

Ponte Vedra Recorder

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

March 9, 2017
Volume 47, No. 10
75 cents

PonteVedraRecorder.com



The Chieftains:
Enter to win
tickets!

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WOMEN
MEAN BUSINESS

Pages 17-25



Sharks softball

Page 33



Hometown favorite Tim Tebow joins family, friends and supporters Saturday at the 2017 Tim Tebow Foundation Celebrity Gala & Golf Classic, held at TPC Sawgrass. Read more on page 32.

Photo by Jon Blauvelt

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INSIDE

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Business
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Send us your news

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



Visit our website at
www.pontevedrarecorder.com

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

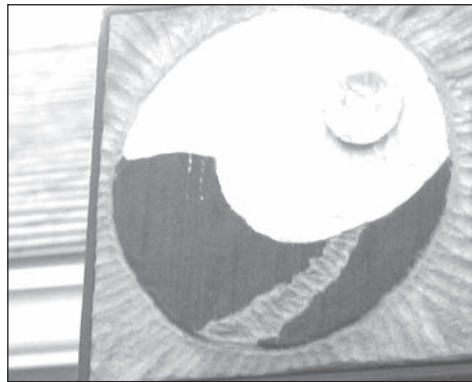
PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

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

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

Three readers correctly identified last week's photo as Island Girl Wine and Cigar Bar. Winner of the random drawing was **Allyson Dawson** – congratulations, Allyson! You may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during regular business hours.



ADOPT A PET

CAT OF THE WEEK

My name is Queso and I am just the cheesiest. I'm a 4-year-old male cat who is looking for a new home. I was brought to the pet center as a stray, which means I was out running around all on my own without anyone to care for me. I'm a cool cat who likes to sit on the back of the sofa while we watch football and you sneak nachos up to me to snack on. Nothing makes my little purr motor kick into overdrive like when I get someone to scratch my chin and tell me how absolutely handsome I am. So, come on by and take me to my forever family. #36638



DOG OF THE WEEK



Hey y'all, the name's Bryan and I'm a 6-year-old male dog who is looking for a new home. I was brought to the pet center as a stray, which means I was found all alone outside with nobody to care for me. I love playing outside; you might say I'm an adventurer. Last time I was outside I fetched, and yes, people did applaud me and confirm that I am in fact a good boy. So, come on by today and let me show you my skills, smile and some of my canine love. P.S. Bring treats! #36859

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

St. Johns County Pet Center

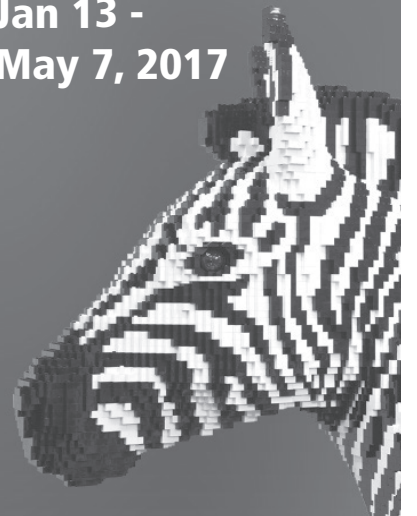
Cat adoptions at the St. Johns County Pet Center are \$30 for males and \$40 for females. Dog adoptions are \$45 for males and \$60 for females. Adoption fees include microchipping, neutering/spaying, rabies vaccinations and shots. The pet center is located at 130 N. Stratton Rd., off US 1 between County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

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Art by Sean Kenney

Jan 13 -
May 7, 2017



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

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

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

Jasmine Marshall
Reporter/Office Assistant
jasmine@opcfla.com
(904) 686-3945

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

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

Kristin Flanagan
Account Executive
(904) 285-8831

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

Cary Howard
Leigh Mitchell
Page Designers
pagedesign@theitem.com

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Ponte Vedra man, 28, arrested after threatening to 'shoot up' Nocatee M Shack listed as Del Webb resident

By Jon Blauvelt

A 28-year-old Ponte Vedra man recently arrested for threatening to "shoot up" the M Shack in Nocatee Town Center is listed as being a resident of Del Webb Ponte Vedra, Nocatee's 55+ age-restricted community.

According to the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, Kevin Payne of 13 Garden Grove Court caused a belligerent disturbance at the restaurant Feb. 24, threatening to shoot people within the restaurant and yelling profanities. SJSO Community Affairs Bureau Commander Chuck Mulligan said deputies approached Payne in a calm, quiet and non-threatening manner to deescalate the crisis and consequently asked him



PAYNE

to leave the restaurant. He refused to do so, and they were forced to remove him from the business and bring him to the

M SHACK continues on Page 4

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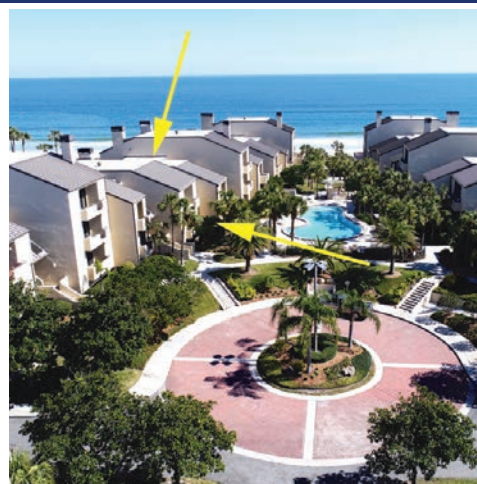
OCEAN GRANDE
\$409,000

Enjoy spectacular vistas of the marsh and intracoastal from the screened terrace. The condo's interior boasts an open floor plan with updated paint, upgraded bathrooms, plantation shutters, tinted windows on the sliding glass doors and much more. MLS 869055



GREENLEAF VILLAGE
\$430,000

Entertaining your guests will be a breeze in this fantastic David Weekly home with a generous family room that opens up to the extended lanai and fire pit with glass pocket sliders. Meals can be prepared in the gorgeous kitchen that has upgraded cabinetry and appliances. MLS 868688



SAWGRASS OCEANFRONT
\$595,000

Create your own private seaside retreat! Spectacular ocean and sparkling pool views are the focal point from the north and south balconies. This 3bd/3bth terrific space features soaring ceilings, open living areas and natural light abound. MLS 868365



MARSH LANDING
\$779,000

Spend your weekends relaxing in the shade or floating in the pool on the lanai of this stunning home. With a split-bedroom plan with 4 bedrooms and a bonus room, this home would be great as either an executive or family home. MLS 868130



Ponte Vedra Office
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WE'RE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD



Sunset Rotary to host comedy fundraiser

The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset will hold a comedy fundraiser to benefit the service organization's charities.



To be held Saturday, April 1 at 6:30 p.m. at UNF's Robinson Theater, "Comedy for a Cause" will feature Jacksonville comedian Danny Johnson – a noted comedian who has performed with Chris Rock, Bob Saget, Billy Gardell and Richard Lewis – and a special guest comedian.

In addition to the comedy show, the event will feature a silent auction, raffle drawing, hors d'oeuvres and cash bar.

Proceeds from the event will benefit The Rotary Foundation, which is celebrating its centennial in 2017, as well as Rotary's End Polio Now campaign. For

more than three decades, Rotary clubs around the world have been working to eradicate polio, with just a handful of cases remaining today.

Tickets to "Comedy for a Cause" are \$45 per person. For tickets or more information, visit www.comedy4acause.org.

M Shack

Continued from 1

ground with a Taser when he began to become physical.

Authorities arrested Payne on charges of disturbing the peace, trespassing, resisting law enforcement with violence and violation of probation. He was released from the county jail Feb. 25 after posting \$2,000 bond.

Payne's listed address is located in the Del Webb Ponte Vedra community, raising questions about the neighborhood's age restriction policy. The community promotes itself as being 55-and-over; however, the Del Webb website states that residents' children under the age of 19 can live in the neighborhood for up to three months, and those over 19 can live there for an unlimited amount of time.

Pulte Group spokesperson Sarah Garlick said Del Webb – a Pulte Group brand – abides by the Housing for Older Persons Act (HOPA) with regard to occupancy requirements.

"HOPA mandates that at least 80 percent of homes are occupied by at least one person who is 55 years of age or older," said Garlick. "All age-restricted communities are required to comply with HOPA. Except for HOPA-required age certification, Del Webb does not track or assume responsibility for reporting other resident information."

Attempts to contact the local Del Webb Ponte Vedra office for further information about the community's age-restriction policies or Payne's residence within the neighborhood were not returned. Attempts to contact the phone number listed on Whitepages.com for Payne's residence were likewise unsuccessful.

This is not the first time that Payne has caused unrest in Nocatee Town Center. He was previously arrested by SJSO deputies in January 2016 after he broke into Dick's Wings and Grill, damaged property within the restaurant and stole a bottle of liquor. The police report from that incident also listed the Del Webb address as Payne's place of residence.

After that incident, Payne was held in the county jail for nearly two months on charges of burglary, damage to property, larceny and loitering. According to SJSO police reports, Payne yelled and cursed at the sheriff's deputies on the way to the jail, making comments like, "The mafia will take care of you," "I'll stomp you into the ground," and "You'll be in six feet of concrete soon."

OBITUARY



Eileen Rose Allegro

Eileen Rose Allegro of Ponte Vedra, 55, died suddenly March 1. Eileen moved to Ponte Vedra in 2001 to be near family and pursue her passion, working with dogs. In 2005,

she attended the Triple Crown Academy, where she was certified as a K-9 and behavioral specialist. Eileen used her talent to train, breed and care for hundreds of dogs in the area.

Eileen is survived by her father and stepmother in St. Augustine, Jim and Lesley Allegro; sisters Leslie Allegro, Christine Allegro, Pauline Gerry, Deborah Chapin and Julie Allegro; brothers Jim Allegro and Greg Allegro; and 12 nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her mother, Antrese Allegro, and nephew Jamie Chapin.

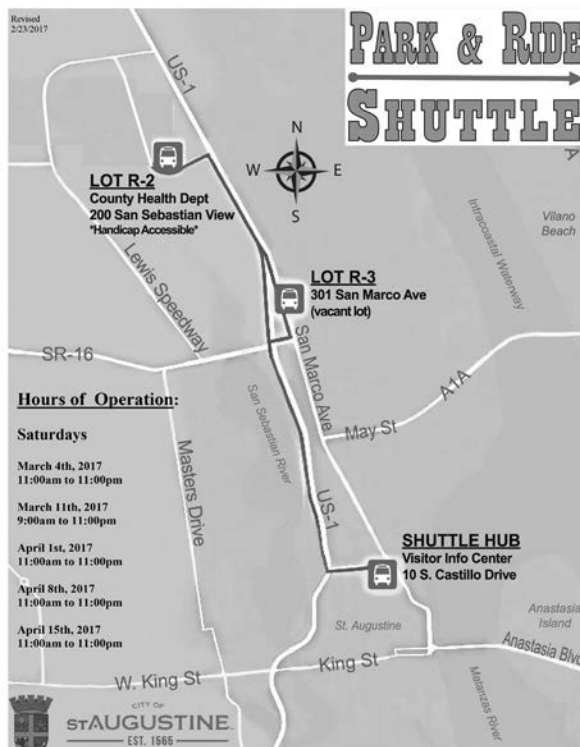
A funeral mass will be held March 11 at 1 p.m. at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church (904-285-2698), followed by an inurnment at Ponte Vedra Valley Cemetery (904-285-1130).

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Friends of Hutto Dog Park, where a special garden bench and plaque will be placed in remembrance of Eileen. Please send donations to Friends of Hutto Dog Park 501-C3 #47-1086249, PO Box 1101, Hutto, TX 78665. Donations can also be made online at www.huttodogpark.com or via phone at 877-823-7847.

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Free Saturday shuttle service returns to St. Augustine

The City of St. Augustine will again offer free transit service during what are expected to be the heaviest days for downtown traffic throughout March and April.

The service will be offered on Saturdays coinciding with large events at Francis Field as well as some traditional Easter-related events. Shuttles will operate from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, March 11 and from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on April 1, 8 and 15. The March 11 shuttle will start two hours earlier to accommodate those attending the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Satellite parking will be available at the St. Johns County Health and Human Services building at 200 San Sebastian View and at the San Marco lot at 301 San Marco Avenue.

Shuttles will operate approximately every 20 minutes from the two lots to the Visitor Information Center at 10 S. Castillo Drive, adjacent to Francis Field.

The free transit service coincides with the Rhythm and Ribs event March 31 through April 2. Special events organizers will pay for the city to operate the shuttle in compliance with an ordinance passed by the City Commission last year, which requires that events held on Francis Field drawing more than 1,000 people at any one time must fund a parking and transit plan aimed at reducing traffic.

For more information, email mobility@CityStAug.com, call (904) 209-4211 or visit www.CityStAugMobility.com.



Photo provided by Laura Byrne

Cynthia Bonn, Rose Gottshalk, Alexis Loo, Katherine Graham and Tessa Untiedt

Girl Scouts celebrate "World Thinking Day"

Approximately 70 Girl Scouts participated in World Thinking Day at Landrum Middle School Feb. 22 alongside troop leaders, families and friends.

The day of friendship has been internationally recognized by 10 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts for 91 years. The World Association of Girl Guides (WAGG) and Girl Scouts identified the theme of the 2017 celebration as "Grow."

