitaker said Riddell didn't have a custom hat product and really liked what DOME had to offer.

Now, DOME sells hats in all 50 states, and benefits from Riddell's 300-plus person sales team. But Whitaker also makes sure that no matter where the hats end up, it's no



Photo by Paris Moulden

DOME owners Jeff Whitaker (left) and Chris Hetland

secret where they began.

"On every single one of them it says Jacksonville, Florida, so that's one of the things I'm personally proud of," Whitaker said. "We've been able to build a brand that's based here in Jacksonville that reaches as far as overseas, that has reached every single state in the union. Every single hat that goes out has Jacksonville on it."

Whitaker said the system for creating custom headwear was built with themselves in mind. The process is simplified, using a five-step system in which customers select fabric, the visor, the closure, colors and uploaded artwork. If a customer is uncertain about the art or logo, DOME can help with that too, thanks to graphic designer Phuoc Huynh, who has been with the company six years.

"Most people have a brand," Whitaker said. "We've gotten good over the years of leading them to the right direction."

For all the headwear the company has created, Whitaker says some stand out more than others, including a 2016 order for about 6,000 hats for a concert by country star George Strait. Whitaker said the

company had a four-week deadline, and had to come up with all the art.

"They gave us some basic instructions, but they wanted to see eight to 10 designs, and we totally struck out the first time we presented," Whitaker said. "They didn't like it at all, and we said, 'Give us one more chance, and we'll go back to the drawing board.' We didn't sleep for about a day, redesigned everything and Phuoc came through like a hero and presented to them the next day, and they loved it."

The company delivered the hats the day before Strait's performance in Las Vegas.

"That was one of the most memorable we had," Whitaker said. "It was both challenging and gratifying at the same time. You remember the losses more than you remember the wins, but this is a win we'll never forget. It was a great day."

A lot of DOME's success is based on its quick turnaround and high-quality product. DOME can deliver orders, which requires a minimum order of 18 hats, within 30 days. Whitaker says DOME is on pace to sell 400,000 hats in 2017, and

Players Café to be replaced by Mexican restaurant

By Benjamin Naim

Players Café on Solana Road will be replaced by Nacho Café this November.

Tom Corsano, the owner of the restaurant, took over the Players Café's lease Aug. 1. Since then, he has renovated the location, built a dividing wall and opened a second Two Dudes restaurant on one side of the building (The original Two Dudes is in Atlantic Beach.).

The original plan was to keep the Players Café open alongside Two Dudes, but the owner wants to repackage his business and go in a new direction.

"Two Dudes has been doing great," Corsano said. "It's very busy, and it's performing well. The Players Café is busy on Saturday and Sunday, but the weekdays are lackluster at most."

One reason the Players Café isn't drawing on weekdays, Corsano asserted, is that business declined under a previous owner, and it could not be recovered. The restaurant owner also suggested that the café never generated as much interest as Two Dudes because it wasn't new to the community.

"When we opened Two Dudes, there was a ton of excitement," Corsano said. "When we took over the café, it was already there so it never generated that excitement or that interest, which I underestimated."

Corsano tried to revive Players Café, but other than increased weekend traffic, the customers never came back.

"I think it ran its course," he said. "I think it's time for something new and time for change, so I'm changing it. We're moving on and, we're doing fun and exciting things."

Corsano plans on replacing the Players Café with a casual Mexican-based restaurant called Nacho Café sometime in November.

As for Two Dudes, Corsano is ecstatic about the restaurant's popularity and success, which he attributed to people spreading the word organically throughout the community.

"We've done no advertising," he said. "We just opened the door. I turned the open sign on in the window. When you live in Ponte Vedra, like you live in Atlantic Beach, people know each other. Word of mouth is key."

Corsano opened Two Dudes in Ponte Vedra because he lives in the area, and the restaurant location is five minutes from his home. He noted that "everything kinda fit in place," and Two Dudes has been well received by the community.

"We've developed so many regulars, and we've only been here since Aug. 1," he said.

Two Dudes is known for its fresh seafood, such as shrimp, scallops, oysters, crab and 10 to 15 different species of fish.

"People can expect a huge variety, the highest quality and freshness," Corsano added. "We have a full bar to compliment that, and we have one of the largest wine lists in Ponte Vedra."

