

Ponte Vedra Recorder



April 13, 2017
Volume 47, No. 15
75 cents

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PonteVedraRecorder.com



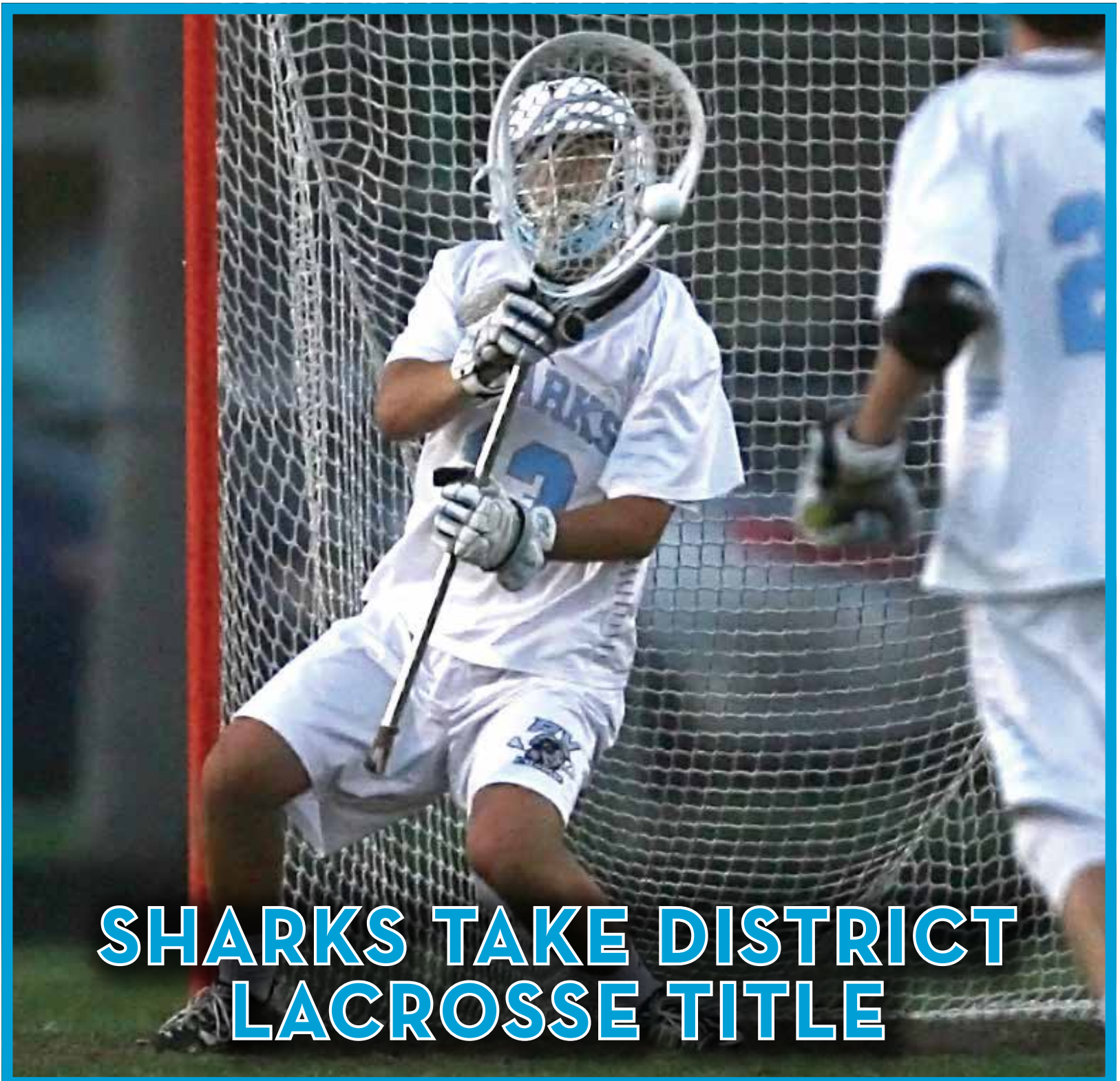
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SHARKS TAKE DISTRICT LACROSSE TITLE

Ponte Vedra goalkeeper #13 Wyatt Shupler tries to prevent a Nease goal. The Sharks beat the Panthers 21-3 April 7 to claim the District 6 title. Read more on page 38.

Photo by Chris and Jerry Norton

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Send us your news

We welcome submissions of photos, stories, columns and letters to the editor. Let us know what's happening. E-mail submissions to pvrecorder@opcfla.com or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach.**



Visit our website at www.pontevedrarecorder.com

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

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

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

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

Three readers correctly identified last week's photo as The Monk's Vineyard in St. Augustine.

Winner of the random drawing was **Jules Bohannon** – congratulations, Jules! You may pick up your prize at The Recorder office during regular business hours.



ADOPT A PET

CAT OF THE WEEK

My name is Suzie. I am a 1-year-old female cat who is looking for a new home. I was brought to the pet center as a stray. As this animal was a stray there may be some traits that are unknown at this time. Come visit us today here at the pet center! #36753



DOG OF THE WEEK

Hi there, my name is Scooby and I am a 5-year-old male dog who is looking for a new home. I was brought to the pet center as a stray. As this animal was a stray there may be some traits that are unknown at this time. Come visit us today here at the pet center! #37105



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

St. Johns County Pet Center

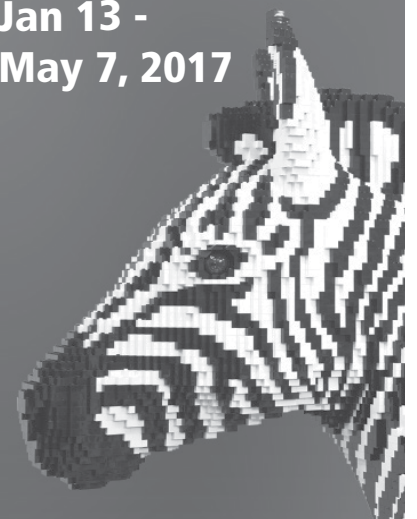
Cat adoptions at the St. Johns County Pet Center are \$30 for males and \$40 for females. Dog adoptions are \$45 for males and \$60 for females. Adoption fees include microchipping, neutering/spaying, rabies vaccinations and shots. The pet center is located at 130 N. Stratton Rd., off US 1 between County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

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Art with LEGO® bricks

Art by Sean Kenney

Jan 13 - May 7, 2017



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COUNTDOWN TO THE PLAYERS

THE PLAYERS to offer free kids' admission, family plan

Taking the kids to THE PLAYERS? You're in luck: Youth 18 and younger are admitted free of charge when accompanied by a ticketed adult, and there is no limit to the number of youth fans admitted with that ticketed adult. That means youth sports coaches, for example, can bring the whole team with one paying adult.

What's more, the "Family Plan" offers additional savings. Families receive two adult Stadium Passes, unlimited youth admission at the gate and two \$10 concession vouchers. Family Plan packages are \$120 for Thursday and Sunday, \$130 for Friday and \$140 for Saturday (taxes not included). Family Plan packages are available online at THEPLAYERSChampionship.com as well as at 27 participating Daily's convenience stores and at THEPLAYERSChampionship.com.

Parking passes cost extra, but any car with four or more passengers parks for free under THE PLAYERS' "Four for Free" policy. To take advantage of

the parking offer, download a voucher at <https://theplayersparking.clickand-park.com>.

THE PLAYERS Championship 2017 will be held May 9-14 at the TPC Sawgrass Stadium Course.

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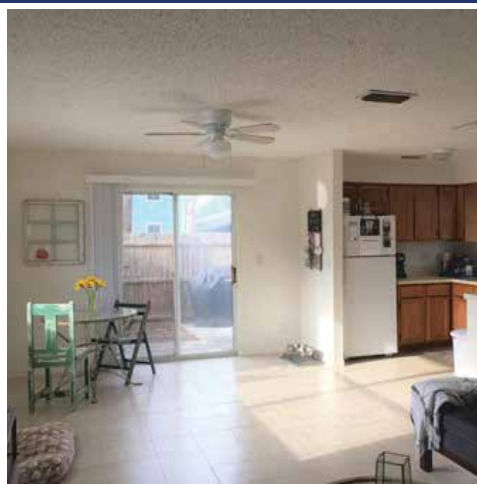
PALM COURTS
\$149,800

Nestled in a peaceful setting, this 2nd story condo has been completely remodeled and renovated to take advantage of the available space. Just 3 blocks from the ocean you can take strolls along the sand in the evenings or visit near restaurants and shops. MLS 870619



DOLPHIN COVE
\$269,000

Enjoy the Florida lifestyle with easy bike rides to the beach, access to restaurants, shopping and the Sawgrass Village, all within a short distance from this fantastic ranch style home in the heart of Ponte Vedra. MLS 874271



OCEANSIDE PARK
\$325,000

Just a short drive from the beach, this duplex could be a great investment property with two units. Both units have 2 bedrooms, a furnished kitchen, full bath upstairs and downstairs half bath, fenced yard and off street parking. MLS 874130



COASTAL OAKS AT NOCATEE
\$549,000

Relax on the screened lanai in the afternoons as you take in serene wooded vistas. This fabulous residence offers an expansive great room that flows into the kitchen, downstairs flex space, upstairs bonus room and spacious loft. MLS 872214



Ponte Vedra Office
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WE'RE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD



Save Guana Now gala raises funds to



Sophie Allen displays her illustration on a Save Guana Now sign with Nicole Crosby.



Donnie Griffin and Joellen Rawson

By Jennifer Logue

Sandy Chapin looked out over the Guana River and pointed to the nearby area known as The Outpost.

“Imagine all that gone and just rows and rows of houses,” Chapin said, shaking his head. “It’s the last place left.”

Chapin was one of 150 attendees who signaled their opposition to plans to develop The Outpost by attending Saturday’s “Save Guana Now Gala.” Held at the home of Neck Road residents John and Martha Denneen, the event attracted guests from across the First Coast to the benefit aimed at fighting the Ponte Vedra Corp. (PVC) plan to build a 77-home housing development to be known as Vista Tranquila on The Outpost. PVC — a division of Gate Petroleum — is challenging the property’s existing designation as conservation land, and has accused the county of dragging its feet in processing its planned unit development (PUD) application.

In response to PVC’s application, however, residents have banded together, forming Save Guana Now to prevent the development of what they say is one of

the few remaining pieces of pristine open space left in Ponte Vedra.

“We just can’t keep building on every piece of land,” said Sheila Hickson-Curran. “It’s conservation land, period.”

A 22-year resident of Ponte Vedra, Hickson-Curran has lived for the past nine years on Neck Road, the two-lane road that serves as The Outpost’s sole point of access. She stressed, however, that her home’s proximity to the property is not the deciding factor behind her opposition or those of other Save Guana Now supporters.

“It’s not a case of ‘Not in My Back Yard,’” she said. “It’s the beauty of the place. We would love for it to be a public space open for everyone.”

Seaside resident Joellen Rawson also expressed dismay at the thought of the property being cleared for nearly 80 homes.

“I’ll just cry if all this is destroyed,” said Rawson, who said she goes hiking in the Guana Preserve nearly every week. “When we moved to Ponte Vedra 23 years ago, they said it would always be a preserve.”

Del Webb resident Gloria North is a for-

mer science teacher who holds a master’s degree in biology. North said her opposition to the proposed development plans stems from her concern for its impact on the environment.

“Guana is a very important area for bird migration,” North said. “I think we need to be good stewards of the world.”

Frances Eaton, also of Del Webb, agreed. “There has to be something left for future generations,” she said.

As gala guests enjoyed cocktails, a catered dinner and a silent auction, Save Guana Now co-founder Gary Coulliette provided entertainment, singing and playing guitar. Coulliette and co-founder Nicole Crosby then thanked attendees for the strong support the fundraiser had received, noting that they had had to turn people away from the sold-out event.

“It’s heartwarming to know so many people support this cause,” Coulliette said. “Once you cut down those trees, you can’t take it back. They’re gone for good.”

Gala guests also heard from Jane West, the attorney who is representing Save Guana Now in its quest to prevent The Outpost from being developed. West updated attendees on a hearing held last

week, at which Judge Michael Traynor ordered the dispute between PVC and St. Johns County back to the county zoning application process. Last fall, PVC filed a lawsuit asking the court to force the county to act on PVC’s planned unit development application for Vista Tranquila. The county had sought a motion to dismiss the lawsuit, prompting Traynor’s ruling sending the application back to the county process.

“They (PVC) don’t want you interfering in this process,” West said. Gesturing to the pristine view across the river, she continued, “Your participation will determine how this vista looks five to 10 years from now, so your active engagement is very important here.”

West encouraged attendees to show up when the matter comes before the county’s Planning and Zoning Agency and Board of County Commissioners.

It’s an opportunity to which Save Guana Now co-founder Crosby is looking forward.

“We’re very pleased by the court decision,” Crosby said. “Gate tried to circumvent public input and now we’ll have a chance to offer that input.”



Silent auction items at the Save Guana Now gala included works of art, gift baskets, wine and more. Proceeds from the event will fund the group’s efforts to stop development of The Outpost.

fight development of The Outpost



Photos by Jennifer Logue

Save Guana Now co-founders Gary Coulliette and Nicole Crosby with Martha Denneen, who hosted the gala at her Neck Road home.



Denise and Bill Bates



Carolyn Cooke and Frances Eaton

SJSO reports on recent rash of burglaries at MSD meeting



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

The Ponte Vedra Beach Municipal Service District (MSD) Board meets Monday night.

By Jon Blauvelt

The St. Johns County Sheriff's Office has responded to a recent rash of burglaries, Deputy Dwayne Cieslik told attendees at the Ponte Vedra Beach Municipal Service District (MSD) meeting Monday night.

Cieslik referred to the crime trend as a "circuit" and explained that the perpetrators are starting in the northern part of the county, working their way south and then circling back.

MSD Meeting continues on Page 7

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Dr. Ingrid Carlson practiced medical gynecology at the Mayo Clinic, where she specialized in diagnosis and surgery and treated women from around the world. She recently opened Wise Women, a practice that specializes in care for women over 40, in Nocatee Town Center.

Dr. Ingrid Carlson

By Jennifer Logue

What services does Wise Women offer its patients?

We offer comprehensive non-surgical gynecology in a spa-like setting, with a focus on women over 40. We can do hormone replacement, health screening, contraception, IUDs, biopsies, colposcopy, among many others – we offer a wide range of services.

What motivated you to start a practice focused on treating mature women?

Getting older changes the conversation. We're done with childbearing and, much like puberty, the body is going through some intense changes. We also become more at risk for certain types of cancers. Mature women just have different challenges and questions. Things that came easily before can be harder to maintain. Being on the mature side myself, I can appreciate and enjoy the different focus.

How does your practice differ from those that accept patients of all ages?