"We believe that every girl should have the chance to grow, learn and reach her potential," WAGG's site states. "We believe that more girls should be able to be part of the Girl Guide and Girl Scout movement. We want a world where all girls have a safe space to grow, and have many exciting, relevant, accessible and user-led experiences."

The Landrum Celebration saw troops representing seven countries – including Australia, Canada, Mexico, Japan, China, France and Greece – as the girls

performed skits, dances and presentations about their chosen countries. Following the performances, the troops walked through a line of educational displays about each of the countries as they sampled foods like vegemite, lamingtons, dumplings and feta cheese. Scouts then exchanged "Special Whatchamacallits Affectionately Pinned Somewhere" (SWAPS) made by each girl.



Amelia Galley and Sophia Mathenia

Parks and Recreation Department to host summer camp drawing

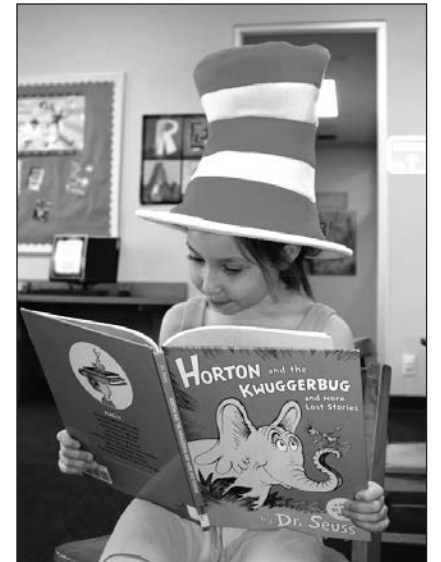
The St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department will host a summer camp for children ages 5 to 12 centered around outdoor activities, field trips, arts and crafts and swimming lessons. Due to high demand and limited space, those interested in attending Summer Camp 2017 must first be entered into a drawing for the opportunity to register.

Entries will be accepted through 5 p.m. March 17. St. Johns County residents in-

terested in entering the drawing or learning more about Summer Camp 2017 may do so online at www.sjcfcl.us/youth, by calling (904) 209-0377 or by visiting the Solomon Calhoun Center at 1300 Duval St. during standard business hours. The drawing will take place March 24, and results will be mailed by April 1. Entry into the drawing does not guarantee a position in the program.

Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library celebrates Dr. Seuss with Read Across America Day

The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library recently recognized a big day in literature in its Pre-K Storytime Class and children's department by celebrating the National Education Association's Read Across America Day and the birthday of acclaimed children's writer Dr. Seuss. Guests read Dr. Seuss classics throughout the week in honor of the nationwide reading celebration held on his birthday, March 2. The day sees the collective participation of schools, libraries and communities in fostering a lifelong love of reading annually with one of the most recognized figures of children's literature.



Photos provided by Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library

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Ponte Vedra
Recorder
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PV2-LV36086

Suzan Lupton's journey has taken her from Uganda to the First Coast, where she currently serves as vice president of VyStar Credit Union's Ponte Vedra Beach branch.

Suzan Lupton

By Jennifer Logue

What brought you to the First Coast?

I am originally from Uganda. I came to the United States in 2002 on a volleyball scholarship to South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, where I obtained a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. I also hold a master's degree in Business Administration from Florida International University. Growing up, I always wanted to live in a bigger city, closer to the beach, so Jacksonville was my natural choice after my first visit.

What are your duties and responsibilities as vice president of VyStar's Ponte Vedra Beach branch?

I've been with VyStar Credit Union for almost 10 years. During that time, I've worked in several different capacities until May 2016, when I was promoted to branch vice president of the Ponte Vedra branch, where I am responsible for the management and day-to-day operations of the branch. My primary objective is providing quality service and financial education for my members. I also coach, develop and lead employees in obtaining their goals and the organizational goals set by VyStar.

What are some of the differences between a bank and a credit union, and how do those differences impact or benefit customers?

VyStar is a not-for-profit financial cooperative owned by our members and governed by a volunteer board of directors. We do not have shareholders like for-profit financial institutions; each of our members is an equal owner. VyStar's earnings and profits are passed down to our member-owners in the form of lower loan rates, lower service fees and higher deposit rates. We are focused on member satisfaction, member retention, member loyalty and caring for our communities.

At a time when many people conduct their banking online or on their phones, what in your opinion are the benefits of doing your banking at a local bricks-and-mortar branch office?

Through our research, we know our members want choices when it comes to their financial services. They prefer a mix of online and electronic service options that allow for quick, easy completion of their daily transactions. Plus, they want the human interaction of a branch setting or call center where they can build a relationship of trust in preparation for life's financial milestones, such as purchasing a new home or planning for retirement. VyStar works hard to maintain the right balance of digital and traditional service delivery options through our branches, ATM network, call center and online products like mobile check deposit, bill pay and internet and mobile banking. Member convenience is always our guide when making decisions to expand our branch or ATM network and when adding new products and services.

Are there any civic or charitable groups with which you're involved that you'd like to highlight?

As VyStar employees, we are encouraged and given the opportunity to immerse ourselves in the communities we serve. Currently, I am a member of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach, Emerging Leaders of St. Johns County and the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce.



Photo by Jasmine Marshall

How do you enjoy spending your free time?

When I'm not working, I enjoy any time spent with friends and family.

What is your favorite part of living on the First Coast?

The ease and accessibility to the beach. The people are also very friendly and there is always something to do in the local community.

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PV2-LV3606

Spring lawn care tips: keeping lawns green and healthy

By Jasmine Marshall

March 20 marks the beginning of spring, and with it, the annual lawn care revamp. Though homeowners often find themselves frustrated as they struggle to maintain a healthy lawn, there are a few simple ways to restore and maintain the health of a yard. To set the foundation for gardening season, consider the following tips.

Avoid overwatering. The tendency to overcompensate for Florida heat leads many homeowners to overwater their lawns without realizing its detrimental effects. Overwatering drowns the plant's roots, and daily watering fills the porous spaces of soil beneath the grass with water instead of oxygen. If grass produces thatch, fungus or weeds, or if water collects in puddles or runs into the street, the lawn may be overwatered, hindering the growth of healthy and green grass.

Practice "water-wise" landscaping. Water-wise scaping isn't just best practice for water conservation — proper lawn care

includes choosing practical, site-appropriate vegetation and increasing areas of shade in addition to avoiding the tendency to overwatering. Opt for "groundcover" plants like holly ferns, creeping perennials and clover, or trees such as crapemyrtle and shumard oaks that provide shade for grass and flowers, reduce the tendency to overwater lawns and act as accents that aren't out of place. It's also best to choose vegetation native to the area, as exotic plants require a great deal more upkeep to survive in non-native climates.

Set the soil. Testing and making appropriate adjustments to the pH balance of a lawn's soil can greatly impact the health of the plants that grow there. Soil that is too acidic or too alkaline will keep plants from absorbing key nutrients, effectively blocking the growth of healthy grass and gardens. The sweet spot for most lawns is around 6.5 on a pH scale of 0-14. Soil can be tested with small meters or test kits available at home improvement stores. For soil too acidic (with a pH balance between 0 and 6), sprinkle pellet-sized limestone or

wood ash over soil and mix. For alkaline soil, sulfur, mulch and compost or acidifying fertilizers containing ammonia. Ask a lawn care specialist which mix is best.

Call a professional. When considering more specialized lawn or yard work, such as installing pavers, custom concrete curbing, or any other project requiring the use of heavy equipment or machinery, hire a professional. Jeremy Mann, owner of Jacksonville-based Infinity Curbing and Landscapes, urges homeowners to opt for materials that withstand the test of time in addition to average wear and tear, especially for seniors aging in place. "Always go for more durable materials like solid concrete," he said. "Wood rots and metal rusts, so it's best to choose things that will last." Additionally, Mann said consumers should always leave work best done by a professional to someone who specializes in each area of landscaping. "It's a highly specialized, niche-type service," he said. "It can get costly to buy the materials, rent the equipment and end up causing damage to your lawn or home."



Photo by Jasmine Marshall

Infinity Curbing and Landscapes owner Jeremy Mann at the Jacksonville Home and Patio Show



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SHORT TAKES

ToneVendor to present the Spring 2017 St. Augustine Record Fair

The Spring 2017 St. Augustine Record Fair, presented by local record store ToneVendor, will be held Sunday, March 26 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre. This semi-annual Record Fair is a free, family-friendly event and is open to the public. Music lovers and collectors are invited to shop thousands of music-related items, including new and used vinyl records, CDs, cassettes, posters, turntable equipment and supplies, memorabilia, collectibles and more. The St. Augustine Amphitheatre is located at 1340C A1A South.

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The Chieftains to perform with Jacksonville Symphony at St. Augustine Amphitheatre

Legendary Irish folk performers The Chieftains will perform with the Jacksonville Symphony Sunday, March 19 at 6 p.m. at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre.

Formed in Ireland in 1962 by Paddy Moloney, the six-time Grammy Award winners have been recognized for reinventing traditional Irish music with a contemporary

flair. The group's St. Augustine appearance is part of The Chieftains' 55th anniversary tour of the United States.

"Fifty-five years – wow, where have they gone as we're still going strong," Moloney said. "This tour will have all the musical force of what we've accumulated and achieved over the last 55 years, with a few extra gems

thrown in for good measure."

The Jacksonville Symphony will appear as special guests at the concert, accompanying The Chieftains during the second half of the performance.

Tickets for The Chieftains range from \$39 to \$79 and are available at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre and Ponte Vedra Concert Hall



box offices. Tickets are also available online at ticketmaster.com, all authorized TicketMaster outlets or by phone at (800) 745-3000.

Win tickets to The Chieftains!

The Ponte Vedra Recorder is giving away a pair of tickets to see The Chieftains in concert with the Jacksonville Symphony March 19 at 6 p.m. at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre. To enter, visit www.pontevedrarecorder.com and complete the online entry form. Deadline for entries is Tuesday, March 14 at 5 p.m. The winner will be notified by March 15. So, enter today – and may the luck o' the Irish be with ya!

Celtic Music & Heritage Festival returns to St. Augustine

The seventh annual St. Augustine Celtic Music & Heritage Festival is set for March 10-12 at Francis Field.

The three-day event will feature internationally acclaimed Celtic bands, a pre-festival whiskey tasting, Highland

games, Celtic shopping and food and a St. Patrick's Day parade that begins at 10 a.m. March 11.

Scottish band Albannach will return as the festival's headliner. The group's music combines the culture, history and heritage

of the Scottish Gaelic and features an award-winning piper, a main drummer, bass drummers and a bodhran musician.

The Dublin City Ramblers will also perform at the festival. Named "Ireland's No. 1 Ballad & Folk Group of the Year" by the Irish Country Music Association, the band has performed at major festivals, including the Milwaukee Irish Festival, the Cleveland Irish Festival, Hollywood Irish Fest, Miami Irish Fest and others around the globe. The group has also performed at major venues in Ireland and abroad, including Dublin's National Stadium, National Concert Hall, Cork Opera House, England's Royal Albert Hall, New York's

Carnegie Hall and many others.

In addition, the event will feature international performers Emmet Cahill and The Real McKenzies; national bands Emish, Seven Nations and Whiskey of the Damned; and regional group Jig to a Milestone.

Festival tickets, as well as more information about the event, are available at CelticStAugustine.com. Tickets may also be purchased at Ann O'Malley's Irish Pub located at 23 Orange St., Prince of Wales at 54 Cuna St. and Aunt Matilda's Steam-punk Trunk at 106 St. George St., all in downtown St. Augustine.



Photos courtesy of the St. Augustine Celtic Music & Heritage Festival

The Scottish band Albannach returns as the festival's headlining musical performer.



The three-day event will feature Celtic bands, Highland games, food and a St. Patrick's Day parade that begins at 10 a.m. March 11.

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3rd Annual Fred Funk Challenge April 10

The 3rd Annual Fred Funk Challenge charity golf tournament will be held Monday, April 10 at Sawgrass Country Club in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. with a shotgun start, the event will feature 18 holes of golf plus a post-tournament luncheon. The registration fee for the tournament is \$250 per player and includes golf, use of the driving range, green and cart fees and the opportunity to play a hole with PGA Tour Champion Fred Funk. Each player will also receive a team photo autographed by Funk. Prizes will be awarded in a number of categories.

Proceeds from the tournament will benefit Crosswater Community Church's "Finish the Course" campaign. Tournament sponsorship opportunities are also available.

Registration deadline for the Fred Funk Challenge is April 3. To register or for more information, call (904) 824-9800 or visit www.crosswaterchurch.net.



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Ponte Vedra Rotary Club to host Mineral City Celebration March 25

'Changes in Latitude' trip raffle among charity fundraiser highlights



Donna Deegan

Flip flops, Hawaiian shorts and frozen concoctions will be the order of the day when the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach hosts its annual "Mineral City Celebration" March 25.



Kent Justice

To be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, the event will feature a Jimmy Buffett-style theme of "PonteVedra-ville," with live entertainment provided by the "Island Paradise" band, Caribbean cuisine and more. WJXT Channel 4 news anchor Kent Justice will serve as emcee for the event, which will also feature the presentation of

the Rotary Club's "Rock of the Community Award" to Donna Deegan.

