

**July 14, 2016**Volume 46, No. 28

PonteVedraRecorder.com

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader



The Recorder's Birthday Party Planner

Pages 20-23



A century of dentistry

3rd generation joins Ponte Vedra practice

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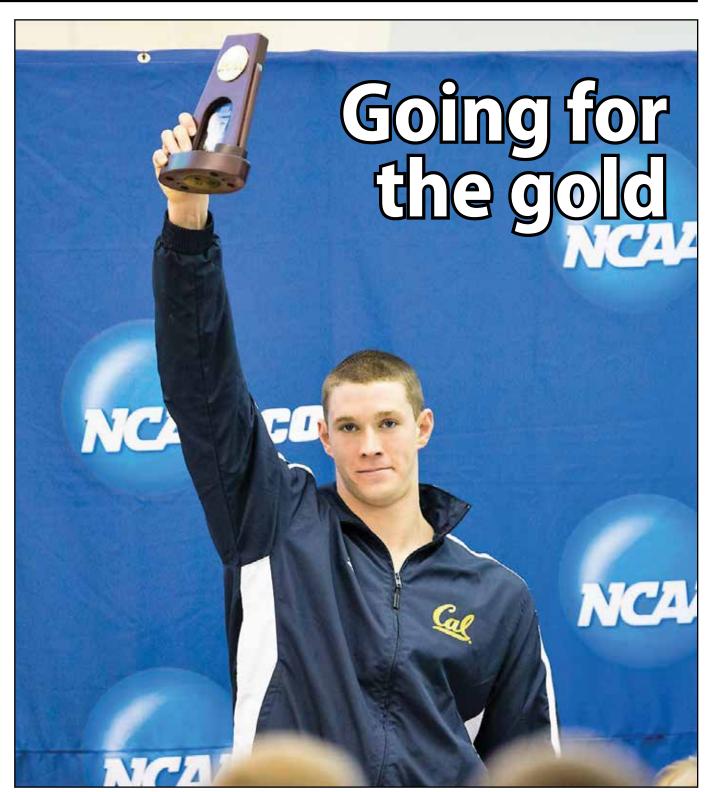


Photo courtesy of UC-Berkeley Ponte Vedra swimmer Ryan Murphy is heading to Rio to compete for Team USA in the Summer Olympics. Read more on page 33.

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# Recorder

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#### **WHAT'S THIS?**



Do you know what this is?

### Email your answer to jennifer@opcfla.com by Tuesday 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.

Several readers correctly identified last week's photo as Casa Maria Restaurant. Winner of the random drawing was **Susan Milian** – congratulations, Susan!! You may pick up your prize at the Recorder offices during regular business hours.

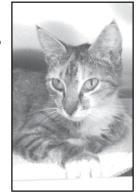
Don't forget — incorrect but entertaining guesses might also be rewarded with a trip to the zoo.



#### **ADOPT A PET**

#### **CAT OF THE WEEK**

I'm Sunshine! I'm a 1-year-old female cat who is looking for a forever family. 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. #32295





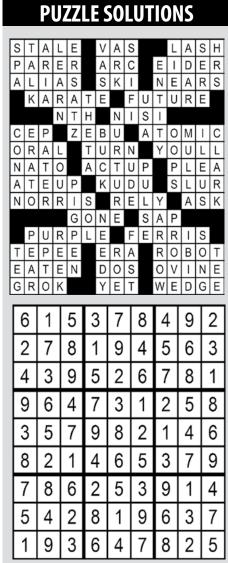
#### **DOG OF THE WEEK**

Well, hi there! My name is Zelda and I'm a princess of only 3 years! I was brought to the pet center as a stray. Come visit me at the pet center! As this animal was a stray there may be some traits that are unknown at this time. #31967

Any pet being introduced to a new home will need time to adjust to a new environment. Please reinforce house training and behavioral training and be mindful of interacting with other pets. Come visit us today here at the pet center

#### St. Johns County Pet Center

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



Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.



# Palm Valley leaders meet to address community issues

## Traffic, zoning among key concerns

Traffic and roadway issues, zoning variances and mobility issues are among the key priorities identified by the Palm Valley Community Association (PVCA), which recently held its second leadership meeting.

Organizers said the meeting was held to increase collaboration among area homeowner's associations and help influence public policy on quality of life issues.

"Given that the homeowners' as-

sociations for the planned communities along Palm Valley Road represent more than half of total Palm Valley households," incoming PVCA President Deborah Lamir said, "it's important that everyone have a seat at the table on discussions that affect our shared future."

Board Member Brian Hurdis reviewed the community association's current activities, including participation in the Citizens Traffic Task Force;

collaboration with the SJC Sheriff's Department on traffic control, public safety and crime prevention; the focus on growth management (density/zoning); the Pave The Way sidewalk action committee; the PV/PV Greenways Initiative; and community events like the Food Truck

Friday Night, the Palm Valley Farmers Market and various community beautification activities.

Vice President Greg Leonard, meanwhile, reviewed the key findings from the initial Palm Valley

Palm Valley continues on Page 4





# CONGRATULATIONS S.M.A.R.T. GRADUATES



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# Community mourns teen killed in bicycle accident

#### **By Jennifer Logue**

Ponte Vedra residents came together this week to mourn and pay tribute to a Nease High School student who died July 6 from injuries sustained in a traffic accident.

Christian Meier, 17, was riding his bike eastward on the sidewalk along Palm Valley Road last week when he was hit by a car as he tried to cross the road near the foot of the Palm Valley Bridge. He was taken to Baptist Medical Center Beaches, where he later died of his injuries.

Following the accident, school officials reached out to local families, offering to connect them with grief counseling resources.

"It is with great sadness that I must share with you that one of our own, Christian Meier, a rising senior, passed away..." Principal Kyle Dresback wrote. "Christian's family has been very involved and has been a great supporter of Nease High School."

Meier — who worked at the Publix at the Palm Valley roundabout — was active in Nease's nationally ranked NJROTC program, earning numerous honors and accolades. In addition to being named the program's most recent Sailor of the Quarter, he held a "Top 7" leadership position within the cadet corps, graduated

from the prestigious Area 12 Leadership Academy and was a member of the Nease NJROTC's nationally ranked Color Guard competition unit.

"Christian embraced the ideals of the JROTC program — exceptional character, service to the community and strong leadership," said Capt. Scott LaRochelle, senior naval science instructor for Nease's NJROTC program. "He was a servant leader within the corps of cadets — always ready and willing to contribute to whatever needed to be done. He mentored the younger cadets, teaching and guiding them toward success in the program."

Meier's goal, LaRochelle said, was to one day become a Navy pilot.

"Christian possessed all the tools to earn a full Navy ROTC scholarship and would have become a helluva pilot," LaRochelle said. "He will be missed."

A member of the National Honor Society, Meier also received awards through the school district's "Character Counts" program.

He is survived by his parents, Margaret and Walter; three sisters — Claire Rose, Mary Kate and Laura Elizabeth; two brothers, Sean Thomas and Patrick Ryan; grandmother Mary Pauzer; and godparents John and Carol Meier, and Janet DeVos.

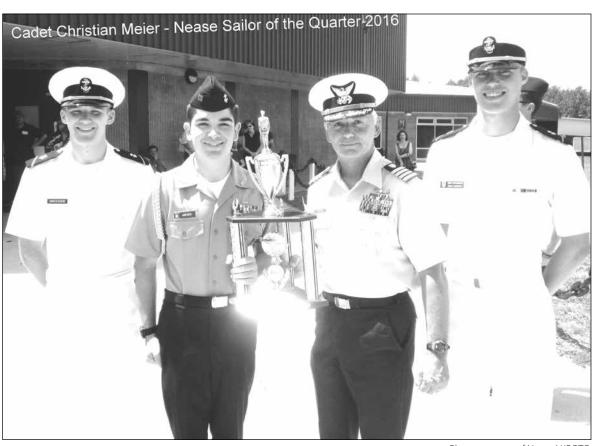


Photo courtesy of Nease NJROTC.

Christian Meier receives the Sailor of the Quarter Award from Nease High School's nationally ranked NJROTC program. He hoped to one day become a Navy pilot.



Photo by Jennifer Logue

A table where local residents could write cards and notes to the Meier family was set up in Publix, where Christian was employed.



Christian Meier

## Palm Valley

Continued from 3

leadership meeting held in April. In addition to traffic and zoning issues, Leonard said, mobility topics such as the proposed PV/PV Greenway and sidewalk initiatives were important to local residents.

The HOA board representatives agreed to take information provided by the PVCA on the status of activities related to these priorities and disseminate that information to all of their homeowner residents.

"By bringing representatives of all of our Palm Valley communities together," Lamir said, "we can most effectively influence public policies that will sustain and enhance the quality of life we enjoy in Northeast St. Johns County."

Founded in 1948, the Palm Valley Community Association works to represent the common interests and shared views of all members of the greater northeastern St. Johns County area.

For more information, contact PVCA Vice President Greg Leonard at (904) 806-4111.

# Plein Air exhibition coming to Ponte Vedra Beach soon

First Coast Plein Air Painters presents the Plein Air member exhibition July 22 through Sept. 2.

This summer juried exhibition will feature original works in oil, pastel, acrylic and watercolor capturing the natural beauty of Northeast Florida and throughout the Southeastern United States.

The cultural center's Main Gallery hours are: Monday – Friday from 9

a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

After hours appointments are available.

The show's opening reception will be held Friday, July 22, from 6 to 8 p.m. at The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach, 50 Executive Way. For more information, call (904) 280-0614 or visit *www.ccpvb.org*.

# All Ponte Vedra public schools earn 'A' grades

#### St. Johns County schools still tops across Florida

#### **By Jennifer Logue**

Every one of Ponte Vedra's public schools earned an "A" rating in school grades released July 8 by the Florida Department of Education.

"A" ratings were awarded locally to Ocean Palms and PVPV/Rawlings elementary schools, K-8 school Valley Ridge Academy, Alice B. Landrum Middle School, and both Nease and Ponte Vedra high schools. In addition, the rankings show that the St. Johns County School District was the

top-performing district in the state for the eighth year in a row and one of just three districts statewide to earn the coveted "A" rating. St. Johns County had 22 "A" schools, six "B" schools, four "C" schools and one "D" school.

"I am very proud of the performance of our children; this has been a strategic effort by our outstanding teachers to implement the new and more rigorous standards," Superintendent Dr. Joseph Joyner said. "It is gratifying to see how our teachers have embraced the standards and continue to be committed to every student's success."

Across the county, 11 elementary schools, four middle schools, all three of the district's K-8 academies and four high schools received a grade of "A" this year. Durbin Creek Elementary School's grade is pending and is expected to be an "A."

In addition to Ocean Palms and PVPV/ Rawlings, St. Johns County elementary schools receiving "A" ratings included Cunningham Creek, W.D. Hartley, Hickory Creek R.B. Hunt, Julington Creek, Mill Creek, Palencia, Timberlin Creek and Wards

"A"-rated middle schools included Fruit Cove, Pacetti Bay and Switzerland Point, while Liberty Pines and Patriot Oaks academies also received the top grade. Bartram Trail and Creekside high schools also earned "A" rankings.

Ketterlinus Elementary, South Woods

Elementary, R.J. Murray Middle, Gamble Rogers Middle, and Pedro Menendez and St. Augustine high schools received a "B" this year. John A. Crookshank Elementary, Otis A. Mason Elementary, Osceola Elementary and Sebastian Middle schools received a "C," while the Webster School received a

This is the first year the new, more difficult school grading system is in place under the Florida Standards Assessment which includes a change in the metrics used to calculate learning gains. To review the state report, visit http://schoolgrades.fldoe.org.

#### School supply donations accepted at St. Johns County Tax Collector All branches are drop-off Schools, will be located at each of the five the school year," said St. Johns County Tax

In an effort to help public school teachers prepare for the 2016-2017 academic year, the St. Johns County Tax Collector will have donation barrels available at all five branch locations to accept school supplies throughout the first week in August.

sites for Tools 4 Schools

Blue barrels, provided by Tools 4

SJTC branch offices through August 5. Donors may help local teachers by dropping off any type or quantity of new, unopened school supplies, including extra reams of copy paper, tissues, cleaning supplies, filing materials and art or writing supplies.

"Our teachers selflessly give of themselves — their time, talent and treasure — for the good of our children throughout

Collector Dennis W. Hollingsworth. "Providing collection sites for donated classroom supplies is the very least we can do to say we appreciate their vocation."

Teachers spend an average of \$600 of their own money each year on school supplies, according to Investing in Kids (INK), a direct support organization of the St. Johns County School District.