I'll never get called away from the office to deliver a baby! Although OB/GYN is considered a surgical specialty, most gynecology really doesn't require surgery. I was a surgeon myself prior to joining Mayo Clinic, and I do have surgeons I trust in the community to whom I can refer if surgery is recommended. Most women would rather find a nonsurgical solution to their issues and I can help them with that. I actually do have the honor of taking care of the daughters of some of my colleagues – I have done many first pelvic exams – so I have quite an age range in my practice, but we really focus on mature women.

I do not handle obstetrical care, so there are no pictures of babies or toys in my waiting room, and the energy in the office is serene and unhurried. I like to talk with patients in my office first and then we go to the exam room, where we have dimmers on the lights, bathrobes and slippers, and a low-rise table so no one has to "hop up" anywhere. Both exam rooms have their own private bathroom and scale. The entire office is ADA compliant, of course. Since no one ever likes to have to walk across an entire medical center, it's nice that the parking is right next to the front door. I have tried to create a gynecology office that I would want to go to myself.

How did you become interested in gynecology as a medical specialty?

It sort of evolved, really. Michigan State University is a very primary care focused school. About half of their graduates go into some kind of primary care and I was no exception. I was in a family medicine residency for a year, but found myself hanging out on the OB floor when my other rotations were slow or I had free time. I had so many people ask me why I wasn't doing OB/GYN that I had to finally ask myself that question. I switched to OB/GYN and loved every part of it. I've been taking care of women my entire life – I have three daughters – so it came naturally. Everyone seems to have had at least one bad experience with gynecology care and I thought maybe I could make a positive difference.

You practiced at the Mayo Clinic for several years. What prompted you to open an office in Nocatee?

Every day at Mayo Clinic, at least two of my many patients per day would ask if I could be their regular doctor, but Mayo Clinic really isn't set up that way. I diagnosed problems and made recommendations for treatment. Mayo Clinic focuses



Photo by Jasmine Marshall

on diagnosis and surgery, but routine care is usually referred back to a woman's established physicians. When I was there, I might have seen eight to 10 new patients a day from all over the world and never see them again. I diagnosed and treated conditions that many physicians only read about or see occasionally and it was very interesting. I also taught primary care residents how to do gynecology without hurting anyone and I found that very rewarding, because I'm all about preventing pain. I also discovered a previously unknown condition that causes recurrent urinary symptoms in women, which will be published soon.

But I'm a big believer in preventive medicine, and the older women I saw were having trouble even getting in with a gynecologist because, in general, the OB/GYN focus is on obstetrics and surgery. After being asked so many times if I could be someone's regular doctor, I found that I really wanted to start saying yes. I spoke with my husband about it and we agreed that it was time. Nocatee is a very welcoming place and we had a great experience with the builder, architect and other professionals who helped to make Wise Women happen. It's been the best career decision I've ever made. I love it.

What brought you to the Jacksonville area?

The position at Mayo Clinic brought me here initially, but

we fell in love with the area immediately. Jacksonville has so much to offer and we feel so blessed to be here.

Are there any civic or charitable groups with which you're involved?

I'm involved with the Ponte Vedra Woman's Club, a philanthropic organization that raises money for area charities. I am also a member of the Women's Business Owners of North Florida, which supports women who are in business for themselves. I'm a member of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, as well as local, state and national medical associations.

How do you enjoy spending your free time?

I love to fish from the beach and walk and bicycle with my husband. I also love home improvement projects: Our home now bears no resemblance to the house we bought three years ago! It's become a giant art project. I've found as I get older, though, that the most important things in life are my family and friends – I treasure being able to spend time with so many wonderful and loving people. Life is incredibly short and time is precious.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

From those of us who found ourselves fighting the digital billboard sign ordinance, we want to send out a huge thank you to those of you who provided us with overwhelming support and encouragement.

Back in November, St. Johns County proposed to alter our county's Land Development Code to allow for digital billboards. The commissioners passed the torch to the Planning and Zoning board in February, where the digital billboards

section was shot down by a 5-1 vote. The commissioners were to make their final vote during the April 4 meeting, but the billboard company withdrew their proposal.

Our county has been spared from a supposed "pilot" program, which would have, in fact, erected permanent digital billboards on the most dangerous highway corridor in the United States. Our research exposed the national and international data, which demonstrates the inherent downsides and dangers of digital billboards. Our beautiful county is held to a higher standard, and we

stood together and tall to protect what is ours.

Our county did not want digital billboards 20 years ago. Our county does not want them today. And our county will not want them in any tomorrows.

We would like to thank all of our supporters. Our support base is strong and far reaching from: our southern scenic highways, to the Shores of St. Augustine, to the northeast corners of Ponte Vedra and the western Wm Bartram Scenic & Historic Highways. Partnered with the support of South Anastasia Communities, Ponte Vedra

MSD, Scenic Florida and Scenic Jacksonville, the Sierra Club, the Palm Valley Community Association, the St. Johns County Civic Roundtable, homeowners associations, civic groups and the news outlets, we were able to educate and garner the support from all corners of our county and beyond.

While the billboard industry claims that digital billboards are the wave the future, we know banning them as the true wave of the future.

Lisa Cook, Mary Kohnke and the anti-digital billboard crew

MSD Meeting

Continued from 8

Within the MSD, there were three vehicle burglaries, one grand theft and one petit theft reported in March. Cieslik noted, however, that these statistics are not entirely representative of all recent burglaries in the MSD. Victims whose unlocked cars were broken into, he said, often decided not to report the crimes.

Cieslik indicated that vehicle "smash and grabs" are rare within the area, but when they do happen, they typically occur in the parking lots of Mickler's Landing Beach and Guana Tolomato Matanzas (GTM) National Estuarine Research Reserve. He noted that a vehicle break-in occurred at Mickler's last weekend.

In other MSD business, Trustee Brad Wester notified the board that all beach access points have been repaired by the county, while Trustee Kitty Switkes shared an update on post-hurricane beach renourishment. Switkes said the county recently calculated that the nine-mile stretch of beach from Duval County to two miles south of Mickler's Beach lost 300,000 cubic yards of sand from June to November 2016, due in large part to Hurricane Matthew. That equates to 17,000 truckloads of sand, said Switkes.

The county is hoping this data will encourage the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to designate the shoreline as "critically eroded," which would make it eligible for state assistance.

Before adjourning the meeting, Chairman John Wegl reminded the board about the traffic town hall April 25 at 7 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall. At the meeting, the Citizens Traffic Task Force (CTTF) will join with traffic consultants from the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) to present the results of a Ponte Vedra Beach traffic study, along with recommended improvements to local roadways. Following the presentation, Wegl said, the public will have an opportunity to ask questions and offer feedback.

"It's important that everybody shows up so they can find out what the options are and what the problems may be," Wegl said.

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PV2-LV37240

| Thursday, April 13 | Friday, April 14 | Saturday, April 15 | Sunday, April 16 |
|--|---|--|---|
| <p>Easter Egg Hunts St. Johns County Parks and Recreation will host free Easter egg hunts at multiple park locations on Thursday, April 13 and Saturday, April 15. Children 8 years and younger are invited to participate April 13 at 11 a.m. at Veterans Park, located at 1332 Veterans Parkway in St. Johns, and Palencia Park, located at 405 Palencia Village Drive in St. Augustine. Kids may also participate April 15 at 11 a.m. in Treaty Park, located at 1595 Wildwood Drive in St. Augustine; and Al Wilke Park, located at 6140 Main St. in Hastings. Children are asked to bring a basket for egg collection. Eggs and treats will be provided. The Easter Bunny will be available for pictures at 10:30 a.m. and again after each hunt. Parents are welcome to bring their own cameras for photographs. For more information, call (904) 209-0333.</p> <p>Columbus Ship Replicas at St. Marys Replicas of Christopher Columbus's "Nina" and "Pinta" ships will visit St. Marys, Georgia from April 13-18. The ships will dock at Lang's Marina, where they will be available for tours. Both ships tour together as part of a new and enhanced "sailing museum" for the purpose of educating school children and the general public on the "caravel," a Portuguese ship used by Columbus and many early explorers. While in port, the public is invited to visit the ships for a walk-aboard, self-guided tour. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and \$6 for children ages 5-16. Children 4 and under are admitted free. The ships will be open every day from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Teachers or organizations wishing to schedule a 30-minute guided tour with a crew member may call 1-787-672-2152 or email columfnd1492@gmail.com. A minimum of 15 participants is required for this guided tour, and admission is \$5 per person. For more information, visit www.ninapinta.org. Lang's Marina is located at 307 Saint Marys St. West in St. Marys, Georgia.</p> | <p>'Shakespeare in the Park' The University of North Florida's Department of English will join the City of Atlantic Beach Department of Parks and Recreation and the Church of the Good Shepherd to present its eighth annual "Shakespeare in the Park" performance. The show will travel to Johansen Park in Atlantic Beach for performances at 8 p.m. Friday, April 14 and Saturday, April 15. A rain date is set for 8 p.m. Sunday, April 16. Catering will be available during Atlantic Beach performances beginning at 7 p.m. The show, which is design to present accessible productions of Shakespeare's plays, addresses questions about justice, mercy and government with a presentation of tragicomedy "Measure for Measure." The cast features UNF students and community members and will be directed by Dr. Pam Monteleone, UNF associate professor of English. All productions are free and open to the public.</p> <p>Jacksonville Artists Guild The work of the Jacksonville Artists Guild will be featured at First Street Gallery through May 23 as part of a juried exhibition dedicated to elevating artistic awareness and participation through programs and exhibits that enhance and promote the arts. For more information about the guild, visit www.jacksonvilleartistsguild.org. To learn more about the exhibit, contact First Street Gallery at (904) 241-6928. First Street Gallery is located at 216-B First Street in Neptune Beach.</p> <p>PV Professionals Networking Group The Ponte Vedra Professionals Networking Group meets Fridays at 9 a.m. at Watson Realty Corp., 615 Highway A1A S., Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, visit www.pvpng.com or email pontevedrapng@gmail.com.</p> <p>Coastal Wine Market Wine Tasting Coastal Wine Market hosts Friday wine tastings from 6 to 8 p.m. at 641 Crosswater Parkway, Suite B, Ponte Vedra Beach. Taste six wines for \$10. For more information, call (904) 395-3520.</p> | <p>Katz 4 Keeps Adoption Event Join Katz 4 Keeps April 15 for an adoption event helping cats and kittens find their forever homes. The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Katz 4 Keeps facility located at 935B A1A North in Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information about this event or organization, call (904) 834-3223 or email info@katz4keeps.org.</p> <p>Dave Eggar and Morley at MOSH Jacksonville's Museum of Science and History will present Dave Eggar & Morley with The Chamber Symphony of Peace April 15 from 7 to 10 p.m. This concert event was created and conceived by musician Dave Eggar exclusively for a performance at MOSH. Eggar will be joined by vocalist Morley and The Chamber Symphony of Peace, a special group including members of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra led by Concertmaster Philip Pan. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.themosh.org/event/dave-eggar-morley-in-concert.</p> <p>'Holophusicon' Artist Lauren Fensterstock is the next in MOCA's Project Atrium series, bringing her paper, Plexiglas and charcoal installations to the museum's exhibit space. The Portland-based artist draws inspiration from 18th-century gardens, crafting multi-layered, monochromatic cabinets made with shells collected from Maine and Sanibel Island. Fensterstock's pieces beckon visitors closer to inspect the intricacies that make up her works with "Holophusicon," on display through June 18. For more information, visit www.mocajacksonville.unf.edu.</p> <p>Science and History Boat Tours Jacksonville's Museum of Science and History has partnered with the St. Johns River Taxi to host Science and History River Tours every Saturday. Guests will learn about the history of Jacksonville and the importance of the St. Johns River as they cruise the river. Boats leave from the museum, located at 1025 Museum Circle in Jacksonville, at 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Admission is \$15 for adults and \$12 for children. To learn more, visit www.themosh.org</p> | <p>Parade of Horses and Carriages The St. Augustine Easter Parade, the Parade of Horses and Carriages, will return for its 61st year April 16 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Marching bands, floats, drill teams, mascots and the city's carriage horses will make appearances at the paraded, which treks along San Marco Avenue, the Bayfront of Avenida Menendez and stops at the Plaza de la Constitución. Nearly 200 Florida A&M University Marching Band performers will march in the parade in addition to the St. Augustine Royal Family and the Easter Bunny. This year's parade will also feature two special grand marshals in NFL kickers and St. Augustine natives Cairo Santos and Caleb Sturgis. Santos and Sturgis will sign autographs at the Visitor Information Center following the parade. To learn more, call (904) 829-3800 or visit www.oldestcityeaster.org/easter-parade.html.</p> <p>'The Wilderness of North Florida's Parks' Downtown Jacksonville's Museum of Science and History (MOSH) presents "The Wilderness of North Florida's Parks," its new exhibit by artist-in-residence Kathy Stark. Her featured works aim to promote the 60 parks, preserves and natural sites in the North Florida area. Stark's work will be featured through September. For more information, visit www.themosh.org. MOSH is located at 1025 Museum Circle in Jacksonville.</p> <p>"Friends for the Arts" Get involved in the arts by joining a team of fellow art supporters at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. Help develop and support fundraising projects and help initiate special projects to benefit and promote The Cultural Center and the arts in our community. For more information visit www.ccpvb.org/friends-for-the-arts.</p> |