Trip raffle

In addition to a silent auction, the celebration will feature a "Changes in Latitude" trip raffle, with the winner receiving a trip to one of four exotic destinations: Hawaii, Rome, Tuscany or Ireland. Full descriptions on each trip are available on the Mineral City Celebration website.

Tickets are \$100 each or five for \$400, and may be purchased online at www.mineralcitycelebration.com. The winner of the raffle will be announced live at the Mineral City Celebration; the winner does not need to be present to win.

Proceeds from this year's Mineral City Celebration will benefit the Dial A Ride senior and disabled transportation program, along with Mission House, BEAM, HEAL and numerous other Beaches-area charities.

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



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<p>TAJ MAHAL w/ WHETHERMAN & JONTAVIOUS WILLIS MARCH 10</p> <p>ROBERT EARL KEEN & HIS BAND w/ BEN DE LA COUR MARCH 11 & 12</p> <p>DAVID BROMBERG QUINTET w/ JOHNNY DUKE MARCH 14</p> <p>RICKY SKAGGS & KENTUCKY THUNDER MARCH 26</p> <p>NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND MARCH 30</p> <p>MATTY B FEAT. THE HASCHAK SISTERS MARCH 31</p> <p>ILLUSIONIST RICK THOMAS APRIL 1</p> <p>THE WOOD BROTHERS APRIL 3</p> <p>BIG BAD VOODOO DADDY w/ TOOTS LORRAINE & THE TRAFFIC APRIL 4</p> <p>ANA POPOVIC w/ LIGHT ELIXIR APRIL 5</p>	<p>THE WAILERS PERFORM BOB MARLEY'S LEGEND APRIL 6</p> <p>SHOVELS & ROPE w/ MATTHEW LOGAN VASQUEZ (OF DELTA SPIRIT) APRIL 8</p> <p>PORTUGAL. THE MAN w/ HD BEENDOPE & DJ BLACK DANIELS APRIL 11</p> <p>DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS w/ HISS GOLDEN MESSENGER APRIL 16</p> <p>FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT PRESENTS MOZART & DEBUSSY APRIL 23</p> <p>APEX THEATRE PRESENTS DISNEY'S THE LION KING JR. APRIL 28 & 29</p> <p>CHRISTOPHER CROSS MAY 3</p> <p>BEACH HOUSE MAY 28</p> <p>FUTURE ISLANDS JUNE 2</p> <p>AN EVENING WITH GEORGE WINSTON FEBRUARY 23, 2018</p>
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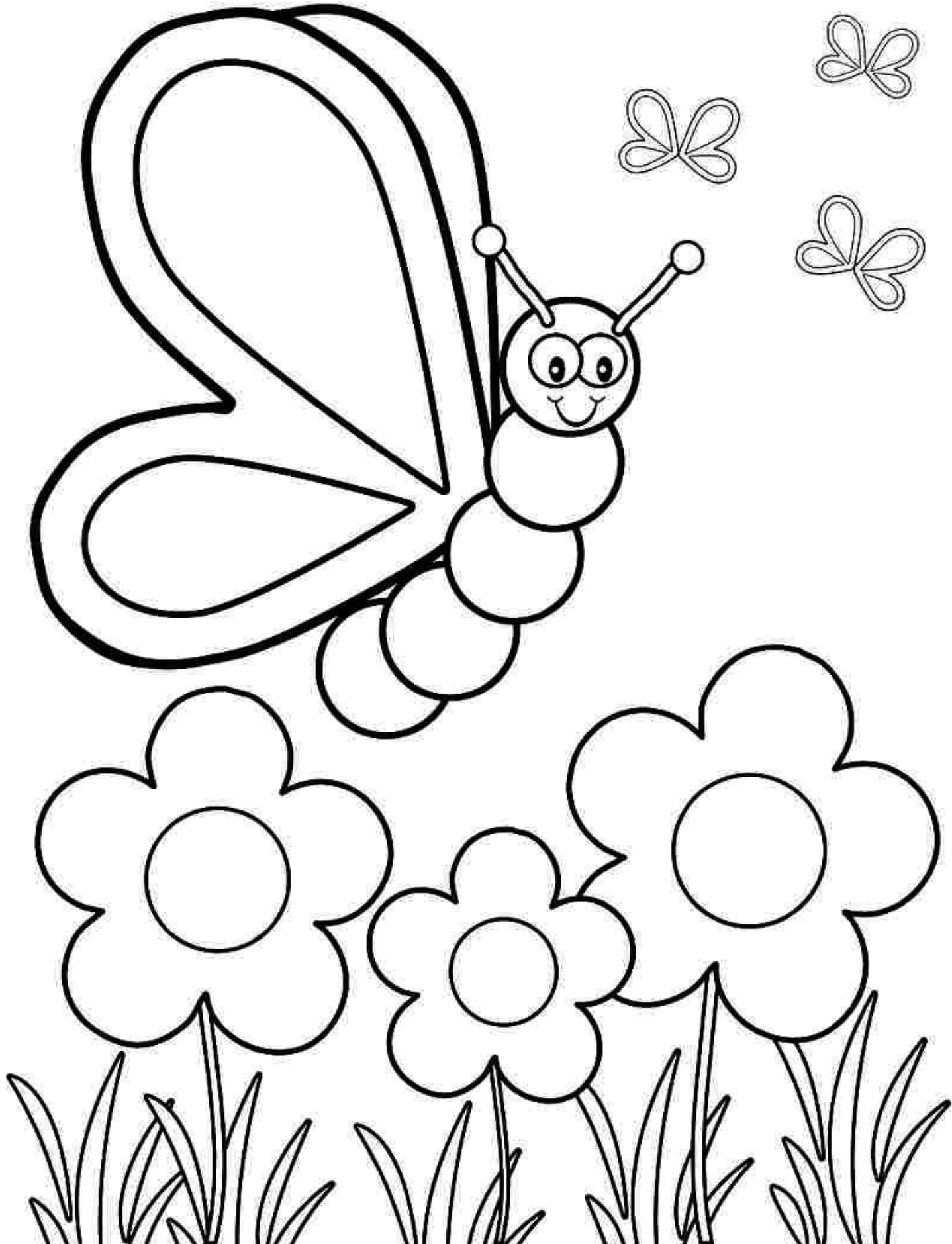
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Church hosts 'Courageous Women' conference



By Jennifer Logue

Nearly 800 local women gathered at Jacksonville's Southpoint Community Church Feb. 24-25 for the Courageous Women's Conference. Featuring keynote presentations by New York Times best-selling author Lysa TerKeurst and Paralympic medalist Bonnie St. John, the two-day event offered women an opportunity to attend workshops and presentations aimed at inspiring and encouraging them to live life courageously.

"Courage isn't the absence of fear, but the

judgment that something else is more powerful," said Debbie Austin, women's director for Southpoint Community Church and the conference's organizer. "Anyone who has done anything important, they do it in spite of fear."

Too often, Austin said, women today listen to the negative messages coming from the culture around them, telling them they'll never measure up to worldly standards of beauty, intelligence and success.

Conference continues on Page 16

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KIDS SUMMER FUN GUIDE

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PV2-LV36070

Thursday, March 9	Friday, March 10	Saturday, March 11	Sunday, March 12
<p>First Coast Opera Fashion Show Friends of the First Coast Opera will present its last luncheon of the musical season Tuesday, March 9 at 11:30 a.m. with a food and fashion show. To take place in Downtown St. Augustine's Raintree Restaurant, the event will give guests an opportunity to enter a raffle for one of three baskets featuring a CD of Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, a gift certificate for Raintree and special wines from Tim's Wine Market. The fashion show will feature clothes from Cottonways, modeled by Friends of the First Coast Opera. The cost of the event is \$35. Checks should be made out to The Friends of the First Coast Opera and mailed to 138 Heron's Nest Lane, St. Augustine, FL, 32080. Those who would prefer vegetarian meals should indicate as such on checks.</p> <p>Hans Hofmann: Works on Paper Jacksonville's Museum of Contemporary Art will display "Hans Hofmann: Works on Paper" through May 14, featuring work by the acclaimed post-war abstractionist. Comprised of more than 60 examples of Hofmann's distinctive approach — among them self-portraits, figures, abstract pieces and landscapes — the exhibit showcases the artist's growth and evolution. Centered around his modestly sized paper works, consisting of pieces at various stages of completion, the exhibition aims to provide audiences with an accessible introduction to one of the most influential artists of recent history.</p> <p>Life Enrichment Day Retreat Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra hosts a Life Enrichment Day Retreat every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra, 5125 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra Beach. The group is designed for those with memory changes who would like to stay active mentally, physically and socially. For more information, call (904) 834-7578 or visit www.at-pontevedra.com.</p>	<p>Derek Coghlan's 'One for the Road' The Pioneer Barn will host Derek Coghlan's "One for the Road" Friday, March 10 at 8 p.m. Coghlan takes the audience through an evening of story-telling and humor sprinkled with occasional insight by weaving stories around the strangeness of leaving Ireland for America. His stories focus on the "weird and wonderful" ways that what appear ordinary to a native can be bizarre and intimidating to a newcomer. Tickets are on sale now at \$20 for adults and \$15 for students. To purchase tickets or for more information, call (904) 824-8874. This show is recommended for high school-aged students and up.</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>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, call Gloria at (904) 635-6103, visit www.pvpng.com or email pontevedrapng@gmail.com.</p> <p>Live Music at Table 1 Table 1 at 330 A1A N will host Robbie Litt live 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>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>Purim Celebration Chabad at the Beaches will present the Annual Purim Celebration March 11 at 7:20 p.m. for an evening of family-friendly fun. During Purim, the Jewish holiday commemorating the salvation of Jewish people in 4th century B.C.E. Persia, it is customary to share gifts of food, give to those in need, hear the Megilla (the Purim story read from an ancient scroll) and have a festive meal. The Megilla will be read at 7:30 p.m., followed by traditional Purim food, Brazilian drinks and Hamantachen, live entertainment and a costume contest. The event will take place at Chabad at the Beaches' Center for Jewish Life located at 521 A1A N in Ponte Vedra Beach. The entire Beaches Jewish community is welcome regardless of affiliation or background. The event is free and sponsorship opportunities available. RSVP, though not necessary, is appreciated. For more information or to RSVP, visit www.ChabadBeaches.com/Purim, email info@ChabadBeaches.com or call the office at (904) 543-9301.</p> <p>ABET to present '4,000 Miles' ABET Theatre will present "4,000 Miles" by Amy Herzog and directed by Rhodie Jackson, following 21-year-old Leo after suffering a major loss on a cross-country bike trip as he seeks solace from his spirited 91-year-old grandmother Vera in her West Village apartment. Over the course of a month, the unlikely roommates infuriate, bewilder and ultimately reach one another. This play stars Michael Wills, Meganne McCawley Johnson, Alexis Boucugnani and Kayla Le. Tickets are \$20. For reservations, visit www.abettheatre.com or call (904) 249-7177. The play will run March 10-11, 17-19, and 24-26, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m.</p> <p>Katz 4 Keeps Adoption Weekends Join Katz 4 Keeps March 11-12 for a weekend adoption event helping cats and kittens find their forever homes. This event will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Katz 4 Keeps facility located at 935B A1A North in Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information about this event or organization, call (904) 834-3223 or email info@katz4keeps.org.</p>	<p>'Curtain Up! Broadway Encores' The St. Augustine Community Chorus, under the direction of Mike Sanflippo, will present "Curtain Up! Broadway Encores" as part of its 2016-2017 concert season. This show will run Saturday, March 11 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 12 at 3 p.m. at Ancient City Baptist Church, located at 27 Sevilla St. in downtown St. Augustine. This year's annual Pops Concert features selections from the repertoire of the Broadway stage, with medleys from "Fiddler on the Roof," "Carousel," "Chicago," "Ragtime," "The Wiz" and "Les Miserables," with an instrumental ensemble and accompanist Ray McDonald. Concert tickets are \$15 for adults in advance and \$20 at the door, \$5 for students and military with ID. Advanced tickets can be purchased at Carter's Jewelry, Flowers by Shirley, Herbie Wiles Insurance, Southern Horticulture and Sterry Piano, as well as online at www.staugustinecommunitychorus.org. When buying tickets, specify Saturday or Sunday attendance.</p> <p>'Intimate and Exceptional' Exhibit The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach will host "Intimate and Exceptional: Works from the Cultural Center Teaching Staff" through March 24 in which the work of instructors will be on display. The exhibit features pieces in several media, including paint, ceramics and glass. The gallery is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach is located at 50 Executive Way. For more information, visit www.ccpvb.org.</p> <p>Collection Tour Join the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens on Sundays for a guided tour of its permanent collection. The tour is free with the cost of admission. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave. in Jacksonville.</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>