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**MEDITIERRA** 3BR/3BA • \$725,000 Jayne Young / Chris Knight



COSTA VERANO 4BR/4.5BA • \$1,950,000





SAWGRASS 3BR/3BA • \$725,000 Susan Fort /Tyler Ackland

HILLIARD Acreage • \$2,750 Earl Parker

SOUTH JAX BEACH

3BR/3.5BA • \$699,000 Michael Curet



MARSH LANDING CC THE PLANTATION 5BR/5BA/HB • \$2,695,000 4BR/3BA • \$875,000 Susan Fort or Tyler Ackland



PONTE VEDRA BEACH

Homesite • \$725,000 Suzie Connolly

NOCATEE

**OCEANFRONT** Homesite • \$720,000 Michael Curet



INTRACOASTAL Susan Fort/Tyler Ackland



NOCATEE 2BR/2BA • \$189,000 Jayne Young/Gwinn Volen



THE PLANTATION 5BR/6BA • \$1.675.000 Susan Fort or Tyler Ackland



**NOCATEE** 4BR/3.5BA • \$345,000 Sally Sergeant



ODOMS MILL 4BR/2.5BA • \$475,000 Suzie Connolly



VISTA DEL MAR 3BR/3BA • \$649,000 Olivia or Brent Seaman



Jayne Young/Gwinn Volen



**PALENCIA** 5BR/4BA/2HB • \$864,900 Kathleen Floryan



WINDSOR PARKE Valerie Shaw or Mary Faulds



PONTE VEDRA BEACH 5BR/4.5BA • \$2,395,000 Charlene Cosgrave



OCEANFRONT CONDO 3BR/3BA • \$1,650,000



MONTURA 4BR/3.5BA • \$959,000 Suzie Connolly



SAWGRASS CO 4BR/3.5BA • \$519.000 Belk Ingram

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6 One of Us

A board-certified ophthalmologist at Florida Eye Specialists, Dr. Rajesh Shetty specializes in cataract and glaucoma surgery. Prior to founding Florida Eye Specialists in 2009, he served on the clinical staff of the Mayo Clinic for seven years as an assistant professor in ophthalmology. He also previously served as chief of ophthalmology at St. Vincent's Medical Center Southside. — By Jennifer Logue

Dr. Rajesh Shetty

# What are some of the key services that Florida Eye Specialists provides?

Florida Eye Specialists is the largest multispecialty oph-thalmology private practice in North Florida. I am proud of being one of eight board certified, fellowship trained doctors.

Each doctor spent years specializing in LASIK, glaucoma, cosmetic lid surgery and cataract surgery. Most of our doctors are currently involved in eye research and most were former professors and staff from either the Mayo Clinic or University of Florida. All of the doctors are very knowledgeable and care about providing the best ethical care to our patients.

# Your background includes dual degrees in finance and health care systems from the University of Pennsylvania's renowned Wharton School of Business. What prompted you to move from the business side of health care to becoming an ophthalmologist?

Ophthalmology is an amazing field that drew my interest from early on in school. Eye surgeons have the unique ability to improve people's lives almost instantly. We can preserve, restore and improve vision in most people with an impressive assortment of tools that constantly improve. The technology and preciseness of the surgery definitely appeals to me.

Every day, I still call upon the finance and administrative skills I learned at Wharton to improve our practice. Our goal is to marry the best in eye care providers to an outstanding delivery system to meet the goal of excellence in eye care for each of our patients. It's challenging in our current environment that is ever changing, but the need for quality subspecialty eye care grows every day as our population ages.

# You've been called a pioneer in cataract and glaucoma surgery. How have new technologies changed the way these conditions are treated?

Laser cataract surgery and more accurate measurements of the eye have revolutionized cataract surgery in the last three years.

Our surgery center was the first in North Florida to acquire and use laser cataract technology, which provides safer, more precise eye surgery for our patients.

By collaborating with our many top doctors, we are able to bring the best technology to the patient.

In the next year, we plan to bring significant advances in minimally invasive glaucoma surgery for our glaucoma patients as well.

Currently, we are involved in the FDA trials of the first novel glaucoma medication in 20 years.

# What is the number one vision problem or procedure you're seeing among patients today?

With more than 10,000 people turning 65 every day, cataract surgery is our number one surgical procedure. Over 3 million cataract surgeries are performed in the United States, and it's one of the most rewarding and safe surgeries that we can provide.

Most people know that cataract surgery improves vision and reduces one's need for glasses, but it is also one of the most effective and safe methods to treat glaucoma.

# What is the most challenging part of your job in providing eye care? The most rewarding?

The constant changes in medical regulations and insurance have made providing excellent eye care much more burdensome.

As a third-generation physician, I have been exposed to the challenges of medical care for many decades, and currently I fear the dramatic reductions in Medicare reimbursement that are expected.

Patients with severe diseases like glaucoma and macular degeneration are usually elderly and are at the most severe risk of losing access to treatment.

Despite these concerns, the rapid advances in technology have made the treatment and diagnosis of glaucoma and macular degeneration much more beneficial. We now can reverse the damage in macular degeneration and also catch

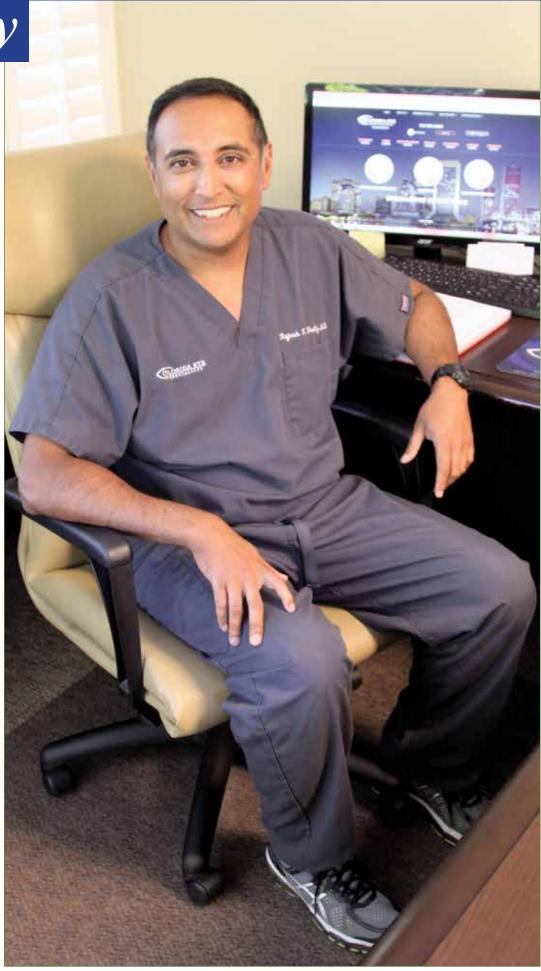


Photo courtesy of Daigle Creative

glaucoma at a very early stage in which we can preserve vision.

#### How do you enjoy spending your free time?

Spending time with my family is my number one favorite pastime. My wife and

our children enjoy traveling, boating and hiking. Our son is a Boy Scout, and I enjoy participating in his many adventures if he lets me. We love the amazing nature and waterways in our region and are involved in doing our part to preserve those resources.

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Community News 7

### Sunset Rotary installs Hart as president





# Habitat for Humanity seeks new applicants

Habitat for Humanity of St. Augustine & St. Johns County is accepting applications for its homeownership program through July 30.

Applicants may qualify based on four main criteria: the applicant's need for housing measured by criteria outlined in the procedures; the ability to pay modest house payments; a willingness to partner with Habitat for Humanity of St. Augustine & St. Johns County; and the applicant's residence or place of work, at least one of which must be located in St. Johns County. Applicants must have lived or worked in the county for at least one year.

Those who meet the criteria are encouraged to apply; applications are available online at *www.habi-tatstjohns.org* or at the Habitat for Humanity office at 7 Hopkins St. in St. Augustine.

Habitat for Humanity of St. Augustine & St. Johns County builds homes with the help of volunteers. Those interested in volunteering or making a donation can visit *www. habitatstjohns.org* or call (904) 826 3252. To learn how to sponsor a Habitat home, email Angela Hamilton at *familyservices@habitatstjohns.org*.





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Custom built by Elwood Collier, this 6,130 SF classic features only the best: masonry construction, tons of stone trim, astounding interiors, 4 king suites wood-filled study game room & one Worlf kitchen \$2,535,000



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Marsh Landing vacant lot wrapped by water on 2 sides, in a serene cul-de-sac setting with a perfect east rear exposure. Room for your custom designed waterfront dream home, large or small, accommodates pool & 3-car garage. \$449,000

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# SJC School District assumes control of First Coast Technical College

Clay County students transfer to St. Johns, Putnam campuses pending new location

#### **By Jennifer Logue**

The St. Johns County School District assumed administrative and operational control of First Coast Technical College (FCTC) July 1, ending a troubled period in the charter school's history and initiating a new chapter for its students and staff

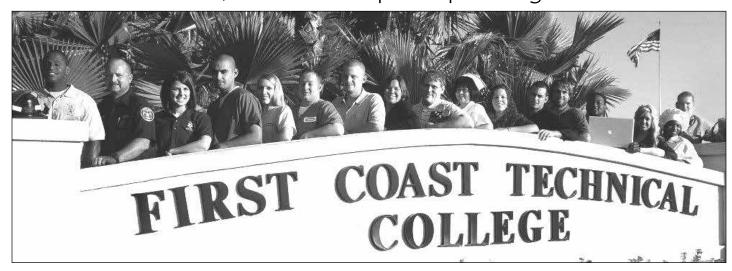
Interim Principal Cathy Mittelstadt — who most recently served as the school district's associate superintendent for support services — said she and her team have been working since July 1 to review the college's operations, facilities and curriculum.

"We don't look at it as a takeover—it's really a transition back to the St. Johns County School District," said Mittelstadt, noting that prior to becoming a charter school FCTC was a district school known as St. Augustine Technical Center. "It's also important to note that we do serve the tri-county area, working with Clay County and Putnam County."

One change resulting from the transition back to a district school, Mittelstadt confirmed, is the closure of the college's existing Clay County location. At the June 15 meeting of the St. Johns County School Board, Superintendent Dr. Joseph Joyner said FCTC's long-term, \$10,000 a month facilities lease in Clay County was an expense the district chose not to assume as part of the transition.

"We did not feel like, based on the (Clay County) enrollment, that we could continue that lease," Joyner told school board members. "We cannot create a liability for this school system when we just cut \$3.1 million from our own school budget."

Both Joyner and Mittelstadt stressed, however, that the district plans to find another location in the future for Clay County programs. In the meantime, Mittelstadt said, stu-



dents who were enrolled in programs in Clay County have transferred to the St. Johns and Putnam campuses, where classes are set to begin Aug. 10.

"There's a lot of excitement and new opportunities," Mittelstadt said. "Things are definitely moving forward"

#### Charter termination

The St. Johns County School District stepped in and assumed control of FCTC after the charter school became the focus of multiple investigations regarding the administration of student testing as well as alleged financial irregularities. At the SJC school board's June 15 meeting, board attorney Frank Upchurch outlined the chain of events that led the district to assume control.

According to Upchurch, in late April School Superintendent Dr.
Joseph Joyner notified FCTC Board Chair Carol Alford that after receiving a complaint, the school district — which through the college's charter had oversight of the institution — would be launching an investigation into the testing allegations. Later that week, however, a routine monthly review of the college's financial statement raised additional concerns.

"It revealed that the school's fund balance had been reduced by over half a million dollars in March," Upchurch said.

The school district sent a second letter to Alford May 3 that served as a "formal notice of financial deteriorating condition" as required by law. In the letter, Joyner noted that in addition to the fund balance dropping by more than \$830,000 in one month, the college was believed to have unpaid outstanding bills of more than \$600,000.

After conducting a thorough investigation with the college's cooperation, Joyner said, on May 26 the school district notified Alford and Florida Commissioner of Education Pam Stewart that the college's deteriorating finances had reached the point of a financial emergency.

He suggested that the only viable option was for the college to terminate its charter and allow the school board to assume control of the college.

On June 8, FCTC President Sandra Fortner — who had been placed on paid administrative leave — resigned her position effective immediately. The college's board subsequently voted June 14 to terminate its charter and return control of the college to



Photo and logo courtesy of FCTC

the St. Johns County School District. The next day, the St. Johns County School Board voted unanimously to accept FCTC's charter termination and assume control effective July 1.

School board member Patrick Canan expressed his belief that the college's unique charter relationship with the public school district one of just two such arrangements in the state — gave the district little choice but to assume control of the college.

"I hope this is a teachable moment," he said at the board meeting. "(FCTC) had their own board, their own staff, they were running the whole show and now I feel like we're in a position like we're going to try to clean up the mess."

Joyner was more optimistic. In a meeting with FCTC faculty and staff held the day the school district assumed control, he said, "I could not be more excited for the opportunity to serve our community in the area of postsecondary education."

# State encourages drivers to 'Stay Right at Night'

Statistics show that most fatal wrong-way driving crashes occur in the center or lefthand lane.

In an effort to decrease the frequency of wrong-way crashes, the state Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) has launched a public safety campaign encouraging drivers to "Stay Right at Night."



UHRMANN

"Driver safety and education are paramount at DHSMV, and data shows that on Florida's roadways,

wrong way fatalities continue to increase each year," said DHSMV Executive Director Terry L. Rhodes. "Wrong way crashes are high impact crashes, which means drivers and passengers involved are occasionally injured, if not killed. Motorists are encouraged to stay in the right lane, especially at night, and always pay attention to posted street signs to avoid becoming a wrong way driver themselves."

Preliminary figures show that in 2015, there were 1,490 wrong way driving crashes in Florida, resulting in 1,454 injuries and 96 fatalities. In the majority of wrong way crashes, vehicles are hit headon, resulting in 81 percent of all wrong way fatalities. Head-on collisions are some of the most dangerous and deadly crashes. In more than

two-thirds of all wrong way crashes, the driver was either injured or killed.

The announcement of the "Stay Right at Night" campaign came as the Florida Highway Patrol announced the arrest of William Uhrmann in an alleged wrong-way driving crash that killed St. Johns resident Wallace Beale earlier this year.

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Community News 9

# Residents grumble over rumble stripes

# Purported safety measure causes noise, accidents, locals say

#### By Jennifer Logue

"How many of you are here because of rumble stripes?" asked John Wegl at this week's meeting of the board of trustees of the Ponte Vedra Beach Municipal Service District.

