

Ponte Vedra Recorder



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75 cents

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PonteVedraRecorder.com



Steel Magnolias
Page 36



2017 Hurricane
Guide
Pages 17-24



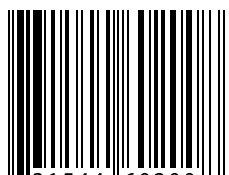
The Class of 2017
Pages 12-15



The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach and the Ponte Vedra Recorder presented the 25th Annual Local Heroes Awards May 25. Read more on pages 33-35.

Photo by Jennifer Logue

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the Beaches since 1969



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INSIDE

One of Us

Page 6

Calendar

Pages 8-9

Hurricane Guide

Pages 17-24

Business Weekly

Pages 26-32

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

B	A	S	E	S	A	N	A	W	H	E	N	
B	R	A	V	O	N	O	D	S	A	I	G	A
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Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.



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WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

Email your answer to 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 Pete's Bar in Neptune Beach. Winner of the random drawing was **Virginia Braschel** – congratulations, Virginia! You may pick up your prize at The Recorder office during regular business hours.



ADOPT A PET

CAT OF THE WEEK

My name is Moose and I am a 4-year-old male cat who is looking for a new home. I was brought to the pet center by my owners because they could no longer care for me. Will you make me part of your family? Come visit us today here at the pet center! #38000



DOG OF THE WEEK

My name is Gracie and I am a 3-year-old female mixed breed who is looking for a new home. I was given to the pet center by my owners because they could no longer care for me. I am heartworm positive, so my adoption fee and a portion of my treatment is sponsored by the Friends of the St. Johns County Pet Center. Come visit me today! #19412

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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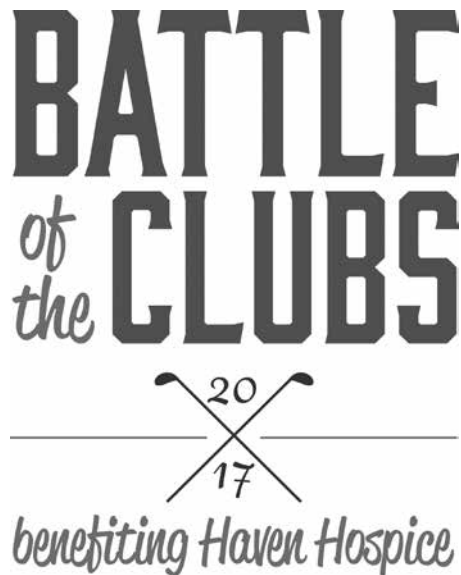
Haven Hospice to host 'Battle of the Clubs' at Topgolf Jacksonville

Haven Hospice will present of "Battle of the Clubs" June 16 in support of its community programs that provide hospice care for those who are unable to pay, grief support services for children and teens and volunteer services for veteran patients.

The event will be held at Topgolf Jacksonville, located at 10531 Brightman Blvd., from 1 to 5 p.m. Registration is \$100 per person or \$560 per team of six and includes Topgolf play, lunch and two drink tickets. Sponsorship packages are also available, while spectator tickets are available for \$50.

From 1 to 1:30 p.m., registration and warm up will be held, followed by games and lunch from 1:45 to 4 p.m. A presentation and awards ceremony will conclude the event from 4 to 5 p.m.

For more information about the event or to register, call (904) 465-7208, email havenevents@havenhospice.org or visit www.havenhospice.org/battleoftheclubs.



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David Corbitt 904.473.1516
DCorbitt@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



ST. JOHNS GOLF & CC
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Spend your weekends out on the green and practice your swing or enjoy views of the 8th tee from the covered lanai of this stunning home. The interior has recently been upgraded and boasts a generous sized owners' suite, gourmet kitchen, gleaming hardwood floors, an expansive bonus room and more. MLS 882787

Nancy Herbkersman 904.280.2837
NancyH@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



COASTAL OAKS AT NOCATEE
\$525,000

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 a large loft that can be used for flex space. MLS 872214

The Atkins-Leapley Team
 904.673.8846 & 904.415.7323
JLeapley@WatsonRealtyCorp.com
DAtkins@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



JACKSONVILLE BEACH
\$795,000

Tucked between the upbeat neighborhoods of Jax Beach & the iconic oceanfront Ponte Vedra Club, this seaside 4 bed, 3 bath cottage is located steps from the direct beach 37th Ave S beach access. Enjoy fresh sea breezes from the 2 balconies or create a private outdoor living/dining space on the adorable back porch. MLS 862334

Missy DeKay 904.280.2838
MissyDeKay@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



Ponte Vedra Office 904.285.6300

We're in your neighborhood.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

On May 9, the Citizen's Traffic Task Force (CTTF) released comments that identified the next steps following the recent Ponte Vedra Beach Traffic Study public hearing that was conducted by the NFTPO: "Now that the NFTPO and its consultants have completed the study, they will incorporate public comments received at the hearing, in writing, or via their website into a final report to be presented to the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners."

The turnout at the public hearing, which was standing room only, was a great representation of the Ponte Vedra Beach community. We must continue to voice our opinions on the proposed widening of Mickler Road, County Road 210 (Palm Valley Road), A1A from Butler Boulevard down to Mickler Road and the traffic light at the roundabout. At the public hearing, it was clear that no one wants to see the widening of these roads!

It was agreed there has been an increase in traffic over these roads; the majority of those in attendance at the public hearing felt the increase in traffic is coming

from Nocatee using A1A as a bypass to get to Butler Boulevard. The CTTF and NFTPO need to conduct a study into building a bypass road on the west side of the Intracoastal to take traffic from Nocatee to Butler Boulevard.

Also, let's finish the sidewalks down County Road 210 (Palm Valley Road) out to A1A. Let's making the existing sidewalks in some areas wider to make to bicycles passing each other possible and safe! Let's make walking and biking safer for our residents. Let's stop building homes on postage stamp size lots on every piece of land left out at the beach. Build the homes,

but with low density. Let's keep A1A one of America's Most Scenic Highways.

It is important that all PVB residents understand the impact that road expansion will have on our community. I encourage all PVB residents to join the PVB Road Expansion Proposal Facebook group for continued updates, and to express your comments, questions, suggestions and concerns by emailing our County Commissioner Jay Morris at bccd4@sjcfl.us, as well as the CTTF at cttfboard@yahoo.com.

Lona A. DeBellis
Ponte Vedra Beach

Marsh Landing couple to embark on three-year mission to Dominican Republic

A Marsh Landing couple will soon depart Ponte Vedra Beach for a three-year mission to the Dominican Republic.

Bret and JeaNette Smith will soon sell their cars and rent their home on Osprey Lookout Court in preparation for their July move to Santo Domingo, where Bret Smith has been assigned to serve as a mission president for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In his new role, he will supervise 190 missionaries, teaching and training the young people ages 18 to 26 for six days a week. At times, he will also accompany the missionaries as they teach the gospel of Jesus Christ to residents of the Dominican Republic.

"On the seventh day we rest," JeaNette Smith said, laughing. "Although our day of rest is Monday, because on Sunday we are going 90 miles an hour from congregation to congregation."

On their preparation day, she added, the couple hopes to climb a few mountains and walk a few beaches.

During the Smiths' mission service, Bret will remain on the island for the entire three-year period, while JeaNette will only return to the United States in the event of an extreme emergency.

While neither Bret nor JeaNette signed up for missionary service, the church came to them and asked them to serve. In the 30 years the Smiths have lived in Jacksonville, JeaNette noted, only one other couple from Jacksonville has been called to serve as mission presidents, so the call took the Smiths by surprise – but not their kids.

"I totally saw it coming," said Spencer Smith, who graduated from Nease High School in 2004. "My dad is so good with young people and he knows the scriptures inside and out. It was kind of an obvious fit."

Abruptly leaving their home, their community and their family has taken a lot of faith, according to JeaNette, who

will close her family therapy practice in order to accompany her husband on the mission.

"I'm really not worried about anything except speaking Dominican Spanish," she said. "I can understand most Spanish speakers, but the Dominicans speak so fast, it will be a challenge to keep up."

Her husband already speaks Spanish, she added, as he served a two-year mission in Argentina when he was 19 years old. Having served as a missionary himself, Bret, who will go by the title "President Smith" in the mission field, is also familiar with what the missionaries might need from him.

"Most of all they need love, and

acceptance and encouragement," he said, acknowledging that some people choose not to hear the missionaries' gospel message. "I help the missionaries have hope, and remind them there's no greater feeling in life than helping someone come unto Christ."



JeaNette and Bret Smith, who just returned from hiking to Mt. Everest's Base Camp, are now on their way to a three-year mission in the Dominican Republic.

Photo courtesy of JeaNette Smith

Ponte Vedra Beach resident organizes book fairs to promote literacy, reduce poverty

By Jon Blauvelt

A Ponte Vedra Beach resident is helping to raise literacy levels in Jacksonville's low-income communities and ultimately reduce poverty by bringing back book fairs to local schools.

Ellen Wiss, a longtime education advocate and volunteer in the Greater Jacksonville area, is the cofounder of Read USA, a nonprofit organization that partners with local organizations, businesses and philanthropists to bring Scholastic book fairs to low-income schools and provide books to students free of charge. Just last week, Wiss's Read USA hosted book fairs at six local elementary schools that ultimately served 2,500 First Coast children.

"Literacy is the best place to start to lift people out of poverty," said Wiss, who lives on Sea Hammock Way south of Mickler's Landing Beach. "If children choose their own books, even if it's above their reading level, they're likely to read it. That's the difference."

Each child participating in the book fairs purchases his or her favorite titles with a \$15 voucher that is covered by funds from private donors. Scholastic then matches 55 percent of each event's sales and returns the proceeds to the schools to help replenish their libraries.

Read USA's efforts started at George Washington Carver Elementary School in 2011 as a volunteer project created by Wiss and former teacher Vanessa Tussey. At the time, Wiss was volunteering with the Junior League of Jacksonville in Tussey's classroom, where she quickly realized the abilities of the young teacher.

"She was so strong that she was given the highest percentage of the lowest-performing children," said Wiss. "I was never not in awe."

Eager to expand Tussey's reach, Wiss asked what else she could do to help. The school had never held a book fair, said Tussey, due to its overall lack of resources, and her students needed books they were excited to read and take home for the summer. Many low-income schools in the area stopped holding book fairs altogether, Tussey and Wiss explained, because students didn't have the resources to participate.

"It was almost an insult," said Wiss. "That's why they died out."

So, the duo garnered funds from several individuals and corporate donors and organized George Washington Carver's first book fair, which provided every student in the school with gift certificates to purchase books free of charge. Tussey said kids left the fair clutching books to their chests, in disbelief that they were now the proud owners of novels they were excited to read. It was not uncommon, she

added, to see students reading books while waiting in line for the restroom or while at recess or lunch. By the end of the year, George Washington Carver had advanced from a D to B school.

This result and reaction sealed the deal for Wiss, who vowed to organize the event at the school on an annual basis. Tussey, who is now a lawyer for a federal judge in Fort Lauderdale, has returned each year to help.

"This organization arose in the perfect way because it's responsive to the needs of the community," said Tussey. "Ellen asked the perfect questions. She said, 'what do you need and how can we help?' If you want to effect social change, those are the questions you ask."

After holding four book fairs at George Washington Carver, Wiss began developing plans to scale the model and expand their efforts to more schools. In 2016, community philanthropists and former Jacksonville Jaguars Owners Delores and Wayne Weaver expressed interest in helping and ultimately sponsored four additional book fairs at Annie R. Morgan Elementary School, Brentwood Elementary School, Rufus E. Payne Elementary School and Smart Pope Livingston Elementary School.

Read USA recruited volunteers from the Junior League of Jacksonville, Teach for America, City Year, Jacksonville Public Education Fund, the Jacksonville Jaguars, the Women's Giving Alliance (WGA) and many other organizations to staff the fairs. In one year, the group's efforts expanded by 500 percent, and Read USA was officially formed as a 501c3 nonprofit organization.

Because of continued support from the Weavers and additional contributions from Compass Bank and Susan and Greg Roth, Read USA served the same schools this year while also expanding its reach to Susie E. Tolbert Elementary School.

In total, the book fairs have provided approximately 18,000 books to 6,000 students over the past six years, thanks to \$90,000 in donations and nearly 3,000 volunteer hours. An additional 10,000 books have come into the schools due to the nearly \$50,000 matched by Scholastic.

Wiss's goal moving forward is to spread her efforts throughout the Beaches area, which she said has more impoverished pockets than assumed. Long term, she hopes to bring book fairs to as many low-income schools as possible and engage more people like herself in this meaningful work.

"When you see it with your own eyes that these children are no different, it was a transformational change for me," said

Wiss, who encourages those interested in volunteering or sponsoring to visit <http://readusainc.com/>. "It just seems hopeless until you see that when you believe in

them and you equip them, they have just as much opportunity, and they prove they have just as much ability as anyone else. It's life changing."



Photo courtesy of Read USA

Ellen Wiss joins SP Livingston Elementary School students Amarciona Ferguson and Melia Mitchell at a Read USA book fair.

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As manager of The UPS Store in Ponte Vedra Beach, Erica Vona enjoys connecting with customers in the community where her roots run deep. A descendant of the Mickler Family, Vona's ancestors have lived in the Palm Valley area since the 1700s.

Erica Vona

By Jennifer Logue

What do you enjoy most about your position managing the Ponte Vedra Beach UPS Store?

That's easy... the people! I started working part time at The UPS Store about 16 years ago – really, just because my little one started school. It's been because of my awesome co-workers, customers and local business community that I truly couldn't imagine being anywhere else! I love what we have here. Every day, we get the opportunity to love on people, hear their stories of the heirloom gift going to the grandchild that's graduating, see the daughter that just had the newborn baby that we get to print a poster of or the random stranger in the military that our customer has decided to ship a surprise care package to. I love this community! The amount of love and camaraderie is amazing.

What is the biggest challenge of managing the operations at the UPS Store?

I would honestly say that the challenges I face are that of any other business manager... Are my customers satisfied? Are my employees happy? Are we running to the best of our ability? The way we look at it is that every day is a learning opportunity.

Your family has deep roots in the First Coast. Tell us about your family's history here.

My family having deep roots here is quite the understatement. I feel so very blessed to have such a remarkable family history. By the late 1700s, my late Mickler ancestors settled into Palm Valley, which was now known as the Guana or "The Neck" as the old timers called it. The Mickler family is one of the oldest families on the First Coast, with Minorcan (a small island off the coast of Spain), Austrian and German heritage.