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Monday, March 13	Tuesday, March 14	Wednesday, March 15	Thursday, March 16
<p>Col. Bruce Hampton, Retired at the Beaches Museum Chapel The Beaches Museum and Lazzara Family Foundation will present surrealist American musician Col. Bruce Hampton (Ret) at the historic Beaches Museum Chapel on Monday, March 13 at 7 p.m. In the late 1960s he was a founding member of Atlanta's avant-garde Hampton Grease Band. Adopting the moniker Colonel Bruce Hampton, Retired, and playing a "chazoid," he later formed several other bands including The Late Bronze Age, The Aquarium Rescue Unit, The Fiji Mariners, The Codetalkers, The Quark Alliance, Pharaoh Gummitt, and Madrid Express. Join the Beaches Museum for this evening of unique music. Tickets are \$20 for the show in advance, \$25 day of show. Visit www.BeachesMuseum.org or call (904) 241-5657 to purchase tickets.</p> <p>Full Moon Tour Florida Water Tours' monthly Full Moon tour will be held March 11, 12 and 13, taking guests on a cruise through Matanzas Bay. The three dates cover the waxing gibbous, the full moon and the waning gibbous. Participants are welcome to bring their own drinks and food. Tours depart from the Camachee Cove Marina at 282 Yacht Club Drive, Dock A-19, in St. Augustine. The cost of the tour is \$19 per person. For more information or to book a tour, visit www.floridawatertour.com or call (904) 827-7728.</p> <p>Travel Training Program The Council on Aging's Travel Training program is designed to assist seniors in learning to ride the Sunshine Bus. Residents interested in expanding their transportation options or who would like to increase their confidence as a bus rider can receive assistance from trained volunteers in navigating routes, reading time tables and making transfers. Contact the mobility manager at the Council on Aging at (904) 315-6505 or email Katie Arnold at karnold@stjohnscoa.com.</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.</p> <p>Parents With Hope Ponte Vedra Valley will host a support group for parents who are suffering from the devastating loss of a child. With the goal of providing a support system in an informal setting for parents who are facing each new day without their child, this group is led by other parents in the community living with unexpected loss who now feel the desire to reach out to share their experience. Sessions are planned for once a month, on the first Tuesday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. Ponte Vedra Valley is located at 4750 Palm Valley Road. For more information, visit www.pontevedravally.com/grief-support.</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. take in the sunset on the Cummer Café patio while listening to local musicians, with 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>Meet the "Friends for the Arts" Get involved in the arts by joining a team of fellow art supporters at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. Help develop and support fundraising projects and help initiate special projects to benefit and promote The Cultural Center and the arts in our community. For more information visit www.ccpvb.org/friends-for-the-arts.</p>	<p>First Coast Card Club The First Coast Card Club invites community members to its weekly "Let's Play Cards!" event. On Wednesday, March 15, the club will meet at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library located at 101 Library Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach. This club activity begins at 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Forward Leadership St. Johns Be a part of the 2017 Forward Leadership class, designed to equip active adults age 50 and over with insights and first-hand knowledge to enhance positive change in the community through advocacy and volunteerism. This six-week program will take students behind the scenes of education, healthcare, tourism, history and government in St. Johns County. To be held Wednesdays through March 22 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the sessions will enable participants to meet with local leaders, including St. Augustine Mayor Nancy Shaver, Tax Collector Dennis Hollingsworth and Sheriff David Shoar. For more information on how to apply, call Sue Richerson, program manager, St. Johns County Council on Aging at (904) 209-3631.</p> <p>Toastmasters Club Toastmasters Club #5199 of Ponte Vedra Beach meets every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. at the Players Community Senior Center. These meetings will help attendees improve public speaking and gain leadership skills. The senior center is located at 175 Landrum Lane. Email Carmen at carmenjsardinas@gmail.com for additional information.</p> <p>Well-being Wednesday During and after the Mid-Week Market in Bull Park, free well-being classes will be held at the Adele Grage Cultural Center. Qigong classes, including Tai Chi, are now available Wednesday mornings at the Adele Grage Center from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Instructors and speakers 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>'The Mystery of Irma Vep' The Limelight Theatre will present Charles Ludlam's satirical two-act play, "The Mystery of Irma Vep," through Sunday, April 2. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and at 2 p.m. on Sundays throughout the show's run. Combining elements of Victorian melodrama and dark romance into a comedy, the play sees werewolves, vampires, ghosts and mummies through a parodied horror show complete with special effects. Regular admission tickets are \$26, while tickets for the Terrific Tuesday show March 14 are \$15. The Limelight Theatre is located at 11 Old Mission Ave. in the Uptown San Marco district. Free parking is available on the street and in the parking lot behind the theater.</p> <p>Pre-K Storytime Class The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library invites all children ages 3 and older and their caregivers to a newly launched Storytime Class event from 11 to 11:45 a.m. Including lengthier themed stories, singing, Shaky Egg dancing, fingerplays and Circle Time interaction that culminate in a craft that focuses on teaching scissor, glue, and coloring skills, this class is specifically designed for children who can sit independently. Pre-K Storytime Class also serves to help children become ready for VPK, Kindergarten, and beyond. Call Youth Services Librarian Anne Crawford at (904) 827-6950 with any questions.</p> <p>Spring Break Magic Show School-age children and their caregivers are invited for a special sports-themed magic show with magician Mark Alan. Join the library for its first annual Spring Break Magic Show, made possible by the Friends of the Library, on March 16 from 3 to 4 p.m. All children 10 and younger must be accompanied by an adult in the event for the duration of this magic show.</p> <p>Free calendar listings for community groups and nonprofit organizations are published at our discretion on a space-available basis. Send your event at least 10 days before publication. Submit events to jasmine@opcfla.com, post online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com using the automated form or call (904) 686-3939.</p>

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Conference

Continued from 13

“We believe the Bible has much to say about what it means to be a powerful, victori-



Photos courtesy of Southpoint Community Church
Paralympic medalist Bonnie St. John with conference host Debbie Austin

ous woman,” Austin said. “Women have an important role to play in our society. We are called to be strong and courageous, and can do so when we believe the truth and quit believing the lies.”



Best-selling author Lysa TerKeurst of Proverbs 31 Ministries addresses attendees at the “Courageous Women” conference held Feb. 24-25 at Southpoint Community Church.

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WOMEN MEAN BUSINESS

Stephanie Ebers has realized her dream of opening her own business in Ponte Vedra



A SPECIAL SECTION TO:

Ponte Vedra



Recorder

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SJC Chamber names Boudreaux new director of Ponte Vedra Beach division

By Jennifer Logue

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce has named Toni Boudreaux as the new director of its Ponte Vedra Beach Division.

In her new role, Boudreaux will oversee the membership, development and tourism activities for the division. She will begin her new role March 13, succeeding previous director Lin Jones, who relocated out of state.

We are thrilled that Toni is joining our team to lead the Ponte Vedra Beach Division and serve chamber members in the community," said Isabelle Rodriguez, president and CEO of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce. "It is our good fortune to have found a candidate that has the prerequisite leadership and managerial skills along with strong ties to the Ponte Vedra Beach community. Furthermore, her experience in the cultural arts industry will be an asset as we continue to strengthen our programs for the Ponte Vedra Beach Visitors Center."

Boudreaux joins the chamber after

eight years with the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach, where she served as finance and membership manager before assuming the role of director of development in 2014. That experience, Boudreaux said, will be invaluable in her new role with the chamber of commerce.

"At the cultural center, I focused on growing our membership in a way that would be sustaining," she said. "The ability to build relationships and bring in new donors is really so crucial to a local nonprofit. Without those strong community ties, an organization like (the cultural center) wouldn't exist."

As director of the chamber's PVB Division, Boudreaux said she plans to continue to cultivate those types of relationships.

"It's really all about creating a collaboration among local businesses in Ponte Vedra," said Boudreaux, who previously served on the PVB Division board of directors. "I'm looking forward to continuing to build the Ponte Vedra 'brand' and being an advocate

for all the wonderful things Ponte Vedra Beach has to offer."

She also plans to draw on her extensive event management and fundraising experience to help strengthen the Ponte Vedra Beach division. Among the local events she spearheaded at the cultural center was the popular annual Ponte Vedra Home & Art Tour.

Other top priorities, she said, include creating new sponsorship opportunities for local businesses, strengthening the PVB Division's relationship with the JAX Chamber and increasing the visibility of the Ponte Vedra Beach Visitors Center.

Boudreaux holds a BA in Communication and a master's in public administration from the University of North Florida. She also is a 2016 graduate of Leadership St. Johns – a program she credits with offering her a global

perspective on St. Johns County that will be critical to her new role as Ponte Vedra Beach Division director.

"Leadership St. Johns did such a wonderful job of educating us and exposing us to so many aspects and nuances of our county," she said. "Being part of that was very beneficial for me, as it enabled me to see where growth is headed and the challenges facing our county."

Yet it is the strong ties she has forged within Ponte Vedra Beach itself, that Boudreaux believes will enable her to hit the ground running in her new role with the chamber of commerce.

"I'm just so grateful for all the support I've received from members of the community who are as excited and enthusiastic about this opportunity as I am."



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Toni Boudreaux is the new Ponte Vedra Beach Division director of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce.

Melting the ice: local author chronicles adventures aboard a snow-cone truck

By Jasmine Marshall

Author Abby Vega was traveling down the long stretch between Ponte Vedra Beach and Huntsville, Georgia aboard a colorful snow cone truck just minutes before one of the most affirming moments of her life.



She'd been called with a mission for one of her first ventures as a snow-cone truck driver from someone in New Jersey. Her destination: a drug and alcohol treatment center for the 21st birthday of the caller's nephew, a man she knew only by the name of Christopher, who at the age of 20 found himself in the center after fighting homelessness and addiction. And when they saw one another, their lives were forever changed.

"Christopher's eyes lit up when he saw the truck," Vega remembered. "He and 50 other grown men were running excitedly toward the ice cream truck, and at that moment he was no longer lost and neither was I. That's when I knew I was meant to touch the lives of others and inspire people ... when I realized my calling."

The author, motivational speaker, executive coach and business consultant chronicles that moment and several others in "Sno-Cone Diaries," her newly released debut book detailing her year-long journey aboard a snow-cone truck she'd bought as she aimed to create sorely needed change in her life. After losing her mother to leukemia and her best friend to a heart attack, the former salesperson came to a realization that would push her to finally pursue a long-held passion of hers.

"I was sad because of all the loss and snow cones make me happy," Vega reasoned. "So I thought, 'they must make everyone happy.' And for the year I owned it, I was surrounded by people who were running to see me after years of being a salesperson where, quite frankly, no one wanted to see me. (The

truck) let everyone's guard down, and as a salesperson you don't have that kind of access to everyone."

Vega was finally living out her childhood dream, both literally as she wheeled around the country on a snow-cone truck and figuratively, as she acted as a conduit of love and care, delivering smiles to thousands of people in the form of an icy treat.

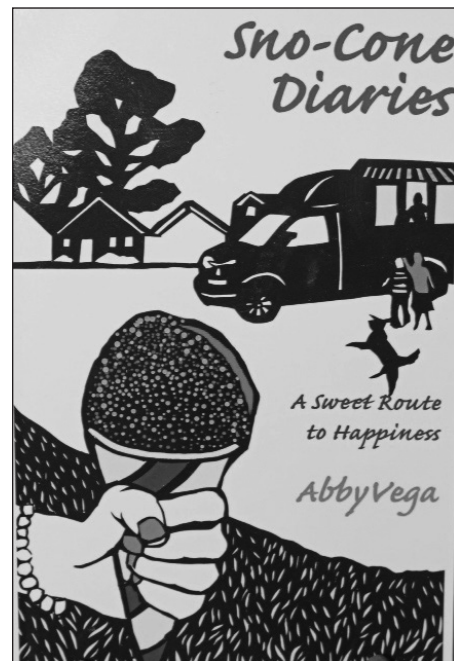
"The smallest little act of kindness given at the right time can change a life," she said. "I got addicted to that feeling – I never felt better than I did that day, so I kept looking for opportunities like that."

Though Vega's former sales position provided her with plenty, it was after the devastating loss of two loved ones that she realized those "successes" weren't making her happy. In fact, they'd been making her miserable.

"I needed something to give me life, to give me purpose," she said. "All the 'successes' weren't doing it for me anymore. I wanted meaning...and I didn't think I'd end my career on the snow cone truck, but I knew it would take me where I needed to go."

As it turned out, where Vega needed to go was pushing rubber along the road to rediscover a joy found only through "child-like" thinking. The truck was Vega's most risky venture yet, even more so than the undergrad degree she financed with three part-time jobs or the graduate degree she'd pursued while working full time. Taking money from her retirement fund to do something most would deem "goofy or crazy," Vega said, was unlike any risk she'd taken before.

But by year's end, Vega had earned \$100,000 in just 11 months. Determined to make the experience unique for every person who hired her, Vega



Photos provided by Abby Vega

set up shop in her truck everywhere from her daughter's wedding at the Keeler Property to a birthday party spent letting children come aboard the truck and make their own snow cones. She partnered with Coastal Spine and Pain to bring the truck to at-risk youth, giving them snow cones and teddy bears as Christmas gifts. She delivered more of the same atop red wagons for children in Wolfson Children's Hospital for kids who were unable to come outside for it. Vega's joy came not from the money she earned, but from the joy she sought when she first attended

"Kona Kollege" for the freedom to pursue her dream.

Now, she said, that joy comes from passing her story on.

"I just needed to show people my age how many of us are unhappy and afraid to take the risk that will change our lives for the better," she said. "I hope it inspires them to take action because it addresses those things and to move past thinking 'I'm not smart enough, pretty enough, good enough.' Who cares? Just take those chances."