A sea of hands shot in the air.
Wegl, vice chairman of the MSD
board, shared the standing-room-only
audience's pain. Noting that he lives in
the area of A1A south of Mickler Road
where the striping had been installed,
Wegl told attendees at the meeting
— held Monday evening at the Ponte

Vedra library — that the supposed safety feature had caused unintended consequences for local residents.

"All of you know that the noise doesn't just happen when cars go over them," he said. "The sound carries — right into our bedrooms. That is tantamount to a disruption to the quality of life many of us moved here for."

Over the July 4 weekend, he noted, the noise was so bad that he decided to clock how often he heard the thundering reverberations as cars strayed onto the rumble stripes.

"It was five or six times every minute — not every hour, but every minute," he stressed. "During the daytime, it affects your enjoyment of your property. At night, it affects your health."

Wegl's comments were echoed by numerous Ponte Vedra residents in attendance, who said the stretch of A1A between Mickler's and the Guana Preserve had become too residential for the noise-inducing stripes.

"We've ended up moving our bedroom it's so bad," said Steve Gibson, who has collected more than 100 names on a petition to have the striping removed.

MSD Trustee Gordon Blalock added, "To be politically correct, I took my car down there to see how bad it is. It makes a heckuva lot of racket."

Residents had hoped to share their concerns with two representatives from the state Department of Transportation in Tallahassee. Wegl told attendees, however, that earlier that day he received notification from the state that neither representative would be able to attend after all. Instead, District Two Safety Engineer Jeff Scott attempted to explain the rationale behind the striping's installation.

"They are a safety improvement," Scott said, noting that rumble striping was one of nine identified safety measures the department has at its disposal. "They are now the standard on roads where the speed limit is 50 miles per hour or higher and there is no curb."

Scott acknowledged, however, that FDOT had received more complaints

about motorists straying onto the stripes — and causing excessive noise — than it had anticipated.

"We knew people would cross over them occasionally — they have to when they change lanes — but we really didn't expect people to have such difficulty staying in their own lane."

Scott said FDOT is currently evaluating the Ponte Vedra rumble striping — which was installed on A1A from Mickler Road all the way to Vilano Beach — but was unable to offer specifics as to where the state was in the process or what the alternatives would be.

"Why can't we just bring back the 45 mile an hour speed limit?" one resident asked to loud applause.

Other attendees said that far from being a safety tool, the striping has been causing accidents.

"I've actually rescued someone who was passed out in a car," one resident said, while vice chair Wegl recounted seeing a bicyclist hit the striping and get thrown into the grass.

"Imagine if he went into the road instead," he said.

The rumble striping discussion concluded when board Chairman Gary Jurenovich suggested convening a separate workshop to address the issue outside of the confines of a regular MSD board meeting.

"This is the sandbox we all need to play in — and we need to get the right people in the room to discuss this," he said. "I think your message has been received."

See page 12 for more news from the MSD meeting.



FDOT photo



Photo by Jennifer Loque

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## News you can sink your teeth into



**Voracious reader:** Kristen DeSmidt sent us this photo of her 9-month-old daughter, Maggie, devouring last week's edition of the Ponte Vedra Recorder. Keep eating — er, reading — the Recorder, Maggie, and you'll be well prepared when you start kindergarten!

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Ponte Vedra Recorder · July 14, 2016

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# County utility department proposes \$40M upgrade to Ponte Vedra's water system

Upgrades would require 6.34 percent four-year rate hike as part of funding plan

#### **By Jennifer Logue**

The St. Johns County Utility Department would replace three of Ponte Vedra Beach's aging wastewater treatment plants with a new, consolidated \$25 million water reclamation facility as part of a \$40 million upgrade proposed by the agency.

In a presentation made to residents at Monday's board meeting of the Ponte Vedra Beach Municipal Service District, utility department representatives outlined the reasons they say the upgrades are needed and how the department proposes to pay for them. While much of Ponte Vedra is served by JEA, representatives acknowledged, the SJC Utility Department serves the residents of Marsh Landing, Sawgrass Players Club, Sawgrass Country Club and The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach as well as parts of A1A south of Mickler Road.

The four treatment plants currently serving those communities, they said, were built in the 1980s and are in need of significant repairs — so much so, that in the past decade the department spent \$12 million on water treatment repairs and an additional \$9 million on wastewater upgrades.

"We found ourselves in reactive mode," said Utility Director Bill Young, outlining a number of recent system failures that required expensive repairs. One such repair, he noted, occurred when sewer gases ate away at the surrounding concrete, causing a road in Marsh Landing to collapse.

#### **Proposed improvements**

To address such concerns, the Utility Department proposes replacing three of the existing four treatment plants with a consolidated \$25 million facility. A five-year, \$15 million renewal and replacement project, meanwhile, would provide

critical repairs to lift stations, manholes, water mains, valve repairs and other needed improvements.

"This will not address all of the issues," Assistant Director of Engineering/ Operations Gordon Smith said, "but it's a good start."

To fund the project, the department proposes a four-pronged plan: In addition to restructuring existing debt to take advantage of current low rates, the department would combine the Ponte Vedra Utility System with the main county utility system. Jesse Dunn, assistant director of the St. Johns County Office of Management and Budget, praised the operation of the main county system, saying it would be to Ponte Vedra's benefit to merge with it.

"It's almost like you're marrying into a family with money," Dunn said, adding that merging with the county system would free up \$4 million the Ponte Vedra system has been required to hold in reserve — money that could be allocated toward the upgrades.

Rounding out the funding proposal would be approximately \$22 million in low-cost state loans and — perhaps the most potentially controversial part of the plan — a four-year rate hike that would see residents' rates rise an average of 6.34 percent, or an average of \$3.77 a month.

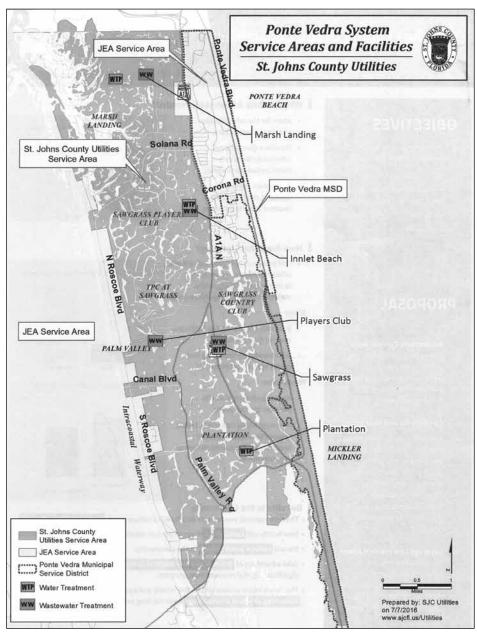
Currently, Dunn said, residents served by the Ponte Vedra system enjoy the second lowest rates out of approximately 15 local areas spanning from Atlantic Beach to Flagler Beach. With the proposed rate increase, Ponte Vedra's rates would be about average, ranking seventh out of the 15 communities. But Young noted those projected rankings only take into account an increase for Ponte Vedra system residents — and it's unlikely that the other communities' rates won't increase

"I can tell you, the rates are not going to

go down," Young said. "We've committed the last 10 years to keep rates as low as we can; there are just severe needs...We want to bring Ponte Vedra up to the quality of utilities we run down south."

The Utility Department plans to present its proposal to the Board of County Commissioners at its Aug. 13 meeting, Young said. If approved, the project

would get the greenlight to begin with the Oct. 1 start of the next fiscal year. Once funds are approved and received, it would take approximately three years for the new treatment facility to be designed, built and become fully operational. Other more immediate projects — such as repairing manholes — could begin in as little as 90 days.



Map courtesy of St. Johns County Utility Department

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### Rubber Ducks and Food Trucks

The inaugural Rubber Ducks and Food Trucks, a river race for autism, will be held Saturday, July 23 at 10 a.m. at The Jacksonville Landing, 2 W. Independent Drive, Jacksonville.

"Adopted" rubber ducks will be released into the St. Johns River with prizes for the first, second and third place finishing ducks. Every duck purchase, donation and food purchase will benefit the HealthyU-Now Foundation for families and children with autism.

For more information or to adopt ducks for the race, visit *jaxduck-race* org

# Sidney Cardel's celebrates 40th anniversary of Trollbeads

Before there was Pandora, there were Trollbeads.

Founded in Denmark in 1976, the jewelry company is celebrating its 40th anniversary, and to help Trollbeads fans mark the occasion, Sidney Cardel's held a 40th Anniversary Party July 1-2 at the Jacksonville Beach

Featuring mimosas, prize giveaways and a limited supply of 40th anniversary "Lucky Friends" bracelets, the event attracted longtime fans of both Trollbeads and Sidney Cardel's, who were encouraged to bring in their beads and share their stories of the line that enables fans to create one-of-a-kind jewelry pieces.





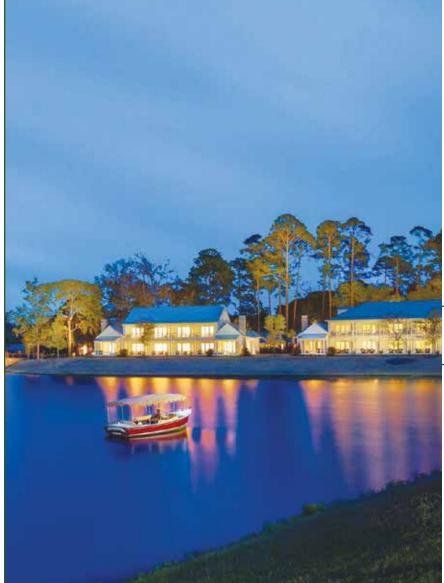
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#### Thursday, July 14

#### Friday, July 15

#### Saturday, July 16

#### Sunday, July 17

#### **Concerts in the Plaza**

The 2016 Concerts in the Plaza summer music series continues July 14 with a performance by Ancient City Slickers live at 7 p.m. at Plaza de la Constitución, 22 Cathedral Place, St. Augustine. The concerts continue every Thursday through Sept. 1. All concerts are free. For more information, call (904) 825-1004 during weekday office hours or visit www.concertsintheplaza.com.

#### **Mental Health Recovery Support**

Free mental health support is available to the public facilitated by Georgia/Florida Certified Peer Specialist Whitney Bolin. Sessions are by appointment only Monday through Friday; call (770) 403-4991 or email whitneybat76@ gmail.com. Bolin also facilitates a mental health recovery group at Flagler Hospital from 2 to 4 p.m. every Tuesday.

#### **Joint Chamber Luncheon**

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division joint luncheon with the JAX Chamber Beaches Division will be held Thursday, July 14, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Sawgrass Country Club, 10034 Golf Club Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach. The speaker will be Bill Hughes, general manager of TPC Sawgrass, who will discuss the renovations currently underway there. The cost to attend is \$25 for members; \$30 for non-members. For more information or to register, visit www.stjohn-scountychamber.com.

#### **Arbor Terrace Life Enrichment Group**

The Life Enrichment Group Day Program takes place every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra, 5125 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra Beach. The group is designed for those with memory changes who would like to stay active mentally, physically and socially. For more information, call (904) 497-4346 or visit www.at-pontevedra. com.

#### **Intro to Improv**

Mad Cowford Presents: Intro to Improv Thursday, July 14, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Beaches Branch Library, 600 Third St., Neptune Beach. For more information, call (904) 241-1141.

#### **Community First Night Owl Cinema**

Community First Credit Union and the St. Augustine Amphitheatre present Community First Night Owl Cinema, a free summer movie series of family-friendly films. On July 15, there will be a David Bowie Tribute Night with a screening of the movie "Labyrinth" and a Davie Bowie Plaza Dance Party hosted by DJ Hoggle, a David Bowie costume contest and face painting. The best Bowie costume will win a pair of tickets to a concert of the winner's choice. Parking will be free during movie nights and concessions will be available for purchase. Gates open at 7 p.m.; the movie will begin around 8 p.m. The St. Augustine Amphitheatre is located at 1340C A1A S., St. Augustine. For more information, call the St. Augustine Amphitheatre Box Office at (904) 209-0367 or visit www.staugamphitheatre.com.

#### 'Emma: A Pop Musical'

Limelight Theatre presents "Emma: A Pop Musical" July 15-17 at Limelight Theatre, 11 Old Mission Ave., St. Augustine. Based on Jane Austen's classic novel "Emma," this modern take on the story features Emma, a senior at Highbury Prep and relentless matchmaker, and will feature hit songs such as Cyndi Lauper's "Girls Just Want to Have Fun," The Ronettes' "Be My Baby," The Supremes' "You Can't Hurry Love," and more. For more information or to purchase tickets, call the box office at (904) 825-1164 or visit www. limelight-theatre.org.

#### MOSH \$5 Fridays

Every Friday, come to MOSH to enjoy \$5 admission and extended hours. The museum will be open late every Friday until 8 p.m. Additional discounts or coupons are not permitted.

#### **Unique & Boutique Wine Tasting**

Wine aficionado Tony Tirello will introduce guests to a sampling of six wines for the Unique & Boutique Wine Tasting Friday, July 15, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Coastal Wine Market & Tasting Room, 641 Crosswater Parkway, Suite B, Ponte Vedra. The cost is \$10 for the tasting; get \$5 off first wine bottle purchase with tasting. For more information, visit www.coastalwinemarket.com.

#### **Katz 4 Keeps Adoptions Adoption Days**

Katz 4 Keeps adoption days will take place Saturday, July 16 and Sunday, July 17, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Katz 4 Keeps, 935B A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach (next to Sherwin Williams). For more information, call (904) 834-3223 or email katz4keeps.org.