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| Monday, April 17 | Tuesday, April 18 | Wednesday, April 19 | Thursday, April 20 |
|---|--|---|---|
| <p>'Communicating With Officials' The Northeast Florida Group of the Sierra Club in Ponte Vedra will host a presentation by Jerry Cameron April 17 at 6 p.m. in the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library during which Cameron will discuss communicating with legislative and government officials on local key issues. Cameron, retired assistant county manager of the St. Johns County Government, will outline how to be effective in communicating with local legislative and government officials on key issues such as the environment, health and welfare and education. All are welcome to attend this presentation. For more information, contact Brian Paradise at (904) 710-0479. The program will be held in the Friends of the Library meeting room.</p> <p>Volunteer Musicians Needed The Ponte Vedra Memory Care center is in need of volunteer musicians to perform for its Integrative Memory Enhancement Program every other week for memory care participants. Guitarists are strongly encouraged to apply. Interested musicians may call (904) 209-3686 or email aleach@stjohnscoa.com.</p> <p>Life Enrichment Group The Life Enrichment Group is designed for those with memory changes who want to remain mentally, physically and socially active, while giving caregivers and loved ones some free time for themselves. The program is offered daily, serving Jacksonville Beach and Ponte Vedra area. For more information call (904) 417-7354 or email life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com</p> | <p>Health, Safety and Wellness Fair Ponte Vedra High School's PTO will present its inaugural health, safety and wellness fair for families in the community Tuesday, April 18 from 5 to 7 p.m. The fair will be held at the high school and will feature topics such as safe, drug-free schools, promoting healthy body image, defensive driving safety, cyber-bullying prevention and more. The event will provide insight into current health issues in the community and local experts will provide information on living healthy lifestyles and supporting the environment. For more information about this event, email Darla March at darla.march@bellsouth.net or Serene Afsh at serene.afsh@gmail.com.</p> <p>First Coast Card Club The First Coast Card Club invites community members to its "Let's Play Cards!" events. On April 18, the club will meet at the St. Augustine Main Library located at 1960 N. Ponce De Leon Boulevard and April 19 at the Fleming Island Main Library located at 1895 Town Center Boulevard, with club activity beginning at 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Farmer's Market Join the Palm Valley Community Center Farmer's Market every Tuesday for fresh local produce, fresh seafood and artisan breads and sauces from 1 to 5 p.m. at 148 Canal Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Sunset Rotary Club Meeting The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset meets Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn. Community leaders are welcome to attend. For more information, call club President Janeene Hart at (904) 412-5409 or email jwhart1208@gmail.com.</p> | <p>Symphony Woodwind Quintet The newly formed St. Augustine/Jacksonville Newcomers Club of Northeast Florida invites guests to the Symphony Woodwind Quintet music concert at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Public Library April 19 at 4 p.m. This community club seeks newcomers to the community who are interested in socializing and participating in recreational events. For more information or to learn how to join, call (904) 829-0643 and (904) 814-9621.</p> <p>'The Art of Healing' The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach presents "The Art of Healing," an exhibition celebrating the healing effects of the arts through music, art-making and art interpretation. This exhibition will showcase children's work from Art with a Heart in Healthcare's "Inside the Outline" patient exhibition of body painting portraits from Heather Aguilera's Living Art Project and Pablo Rivera's portrait photography of the Cultural Center's music therapy program. This exhibit will be open through May 26. For more information, visit the event page at www.facebook.com/events/642504965933903.</p> <p>Toastmasters Club Toastmasters Club #5199 of Ponte Vedra Beach meets every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. at the Players Community Senior Center. These meetings will help attendees improve public speaking and gain leadership skills. The senior center is located at 175 Landrum Lane. Email Carmen at carmenjsardinas@gmail.com for additional information.</p> | <p>'Nature Connects Art' LEGO Exhibition Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens invites guests to "connect" with nature in the Nature Connects: Art with LEGO Bricks exhibition by Sean Kenney. The exhibition features 13 LEGO sculptures made with more than 300,000 bricks and is free with zoo admission. The Nature Connects installation will be on display through May 7. For more information, visit www.jacksonvillezoo.org/natureconnects.</p> <p>Author Karen White at The BookMark New York Times Bestselling author Karen White will be at The BookMark Thursday, April 20 at 7 p.m. for a book signing and discussion of her new novel, "The Night the Lights Went Out." In the novel, set in the southern suburbs of Sweet Apple, Georgia, divorcee Merilee Talbot Dunlap moves to a new town hoping to start a happy life with her two children, only to be met with obstacles and challenges by new neighbors. The BookMark is located at 220 First St. in Neptune Beach. The independent bookshop regularly features best-selling authors for readings and book signings. For more information on upcoming events, visit www.bookmark-beach.com or call (904) 241-9026.</p> <p>Volunteers Needed Life Enrichment Day Retreat in Ponte Vedra is in need of volunteers any weekday for a few hours. This volunteer will assist participants with simple activities. Call (904) 417-7354 or email life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com for more information.</p> <p>Free calendar listings for community groups and nonprofit organizations are published at our discretion on a space-available basis. Send your event at least 10 days before publication. Submit events to jasmine@opcfla.com, post online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com using the automated form or call (904) 686-3939.</p> |

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Pioneers: Nocatee's first family marks 10 years in Austin Park



Gerry, Roberta and Jessica Moore with dog Ore; 10 years ago, the Moores became Nocatee's first family.

By Jennifer Logue

When Roberta Moore first visited Nocatee more than a decade ago, there was no Nocatee.

"They had cleared the land for Austin Park, but there were no roads," Moore recalled. "There was no Valley Ridge Boulevard. We had to go four-wheeling off Palm Valley Road to look at lot sites."

This month, Moore and her family mark the 10th anniversary of a singular achievement: becoming the very first family to move into what is now the third best-selling master-planned community in the nation. A plaque in the foyer of the Moore home in Nocatee's Austin Park neighborhood reads, "The PARC Group and Cornerstone Homes are proud to welcome The Moore Family as the first residents of Nocatee – April 4, 2007."

"The PARC Group had a ceremony in our driveway," said Moore, noting that Nocatee's master developer also planted a sapling in front of the community's first home.

It's a sapling no more.

"It's big!" Moore laughed. "I just called a tree company today because it needs to be thinned out, it's grown so big!"

So, too, has Nocatee.

Pioneers

Moore and her family – husband Gerry and kids Shawn and Jessica – were living in Jacksonville's Southside area when they decided to begin looking for a new home in St. Johns County.

"The school system in St. Johns County was appealing," Moore said, "and my aunt from another state was

looking for a Del Webb community, which was being built in Nocatee at the same time. We thought it was somewhere that we could live in the same community and still have our own lifestyle."

Looking past the nonexistent roads and barren earth that greeted them on their first visit, the Moores signed on to build a home in Austin Park, unwittingly becoming the first family that would call Nocatee home.

"I guess we bought into the vision," she said. "The PARC Group had the website and knew what they wanted (the community) to be."

For the first month or so, the Moores were solitary pioneers, having all of Nocatee to themselves. Then another



The sapling The PARC Group planted 10 years ago to celebrate Nocatee's first family is a sapling no more.

family moved in and for a while there were two families calling Nocatee home.

Then, the Great Recession hit.


"The economy was crashing – it was

scary," Moore said. "I started to think, 'Hmmm...What if they just stopped (building)? What would that mean?'"

First Family continues on Page 13

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4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Open House
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During the Open House, attendees will have the opportunity to review the project exhibits, ask the project team questions, watch a video summarizing the project and provide written or verbal comments.

Beginning at 6:30 p.m., a formal presentation will be made followed by a public comment period where comments will be limited to two minutes per person. Responses to comments will not be provided during the formal presentation.

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OBITUARY

**Martin Arthur Olsen
May 21, 1924 – April 1, 2017**

Martin Arthur Olsen was born on May 21, 1924, the second son of Samuel M. and Bertha Olsen of Baldwin, New York. He attended Baldwin High School with his brothers Sam and Frank and sister Florence.

He attended Syracuse University but was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1943. He served with the 42nd Rainbow Division and saw action as a rifleman in the Battle of the Bulge and across Germany, including the opening of Dachau Camp. Martin always referred to himself and his buddies as “amateur soldiers” of America’s Greatest Generation.

After the war, he returned to work

for Kensol Olsenmark, the business his father had started in lower Manhattan. He was instrumental in building what became Kensol Foilmark, the dominant company in the hot stamping equipment and roll leaf industry.

He passed away after a brief illness in his sleep during the night of April 1, 2017.

He is survived by his wife Gloria Raquet Olsen, granddaughter Molly Elizabeth Olsen-Bailey, grandson Thomas Robert Burns and stepson Peter Robertson Thom. His son Martin A. Olsen Jr. predeceased him.

A memorial service will be held at the Chapel in Vicars Landing at 11 a.m.

on Saturday, April 15, with reception following. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Martin’s name to the Vicars Members Scholarship Trust.

First family

Continued from 11

I’m very thankful for The PARC Group. They hung in there, and they never changed their vision.”

In the decade since, the Moores have witnessed that vision become a reality, as The PARC Group not only built roads and infrastructure, but such popular amenities as the Splash Water Park and Greenway Trails.

“There were no parks here (when we moved in),” Moore noted. “My kids used to walk down the street to play in the dirt piles from the construction!”

Now, Moore enjoys walking on the trails through Nocatee’s preserved green space. “It’s very pretty here – we do have it good!”

Her children – who were 11 and 8 when the family moved to Austin Park – both benefited from the community’s top-rated schools, she added. Daughter Jessica, now 18, will graduate next month from Nease High School, where she is active in the school band.

“The band has given her all kinds of fun and experiences she never would have had,” Moore said. “Compared to what we had in Jacksonville, the schools have just been wonderful.”

Moore is equally happy to see the number of new shops, restaurants and businesses opening in Nocatee Town Center.

“I love it,” Moore said. “I think we appreciate it even more because there was nothing when we moved here.”

Now 10 years later, Moore said she is happy with the chance her family took as Nocatee pioneers, and credits The PARC Group for holding true to its original vision.

“What they’re doing now is what they said they’d be doing 10 years ago,” she said. “We’ve enjoyed watching Nocatee grow up around us, and we’re looking forward to the next 10 years.”

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Ponte Vedra Inn & Club

Cypress Village celebrates grand opening of new ambulance entrance with cookout for first responders



Cypress Village Executive Director Ty Morgan (third from right) dines with local police officers at the continuing care retirement community's ribbon cutting and cookout.

Cypress Village celebrated the grand opening of its new ambulance entrance March 28 by hosting a cookout to show its appreciation to local first responders.

The continuing care retirement community welcomed firefighters from Station 59 along with local police officers and emergency medical technicians. Also in

attendance was Dr. Charles Moreland, who represented the office of Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry; and Terrance Freeman, who represented City Councilman Aaron Bowman.

"The cookout was our way to support, honor and most importantly thank the first responders for the job they do every day



Photos courtesy of Cypress Village

Cypress Village marks the opening of its new ambulance entrance with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

to protect and enhance our lives and the lives of all our residents" Executive Director Ty Morgan said.

Many of Cypress Village's residents and associates also attended the event, enjoying the sunny weather and luncheon alongside the first responders, who assisted in the ribbon cutting of the ambu-

ulance entrance.

"This new entrance provides a secure, safe access for residents during their transfer to and from Cypress Village, as well as convenient access for transport teams," said Nick Laliberte, director of security at the 120-acre community located adjacent to the Mayo Clinic.

Ponte Vedra teen sets sights on Miss Florida

19-year-old Miss Ponte Vedra to compete at Miss Florida pageant this summer

By Jasmine Marshall

Between maintaining a 4.0 GPA at the University of Florida, volunteering with UF Shands Hospital and practicing with the UF dance team, Ariana Genovese maintains an already busy schedule.

Now the 19-year-old Ponte Vedra resident has added a new task and goal to her To Do list: pursuing the Miss Florida title. Genovese – who currently holds the title of Miss Ponte Vedra – will compete in the statewide pageant this summer in Lake-

land. Should she be successful and win the Florida crown, she would represent the state in the Miss America pageant.

It's uncharted territory for Genovese, who graduated last year in the top 10 percent of her class as a Biotechnology Academy student at Ponte Vedra High School.

"I'm pretty new to the pageant world – my first was actually in the Ponte Vedra High School pageant, which I decided to do for fun because my friends were participating, too," Genovese said. "Shortly

after, I was asked to represent the school at the High School Sweetheart Pageant."

The then high school senior won first place, an honor that led the pageant's director to encourage Genovese to participate in the Miss Ponte Vedra pageant. Juggling competitive dance at Debbie's Dance in Mandarin, her studies and her duties as president of Ponte Vedra High School's Red Cross, she decided to try for the title the following year – and won.

Her natural transition to the pageant world may come as no surprise as a glimpse at Genovese's resume shows honors won in pageantry, science, dance and waterskiing. She was the Eastern Region Swivel 1 Show Ski Champion in 2013, placed fourth in the state in microbiology for a project about chelator proteins, ammonium iron (III) citrate and *Bacillus thuringiensis*, and won nationals with her dance team for two consecutive years. She is also certified in biotechnology through the Biotechnician Assistant Credentialing Exam (BACE).

Now, Genovese intends to use the pageant platform for the greater good. Building on her involvement with the Children's Miracle Network and Body Image Movement, Genovese will perform a self-choreographed piece promoting positive body image at the Florida pageant that she hopes she'll also be able to present at the Miss America competition.



Miss Ponte Vedra Ariana Genovese

"I definitely want to show young men and women that you are not defined by our waistline – you're worth more than a composite score of your flaws," she said. "I want every young person to see themselves as beautiful. We can show everyone they're worth so much more than things of that nature, and it would be extremely revolutionary for a Miss America to undertake such a platform."

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PV2-LV37217

St. Johns CARES/Kids to host family seining, Earth Day hike and trail clean-up

The nonprofit St. Johns CARES/Kids will host a free family seining event at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, April 22 at Guana Lake in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Adults and children alike are invited to participate in the seining – pronounced “SAYN-ing” – a fishing technique that involves dragging a long net through the water to catch fish, shrimp and other aquatic life. The educational event will use kid-friendly sized nets, and the catch – which could include minnows, crabs, shrimp and more – will be released back

into the lake after kids have a chance to view and learn about the creatures.

Following the seining, participants are invited to participate in an Earth Day hike and trail cleanup. Equipment and education guides will be provided.

Those who wish to participate in the seining and hike should meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Guana Tolomato Matanzas Education Center at 505 Guana River Road in Ponte Vedra Beach. To reserve a spot, visit www.stjohnscares.org.

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PV2-LV37264

Second 'Loretta Swit and Friends' gala raises funds to

By Jennifer Logue

When the volunteers at Ayla's Acres first met Lucky, the 4-year-old dog's life had been anything but.

Abused by his former owners, Lucky was aloof and anxious. The smell of cigarettes and alcohol were particular triggers for the Labrador mix. But after intensive training and positive reinforcement from Ayla's Acres volunteers, Lucky lived up to his name, finding a forever home with a loving owner.

"Lucky embodies everything we do at Ayla's Acres," marketing director Hampton Ryan told attendees at Friday's "Loretta Swit and Friends" gala to benefit the no-kill animal rescue. "F. Scott Fitzgerald famously said, 'There are no second acts in American lives.' Ayla's Acres works tirelessly to prove him wrong by making sure animals get the second act they deserve."

Lucky's story was just one of the many uplifting stories shared at last week's gala, which was in a sense a "second act" of its own. Following the success of last year's "M*A*S*H Gala" featuring Loretta Swit and her fellow M*A*S*H castmates, Swit returned to Ponte Vedra Beach to host another benefit for Ayla's Acres. Featuring a cocktail reception, dinner, entertainment, and live and silent auctions, the benefit sought to raise funds to create "Peter's Friends," a 17.5-acre animal resource center that will provide animal rescue, adoption, education and spaying/neutering services in St. Johns County.

The need for such services, First Coast New Anchor and emcee Jessica Clark said, is great.

"What you're doing," Clark said, "is enabling people to take care of animals who don't have voices of their own."

Ayla's Acres Director Fran Charlson agreed, noting that each day the animal rescue organization receives 10 to 20 calls from people looking to surrender

animals. Some confess their plan to leave them by the side of the road, or even shoot their unwanted pets.

"I had a career in the biotech industry – now my life is about rescue," Charlson told gala attendees. "We can't do this work without you."