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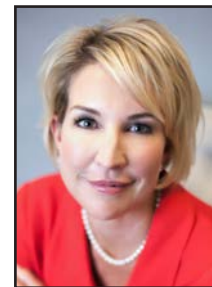


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The top 3 costs of divorce

By Heather Quick
Special to the Recorder



Heather Quick
Guest Columnist

Family law attorneys are often asked how much a divorce costs. Here are some of the “costs” that often get overlooked when a person is considering ending a marriage.

Emotional and spiritual cost: Number one is the emotional cost – one that typically gets left out by many attorneys and does not get discussed with clients. I feel it’s important, however, for women to be honest with themselves on the emotional cost of staying in a bad relationship.

Are you in a situation where you

have no intimacy or communication? Are you just a roommate? Have you considered the emotional cost to your well-being, your self-esteem, your femininity, your humanity? We are all relational beings, and if you are sharing a home with somebody you may be missing out on that relationship piece at a very high cost to

yourself emotionally. It’s worse than living alone because you’re living with somebody who you do not speak with, who does not respect you, and who you’re going to grow to resent if you don’t already.

At the end of the day, we only have so many days on this planet, so when it comes to money, we can always get more money, make more money. But money is not the key to spiritual and emotional health and happiness. I say look at the emotional cost first, that you are really suffering by staying in a relationship that is not serving you. It could be harmful to you and shortening your life.

Financial cost: I started with the emotional cost because I think it helps women put into perspective what they truly value in life. If you are thinking, “I need the money for my children,” I suggest you consider the real value your children get from you and what they need from you. I think your children would rather have you around and you would rather be around as a happy, functioning human being for many years to come versus what’s in the pocketbook.

Financially, the assets will be divided. Now if it’s a long-term marriage and everything’s marital, that’s very straightforward as far as the division. Depending on whether your state is a separate property state (like Florida) or a community property state, the analysis will differ on the distribution of assets. The general concepts are the same: Assets will be classified as either marital or non-marital, and even non-marital assets can have a marital component that require an analysis.


Alimony or spousal support is available in most states; the evaluation is how much and for how long? That requires a good legal analysis and an understanding of the client’s goals, dreams and desires for their future so that you attorney can properly prepare that alimony case.

Legal cost: Everybody always wants to know, “What is this going to cost? This is too expensive.” The analysis I recommend people consider is, compared to what? Compared to the rest of your life? Compared to your financial

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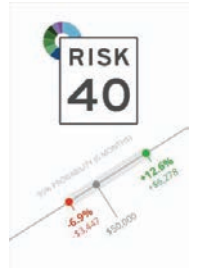
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Janet Johnson is committed to aggressively defending people accused in all criminal matters in state and federal court. In practice since 1994, she is a member of the Florida Bar, The Federal Bar, Colorado Bar, as well as the Florida Association of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

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PV3-LV35991

Ponte Vedra Beach resident seeks support for startup STEM education efforts



Students in Georgia work through Cogent Education's case studies.

Photos courtesy of Cogent Education



Cogent Education President and Ponte Vedra resident Tyler Wood joins Stacey Strandberg, an AP Biology teacher in Wisconsin who is currently using the company's interactive case studies with her students.

By Jon Blauvelt

A Ponte Vedra Beach resident is seeking investors for an equity crowdfunding campaign to support her education technology startup in its mission to improve STEM (Science, Math, Engineering and Math) education in the United States.

"We're looking for generous people who want to help education and want to support teachers," said Tyler Gerhart Wood, president and chief marketing officer of Cogent Education, who previously worked at Apple as a senior marketing manager within its education division.

Based in Athens, Georgia, Cogent Education works directly with high school teachers to develop digital simulations that allow students to act like real scientists and tackle challenging concepts. Founded by a group of scientists and clinicians at the University of Georgia a decade ago, the company has been largely supported by state funding and National Institute of Health (NIH) and National Science Foundation (NSF) grants.

Unable to use those grants for anything outside of research and development of the company's curriculum, Cogent Education has launched an equity crowdfunding campaign via Growth Fountain to raise additional capital for marketing and sales initiatives to reach more science teachers and students.

Growth Fountain allows individuals to provide funding to a company and in return, they receive securities and become investors and owners. "It's a revenue share opportunity," said Wood. "Investors gain a financial interest and can support a great cause."

Wood explained that investors in her company's campaign are helping to solve a problem in America: The United States is ranked 25th in the world in science education and 48th in STEM education overall, she said, citing the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) and the World Economic Forum, respectively. Cogent Education is working to change that trend by empowering students to connect to

complex, scientific concepts in a more interactive and relatable way.

Instead of focusing on the memorization of facts for tests, the company's software-based case studies allow students to become veterinarians tasked with saving the life of a calf that is having seizures, or pediatricians responsible for curing a baby's disease. Wood explained that the simulations enable students of all learning levels, including those who previously "checked out" and scored Cs and Ds, to ultimately understand the material better.

"It's not just reading about some random thing," said Wood, whose company's case studies are currently being used by more than 300 schools in 28 states. "They really feel like when they're in the case that they're fixing Clark the calf. They'll tell the teachers, 'I feel like you're giving me meaningful work for the first time.'"

Judibelle Roman, an AP biology teacher at St. Johns Country Day School in Orange Park, has been teaching with Cogent Education's case studies for two years, and she said her students not only learn from the experience but also enjoy it. She noted that the simulations reinforce the material she teaches every day in the classroom, while also empowering her students to apply their learnings to real life scenarios. In doing so, she said they must use the scientific method to think through the simulation, form a hypothesis about the problem and independently work through the situation like a professional scientist in a lab-like setting.

And not only do the digital tools help students prepare for careers in science, said Wood, they help them develop the problem solving and critical thinking skills that are necessary for any career, and for life in general.

For a school to use the company's 15 biology case studies for a full year costs approximately \$5 per student. In addition to the simulations, the company features a real-time data system for teachers called SABLE, which enables them to see how their stu-

Patient History						
	Patient Information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name: Claire Species: Great Dane Age: 1 Year Weight: 45 lbs (Normal: 90 lbs) Gender: Female 					
	History <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>1</th> <th>2</th> <th>3</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> Early Life No history of disease. Peak weight was 76 lbs. </td> <td> Weight Loss Lost more than 30 lbs while still eating normally. Became very thin. </td> <td> Other Symptoms Not enough energy to play. Increased appetite. </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	1	2	3	Early Life No history of disease. Peak weight was 76 lbs.	Weight Loss Lost more than 30 lbs while still eating normally. Became very thin.
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Early Life No history of disease. Peak weight was 76 lbs.	Weight Loss Lost more than 30 lbs while still eating normally. Became very thin.	Other Symptoms Not enough energy to play. Increased appetite.				

A product image from one of Cogent Education's interactive case studies on enzymes in which students play the role of a veterinary technician to apply their learning to help a dog recover

dents are thinking throughout the simulations and measure the development of their critical thinking skills. The company also offers professional development services to help teachers include the problem-solving products within their lessons.

Cogent Education currently offers simulations solely for biology teachers, but Wood said the company is planning to use the investments from the Growth Fountain campaign to also develop a complete high school science suite, including curriculum for chemistry and physics.

"We're very excited about finishing off what we started," said Wood, who added that AT&T recently invested in the company for its Aspire Accelerator program aimed at bringing technology-based learning programs to schools. "We can continue to work with federal funding; it just takes a very long time. We know schools need it now."

Cogent Education's Growth Fountain campaign will continue until July. To contribute, visit <https://growthfountain.com/52>.

Personal assistants: A busy executive's most powerful secret weapon

By **Bonnie Low-Kramen**

Special to the Recorder

It's about freedom.

In my work as the personal assistant to Oscar-winning actress Olympia Dukakis ("Moonstruck"), my goal every day was to free Olympia to do the things that only she could do. These included memorizing her lines, going for a costume fitting and working out with her yoga instructor. I did everything else and I did it for 25 years.

My job was about maximizing our 24 hours each day. This is what an assistant can do. In 2017, assistants aren't only for celebrities. It is a relationship that can impact your life in profound ways. Your assistant can be your right arm, trusted ally and even a surrogate at meetings. When utilized properly and fully, she can enhance your business by acting as a strategic partner and freeing you up to make even more profits. S/he can also enable you to have more free time to enjoy those things that feed your soul.

Here's how to make it happen.

Be Selective. Take great care to select the right person to be your assistant. Create a clear and detailed job description that has generous compensation with opportunity for growth. Choose a person whose skill set includes strengths that are your weaknesses. Do a "working interview" where you will bring the top candidates in for a part of a day to work alongside you. This gives you both a chance to "feel" how it is to work with one another.

Set Expectations. The sky is the limit to what you can ask your assistant to do. From gift buying (uh oh, it's your anniversary next week) to prepping you for an important meeting (you wore that tie last time and remember to pronounce X's name correctly, and Z's son just got married so be sure to congratulate him) to planning a vacation (Aspen sounds good, but how about Whitefish, Montana?), your assistant can take on anything and everything as long as you set it as an expectation that is agreed upon. If in doubt, ask her and have a conversation, especially about new expectations. The operative word is "ask."

Empower Her. Did you know that people will say things to your assistant



Academy Award-winning actress Olympia Dukakis and Bonnie Low-Kramen

that they would never say to you? That automatically means that your assistant holds valuable information that you don't know yet. Empower her to speak her mind and say what she knows.

Offer Access. Some of the best principal/assistant relationships I know include the assistant attending important meetings to take notes and participate. Some assistants listen in on conference calls and respond to the executive's emails. This requires the highest level of trust, which takes time, but when it is in place, you will find yourself with more time because there is so much you do not have to say to one another.

Let her do her job. Your assistant is a champion scheduler and the organizer of correspondence, especially if you have articulated your preferences. Allow her to do the things that she was hired to do and you get to focus on the things that only you can do. Even though you know how to do correspondence, is that really the best use of your time?

Make time for face time. Communicating by text and email is great, but for you to get the most from your assistant be sure to meet one-on-one on a regular basis. For some, this means

weekly and for others it is daily and for still others, it's on Skype every hour! If your assistant texts you and says, "I need 10 minutes with you sometime today," give it to her. That 10 minutes will most likely give your assistant enough information to get her through the next two days.

Show empathy and mutual respect. As a busy professional, you have a lot on your plate. Allow your assistant to take some of the load off of you and respect her for doing so. She has a tough job, too, and you will both get to the end of the day stronger than the day before by showing empathy and respect.

Pay attention to the little things (that are really big). It matters to your assistant that you say her name and pronounce it properly. It matters for her to hear you use the words "please" and "thank you." It matters that you remember her birthday. These seemingly small things matter a lot and do not cost one penny.

Handle mistakes and conflict appropriately. It is not a matter of if, but when, that differences of opinion and conflicts are going to arise between you and your assistant. So the only question is, how do you handle them? Set

the expectation that you will discuss issues on a regular basis, ideally when they happen. It is less about placing blame than it is to ensure that the same mistake does not happen again.

Give feedback. The hallmark of the most successful relationships is the freedom to give constant and easy feedback to one another, resisting the urge to take things personally or offensively. It is important for an executive to set this dynamic as an expectation from the interview. An executive can benefit from an assistant's feedback as much as the assistant can benefit from feedback from the executive.

As a CEO who now employs an assistant, I have the deepest respect for the responsibility and stress you have. Empowering your carefully selected assistant can make all the difference in your life.

Bonnie Low-Kramen served as personal assistant to Oscar-winning actress Olympia Dukakis for 25 years. Author of "Be the Ultimate Assistant: A Celebrity Assistant's Secrets to Working with Any High-Powered Employer," she recently relocated from New Jersey to Nocatee.



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Divorce

Continued from 20

independence and freedom? What is too expensive? Now, you should be getting as much value as you're paying for, if not more. You should have a great relationship with your attorney, have a sense of trust, and be able to voice concerns, complaints and discuss your goals freely. The best attorneys give you all the options, weigh the risks, and provide you with a strategy, not just show up and argue. There needs to be a strategy throughout the divorce – based on your goals and what

you are entitled to by law – that your attorney shares and communicates with you throughout the process.

Those are the top three initial concerns regarding the cost of divorce. I recommend you look at those and start with the emotional, physical and spiritual. If you're not moving forward, you're moving backward and regressing. That is going to shorten your life and the quality of any other relationships you try to have.

Heather Quick is the founder and CEO of The Quick Law Group, a Jacksonville firm that specializes in divorce and family law for women.

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Le Macaron brings taste of Paris to Ponte Vedra

By Jennifer Logue

After a long career in real estate, Stephanie Ebers was eager to try something new when she and her partner, Reggie Thompson, visited a pastry shop in Winter Park, Florida.

Ebers had found her new business.

The shop was Le Macaron, a franchised French pastry shop offering macarons, chocolates, eclairs, gelato and more. Now, a year after signing a franchise agreement and working through the local permitting process, Ebers and Thompson are open for business and preparing for the grand opening celebration of their own Le Macaron location in The Shoppes at Ponte Vedra, 330 A1A North. To be held Saturday, March 11, the celebration will feature face painting, balloon animals and other family-friendly activities from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. From 4 to 7 p.m., the event will feature a ribbon-cutting, music, a mime and more.

“We hope everyone will come out and join us,” said Ebers, who added that the Sarasota-based Le Macaron currently has 42 locations. Thirty-five of those are in Florida, with the remaining locations in California, Arizona and Puerto Rico.

“We are the first Americans to get a franchise,” she noted.