#### **Nocatee Farmers Market**

Nocatee Farmers Market: Wildlife Encounters will take place Saturday, July 16, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Nocatee Farmers Market Field. 100 Marketside Ave., Ponte Vedra Beach. This day will feature multiple interactive "Animal Encounter" performances for the community, including crowd participation, wildlife education and entertainment from Gatorland's alligator trainers and photo opportunities. The Nocatee Farmers Market includes over 80 local vendors offering items such as organic produce, herbs, spices, delicious unique foods, crafts, jewelry and more. Free face painting will also be available for little ones, along with crafts and a bounce house. This market is sponsored by TS Learning.

#### **Wine, Beer and Cheese Pairing Class**

Coastal Wine Market & Tasting Room's cheese guru and wine buff Don Lott will take guests through a tasting of various cheeses, wines and beers during the July 16 Wine, Beer and Cheese Pairing Class. The class will take place from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Coastal Wine Market, 641 Crosswater Parkway, Suite B, Ponte Vedra. Tickets are \$25; class is limited to 20 people. Tickets are available for purchase at www.eventbrite.com.

#### **Marianas Trench concert**

Marianas Trench with special guest Skylar Stecker will perform live Saturday, July 16, at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall. Tickets are \$22.50 for the general admission standing room only show. Doors open at 7 p.m.; show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall and St. Augustine Amphitheatre box offices, ticketmaster.com and all Ticketmaster outlets or by phone at (800) 745-3000. The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach.

#### Live music on The Eatery patio

Ruth and Sarah Evans will perform live Sunday, July 17, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Trasca & Company Eatery, 155 Tourside Drive, Suite 1500, Ponte Vedra Beach.

#### **Practice with Purpose at Big Fish Yoga**

Practice with Purpose is an all-level yoga class offered on Sundays from 4 to 5 p.m. at Big Fish Power Yoga. The fee for the class is a \$5 cash donation that goes to the charity that Big Fish Power Yoga has selected for the quarter. Big Fish Yoga is located in the South Beach Regional Shopping Center in Jacksonville Beach at 3852 South Third St. For more info, call (904) 372-0601

#### **Collection Tour**

Join the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens on Sundays for a guided tour of its permanent collection. The tour is free with the cost of admission. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville.

#### **Travel Training Program**

The Council on Aging's Travel Training program is designed to assist seniors in learning to ride the Sunshine Bus. Residents interested in expanding their transportation options or who would like to increase their confidence as a bus rider can receive assistance from trained volunteers in navigating routes, reading time tables and making transfers. Contact the mobility manager at the Council on Aging at (904) 315-6505 or email Katie Arnold at karnold@stjohnscoa.com.

#### **Habitat for Humanity volunteers**

Habitat for Humanity of St. Augustine/St. Johns County is currently seeking qualified homeowners. Habitat does not give away homes for free. Instead, homeowners pay an affordable monthly mortgage payment and Habitat helps build them a simple, decent place to live. For more information on volunteering, donating or qualifying for a Habitat home, visit habitatstjohns.org.

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Ponte Vedra Recorder · July 14, 2016 Calendar 15

#### Monday, July 18

#### Tuesday, July 19

#### Thursday, July 21

#### **Dance Alday dance lesson at PV library**

Dance Alday will present a one-hour group line dancing lesson for adults and teens ages 14 and up Monday, July 18, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library, 101 Library Blvd. Registration is not required and classes are free of charge. For more information, call (904) 827-6950.

#### 'Beauty and the Beast'

Alhambra Theatre & Dining presents Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" live on stage through July 31. Alhambra Theatre & Dining is located at 12000 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (904) 641-1212 or visit www.alhambrajax.com.

#### **Self Defense Course**

Instructor Rachel Cross will present a mother and daughter self-defense course for girls ages 8 and up along with their mothers, aunts, grandmothers and sisters. This two-part course will take place Monday, July 18, and Monday, July 25, from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Southeast Branch Library, 6670 U.S. 1 S., St. Augustine. For more information, call (904) 827-6900 or visit www.sjcpls.org.

#### **Caregiver Support Group**

The Players Caregiver Support Group meets every Monday from noon to 1 p.m. at The Players Senior Center, 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach. Kimberly Weir of Heartland Hospice facilitates a weekly discussion of current concerns and issues of caregivers. For more information, call (904) 280-3233.

#### **Life Enrichment Group**

The Life Enrichment Group is a program designed for those with memory changes who like to stay active mentally, physically and socially while allowing caregivers and loved ones some free time for themselves. This program is offered weekdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Ashford Court, 1700 The Greens Way in Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 568-8174, or email life\_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com.

#### **Vilano Moonlight Beach Walks**

The St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department and Environmental Division will host a Moonlight Beach Walk Tuesday, July 19, at 8 p.m. Those who attend will get a chance to experience the beach at night and learn about the unique animals that utilize the beach after the sun goes down. Attendees should bring a flashlight with them; red film for flashlights will be provided so sea turtles will not be disturbed. Moonlight Beach Walks will be held July 19 and 26 at 8 p.m. at Vilano Beach, 2750 Anahma Drive, Vilano. Space is limited. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Kelly Ussia at (904) 209-0335 or email kussia@sjcfl.us.

#### **Sunset Rotary Club weekly meeting**

The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset meets Tuesdays from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn. Community leaders are welcome to attend. For more information, call Club President Janeene Hart at (904) 412-5409 or email jwhart1208@gmail.com.

#### The Search for a Better Light

Tree Hill Nature Preserve and JEA present "The Search for a Better Light" Tuesday, July 19, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Beaches Branch Library, 600 Third St., Neptune Beach. For children ages 5-12, the program features Reduce, the alien, who has come to earth in search of a better source of light to take back home to planet GoGreen. For more information, call (904) 241-1141.

#### 1-on-1 Tech Tutoring

The Beaches Branch Library presents 1-on-1 Tech Tutoring Tuesday, July 19, from 5 to 8 p.m. The tutoring will feature one-on-one help with ebooks, email, the internet, online applications, and basic computer instruction. For downloadable media assistance, bring your charged laptop, e-reader or tablet with you. Times and locations vary. Visit or call your branch to sign up. The library is located at 600 Third St., Neptune Beach. For more information, call (904) 241-1141.

#### **PV Professionals Networking Group**

The Ponte Vedra Professionals Networking Group meets the second, third and fourth Wednesday of the month from noon to 1 p.m. The first Wednesday of the month, the group hosts an after-work social mixer. Meeting locations vary; for more information, call Dave at (904)248-9871 or visit www.pvpng.com.

Wednesday, July 20

#### **Ponte Vedra Toastmasters**

The Ponte Vedra Toastmasters Club offers opportunities for developing your leadership and communication skills. The group meets Wednesdays at The Players Community Senior Center, located at 175 Landrum Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach. The meeting starts promptly at 7:30 a.m. Contact Carmen J. Sardiñas at (904) 382-3303 or contact-5199@toastmastersclubs. org for more information.

#### Music by the Sea concert series

The Music by the Sea concert series takes place every Wednesday through Oct. 12, 2016, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the St. Augustine Beach Pier, 350 A1A Beach Blvd. On July 20, Mr. Natural will perform. The concerts are free; guests can purchase a dinner plate for \$10 from the sponsoring restaurant. Food is served at 6 p.m. and the music starts at 7 p.m. For more information, call (904) 347-8007 or visit www.augustine.com/event/music-sea.

#### **Chamber After Hours**

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division Chamber After Hours will be held Wednesday, July 20, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at The Beach Club at The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach, 1111 Ponte Vedra Blvd. For more information or to register for the event, visit www.stjohnscountychamber.com.

#### **Annual Activity Member**

Become an Annual Activity Member at The Players Community Senior Center. Membership includes discounts on fee-based classes, designated events and Coastal Travel along with complimentary participation in a wide variety of scheduled activities. Call Darlene Mahany at (904) 280-3233 for more information.

#### Coffee on the Coast

The JAX Chamber Beaches Division Coffee on the Coast will be held Thursday, July 21, from 8 to 9 a.m. at VyStar Credit Union, 212 Ponte Vedra Park Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach. Continental breakfast will be served. The cost is \$5; advance online registration is requested. For more information or to register, visit www. myjaxchamber.com

#### North Beaches' Art Walk

The North Beaches' Art Walk will be held from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Atlantic and Neptune Beaches' Town Center. For more information, call First Street Gallery at (904) 241-6928 or Archway Framing and Gallery at (904) 249-2222 or visit www.nbaw.org.

#### **Grief support group**

A grief support group meets on the third Thursday of every month in the library of the Family Life Center at St. Paul's Catholic Church, 578 First Ave. N., Jacksonville Beach. The group is for men and women who are grieving the death of a family member or friend. The next meeting will be on Thursday, July 21, at 7 p.m. For more information, call Kathy at (904) 553-8933 or Catherine at (904) 247-0665.

#### **Concerts in the Plaza**

The 2016 Concerts in the Plaza summer music series continues July 21 with a performance by The Falling Bones live at 7 p.m. at Plaza de la Constitución, 22 Cathedral Place, St. Augustine. The concerts continue every Thursday through Sept. 1. All concerts are free. For more information, call (904) 825-1004 during weekday office hours or visit www.concertsintheplaza.com.

#### **Zen Meditation & Mindfulness**

Zen Meditation & Mindfulness will take place Thursday, July 21, from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Southeast Branch Library, 6670 U.S. 1 S., St. Augustine. For more information, call (904) 827-6900 or visit www.sjcpls.org.

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 carrie@opcfla.com, post online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com using the automated form or call (904) 686-3939.

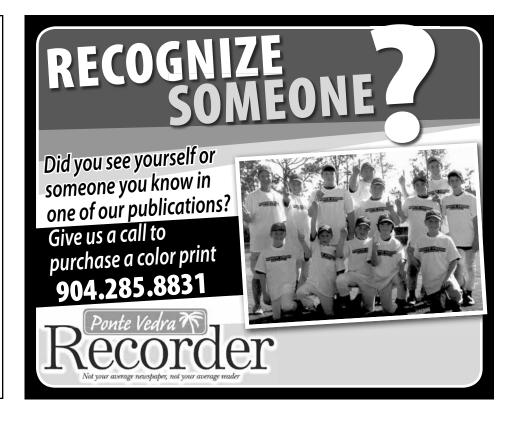
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Interested candidates please call Susan Griffin at 904-686-3938 and email your resume to susan@opcfla.com.







# SAYS honors staff, volunteers, youths at celebration dinner

St. Augustine Youth Services (SAYS) recently held an end-of-school celebration dinner at Creekside Dinery to honor its staff, volunteers and the youth they serve.

Recognized for her 15 years of service was SAYS bookkeeper Renee Marcey, who retired earlier this year. KC Tooley, Zoe Vermillion, Jeremy Thompson and Jorge Oliveras were recognized for 10 years of service; Helen Arbitt and Brett and Leanora Harwood for five years; and Mamie and Sylvester Gostynski, Ambria Page, Lamaris Martin and Robin Burchfield for three years.

Executive Director Schuyler Siefker thanked each staff member for their dedication and service to the program's youths. "Our boys are blessed to have the consistency of care provided by these staff members," she said.

Siefker presented each boy with a "certificate of awesomeness" that described his best attribute. Awards presented included most improved academically, most determined, most brave, best style and most positive attitude.

Several of the organization's most dedicated supporters were also recognized for their service. Reverend Jim Bullock was recognized for mentoring



Photo courtesy of SAYS SAYS Executive Director Schuyler Siefker (right) presents Renee Marcey with an award recognizing her 15 years of service to the nonprofit organization.

several of the older boys each year. In addition to accompanying the boys to court, he will take them home to dinner, spend time with them and work with them on their treatment goals each week. As soon as one of the boys he mentors leaves SAYS, he is ready for the next one.

Barbara Welch, meanwhile, has been volunteering in the SAYS office

SAYS continues on Page 17



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# Watson inducted into Sigma Nu Hall of Fame

Watson Realty Corp. Founder and Chairman William Watson Jr. was recently inducted into the Sigma Nu Hall of Fame.

Watson was inducted July 2 during the fraternity's 67th Grand Chapter gathering, held at the Manchester Grand Hyatt hotel in San Diego. He joins other distinguished alumni of the fraternity to be so honored, including Harrison Ford, Eli Manning, Bear Bryant and Bob Barker.

"I am honored and flattered to receive the Hall of Fame recognition from Sigma Nu National," Watson said. "The Sigma Nu Fraternity has been very important to me and my success in my life and in my business."

A graduate of Stetson University, Watson was inducted into the Delta Mu chapter during his undergraduate years and has remained an active member of the organization. In 1965, he founded Watson Realty

Corp., which in 2015 celebrated its 50th anniversary. Serving North and Central Florida as well as South Georgia, Watson Realty Corp. has 46 sales offices and achieved more than \$3 billion in real estate sales last year.

Headquartered in Lexington, Virginia, Sigma Nu Fraternity was founded in 1869 at Virginia Military Institute. The fraternity currently has 163 chapters and colonies, and has initiated more than 235,000 members since its founding.

"We are very appreciative of Mr. Watson's belief in and support of our mission to develop ethical leaders for tomorrow," said Brad L. Hastings, Sigma Nu Educational Foundation president. "He has given generously of his time and resources to the Delta Mu Chapter and it has made a lasting impact on the men of the chapter over the years."



William Watson Jr.

once a week since the organization was located at its former downtown location on Saragossa St. Writing thank-you notes, filing, mailing out

newsletters and volunteering at events are just some of the duties Welch has performed, staff said.