Those sentiments were echoed by Swit, the evening's special guest of honor and a lifelong animal activist.

"Thank you all for loving Ayla's Acres as much as I do," Swit said. "I just love you all for being here with us tonight."

In addition to showing a video of a Christmas special she taped with Bob Hope, Swit shared a number of stories demonstrating the power of animals to help and heal.

"What our animals do for us is incalculable," Swit said. "They give us unconditional love, which unhappily we human animals are incapable of. But they don't stop giving."

Also sharing their gratitude with gala attendees were actors Gregory Harrison and his wife, Randi Oakes, who participated in a live Skype session with the audience after airline cancellations and delays prevented them from attending in person.

"We love Ayla's Acres and animals in general," said Harrison, introducing guests to the couple's cats, Scout and Dooby. "We wish we could be there with you."

The gala also saw the presentation of Ayla's Acres' "Compassion in Action Award" to volunteer Amy Lohman, who specializes in providing foster care services to senior and hospice dogs. In accepting the award, Lohman urged guests to consider offering a home to an older pet.

"Please think about taking in an older dog," she said. "Everyone loves puppies, but older dogs love everyone. It's nice to give them a special final chapter in their lives."



Photos by Susan Griffin

Loretta Swit addresses guests at the gala to benefit Ayla's Acres.



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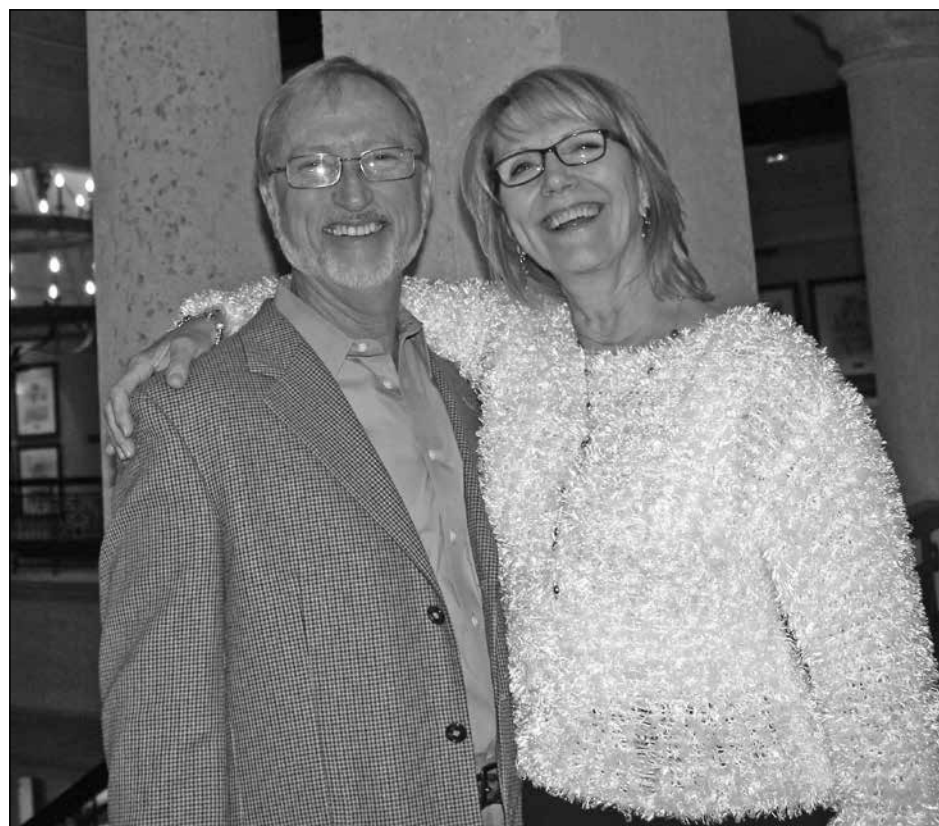


PV2-LV37141

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First Coast News anchor and event emcee Jessica Clark



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PV2-LV37216

EASTER

Worship

Guide



April 16: EASTER WORSHIP
8 • 9:30 • 11 AM

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PV2-LV37211

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www.crosswaterchurch.net

Easter Egg Hunt April 15th
9:30am-11:30am
Easter Services
8:15am, 9:45am, 11:15am

PV2-LV36950

PV2-LV37298

Easter Sunday dining: First Coast restaurants to offer special menus

By Jasmine Marshall

With Easter comes the promise of yet another beloved tradition – special meals prepared for the day.

Eateries all over the First Coast will be offering breakfast, brunch and dinner specials for the whole family, adding a coastal and contemporary twist to typical Sunday fare.

Vernon's Restaurant at Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort and Spa

Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort and Spa's annual Easter Brunch at Vernon's will return April 16 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., featuring a selection of starters, soups and salads, a Benedict bar, carving and seafood stations, entrees and sides topped off with a dessert table. Offerings include artisanal breads, she crab soup, smoked beef brisket, lobster ravioli and many more options for \$65 for adults and \$24 for children ages 6-12. In addition to brunch, Vernon's will host three special Easter activities – foam egg decorations and coloring, sand art pictures for \$5 and hula hoops and relay races – at 11 a.m.,

1 p.m. and 3 p.m., respectively. Reservations can be made by calling (904) 280-3405 or by visiting www.opentable.com/vernons-restaurant. This event is expected to sell out.

Azurea at One Ocean

Azurea at One Ocean will offer Easter brunch and dinner from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., respectively. The brunch menu is comprised of a Benedict bar, thick sliced Brioche French toast, crisp malted waffles, Atlantic Beach fish tacos and more. Dinner options, meanwhile, include cast iron seared jumbo blue crab cake with apple cider braised collard greens, charred heirloom tomatoes and crisp smoked bacon, coriander dusted Hawaiian sea bass with Maine lobster, ripe mango-lime gastrique among several others. To make reservations or to see a full menu, visit www.opentable.com/r/azurea-at-one-ocean-atlantic-beach.

Candy Apple Café and Cocktails

Downtown Jacksonville's Candy Apple Café and Cocktails will observe extended

hours, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., for its Easter brunch. The menu will offer four specials in addition to the restaurant's a la carte menu, including chargrilled cauliflower steak and eggs with house potatoes and chimichurri; country friend chicken biscuit and red eye gravy with apple cider bacon, pickles and a fried egg; huevos rancheros with sea island red peas, pork belly, goat cheese and green tomato chow chow; and cinnamon roll bread pudding with amaretto buttermilk glacé and salted caramel. Reservations can be made by calling (904) 353-9717 or visiting www.thecandyapplecafe.com/reservations. Reservations are strongly suggested.



Photo courtesy of Aqua Grill

Aqua Grill

Aqua Grill's Easter celebration returns from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. with a special menu: selections include ruby red shrimp, crab and lobster cakes served with spinach and potatoes, fried green tomatoes Benedict, a shrimp BLT omelet, rum raisin glazed ham served with roasted rosemary yukons and green beans almondine and several other brunch and dinner entrees and sides. The restaurant will also offer breakfast specials from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. To make reservations or for the full menu, call (904) 285-3017.



Photo courtesy of Candy Apple Café and Cocktails

EASTER DINING continues on Page 20

Christ is Risen!

4.16.2017

Easter Sunrise Services
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PV3-LV37103

EASTER

Worship Guide

Easter
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SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2017

6:30am • Sunrise service in the Oasis Garden

8am service in the Sanctuary with Brass & soloist Wil Kelly

9:30 & 11am services in the Sanctuary with Brass, Choir & Bells

All are welcome. Nursery provided at 8, 9:30 & 11am services.

3410 Third Street S., Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

PV2-LV37299

PV3-LV37105

Easter activities abound on the First Coast

Parade of Horses and Carriages

The St. Augustine Easter Parade, the Parade of Horses and Carriages, will return for its 61st year April 16 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Marching bands, floats, drill teams, mascots and the city's carriage horses will make appearances at the parade, which treks along San Marco Avenue, the bayfront of Avenida Menendez and stops at the Plaza de la Constitución. Nearly 200 Florida A&M University Marching Band performers will march in the parade in addition to the St. Augustine Royal Family and the Easter Bunny. This year's parade will also feature two special grand marshals in NFL kickers and St. Augustine natives Cairo Santos and Caleb Sturgis. Santos and Sturgis will sign autographs at the Visitor Information Center following the parade.

To learn more, call (904) 829-3800 or visit www.oldestcityeaster.org/easter-parade.html.

St. Johns County Parks and Recreation free Easter egg hunts

St. Johns County Parks and Recreation will host free Easter egg hunts at multiple park locations on Thursday, April 13 and Saturday, April 15.

Children 8 years and younger are invited to participate April 13 at 11 a.m. at Veterans Park, located at 1332 Veterans Parkway in St. Johns, and Palencia Park, located at 405 Palencia Village Drive in St. Augustine. Kids may also participate April 15 at 11 a.m. in Treaty Park, located at 1595 Wildwood Drive in St. Augustine; and Al Wilke Park, located at 6140 Main St. in Hastings. Children are asked to bring a basket for egg collection. Eggs and treats will be provided.

The Easter Bunny will be available for pictures at 10:30 a.m. and again after each hunt. Parents are welcome to bring their own cameras for photographs. For more information, call (904) 209-0333.

Peter Cottontail and the St. Marys Express

The Peter Cottontail Express will return to St. Marys April 15 during a special Easter train excursion.

Children of all ages are invited to see the antics of Peter Cottontail and other storybook characters at 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. each day as the St. Marys Express takes passengers through woodlands and marshlands with entertainment along the way. At the Midway stage, actors from St. Marys Little Theatre will bring the Easter bunny story to life. Peter Cottontail will board the train for the return trip and host a special Easter egg hunt back at the station.

The Peter Cottontail Express departs from Theatre by the Trax, located at 1000 Osborne St. in St. Marys. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$14 for children 12 and under. Children 2 and under ride free. Tickets can be purchased at www.stmarysrailroad.com or by calling (912) 200-5235. Special group discounts are available for groups of 10 or more by calling (912) 729-1103 to get a discount code.

A complete train schedule for future St. Marys Express excursions slated for this year can be found at www.stmarysrailroad.com.

Alleycakes Designer Cakes: Easter Edition

Jacksonville Beach-based Alleycakes will offer an Easter-themed advanced cake decorating class for kids and adults April 13 from 7 to 9 p.m. During the class, participants will observe a demonstration and learn tips and tricks for creating professional cakes at home. Classes are \$40 per person which includes an Alleycakes branded apron to wear during class, four-inch vanilla and chocolate cakes, whipped vanilla buttercream, cake-decorating tools, fresh flowers and assorted sprinkles and a



cake decorating tutorial. A Q&A session with Alleycakes bakers will also be held. Participants will receive a bakery box to take their decorated cakes home. This advanced-technique class is recommended for ages 10 and up.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit Alleycake's calendar and online tickets page at www.alleycakes.com/classes-events.

Adventure Landing 22nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Adventure Landing will host its 22nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt on its mini golf courses April 15, held hourly from 9 to 11 a.m. for three age groups (4 and under, 5-8 and 9-12) with registration beginning at 8 a.m. During the Easter celebration, guests will have the opportunity to enter a raffle

for prizes after each hunt and to meet the Easter Bunny. The annual celebration will also see "egg hunt specials" from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. during which guests can enjoy unlimited mini golf, laser tag and go-karts at special prices of \$14.99 and \$19.99. For more information, visit www.jacksonvillebeach.adventurelanding.com/event/easter-egg-hunt.

Celestial Farms Spring Fling

Celestial Farms will host a Spring Fling April 15 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The celebration will feature an Easter egg hunt, a craft and vendor fair, raffles and tours. Admission and parking are free, while train and pony rides and unlimited bounce house access are \$3. Celestial Farms is located at 13958 Duval Road in Jacksonville.

EASTER DINING

Continued from 19

NOLA MOCA

NOLA MOCA will offer a buffet spread Easter brunch from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. featuring fresh salads, pastries and hot sides in addition to seven gourmet entrees, including Korean-fried chicken and waffles, pork tamale Benedict with tomatillo hollandaise and the restaurant's signature shrimp and grits at \$25 for adults and \$8 for children. Reservations are strongly suggested and can be made by calling (904) 224-0113.

Casa Marina Hotel and Restaurant

Casa Marina Hotel and Restaurant will host an Easter brunch from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The menu will consist of a chef's carving of prime rib and fresh ham,

roasted pork loin with rosemary port demi, snapper Mediterranean, seafood curry over basmati rice, eggs Benedict with a sweet chili hollandaise sauce, tandoori roasted chicken, an omelet station, home fries and Southern style grits, garlic mashed potatoes and Belgian waffles with bacon and sausage.

A grilled vegetable presentation, antipasto platter, shrimp cocktail, whole salmon presentation, cold salad assortment and fruit and cheese presentation will also be available. For dessert, the restaurant will offer chocolate fondue, chocolate bourbon bread pudding and assorted desserts and pastries. Champagne, mimosas, draft beer and house wine are included. Reservations are \$38.95 per person, plus tax and gratuity. Children's reservations are \$19.47. Children 5 and under are free. For reservations or more information, call (904) 370-0025.



Photo courtesy of Candy Apple Café and Cocktails

Rotary, Recorder seek nominations for 25th Annual 'Local Heroes Awards'

By Jennifer Logue

The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach and the Ponte Vedra Recorder are seeking nominations for the 25th Annual "Local Heroes Awards."

Presented each spring, the Local Heroes Awards recognize individuals who give back to the community and reflect

the spirit of the Rotary Club's motto, "Service Above Self." Suggested categories for which a person might be nominated include community service in the arts, education, the environment, vocational service, volunteerism and corporate community service. A youth category recognizes young people making a difference in the community.

Residents who know of an individual they believe is deserving of recognition as a "Local Hero" are encouraged to complete the nomination form and email it to jclark@danielkids.org. Nomination forms may also be mailed to: Local Heroes Awards Committee, Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach, PO Box 70, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32004.

Deadline for submission of nominations is Thursday, May 4.

Award recipients will be recognized at the "Local Heroes Awards" reception to be held Thursday, May 25 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Sawgrass Country Club.

For more information, contact Rotarian Jim Clark at (904) 296-1055 or jclark@danielkids.org.

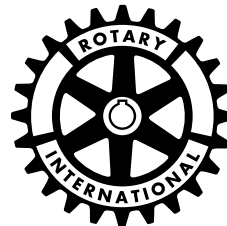
Coastal Wine Market to begin Saturday brunch service April 15

Nocatee's Coastal Wine Market + tasting room will introduce its new Saturday brunch menu this weekend, offering a selection of gourmet breakfast items and beverages.

To be offered from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays beginning April 15, the brunch service will include such offerings as croque monsieur on fresh homemade bread with prosciutto di parma and Karst Cave aged cheddar; lobster scramble with hash brown casserole and cherrywood smoked bacon; vanilla yogurt and granola parfait with seasonal fresh berries; and lemon ricotta pancakes with Vermont maple syrup and Grand Marnier whipped cream.