I am a Mickler by my mother's side of the family. My grandad, Sid Mickler, is one of the more iconic family members due to the fact that he's never met a stranger and couldn't dislike anyone if he tried. But if you've ever met any Mickler, you'd know that our family is very close, our faith is very strong and we are so very blessed to say the least.

My grandfather on my dad's side, H.L. Medders, moved to Palm Valley in the 1950s, I believe. He moved here when the valley was changing from remote to what they considered civilized. They were sectioning off plots of the land on the Intracoastal at a very fast pace. He bought two pieces of land on North Roscoe on the Intracoastal and 5 acres across the street that he used for a big garden and for housing his construction equipment.

He built many houses in Ponte Vedra and Palm Valley, cleared much of the land and helped to make it more developed.

Did your grandfather ever tell you stories about what Ponte Vedra and Palm Valley were like when he was a boy?

Oh, wow, where do I start?! My mom's father, Sid Mickler, is one of those people that you can sit and talk to all day long. The stories he has just during his lifetime are ones that you would think came from a movie.

Palm Valley back then was not the illustrious place that it is now. It was so much more! It was deep, beautiful woods and lively marsh. People had cars, but the roads were all dirt and so rugged that they actually just rode



Photo by Jasmine Marshall

horses. The Palm Valley bridge was just a rotating barge when he was younger. From the moonshine stills that were a way of life to the alligator hunting, fishing and seining on the beach... you really can't choose a favorite story when listening to Papa Sid. His childhood was so different than any other. It was hard and necessary and minimal, but at the same time so filled with faith and love that I bet if you asked him, he wouldn't trade it for the world.

What changes have you seen in recent years as a lifelong resident?

It's funny, because I'm really not that old (or at least I try to convince my children that I'm not) but I have definitely seen some. Back then, the traffic was non-existent, the Palm Valley bridge was a drawbridge, Mickler's Beach was only referred to as The Crossroads and everyone literally knew everyone else.

I grew up on Roscoe Boulevard, so I really didn't have the typical suburban upbringing where you walk over to

your friend's house next door or across the street. One of my most favorite memories was when I was about 12 or so, I was supposed to babysit my younger cousins that grew up on Twenty Mile Road. But because the Palm Valley drawbridge was stuck in the up position, I had to paddle across the Intracoastal on a surf board with my younger cousin!

How do you enjoy spending your free time?

All of my freetime is devoted to spending as much time with my kids as I possibly can before they start thinking I'm old and boring. I have two of the greatest kids that still have respect and manners. I attribute that to the family upbringing that they were raised around.

We are constantly taking trips and getting outdoors. We do a Mickler family lunch every month and in between we are grilling out at each other's houses, camping or fishing. I have such a blessed life. Material things and money do not hold a candle to the love and support in my life. Without my family, I'd be lost.

A sample of our listings



1299 PONTE VEDRA BLVD.
\$5,750,000

315 PANTHER CHASE
\$3,499,000

241 N ROSCOE BLVD.
\$3,295,000 - with dock

113 CUTTER COURT
\$2,599,000

325 PANTHER CHASE TR.
\$2,350,000 - New Construction

25005 MARSH LANDING PKWY.
\$1,799,000

New Listing
804 HAWKS NEST
\$1,750,000

9707 OAK HAMMOCK CT.
\$1,500,000 - 40 Acres in Deerwood

REDUCED
124 TEAL POINTE LANE
\$1,495,000

7505 FOUNDERS WAY
\$1,495,000

New Listings
PABLO CREEK RESERVE
14126 MAGNOLIA COVE RD. \$1,424,000
5239 BENTPINE COVE RD. \$1,350,000
14043 MAGNOLIA COVE RD. \$1,225,000
5221 BENTPINE COVE RD. \$1,159,000
5227 BENTPINE COVE RD. \$1,079,000

New Listing
7610 FOUNDERS CT.
\$1,395,000

New Listing
133 HARBOURMASTER CT.
\$1,349,000

REDUCED
349 1ST STREET, JAX BEACH
\$1,299,000

9110 MARSH VIEW CT.
\$1,249,000

618 & 616 IBIS
\$1,100,000 & \$950,000 - Marsh Landing Lots

New Listing
277 LINKSIDE CIR.
\$1,099,000

132 CLEARLAKE DR.
\$1,035,000

Pending
MARINA SAN PABLO #401
\$995,000

New Listing
182 RIVER MARSH
\$920,000

109 LAMPLIGHTER ISLAND CT.
\$920,000

7240 OAKMONT CT.
\$889,000

108 PALM FOREST PLACE
\$699,000 - Marsh Landing Lot

Found Forest
210 DEER COLONY LOT #4
\$695,000 - Marsh Landing Lot

3858 BRAMPTON ISLAND CT N.
\$675,000 - Jacksonville Golf & CC

New Listing
MARINA SAN PABLO #705
\$499,000

145 KINGFISHER DR.
\$499,000 - Marsh Landing Lot

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Presented by Tricia Bowers
148 GOVERNORS ROAD
\$795,500

Presented by Tricia Bowers
REDUCED
239 BELLE DR.
\$449,950 - Satsuma, FL

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Under Contract
450 ROYAL TERN RD-S LOT #24
\$478,500 - Marsh Landing Lot

JULIE CHILDERS
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Presented by Julie Childers & Amanda Creech
New Listing
1517 MAYFAIR RD.
\$400,000 - Jacksonville, FL

Presented by Julie Childers & Amanda Creech
1329 WILSHIRE CT. S.
\$290,000 - St. Johns, FL

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REDUCED
446 BIG TREE RD.
\$444,000

AMANDA CREECH
570.470.6156

REDUCED
2615 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD.
\$1,695,000

REDUCED
3141 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD.
\$1,625,000

REDUCED
2921 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD.
\$995,000

REDUCED
3115 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD.
\$995,000

REDUCED
225 ISLE WAY LANE
\$949,000

2963 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD.
\$945,000 - Fully Furnished

Pending
2503 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD.
\$749,000

REDUCED
2649 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD.
\$699,000

2659 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD.
Storm Damaged "As Is" Only \$599,000

5673 GRAND CAYMAN RD.
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Thursday, June 1	Friday, June 2	Saturday, June 3	Sunday, June 4
<p>LEGO Club for Kids The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library invites children ages 6-10 to "Build a Better World" by practicing engineering skills in the LEGO Club for kids. From 2 to 4 p.m. on June 1, 15 and 29, LEGO bricks will be provided and LEGO books will be on display for visitors to check out at these events as well. Caregivers must stay with their children in the room for the duration of these events. The library is located at 101 Library Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>'Early Literacy for Happy Babies' The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library will host lapsit infants, pre-walkers and their caregivers during this class featuring rhymes, rhythm and songs to help build early literacy skills. "Early Literacy for Happy Babies" will take place Thursday, June 1 from 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. This class is specifically designed to develop a love of reading with one-on-one interaction between caregiver and infant, with 15 minutes of class time and 15 minutes of post-play. For the safety of all babies attending, caregivers with active walkers are asked to attend Toddler Movement class. The library is located at 101 Library Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</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>Concerts at the Plaza St. Augustine's Plaza de la Constitución will once again host the oldest city's summer-long concert series, "Concerts in the Plaza." Returning for its 27th season, the series will provide free, two-hour concerts featuring local musical entertainment every Thursday night at 7 p.m. On June 1, the Driftwoods will perform. Each event is rain or shine. All of the "Concerts in the Plaza" shows are free to attend and visitors are encouraged to bring lounge chairs for seating. Picnic dinners are allowed, but alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the plaza.</p>	<p>'Cosmic Concert' Jacksonville's Museum of Science and History will host a "Cosmic Concert" in the Bryan-Gooding Planetarium for the first Friday of the month. From 7 to 10 p.m., guests will enjoy a show of laser lights, projections and music featuring the sounds of the Beach Boys, Laser Rock, Metallica and Wish You Were Here. The cost of the show is \$5 per person for non-members and \$2.50 for MOSH members. Laser glasses cost \$1 per pair. For more information or to buy tickets, visit www.themosh.org/event/cosmic-concerts-7. MOSH is located at 1025 Museum Circle in Downtown Jacksonville.</p> <p>'Safe Sitter' The Y's Healthy Living Center will present a "safe sitter" class June 2 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. designed to prepare students in grades 6-8 to be safe when they're home alone, watching younger siblings or babysitting. Students should bring a sack lunch. Pre-registration is \$50 and is required by June 1, 2017. For more information or to register for classes, visit www.baptistjax.com/hlc.</p> <p>Live Music at Table 1 Table 1 at 330 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach will host live music starting at 7:30 p.m. In addition to the entertainment, guests can enjoy bar bites starting at \$7 and 2-for-1 well drinks, domestic drafts and house wine by the glass.</p> <p>PV Professionals Networking Group The Ponte Vedra Professionals Networking Group meets Fridays at 9 a.m. at Watson Realty Corp., 615 Highway A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, visit www.pvpng.com or email pontevedrapng@gmail.com.</p> <p>Coastal Wine Market Wine Tasting Coastal Wine Market hosts Friday wine tastings from 6 to 8 p.m. at 641 Crosswater Parkway, Suite B, Ponte Vedra Beach. Taste six wines for \$10. For more information, call (904) 395-3520.</p>	<p>Art 4 Charities Auction Art 4 Charities will present a live and silent auction on Saturday, June 3 from 5 to 8 p.m. at Jaybird's Restaurant, located at 2600 N. Ponce de Leon Blvd. in St. Augustine. A portion of the proceeds will benefit PACT Prevention Coalition, a local nonprofit addressing drug and alcohol abuse in St. Johns County. Artwork will be on display for the general public to view from 5 to 6 p.m., with the live auction commencing at 6 p.m. A silent auction will run throughout the evening. A cash bar and full array of menu items will be available for purchase. Participating in Art 4 Charities' Charity Benefits Program, PACT will inform their supporters and the public about the partnership and will work alongside the company for fundraising and events. In turn, the nonprofit receives 40 percent of the proceeds designated to them.</p> <p>Florida Chamber Music Project The Florida Chamber Music Project will conclude its fourth season with a double-header weekend June 3-4. On Saturday, June 3, a Spring Gala Tango with the Florida Chamber Music Project will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, featuring tango music and a tango dance demonstration by Heather Kornick and Jake Lukic. The venue will also host an exhibit of works by artist Susanne Schuenke and a silent auction with various prizes. Tickets are \$75 and can be purchased at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall or at Ticketmaster (http://bit.ly/2qPJLbu). On Sunday, June 4, a second art exhibit will be held from 2 to 8 p.m. at The Oak Bridge Club at 254 Alta Mar Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach. This free event will feature art by Schuenke, food and beverages.</p> <p>Pizza and Bingo Night Temple Bet Yam's Annual Pizza and Bingo night will be held June 3 at 6:30 p.m. at the temple, located at 2055 Wildwood Road in St. Augustine. The event will feature activities, food and cash prizes. Tickets are \$15 per person and include a pizza dinner and 10 games of bingo for 10 chances to win a prize. For more tickets or for more information, visit (954) 895-7332.</p>	<p>Open Auditions for 'Children of Eden' Christ Episcopal Church will hold open auditions for "Children of Eden," the age-old conflict of parents and children depicted in a musical. Auditions will be held from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 3 at the Fine Arts Center and Sunday, June 4 from 2 to 6 p.m. at Christ Episcopal Church, located at 400 San Juan Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach. The play features music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, orchestrations by Bruce Coughlin and Martin Erskine and based on a concept by Charles Lisanby. The book is by John Caird. Production dates are set for Oct. 18-22. Those auditioning are asked to prepare a short monologue and song. Email mrob3613@aol.com to arrange an audition time. For more information, visit www.christepiscopalchurch.org/auditions.</p> <p>Ink, Silk and Gold: Islamic Treasures "Ink, Silk, and Gold" is now on display at the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens through Sept. 3. The exhibition illuminates Islamic and Middle Eastern history, culture, religious beliefs, and their contributions to global society. Exceptional objects from the Islamic art collection belonging to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston will make a final stop in Jacksonville before returning to their home institution. The objects highlighted in this exhibition not only cover a wide variety of artistic traditions, they also span centuries and vast territories. Ranging from the 8th to the 21st century, the works originated in an Islamic world that spreads from Spain and Morocco in the West to India and Indonesia in the East, with recent works created in New York and other American cities. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave. in Jacksonville. Museum hours are Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday noon to 4 p.m. and closed Monday.</p> <p>Katz 4 Keeps Adoption Event Join Katz 4 Keeps June 3-4 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>