Other volunteers recognized at the dinner included Heidi and Bubba Jimmerson — who designated SAYS as the charity recipient of their annual Christmas party — Amanda Sims, Anne Farnell of the Marsh Creek Women's Association, Michele and Chip Hollister, Chris Shee of MasterCraft Building Group, and Ed Wlodarczyk, president-elect of the Sunrise Rotary of St. Augustine.

Each volunteer was presented a handmade "heart in the hand" certificate symbolic of charity given from the heart. Siefker thanked the volunteers as well as the staff for giving from their heart and making a difference at SAYS.

Founded in 1989, SAYS provides a therapeutic residential group home for boys ages 6-18 who are victims of severe abuse and/or neglect and are diagnosed with mental health issues.



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# Chamber's Ponte Vedra Beach Division elects new officers

Ed Mercel of WaterMark Realty will be the new chairman of the board for the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, the chamber announced last week.

Joining Mercel on the PVB Division board for the coming year is Vice Chairman Susan Griffin, publisher of the Ponte Vedra Recorder,

who said she is looking forward to continuing her service on the board.

"The Recorder has always enjoyed a strong partnership with the chamber, helping to raise awareness of its many events designed to strengthen and support the local business community," Griffin said. "I'd like to thank all the chamber members who voted for me, and for recognizing the benefits of this strong community relationship."

New officers also include Secretary Rob Schlingmann of the Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach; and Immediate Past Chair Dave Danzeisen, Clean Getaway Carwash. Directors include Jennifer Belisario, TPC Sawgrass; Steven Beyer, VyStar Credit Union; Toni Boudreaux, the Cultural

Center at Ponte Vedra Beach; Janet Collins, Sawgrass Country Club; Gloria Dongara, AAA Auto Club Group; Sarah Hewett, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices; and Rachel Landis, PGA Tour/THE PLAYERS Championship.

The newly elected officers will begin service in their respective roles Oct. 1.

# Dr. Ben Carson, Megyn Kelly to highlight 25th annual Florida Forum

Tim Tebow, FOX News host Megyn Kelly and former presidential candidate Dr. Ben Carson will be among the speakers featured at the 25th anniversary Florida Forum speaker series this fall.

The 2016-2017 Florida Forum series will kick off Oct. 25 with Dr. Carson. Kelly will appear Jan. 30, 2017, with Tebow concluding the series March 13, 2017.

Presented by the volunteer-led Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital, the Florida Forum series is a benefit that supports the hospital's programs and services.

Now, in its 25th year, the forum has featured a wide variety of speakers from

a multitude of professions, including entertainers, authors, professional athletes, influential thinkers, and business leaders. Past speakers have included President Bill Clinton, Michael J. Fox, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Sir Richard Branson, Peyton Manning and more.

Over the years, Florida Forums have raised more than \$7 million for Wolfson Children's Hospital.

The series is presented by Wells Fargo, Landstar Systems, Inc. and Florida Blue.

Tickets for the series are sold as a series subscription to all three forums and are available for purchase at www.womensboardwch.com/florida-forum.

## Author and literary agent Brenda Bowen to make appearance at The BookMark

New York-based author and literary agent Brenda Bowen will make an appearance at The BookMark in Neptune Beach July 19 at 7 p.m. to discuss her adult debut novel and sign copies of the book during the event.

Bowen's "Enchanted August" is the story of four very different women who share the expenses of an island cottage in Maine, where they rediscover the themselves.

Based on the 90-yearold novel "The Enchanted April," Bowen's book is a reimagining that updates the original story, which recounted the exploits of four British women who share an Italian villa. That book was later made into a popular motion picture.

The BookMark is located on 220 First Street in Neptune Beach.

# 'Celebrating 25 Years of Y-BAG' exhibit at the Beaches Museum

The Beaches Museum & History Park will present a new exhibit that will celebrate 25 years of Atlantic Beach Experimental Theatre (ABET) by revisiting 25 years of children's musical theatre in the community.

The "Celebrating 25 Years of Y-BAG" exhibit will be open to the public during regular museum hours from July 26 through Aug. 8.

Founded in 1980, the Youth Beaches Arts Guild (Y-BAG) offered a summer program of musical theatre for hundreds of children ages 10-18 until 2005. The exhibit will feature costumes, photos, posters and more from the group's rich history

Two special events will also take place: a celebratory gala on July 28 and a cabaret show July 29 and 30.

The gala will be held at the Beaches Museum where Y-BAG alumni supporters and friends can enjoy a reception amid a retrospective exhibit on the history of ABET and Y-BAG.

A cabaret show featuring 40 Y-BAG alumni will be held at the Foundation School on Friday, July 29 and Saturday, July 30.

Admission to the exhibit during museum hours is free; tickets are required for both the gala and cabaret show.

For more information, visit www. abettheatre.com.

Subscribe to the Recorder! Call (904) 285-8831.



**Community News** 19 Ponte Vedra Recorder · July 14, 2016

# A cut above: Ponte Vedra salon celebrates 30th anniversary

#### **By Carrie Resch**

When Donna Zimmerman, owner of Zimmiz Hair Designers, Inc., set to work on her business plan more than 30 years ago, one of the standout items in the plan was her desire to serve the same community for at least 30 years — something that came true this year when Zimmerman marked her 30th anniversary

"My dream was to be a neighborhood salon for 30 years and by George, I did it!" Zimmerman said.

Located on Solana Road in the Winn-Dixie shopping center, Zimmiz has been in the same location for the past three decades. Zimmerman, an Atlantic Beach resident, said that at the time there wasn't much going on in terms of construction in the Ponte Vedra Beach area.

But when the shopping center was being built, she decided that was where she wanted to have her business, and her salon was among the first businesses to open there.

Zimmerman started the business with her late husband and business partner Mark Zimmerman expanding the salon around the eight-year mark to its current 3,600 square feet. The spacious family salon — which features bright and colorful stations and is adorned with encouraging signs displaying phrases such as "imagine" and "live your dream" serves men, women and children and specializes in hair color and color correction, hair smoothing treatments, and hair styling for special occasions such as weddings.

"We do tons of weddings and wedding parties," Zimmerman said. "My salon is set up in a way that it can handle a lot of people at one time but yet you don't feel like there's a lot of people in there."

#### A cut above

While Zimmerman said she looks at every one of her clients as stars, she's been lucky enough to cut the hair of some well-known local celebrities — and even a former First Lady of the United States.

In 2004, she received an unexpected call from First Lady Laura Bush, who was in town to raise awareness about heart disease in women. Bush reached out to Zimmerman and asked her to come to the Omni Hotel to give her a haircut.

She also did the hair of first daughter Jenna Bush Hager, who was in town for the event with her mother.

Other clients include local media personalities.

"One of my favorite clients of all time was Deborah Gianoulis," she said. "I cut her hair for almost 25 years."

Zimmerman said that she's forever grateful to the former WJXT-TV Channel 4 news anchor, because their relationship opened up a world of doing the hair of television personalities.

She has also cut the hair of other Channel 4 news anchors Jennifer Waugh and Mary Baer, whose daughter was also a client when she was growing up. Lizzie Baer went on to become a stylist and now works at the salon.

#### **Fostering talent**

Over the years, Zimmerman has given many new stylists a chance to begin their careers. Stylists right out of beauty school don't yet have an established clientele, she noted, and Zimmerman said she always likes to bring in one beginner — both as a reminder of what it's like to be just starting out and to help new stylists in their development.

"I've trained a lot of people in my career and one of my gifts, I think, is developing and promoting new hairdressers," Zimmerman said. "You have to find what makes them unique and also to make sure that they're focused on the client and if they are, they'll be so successful because that's really what it's all

Zimmerman got her start working for Michael Hentrich of Michael's Designs that was located near Solana Road — not far from where Zimmerman ended up building her salon. Her mentor, who is now in his 70s, works part-time at Zimmiz.

It's part of Zimmerman's all-inthe-family philosophy that has her staying in touch with stylists long after they have moved on from her employ.

Oftentimes in (this) business when you leave someone, you never speak to them again," Zimmerman said. "I vowed that that would not be me and that I would never, ever do that to any of my staff."

While Zimmiz officially marked its



Photos by Carrie Resch

Zimmiz owner Donna Zimmerman styles a client's hair.

30th anniversary July 10, Zimmerman said the salon will celebrate the milestone for about two weeks with decorations, food for the clients and a festive party atmosphere. She is

also considering throwing a larger celebration sometime in the fall when the weather is cooler.

"I want to celebrate with everyone," she said.



The staff of Zimmiz Hair Designers celebrated the salon's 30th anniversary July 10.

# First Coast offers unique locations for the perfect party

**By Terri Mashour** Special to the Recorder

Florida's First Coast has lots of variety when it comes to children's birthday party options! After reviewing more than 350 local vendors, here are 10 unique ideas for a local birthday party.

- **1. Corn maze parties** Every fall, Amazing Grace Crop Maze opens for family fun on the farm! Party goers will enjoy the corn maze, a huge drum of corn kernels, human rat races, duck water races, a ball pit and jumping. \$100 plus \$8/person entry. Includes 10 snow cone coupons. http://tinyurl.com/ guqtghd
- **2. Candy store parties** Try hands-on chocolate making, a handpulled lollipop class or taffy-making class at the sweetest destination on earth, Sweet Pete's! Enjoy a personal tour of the candy store and a scoop of ice cream. The classes are educational and make science fun...with candy! \$20/child with a 10 child minimum. http://tinyurl.com/zn8hct8
- **3. Spa day parties** Head to the spa – a little-girls-only spa, that is! Located in the revitalized Murray Hill area of Jacksonville, Princess Patch Girls spa sports pink walls, a diva photo op area, and mani/pedi stations. Party goers are



Photo courtesy of Amazing Grace Crop Maze Amazing Grace Crop Maze train



Photo courtesy of Jonathan Brauda

pampered with special robes, and the personal treatment and sheer pleasure of getting their nails painted is such a joy for watching parents...and the girls, too! \$385 for 6 girls, drinks, pizza and décor. http://tinyurl.com/joyg26f

#### 4. Eco-friendly birthday party

- Go all natural! Bay & Bee is an indoor play space for ages 5 and under. It hosts wooden toys, a wood play gym, and wood floors with use of all natural cleaning products. Kids can use their imagination in the play kitchen, play house, costume area or stand at the train table. Register for gifts online at their shop and

guests can purchase and pick them up wrapped. Parties start at \$285, but are free for annual members. http:// tinyurl.com/bnnmgfv

Knockerball

- **5. Engineering parties** Build robots with Legos and watch your creation come to life. Or design, build and test your own straw rockets, enjoy "sweet girl chemistry" and create your own lip gloss and ice cream. Shiva Robotics Lego robotics parties start at \$300. Engineering for Kids parties start at \$175. http:// tinyurl.com/bqxzbjo
- **6. Knockerball parties** Step into a huge, clear inflatable bubble ball and play soccer with Knockerball Jax! The kids will laugh, get exercise and work as a team. Knock each other over as you play a game of soccer. Six Knocker balls for an hour of three v. three fun is \$250. http://tinyurl.com/zwr7r4x
- 7. Surfing parties Local surf companies offer birthday parties. Enjoy a lesson and cake right on the beach. Endless Summer parties are \$40/person for one hour and Jacksonville Surf and Paddle parties are \$350 for 6 people and a two-hour session. http://tinyurl. com/zgrceuu
- **8. Butterfly parties** From April through September there are thousands of butterflies flitting through Butterfly Hollow at Jacksonville Zoo! Children

can experience the magic within this lush, tropical garden at a birthday party. Add this \$2 per person experience to the zoo birthday package, starting at

- \$189. http://tinyurl.com/b3dozzm 9. Mermaid character parties — We've all heard of character parties - but mermaids? Mermaids will swim, read stories, hand out gifts from their treasure chest and take photographs
- with mesmerized little girls. Outfits are complete with mermaid tail and cockle shell tops in the theme of Disney princesses! Girly Girl Par-Teas mermaids start at \$279 for 45 minutes with two mermaids. http://tinyurl.com/
- 10. Bazooka ball Shoot soft, foam balls at Battle Zone Jax, a laser tag/paint ball style indoor arena! Teams aim to hit individuals from the other team as many times as possible, as they hide and climb through obstacles. Bigger than life graphics swirl, lasers shine, and music plays for team fun. Games start at \$6.99/person. http://tinyurl.com/

Terri Mashour is the creator and publisher of Fun4FirstCoastKids.com, a website that offers families ideas for fun-filled parties, summer camps, sports programs, educational classes and more.

Photos courtesy of Fun4FirstCoastKids.com



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Photo courtesy of Girly Girl Par-Teas

Girly Girl Par-Teas will send mermaids to your party.

# Top 5 ideas for a free kid's birthday party

#### **By Terri Mashour**

Special to the Recorder

Party site rentals can get expensive. Save money on your party location by considering one of these five ideas for a free or affordable birthday party!