Mimosas and homemade sangria will also be available for \$5.

Coastal Wine Market + tasting room is located at 641 Crosswater Parkway in Nocatee Town Center.



The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach

in cooperation with The Ponte Vedra Recorder

2017 Local Heroes Awards Nomination Form

Nominee: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Nominated by: _____

Nominator's Telephone _____ Email: _____

Category: (check one)

Arts _____ Education _____ Environmental _____ Youth _____

Vocational _____ Volunteer _____ Corporate _____

Qualifications: *Submit this form with a detailed description of the nominee's achievements and why he or she deserves recognition. Direct any questions to:*

Ponte Vedra Beach Rotary Club member, Jim Clark, jclark@danielkids.org 296-1055.

Entry Deadline: Thursday, May 4
Send Entries to:

Local Heroes Awards Committee
Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach
P. O. Box 70
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32004

Or email Entries to:
jclark@danielkids.org

Thank you
for your nomination!

Awards to be presented
Thursday, May 25, 2017
at 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Sawgrass Country Club

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Puente

Enrique Antonio Puente II and Emili-Erin Elizabeth Puente of Ponte Vedra announce the birth of their daughter Silvia-Mae Elizabeth, born on March 4 at Baptist Health South, weighing six pounds, 10 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Steve and Torree Alexander of St. Augustine. Paternal grandparents are Enrique (Henry) and Susan Puente of Ponte Vedra Beach.

Maternal great-grandparents are the late James and Emily-Mae Alexander and the late Gladys Baldwin. Paternal great-grandparents are the late Antonio and the late Silvia Puente and the late Fred and the late Helen Braren.



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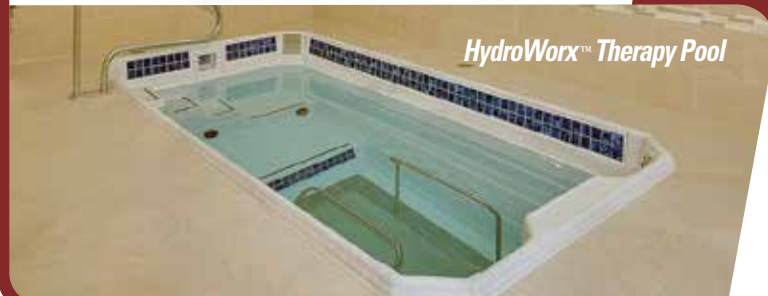
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PV2-1V37213

UNF's 'Shakespeare in the Park' returns for eighth season

The University of North Florida's Department of English will join the City of Atlantic Beach Department of Parks and Recreation and the Church of the Good Shepherd to present its eighth annual "Shakespeare in the Park" with a performance of "Measure for Measure."

To be directed by UNF Professor Dr. Pam Monteleone, the show will feature a

cast comprised of UNF students and community members. All performances are free and open to the public.

The show will travel to Johansen Park in Atlantic Beach for performances at 8 p.m. Friday, April 14 and Saturday, April 15. A rain date is set for 8 p.m. Sunday, April 16. Catering will be available during these performances beginning at 7 p.m.

Some chairs will be provided, but patrons are welcome to bring their own blankets and chairs.

The final performances will take place at 7:30 p.m. April 27-28 in Worsham Hall at the Church of the Good Shepherd, located at 1100 Stockton St. in Jacksonville. The April 28 performance will be followed by a panel discussion on issues

raised in the play.

For more information about the UNF performances or the Church of the Good Shepherd performances, contact the UNF Department of English at (904) 620-2273. For information about the Atlantic Beach Performances, contact Linda Ginsberg at (904) 246-4061.

Jacksonville Symphony celebrates 20 years in Jacoby Hall

The Jacksonville Symphony will mark a milestone April 26, when the ensemble celebrates 20 years in its home at the Times-Union Center's Robert E. Jacoby Symphony Hall.

On that date in 1997, a sold-out crowd gathered for opening night at Florida's only dedicated symphony hall – and since then, Jacoby Hall has become an integral part of Jacksonville's culture. To celebrate the anniversary, the Jacksonville Symphony is offering tickets for concerts at the same price they were in 1997 throughout the weekend of April 28: \$25.

The Symphony will present Stravinsky's Violin Concerto with Ayano Ninomiya as guest soloist and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6, "Pathétique," on Friday and Saturday, April 28-29 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 30 at 3 p.m.

Although the journey to building such a space began in the mid-1980s, the official planning of Jacoby Hall started in 1993. The original project included a multimillion-dollar overhaul of the Civic Auditorium, which would be named the Times-Union Center for Performing Arts after a \$3 million donation from the Florida Times-Union. But the auditorium did not meet all the needs of a rapidly growing Jacksonville Symphony.

"The acoustics were not good for a symphony orchestra," said Bob Shircliff, one of the community leaders who helped drive the effort to upgrade the venue. "And the musicians could never rehearse where concerts were being played."

After consulting with then Music Director Roger Nierenberg, board



member Preston Haskell pitched the idea of building a symphony hall within the Times-Union Center. He said the new hall would give the orchestra an acoustically balanced home to practice and perform without having to schedule everything around the visiting theatrical performances, concerts and graduation ceremonies.

The hall's namesake, Robert E. Jacoby, contributed the first gift. Jacoby's

support built excitement for the project, inspiring many other donors to get involved in a campaign that would exceed its initial goal, raising \$22 million total.

Designed by Jack Diamond of KBJ Architects and world-renowned acoustician Larry Kierkegaard, Jacoby Hall seats 1,800, and its "shoebox" shape takes inspiration from acclaimed music halls in Vienna and Boston, a configuration considered to be the gold standard

for orchestral sound design.

"I don't know if newer patrons realize what a monumental effect the Jacoby Hall has had on making the symphony what it is today," said Robert Massey, president and CEO of the Jacksonville Symphony. "We have the most professional orchestra in Florida because we have this venue. It is one of the crown jewels of performance destinations."

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Ponte Vedra High School to present Guys and Dolls

Ponte Vedra High School will present four performances of Guys and Dolls April 20-22. The show will be performed at 7 p.m. each night in the school's auditorium, as well as at 2 p.m. on April 22. Tickets, which are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students, will be sold before school by the front office April 17-21 and at the door the night of the performances.



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Ponte Vedra Public Education Foundation to host ArtWorks exhibition April 30

Hundreds of local residents will enjoy artwork created by Ponte Vedra public school students at the annual ArtWorks



PVPEF photo

Zeta Washington stands by her award-winning artwork at the 2016 ArtWorks exhibition. This year's event will be held April 30 at the Sawgrass Marriott.

celebration, to be held Sunday, April 30 at 1 p.m. at the Sawgrass Marriott.

Sponsored by the Ponte Vedra Public Education Foundation, the free, public event will display original artwork created by students from Ocean Palms and PVPV/Rawlings elementary schools, Valley Ridge Academy, Landrum Middle School, and Nease and Ponte Vedra high schools.

Each year, art teachers select works created by their students. Professional artists are then brought in to choose which pieces will be exhibited during the ArtWorks show. An exhibition of student artwork will occur from 1 to 2 p.m., followed by an awards ceremony for all student artists. One student's artwork from each school will be designated as "Best in Show;" the winning artwork will be professionally framed and displayed with a plaque in the student's school.

Since 1983, PVPEF has been working to enhance and enrich the educational experience for Ponte Vedra's public school students. For more information on the foundation, its mission and programs, visit www.pvedfoundation.org.

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Legacy Trust Home & Art Tour benefits Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach

By Jennifer Logue

Hundreds of local residents toured some of Ponte Vedra Beach's most distinctive homes Saturday, as five local families opened their doors for the annual Legacy Trust Ponte Vedra Beach Home & Art Tour.

Held April 8, the self-guided tour enabled visitors to tour homes located on Ponte Vedra Boulevard, Lake Road, Roscoe Boulevard and in Marsh Landing that reflected a myriad of architectural styles and interior design concepts. From sleek contemporary homes and European-inspired estates to oceanfront retreats, each tour home also featured an artistic component, showcasing the works of local artists and the ways in which the owners incorporated art and color into their overall design.

Benefactor Reception

To celebrate the return of the annual event, a "Benefactor Reception" was held Friday, April 7 at the Marsh Landing home of Ron and Hilah Autrey. Guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and refreshments as well as the chance to meet several local artists. Also on hand was architect Richard Skinner, who designed the Autreys' 11,000 square-foot home located on the Intracoastal Waterway.

Proceeds from the Home & Art Tour benefit the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach's educational programs.

BENFACTOR RECEPTION



Photos by Jennifer Logue

Tommy and Betty Talbot with Robbie and Jane Beeland and Brooks Allen



Barbara MoorWedow, Janet Lithgow and Earline Jordan



Linda and Dick Williams



Penny and Ed Waller with Patricia Winters and Gabriele Van Zon



Artist C. Ford Riley, Devon Brennan and Walter Jewett



Pattie Houlihan, Marty Flack, host Ron Autrey and architect Richard Skinner

HOME & ART TOUR



The Bushong home offers sweeping views of the Atlantic ocean .



The Roache home features a fun, colorful palette that includes lime green shutters and interior design touches in hues of bright pink, blue and orange.



Alhambra to present 'Dreamgirls'

The early days of rock and roll – when girl groups like The Supremes, The Shirelles and The Marvelettes dominated the pop charts – will be revisited this spring, when The Alhambra Theatre & Dining presents its production of “Dreamgirls.”

Set in the 1960s and 70s, the Tony Award-winning musical follows the rags-to-riches rise to fame of The Dreams, a female singing trio from Chicago. The show follows The Dreams as they reach the top of the music industry, only to have behind-the-scenes bickering and romantic rivalries begin to tear the act apart. “Dreamgirls” follows the group from the early 1960s to the beginning of

the disco era, capturing a pivotal moment in the American music industry.

A Broadway and Hollywood success

“Dreamgirls” opened Dec. 20, 1981, at the Imperial Theatre on Broadway, and went on to be nominated for 13 Tony Awards, garnering six, including the Tony Award for Best Musical. One of the show’s signature numbers – “And I Am Telling You I’m Not Going” – became a Top 40 hit, also reaching number one on the Billboard R&B chart. In 2006, the show was adapted into a motion picture that won two Academy Awards, including a Best Supporting Actress Oscar for American Idol alum Jennifer Hudson.

On the menu

For each new show presented at The Alhambra, Executive Chef DeJuan Roy prepares a menu designed to complement that specific production. The three-course menu for “Dreamgirls” includes a first course choice of chicken and rice soup or seasonal salad with early spring mix, heirloom tomato, watermelon radish and derby dressing. The second course includes a choice of braised lamb shoulder with couscous, pomegranates, charred carrot whipped herb butter; salmon croquette with a meyer lemon cream, thyme and coconut jasmine rice, cowpeas; Chef DeJuan’s world-famous fried chicken with white BBQ sauce, chopped pickles,

house made fries and Brussels sprout slaw; or a split pea soup with garden vegetables, fried squash blossom and pea tendrils. The dessert course includes a choice of strawberry shortcake or house-made cream puff pastry with powdered sugar

“Dreamgirls” runs at the Alhambra Theatre & Dining from April 12 through May 21, 2107. Tickets start at \$35, and include dinner, show and parking. The Alhambra is located at 12000 Beach Boulevard in Jacksonville. For show times and details, please call the box office at (904) 641-1212 or visit www.alhambrajax.com.

Shearwater to hold 5K, fun run/walk on Earth Day

Shearwater will celebrate Earth Day April 22 by hosting a 5K race and fun run/walk.

Races will start and finish near the master planned community’s Kayak Club amenity center and follow the community trails and paths that border preserved natu-

ral habitat. Following the races, participants will enjoy craft beer and root beer floats, food trucks and music from a DJ.

The 5K is scheduled to start at 8 a.m. Early registration for the race is \$20 until April 14 at midnight. Registration for the 5K is \$25 from April 14-21 at 9 a.m. when

online registration closes. Entry includes an event T-shirt and a pint glass (21 and up) for the first 200 entries. Custom medals will be awarded to the first 200 finishers.

The fun run/walk is slated to kick off at 9 a.m. Registration is \$10 at all times and

includes an event T-shirt only. Register online for all races at ShearwaterLiving.com/5K.

Proceeds from the event will benefit Timberlin Creek Elementary School, Switzerland Point Middle School and Bartram Trail High School.

SHORT TAKES

Christ Episcopal Church to host Savvy Job Hunters Ministry workshop

Christ Episcopal Church will host another workshop as part of its Savvy Job Hunters Ministry series April 27 from 9 a.m. to noon. This workshop will cover the topic of “Starting Your Own Small Business,” to be presented by Pat Blanchard, director of Jacksonville Women’s Business Center and JAX Chamber Foundation. Following the presentation, Buddy Webster, partner and president of LEADERS Professional Recruiting, Inc., will be available to review resumes and give tips on how to bolster them.

This workshop will be held in the Parish Center Conference room of Christ Episcopal Church, located at 400 San Juan Drive at Solana Road East in Ponte Vedra Beach. Guests are advised to park on the upper deck to enter the second-floor conference room. RSVP to

Cindy Corritore at ccorritore@christepiscopalchurch.org, or the Pastoral Care Office by calling (904) 285-7390 ext. 231. For more information, contact Pam Ottesen at pottesen66@gmail.com.

Author Karen White to make an appearance at The BookMark

New York Times Bestselling author Karen White will be at The BookMark Thursday, April 20 at 7 p.m. for a book signing and discussion of her new novel, “The Night the Lights Went Out.”

Set in the southern suburbs of Sweet Apple, Georgia, the novel follows divorcee Merilee Talbot Dunlap as she moves to the town hoping to start a new life with her two children, only to face obstacles on a number of fronts.

White’s books have been nominated for numerous national prizes, and she has twice

won the National Readers’ Choice Award. Many of her 23 novels have appeared on various bestseller lists, and the most recent, “The Guests on South Battery” has been a NYT bestseller. The BookMark is located at 220 First St. in Neptune Beach.

Candy Apple Café, Sweet Pete’s relaunch Candy and Cocktails program

The Candy Apple Café and Cocktails and Sweet Pete’s Candy have revamped and relaunched their Candy and Cocktails program scheduled for the third Friday of each month. The program now includes a craft candy cocktail demonstration, an interactive candy class, light hors d’oeuvres and an additional ticket for beer, wine or soda. The next class is scheduled for April 21 at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$40 per person. To purchase tickets or to learn more information, visit

<http://bit.ly/CandyAndCocktails2017>.