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Monday, June 5	Tuesday, June 6	Wednesday, June 7	Thursday, June 8
<p>Sing and Play Discovery Class The Jacksonville Children's Chorus will host free "Sing and Play Discovery Day" classes Monday through Thursday, June 5-8 at the JCC offices downtown at First United Methodist Church, located at 225 E. Duval St. Children and their parent will sing, play simple instruments, put on finger plays and more. Monday's classes will be held from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. for children ages 2 and a half to 4 years of age, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. for children 18 months to 2 and a half years of age, and from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for children 2 and a half to 4 years of age once more. For a full schedule, to register or for more information, visit www.jaxchildrenschorus.org.</p> <p>Meals on Wheels Drivers Needed Volunteer drivers are needed for the weekly delivery of "Meals on Wheels" to seniors. On Mondays, drivers are needed for Route 9, Old Moultrie and St. Augustine South and Route 11, South US1 to 206. For additional days and routes, call (904) 209-3686 or send an email to aleach@stjohnscoa.com.</p> <p>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>'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>New Exhibits at the Cultural Center The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach recently opened two new exhibits. The first is a summer-themed exhibit named "Fluidity & Nature, Life's Pleasure," capturing the simple themes of summer with scenes of reflective water and bold, bright hues of color. The installation of paintings was created by artists Sharon Goldman, Doug Gerhart and Judy Gerhart. Their art will be displayed in the Cultural Center's main gallery. The second exhibit is the First Coast Pastel Society's 2017 Member Show and Sale, which showcases the beauty of the versatile pastel medium. The exhibit will be judged by a team of jurors, including Jeanette Toohey, Maureen Kirschhofer and Anthony Whiting. This exhibit will be in the Cultural Center's scene gallery. The works will be displayed for purchase until July 7. For more information, visit http://www.ccpvb.org/index.php. The cultural center is located at 50 Executive Way in Ponte Vedra Beach.</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>Tapas Tuesday The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens presents Tapas Tuesday at the Cummer Café every Tuesday from 5 to 7:30 p.m. View the sunset on the Cummer Café patio while listening to local musicians and enjoying beer, wine or artfully inspired tapas for sale at the café. Reserve your table by calling (904) 899-6022. For more information, visit www.cummermuseum.org. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave..</p>	<p>'Just for Teens' Gaming Club Teens ages 13 – 17 are invited to the library's monthly, teen-only social gaming event June 7 from 5 to 7 p.m. Play "E" and "T"-rated games on the library's PlayStation 3 and two Nintendo WiiU's, which are set up on three separate TVs for simultaneous playing. Snacks and board games will be provided as well. Call the library at (904) 827-6950 for more details.</p> <p>Music by the Sea Concert Series The "Music by the Sea" concert series returns to the St. Johns County Pier for its 15th year, bringing free weekly concerts in a variety of genres from 7 to 9 p.m. every Wednesday. Visitors are encouraged to bring a chair or blanket. Dinner is offered for \$10 or less beginning at 6 p.m. The May 31 concert will feature the pop and dance stylings of The Committee and food by Amici Italian. The St. Johns County Pier is located at 350 A1A Beach Boulevard in St. Augustine Beach. For more information, visit www.sabca.org.</p> <p>Toastmasters Club Toastmasters Club #5199 of Ponte Vedra Beach meets every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. at the Players Community Senior Center. These meetings will help attendees improve public speaking and gain leadership skills. The senior center is located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach. Email Carmen at carmenjsardinas@gmail.com for additional information.</p> <p>Well-being Wednesday Free well-being classes will be held at the Adele Grage Cultural Center at new evening times. Mindfulness Meditation classes are now being taught Wednesday evenings by certified instructor Melissa Stratford at the Adele Grage Center from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. For pricing information, contact Melissa Stratford at (904) 270-9760 or Melissa@meditationbuzzfl.com. Instructors and speakers interested in teaching are encouraged to contact the Department of Recreation and special events at (904) 247-5828 for more details about providing the community with well-being information and classes.</p>	<p>Wine, Women & Wealth 360 View A panel on love, health, wealth and life for women will be held at the Transamerica Financial Advisors, Inc. Building June 8 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. A panel of experts, among them a credit expert, a financial professional, a career transition coach, a marriage expert and a weight loss counselor, will offer guidance and answer questions during this networking event. Doors open at 5 p.m. with a "mix and mingle" held from 5:30 to 6 p.m. For more information and to register, contact April Caldwell of WealthWave at (904) 616-0600 or april.caldwell@wealthwave.com.</p> <p>Concerts at the Plaza St. Augustine's Plaza de la Constitución will once again host the oldest city's summer-long concert series, "Concerts in the Plaza." Returning for its 27th season, the series will provide free, two-hour concerts featuring local musical entertainment every Thursday night at 7 p.m. On June 8, Florida Brass Quintet will take the stage with a mix of Dixieland jazz, swing music and more. Each event is rain or shine. All of the "Concerts in the Plaza" shows are free to attend and visitors are encouraged to bring lounge chairs for seating. Picnic dinners are allowed, but alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the plaza.</p> <p>Integrative Memory Enhancement The Council on Aging is requesting volunteers for the Integrative Memory Enhancement Program who are available Tuesday or Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Volunteers will assist facilitators in the program. Those interested should call (904) 209-3686 or email aleach@stjohnscoa.com for more information. Volunteers will report to 1048 A1A North in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Free calendar listings for community groups and nonprofit organizations are published at our discretion on a space-available basis. Send your event at least 10 days before publication. Submit events to jasmine@opcfla.com, post online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com using</p>



Ponte Vedra Inn & Club

JUNE ACTIVITIES FOR MEMBERS

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<p>Sunday Brunch Buffet Every Sunday</p> <p>Bridge Monday's at 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>Party Bridge Monday's at 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>Prime Rib Buffet Every Friday</p> <p>Book Club Meeting Wednesday, June 7</p> <p>Battle of the Sexes Tennis Thursday, June 8</p> <p>Roberta Roller Rabbit Event Saturday, June 10</p> <p>Italian Night Monday, June 12</p> <p>Trivia Tuesday, June 13</p> <p>Member Shopping Day Tuesday, June 13</p>	<p>Obagi Event Friday, June 16</p> <p>Superhero Party Saturday, June 17</p> <p>Parent-Child Tennis Mixer Saturday, June 17</p> <p>Fathers Day Dining Sunday, June 18</p> <p>National Lilly Day Wednesday, June 21</p> <p>Dr. Dennis Gross Clarisonic / Jane Iredale Spa Event Friday, June 23</p> <p>Slices, Sundaes, and Sandcastles Saturday, June 24</p> <p>"Boyz" Tennis Night Out Wednesday, June 28</p> <p>Sunset Pony Rides Friday, June 30</p> <p>Twilight Golf Friday, June 30</p>
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PV2-LV38883



The Lodge & Club

June Activities for Members

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<p>2-4-1 Mondays at The Sea View Grille Every Monday Evening</p> <p>Taco Tuesday Every Tuesday Evening</p> <p>Wing Wednesday Every Wednesday Evening</p> <p>Thursday Night Steak Out Every Thursday</p> <p>Prime Rib Saturdays Every Saturday</p> <p>Party Bridge Every Thursday Noon</p> <p>Prime Rib Saturday Every Saturday Evening</p> <p>Chef's Cooking Class: Chilling & Grilling Thursday, June 8</p>	<p>Pony Rides on the Beach Saturday, June 10</p> <p>Kids Yoga Workshop June 14 & 28</p> <p>Kids Engineering Event Friday, June 16</p> <p>Trivia Monday, June 19</p> <p>Book Club Tuesday, June 20</p> <p>Kids Movie Night Friday, June 23</p> <p>Grapeful Deadstock Friday, June 23</p> <p>Tuesday Tasting Tuesday, June 27</p>
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OBITUARIES



GARVEY

John Garvey

John S. Garvey, 80, who was proud to say he was born in the Bronx, began work as an apprentice printer and rose to be a successful printing executive, died Tuesday, May 23, 2017. He was a Sudoku whiz; an avid Yankees fan; a long-suffering Jets fan who later became a hopeful Gators and Jaguars fan; a dog lover; and an all-around great guy who was known as "The Garv."

He died in his sleep at his home in Ponte Vedra Beach, where he lived with his wife of 53 years, Susan Rohan Garvey. They moved to Florida in 2006 from New Canaan, Connecticut, when he retired as executive vice president of operations and administration at PARADE magazine, then owned by a division of Conde Nast. He was responsible for all manufacturing, purchasing and facilities operations at magazine headquarters in Manhattan, New York.

Mr. Garvey was born on Feb. 23, 1937, the second of five children of Francis and Margaret Loughran Garvey. He was educated in parochial schools in the Bronx and New Rochelle, New York, and attended Wichita State University in Kansas while serving in the U.S. Air Force Medical Corps.

He began work as an apprentice printer with a group of daily newspapers in Westchester County, New York, that were later acquired by Gannett, and rose through the ranks to hold various managerial positions. He was named production manager of the nine-paper group in 1976.

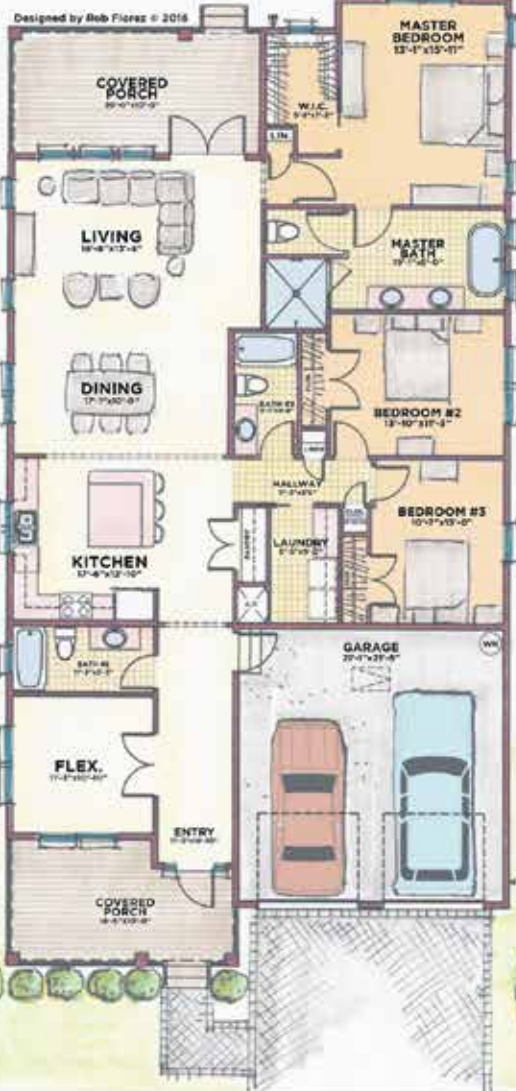
Three years later, he accepted a position as production director of Florida TODAY in Brevard County, another Gannett property. In 1980, he joined the start-up team of USA TODAY, the Gannett daily that revolutionized the industry. He was vice president of production, and later vice president of production of USA WEEKEND magazine, based at company headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. He joined PARADE in 1990.

Mr. Garvey was a member of the advisory board of the New York University School of Graphic Arts. He received numerous honors, including the 2007 Luminaire Award from the Partnership in Print Production and the Boy Scouts of America Good Scout Award.

He learned to play golf as a caddy at Winged Foot Golf Club in Mamaroneck, New York. He was a member of Washington Golf and Country Club in Arlington, Virginia, and Burning Tree Country Club in Greenwich, Connecticut, and its board of directors. He also was a member of the board of

OBITUARIES continues on Page 11

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Obituaries

Continued from 11

directors of The Plantation at Ponte Vedra.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a daughter, Elizabeth (Joseph) Barrett, and two granddaughters, Erin and Reagan Barrett, all of Vienna, Virginia; two sisters, Kathleen (Jay) Morris of South Bristol, Maine, and Eileen Garvey of Cortlandt Manor, New York; and a brother, Frank Garvey of Fairfield, Connecticut. A sister, Mary Healy of Yonkers, New York, predeceased him.

A funeral Mass in celebration of his life was held at Our Lady Star of the

Sea Church in Ponte Vedra Beach on Wednesday, May 31, at 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, those who wish to make a contribution in his memory may consider The Plantation Foundation, 101 Plantation Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082, or the charity of one's choice.

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



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SHORT TAKES

The Florida Chamber Music Project to conclude fourth season with concerts

The Florida Chamber Music Project will conclude its fourth season with a double-header weekend June 3-4. On Saturday June 3, a Spring Gala Tango with the Florida Chamber Music Project will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, featuring tango music and a tango dance demonstration by Heather Kornick and Jake Lukic. The venue will also host an exhibit of work by artist Susanne Schuenke and a silent auction with various prizes. Tickets are \$75 and can be purchased at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall or at Ticketmaster (<http://bit.ly/2qPJJbu>). On Sunday, June 4, another art exhibit will be held from 2 to 8 p.m. at The Oak Bridge Club at Sawgrass. This free event will feature art by Schuenke, food and beverages and a performance by the Florida Chamber Music Project. Oak Bridge is located at 254 Alta Mar Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach.

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PV2-LV38860

More than 425 students graduate from Ponte Vedra High School

By Jon Blauvelt



More than 425 students graduated from Ponte Vedra High School last week at the school's commencement ceremony held at the UNF Arena.

Before receiving their diplomas, students listened to remarks from district administrators and school and class leaders, including Principal Steve McCormick, who was recently named the new principal of Creekside High School.

"As you move forward today, I challenge you to stay humble and hungry but more importantly to grow as a person each and every day with integrity and character," he said at the May 24 ceremony.

St. Johns County School District Superintendent Tim Forster asked the Class of 2017 to take opportunities to make life better for other people and reminded the students to hold tight to their passions. The superintendent advised them to go "all out" in life, while also warning them not to fear rejections and failures because those experiences will only serve as lessons for them to grow.

District 4 School Board Member Kelly Barrera recognized the recent 100th birthday of Dr. Fran Kinne, Jacksonville University's chancellor emeritus and past president. She said Kinne has lived each

day of her life with a contagiously positive attitude, in which she has invested in and loved her work, herself, her family and her community. Barrera told the students her hope for them is that they live their lives in a similar manner.

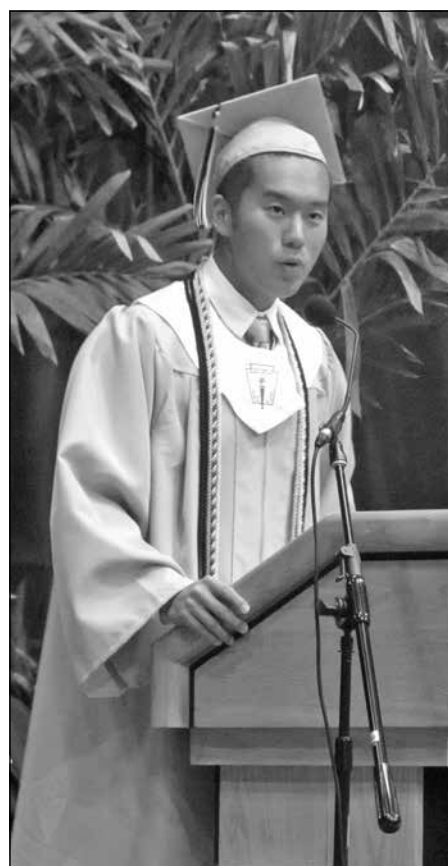
Salutatorian Jifu Li, who is headed to the University of California at Berkeley, reflected on each year of high school with a number of anecdotes, then charged his classmates to pursue their dreams.

"I hope everyone sets sail into the new horizon where you don't count the days, rather you make the days count," said Li.

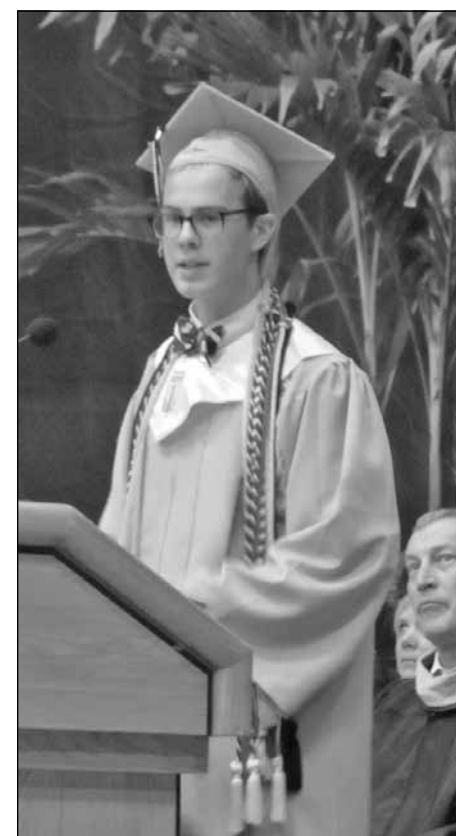
Valedictorian Adam Snowden closed the ceremony with a bang by rapping about the Class of 2017's journey to this point. Before doing so, the future Duke University student discussed the cliques that often characterize high school and the importance of looking beyond labels.