As the name implies, Le Macaron’s signature offering is the naturally gluten-free macaron – a sandwich-type cookie made of almond flour and filled with meringue. With flavors ranging from raspberry and strawberry kiwi to Belgian chocolate and Earl Grey, the cookies may be purchased individually or in boxes of six, nine, 12 or 20. Dairy-free options filled with jam instead of meringue are also available.

In addition to macarons, the shop also



offers an assortment of French gelatos, eclairs, pastries and chocolates along with a breakfast menu featuring fresh baked croissants, waffles, crepes, coffee, espresso and more.

“A lot of local business people have been coming in for coffee in the morning,” Ebers said of the brightly colored shop that offers indoor seating for 24 and an outdoor patio that accommodates 20. “We’re from Ponte Vedra and we wanted to offer a good meeting place. We want people to come in,

sit and hang with us.”

As she prepares for the official grand opening, Ebers said she is savoring her new venture.

“It’s just a lot of fun, it has a good vibe,” she said. “Real estate can be very stressful, but this has been lovely.”

Located in The Shoppes at Ponte Vedra, Le Macaron French Pastries is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday.



Photos by Jennifer Logue

Ponte Vedra resident Stephanie Ebers is preparing for Saturday’s grand opening of her new shop, Le Macaron French Pastries, in The Shoppes at Ponte Vedra on A1A.

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Morris offers sobering fiscal forecast at Ponte Vedra economic development breakfast

By Jennifer Logue

County Commissioner Jay Morris offered a sobering fiscal forecast to Ponte Vedra business and community leaders last week, when he predicted that St. Johns County will run out of reserves by 2021 and possibly as early as 2019.

At a March 1 breakfast organized by the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce's Economic Development Council held at Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, Morris told more than two dozen business leaders that the county will soon face difficult financial times if its leaders don't take action in the form of new revenue sources, such as an increase in the sales tax.

"The county is not financially viable going forward," said Morris, noting that while St. Johns County is the 35th fastest growing county in the nation, it was the second lowest in the state of Florida in terms of taxation.

"You get a very good deal here for what you have in St. Johns County for what you pay for it," Morris continued. "That is going to come to a screeching halt. There really isn't any more you can cut out of the budget."

The commissioner then offered attendees a recap of the county's funding history, noting that today's budget is \$60 million less than it was in 2007, when the recession hit.

"At one point, the county cut \$188 million out of the budget – a 26 percent cut," he said. "I ran a company (in the private sector); we couldn't have survived a 26 percent cut in revenue."

In addition, the costs incurred in the clean-up of Hurricane Matthew have further depleted the county's reserves, he noted.

Morris was critical of his fellow county commissioners who voted in 2015 against putting a measure on the ballot that would have increased the sales tax half a cent. Had the commissioners let the voters make that decision as they did with the increase for the schools, he contended, the county would not be facing the financial problems that will reach a critical point in the next few years.

"A decision is going to have to be made," said Morris, who noted he will not be running for re-election at the conclusion



Chuck Schoonmaker and Anna Washington of the Hilton Garden Inn

of his current term of office. "You can't continue to kick the can down the road."

Economic development

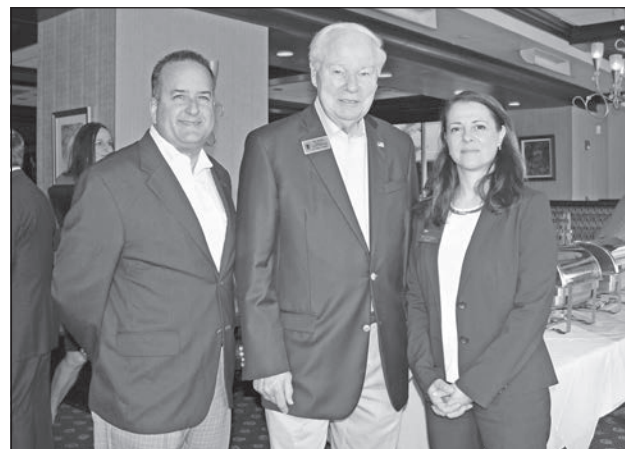
Morris's comments were part of a wide-ranging discussion among business leaders about how to support and grow the Ponte Vedra business community. Victor Raymos, chair of the chamber's Economic Development Council, said the purpose of the session was to receive input from local business leaders on chamber programs as well as feedback on the overall business climate.

"We want to know what they perceive as roadblocks to developing their businesses," he said.

Topics discussed included the economic benefits of THE PLAYERS Championship and tourism, which industry officials say helps to keep taxes for residents low. Participants discussed ways in which the county can continue to increase its commercial tax base, which also helps to keep residential property taxes in line. Chamber officials pointed to the coming addition of the new Durbin National development project as well as additional Class A office space in Nocatee.



Jennifer Belisario and Bill Hughes



Photos by Susan Griffin

Declan Reiley, County Commissioner Jay Morris and SJC Chamber of Commerce CEO Isabelle Rodriguez

Morris, meanwhile, noted that in the past seven years, the commercial tax base of St. Johns County has increased from 10 percent to 15 percent.

"Are we headed in the right direction? Yes," Morris said. "Is it good enough? Absolutely no."

Pivot CPAs joins with chamber of commerce to celebrate firm's opening of new Nocatee office with ribbon cutting

Pivot CPAs marked the opening of its new Nocatee office with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Feb. 28.

On hand for the festivities were representatives from the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division.

Formerly known as The Griggs Group, the public accounting and business consulting firm's new office is located at 466 Town Plaza Ave. Suite 340 in Nocatee Town Center. Pivot CPAs is headquartered just up the road in Ponte Vedra Beach and has an additional office in Gainesville.

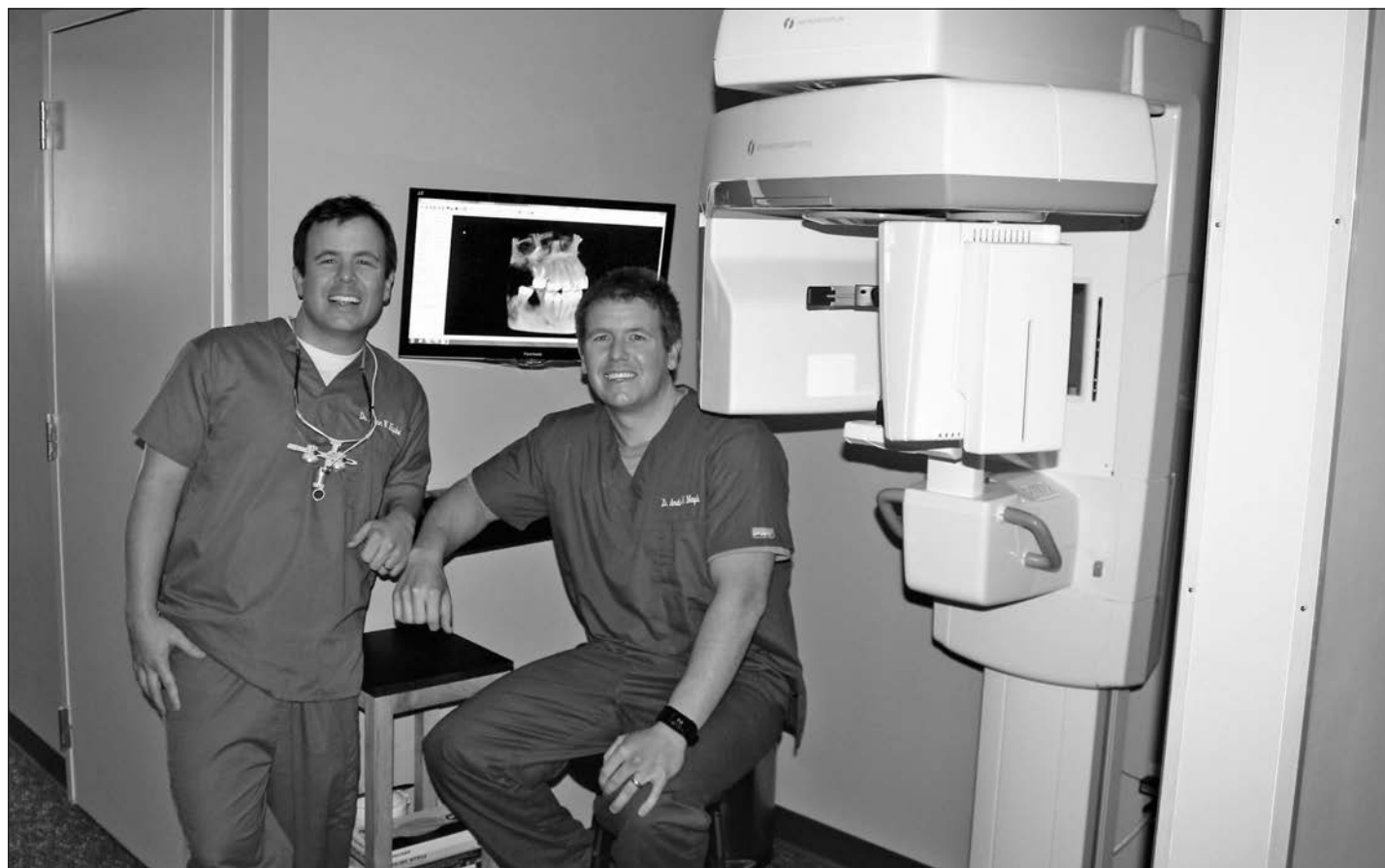


Photo by Susan Griffin

Members of the Pivot CPAs staff join with representatives of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce's Ponte Vedra Beach Division to mark the opening of the firm's new Nocatee location with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

From patients to providers: Brothers come full circle at Ponte Vedra dental practice

Practice's new name reflects expanded services, new technologies



Photos by Jennifer Logue

Dr. Brian and Dr. Andrew Maples recently joined the team at Ponte Vedra Cosmetic Dentistry, which will now be known as Ponte Vedra Premier Dental to reflect the office's expanded services and new technologies, such as this 3D x-ray machine.

By Jennifer Logue

Brian Maples was 8 years old and his brother, Andrew, was 10 when they first visited Dr. Kevin Neal at Ponte Vedra Cosmetic Dentistry.

The brothers had recently relocated with their parents from Minnesota so their oncologist father could work at the Mayo Clinic, and Dr. Neal's practice at 100 Professional Drive "was about halfway between the Mayo Clinic and home" in Sawgrass Players Club, Brian Maples recalls.

"Dr. Neal became like a family friend," he said, noting that when he and his brother both decided to become dentists while in college, Dr. Neal allowed them to come in and shadow him and his colleague, Dr. Michael Winter.

"That obviously made a big impression on us," he said, "because here we are!"

After practicing dentistry on their own and as a team at an office in the Baymeadows area, Doctors Brian and Andrew Maples both recently joined the practice where their interest in a career in dentistry first began. The brothers have joined Dr. Neal and Dr. Winter as partners at Ponte Vedra Cosmetic Dentistry, bringing new services and new expertise to the well-established dental practice.

"I always thought it would be great if when

they graduated they would come and join the practice, having grown up in the community the way they did," Dr. Neal said. "When you bring in new dentists as partners, it's nice to know that they're trustworthy and compassionate and will do a good job taking care of the patients. We're happy to have them."

In recognition of the office's expansion, the practice has a new name: Ponte Vedra Premier Dental. It's a name the dentists believe better reflects the full scope of services offered by the practice.

"We're still doing cosmetic dentistry — that's not going away," said Brian Maples, noting that the practice is accepting new patients. "But we have hygienists who do cleanings and we do the full scope of general dentistry, from check-ups and extractions to root canals, implants, dentures and restorative work. We just offer a lot of really good dentistry under one roof."

Dental duo

Even for brothers, Brian and Andrew Maples have followed remarkably similar trajectories in both their personal and professional lives. Both brothers attended the Episcopal School of Jacksonville and later graduated from Boston College. From there, Andrew went to University of Florida

for dental school while Brian opted for Tufts University.

In addition to practicing dentistry together, both brothers provide free dental care at the Sulzbacher Center through Volunteers in Medicine. Both are also married with young

children: Andrew's wife, Dr. Lindsay Maples, is a pediatric dentist who recently opened an office in Nocatee; they are the parents of a 3-year-old daughter and a 9-month-old son. Brian's wife is a teacher at Bishop Kenny High School; they have a 2-year-old son and are expecting a daughter in June.

"We are very similar," Brian Maples acknowledged. "I think a lot of people almost think of us as the same person, but we are different in some ways that I think enable us to work together well."

For his part, Andrew Maples believes the brothers' interest in new technologies will be a benefit to their new practice's patients. The office recently added a cone beam scanner that produces 3D X-rays, and both brothers participate in a study group to remain up to date on the latest advancements.

"Our whole focus is on staying current and doing the best possible job for our clients," Andrew Maples said. "We make sure our patients are comfortable and understand what's really going on with their teeth. We want our patients to know that they can play an active role in all of their treatments."

Both brothers stress, however, that their love of dentistry is based first and foremost in the opportunities the profession affords to build long-lasting relationships with their patients, just as they did with Dr. Neal and Dr. Winter.

"I like to see patients again and again, I like to meet their kids," Brian said.

Andrew agreed. "My goal is that one day, one of my patients will come to me and say, 'Hey, I want to be a dentist,'" he said. "I think that would just be a continuation of what we've started here."