- 1. Picnic parties From Riverside Park to Deerwood Rotary Park to your park around the corner, head out for a picnic! Kids can play on the playground and then feed the ducks before pizza and cake. Find a spot under a tree in the grass for free, or reserve a covered pavilion from Jax-Parks for only \$10 online. Here are some popular picks for picnic spots in Jacksonville: http://tinyurl.com/ heat6gn
- **2. Beach parties** Bring some tents and tables and the kids can play with parents and friends in the ocean before enjoying snacks and cake. Everyone loves the beach and it's free to gather with a group and play! http://tinyurl.com/gupf2rw
- **3. Nature parties** Kids are amazed by nature! Gather with friends at a St. Johns River Water Management District property or Timucuan National Park where entry is free. Head out for a hike and then enjoy an easy craft like an alphabet hike or leaf rubbings. Find a picnic table for cake and ice cream. State parks also offer party fun, with lowcost entry like \$4/car load. http:// tinyurl.com/bm7npxl
- 4. Sleepover parties...in the woods — Love the idea of a sleepover, but don't want 10 kids running around the house unsupervised all night? Try a camping sleepover! Invite families to camp at one of the free St. Johns River Water Management District campsites in and around



Photo courtesy of Fun4FirstCoastKids.com

Family nature hunt

Jacksonville. Bring firewood, hot dogs and s'mores and the kids will love playing in the tents, making s'mores, and sitting by the fire. Find all the free places to camp here: http://tinyurl.com/zby23nj

**5. Party at home** — Stay home and save. But home parties don't have to be boring! Decide on a theme and then work it into games at home, like the old fashioned pin the tail on the donkey, yard Olympics, or create a back yard splash park for a summer party. The kids will have fun being together and you can put your money towards yummy food and the

Terri Mashour is the creator and publisher of Fun4FirstCoastKids.com, a website that offers families ideas for fun-filled parties,

summer camps, sports programs, educational classes and more.







For more information, email birthdays@sweetpetescandy.com or call 855-798-7383.

# Friends of the St. Augustine Amphitheatre to hold annual children's arts festival

Planning is underway for the third annual Gathering of Friends: Children's Arts Festival.

Sponsored by the Friends of the St. Augustine Amphitheatre, the festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25 at the amphitheatre. The rain or shine event is free to attend and will feature art, mu-

sic, dance, storytelling, games and poetry for children of all ages.

Interested artists, arts organizations, non-food vendors and organizations that provide information for families may contact Carol Gladstone at *grambini1@comcast. net* to learn about the event and request an application.





Photos courtesy of FOSAA

# Pak's Ponte Vedra students receive promotions

Pak's Ponte Vedra recently hosted quarterly belt testing for its Tang Soo Do students. The test, lasting three hours, had students at a variety of levels from beginners to advanced participating in their promotional exam.

In order to be eligible for promotion, students need to attend a minimum number of classes during the quarter, demonstrate knowledge of terminology, and a variety of techniques. Each student demonstrates a form, which reflects the techniques they should be proficient in.

Students who participated in the testing were Ian Lilkendy, Daniel Oswald, John Hamilton, Reid Norteman, Sabrina Lewis, Paden Pinder, Matthew DeMarco, Josh Deligero, Sam Lewis, Avery Sneed, Matt Accurso, Nick Salomon, Isaiah Haire, Sim Deligero, Seth Relam-

pagos, Caleb Hobbs, Amelia Wilhelm, Maya Johnson, Vanessa Coopmans, Ava Pollock, Alan Lovett, Scott Lovett, Grayson Rigby, Vincent Coopmans, Mialani Soto, Rishiketh Reddy, Anya Sanghvi, Claire Miles, Raven Weston. Breanne Beaver, Erin Orlando, Ethan Orlando, Manu Nair, Kayla Shreve, Morgan Shreve, Sophie Eagan, John Deligero, Bobby Fletcher, Bryce Walker, Hanna Morrill, and Brianna Niles.

"I am very proud of how hard the students worked to get ready for this test," school owner Bill DeGrafft said. "They did an awesome job and all earned their promotions. It was a very good test. We want to thank the students for their commitment to their training. We can't forget to recognize the parents and the key role they play in making this such a success."



Photo courtesy of Pak's Ponte Vedi

Students at Pak's Ponte Vedra recently completed belt testing to receive their promotions.



Contest open to children ages 3-12 and will be judged in 3 categories: 3-5, 6-9, and 10-12. Winners will receive a family four-pack of tickets to the Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens!

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# Delicious Destinations benefit Sep. 8-10



Celebrity Chef David Guas

Tickets are now available for the annual "Delicious Destinations" food and wine weekend, to be held Sept. 8-10 at the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club.

A highlight of this year's event will be the presence of celebrity chef David Guas, host and judge of the "American Grilled" show on the Travel Channel.

A New Orleans native. Guas is the owner of Bayou Bakery, Coffee Bar & Eatery, which now has two locations in the Washington, DC area. His first cookbook, "DamGoodSweet," was a James Beard Award finalist.

Guas will join executive chefs from the

Mar-a-Lago Club, the Greenbrier, Ritz Carlton Amelia Island and more in presenting culinary delights at the Celebrity Chef by the Sea Luncheon Sept. 8.

The Delicious Destinations Gala will occur Sept. 10, with food and wine pairings provided by Southern Wine & Spirits of North Florida.

Proceeds from Delicious Destinations benefit St. Vincent's Community Outreach Ministries, which provides free medical care to underserved members of the com-

For tickets or more information, visit www.deliciousdestinationsjax.com.

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## Chabad at the Beaches to host New Age Kosher Food Festival Sept. 11

Kosher and new age foods from around the world will be available at Chabad at the Beaches' Fourth Kosher Food Festival, to be held from noon to 3 p.m. Sunday Sept. 11 at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach.

A wide array of delicacies from countries such as Argentina, Israel, Germany, Japan and Spain will be featured at the event, which will also include a memorial for 9/11, live entertainment, children's activities and more.

This year's event — which will be 100 percent dairy-free and certified kosher — will be hosted by restaurant owner and chef Masha Hleap. A native of Colombia, Hleap is the owner and top chef of Atlanta restaurant Fuego-Mundo. Meaning "world of fire," Fuego-Mundo is one of the city's most popular kosher restaurants, offering healthy, gourmet Latin cuisine that is suitable for both meat-lovers and vegetarians.

Organizers said previous food festivals have drawn record crowds, so the decision was made to move the event to the cultural center in order to accommodate more attendees.

"The last event two years ago was the largest Jewish event in Beaches history," event coordinator Leah Kurinsky said. "This year, we found a venue large enough to hold a significant crowd."

The menu has also been expanded significantly this year, she added.

Admission to the kosher food festival is \$3 per person; those who register two or more people in advance at www.KosherFoodFest.com will receive a free ticket. There is an additional charge for food at the festival.

For more information, call (904) 543-9301.



#### **IN REMEMBRANCE**

Nellie Lera Rogers, 89, of Jacksonville Beach, died July 5, 2016. Ponte

Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Cen-ter & Cemetery - (904) 285-1130 www.pontevedravalley.com

### Conference for education volunteers July 20

The St. Johns County School District will host a free conference July 20 for all current and potential education volunteers.

To be held from 8:15 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Augustine High School, the event is open to individuals interested in volunteering as a tutor, mentor or preschool reader.

Topics to be covered include K-5 reading practices, resilient mentoring, the principles of a growth mindset and

St. Augustine High School is located at 3205 Varella Ave. in St. Augustine. For more information, contact RSVP of St. Johns County at (904) 547-3945 or Cheryl.Freeman@stjohns.k12.fl.us.



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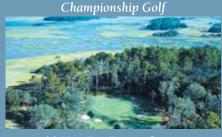
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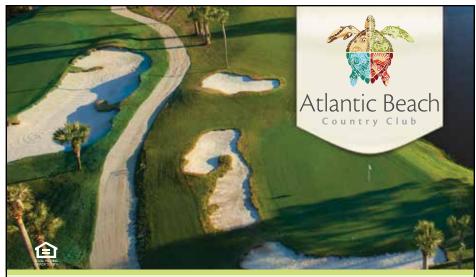


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# A century of dentistry on the First Coast

Third generation joins Ponte Vedra practice, continues legacy of service to community

#### By Jennifer Logue

When Dr. Andy Sears first opened his Jacksonville dentistry practice in 1919, America had only 48 states, women had not yet received the right to vote and Ponte Vedra was a rustic little mining community known as Mineral City.

Nearly a century later, "Dr. Andy's" legacy of serving the First Coast now spans three generations. After practicing for many years with his two sons, Dr. Wally Sears — who died in 2011 — and Dr. Don Sears, the late Dr. Andy would no doubt be proud to know that Don's son, Dr. Kane Sears, has joined the family practice in Ponte Vedra Beach after graduating from the University of Florida College of Dentistry in May.

"It's great to know that Dad's legacy is going to continue with Kane," Dr. Don Sears said. "It's really been kind of a celebration; patients are just jumping for joy that Kane has joined us."

Kane Sears, 26, virtually grew up in the family dental practice. In addition to his father and uncle, Kane's mother, Kim, has served as the office's dental hygienist for 40 years.

"Patients are telling me, 'I knew you when you were this tall!" Kane said, gesturing to about knee height.

It was the family atmosphere of the practice, in fact, that convinced Kane to follow in the footsteps of his father and grandfather.

"Our patients aren't strangers — they're friends and neighbors," he said. "And that's really what I'm looking forward to doing: working and helping people in our own community."

#### A family tradition

After establishing his Jacksonville practice, in 1938 Dr. Andy built a home on Duval Drive in Jacksonville Beach, which at the time was part of Ponte Vedra. Each day, he would make the drive into downtown — and so would his patients, many of whom were family friends and neighbors who lived at the beach.

"Back in the day, the only way to get downtown from the beach was Atlantic Boulevard," Don Sears said. "Later, when my father moved his office to Southside, his patients followed him there."

In 1992, Wally and Don Sears decided to move the practice to Ponte Vedra Beach, offering greater convenience for their Beaches patients. After briefly leasing space, they built their current building at 35 Executive Way.

"We felt like this was the center of Ponte Vedra, across from the school," he

Through the decades, the Sears practice began to see multiple generations of patients — many of whom still recall Dr. Andy with fondness.

"We have a 90-year-old patient," Kim Sears said, "and he told us, 'My parents were patients of Dr. Andy's!"

It's a legacy that Kane is having a chance to experience first-hand now that he has begun practicing.

"I've asked patients, 'who did your crown?' and they'll say, 'Your grandfather put that in!" Kane said, his voice filled with both pride and awe. "You'll hear people say crowns will last about 10 years, and here I'm seeing work my grandfather did 50, 60 years ago!"

#### A new chapter

Growing up observing and volunteering in his father's practice was good preparation for dental school, Kane added.

"There were some folks there who were 'science smart,' always in the books — but when it came time for patient interaction, they struggled," he said. "Communicating with patients and working with people was much easier for me."

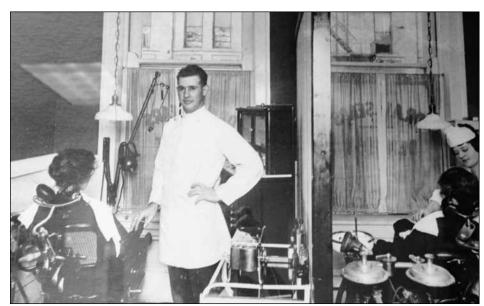
Now, as he begins working alongside his parents, Kane is eager to learn from his father while also introducing the latest advances in dentistry to the practice — a fact that couldn't make his father happier.

"He's been here two weeks and already I'm changing the way I practice," Don said with a smile.

Kane is quick to stress, however, that he's just as eager to learn from his father.

"My style is to learn what he's been doing all these years — because it's working — then down the road use new technologies to our advantage."

He is also looking forward to carrying



Dr. Andy Sears opened his Jacksonville dentistry practice in 1919. The practice was later carried on by his sons, Wally and Don, and continues today in Ponte Vedra Beach with the recent addition of third-generation dentist. Dr. Kane Sears.



Photo by Jennifer Logu

Dr. Kane Sears (center) has joined mother Kim and father Dr. Don Sears in the family dentistry practice founded nearly a century ago by his grandfather, Dr. Andy Sears, whose picture is on the wall of the Ponte Vedra office.

on the Sears family tradition of community service. In addition to serving as president of the Florida Dental Association, Dr. Andy was the second president of the Ponte Vedra Community Association. Kane's father, Don, is active in the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach, and both his parents were instrumental in founding the annual summer surf camp for autistic children, which this year will be held July

18-19 at Jacksonville Beach.

Carrying on such a family tradition, Kane said, is an honor.

"I wasn't born when Dr. Andy was here, so he's like a legend to me," he said. "He traveled the world, but his main focus was always his local community — and it's the same community I'm practicing in now. That's the legacy I'm excited about carrying on."

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# Dance Alday summer dance classes

Dance Alday will present three, one-hour group dance lessons for adults and teens ages 14 and up at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library, 101 Library Blvd.

Interested participants may come for one lesson or all three; you do not need a partner to participate. Classes

will take place Mondays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. as follows:

July 18 – line dancing

July 25 - Salsa/ Latin dancing

Aug. 1 - disco dancing

Registration is not required and classes are free of charge. For more information, call (904) 827-6950.

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# Nease student filmmaker sets 'Sight' on Hollywood



Photos courtesy of Connor Di

Connor Dunwoodie behind the camera



Connor Dunwoodie with David Boyd (who plays Fin Michelson) during a prop-making session



A still from "Sight" the movie, with Samantha Fortin as Mavis Copper and Zachary Morris as Owen Smith

#### By Jasmine Marshall

Armed with nothing but a Sony Handycam 40X, Nease High School student Connor Dunwoodie's first film project was a public service announcement about bullying he created for his middle school in Leesburg, Georgia.

The film would go on to win accolades and two awards — one in the Lee County Middle School Film Festival, and the other in the Southwest Georgia RESA Media Festival.

The young director has thrown himself into cinematography ever since.

"I've learned a lot from others and I've taught myself how to make films in my own way because you have to know how to do your own thing," Dunwoodie said. "Finding your own style is what makes you a better filmmaker."