"Moving forward, we should all try to look outside these simple labels and really get to know people," he said. "You may find you have a lot more in common with someone than you might think and connect on another level."

View more graduation photos online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com.



Ponte Vedra High School Class of 2017 Salutatorian Jifu Li



Ponte Vedra High School Class of 2017 Valedictorian Adam Snowden

Photos by Jon Blauvelt





Josh Greene, Jack Hahnemann, Hal Swan and Reid Smith



Ashley Helfrich, Allison Serrahn, Gracie Morales and Amanda Morey



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Nease High School graduates remember the past, look to the future

By Jasmine Marshall

As the Allen D. Nease High School Class of 2017 filtered into the University of North Florida Arena May 24, the students, staff and family reflected on the time spent working toward their commencement.

The large stadium screen recalled memories of the graduates' school year, displaying clips and photos from the school plays, pageants, game nights and more that encompassed the Class of 2017's high school experience as the 468 seniors slowly formed a sea of green on the arena floor.

"It's with a great deal of pleasure that I recognize these students and that I recognize the faculty and staff of Nease High School for their dedication," said Principal Lisa Kunze after welcoming the family and friends gathered to witness the ceremony. "You've formed an integral part of these students' lives."

The graduating class echoed that sentiment, emphasizing the effect that growing up at Nease – a school repeatedly referred to as a "community" – had on their most formative years.

"It wasn't just a school," said Class President Grant Burmeister. "I had a home there – I knew that I wasn't the weirdest person in the world."

St. Johns County Superintendent of Schools Tim Forson remarked on the growth

he'd seen, extending a sincere thanks and congratulations to the students, staff and family members whose work ultimately contributed to the prosperity of the Nease community.

"I want to congratulate the class of 2017 on a job well done," Forson said. "Your teachers have invested in you since the day you arrived – you're a part of everyone who's touched you and been in your life."

"Our community has grown and gotten better each and every day," Forson continued. "I just wish the very best for all of you."

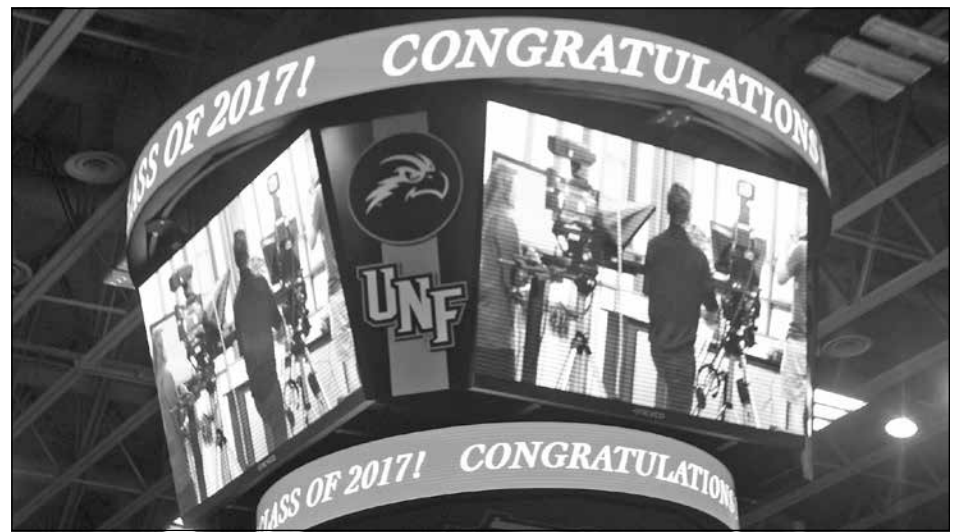
Salutatorian Kiana Rahimi encouraged her classmates to embrace their mistakes and to try new things as they departed for the next step of their journey, reminding them, "We must always remember to pick ourselves back up."

"If we don't accept challenges ... we won't continue to grow," Rahimi said.

Valedictorian Ava Marie Hampton agreed, leaving the class with encouraging words in the face of their yet-determined futures.

"I'm not going to try to predict a future I don't know any better than you," Hampton said. "But I do know that I'm unbelievably grateful. For the past four years, we've done more than go to school together – we're part of a community."

View more graduation photos online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com.



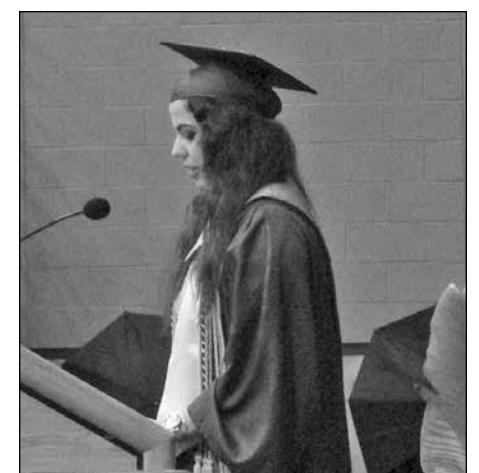
UNF's Arena screen plays highlights of the seniors' 2016-2017 year.



Students look on in awe as they prepare to walk the stage to receive their diplomas.



Valedictorian Ava Marie Hampton



Salutatorian Kiana Rahimi

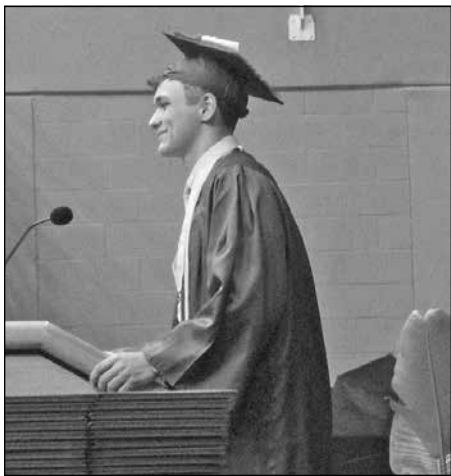
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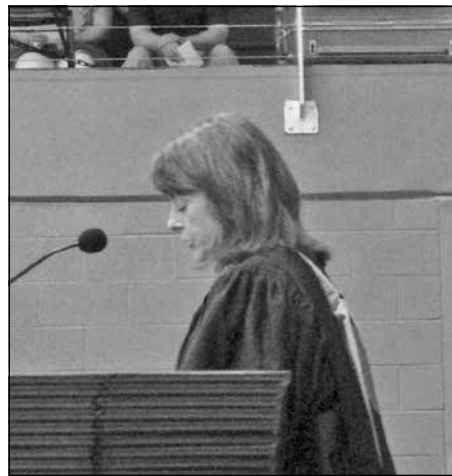
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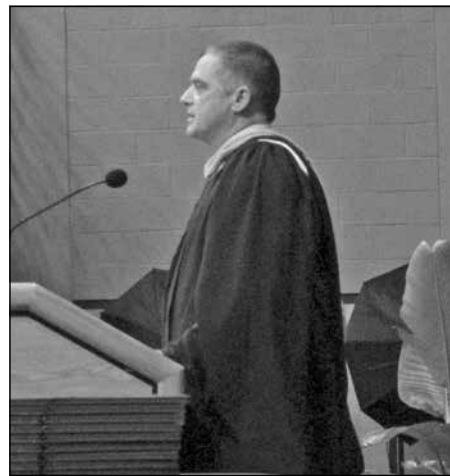
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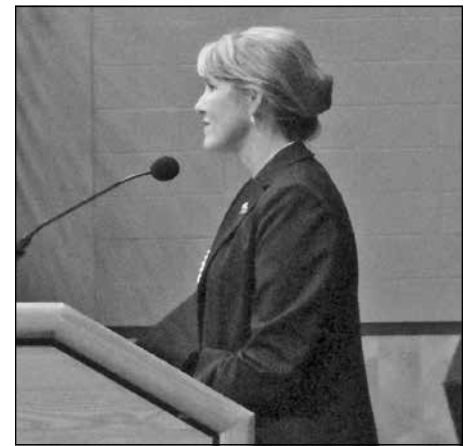
Class President Grant Burmeister



Principal Lisa Kunze



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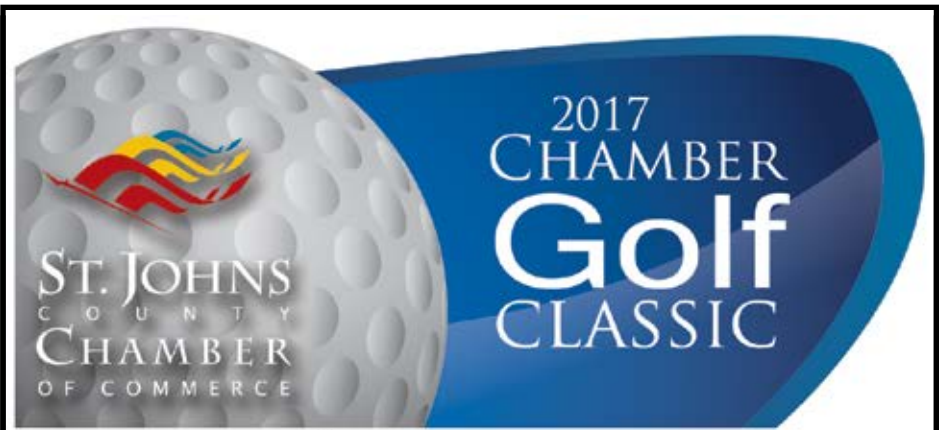
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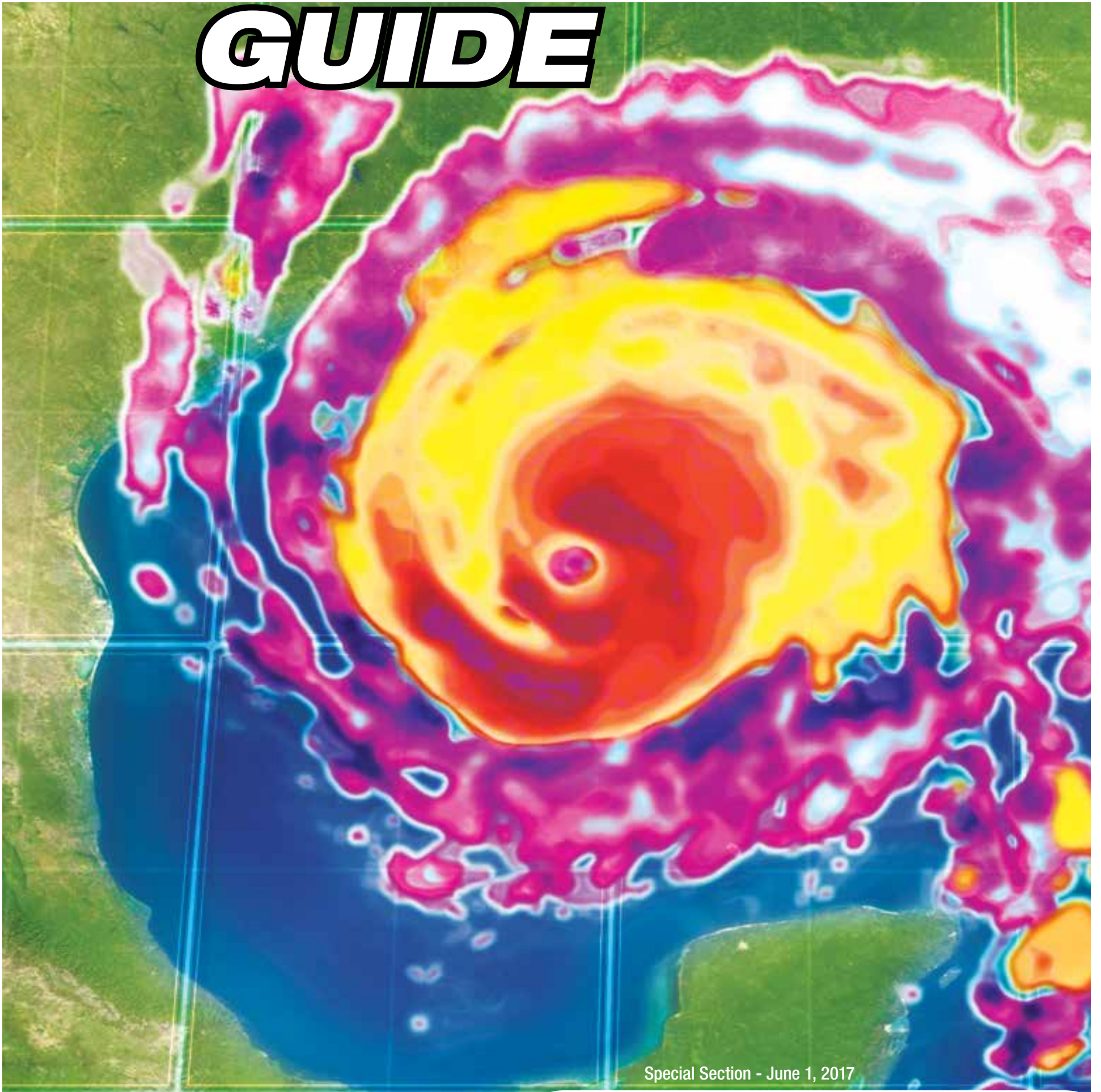
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2017 HURRICANE GUIDE



Special Section - June 1, 2017

Ponte Vedra 
Recorder
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NOAA predicts above-normal hurricane season; Atlantic could see up to four major hurricanes, forecasters say