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Ponte Vedra Wellness to mark Nocatee office's first anniversary

Ponte Vedra Wellness Center will celebrate the first anniversary of its Nocatee office with an anniversary party and wellness event.

To be held Thursday, March 23 from 4 to 6:30 p.m. at the office at 205 Markside Ave. (next to Watson Realty), the free, family-friendly event will highlight the wellness center's offerings as well as nearby Nocatee

Town Center businesses.

"The Nocatee community has been so welcoming and supportive of this practice and it is so exciting to be able to celebrate this first anniversary in our Town Center location," practice owner Dr. Erika Hamer said. "The goal of this party is to say 'thank you' to all our patients and to the Nocatee residents who

have been an integral part of our success."

In addition to fitness demonstrations and chair massages, the event will feature food, beverages and a special children's area with kids' activities and face painting. Participating Nocatee businesses will also have tables and displays to showcase their services, with special offers or gifts for attendees. Guests will also receive a free ticket for a chance to win prizes in a raffle drawing, ranging from a new beach cruiser to gift baskets and gift certificates.

Participating businesses will include Blue Water Dental, Coastal Wine Market, Ponte Vedra Pediatric Dentistry & Orthodontics, State Farm Insurance, Trompe L'oeil Luxury Hair Salon, Watson Realty Corp. and Wise Women Gynecology.

"We want to help foster a strong business relationship with our Town Center neighbors so we are very pleased to have their participation in our first anniversary celebration," Hamer said. "Our Ponte Vedra Beach location has celebrated anniversaries since it opened in 2004 and we have seen that event truly grow over the years. Our hope is that

this first anniversary would be just the beginning of many wellness events to come."



Dr. Casey Means and Dr. Erika Hamer of Ponte Vedra Wellness Center

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BASEBALL

Sharks off to impressive start

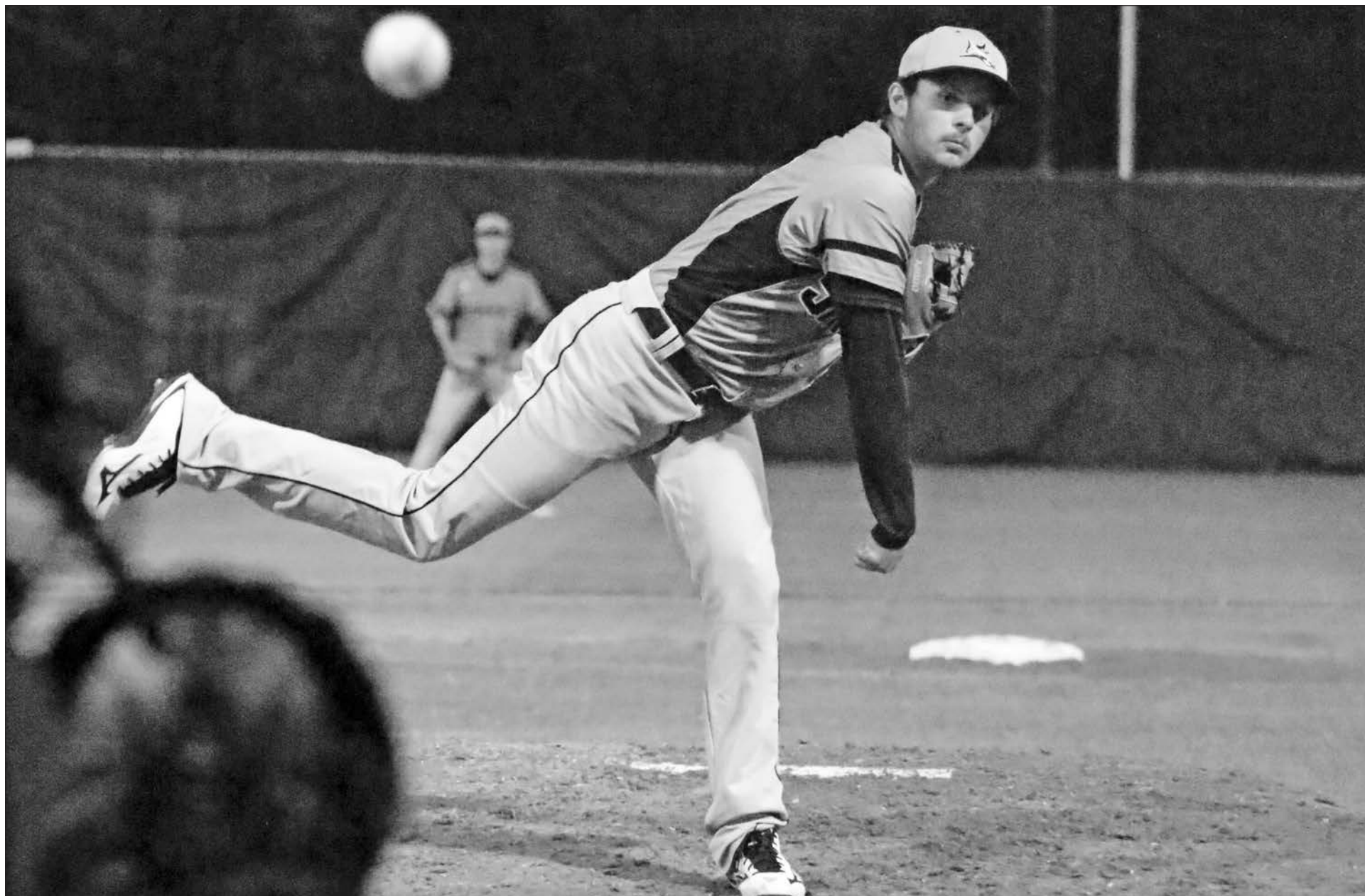


Photo submitted by Danielle Brehm

Shark Eric Aleman pitches against Baker High School.

By Danielle Brehm

Special to the Recorder

After beginning the season as one of the teams in the area to watch, the Ponte Vedra Sharks Varsity baseball team has not disappointed. The Sharks are off to a 3-1 start on their season and are currently ranked #4 in the North Florida Power Poll index. The team started its season with two road games in Valdosta, Georgia. In its season opener, the Sharks found themselves down 4-0 after four innings to Central High School (Alabama). This deficit did not deter the Sharks from rallying in the final three innings. The Sharks rallied behind timely hitting from Jack Hahnemann (three hits) and Carter Page (two hits) for a come-from-behind 5-4 win in extra innings. Offensively, the Sharks out-hit Central 11-6. The Sharks performed solidly on the mound with Brody Maynard starting the game, Dom Berardi and Kevin Faulkner keeping the game tight and Tony Roca coming on for the save.

In game two, the Sharks once again found

themselves down late in the game and rallied with a run in the seventh. Despite out-hitting Columbus 6-3, the Sharks stranded the tying run at second base and fell 2-1 to 12-time Georgia State Champion Columbus (Georgia) Blue Devils. The Sharks were solid once again on the mound led by game two starter Zach Chappell (three innings, five Ks, one ER) followed by outstanding efforts by Reagan Philley and Duncan VanKouteren. Offensively, Carter Page paced the team with two hits and Jack Hahnemann had the team's only RBI.

The Sharks came back to Florida with a Tuesday evening tilt versus the defending 5A State Champion Bolles Bulldogs. The Bulldogs had won 19 consecutive games and 28 consecutive games versus teams from Florida. Bolles was also ranked #18 in the nation by the national high school ranking service Maxpreps. The Sharks were hitting on all cylinders in this matchup and quickly jumped out on top. Quinton Brehm

SHARKS continues on **Page 30**

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Sharks

Continued from 29

carried the night for the Sharks offensively with five RBIs including a towering seventh inning grand slam to left field on a 3-0 count that put the Sharks up 7-0. Jacob Young, the Sharks' do-it-all leadoff hitter, got the party started with a run scored in the first inning on an RBI by Zach Chappell. On the mound, Kevin Faulkner was stellar (four innings, four Ks, zero runs) followed by Duncan VanKouteren and Jack Hahnemann. The Sharks limited the Bulldogs to three hits. Hahnemann closed out the seventh inning in the 7-2 win.

On Friday, under the lights at Baker

County, none shone brighter than Eric Aleman. The senior righty started the game on the mound by holding the Wildcats hitless for the first four and two-thirds innings before finally allowing a two-out single in the fifth. His night was complete after five innings (five Ks, zero runs allowed) before giving way to Dom Berardi. Quinton Brehm came in to throw a perfect seventh inning to close out the 3-1 Sharks victory. Offensively, Aleman also contributed with a double and a run scored. Sophomore Carter Page (two hits), Junior Jacob Young and Sophomore Tony Roca each had an RBI in the win.

On Friday, March 10, the Sharks host long-time rival Nease at the Ponte Vedra Shark Tank.



Batter Quinton Brehm hits a grand slam against Bolles.

Photo submitted by Danielle Brehm

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Keeping Up

By **Barbara Boxleitner**

Special to the Recorder

Justin Smith has been an offensive leader for the St. Johns River State College baseball team.

Entering Sunday's action, the sophomore right fielder led the team with a .435 batting average and 27 hits. The Bartram Trail High School graduate had seven multi-hit efforts, including three, three-hit games. He had gone hitless just once in 18 games.

Batting in the top third of the order, Smith had three home runs, which tied for the team lead, and 10 runs batted in.

Bartram Trail alumnus **Blake Marabell** hit .294 in the 13 games he played for College of Central Florida. He had one home run, and his nine RBIs ranked third on the squad.

Maryville College left-handed pitcher **Evan Heffner** was 0-1 with a 6.75 earned run average in two starts. He is out of Ponte Vedra High.

Senior outfielder **Luke Parker**, a past Shark, hit .250 through eight games for Faulkner University.

Men's tennis

Freshman **Martin Gutierrez** won his Barry University debut 6-1, 6-0 at sixth singles during the team's victory over St. Thomas. He competed for the Bears.

Softball

Junior third baseman **Brittany McGuire** hit .263 with one home run and four RBIs in eight starts for Florida Gulf Coast University. She played for the Sharks.

Saint Leo University sophomore outfielder **Alyssa Wash** batted .313 with one home run and three RBIs in 11 games. She is a former Bear.

Women's golf

Purdue University senior **August Kim** shot a 227 (80-75-72) at the Lady Puerto Rico Classic. The Allen D. Nease graduate

placed second among the Boilermakers and had the team's first eagle of the season.

Georgia Southern University sophomore **Ansley Bowman** finished third among the Eagles and 30th overall at the Texas State Invitational. She is from Bartram Trail.

Women's rugby

Ponte Vedra resident **Reilly Kissinger** started six of the nine games she played for Army West Point. The junior had five points.

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



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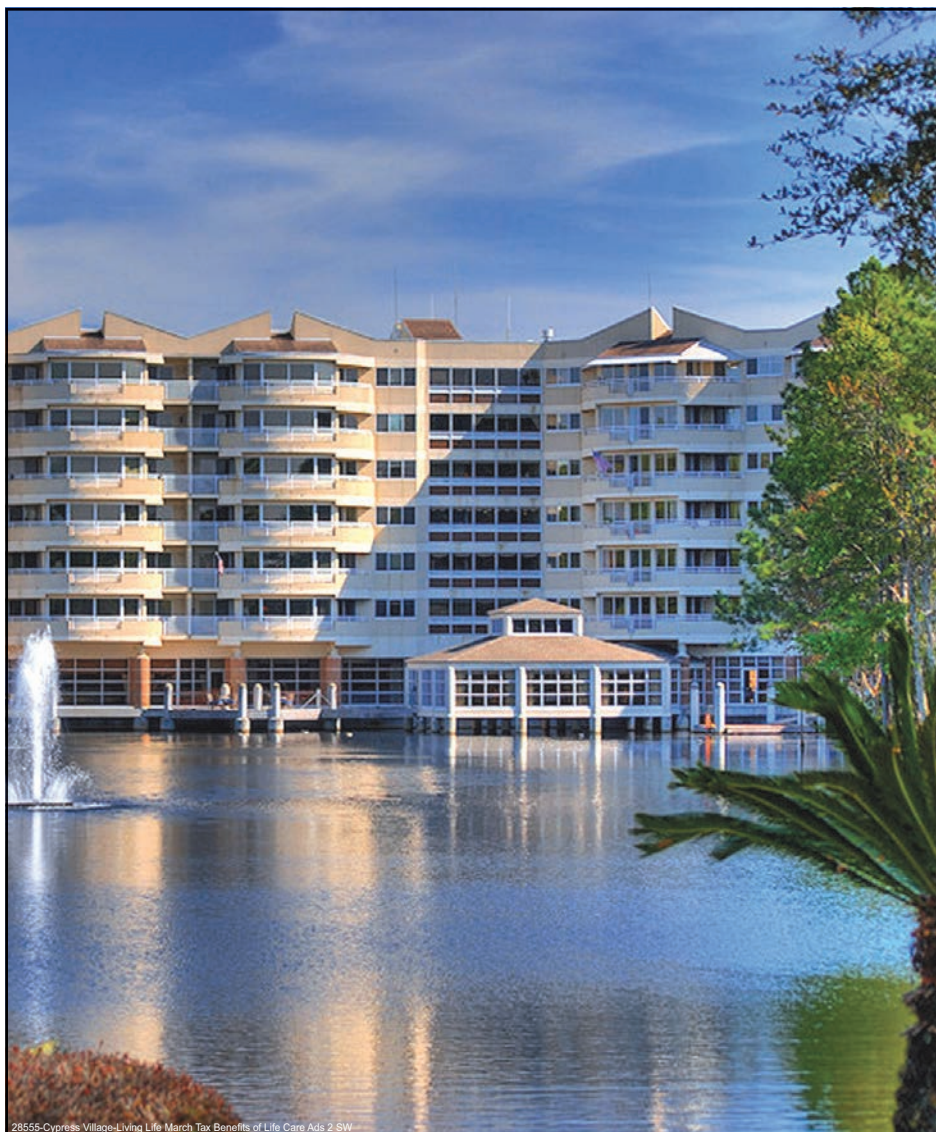
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Celebrities tee off for Tim Tebow Foundation at TPC Sawgrass



Entertainment star Harry Connick Jr. and his team show off their moves during the tournament's lip sync competition on the 17th tee.