Having first developed an interest in movie production at the age of 9, Dunwoodie cited his Hollywood producer aunt Rebecca Donaghe and Steven Spielberg as major inspirations.

Now, working on creative film projects slightly more ambitious than PSAs, Dunwoodie is more sure-footed; the teen premiered his third original short film in February called "Sight," a sci-fi flick following the exploits of a group of friends on the brink of a major extraterrestrial discovery who are having trouble getting the world to listen.

With his sci-fi debut in the bag, the independent film-maker has fixed his efforts on a mini-web series by the same name.

Picking up just one week after the events of "Sight" the movie, Dunwoodie's ragtag group of teenaged investigators must uncover new information about the aliens as they learn how cruel and unforgiving the world can be.

Production for the project began in May, and the multipart story is set to premiere Aug. 13 on Amazon Video Direct followed by a YouTube debut one week later.

The message of both projects carries over to Dun-

woodie's mission as a teen director looking to break into the world of filmmaking.

"I am trying to make a career out of this," he said. "Eventually, I'd like to go out to Hollywood to make films."

One major goal, he noted, is admission into Florida State University's exclusive College of Motion Picture Arts, the film school whose alums include "The Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials" director Wes Ball and writer T.S. Nowlin.

Having come a long way since his Handycam days, Dunwoodie has also set production for his next film for later this year.

Filmmaking hasn't been without its challenges, however. According to Dunwoodie, it takes more than most might imagine to pull a project together.

"I try my best to keep everything organized and controlled," he said. "Communication with your actors and crew is key. Keeping everyone on track and helping them understand your vision, being able to rely on one another, is extremely important."

Dunwoodie insists his passion isn't fleeting — a sentiment echoed by his resume: the 15-year-old rising junior is heavily involved in production both in and out of Nease High School as a student of the communication department's TV production program. He's also an International Thespian Society officer for the drama department and an academy ambassador for communication.

Ultimately, the teen wants his work — and the work of his peers — to be taken seriously.

"I think that most people don't understand or see how hard it is to make a film," he said. "I don't just do this to play around. I do have fun, but I also like to be professional and some adults don't think teenagers are capable of doing that. That's something I'd like to change.

"I want people to know that teenagers are capable of doing things that adults can do," he continued. "And using (my work) I'd like them to open their eyes." **28 Community News** 



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Photo courtesy of Fleet Landing

Fleet Landing residents make their way through a labyrinth.

# Fleet Landing residents experience benefits of labyrinths during event

Fleet Landing residents had an opportunity to experience three different labyrinth designs during a two-day event as they gathered for guided tours led by certified labyrinth facilitators. Each of the walks featured a particular focus or intention through a single path to and from the center of the labyrinth, showcasing their use as a meditation tool

The Rev. Dr. Kathryn McLean led the opening walk on the World Peace labyrinth featuring peace symbols from around the world. John Ridder, master labyrinth builder, created the design for the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics in addition to the Triune labyrinth for installations in hospitals and schools across the country. Fleet Landing residents, volunteers and staff created the Triune with masking tape on the floor.

Donna Christensen led the guided walks focused on each participant's experience of the Triune and Chelsea labyrinths. McLean and Pamela Eccles-Wakefield, led a Walk of Remembrance on the World Peace labyrinth in memory of deceased loved ones and to honor participants' own grief as their lives continue without the physical presence of the people they have lost.

Residents were encouraged to bring their own drums for both the opening and closing ceremonies and were accompanied by Constance Frankenberg on the didgeridoo, a traditional ceremonial instrument used by the Aboriginal peoples of North Australia.





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# Ponte Vedra High School girls learn 'ARRT' of self-defense

#### **By Carrie Resch**

It could happen in an instant. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly one in five women reported experiencing rape at some time in their lives. That's why eight Ponte Vedra High School students recently completed a self-defense class to learn the skills needed to protect themselves in a dangerous situation.

The Abduction and Rape Response Tactics (ARRT) class is the signature course of The Women's Defense Company located in Bartram Park. The six-hour class teaches fundamental defense techniques and culminates with a simulated attack in which participants have to use the skills they learned to fend off an attacker.

Sixteen-year-old Darby Bishop, who attended the class June 24 with seven of her friends, said she feels better prepared to defend herself. Although a six-hour class may seem daunting to some especially to high school-aged girls - Bishop said the time passed quickly, as the class was packed with useful information.

"It was a lot, but it didn't feel as long as it actually was because you learn so much that (time) just flew by," Bishop said. "It was all

The event was organized by her father, Ben Bishop, who wanted his daughter to know not only how to react and defend herself, but also how to minimize the chance of being put in a dangerous situation through increased awareness.

Through research, he stumbled across The Women's Defense Com-

"I just think it was critical, at least for my comfort, to teach them how to fight every step of the way," Bishop said. "That's the one thing that my daughter Darby came back saying is that you scream 'no' with every move you make and you don't stop no matter what. You're never compliant with the bad guy. God forbid any of them are ever in that situation, but hopefully this helps them in the future."

At the end of the class, each participant has to walk into a large, dark room where they individually have to defend themselves against a simulated attack using the techniques they learned.

'It's pretty intense," Bishop said of the simulated attack. His daughter found the experience scary but empowering.

The Women's Defense Company



Photo courtesy of The Women's Defense Company

Eight Ponte Vedra High School students recently completed the Abduction and Rape Re-sponse Tactics (ARRT) class at The Women's Defense Company located in Bartram Park.

is owned and operated by Chris Oklevitch, a former Jacksonville Sherriff's Office reserve officer. former protection officer with the Federal Reserve System, and former crime analyst with the Department of Children and Families. Oklevitch opened the business in 2012 after receiving numerous requests from friends and acquaintances wanting to know how to protect them-

"You have plenty of martial arts programs out there, but we found that the typical woman that we deal with wasn't interested in pursuing a long career in the martial arts — they just wanted to come in and try to learn the basics, realistic things they could use to defend themselves," Oklevitch said. "They can take a one-day class and keep that information with them for the rest of their lives."

The six-hour ARRT class — one of many programs available at the The Women's Defense Company begins with a discussion on current crimes and occurrences facing women today, especially sexual assault.

We try to get them into the mindset of it's not enough just to stand there and try to defend yourself," Oklevitch said. "These criminals have made a plan, they know what they want to do to you and by you just trying to react to everything that they are doing, you are always behind the curve.'

Oklevitch advises participants to try to put themselves in the mindset of the attacker.

"I tell them you have to attack your attacker," he said. "You have to put yourself in the criminal's shoes and you have to make them your victim instead of you being

the victim."

Participants are also instructed in how to "fight smarter," he added.

"We tell them, 'you're never going to win a battle of strength against somebody stronger than you but you can fight smarter,' and the way that we fight smarter is we go looking for vulnerable spots on the human body and then we teach them some really fundamental but powerful skills they can use to attack those targets.'

The ARRT class is for females ages 14 and over, or ages 11-13 with an adult.

In addition to women's selfdefense classes, The Women's Defense Company offers children's self-defense classes, weapons defense, corporate seminars, a girls' night out class, a safety seminar for real estate professionals and an active shooter seminar.

## One Ocean to host 'Cocktails and Contributions' benefit for employee battling serious illness

One Ocean Resort & Spa is stepping up to help one of its own, hosting a benefit fundraiser for an employee battling a serious illness.

"Cocktails and Contributions" will be held Sat., July 23 at 5 p.m. as a benefit for longtime resort bartender Hugh Thompson. A Neptune Beach resident, Thompson was recently diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia. The event was organized in part by Sileshi Mengiste, divisional vice president of Remington Hotels Luxury Division, One Ocean's management' company.

"I had the privilege of hiring Hugh when the resort opened in 2008," Mengiste said. "Since that time we have built a wonderful friendship. It is an honor to host this event for our friend and bring together all those who have been touched by Hugh to help support and raise the funds needed to get him through this difficult journey."

General admission tickets are \$50 per person and will include heavy hors d'oeuvres, live entertainment by Bad Habits and access to a live and silent auction. Premium tickets are \$75 per person and will include "Hugh's Your

Daddy" cocktails, beer, wine and spirits.

All proceeds from the ticket sales and auctions will be donated to Thompson to lessen the burden of the financial stress during his illness. A GoFundMe page has also been set up to help with financial support for Thompson's treatment

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit *www.eventbrite.com*.

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# Swamp Radio to present 'A Midsummer Night's Swamp' show on Saturday

Swamp Radio will make its annual summer road trip to the Ancient City this weekend, presenting a live radio performance that celebrates all things summer, St. Augustine and Shakespeare.

To be presented Saturday, July 16 at 7:30 p.m. at Lewis Auditorium, the performance will be recorded for later broadcast on WJCT 89.9 FM.

"So much of what we treasure about a visit to the Ancient City has to do with a richness of character, spectacle and poetry — and these same qualities are what has made William Shakespeare the most striking dramatist in the English language," host and producer Ian Mairs said. "Swamp Radio is all about telling a story, so it made sense that we explore the ultimate storyteller of the past 400 years."

The Retreads, Swamp Radio's resident sketch comedy group, will be on hand to provide their take on some of the Bard's sonnets and audience favorite, Swamp Lady, will address the nagging questions of classic Shakespearean kings and queens. Special musical guests will include hometown favorites The Willowacks and Shea Birney.

General admission tickets are \$25 and are available at *www.swampradiojax.com* and at the box office one hour before the show



## Coast Guard auxiliary to offer 'About Boating Safely' course

A boating safety course will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 13 at the Captain's Club, 13363 Beach Blvd. in **Jacksonville** 

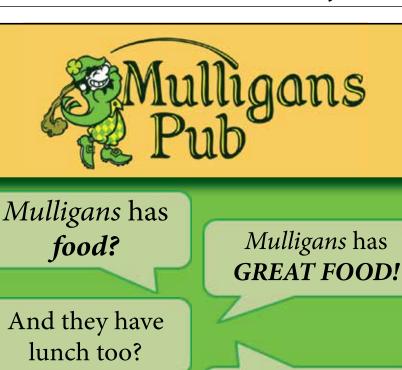
Presented by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary's Jacksonville Beach Flotilla 14-04, the eight-hour classroom course titled "About Boating Safely" will include demonstrations of boating basic and cover such topics as navigation, in-water survival, knot tying, state and federal boating laws and regulations, and more. A Florida and federal course examination will be given at the conclusion of the course.

Successfully passing the course will earn participants the state of Florida Boating Safely Education Identification Card, which all vessel operators born after Jan. 1, 1988 must have in their possession.

The fee for the course is \$25 (cash or personal check), which covers training materials. Two students can share course materials for a total registration fee of \$30. Participants should bring lunch and refreshments with them.

To register or for more information, contact Bill Vaughan at (904) 955-7077 or boatsafely04@gmail.com.





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# Ponte Vedra Beach native heads to IAAF U20 World Championships

#### **By Jasmine Marshall**

Ponte Vedra Beach native Nicole Greene is on her way to the IAAF U20 World Championships after winning the national junior championships in the women's high jump at the USA Track and Field Outdoor Nationals June 24.

Greene will compete in the world championships July 19-24 in Bydgoszcz, Poland, and the rising sophomore at the University of North Carolina is ready to live out her dream as part of Team USA.

"I'm still soaking it in that I am competing at a world stage," Greene said. "I feel like it is such a blessing and I thank God for it."

But for all the leaps and bounds the former Ponte Vedra High School Shark has made in her career, it wasn't jumping that Greene originally aspired to. Having seen the movie "Sandlot" in middle school, her first love was softball, but Greene's parents advised her to try track.

She first started track and field at 11 years old during her sixth grade year at Episcopal School of Jacksonville. Despite any lingering reservations, she quickly grew to love the sport after looking up videos, citing Olympian sprinters Allyson Felix and Sanya Richard-Ross as inspiration. After a year sprinting, her start in jumping came almost as if by a whim in seventh grade. Greene said she started jumping bungees with a friend for fun, and Episcopal Coach Pat Crandall saw her and recommended she make it her main event.

As a student at Ponte Vedra High School, Greene made local headlines when she blazed through three titles at a state track and field meet, landing a coveted spot as one of just a few area athletes to win three individual state championships in the span of one day. Taking the high jump, long jump and triple jump in Class 3A in a single afternoon, Greene wrapped up her high school career with a bang.

Her personal records include a high jump of 1.87 meters, a long jump of 6.22 meters and a triple jump of 12.19 meters in addition to earning All-ACC honors for placing second in the high jump at the ACC Indoor Track & Field Championships.

Ahead of her world debut, Greene is training six days a week at UNC-Chapel Hill and getting in the right mindset for competing. She has high hopes for her time at the championship, citing a new personal jump record and a gold medal to cap off her freshman career



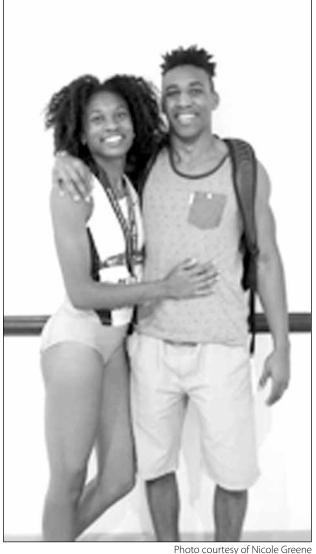
Photo courtesy of University of North Carolina, GoHeels Nicole Greene

as two goals. She's also eager to compete with girls from around the world and form close bonds with her new teammates

But most of all, she's determined to see her dreams through.