Visit www.twodudesrestaurant.com or call (904) 473-5272 for more information on Two Dudes. For more information on the soon-to-be-opened Nacho Café, call (904) 273-5595.

Pivot CPAs managing partner wins 'Ultimate CEO' award



Photo courtesy of Mark Berman

Darrell Clarkson, Debra Smith, Jim Peavey, Wendy Ranson, Scott Heller, Peter Reynolds and Pamela Bomba, of Pivot CPAs.

The Jacksonville Business Journal recognized Peter Reynolds – the managing partner of Ponte Vedra Beach-based Pivot CPAs – as a recipient of the newspaper’s “Ultimate CEO” award at an Oct. 14 ceremony at EverBank Field.

The Business Journal selects its recipients for the awards based on leadership, company growth and community involvement. Other recipients in the mid-sized category included Nelson Bradshaw of BBVA Companies, Rory Diamond of Ponte Vedra-based K9s for Warriors and J.Peter Wilking of A1A Solar.

In his remarks, Business Journal’s Managing Editor Timothy Gibbons lauded Reynolds for his leadership in growing the Pivot CPAs firm by 45 percent over the last five years. He also congratulated the “Ultimate CEO” award winner for leading the firm through a rebranding process and developing a culture that promotes a work-life balance and deep-rooted community involvement.

“It is not often that the CEO of an accounting firm is even put in the position to earn such accolades,” Reynolds said. “Accountants by nature stay in the background, so it was a fun challenge to take our team through this process.”

The culture shift process included a series of focus groups with clients, former clients and employees, all helping to identify the core mission of the business.

“We learned that our clients see us not just as skilled accountants who can make their numbers add up, but as a true business resource,” Reynolds added. “To a person they all said we play a more pivotal role than we maybe even gave ourselves credit for. The name ‘Pivot’ was born out of those conversations.”

During his acceptance speech, Reynolds also credited the Pivot staff, his business partners, family and clients for his award.

DOMÉ

Continued from 38

has done more than 1.5 million since the company began.

Despite its phenomenal growth, Whitaker says the company is always striving to accomplish more. Logos posted around the office read “Do Better,” a motto the company lives by.

“That’s pretty much what we try to do every day,” Whitaker said. “The most important thing for us is, every Monday,

when we have a meeting, did we get better this week? We’ve grown from \$500 in a living room at a wicker desk, to seven years later we’re in all 50 states and sold over a million and a half hats. We never imagined we’d be here.

“The sky is the limit,” Whitaker added. “We don’t know where we’re going, but it’s a pretty exciting journey to be on right now.”

For more information on DOMÉ, visit www.domeheadwear.com.



Photo by Paris Moulden

The headwear designed for country star George Strait is one of DOMÉ owner Jeff Whitaker’s favorite projects.

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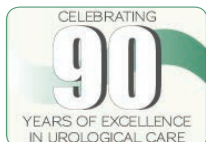
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Sharks fall out of first after loss to Trinity Christian

By Jerry Norton

Special to the Recorder

The Ponte Vedra Sharks suffered their first conference loss of the season after falling to Trinity Christian 21-3 on Friday evening at the Conquerors' field. The loss dropped the Sharks out of a first place conference tie and makes Ponte Vedra's final conference game against Bolles critically important from a playoff perspective.

Both the Sharks and the Conquerors own 3-1 conference records, while the Bulldogs of Bolles stand at 4-0. Trinity wraps up the regular season against Bishop Kenny on Friday. Should the Conquerors take care of Kenny and the Sharks stop Bolles, all three teams would finish with identical 4-1 records, and the FHSAA would be left with a postseason playoff nightmare.

However, if BK upsets the Conquerors and the Sharks defeat Bolles, the Bulldogs and the Sharks would share first place, and Ponte Vedra likely would be named conference champs, with Bolles named conference runner-up. In this scenario, Trinity would be left out in the cold.

On the other hand, Ponte Vedra would be eliminated from the playoffs if it loses to Bolles and Trinity defeats BK. The end result is the Sharks' playoff hopes come down to Friday night's game against the Bulldogs.