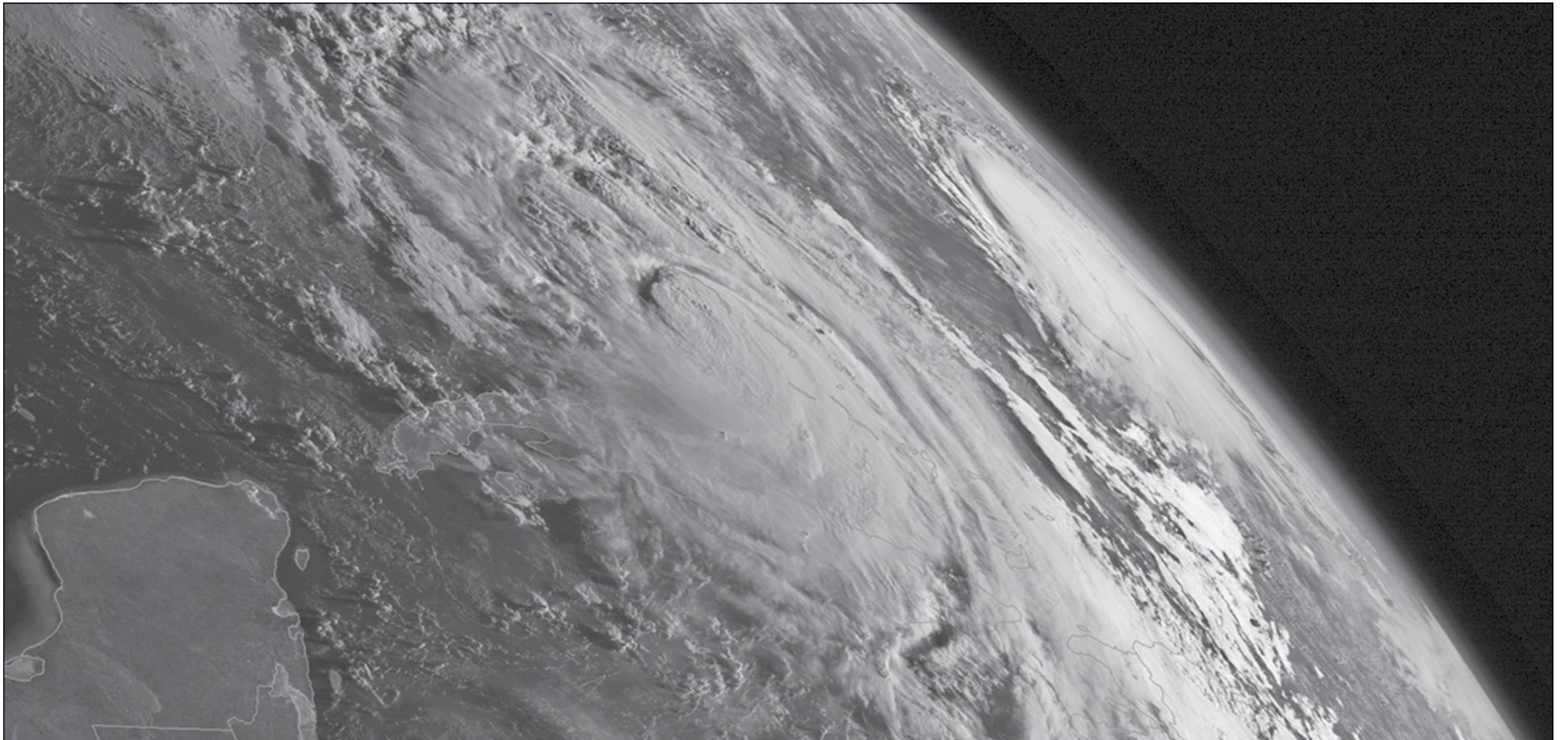


Image credit: NOAA

Hurricane Matthew

The Atlantic could see another above-normal hurricane season this year, according to Climate Prediction Center forecasters at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Forecasters predict a 70 percent likelihood of 11 to 17 named storms with winds of 39 mph or higher. Five to nine of those storms could become hurricanes with winds of 74 miles per hour or higher, they anticipate, with two to four of them becoming Category 3, 4 or 5 hurricanes with winds of 111 miles per hour or higher.

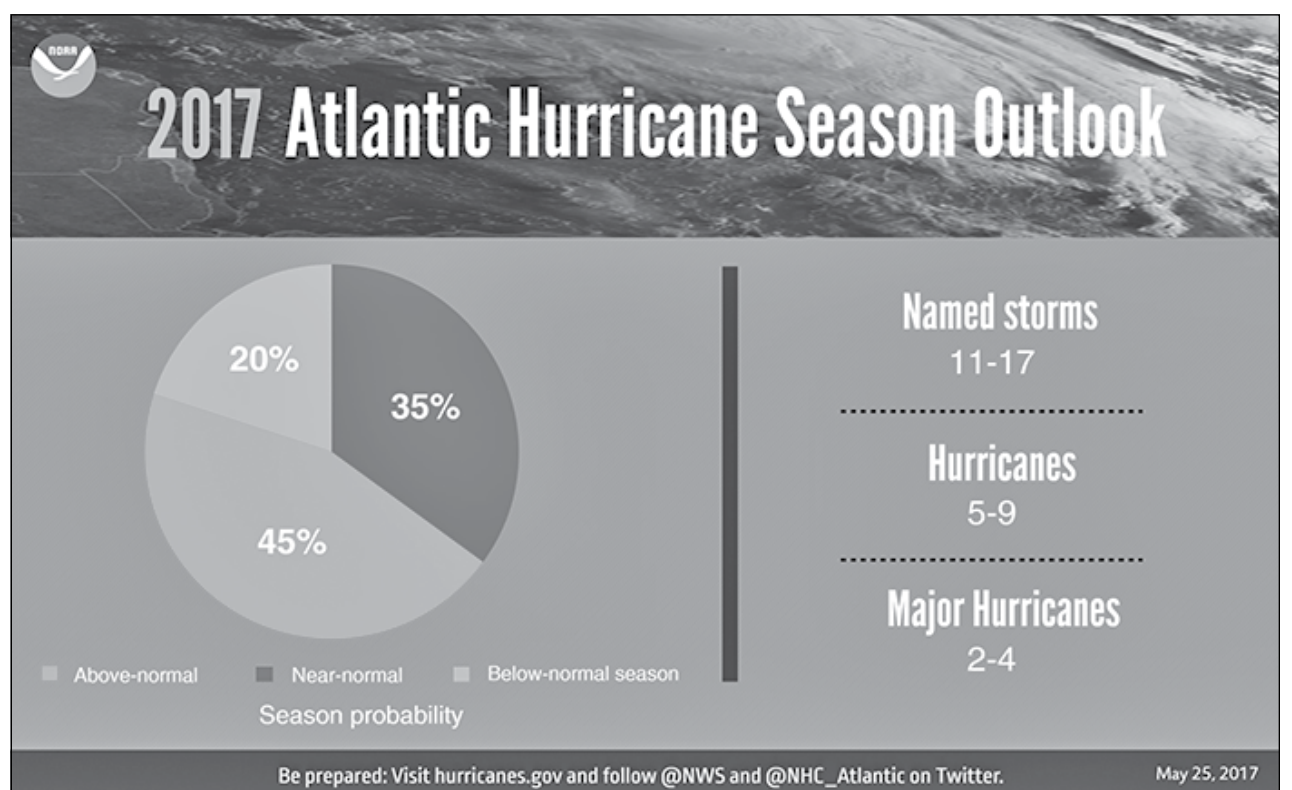
An average season produces 12 named storms of which six become hurricanes, including three major hurricanes.

“As a Florida resident, I am particularly proud of the important work NOAA does in weather forecasting and hurricane prediction,” said U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross. “These forecasts are important for both public safety and business planning, and are a crucial function of the federal government.”

NOAA noted that its forecast includes Tropical Storm Arlene, a rare pre-season storm that formed over the eastern Atlantic in April.

“The outlook reflects our expectation of a weak or non-existent El Nino, near- or above-average sea-surface temperatures across the tropical Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea, and average or weaker-than-average vertical wind shear in that same region,” said Gerry Bell, Ph.D., lead seasonal hurricane forecaster with NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center.

Strong El Ninos and wind shear typically suppress



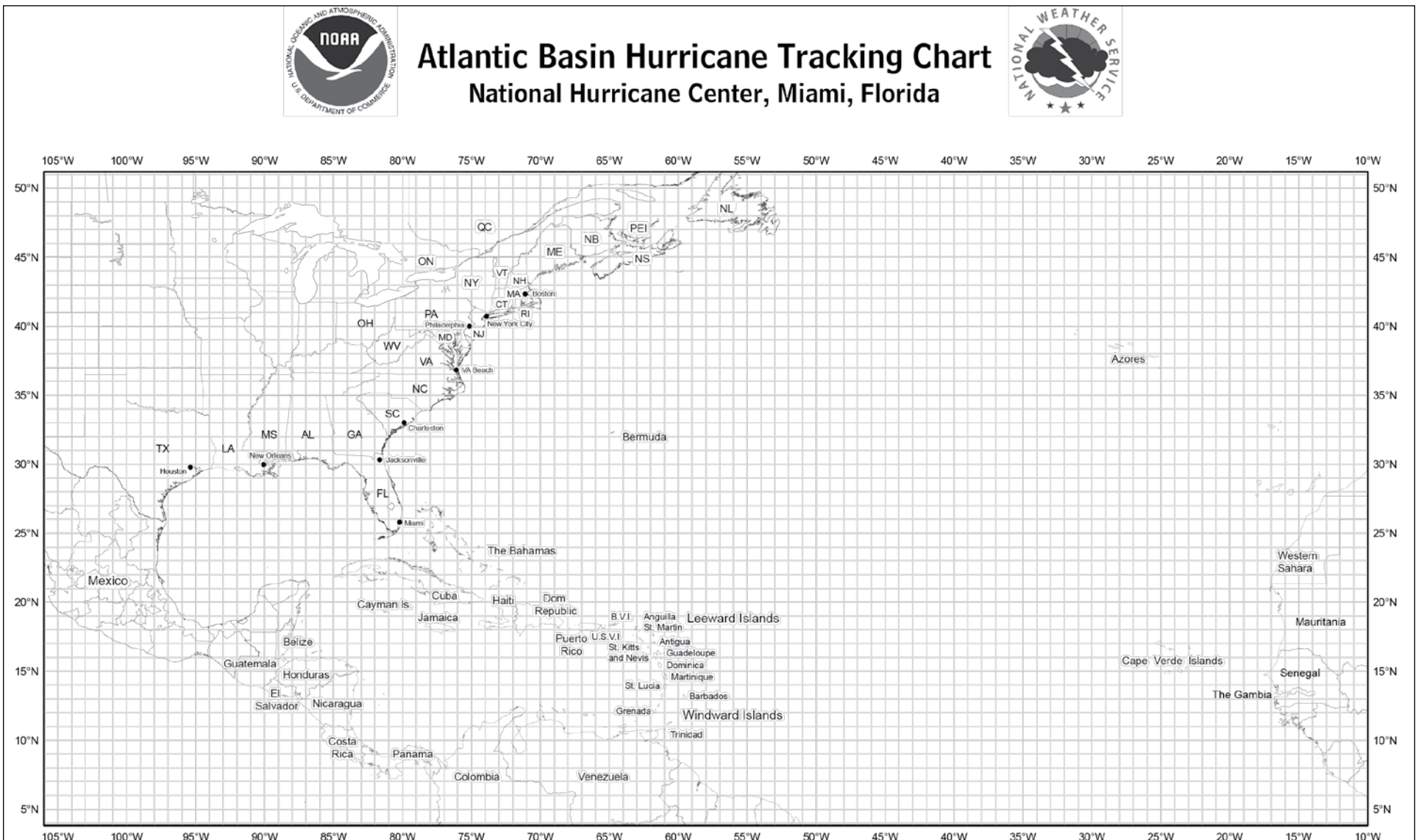
development of Atlantic hurricanes, so the prediction for weak conditions points to more hurricane activity this year. In addition, warmer sea surface temperatures tend to fuel hurricanes as they move across the ocean.

The climate models are showing considerable uncertainty, however, which forecasters say is reflected in the comparable probabilities for an above-normal and near-normal season.



Photo by Susan Griffin

Hurricane Matthew did more damage to St. Johns County than in any other part of Florida.



Hurricane Wind Scale

What's the difference between a Category 1 storm and a Category 5? And what exactly do those numbers mean? Hurricanes are generally measured using the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale, which assigns a storm a 1 to 5 rating based on its sustained wind speed. The scale can also be used to project the

amount of estimated property damage a storm will cause. While hurricanes that reach Category 3 or higher are considered to be major hurricanes – with the potential for loss of life and major damage – Category 1 and 2 storms should also be taken seriously, with preventive safety measures put in place.

Category	Sustained Winds	Types of Damage Due to Hurricane Winds
1	74-95 mph 64-82 kt 119-153 km/h	Very dangerous winds will produce some damage: Well-constructed frame homes could have damage to roof, shingles, vinyl siding and gutters. Large branches of trees will snap and shallowly rooted trees may be toppled. Extensive damage to power lines and poles likely will result in power outages that could last a few to several days.
2	96-110 mph 83-95 kt 154-177 km/h	Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage: Well-constructed frame homes could sustain major roof and siding damage. Many shallowly rooted trees will be snapped or uprooted and block numerous roads. Near-total power loss is expected, with outages that could last from several days to weeks.
3 (major)	111-129 mph 96-112 kt 178-208 km/h	Devastating damage will occur: Well-built framed homes may incur major damage or removal of roof decking and gable ends. Many trees will be snapped or uprooted, blocking numerous roads. Electricity and water will be unavailable for several days to weeks after the storm passes.
4 (major)	130-156 mph 113-136 kt 209-251 km/h	Catastrophic damage will occur: Well-built framed homes can sustain severe damage, with loss of most of the roof structure and/or some exterior walls. Most trees will be snapped or uprooted and power poles downed. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.
5 (major)	157 mph or higher 137 kt or higher 252 km/h or higher	Catastrophic damage will occur: A high percentage of framed homes will be destroyed, with total roof failure and wall collapse. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last for weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.

Source: National Hurricane Center

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State conducts hurricane preparedness drill

The State of Florida recently completed its 2017 Florida Statewide Hurricane Exercise.

Held May 2-4 at the State Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee, the annual exercise tests Florida's emergency plans and procedures for a potential hurricane landfall. During the drill, the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) simulated emergency response efforts to manage an evolving hurricane scenario.

"The 2017 statewide hurricane exercise serves as an opportunity to practice our lessons learned from the 2016 Atlantic hurricane season and to solidify our valuable partnerships in preparation for the upcoming season," FDEM Director Bryan W. Koon said. "As we work with

our partners to test our hurricane response plans and make the necessary updates to keep Floridians safe, families should take the opportunity to double-check their own plans and ensure their disaster supply kits are properly stocked."

Gov. Rick Scott also encouraged families to have hurricane plans in place. In addition to knowing the location of the nearest shelter, he said, families should create an evacuation plan and maintain a disaster supply kit. Resources are available at www.FloridaDisaster.org.

"We know from our experiences with last year's storms that early preparation is incredibly important," Scott said. "I encourage all Floridians to take action today to keep their families, homes and businesses safe."