MLB Hall of Fame pitcher John Smoltz eyes up the 4th hole at TPC Sawgrass.

By Jon Blauvelt

The Tim Tebow Foundation hosted an array of athletes, coaches and entertainers for its 7th annual Celebrity Golf Classic March 4 at TPC Sawgrass. The tournament's players included Tim Tebow himself, Harry Connick Jr., John Smoltz, Terrell Owens, Dan Mullen, Gary LeVox of Rascal Flatts, Anthony Mackie, HGTV's Chip and Joanna Gaines, cast members of the A&E show "Duck Dynasty,"

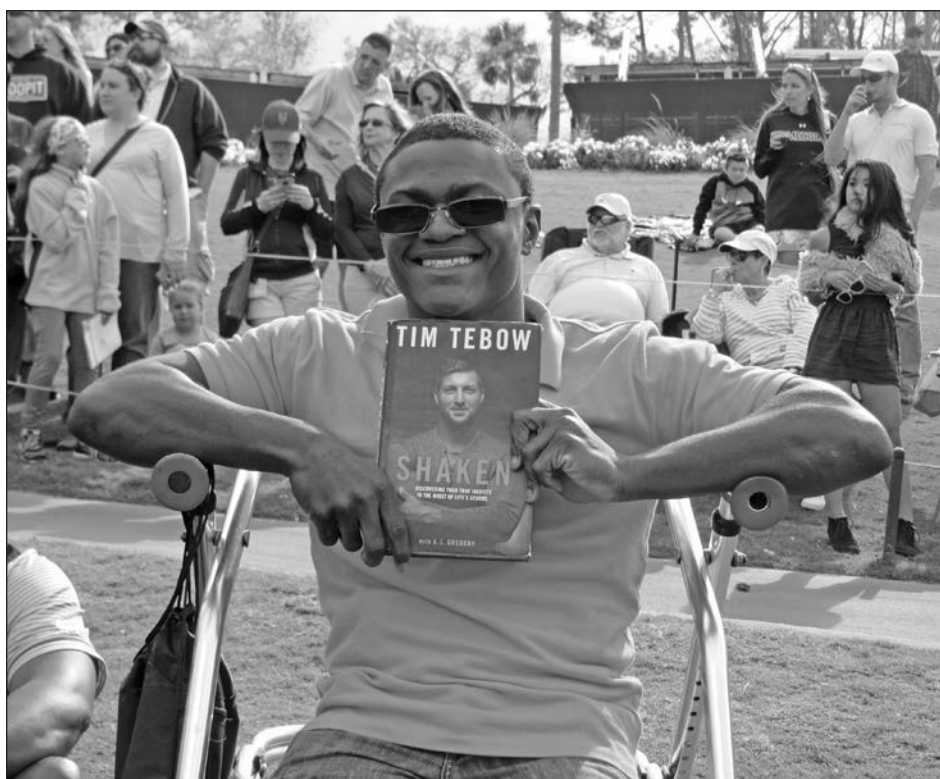
Marcus Allen, Scott Van Pelt and many more.

Highlights of the event included a lip sync competition on the 17th tee, a silent DJ dance contest on the 15th tee and a spectator putt on the 18th green.

Over the course of its first six years, the golf tournament and celebrity gala have served as the foundation's signature fundraising event, raising more than \$7 million for kids in need through outreach efforts like the W15H

Program, Timmy's Playrooms, Tebow CURE Hospital, Orphan Care, Adoption Aid, Night to Shine and Team Tebow. For more information about the Tim Tebow Foundation, visit <https://www.timtebowfoundation.org/>.

For coverage and photos from the Tim Tebow Foundation's Celebrity Gala, pick up the April/May copy of the First Coast Register, on stands April 6.



Andrew Motley awaits Tim Tebow's arrival at the 17th tee at TPC Sawgrass.



Former NFL All-Pro wide receiver Terrell Owens collects donations from fans for the Tim Tebow Foundation and signs autographs after he hit the green of the historic island hole at TPC Sawgrass.

Photos by Jon Blauvelt

SOFTBALL

Busy week for Shark softball team



Ponte Vedra's second baseman awaits the ball as the Clay base runner is set to slide.



Shark shortstop Michelle Leone grimaces as she attempts to field the catcher's throw on a Clay steal.



The Clay batter is out as Shark first baseman Elizabeth Fox takes the throw.

Photos by Chris and Jerry Norton

By Jerry Norton

Special to the Recorder

The Ponte Vedra softball team started the week with a heartbreaking loss to district rival Clay, then rebounded with a win against another district foe, Ridgeview. Their week continued as they went on the road to Alachua for the Raider Invitational Tournament, which proved to be a positive experience for the Sharks as they picked up three wins and lost just one.

Ponte Vedra's game against Clay was a pitcher's duel between the Sharks' Michelle Holder and the Devils' Morgan Crutcher, with the Sharks coming out on the losing end of the 2-1 score. The game was decided in the fifth inning, when Ponte Vedra made two critical errors to allow two unearned runs.

Still, the Sharks nearly tied matters in the seventh in-

ning. Quinlan Richmond started the inning with a walk, then moved up on a Farley Callaghan infield single. Taylor Bradshaw's sacrifice bunt moved the runners over and Bailey Wagoner drove in Richmond with an infield single, putting Callaghan on third with the tying run. The Devil right fielder made a fine over-the-head running catch of Holder's hard line drive to end the inning and the game.

Ponte Vedra recovered the following night with an impressive 11-0 win against Ridgeview. Holder pitched a strong game, allowing just one hit. Callaghan, Bradshaw and Audrey Matt were the top run producers for the Sharks, with two RBIs each. Richmond, Callaghan, Wagoner and Olivia Bruch each collected two hits for Ponte Vedra.

In the Raider International Tournament, the Sharks beat Suwannee 6-4. Scotland David led Ponte Vedra with four

hits, while Wagoner added three RBIs. Callaghan made the defensive play of the game turning a fly ball out into a double play.

The Sharks hit a bump in the road against Santa Fe, losing 11-3, then bounced back with an incredible come-from-behind, extra-inning win against Lafayette. Ponte Vedra fell behind 7-0 in the first inning, but they chipped away at the seven-run deficit, scoring two in the third, three in the sixth and four in the seventh to tie the game 7-7. The decisive eighth inning started with a single by Richmond and a walk to Callaghan. Bradshaw's bunt moved the runners up and they both scored on a critical Lafayette error.

Newberry was the Sharks' final victim in the tournament, losing to Ponte Vedra 15-0. Holder pitched a two-hit shutout and Michelle Leone and Scotland David each had three hits for the Sharks.

Sharks boys lacrosse winning streak continues

By Jerry Norton

Special to the Recorder

The Sharks kept their winning streak alive during the past week, posting wins over Creekside, Nease and IMG Academy and now have won seven straight games. In those seven games, Ponte Vedra's powerful attack has 127 goals scored and the defense has allowed only 43.

The Creekside Knights fell to the Sharks 19-2, with Jack Burke leading the Shark attack with five goals. Clay Welch scored three and Reid Smith, CD James and Matt Keeler each collected two goals. Jack Woeste, Andrew Bray, Jason Prince and Walker Azzaro added single goals.

The Nease Panthers were the next foe for the Sharks, and

were dispatched handily 20-3. Matt Keeler was the top goal getter for Ponte Vedra, finding the net six times. Azzaro and Welch added three, James two and O'Dare, Burke, Woeste, Prince, Dylan Hess and Matayo Trumble one each. Goals by Panthers Zach Ott and Austin Wood avoided the shutout.

IMG was next in line for the Sharks and it would prove to be their most important game of the season thus far. The Ascenders came into the Shark Tank boasting an 8-0 record and a national reputation.

Ponte Vedra was not impressed and jumped out to a 3-0 lead on a goal by Smith and a pair by Welch. Despite the Ascenders' constant trash talking, the Sharks pushed their ad-



Photos by Chris and Jerry Norton

LACROSSE continues on Page 36 Colin Magill #25 faces off for the Sharks against Nease.

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ACROSS

- 1. Scottish Highlands' pattern
- 6. _____ Brown from "Back to the Future"
- 9. "For _____ the Bell Tolls"
- 13. Alluring maiden
- 14. Feminists' 1923 proposal, acr.
- 15. Push
- 16. Not Ionic or Corinthian
- 17. SNL's "home"
- 18. Acquired behavior pattern
- 19. *Danish or croissant
- 21. *With ice cream
- 23. Color wheel feature
- 24. *"Baking with Julia," e.g.
- 25. Rejuvenating spot
- 28. Stephen King's "The Green _____"
- 30. License to park, e.g.
- 35. Olympic castaway?
- 37. Read, watched or listened to
- 39. Hot spot
- 40. Swirling vortex
- 41. Wilt "The _____" Chamberlain
- 43. Beginning of musical staff
- 44. DNA and RNA
- 46. Recipe direction
- 47. Saw incision
- 48. Rh in Rh disease
- 50. "Follow me!"
- 52. Pig's digs
- 53. Loud get-together
- 55. Actress Thompson
- 57. *Apple coat

DOWN

- 1. High degree
- 2. Roller coaster feature
- 3. Heavenly glow
- 4. March celebrants
- 5. Authoritative declaration
- 6. Refuse to accept
- 7. Eyeball shape
- 8. *Chocolate tree
- 9. George Michael/Andrew Ridgeley duo
- 10. Great Depression drifter
- 11. "Metamorphoses" poet
- 12. Boundary line
- 15. *Milk-based concoctions
- 20. Buggy control, pl.
- 22. Chop off
- 24. Cause to be enamored
- 25. *Common dessert ingredient
- 26. Study of behavior and mind, for short
- 27. Eagle's nest
- 29. "_____ Make a Deal"

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

31. Medieval torture device

32. The cocktail Moscow _____, pl.

33. Dead to the world

34. *Seaside candy

36. *In M&M's pack: browns, greens and these

38. Fit for a skinny one

42. Online troublemaker

45. What to do with an application

49. Greek letters on campus

51. Almost

54. Shredded cabbage dishes

56. Mexican detergent plant

57. Rental on the links

58. Medicinal succulent

59. Semis

60. Lend a criminal hand

61. Sheep's milk cheese

62. Barnyard sounds

63. Marine eagle

66. *_____throwing contest

68. Vessel's last call

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Lacrosse

Continued from 33

vantage to 6-1 on goals by Welch and Burke then moved to an 8-2 lead on goals by James and Burke.

IMG battled back scoring three times and trailed 9-5 as Smith's goal ended the first quarter.

From this point on, the teams traded scores. A pair by Welch and single by Smith put Ponte Vedra up 12-7 at the end of the half. James, Keeler and Burke then answered

each IMG goal to give Ponte Vedra a 15-13 advantage and the Sharks held on to win. Burke's goal with two minutes left provided the Sharks insurance needed for the victory.

"This is the biggest win ever for the Ponte Vedra lacrosse program," said Reid Smith after the game. It was a sentiment echoed by many of the Sharks.

The outlook for the future is bright as well, as indicated by the performance of the Shark JV team this past week. The underclassmen trounced Nease 13-3 then humiliated Providence with a 24-0 mercy win. The juniors are undefeated after seven straight wins.



#4 of the Sharks, Max Silva, defends against Nease #26 Hunter Kolin.

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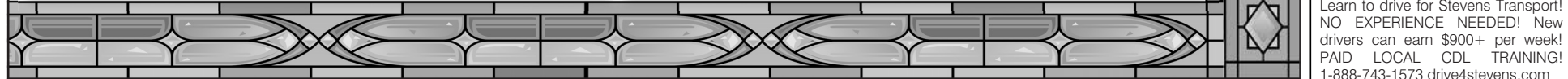
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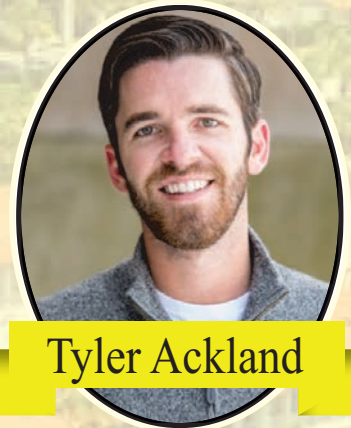
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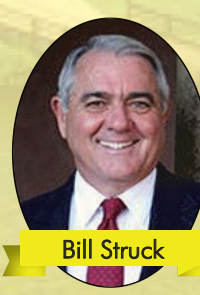
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