If Ponte Vedra is to be a playoff team, it will have to come up with considerably more offense than it was able to generate Friday against TC. The Sharks produced just 104 yards of total offense on 43 plays—38 rushes and just 5 passes. Collin Magill was the workhorse for Ponte Vedra with 16 carries for 47 yards, while Mark Calvin rushed eight times for 21 yards. Jarrett Stepp caught two balls for 18 yards. He also had a brilliant 53-yard kick return to give the Sharks a first down at the TC 34-yard line. Unfortunately, a fumble on the next play cost the Sharks a chance to tie the game before the



Photo courtesy of Jerry and Chris Norton

Cole McCormick and Jarrett Stepp break up the Conquerors' pass on defense.

first half ended.

Defensively, Ponte Vedra played well in the first half, allowing the Conquerors a single touchdown and an unsuccessful field goal attempt. Riley Robbins converted a 17-yard, third quarter field goal to make the score 7-3, but that was the last scoring opportunity the Sharks would have. Trinity took advantage of an interception to move in front 14-3 with three minutes left in the third quarter. They added the final touchdown on a screen pass from the Sharks' 10-yard line with eight minutes left in the game.

Sam Barnhard and Connor McDonough each recovered fumbles for the Sharks. John Tyler led Ponte Vedra with eight tackles; Zach Sommers had seven; Chris James and Zack King had six and Tommy Zitiello had five.

Ponte Vedra travels to Bolles on Friday with the team's playoff hopes on the line. The Sharks finish the season the following week with a non-conference game at Creekside.

Nease's rally falls short against St. Augustine

By Paris Moulden

Nease put on quite a performance in front of a packed house against undefeated St. Augustine last Friday night, but fell short of pulling off the upset.

The Yellow Jackets (7-0, 3-0) held off the Panthers for a 35-23 victory and secured the District 4-6A title, although Nease didn't make it easy. The Panthers trailed 21-10 at halftime, but their defense held St. Augustine to several three-and-outs, and Nease's Trey Ragin intercepted Austin Reed's pass on first-and-goal during St. Augustine's opening drive of the second half.

"I didn't get into this for moral victories," Nease coach Tim Krause said. "We're always working to try to win games. While I'm really, really proud of their effort, the kids played incredibly hard and fought the entire game, I'm disappointed in the way it turned out."

Nease (4-4, 2-1) staged a rally in the second half behind the legs of stand-out running back Jareem Westcott. St. Augustine, which had been holding opponents to an average of 10.5 points per game, struggled to contain Westcott, who rushed for 225 yards on 39 carries and two touchdowns. He also nearly set up another scoring drive in the fourth quarter, bulldozing his way and dragging defenders with him to St. Augustine's 15-yard line, but the play was overturned on a holding penalty.

"In any game, there's a handful of situations you want back, and a handful of situations that, if they went one way or another, things would have turned out different and that was obviously one of them," Krause said. "We had a lot of momentum and had the call go against us. But that's the game, that's the way it works."



Jeff Heinemann/theimagecaddy.com

Nease's Jareem Westcott runs for some of his 200-plus yards last Friday night.

Quarterback Preston Staples went 11 of 18 passing for 116 yards and rushed for a touchdown too. He also threw two interceptions, however, and was sacked on fourth-and-goal on Nease's final possession of the game.

The disappointment of not being able to pull off the upset showed in the players' faces as they left the field, but Krause said he was impressed with the toughness his team displayed.

"I think we take away from this that we're a really competitive football team, and that I think our kids can play with anybody," Krause said. "... I'm really proud to be their coach. I thought they played as hard as they could, and I know they fought and I wish we could have done more for them."

The Panthers, who still have a slim chance to make the playoffs, next face Englewood at home at 7 p.m. Friday, before closing out the regular season at Bartram Trail on Nov. 3.

Ponte Vedra JV cross country wraps up season on high note



Photos courtesy of PVHS XC

The JV cross country girls kick off their race Oct. 21.

On Saturday, Oct. 21, 109 Ponte Vedra High School Cross Country JV athletes raced in the North Florida JV Championship and MS State Qualifier at Bishop Kenny High School.

Almost half the runners recorded their personal bests, some just a week after having an impressive showing at the PVHS home meet.

Overall, the JV boys team took first place, with the JV girls coming in second behind The Bolles School. The freshmen girls had an impressive showing with Sherbrooke Balser, Stella Knehans and Christina D'Aquila earning spots on the varsity team and the chance to compete at districts. Rounding out the top ten in the girls' competition were Lucy Morfit and Sarah Reimer.