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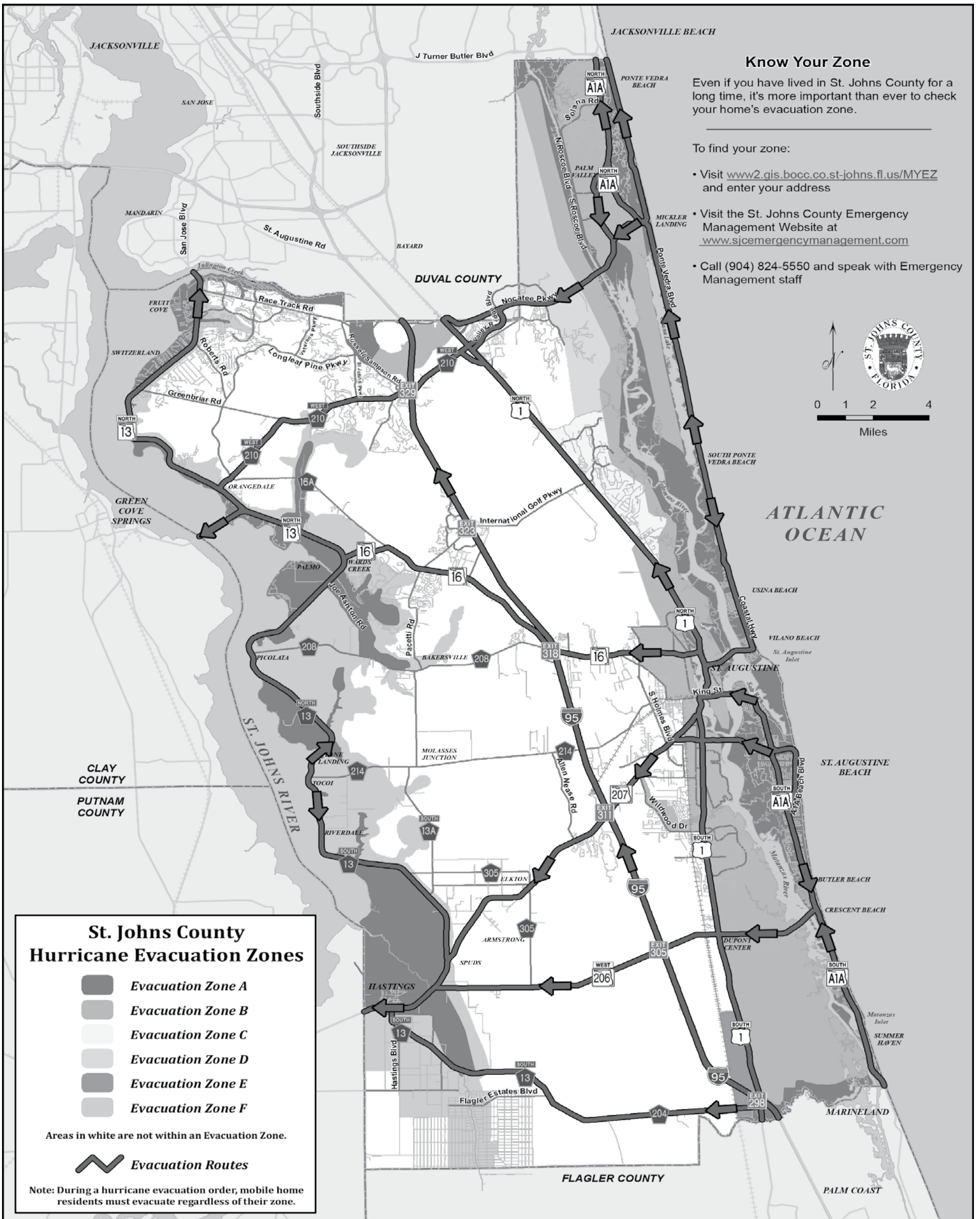
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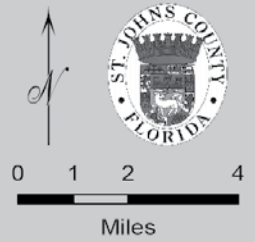


Know Your Zone

Even if you have lived in St. Johns County for a long time, it's more important than ever to check your home's evacuation zone.

To find your zone:

- Visit www2.gis.bocc.co.st-johns.fl.us/MYEZ and enter your address
- Visit the St. Johns County Emergency Management Website at www.sjcemergencymanagement.com
- Call (904) 824-5550 and speak with Emergency Management staff



St. Johns County Hurricane Evacuation Zones

- Evacuation Zone A
- Evacuation Zone B
- Evacuation Zone C
- Evacuation Zone D
- Evacuation Zone E
- Evacuation Zone F

Areas in white are not within an Evacuation Zone.

Evacuation Routes

Note: During a hurricane evacuation order, mobile home residents must evacuate regardless of their zone.

St. Johns County evacuation routes

Ponte Vedra Beach/Sawgrass: North on SR-A1A, turn west onto Butler Blvd., proceed to I-95 or points west.

Palm Valley/Nocatee area: Proceed southwest to CR-210, proceed to I-95 or points west.

On coast halfway between Micklers Landing & South Ponte Vedra Beach: North of Guana Dam, go north to SR-A1A, proceed west across Palm Valley Bridge on CR-210. South of Guana Dam, go south on SR-A1A, proceed west across

Vilano Bridge. Continue west on SR-16 to I-95 or points west.

City of St. Augustine (mainland): North on US-1, turn west onto SR-16 or proceed southwest on SR-207 or south on US-1, proceed to I-95 or points west.

City of St. Augustine (Davis Shores, Anastasia Island South to St. Augustine Alligator Farm): SR-A1A, proceed west across Bridge of Lions to US-1 North or US-1 South and/or to SR-16 or SR-207 to I-95 or points west.

City of St. Augustine and Anastasia Island North of the St. Augustine Amphitheater: Proceed north on SR-A1A across the Bridge of Lions, then west.

City of St. Augustine and Anastasia Island South of the St. Augustine Amphitheater: Proceed south on SR-A1A, turn west on SR-312, proceed across 312 Bridge to SR-207, proceed to I-95 or points west.

City of St. Augustine Beach: North to SR-312, proceed across 312 Bridge to SR-207, proceed to I-95 or points west.

From the intersection of Ocean Trace Rd. and A1A to Crescent Beach: South on SR-A1A to Crescent Beach, turn west on SR-206, proceed across Crescent Beach Bridge to US-1, proceed to I-95 or points west.

Crescent Beach to Flagler County Line: North on SR-A1A to Crescent Beach, turn west on SR-206, proceed across Crescent Beach Bridge to US-1, proceed to I-95 or points west.

Source: St. Johns County Department of Emergency Management

Hurricane preparedness: Hurricane supply checklist

Last year's hurricane season saw more than 10 named storms, including the deadliest Atlantic hurricane since 2005, Hurricane Matthew. June 1 marks the official start of the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season – and as with every year, preparation is key.

Basic supplies

- **Water:** Plan on having at least one gallon of water per person in the household per day for at least three days. In the event that water is contaminated or cut off, these gallons can be used for hydration and sanitation. Water purification kits such as tablets, iodine and filtered pitchers may also be handy. Keep an additional supply of water for mixing formula, and store containers for water to be used for flushing and bathing.
- **Nonperishable food:** Collect food items that don't require refrigeration and have a long shelf life such as canned goods with high serving proportions, fruit preserved in juice, dehydrated meals, granola bars and cereal. Put away enough food for at least three days alongside a non-electric can opener, propane for gas grills and disposable tableware.
- **First Aid kit:** A basic first aid kit should contain sterile dressings, antibiotic ointment, sterile and non-latex gloves, adhesive bandages, scissors and antibiotic cleaning agents.
- **Medication:** Keep prescription medication such as insulin, heart and high blood pressure medications, hearing aids and other medicines needed daily with glasses, contact lenses and solution and non-prescription medications like antacids, ibuprofen and other pain relievers.
- **Electronic supplies:** Charge and pack cellphones with portable power bank chargers carrying universal plugs (for USB, USB-C and Lightning Port devices). Put a flashlight with extra, compatible batteries where they are most accessible, and keep a portable radio (battery-powered or hand crank) that can be tuned to a weather advisory channel.
- **Personal hygiene products:** Set aside toiletries such as towels, toothbrushes and soap, as well as personal hygiene products, sunscreen and hand sanitizer.
- **Safety and sanitation products:** Keep bleach, a fire extinguisher, tarp, signal flare, utility knives, a whistle, and a generator in a safe location where they can be accessed in the event of an emergency.

Additional supplies

- **Diapers and formula:** Keep handy diapers, baby wipes and baby formula.
- **Paper products:** Pack paper products such as tissue, toilet paper and disposable paper plates.
- **Family documents:** Tightly pack important and irreplaceable family documents such as identification, bank account records, insurance policies in waterproof, portable containers. Family documents (ID, bank records, insurance policies) in a waterproof, portable container.
- **Bedding:** Set aside a supply of blankets or sleeping bags, pillows, tents and lawn chairs.
- **Clothing:** Prepare at least one complete change of clothing per person, including sturdy shoes, rain gear and a long-sleeved shirt.
- **Entertainment:** Keep portable video games, books, toys or other activities to entertain children in the event of a power outage.

Protect property from flooding during hurricane season

With the start of hurricane season, Northeast Florida is especially vulnerable to flooding, officials say. To prepare for hurricane season, which runs from June 1 through Nov. 30, property owners are encouraged to protect themselves and their property by:

- Cleaning out gutters and extending downspouts at least four feet from structures;
- Keeping debris out of storm drains and ditches;
- Reporting clogged ditches and culverts to local governments;
- Retrofitting buildings to make them watertight;
- Determining who has responsibility for stormwater pond maintenance in their neighborhood — it may be the homeowner's association;
- Obtaining flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program.

The St. Johns River Water Management District's web page (www.sjrwmd.com/storm) includes links to flood statements and warnings, river stage and flooding data and local government emergency contacts. Links to the National Weather Service, Florida Division of Emergency Management and the U.S. Geological Survey's interactive map of current conditions in the state are also available via the website.

Residents who experience flooding during a storm should first contact their local government for assistance.





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Cultural center to host bus trip to 'Dressing Downton' exhibit at Lightner

The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach will host a bus tour Oct. 12 to the Lightner Museum's highly anticipated exhibit, Dressing Downton: Changing Fashion for Changing Times.

Beginning at 8 a.m., a bus will depart from the Winn-Dixie parking lot on Solana Road. At 9 a.m., guests will arrive at the St. Augustine's Lightner Museum for a self-guided tour. At 10 a.m., the Dressing Downton tour will be held. The exhibit will highlight fashion from one of television's most widely watched dramas, Downton Abbey. Nearly 40 period costumes and jewelry pieces from the series will be paired in vignettes among the Otto Lightner collection of turn-of-the-century fine art and period furniture.

Following the tour, guests will enjoy lunch with St. Augustine Mayor Nancy Shaver at the Old City House Inn &

Restaurant and a private Old Town Trolley Tour of the city. Beginning at 2 p.m., a private tour of Lincolnville's historic Ice Plant Distillery will be held for a tasting.

Tickets for the tour start at \$190 for members of the Cultural Center of Ponte Vedra Beach or Cummer Beaches and \$200 for non-members. The price includes round-trip transportation aboard a private luxury motor coach, all admissions, luncheon and a trolley ride. The deadline for reservations is July 31. Interested parties are encouraged to buy early as seating is limited. Reservations can be made at www.ccpvb.org/events/dressing-downton. Reservations can also be confirmed by check or money order through mail at Dressing Downton, c/o CCPVB, 50 Executive Way, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida 32082.

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EDC panel: Businesses should prepare now for hurricane season

By Jennifer Logue

With Hurricane Matthew a not-so-distant memory, local government and public safety officials say that now is the time for local businesses to learn from last year's major storm and prepare for this year's hurricane season.

Learning the lessons of Hurricane Matthew was the focus of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce's quarterly Economic Development Council breakfast. Held May 25 at the World Golf Village Renaissance Resort, the event featured a panel discussion during which participants urged business leaders to take steps now to prepare for potential future storms. Panelists included St. Johns County Administrator Michael Wanchick, St. Augustine Beach Police Chief Robert Hardwick, St. Augustine Fire Chief Carlos Aviles and Marge Cirillo of the Florida

Small Business Development Center.

"I challenge you to prepare yourself and your business," Hardwick told attendees. "Prepare your business for an evacuation. Because there will be another storm. It'll happen again."

Recovering from Matthew

"It's important to note that Hurricane Matthew was a Category 3 hurricane, and it inflicted more damage on St. Johns County than anywhere else in the state of Florida," County Administrator Wanchick said, noting that 150,000 people – more than half the county's population – were affected by the mandatory evacuation order, with thousands seeking refuge in nine county-run shelters for up to three weeks.

"It was a real challenge to maintain," he said. "The cost to the county is \$180 million. That doesn't include individual impacts to homes and businesses."

Yet despite the devastation experienced to the county's coastal areas, panelists uniformly credited the level of cooperation among government agencies, public safety personnel, residents and businesses for enabling St. Johns County to recover from the storm relatively quickly. Wanchick, who noted that he had been through similar disaster situations in South Florida, called the cooperation seen locally during Hurricane Matthew "unprecedented."

"There were very high levels of cooperation and coordination," he said. "Everyone had a role and they fulfilled it perfectly. It was a flawless effort across the board."

Police Chief Hardwick agreed, citing the key role that social media played in law enforcement's ability to communicate in real time with local residents.

"We reached out to our community and they listened," he said. "We told our

hotels, 'You should leave' and they did. They locked the doors."

In the wake of the storm, businesses received assistance from the Small Business Development Center, which worked with business owners to secure financial assistance through the Small Business Emergency Loan Program.

"Those small businesses, they play a large role in the economic development of the county," Cirillo said. "Those loans really assisted small business owners with the road to recovery and helping them to open their doors again, pay their employees and get some of those small repairs done."

Fire Chief Aviles, meanwhile, stressed that the responsibility for preparing for and recovering from disasters rests at the local level.

EDC PANEL continues on Page 27



Panelists Michael Wanchick, Chief Robert Hardwick, Chief Carlos Aviles and Marge Cirillo

Photos by Jennifer Logue

EDC Panel

Continued from 26

“FEMA has its role – but FEMA’s not going to come in and wave a magic wand and put the community back the way it was,” Aviles said. “That’s on us.”

Panelists urged attendees to develop and implement disaster recovery plans to ensure their businesses will be prepared for the next storm or business interruption.

“We do hurricane exercises as a government,” Hardwick said, “and businesses should do hurricane exercises, too.”

Aviles agreed. “The goal of recovery shouldn’t be to get back to normal,” he said. “It should be to get back to better than normal – to make this community more resilient than it was before the storm.”