St. Augustine Art Association to present Plein Air Paint Out April 21-30

The St. Augustine Art Association will present a 10-day citywide St. Augustine Plein Air Paint Out, inviting artists to capture “Impressions of the Flagler Era.” Selected works produced by the participating artists during the event will be featured in a juried exhibition entitled “Gilded,” to be held at the St. Augustine Art Association, May 5-28. The Plein Air Task Force, the St. Augustine Art Association and the St. Johns Cultural Council have created a website, www.stjohnspleinair.com, that provides information for artists on appropriate locations and any restrictions that impact plein air painting in St. Johns County. For more information, call (904) 824-2310 or visit www.staaa.org/pleinair.

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Cultural Center names Guzzo director of development



Donna Guzzo

By Jennifer Logue

The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach has named Donna Guzzo as its new director of development.

In her new role, Guzzo will oversee special fundraising events and serve as a liaison for the center's affinity group, Friends for the Arts. She will begin her position April 19.

"I'm very excited to be part of such an elite group and be a part of the team to take it to the next level," Guzzo said in an interview with The Recorder. "My first priority is going to be getting to know the donors and then taking it from there, determining what our needs are and securing additional funding through grants from corporations and foundations."

Guzzo noted that in addition to possessing two decades of fundraising experience, she

recently completed the training required to receive the Certified Nonprofit Executive, Certified Development Executive and Certified Nonprofit Consultant designations from the National Association of Nonprofits.

"For nonprofits nowadays, it's all about the money," Guzzo said. "Without money, you don't have a cause and without a cause, you don't have a mission."

Guzzo joins the cultural center from the St. Johns County School District, where she served as the business coordinator for its Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). She also founded the school district's Language Exploration Enrichment program, which introduces elementary school students to Spanish language and culture. In fact, it was the cultural center's educational outreach programs – particularly its "Sound Connections" program that provides music therapy

to children with special needs at four local elementary schools – that convinced Guzzo the cultural center position would be a good match for her skills and experience.

"When I saw that (program)," she said, "I thought, 'Wow, I can still be involved and have my enthusiasm for the schools.'"

Guzzo lives in Ponte Vedra Beach with her husband, Glenn, and daughter, Scheherazade, who recently graduated as valedictorian from Full Sail University.

Cultural Center Executive Director Judy Hixenbaugh praised Guzzo's combination of fundraising and nonprofit experience.

"Her enthusiasm and experience are exactly what we were looking for to help take the center to the next level," Hixenbaugh said. "We are over-the-moon excited to have her on our team."

MOVERS & SHAKERS



RAINES

Raines joins Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty

Josh Raines has joined the Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty as a Realtor.

Raines brings to the office more than 15 years of experience in accounting and finance in the health care, hospitality and mortgage industries.

"I am eager to help my clients through each real estate transaction and make sure their experience is smooth and stress-free," Raines said.

"Josh makes a great addition to the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty team," Broker/Manager Kevin Waugaman said. "With the support of his family of Realtors, Josh's career will reach new heights. We look forward to celebrating his accomplishments."

Hope at Hand receives Diversity & Inclusion Award

Hope at Hand has received a Diversity & Inclusion Award from the Division of Cultural Affairs and Citizens for Florida Arts, Inc.

The Diversity & Inclusion Awards Program recognizes the efforts of individuals working to make arts and cultural programming in Florida as diverse and inclusive as possible. The award recognizes the work Hope at Hand has done to promote diverse and inclusive poetry programming for at-risks and vulnerable youth in North Florida. Hope at Hand programming broadens the reach of individuals engaged in cultural programming in Florida, while welcoming the strengths and perspectives of each child or adolescent.



WARNER

Hope at Hand was awarded \$750 to support its diversity and inclusion initiatives.

Warner joins Quick Law Group

Autumn Warner has joined The Quick Law Group, joining the practice that specializes in divorce and family law for women. Warner joins the firm from another local law firm, bringing with her experience in divorce, paternity, alimony and timesharing.

"We are very excited to add a strong litigator to our team," CEO Heather

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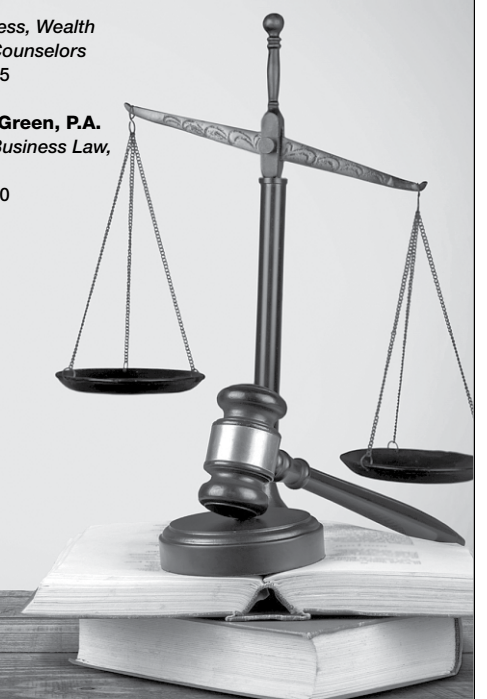
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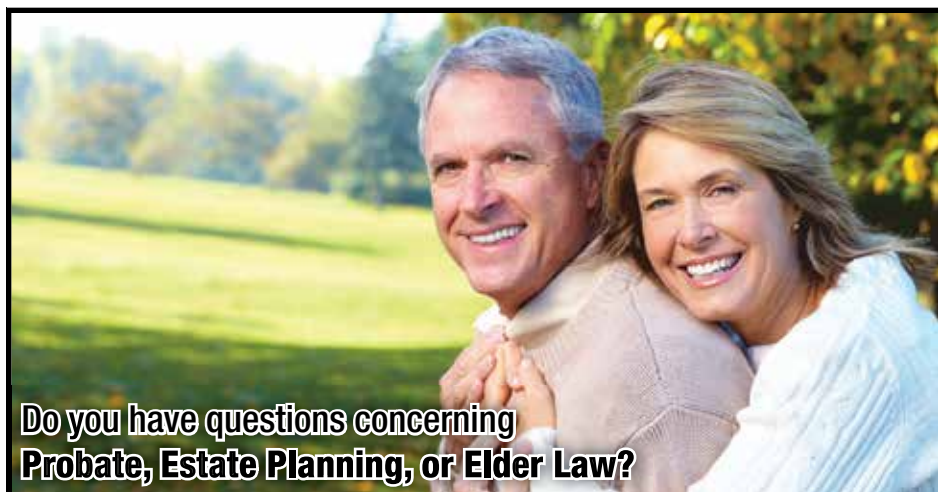
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Janet E. Johnson, P.A.

Criminal Defense Attorney



Janet Johnson is committed to aggressively defending people accused in all criminal matters in state and federal court. In practice since 1994, she is a member of the Florida Bar, The Federal Bar, Colorado Bar, as well as the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. She has been on the faculty of FACDL “Blood, Breath & Tears” annual DUI seminar. Ms. Johnson appears as a legal commentator on CNN, HLN, GMA, and Fox News. She has been awarded the very highest possible rating, the AV preeminent rating™, from Martindale- Hubbell® and was named a fellow to the prestigious Litigation Counsel of America™, as well as one of the ten best criminal defense attorneys nationally for client satisfaction by the American Institute of Criminal Law Attorneys.

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A valuable business lesson from nature

By Harry Pappas

Author and motivational speaker Brendon Burchard has often shared a story about the nature of business. In nature, Burchard says, bees and flowers each have their respective needs. Bees make their living from the flowers by gathering nectar and turning it into honey. Flowers require the bees for pollination to grow. In the nature of most businesses, we are the bees buzzing around with excitement from flower to flower to get what we need (clients). Since there are only a limited amount of “flowers,” bees consume an incredible amount of energy traveling long distances to satisfy their wishes. During their travels, the bees regularly find other bees competing for the same nectar, causing them to work harder to get what they require. Eventually, the bees’ wings get too tired to continue the fight for nectar, resulting in their demise.



Harry Pappas
Columnist

In all of this buzzing excitement, the flower remains still while laughing at the enthusiastic bees. The flower is smart. It understands that it produces such a great “product” (nectar) that it attracts the bees. The flower stays grounded and uses all its time and resources to keep producing newer, sweeter services (nectar). The bees cannot resist the value of the flower, and the buzzing excitement starts all over again. The flower is pollinated and multiplies throughout the fields. The flower’s only concern is how to appeal to the bees. If the flowers do this, the bees will continue to seek them out.

I hope that you connect with the moral of the above narrative. For example, if we do not give, we do not get! Additionally, businesses must accept that we must implement a business strategy that produces exceptional value to our clients (bees), so they seek us out and return repeatedly. Regrettably, far too many companies focus too much on making money than they do about creating exceptional value. I refer to these folks as takers and not givers.

I work under the premise that to attract money is not to think about money. When we stop being self-cen-

tered and direct our heart and focus on the needs of others, good things should happen to us. When one believes enthusiastically in serving the needs of others without compromising principles and values for a few extra bucks, money typically follows.

Working only for money is seldom a successful game plan. As Burchard proclaimed in his inspirational book, “The Millionaire Messenger,” “If people spent as much time worrying about how to make a difference as they do about how they could make money, then they would soon find themselves rich beyond belief.” I believe with utmost conviction that if we work under the premise of genuinely enjoying giving, offering constant unparalleled value, dedicating ourselves to excellence and activities that express honesty and trustworthiness, substantial rewards will present themselves somehow someday.

Aristotle said, “We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.” In the final analysis, the next time we want something from someone else, let’s think more about being a flower instead of a bee!

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MOVERS & SHAKERS

Movers & Shakers

Continued from 29

Quick said. “Autumn exhibits a fearless and focused advocacy for women’s rights. Her passion and legal expertise will be an asset to this firm.”

Outside of the courtroom, Warner is a board member of The Exchange Club Family Center of North America, which provides child abuse prevention and education to at-risk families in Northeast Florida by providing education and assistance to deter child abuse. She is also a member of the Jacksonville Women Lawyers Association.

“I am thrilled to be a part of The Quick Law Group team,” Warner said. “Divorce is life altering and it can be an emotionally draining experience. I want to empower my clients to have strength and courage. I want my clients to know we are in this together and I will work relentlessly to ensure their rights are protected so a fair and equitable solution can be reached.”

UNF appoints new deans

The University of North Florida has appointed **Curt Lox**, **George Rainbolt** and **Jeff Chamberlain** as deans. They will join the university faculty this



LOX



RAINBOLT



CHAMBERLAIN

summer.

Lox will be the dean of the Brooks College of Health, starting at the end of May, while Rainbolt will be the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, beginning in July. Chamberlain will become the dean of the Hicks Honors College in August.

“I’m pleased to welcome three outstanding deans to the University administrative team as each dean has proven to be an effective advocate for faculty and students,” said Dr. Earle Traynham, provost in the Division of Academic Affairs at UNF. “I’m confident that

Drs. George Rainbolt, Jeff Chamberlain and Curt Lox will bring to their respective positions a collaborative nature, strong leadership and experience in strategic planning.”

For the past two decades, Lox has worked at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville as a kinesiology and health education professor and as dean

of the School of Education, Health and Human Behavior. He has served on the editorial review boards for the Collegiate Press and the Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology. Currently, Lox is a member of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.

He serves as a sport psychology consultant to the United States Martial Arts Team, St. Louis Steamers and the University of California Riverside Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, to name a few. Lox earned his doctorate from the University of Illinois and his master’s degree from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Dr. Pam Chally, former BCH dean, retired in late March but will return in October to serve as the university’s interim provost. Dr. Cathy Christie, BCH associate dean, is serving as acting dean to bridge the gap between Chally leaving and Lox starting the new post.

Rainbolt comes from Georgia State University, where he’s chair of the Department of Philosophy. Dr. Madeline Zavodny, his wife, will join the Coggin College of Business faculty as an economics professor.

Rainbolt has held several international positions, including visiting professor, Shanghai University in Shanghai, China; visiting scholar, College Internationale de Philosophie in Paris; and

visiting scholar, Universität Bielefeld in Bielefeld, Germany. Rainbolt earned both his doctorate and master’s degree from the University of Arizona and a bachelor’s degree from Oberlin College.

For the past 10 years, Chamberlain served as the director of the Frederik Meijer Honors College at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan. Previously, he was a professor of history at the University of St. Francis in Joliet, Illinois. His areas of teaching interests include social, political and intellectual as well as Ecclesiastical History of Tudor/Stuart and Georgian England.

Chamberlain has authored such books as “Accommodating High Churchmen: The Clergy of Sussex” and “Changes and Chances.” He earned his doctorate from the University of Chicago and earned two master’s degrees from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, while his bachelor’s degree came from Bryan College.

The current Honors Director, Dr. Jeff Michelman, will be returning as a UNF faculty member, after working for the past several years elevating the Honors Program to a college.

LEGAL EAGLES

What community association leaders should know about the FHA and ADA



Hans C. Wahl

By Hans C. Wahl

Community association board members and managers are often so preoccupied ensuring compliance with state and local laws that they sometimes overlook controlling federal law. Multiple federal acts can apply to associations in any given situation, and overlooking those federal laws can have costly consequences. Two federal acts that association leaders should know and understand are the Fair Housing Act (FHA) and the Americans with Dis-

abilities Act (ADA).

The FHA prohibits discrimination by housing providers on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, or disability. While intentional acts of discrimination unfortunately still occur at times, most claims under the FHA are not for intentional acts; rather, they are for seemingly neutral rules, policies or practices that, when enforced, end up having a disparate impact on protected classes. Stated another way, associations can be found liable under the FHA even if there is no wrongful intent or knowledge that a rule has a discriminating effect when implemented.

Common issues involving the FHA include support animals, disability accommodation requests and new resident screening. Concerning support animals, the FHA governs requests for both service animals and emotional support animals. When receiving a proper request from a resident due to a disability, associations must make reasonable accommodations for both service animals and emotional support animals. This is true even if the association has a strict no pet policy. Associations are sometimes permitted to make reasonable inquiries into the request to determine its validity. (In Florida, it is a crime for someone to misrepresent a pet as a service animal when it is not.)

Disabled residents may request that

associations make modifications to existing structures. Such modifications may include wheelchair ramps, handicapped parking spaces, pool lift chairs, automatic doors, accessible bathrooms, etc. Associations must be willing to make such reasonable modifications; however, under the FHA, the person making the modification request must pay for it. (Whereas, when the ADA applies and a request is made under it, the association must pay for the modification.)

Associations get into the most trouble under the FHA with new resident screening policies. Associations may be implementing certain screening policies yet have no idea their practices violate the FHA. An example can be improper consideration of arrest records. Restrictions on housing opportunities based on arrest records may violate the FHA if, without justification, the burden falls more often on prospective buyers or renters of one race or national origin over another. Moreover, an association's blanket policy excluding individuals due to a prior arrest, without that arrest leading to a conviction, will likely not withstand scrutiny under the FHA.