For the boys, juniors Chandler Garcia and Jackson Noye, as well as senior Quinn Mowlam, secured the last spots on the varsity team and will be running next week. Also finishing in the top ten for PVHS were Kyle Reinheimer, Luke Synder and Nicolas Guerrero.

This weekend marked the end to the regular season for the JV team, which began training in late May with their dedicated coaches, who despite the growth in the program into the triple digits, were able to motivate and encourage each athlete. The Ponte Vedra High School Cross Country JV team will now enjoy a little respite while continuing to cheer for their teammates in next week's district meet hosted at PVHS.

Derek Sprague named GM at TPC Sawgrass

Derek Sprague, managing director at Liberty National Golf Club in Jersey City, New Jersey, the past two years, has been named the new general manager at TPC Sawgrass.

Sprague will replace Bill Hughes, who is starting his new role as regional director of operations for the TPC Network, a promotion that was announced in July. Hughes served as TPC Sawgrass general manager for 11 years.

"With the ongoing evolution of TPC Sawgrass as we strive to deliver an unparalleled experience throughout the year and during THE PLAYERS Championship, it was incumbent upon us to find the right person to succeed Bill and continue our progress," said John Huggins, Senior

Vice President of TPC Operations. "Bill did a wonderful job of getting us to where we are today. With Derek's outstanding reputation and professional history, including our own experience with him at Liberty National, we are confident that he will help TPC Sawgrass achieve its goals."

Sprague was employed by the PGA TOUR at Liberty National, the result of an expanded operational relationship between Liberty National and the tour. During his time there, Sprague oversaw the club's preparation for the recently contested and highly successful Presidents Cup.

"I'm grateful to Paul and Dan Fireman for two great years at Liberty National," Sprague said. "It's a special place, and hosting a successful Presidents Cup was

the perfect capstone to my experience there. The opportunity to lead a talented team at the PGA TOUR's flagship property and help host THE PLAYERS Championship each year is an extraordinary one, and I'm eager to get started."

Sprague came to Liberty National from Malone Golf Club, in his hometown of Malone, New York, where he was general manager/director of golf for 27 years and earned numerous awards. Since 1998, he has served in a number of leadership roles at the PGA section and national levels, including his two-year term as the 39th PGA of America president (ending in 2016). Sprague is now the honorary president of the PGA of America.

Prior to Sprague's election as the PGA's

president in November 2014, he served 23 months as PGA vice president. He also served as PGA secretary for two years. Sprague turned professional in 1989, beginning his career at Malone Golf Club. He was elected to PGA membership in 1993.

His awards include being named Northeastern New York PGA Golf Professional of the Year in 2005 and 2008; receiving his PGA Section's Bill Strausbaugh Award four times (2000-03) for his leadership, serving the PGA and mentoring fellow PGA professionals; being named Section Merchandiser of the Year for Public Facilities in 1998-99; and winning the 2006 Section President's Plaque for outstanding contributions to player development.

PGA TOUR's Performance Center at TPC Sawgrass adds new instructor

By Benjamin Naim

Alana Swain is the latest addition to the PGA Tour's team of instructors at the Performance Center at TPC Sawgrass.

With an NCAA Championship and plenty of teaching experience on her resume, Swain applied for an instructor position at TPC Sawgrass shortly after finding out that the PGA Tour would be opening a new facility run by Todd Anderson. Swain connected with him at the behest of her friend and came for a visit to see the facility.

She thought it was unbelievable.

"It's a dream for a teacher and player," Swain said. "Everything you need to get better at is right here. I've seen a lot of golf facilities. It's just really well done. We have every piece of technology that you'd need. The putting studio is incredible, and the team of instructors we have here is also really special."

Swain fell in love with golf as a 14-year-old high school student. She knew right away that she wanted to play the sport competitively because it spoke to her, and every facet of the game is measurable.

"You can see how your hard work pays off based on scores," Swain said. "You kind of get almost addicted to getting better."

Swain accrued only a few years of experience before joining the golf team



Alana Swain

at her university. She went on to win an NCAA championship.