Chamber CEO Isabelle Rodriguez



Mike Davis, Cecil Gibson and St. Augustine Vice Mayor Todd Neville



County Administrator Michael Wanchick and St. Augustine Fire Chief Carlos Aviles



Mary Ellen Hancock, Arleen Dennison and Sandy Ford

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Womens Food Alliance expands throughout Florida

Membership applications currently being accepted

With the rapid expansion of the hospitality and food industry throughout the state, the Womens Food Alliance has made steps toward expansion.

The three-year-old alliance, whose mission is to cultivate and advance networking, education and collaboration for women in

the culinary and hospitality industry throughout Florida and Southeast Georgia, offers monthly events and meetings that provide its membership of nearly 100 women with educational events and business-related seminars. Membership categories are comprised of specialty foods, marketing, public

relations and media, photographers, event planners and hotel specialists, among several others. Events benefiting members include dinners and luncheons showcasing member venues, food and spirit tastings, hospitality expos, focus groups and more.

To join, applicants must work part-time or full-time (a minimum of 25 hours) in the food, beverage or hospitality industry and related fields. Membership is \$50 per year by check or \$52 via PayPal. Each planned event is priced according to the program and venue, with prices ranging from \$15 to \$50 per person. Attendance is optional for any month's planned event, and members are not required to commit to a minimum num-

ber of events to attend. The alliance plans 10 to 12 events and programs each year, with a pre-event hour of networking and business exchange, publishing a directory that lists member information and areas of expertise at year's end.

Applicants must submit personal and company names, title or position in the organization, a mailing address, business and cell phone numbers, a website and a preferred email address. Checks can be mailed to Leigh Cort Publicity at No. 20 Thicket Creek Trail, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, 32081; applicants can pay via PayPal to leighcort@bellsouth.net.



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Photo courtesy of Leigh Cort Publicity
The Womens Food Alliance advisory committee includes (seated) Monica Stouder, Sherry Stoppelbein and Belinda Hulin; and (standing) Nancy Slatsky, Leigh Cort, Nancy Guarnieri, Rebekah Lowry, Dana Stallings and Kathleen Hurley.

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Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty hosts community shredding event, food drive

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty recently hosted a shredding event and food drive at the company's Mandarin/St. Johns office.

The Northeast Florida real estate company partnered with First Coast Shredding, collecting more than 10,000 pounds of materials from more than 350 vehicles for visitors to shred their personal documents and sensitive information. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices asked those bringing shredding materials to donate at least one non-perishable food item for local food bank Feeding Northeast Florida. The company collected 1,268 pounds

of food and cash donations, enough to provide 2,835 meals.

"We are thrilled with the results of our shredding event and food drive," said Christine Scalf, broker and manager of the Mandarin/St. Johns office. "From start to finish, we had a constant stream of traffic and our agents enjoyed unloading our visitors' shredding materials and food bank items.

"We received such a positive response from our visitors, too," Scalf continued. "We look forward to hosting another event like this again in the future."

Executive Vice President Christy Budnick



Photos courtesy of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty's Mandarin/St. Johns branch office recently hosted a shredding event and food drive.

agreed, noting the importance of proper disposal of personal documents and well as the vital participation of the communities involved.

"It's vital to securely dispose of sensitive and personal documents to avoid identity theft," Budnick said. "We are pleased to offer important services like this to our friends and neighbors in the communities we serve."



The Northeast Florida real estate company partnered with First Coast Shredding, collecting more than 10,000 pounds of materials to be shredded.

MOVERS & SHAKERS



Suzanne Green nominated Hilton Garden Inn General Manager Chuck Schoonmaker for the Auburn University award, which was presented by Dean June Henton.

Schoonmaker receives Auburn University award

Chuck Schoonmaker, general manager of the Hilton Garden Inn Ponte Vedra, recently received a Certificate of Recognition from his alma mater, Auburn University. Presented to him at the hotel by College of Human Sciences Dean June Henton, the award recognized Schoonmaker for "his unwavering dedication to living the Auburn Creed and symbolizing the values of Auburn men and women through his humanitarian efforts and selfless service to the citizens of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida."



SUMNER

Sumner joins Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices

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

Sumner was previously a Realtor in Savannah, Georgia, where she was a Top 10 agent for seven consecutive years. She listed and sold both condos and homes – including multimillion dollar waterfront homes – in the Savannah Historic District, the greater Savannah area and

Islands communities.

"Not only does Jamie have a truly impressive background in real estate, she continues to grow and learn new ways that she can best represent her clients," said Kevin Waugaman, broker/manager of the Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office. "Jamie is a Ninja Selling graduate since 2010 – a designation that we have adopted at Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, and is a member of the 'Distinguished Sales Society.' We are proud to have her as an agent at Ponte Vedra/Nocatee."



SUGAR

Sugar joins Jacksonville ENT Surgery

Dr. Jerry Sugar, a physician in the field of otolaryngology, has joined Jacksonville ENT Surgery.

Sugar graduated from the University of Illinois Medical School, did his general surgery training at Northwestern University and completed his ear, nose and throat residency at Harvard Medical School. While at Harvard, Sugar was appointed a fellow in otolaryngology. He was a professor of otolaryngology at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School for one year and taught head and neck surgery to general surgery residents at a Yale-affiliated hospital in Waterbury, Connecticut, where he worked in private practice for more than 30 years.

"Having a doctor of his caliber on our staff is quite an honor for us and great news for our patients," said Dr. Charles Greene, president of Jacksonville ENT Surgery. "We are extremely happy to have him on board. His extraordinary skills and knowledge will be a major asset to our practice."



HARDEN

Harden joins St. Augustine Premium Outlets

Simon has named **Hali Harden** director of marketing and business development at St. Augustine Premium Outlets. In her new position, Harden will develop and execute events and support local and corporate initiatives while fostering good relationships with outlet tenants.

Harden was previously at Silver Sands Premium Outlets in Destin, Florida, where she served as the assistant director of marketing and business development since 2015. Prior to Silver Sands, she worked for ABC affiliate news station First Coast News as well as Mandarin-based marketing company Kessler Creative. She is a 2012 graduate of the University of North Florida, where she majored in communications.

Dalton Agency merges with Nashville advertising firm

The Dalton Agency has merged with the

Bill Hudson Agency (BHA), the two advertising firms recently announced. Dalton's merger with the Nashville agency, which is now called DaltonHudson, brings the Dalton Agency to more than 100 employees and increases its presence to seven office locations throughout the Southeast.

BHA has been a heritage advertising and public relations agency in the Nashville area for 54 years. With a combination of national and local accounts, BHA is best known for its marketing support of 236 McDonalds restaurants in four key areas in the South. Similarly, the Dalton Agency has established a strong reputation since its inception in Jacksonville more than 25 years ago. Named Advertising Age magazine's Small Agency of the Year in the Southeast in 2015, the Dalton Agency has increased its footprint through mergers and the establishment of new offices. In 2012, Dalton Agency acquired Kilgannon in Atlanta followed by Ant Hill public relations. Its national and regional client list includes those in quick service restaurants, real estate, travel and tourism, economic development, health care and financial technology.



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Chamber of Commerce presents

The Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce recognized its most active and engaged members last week at its annual Member Appreciation Awards.

Held May 24 at Sawgrass Country Club, the celebration recognized members who actively participate in chamber events and initiatives. The 2017 Jeff Jenkins Community Service Award was presented to Advanced Disposal, while the Pat Morgan Outstanding Member Award went to Rob Schlingmann, general manager at The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach. The Board Member of the Year Award went to Sarah Alexander of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices.

Additional award categories and their recipients included: Crushing It: Matt Price, Regions Bank; Going the Distance: Victoria Long, United Way; Key Contributor: Felicia Cox, Iberia Bank; Rookie of the Year: Carla Miles, Mainstream Boutique; Dedicated Service: Chef Tommy McDonough, Flavor Palette; Spotlight Award: Cutter & Cutter Fine Art.

Sponsors of the Member Appreciations Awards event included Sawgrass Country Club, Pivot CPAs, the Ponte Vedra Recorder, VyStar Credit Union, Clean Getaway Car Wash and Le Macaron, which provided refreshments.



Photos by Susan Griffin

Award recipients include Felicia Cox, Len and Sonya Cutter, Sarah Alexander, Steve Carn (accepting on behalf of Advanced Disposal), Melissa Nelson (accepting on behalf of Victoria Long), Jamie McDonough (accepting on behalf of Chef Tommy McDonough) and Carla Miles.

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Member Appreciation Awards



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Sawgrass Marriott debuts resort renovations, upgrades

Travelers who visited Ponte Vedra for THE PLAYERS Championship last month may have had a chance to view the Sawgrass Marriott's multimillion-dollar makeover.

In addition to refreshing 351 guest rooms and suites in the hotel's main tower, the renovations included upgrading the pool area, spa, Cabana Beach Club and American Gator Club restaurant.

"This complex undertaking represented an opportunity to enliven the renowned property, which has long been a magnet for beach-goers and golf fans," said Nathan Asay, Senior Project

Director with the John Hardy Group, which completed the upgrades. "We wanted to bring about the kind of change that would draw guests to its doors and to the larger Sawgrass Village, which is undergoing a concurrent revitalization."

Renovations included a new façade featuring oversized sliding windows instead of Juliette balconies for a sleeker appearance. In addition, fresh landscaping was installed around the main entry and pool area, while lighting now highlights the trees on the grounds. The primary resort pool has new surfacing and lighting as

well. A special highlight of the pool area is a new surf pool open to both resort guests and local residents.

In March 2016, the American Gator Club restaurant, formerly the 100th Hole, opened, offering views of the 13th hole of the TPC® Sawgrass Stadium Course. The Sawgrass Spa, meanwhile, added several new features, as did the 24-hour fitness center, which introduced new equipment.

By early fall, the guest rooms were completed. Each room now offers 30 additional square feet, along with new bedding, linens, carpet, lighting, and bathrooms. A Sawgrass Suite debuted, and a Premium Service Wing for VIP guests was also finished. The butler-serviced wing consists of 30 rooms and suites.

The resort's oceanfront properties also received an upgrade. The Cabana Beach Club was updated with an improved entrance, landscaping, and roof, along with resurfaced walkways, pools, and adjacent patios. In addition, both of the club's restaurants – which include 619 Ocean View and Sea Porch Bar & Grill – were similarly refreshed.

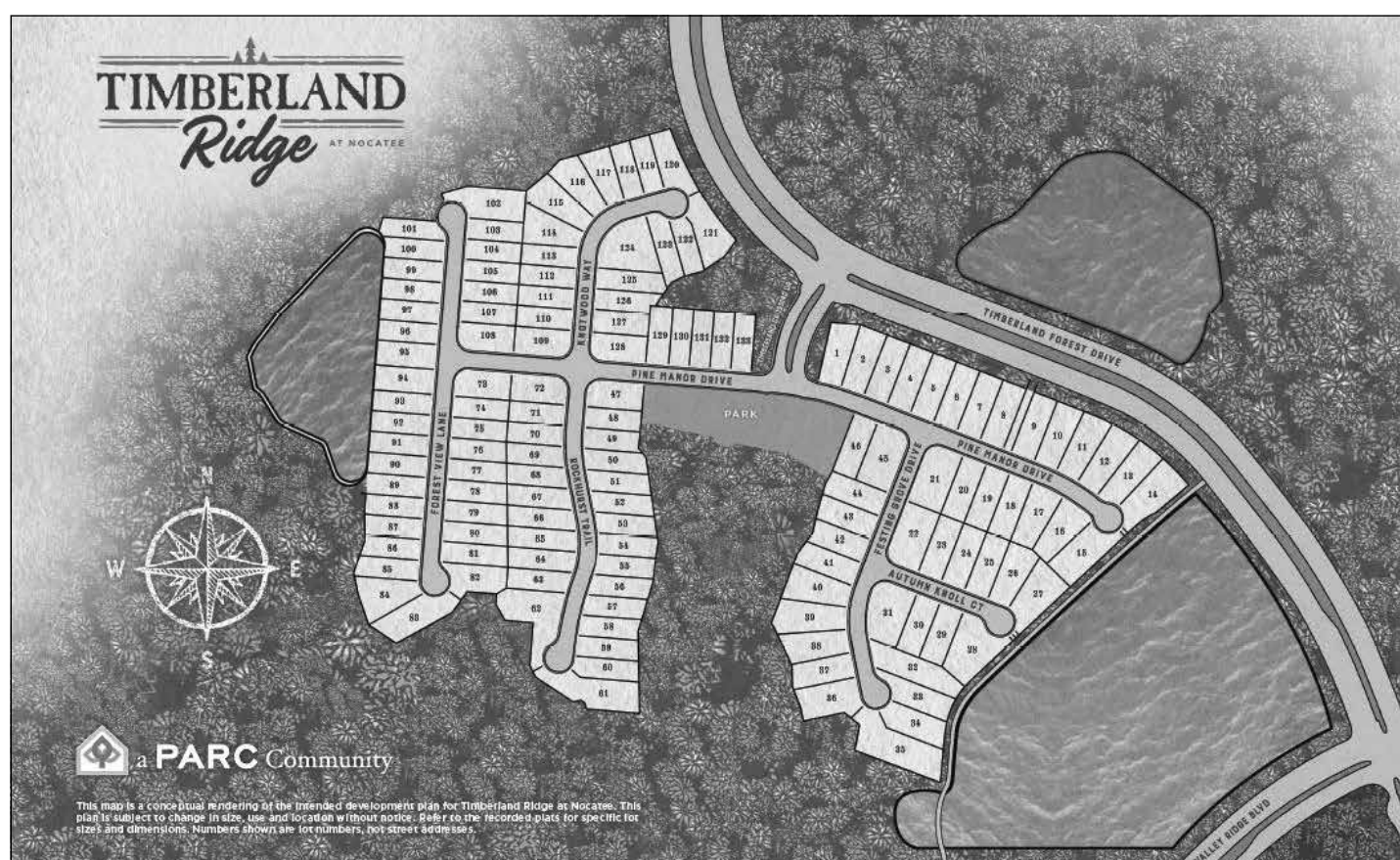


New Duval Co. neighborhood coming to Nocatee

A new 133-home subdivision will open in the northwest corner of Nocatee in Fall 2017.

Timberland Ridge at Nocatee will offer new, single-family homes constructed by David Weekley Homes, ICI Homes and Providence Homes, at prices starting in the low \$300,000s. The builders are offering one- and two-story homes ranging from approximately 1,800 to 3,200 square feet of living space.