The ADA prohibits discrimination on the basis of a person's disability. Whereas the FHA always applies to community associations because they are housing providers, the ADA only applies

when association property is open to the public, even if only for occasional and limited events. To illustrate, if an association clubhouse hosts local public events, such as weddings or charity functions, that association is opening itself up to regulation under the ADA. Also, associations that permit short-term rentals – giving it characteristics similar to that of a place of public lodging – will probably fall under Title III of the ADA.

When a clubhouse open to public events is located within a private residence, such as a condominium, the portion used exclusively as a residence is not subject to the ADA, but the portion used in the operation of a public event is subject to the ADA. The portion of the property subject to the ADA will extend to common elements such as restrooms, sidewalks, and doors or entryways. If an association opens its clubhouse to public events and also provides for short-term rentals of its residential properties, then the entire association property could be subject to the ADA. When governed by the ADA, an association must make reasonable modifications to accommodate individuals with disabilities, which can include items such as installing ramps, widening doorways, installing grab bars in toilet stalls and adding braille.

Hans C. Wahl is an associate with Jimerson & Cobb, P.A. in Jacksonville.

Law firm offers distracted driving presentations

April is Distracted Driving Month, and with prom season underway, the Terrell Hogan law firm is reminding both teen and adult drivers that it offers free distracted driving presentations.

“Distracted driving is an epidemic,” said Wayne Hogan, president of Terrell Hogan. “It kills more people in the United States each year than polio did in the worst year of that epidemic.”

Since it began five years ago,

the Terrell Hogan Distracted Driving Awareness Campaign has reached 7,200 teens and adults in Northeast Florida. The presentation for high school students focuses on the tragedies, victims and consequences of driving distracted and offers strategies to combat it. At the end of the presentation, students can sign an anti-distracted driving pledge reminding them not to text, call or use their phone while driving.

The law firm also offers a presentation for employers, which explores the consequences of accidents caused by distracted driving, such as higher insurance rates, civil lawsuits and OSHA fines. The presentation is available for businesses, nonprofit organizations and civic groups.

The Terrell Hogan Distracted Driving Awareness Campaign was inspired by the Casey Feldman Foundation and Enddd.org in memory of Casey Feld-

man, a 21-year-old pedestrian who was killed by a distracted driver in a crosswalk on the way to her summer job.

“It’s not just texting,” said Hogan. “Talking on the phone – even hands-free – is not danger-free. It causes brain distraction. Our only job on the road is to drive.”

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LEGAL EAGLES

'Second Saturday' workshop offers women legal, financial, emotional advice about divorce

By Jennifer Logue

For women contemplating divorce, the number of legal, financial and emotional questions facing them can often seem overwhelming.

Those types of questions are what the "Second Saturday" program is designed to address. Founded in San Diego 25 years ago by the nonprofit Women's Institute for Financial Education (WIFE), Second Saturday divorce workshops aim to provide women with the key information they need to know about the divorce process. The program has since spread across the country, with Second Saturday workshops held in 32 states.

"The whole essence of the program is to help people make an informed decision throughout the process," said Robert Franskousky, a Certified Divorce Financial Analyst who facilitates the Jacksonville Second Saturday workshops. "The goal is to help people understand up front what the process is all about so they



have a realistic understanding of what to expect."

Held on the second Saturday of the month – hence the name – Second Saturday workshops last for three and a half hours and feature local attorneys, certified financial planners and behavioral specialists. Topics covered during the sessions include the financial pitfalls of divorce, key legal issues, real estate/home ownership considerations, and emotional and family issues.

"We give people the essential information they need to make informed decisions," Franskousky said. "With divorce, you have one chance to get it right. The value of having this information is priceless."

The next Jacksonville Second Saturday workshop will be held May 13 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the University of North Florida's Herbert Center. The registration fee for the workshop is \$45. To register or for more information, visit www.secondsaturdayjax.org.

Using Florida's homestead exemption protect your assets

By Hillel L. Presser

In Florida, a home that is protected by homestead is considered a person's castle, impermeable from most threats. The Florida homestead exemption has three distinct components: creditor protection, real property tax exemptions and limitation on devise and descent. Most individuals merely know the exemption for its creditor protection, but the law expands well beyond that. Here are some tips for protecting your assets through the homestead exemption.

Understand the qualifications for the Florida Homestead Exemption. The Florida homestead exemption is one of the most favorable in the country, if not the best. Accordingly, individuals and their properties must both qualify for the exemption. Specifically, an individual must be a resident of Florida and living in the state for six or more months out of the year. This reaches most "snow birds," who travel from northern states to Florida for

the winter. The property must also qualify. It must be a primary residence and located on no more than one-half of an acre within a municipality or 160 acres outside of a municipality. The homestead exemption must also be filed in a timely manner, between January 1 and March 1 of the year in which the homestead should apply. Finally, if you move to a new home, you must apply to "port" a homestead from a prior home to a new home (also known as portability).

Recognize the unlimited creditor protection inherent in Florida homestead laws.

Article X, Section 4 of the Florida Constitution provides that a homestead property avails itself from the protections of prevention of a forced sale to satisfy the judgment of creditors. The protection in Florida is not limited by the value of the home, unlike other states. However, there are four exceptions: tax liens due to property taxes owed, specific liens due to mortgages and other voluntary instru-

ments, mechanics liens, and/or claims of any creditor who has a judgment pre-dating the establishment of the homestead. The last exception is one of the reasons why timely filing and portability of the homestead exemption is extremely important.

Utilize the property tax exemptions inherent in Florida homestead laws. Once a homestead is established on a property, certain tax exemptions become available to the property owner. First, there is the general homestead tax exemption applied to the first \$50,000 of the value of the home. For instance, if a home is worth \$100,000, the property owner will pay taxes on \$50,000 of that value. Other tax exemptions available for homestead properties include the exemption for widows or widowers, low-income senior citizens, individuals on disability, deployed military owners, veterans and surviving spouses of first responders who have died in the line of duty.

Understand the devise and descent

protections and limitations of Florida homestead. Establishing homestead on a property causes certain limitations to apply as to who can succeed to the property upon an individual's death. This overlaps with the property's creditor protections. Specifically, an owner may not devise or leave their homestead by will, trust or otherwise if survived by a spouse or minor child except to that surviving spouse and/or minor children. On the other hand, if there are no minor children or spouse, then the homestead may be transferred by will, trust or otherwise to anyone. As a practical matter, individuals should still consider transferring their homestead property to a revocable trust to avoid probate; otherwise, a summary administration and a petition to determine homestead with the court will have to be filed to effect the transfer.

Hillel L. Presser, MBA, is an attorney with the Presser Law Firm.

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Suzanne W. Green has been practicing law since 1987 and is a former prosecutor with the Duval County State Attorney's Office. Suzanne W. Green has been in private practice since 1990 and has managed her own firm since 1997. Suzanne also attained higher level degrees in business related fields prior to attending law school. Suzanne is also active in the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce and was recently elected as Chairman of our St. Augustine - St. Johns County Airport Authority.

We welcome a new attorney to our firm, Ms. Erin Bowden, graduate of Florida State University and University of Akron School of Law.

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SPORTS

Sharks take District 6 Lacrosse title

By Jerry Norton

Local lacrosse gurus predicted a pair of blowout games for the Ponte Vedra Sharks in the district playoffs and the experts were spot on. The Sharks easily dispatched Bartram Trail 24-7 April 5, then claimed the District 6 title with a 21-3 win over their archrival, the Nease Panthers, April 7 at the Panthers' Field.

As district champion, the Sharks qualify for the first round "play-in" playoff game, which according the FHSSA.org website will be played against Fletcher Thursday, April 13 at 7 p.m. at the Shark Tank. The visiting Senators have a 9-6-1 record, while Ponte Vedra owns 18 wins against a single loss.

Bartram Trail had little chance against the Sharks, falling behind 5-0 in the first six minutes. Senior Clay Welch put the Sharks up 1-0 with a goal 30 seconds after the opening faceoff. Jack Burke, Andrew O'Dare and Burke, again, then scored consecutive goals all within 60 seconds of each other.

Welch got right back in the act to make the score 5-0 before Tim Adams' goal



Photos by Chris and Jerry Norton

#21 Andrew O'Dare checks Nease's Hunter Paulsen as #22 Tom Zitiello helps pin Paulsen to the sideline. O'Dare was penalized for cross checking.

avoided a first quarter shutout of the Bears. Welch then added his third goal to finish the first quarter with Ponte Vedra up 6-1.

The second quarter belonged to the Sharks' Reid Smith and O'Dare. Smith scored three times in the first five minutes while O'Dare added two more – both coming after he won a face off, as he did on his first quarter goal.

Before the half ended, Smith found the range for two more goals and single scores by Welch, Walker Azzaro, Dylan Hess, Matt Keeler and Andrew Bray sent the Sharks into the break leading 19-2.

Ponte Vedra coach Tom West substituted freely to start the second half, and the Bears took advantage of the situation to score three consecutive goals. From there

on, the teams traded goals. Devin Hoffman scored a pair while fourth quarter goals by Jason Prince, Keeler and Welch pushed the Sharks to the 24-7 final.

Nease couldn't keep pace with the Ponte Vedra's relentless offense either, although they tried to match the Sharks physically – the result, a very rough game marked by numerous penalties levied against each team.

Nease fell behind 7-0 in the first 12 minutes. Smith tallied three times in the quarter for Ponte Vedra, while Burke, Welch, CD James and O'Dare also scored.

Hunter Paulsen put the Panthers on the board with a goal 30 seconds into the second quarter, but Keeler and Smith answered for the Sharks. Smith's goal came on an incredible shot made as he fell to his knees, the result of a Nease body check.

When Sean Howard scored the Panthers' second goal, Hess and Welch matched that. Howard scored again for Nease but as before, Ponte Vedra responded with goals by Burke and Keeler.

The half ended with the Sharks up 13-3. From that point on Ponte Vedra did all the remaining scoring. Azzaro and James added two goals, Devin Naidoo, Welch, Hess and Burke one each to give the Sharks a 21-3 win and the District 6 trophy.

Predicting the playoffs

Trying to handicap the upcoming lacrosse playoffs is like negotiating college basketball's March Madness brackets successfully; nevertheless, here's this writer's attempt.

Look for the Sharks to breeze through their three play-in games with decisive wins against Fletcher, and either St. Mary's or St. Augustine in the second round, then either Bolles, Maclay, Pen-

sacola Catholic or Buchholz in the third round. I don't think it makes much difference which of those teams the Sharks wind up playing, since they have already beaten most of them.

Then as Region 1 winner, the Sharks would face the Region 2 winner. My guess is that Newsome would emerge as the Region 2 winner from a group comprised of Lake Highland Prep, Hagerty, West Orange, Bishop Moore, Lakeland, Berkeley Prep and Steinbrenner.

Should the Sharks beat the Region 2 winner, they will be in a position to play the winner of the Region 3 and 4 matchup for the state championship. My pick for the Region 3 winner is Barron Collier and the Region 4 winner is likely to be St. Thomas Aquinas. I look then for St. Thomas Aquinas to beat Barron Collier and, as a result, face Ponte Vedra for the state championship in Jupiter, Florida April 29 at 7:05 p.m.

If the Sharks do meet St. Thomas Aquinas in the final round, can they win?

Let's look at their records. Like the 18-1 Sharks, the 17-1 Raiders have lost just once and that to a strong team from Long Island. At 18-1, Ponte Vedra's lone defeat came at the hands of Jupiter by a score of 14-9, while St. Thomas edged Jupiter 11-10. The only other common opponent is Lake Highland Prep, and both the Sharks and the Raiders handled the Highlanders easily.

Absent any other consideration, Ponte Vedra's loss to Jupiter could be a key factor in this reckoning. Could the Sharks use this loss to their advantage? After all, the championship game is being played at the Warriors' field, the scene of their



#21 Andrew O'Dare of the Sharks has a heavy lift as he faces off against Bartram.

Lacrosse

Continued from 38

only loss. What better way to avenge that singular defeat? So, back to the question at hand. Can

the Sharks beat St. Thomas Aquinas (or whomever wins the Region 3 vs Region 4 match-up) and win their first lacrosse

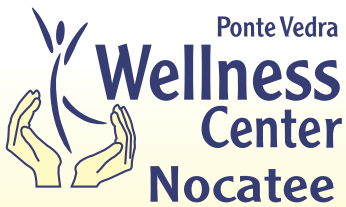
championship in the school's history? Not only can they can win, they will win. Remember, you heard it here first.



Walker Azzaro shoots and scores for the Sharks against Nease.

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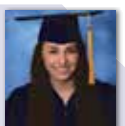
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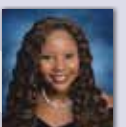
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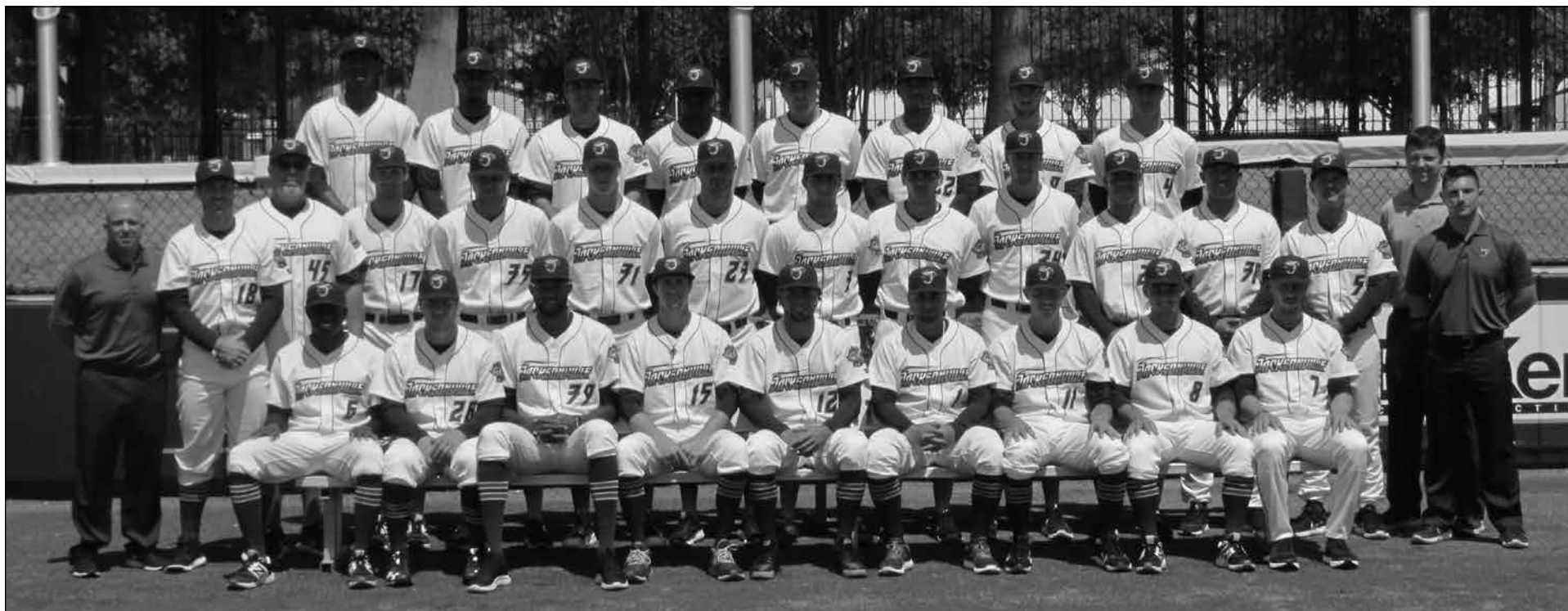


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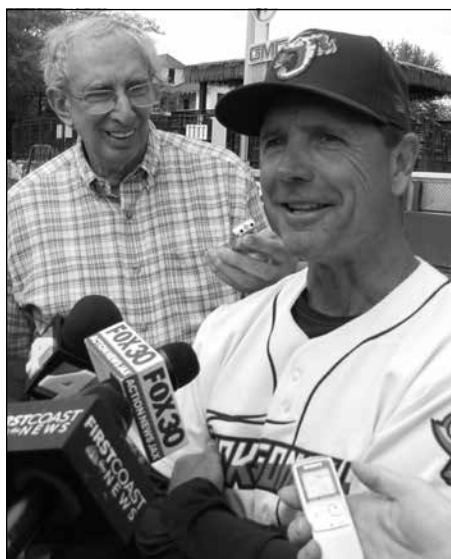
SPORTS

Jumbo Shrimp expect positive season following organizational changes



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

The Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp display their new uniforms in a team photo.