"I went to Methodist University in North Carolina which had a great women's golf program, but they also have a program called

PGM where you can get your PGA card along with your business degree all at the same time," she said. "So, when you go through that program, you do internships in the summer ... And it was through the internships that I saw that being a teacher was my passion."

Swain noticed the significance of coaching during her time as a collegiate golfer. As a result, she utilized years of studying and knowledge of the game to become one of the best young instructors in the country, according to Golf Digest Magazine.

Since 2010, Swain has worked as an instructor in New York and Miami at the Atlantic Golf Club, the Scarsdale Golf Club and the Jim McLean Golf School. In 2017, the PGA Tour's Performance Center at TPC Sawgrass offered her a new challenge.

"It's very different," Swain said. "I'm coming in from working at country clubs, I have also worked at a golf school, but it's definitely different than where I've worked previously. Because it's a

performance center and not a golf school, we're creating programs to really get people better and come up with plans for people and assessments to measure their improvement.

"We're just hoping to create an amazing golf experience for people," Swain added.

The Chicago native describes herself as a "whole game teacher" who coaches everything, but mostly full swing. She has worked with a vast array of clientele over the years and is trained to teach all skill levels, from amateurs to pros. One of the most satisfying aspects of coaching, Swain said, is watching her clients accomplish their sought-after goals.

"I like taking any level player and creating an individual, specific plan for people to get better," she said. "I like watching a beginner hit the ball in the air for the first time and then want to do that over and over again. I like watching a high school kid make the high school team."

Swain's advice for new players is pair up with a friend and find an instructor that can simplify the game and teach the basics.

"If you're starting, it's fun to do it with a friend," she said. "Pair up with someone and learn together, find an instructor and learn those basics. It's tough to do it on your own."

For more information on the Performance Center at TPC Sawgrass, visit www.tourperformancecenter.com.



Photo courtesy of Isobel Spink

HELEN SHORT REPEATS AS MARSH LANDING WOMEN'S CLUB CHAMPION

Helen Short (right) won the Marsh Landing Women's Club Championship for the second year in a row, and Peggy Stanley (left) earned the net champion title. The gross champion of the pink tee division was Linda Doran. The tournament was held Oct. 5 and 6 at the Marsh Landing Country Club.

Cultural Center's Ponte Vedra Couples Scotch Championship Tournament set for Nov. 18

The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach has rescheduled its inaugural Ponte Vedra Couples Scotch Championship Golf Tournament that was postponed due to Hurricane Irma. The new date is Saturday, Nov. 18 at Oak Bridge Golf Club in Sawgrass.

This casual tournament is for couples of all skill levels starting at 2:30 p.m., with a shotgun tee off. The grand prize for a hole in one is a men's Rolex watch from Underwood's Jewelers valued at \$13,400. Other prizes include a custom portrait, dinners,

artwork and more. The tournament will use a modified Scotch format that will be played over nine holes, followed by reception catered by 3 Palms Grille.

The cost is \$150 per couple, which includes a cart, greens fees, a cocktail recep-

tion with prizes for gross and net winners, heavy appetizers and four drink tickets. A cash bar is also available.

To register, visit www.ccpvb.org/events/upcoming-events or call 904-280-0614, ext. 205.



SCHOOL IS COOL EDUCATIONAL DIRECTORY



PVHS' Ocean of Sound wins band competition titles

This past month, the Ponte Vedra High School marching band, Ocean of Sound, won the Grand Champion title in two different FMBC Regional Band competitions for the first time in the school's history.

Featuring its 2017 show, "Jack," Ocean of Sound placed first against 11 other bands at Middleburg High School's Echoes of Excellence competition on Sept. 30. The Ocean of Sound Color Guard also earned the Best in Class honor at Middleburg in the 4A Class—a first-time honor for the color guard.

"To receive Best in Class as a color guard would have been out of reach for us last year," Auxiliary Director Lauren Nock said. "The students are extremely hard-working, and though we are small, we are powerful. Watching the color guard be awarded at Middleburg for their efforts was a really sweet moment."

Two weeks later, on Oct. 14,



Ocean of Sound performs its 2017 show "Jack" at the Golden Eagle Classic at Fleming Island High School.