The neighborhood will be located off Valley Ridge Boulevard in Duval County and within biking distance of Twenty Mile Park and Cypress Park – both of which feature pools, playgrounds, pavilions, dog parks and more.



Timberland Ridge will consist of 133 homes in the northwest corner of Nocatee.

Photo courtesy of The PARC Group

Rotary Club, Recorder honor residents at 25th annual Local Heroes Awards



Local Hero Award Recipients Mort and Jan Hanson, Jack Schmidt, Claire Fodor, Jim Marx, Kristin McLauchlan and Andy McCauslin

Photos by Jennifer Logue and Susan Griffin

By Jennifer Logue

Six local residents and one Ponte Vedra Beach family wealth office were honored last week, when the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach and the Ponte Vedra Recorder presented the 25th annual Local Heroes Awards.

Held May 25 at Sawgrass Country Club, the awards reception recognized individuals who go above and beyond, making a vital impact on the local community.

“The winners we honor this evening affirm a sage observation – the quality of your life will be determined by the quality of your contribution,” said Past President Chuck Day, who once again served as master of ceremonies. “Each one is the ‘somebody’ who responded to that old lament ‘Somebody ought to do something.’ Without prodding, and with a smile, they’ve done plenty.”

First presented in 1993, “Local Heroes”

HEROES continues on **Page 34**

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Heroes

Continued from 33

was created by former Rotary Club member Vic DiGenti. It honors individuals volunteer efforts in six categories, and special service by a local business. The “Local Heroes” Class of 2017 includes:

Mort and Jan Hanson – Environmental Heroes: Nominated by Neptune Beach resident Maureen Buik and Rotary Club President Michael Bruce, the Hansons were honored for their more than 30 years of dedication directing the Beaches Sea Turtle Patrol.

“Their patrols started at Hanna Park and

Mayport,” Day told attendees. “Before long, they expanded south and kept on expanding, recruiting volunteers as they trekked along.”

In accepting the award, Mort Hanson thanked the Rotary Club, the Recorder, and the many volunteers who have participated in the sea turtle patrol’s activities over the years.

“I didn’t realize we did all that,” Hanson quipped. “We were having so much fun along the way!”

Jim Marx – Education Hero: After retiring from a Wall Street banking career, Marx moved to Ponte Vedra Beach and soon began volunteering as a math tutor for the PACE Center for Girls. Eighteen

years later, at age 83, he continues to help at-risk middle and high school girls improve their academic skills and stay on track to a brighter future.

“The credit doesn’t belong to me,” said Marx, who was nominated by his daughter, longtime Rotarian Mary Marx. “The credit belongs to the girls.”

Andy McCauslin – Vocational Hero: As Hurricane Matthew roared toward the First Coast and most residents heeded the mandatory evacuation order, Andy McCauslin stayed at his post, manning the pump house in Sawgrass Players Club to prevent residents’ homes from flooding during the storm. For four days and with little sleep, McCauslin kept the pumps running, switching to backup diesel engines when the pump house lost power and then to backup generators when the diesel engines failed.

“Thanks to his diligence, not one of 1,800 homes flooded from rising water,” Day said of McCauslin, who was nominated by Rotarian Sherry Mahoney. “Not one.”

Jack Schmidt – Volunteer Hero: “Review Jack’s background and his contributions and you may soon begin humming an old Beatles tune – ‘Here, There and Everywhere,’” Day said of this year’s Volunteer Hero. “There are so many community causes and organizations that have benefited from his time, talent and treasure.” Nominated by lifelong friend and Rotarian Clare Berry, Schmidt has served on numerous nonprofit boards, including Episcopal High School’s alumni association, the United Way’s de Tocqueville Society and the Winston Family YMCA. He is also credited with spearheading the initiative to relocate and restore an old Florida Cracker cabin that now is on display at the Beaches Museum and History Park.

Claire Fodor – Youth Hero: Nominated by Ocean Palms Elementary School Principal Jessica Richardson, Fodor has

volunteered regularly at the school. Her numerous volunteer activities have included launching “Small Steps,” a student-led service group that has raised more than \$20,000 for local community projects; and “Change for a Change,” which united youth sports teams to raise money to support music therapy programs in local schools.

Legacy Trust Family Wealth Offices – Corporate Hero: “The culture of your typical investment firm might well be described with ‘Just show me the money,’” Day observed. “But this firm isn’t typical. Oh, it can show us the money. But it also shows another trait: its longstanding commitment to charitable giving and supporting our Beaches community.”

Nominated by Rotarian Mark Farrell, Legacy Trust donates thousands of dollars to local charities and causes each year. In addition to sponsoring the annual Legacy Trust Ponte Vedra Beach Home & Art Tour to benefit the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach, Legacy Trust staff members teach local youth about finances through the “Money Matters” program. Employees also make and serve meals to patients who are staying at Gabriel House of Care while receiving treatment at Mayo Clinic, and the company supports local athletic programs.

“We lead by example,” said CEO Kristin McLauchlan, who accepted the award along with Legacy Trust employees. “Not because we have to. But because it’s who we are.”

Rotary Club President Michael Bruce congratulated all of the award recipients, and thanked them for the contributions they make to the community.

“The Rotary motto is ‘Service Above Self,’” Bruce said. “It’s clear that you all exemplify that motto every day, and it’s our privilege to recognize you for your contributions.”

View more event photos online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com.



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Environmental Heroes Mort and Jan Hanson

Photos by Jennifer Logue and Susan Griffin



Rotary Club President Michael Bruce, Claire Fodor and Recorder Managing Editor Jennifer Logue



Bruce and Suzy Barber with Lori and Jack Schmidt



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ACROSS

1. Early stage
6. Mythical giant bird
9. Recipe instruction
13. * ____ Davis, won Tony and Oscar for same role
14. *Derek Jacobi won one in "Much ____ About Nothing"
15. Cockatoo's cousin
16. Cell phone bill item
17. Rare find
18. Winged
19. *Three-time winner Lin-Manuel
21. *Dick Van Dyke's winning role, 1961
23. River in Spain
24. Musical finale
25. It would
28. One of algae
30. Sacred beetle, to King Tut
35. Rejections
37. Be lazy or idle
39. Valuable musical antique
40. Make a portrait of
41. Christmastides
43. Track shape
44. Cool & distant
46. ____ ____ , precisely
47. Unload on eBay
48. *"Evita" and "Cats" composer
50. Luau instrument, pl.
52. Sylvester Stallone, casually
53. #49 Down, pl.
55. ____ Zeppelin
57. *Musical based on Charles Dickens' novel
60. *This 5-year-old has a gift of telekinesis
64. "My wife can vouch for me," e.g.
65. Part of Parisian address
67. Judge Judy's proceedings
68. Frost-covered
69. Table scrap
70. Haunted house quality
71. Sweet-talk
72. Genetic initials
73. Clear the board

DOWN

1. Female gamete
2. Not final or absolute
3. Move like parasailor
4. "Pomp and Circumstance" composer
5. Tapeworm
6. Indian music
7. Schiller's " ____ to Joy"
8. Fast food option
9. *Like Yul Brynner's head in "The King and I"
10. Antioxidants-rich berry
11. *"Kiss Me, ____," first Best Musical recipient
12. Lamb's mother
15. Caribbean rattle
20. *"Hello, ____!" held record for most Tonys
22. Proof of age, pl.
24. Like workman's hand
25. On spouse's side
26. Upholstery choice
27. Retire from military
29. a.k.a. podagra
31. Andy's TV buddy
32. Great reviews
33. Whatsoever
34. *He traded boxing gloves for ballet shoes
36. Snooty one
38. Plumbing problem
42. Inscribed pillar
45. Intensely emotional
49. Dark bread
51. Boudior sofa
54. Unwelcome computer message
56. More dire
57. Dish of stewed meat
58. Capital of Peru
59. Wild goat
60. Of higher order, prefix
61. Milano moolah
62. Valedictorian's spot
63. Away from wind
64. ____ de Triomphe
66. Vase for ashes

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Steel Magnolias reinforces the importance of female friendships

By Jennifer Logue

When Robert Harling sat down to write a play based on the life and death of his beloved sister, he initially envisioned it as a dark Southern tragedy. Little did he imagine that in telling the story of his sister, mother and their close circle of friends, the play – just like life – would seamlessly blend comedy and drama, capturing the hearts of generations of fans.

"Steel Magnolias" is that rare play that manages to shift effortlessly from comedic hijinks to heart-rending sadness without losing the audience – a feat The Alhambra Theatre & Dining's new production accomplishes with ease. In the hands of The Alhambra's expert cast, "Steel Magnolias" becomes a tribute to female friendship and the strength women draw from one another in times of joy and sorrow.

Set in Louisiana in the 1980s, the play centers on beautician Truvy and the women who frequent the beauty parlor in her carport. As the play begins, Truvy and quirky new assistant Annelle have their hands full preparing customers for that afternoon's wedding of Shelby, the daughter of beauty shop regular M'Lynn. As Shelby and M'Lynn bicker over wedding

details, the audience is introduced to Clairee – the recently widowed wife of the town's former mayor – and Ouiser, a cantankerous neighbor who is beside herself over the racket Shelby's father is causing by repeatedly firing off shotgun blasts to scare away birds before the outdoor reception.

While prepping and primping for Shelby's big day, the women engage in good-natured ribbing and beauty parlor gossip – or as Clairee puts it, "If you can't say anything nice about anybody... come sit by me!" Amid the trivial small-town chatter, though, the women learn that Shelby's joy over her impending nuptials has been dampened by the news that her doctors have warned the bride, who is diabetic, not to have children.

As time passes, we revisit Shelby during her occasional visits to the beauty parlor. When she announces that she's pregnant, Truvy and her regulars are thrilled – all except M'Lynn, that is, who fears the strain of giving birth will be too much for Shelby to handle.

As the years pass and Shelby's health is indeed compromised from having a child, M'Lynn remains the steadfast, stoic mother



Photo courtesy of The Alhambra

– until the day comes when her maternal fortitude fails her. When that day arrives, her friends are there to strengthen and sustain her, both by allowing her to grieve and encouraging her to laugh.

As M'Lynn, Alhambra regular Lisa Valdini conveys the all-too-common frustration and sense of powerlessness felt by mothers everywhere when their children refuse to listen and insist on living their own lives. Her scenes with Rebecca Lea Chisholm as Shelby ring true both in the comedic and dramatic moments. As Truvy, Patti Eyler serves as the fulcrum of "Steel Magnolias," dispensing dry one liners while balancing out the slapstick antics of Lexi Langs' skittish, ultra-religious Annelle.

As the recently widowed Clairee, Cheryl Horne captures the wistfulness of a once socially prominent woman struggling to make a new life for herself. Her elegance and

charm belie a woman far more mischievous and adventurous than meets the eye, and she shares what is perhaps the play's funniest moment with guest star Dawn Wells (Mary Ann on "Gilligan's Island") as the cranky Ouiser. Despite glancing periodically at her lines on stage due to an abbreviated rehearsal schedule, Wells played the role to understated perfection. Resisting the temptation to make a cartoonish curmudgeon out of Ouiser, Wells imbued the character with a beating heart beneath her crusty exterior.

Together, the ensemble lives up to the play's title, deftly presenting a circle of Southern women whose gentility is undergirded by a steely strength drawn from deep within themselves and one another.

"Steel Magnolias" runs through June 25 at The Alhambra Theatre & Dining. For more information, visit www.alhambrajax.com.

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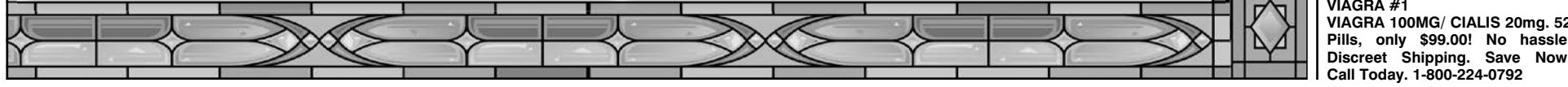
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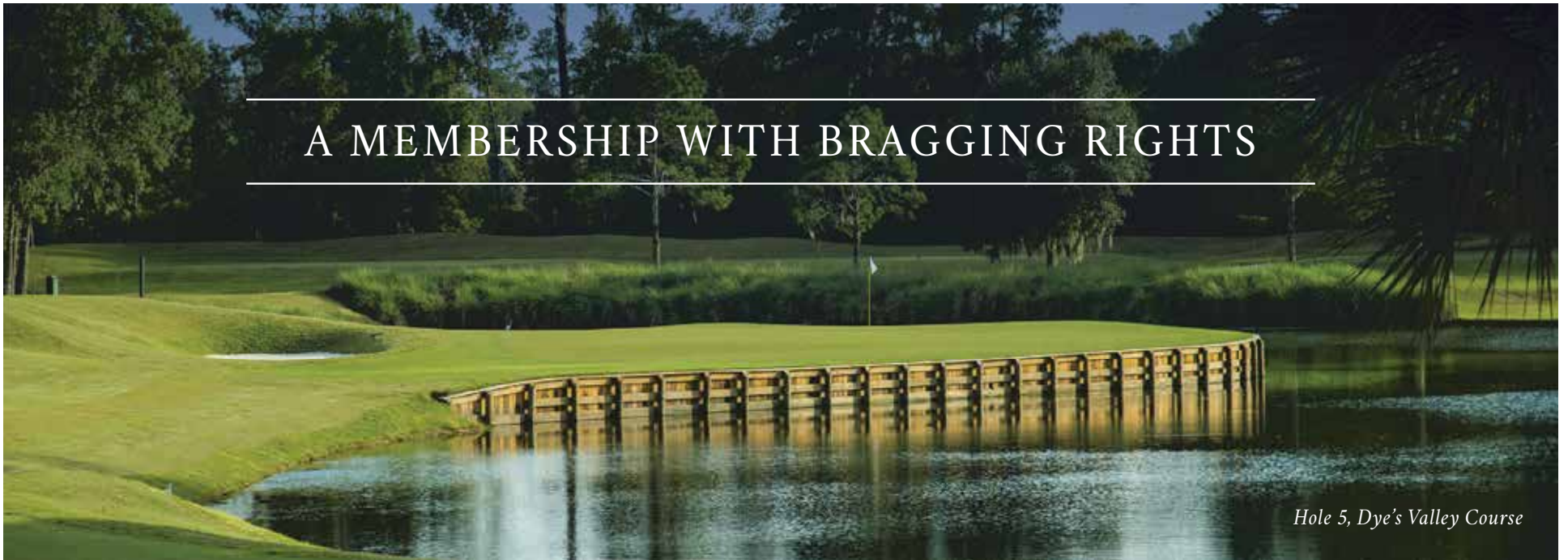
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