"The most valuable thing that I learned is that to be great and excel in anything you have to block out the negativity and even ignore the doubtful thoughts in your head," she said. "There were several times where I could have just called it quits and thrown in the towel. But I didn't. This is something I have wanted so long, so giving up is not an option."

Now, as Greene gears up to compete at the world level, she's grateful for the home-grown experiences and



Nicole Greene with brother Christopher Greene

people that led her there. She offers special thanks to her parents; her brother Christopher Greene, who also competes in the triple jump on the University of Cincinnati track and field team; and her coaches both past and present: Pat Crandall, Eli Sunquist, Natasha Venner and her current collegiate high jump coach, Nicole Hudson.

"(Making the team) has always been a dream of mine," she said. "To wear the USA uniform is amazing and such an honor. I am so excited that I am able to represent my country."

# FWA Ponte Vedra Writers meeting to discuss art of memoir writing

Author Vic DiGenti will discuss the best way to write a memoir in his presentation "Life is Like a River," at the FWA Ponte Vedra Writers meeting Saturday, July 23 at 10:30 a.m. at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library, 101 Library

Among the things would-be memoir writers attending the workshop will

How to find the emotional frame-

work for your memoir

- How to use the stepping stones of life to increase dramatic tension
- · Adding elements from the world of fiction to hook the reader

DiGenti, who sometimes writes using the pen name Parker Francis, has spent the past 15 years writing fiction, including novels and short stories. Recently, he's taken a different path, helping others write the story of their lives, co-

authoring and publishing the life story of a 92-year-old World War II veteran. He is now helping others create a written legacy to share with their friends and

Aside from the recent biography he wrote and published: "We Were Amateur Soldiers: How the Great Generation Changed the Face of America," DiGenti has written six novels, and a collection of short stories. He's won 13 writing

awards, and several of his stories have been pub-lished in anthologies.

The Ponte Vedra Writers group is part of the Florida Writers Association. a statewide, nonprofit organization with nearly 1,500 members dedicated to the support of both aspiring and published writers in any genre. All meetings are free and open to members and nonmembers alike. For more information on FWA, visit www.floridawriters.net.

Ponte Vedra Recorder · July 14, 2016

# Bolles graduate Ryan Murphy looks to bring gold home for Team USA

#### By Jasmine Marshall

Bolles graduate Ryan Murphy has his sights set on Rio de Janeiro after securing one of two qualifying spots on the United States swim team during the June 28 U.S. Olympic Swimming Trials in Omaha, Nebraska.

Completing the men's 100-meter backstroke in 52.26, Murphy, along with David Plummer, is set to compete in this summer's Olympic games. Murphy cemented his position winning the 200-meter backstroke in 1:53.95 during the trials held July 1.

The 21-year-old Jacksonville native graduated from the Bolles School in 2013 after participating in his first Olympic Trials during 2012. A six-time NCAA champion, Murphy is a rising junior at the University of California, Berkeley. Murphy is also a 15-time Florida High School Class 1A State Champion who set the national high school record in the 100 back in November 2012. In 2013, he was named National High School Swimmer of the Year.

As a first-time Olympian, Murphy joins a 47-member U.S. Olympic roster including the likes of Katie Ledecky, Michael Phelps and Ryan Lochte alongside 30 other firsttime Olympians and swimmers.

#### **Bolles well represented**

The Bolles School will be well represented at this year's Olympics. Fellow Bolles Shark and Clay County native Caeleb Dressel later secured a spot on the United States swim team alongside Murphy after finishing second in the 100-meter freestyle during the June 30 trials. Dressel swam a 48.23, finishing .03 seconds ahead of Ryan Held.

In addition, four Bolles alumni and a former Bolles Shark will compete in the games for other countries: George Bovell, who has competed in five Olympiads and will be representing Trinidad and Tobago; Joseph Schooling of Singapore, competing in the games for the second time; Arianna Vanderpool-Wallace, who will represent the Bahamas for her third straight Olympic Games; Omar Pinzon, a former Bolles Sharks member expected to represent Colombia for his fourth straight games and Santo Condorelli, a first-time Olympian representing Canada.

Several Bolles School students and graduates qualified for the U.S. Olympic



UC-Berkeley photo

Trials in Omaha, including:

Ian Apple (Sharks), graduate of Florida State University

Christian Carbone (Sharks), graduate of Harvard University

Joey Carbone, student at Yale University Ted d'Alessandro, graduate of Princeton University

James Daugherty, class of 2017 Will Davis (Sharks), currently homeGrady Heath (Sharks), student at University of Florida

Genevieve Miller, student at US Air Force Academy

Ashley Neidigh, student at Auburn Jniversity

Claire Rasmus, student at Texas A&M Kasey Schmidt, student at University of Virginia

Ariel Spektor, class of 2018 Abi Wilder, class of 2017





Photos courtesy of Planet Swim

Members of Planet Swim Aquatics' Elite Swim Team attend camp in Omaha, Nebraska during the USA Olympic Swim Trials.

# Local swimmers attend camp at Olympic swim trials

Planet Swim Aquatics of Ponte Vedra Beach held a summer swim camp for members of its Elite Swim Team in Omaha, Nebraska during the USA Olympic Swim Trials from June 29 - July 3, 2016.

Planet Swim's Elite Team was joined in Omaha by 14 Brazilian elite swimmers,

who continued their camp the week of July 5 - July 9 at the Planet Swim pool in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Led by Coach Gus Calado and Coach Alex Indiani, the camp enabled participants to train each day for two hours at the private Brownell-Talbott High School Theisen indoor swimming pool. Swim training was followed by team activities that included attendance each night at the USA Olympic Swim Trials held at the CenturyLink Center in downtown

Team members also had an opportu-

nity to witness top swimmers in action, including the "duel in the pool" by Michael Phelps — the most decorated Olympian of all time — and Ryan Lochte in the Men's 200 IM, Ryan Murphy in the 200 back, and Caeleb Dressel in the 50 and 100 free.

**34 Sports**Ponte Vedra Recorder · July 14, 2016



# **Keeping Up**

#### By Barbara Boxleitner

Special to Ponte Vedra Recorder

Once a top Colorado Rockies prospect, Kyle Parker has been released by the Cincinnati Reds Double-A affiliate.

The 26-year-old right fielder was released June 28. Parker, who competed for Bartram Trail High School, signed with the Reds organization in late April after being released by Colorado in early April. He batted .191 in 44 games for Double-A Pensacola. He had four home runs and 14 runs batted in.

MLB.com ranked Parker fifth among Colorado's top prospects entering the 2013 season, according to his profile on the Minor League Baseball online site. A minor-league postseason all-star from 2011 to 2013, he spent parts of the 2014 and 2015 seasons with the big-league Rockies. He played a career-high 46 games for the parent club in 2015. He finished with a .179 batting average, three home runs and 11 RBIs.

#### Women's golf

Allen D. Nease graduate August Kim of Purdue University lost in the match play championship flight round of eight at the Women's Western Golf Association. She shot a 142 (66-76) in the WWGA National Amateur Championship qualifying. She is competing in this week's Women's North & South Amateur Championship in Pinehurst, N.C.

Bartram Trail alumna Ansley Bowman of Georgia Southern University finished 21st in the Women's Eastern Golf Association Amateur Championship. She shot a 228 (76-75-77).

#### Men's lacrosse

Midfielder Chase Hancock started one of 12 games for Furman University. The former Bear finished with six goals and two assists.

#### Women's lacrosse

Ayana Davis started 15 of the 16 games she played as a freshman for Lenoir-Rhyne University. The defender is out of Bartram Trail.

#### Women's soccer

Maggie Glynn has transferred from Elon University to Flagler College. The sophomore midfielder out of Ponte Vedra High appeared in one Elon game last year.

Becca Palmer is a redshirt freshman midfielder for High Point University. She played for the Bears.

Send updates about area athletes to Barbara Boxleitner at bboxleitner@outlook. com.



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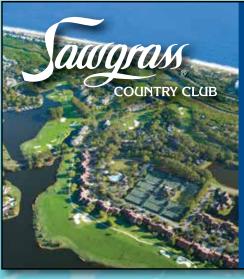
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# Questions to get to know yourself better

#### **By Neil Rosenthal**

We tend to focus on the relationships with the people closest to us: our spouse or intimate partner,



**Neil Rosenthal** Columnist

our friends, children, parents, extended family, friends and coworkers. We ask ourselves how these relationships are going and what we need to do to improve them. Those questions are clearly important. But in putting our focus on those bonds, we ignore the single most important relationship in our lives: the relationship we have with ourselves.

Much is required to have a good relationship with our-

selves: being productive, self-discipline, living with integrity, self-esteem and so on. However, one obstacle to a great relationship with ourselves is related to our tendency of not digging terribly deeply into our own soul, spirit and emotions. The result is that we are left not knowing ourselves

Here are some questions that may assist you in the art of self-discovery. Hint: Write down as many answers as you can. Remember that you're looking for more depth, so dig deep.

- How have you changed in the past 10 years? 20 years? 30 years? What do you want to change about
- If you had unlimited money, what would you be doing with yourself? What would you do less of? More of?
- What are you most proud of? (Include your relationships, your experiences, your accomplishments and your traits.)
  - How would you like people to remember you?
  - What do you want to accomplish or experience

before you die?

- What events, experiences, successes, failures and lessons have shaped you into who and what you are
  - What do you need in order to be happy?
- When are you most productive? Least productive? How do you fritter away your free time?
- How well is your life working? Where is it not
- What are you procrastinating? Why are you doing that?
  - What have you lost in life?
  - What inspires you?
- What talents, traits or skills are you wanting to more deeply develop?
  - What makes you smile?

Neil Rosenthal is a licensed marriage and family therapist. He is the author of the bestselling book "Love, Sex, and Staying Warm: Creating a Vital Relationship." Contact him at 303-758-8777 or visit neilrosenthal.com.

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15. Because of 16. It's plucked to foretell love 17. Adam's famous

18. Modern day letter

19. \*"No \_\_\_\_!" 21. \*Mind/body/soul qoal?

23. 7th letter of Greek alphabet

24. Eight bits 25. Experienced or

consumed \_\_\_-and-go-

seek

30. Socrates' concern 35. Toward the lee

37. \*Body sufferings

39. Art class support 40. Cash cache

41. Passed out cards

43. A small island 44. Full of emotion,

in slang 46. Alpine lift

47. Guitar forerunner

48. Not digital 50. Crude group 52. Sixth sense

55. Anne Boleyn,

a.k.a. Bullen 57. \*Calcium or mag-

61. \*Stress-related glands

nesium

65. Muse of love poetry

66. Cause annoyance 68. Prepare for winter takeoff

69. Red Cross supply 70. Bard's "before"

71. Runs in neutral 72. Fungal spore sacs 73. Jack Kerouac's

Paradise 74. Deed hearings

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1. Current unit, pl. 2. Hold as a conviction 3. "The Simpsons" palindrome

4. Emergency pedal 5. Kind of fossil

many

7. \*Weight divided by height squared

room 9. The largest of the

small cats 10. \*Meat quality

11. Like ear infection 12. Pineapple pro-

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20. Water nymph

24. Verbally attack

25. \*Type of yoga

26. Mork from Ork, e.g.

27. Major U.S. airline

22. Had a meal

ducer

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.

6. Mountain in Ger-

31. Hard precipitation 32. Supplied equipment 8. Small secluded

33. Picts and Gauls 34. \*Nightly necessity

36. Twelfth month of Jewish calendar

38. Prelude to a duel 42. Popular taste at a aiven time

45. Anti-Jewish riot 49. India's smallest

state 51. \*Exercise of the

54. North Pole workers

56. Attention-seeking

29. \*Selection of foods 57. Arizona citv 58. Wraths

59. Narcotics agent

60. Evening purse 61. Skater's jump

62. Cairo's waterway

63. Maple, to a bota-

nist

64. \* stress

67. Baseball stat

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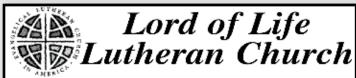


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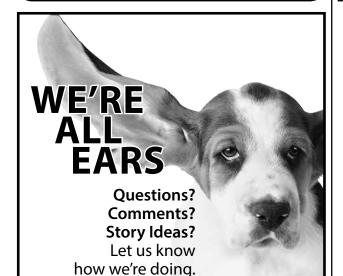
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#### FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS NOW AVAILABLE

Marsh Landing Country Club

# Executive Pass

#### ANNUAL GOLF MEMBERSHIP

#### INDIVIDUAL - \$3,250 | FAMILY - \$4,250 (+ sales tax)

- Limited to 100 participants
- Offers year-round golf privileges
- Access to golf and dining only
- Tee times available 7 days in advance
- Regular cart fees apply for each round
- Access to practice facilities (range balls included)



#### ANNUAL TENNIS MEMBERSHIP

#### INDIVIDUAL - \$1,700 | FAMILY - \$2,200 (+ sales tax)

- Unlimited participants –
   at team's and pro's discretion
- Offers year-round tennis privileges
- Access to tennis and dining only



- INDIVIDUAL or FAMILY membership
- · Renews every 12 months
- Charge account privileges (with a valid credit card on file)
- No monthly dues
- No food and beverage minimum

Membership fee must be paid in one payment when joining

\* 21% gratuity added to food and beverage purchases. Not available for downgrade to current members. ONLY available to individuals residing outside the gates of Marsh Landing Country Club. Not available to former Marsh Landing members who resigned within 24 months.



MARSH LANDING COUNTRY CLUB

25655 Marsh Landing Parkway Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida 32082 www.marshlandingcc.com

TO SIGN UP CALL 904.285.6514