Photo courtesy of Ponte Vedra High School

Ponte Vedra High again came out on top against 15 bands at the Golden Eagle Classic at Flem-

ing Island High School. In the preliminary round, the Ocean of Sound received a Superior rating

in five categories: Drum Major, Percussion, Music, Visual and General Effect. The band was

awarded Best in Class in every category with a total score of 78.05, winning the 4A Class title. In the final round, Ponte Vedra again topped the competition with a score of 82.95 to take home the Grand Champion trophy.

"I could not be more proud of each and every band member," Band Director Jermain Reynolds said. "They have played their best runs of the show at the most important moments, with emotion and commitment. It has been amazing."

The Ponte Vedra High School Ocean of Sound will perform at the Music Performance Assessment by the Florida Bandmasters Association Festival at Bartram Trail High School on Saturday, Oct. 28, and then will compete at the 2017 FMBC State Championships on Nov. 18 in Tampa. For more information about the Ocean of Sound marching band, visit www.pyband.com.

TEERING UP TOMORROW'S LEADERS

Golf Tournament Benefiting JU Men's and Women's Golf

November 6, 2017

1:00 PM Shotgun

Marsh Landing Country Club

Join us for a golf tournament to benefit the men's and women's golf programs at JU. The money raised goes directly towards providing scholarships to student-athletes who otherwise could not choose to go to JU for their education. Our mission is to attract the best and the brightest, and while they love to tee it up, these students become leaders in our community, a future part of our local workforce and contribute their time to help local non-profits. JU golfers are great ambassadors for our school and our city.



Sophomore Hannah Berman-Ponte Vedra grad



Senior Raul Pereda



JR Amanda Detmer & Head Coach Jennifer Borocz



JR Sam Uhland-Providence grad & Head Coach Mike Blackburn

JACKSONVILLE
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JACKSONVILLE
COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

PV2-LV43795

Nease scores big with 2nd annual 'Victory Day'

By Paris Moulden

Dozens of touchdowns were scored on the Nease Panthers last Friday afternoon, and that's exactly the way they wanted it.

The Nease football team and coaches held their second annual "Victory Day," which allows young students with disabilities to compete in drills with Nease football players. The students from Valley Ridge Academy, Timberlin Creek Elementary and Wards Creek Elementary participated in exercises, tried on equipment, scored touchdowns and ate lunch with the players.

Nease coach Tim Krause suggested the event to the school, and the Panthers held "Victory Day" for the second year in a row.

"I met a coach that did something very similar at a small school in Michigan," Krause said. "We kind of took the idea and I brought it to our district office, and they were gracious enough to help and organize it and make it work on our scale and what we want to do."



It was obvious by the smiles on their faces and their excitement that the young students had a blast with the Panthers' football team, but Krause said it was just as meaningful to the players.

"It's awesome," he said. "The fun part for us is to see the joy on both faces. Obviously, we're doing this event for them and they have a great time, but I think our kids get just as much out of it."



Photos by Paris Moulden

Special needs students from Valley Ridge Academy, Timberlin Creek Elementary and Wards Creek Elementary score touchdowns with the support of the Nease football team during the "Victory Day" event at Nease High School last Friday.



LIFETIME OPPORTUNITIES.



OPEN HOUSE DATES

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Open House for Parents**
Ponte Vedra Beach Campus
Nov. 8, 2017 at 9 a.m.
Ponte Vedra Beach Campus
Nov. 28, 2017 at 6 p.m.

**Lower School (PreK-5)
Open House for Parents**
Whitehurst Campus
Nov. 14, 2017 at 6 p.m.

**Middle School (6-8)
Open House for Parents**
Bartram Campus
Nov. 7, 2017 at 9 a.m.
Bartram Campus
Nov. 9, 2017 at 6 p.m.

**Upper School (9-12)
Open House for Parents**
San Jose Campus
Nov. 10, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.
San Jose Campus
Dec. 8, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.
San Jose Campus
Jan. 5, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

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St. Joseph Academy will be hosting an Open House On Thursday, November 16, 2017, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the SJA cafeteria. All 8th grade students and transfer students are welcome to attend! Please contact Mr. Keane, Admissions, for any questions at 904.824.0431 or at patrick.keane@sjaweb.org.

Active reading takes stage in Bolles PVB Grade 3 class

Third-grade students on the Bolles Lower School Ponte Vedra Beach Campus are taking their reading skills to the next level – the stage.