Jumbo Shrimp manager Randy Ready is in his first year with the club.

Donning their recently unveiled, patriotic red, white and blue uniforms, players and coaches from the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp emphasized that 2017 is a new year for the club.

“We’re starting fresh,” said manager Randy Ready, who is in his first year with the team after managing the Single-A Jupiter Hammerheads last season. “We have a good group of players. With the right combination, we should win a lot of games.”

Known as the Suns for the past 25 years, the Miami Marlins Double-A affiliate became the Jumbo Shrimp in November 2016. Playing in the Southern League,

the club is coming off two straight losing seasons but is confident that the future is bright amid the organization’s changes.

In addition to Ready, the club welcomes first year staff Jesus Merchan as hitting coach, Storm Davis as pitching coach and Jose Ceballos as a general field coach. Ready, who played in 13 MLB seasons, noted the staff possesses 100 years of combined professional experience that will serve the players well in improving and ultimately pushing the team to the next level of play.

Davis is a Jacksonville native who graduated from University Christian High School and previously coached at The Bolles School. A former MLB pitcher with 13 years of playing experience, Davis won two World Series with the Baltimore Orioles and the Oakland Athletics. He comes to the Jumbo Shrimp from the New Orleans Baby Cakes, the Marlins’ Triple-A affiliate.

The pitching coach said the team’s five-man rotation at the start of the year will feature Dillon Peters, Matt Tomshaw, Omar Bencomo, Mike Kickham and Chris Mazza.

On the offensive side of the ball, the minor-league club boasts third baseman Brian Anderson, who enters the 2017 season as the No. 4 Marlins prospect according to Baseball America. The club’s top prospect soared in the 2016 Arizona Fall League, hitting .273 with five home runs and 12 RBIs in 22 games. He played Single-A baseball for the Jupiter Hammer-



Photo by Jim Brady

The Jumbo Shrimp practice at The Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville.

heads in 2015 and 2016.

“I’m just trying to take everything with a grain of salt,” said Anderson regarding his recent publicity. “All I do is go out and play baseball and have fun. That’s my job. That’s all I really worry about.”

The Jumbo Shrimp return left fielder Austin Dean – the No. 8 prospect for the Marlins – and also feature John Norwood, the organization’s No. 29 prospect who played in Jupiter last year as well. Austin Nola is an intriguing story for the team: He converted to catcher after previously playing in the infield, primarily at short-

stop. For years in the offseason, he has caught for his brother Aaron Nola, who is now part of the Philadelphia Phillies pitching rotation.

Overall, Jumbo Shrimp players like Dean say the team has “different vibes” this year, thanks in large part to the changes in name, uniforms and logo.

“More positive vibes,” said Dean. “Whenever the logo and everything were revealed, I fell in love. I feel like we’re going to do well.”



Photo courtesy of Cady Studios

MacKenzie Felmet

By Jon Blauvelt

When MacKenzie Felmet started running on the treadmill Feb. 5, tears streamed down her face as the wave of fear coursing through her body quickly transformed into relief.

It had been nearly three months since the Nease cross country and track runner had suffered serious debilitating injuries due to a life-threatening car accident, and she finally was able to return to one of the activities she loves most.

“To see her running again was maybe the most beautiful thing I’ve ever seen,” her father Brandon Felmet, said. “I don’t think she always sees how miraculous she is and how special she is and how she inspires other people.”

More than five months after the accident, the Nease senior now runs every day and is soon to be a recipient of an American Youth Character Award from the St. Johns County School District. But to get to this point, the

Miracle Mack: Nease senior runs to recovery following car accident

girl known by her doctors as “Miracle Mack” had to run a very different kind of race – a race for her life.

The crash

On Nov. 7, 2016, MacKenzie’s life turned upside down in a flash.

As she and her younger sister, Sydney, were leaving Nease, MacKenzie attempted to cross the notoriously dangerous intersection of Ray Road and U.S. 1 when an oncoming Hyundai Santa Fe T-boned her Toyota Corolla, sending the Felmets across the southbound lane of the highway and into a ditch.

“‘Oh, my god’ is the best way I can put it,” the girls’ father recalled. “I can’t believe this happened. I just can’t believe that my girls are hurt.”

The sisters were airlifted to area hospitals in critical condition, with MacKenzie taken to Orange Park Medical Center and Sydney transported to UF Health Shands Hospital. While Sydney suffered a concussion and a bad bump on her head, MacKenzie’s injuries included a broken hip, broken jaw, an orbital fracture beneath her left eye, temporary internal bleeding and brain damage that led to paralysis in the left side of her body for more than two weeks.

With no recollection of the accident, MacKenzie said she first remembers waking up in a hospital bed the next day, with nurses swarming around the room. This must be a

dream, she recalled.

Recovery

MacKenzie’s doctors were initially unable to establish an exact timeframe for her recovery. With so much uncertainty surrounding the brain injury, the family was told her recovery could take anywhere from six months to a year to possibly several years.

But MacKenzie proved expectations wrong.

“It was amazing in her rehab,” her father said. “She just worked so hard to try to get better, to get back to running, to get back to all the things she loves to do.”

MacKenzie recovered from her injuries in half the time that was expected and returned to Nease in late January, prompting her doctors to name her “Miracle Mack.” Her rehabilitation consisted of in-patient, daily and then weekly therapy with Brooks Rehabilitation, where she worked on muscle strength and balance while also participating in cognitive therapy.

Melanie Cohen, a physical therapist at Brooks Rehabilitation Pediatric Center of St. Augustine who worked with MacKenzie two days a week in her last stage of rehab, initially expected her plan of care to take 16 weeks. Cohen discharged her, however, after six to eight weeks, attributing MacKenzie’s quick

Miracle Mack continues on Page 43

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SPORTS

Ponte Vedra girls' lacrosse team wins district title



Photo by Tammy Johnson

The Ponte Vedra High School girls lacrosse team celebrates winning the FHSAA District 5 championship April 6 at Bartram Trail High School after topping the Bears 17-8. "The level of determination, focus, execution and teamwork was unlike anything I have seen out of this team," said Lady Sharks coach Karen Healy-Silcott. "The girls' play was truly inspiring, and what makes it extra special is that they did it as a team full of trust and love of the game and each other." Ponte Vedra plays in the regional playoffs April 13 at 7 p.m. at St. Augustine High School versus the Yellow Jackets.

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Miracle Mack

Continued from 41

recovery to her motivation, discipline and positive outlook on life.

MacKenzie ended therapy roughly two months ago. After a month in a wheelchair, several weeks with crutches and a walker and lots of patience, she now runs four to five miles each day, which she said is a symbol of her strength and perseverance.

Observed Nease track coach Ted DeVos, “At this point, you have to ask what challenge can she not overcome?”

Moving Forward

On April 27, MacKenzie will be recognized for her exemplary character at the American Youth Character Awards (AYCA) Banquet. Accompanying her will be Nease English teacher Julie Pantano, MacKenzie’s mentor in the International Baccalaureate (IB) program.

“I’m very happy that we have a good conclusion to what was a horrible tragedy,” Pantano said. “I’m not surprised to see how well she’s done because that’s always been her way. This girl has grit like nothing you’ve ever seen.”

Within the next few months, “Miracle Mack” will undergo surgery on her eye to repair the damage from the accident. The timing, she said, is perfect because she’ll be able to go to University of Florida on time in the fall, where she plans to study political

science and pursue a career in law so she can help people persevere through adversity like what she faced.

She also plans to do plenty of running throughout Gainesville.

“I’m given the chance to get through this,” she said, “and then right as I’m pretty much fully healed I have the chance to go live and start a new life and start fresh and leave all this behind, which is wonderful to do.”

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13. African sorcery
14. *Snowy one is endangered
15. Prince's "Raspberry"
16. Former Greek coin
17. Hawaiian token of farewell
18. Make one
19. *No more
21. *Meatless day?
23. Unknown power
24. Texting button
25. Roll of Benjamins, e.g.
28. Noisy talk
30. First among siblings
35. Black tropical cuckoo
37. Not Sunni
39. Comforter stuffing
40. *Outer layer of Earth's crust
41. *Gardener's cover
43. Australian palm
44. 2nd T in a T&T
46. Jane Lynch's high-school musical TV show
47. Newts in terrestrial stage
48. Bewitch
50. Consequently
52. Kum Ba _____
53. Like vacation day, sometimes
55. Old-fashioned "before"

57. *Driver's bad habit
60. *It's changing
64. Anemic-looking
65. Grazing area
67. Arabian chieftain
68. Sound of colliding pots
69. Roman goddess of fertility
70. Smart candy?
71. Snaky swimmers
72. Acom tree
73. Rendezvous

DOWN

1. *South _____
4. Amundsen-Scott Station location
2. Wild goat
3. Best _____ secret
4. Dine at home
5. Ice fishing shelter
6. World's fastest man
7. Leave speechless
8. Snail trail
9. Be inclined
10. "Tosca" tune, e.g.
11. What oppositions do
12. Chester White's home
15. _____ of joy, a.k.a. baby
20. Difference of opinion
22. Comes before first Mississippi
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33. Anatomical divisions
34. *Treasure to some?
36. Whitman of "Indian Love Call" fame
38. Tennis serving whiz
42. Father of dialectical idealism
45. Dealing with difficulty
49. Famous Akira Kurosawa movie
51. Home to superb rugs
54. Meltable home
56. Type of wheat
57. Capri, e.g.
58. Lentil soup
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Shrimp

Continued from 40

Team officials say the new Jumbo Shrimp name embraces Jacksonville's "Big Small Town" dynamic as Florida's largest city, yet also a close-knit community. The shrimp logo forms a J for Jacksonville, and the team's uniforms alternate from classic white with blue caps for home games to gray with blue caps while on the road. The Jumbo Shrimp will also wear American red, St. Johns navy and camouflage jerseys throughout the year to

celebrate Jacksonville's military identity.

Jumbo Shrimp General Manager Harold Crow, who has been with the club since September 2015, said season ticket sales and overall merchandise sales have increased due to the recent changes. The uptick in merchandise sales has been surprising to the front office executive, since the team's ballpark is located within the downtown sports complex and not within a shopping area.

"For people to travel down and come into our store and want to see what we have to offer," Crow said, "is very impressive for me to see."



The Jumbo Shrimp name embraces Jacksonville's "Big Small Town" dynamic.

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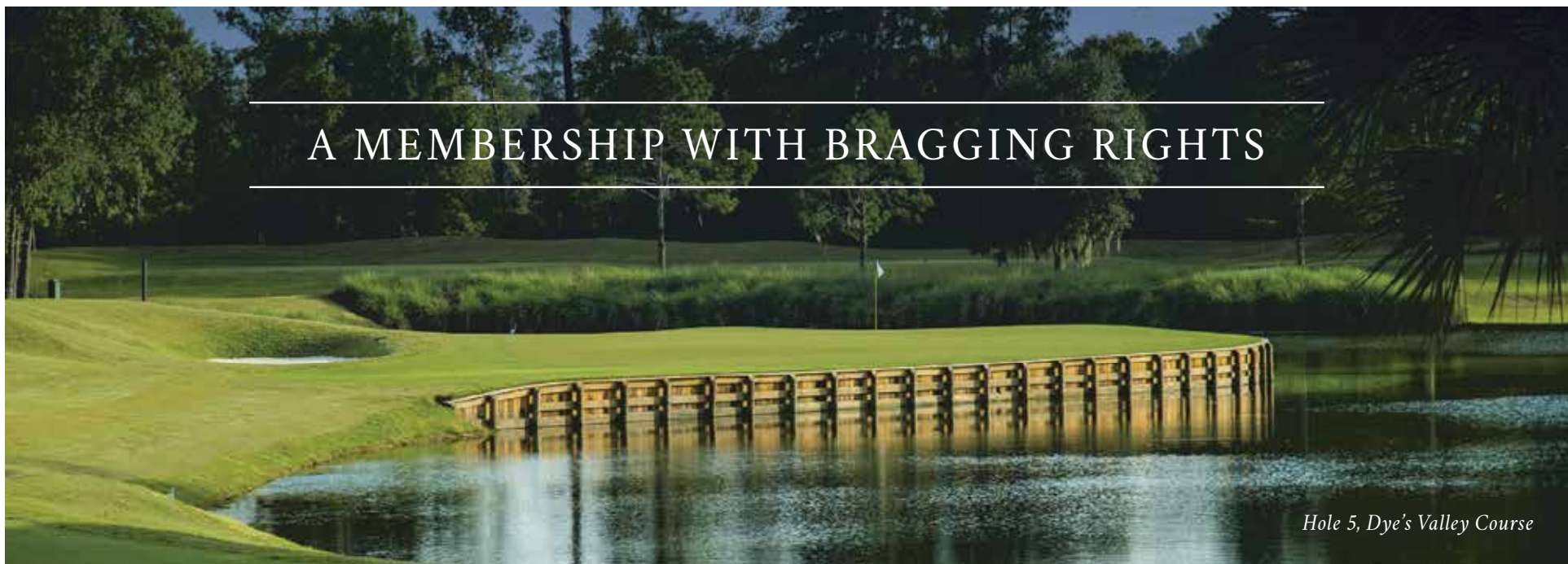
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