As part of a lesson in storytelling and active reading, third-grade teacher Amy Coles assigned books in a script format to students, who were given parts and spent time learning how to share their lines within the parameters of their class instruction. Some of those themes included “acting is reacting;” “always stay in character;” “face the audience;” “read with a storyteller’s voice;” “make sure your voice matches the character’s feelings” and “look out for and use punctuation.”

Student groups were taking turns sharing their presentations throughout the first week of October in Coles’ class.



Third-grade students at Bolles Lower School Ponte Vedra Beach Campus share lines from their reading material.

Photos courtesy of The Bolles School

JACKSONVILLE COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL STUDENTS’ BREAK DRESS CODE TO SUPPORT MEXICO EARTHQUAKE RELIEF



Photo courtesy of Jacksonville Country Day School

Ponte Vedra Beach residents Will Misner and Max Davis recently “broke the dress code” at Jacksonville Country Day School to benefit Mexico earthquake relief. The students donated \$717 to help residents of Mexico impacted by the recent earthquake.

CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

1. *Stars of “The Waltons” and “Roseanne,” e.g.
6. Equinox mo.
9. Don’t do this to the messenger
13. Whitman’s dooryard bloomer
14. *Logo of “All in the Family” network
15. Beyond normal limits
16. *Where to hear Frasier Crane
17. Workout segment
18. Nary a soul
19. *TV’s largest family
21. *Flintstones’ best friends
23. Before now
24. Catch some Z’s
25. Car nut
28. “Brave New World” drug
30. “Can’t stop! I’m ____ a ____!”
35. Big Bang’s original matter
37. Sheep’s milk cheese
39. “So You Think You Can ____”
40. Knowing about
41. *Sansa, Arya, or Robb
43. Narcotics agent
44. Nymph of lakes and springs
46. Most populous continent
47. Major bike maker
48. “____ the Clowns,” past tense
50. “Me and ____ and the Dying Girl”

52. “Da” to a Russian
53. Source of protein
55. More, in Madrid
57. * “Blackish” family
61. * “Fuller House” family
65. “So long, farewell, auf Wiedersehen, ____.”
66. Skeleton in a lock
68. Part of gastro-intestinal system
69. Modulator-demodulator, for short
70. Proper place for a napkin
71. Inspiration for poets and musicians
72. Born and ____
73. Before of yore
74. Sign up again

DOWN

1. Simpleton
2. Hokkaido native
3. Smeltery refuse
4. a.k.a. boreal forest
5. Scrawny ones
6. Army ____ hall
7. Pirate’s affirmative
8. Old but in
9. Door opener
10. Adored one
11. Half-moon shaped object
12. Tommy and Spike, e.g.
15. Straighten a paper-clip, e.g.
20. Abode toppers
22. Israeli submachine gun
24. Computer program input
25. *Lucious and Cookie

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

26. Arm bones
27. “____ on the ground floor”
29. Of higher order
31. Deliver a tirade
32. Opposite of binary
33. Rocks at mountain base
34. *Family in “The Middle”
36. Castle’s line of defense
38. “Mi chiamano Mimi,” e.g.
42. Deserved consequence
45. Chinese tapas
49. What’s old is new again, prefix

51. Jousting match participant
54. Bracelet-wearing part
56. Sleep sound
57. Doorframe part
58. Airy emanation
59. Sweep under the rug
60. Financial aid criterion
61. Done on a Smith Corona
62. Joie de vivre
63. One way to memorize
64. * “Game of Thrones” bastard
67. Inner, middle or outer, on one’s head

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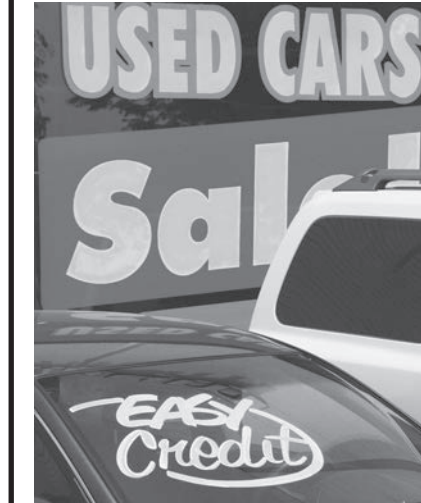
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