

A photograph of a man from behind, walking through shallow ocean waves. He is carrying a long, blue and white striped surfboard under his arm. The water is bright blue with white foam from the waves. The sky is clear and blue.

first coast Register

June - July 2017

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SURF'S UP

**SUMMER
WHITES**

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The Perfect Beach Home on Ponte Vedra Blvd

This original beach home has been lovingly maintained and has wonderful expansive ocean views, paver courtyard driveway and hurricane shutters. Located close to the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club. **\$3,950,000.**



Price Reduced

Beautiful home priced to sell!

Located in quiet cul-de-sac on large lot in St. Johns Golf & Country Club, offering a multitude of additional upgrades made by sellers including custom front door, upgraded stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, built-in bookshelves, Bose system surround sound in family room, plantation shutters, and roof decking blown with Energy Seal foam insulation. This is a great opportunity! **\$445,000**



Price Reduced

Mediterranean Estate Overlooking 12th hole of the Marsh Landing CC

Exceptional 5-bedroom, 7-bath Mediterranean estate overlooking the 12th hole of the Marsh Landing Country Club Golf Course. This home has been meticulously maintained and offers floor plan flexibility. **\$1,390,000**



Price Reduced

One-of-a-kind Oceanfront

3-story home is situated on one of the highest dunes and in one of the least populated areas of Atlantic Beach. With 75 ft of stunning ocean frontage and over 300 feet deep, this unique lot is abundant with lush vegetation and expansive views of the ocean and beach. **\$2,995,000**



Price Reduced

Enchanting Italian Courtyard Custom Home

Constructed by Elwood Collier in the exclusive Pablo Creek Reserve. If you are looking for an open floor plan, you have found it! Huge wooden doors open to spacious courtyard featuring a summer kitchen and heated salt water pool/spa lit by two gas "coal pits." Courtyard connects to the guest house complete with mini-kitchen and master suite. All three bedrooms on the property offer luxurious ensuites. **\$995,000**



Price Reduced

Move-in ready in old Ponte Vedra

Stunning open floor plan with split bedrooms, including a downstairs master on one side, 2 bedrooms on the other and a spacious bonus room/4th bedroom with full bath upstairs. Wood floors in living room and 2 bedrooms, with ceramic tile and carpet elsewhere. Unique features include an extra storage garage plus a large exercise/ activity room on the first floor. Completely remodeled along with an addition completed in 2007 by Frank Gamel. Recent upgrades included Rhino Shield exterior ceramic coating with transferable 25-yr warranty, new granite countertops, pool marcite, main a/c unit, windows and more. **\$1,395,000**



Price Reduced

Custom John Kenny Home in The Plantation at PV

This 4 br, 5 1/2 ba features the finest features and finishes. The great room has floor to ceiling windows with automatic shades and gorgeous views. Immaculate and designed for gracious living. **\$1,375,000**



Exemplary Oceanfront Living on Ponte Vedra Blvd

Hacienda style home nestled on 1.47 acres of pristine oceanfront. Spanning 4,527 SF this bright airy, 4bd/5ba, home offers a resort like atmosphere with large oceanfront pool/spa and private beach walkover. **\$4,400,000**



Breathtaking Waterfront Penthouse

Bamboo & travertine floors. 8' solid wood doors throughout the penthouse, 12' ceilings and numerous palladian windows. Terraces with Intracoastal, Beaches, and City views. This pet friendly gated community in an expansive park like setting offers so much from fishing on the pier, swimming laps in pool, working out in state of the art fitness center, watching sunset from your private terrace or enjoying a day on your boat. **\$1,300,000**



"Presidential" Riverfront Estate

Riverfront 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath with 6,182 sq. ft. of interior living including large bonus room over the garage, is situated on almost 2 acres in one of the most sought after areas of Jacksonville. **\$2,500,000**



Stunning Oceanfront Condominium in Ponte Vedra Beach

This first floor unit in Las Mirandas was totally renovated with the finest finishes and craftsmanship. 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath plus powder room, plus office. Has saturna floors, mahogany doors and built-in custom cabinetry. Includes 2 underground parking spaces and 2 storage units. **\$1,800,000**



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about this magazine

The First Coast Register is a bi-monthly general interest magazine published by The Ponte Vedra Recorder and OPC News, LLC. The magazine can be found throughout the upscale areas of greater Jacksonville. For advertising inquiries call 904.285.8831.

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FIRST COAST REGISTER

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on the cover

Reporter Jon Blauvelt heads into the surf at Mickler's Landing in Ponte Vedra Beach for his article on First Coast surfing spots. Read more on page 10. Photo by Don Christian.



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PHOTO BY
JASMINE MARSHALL

One of Us!

DREW EDWARD HUNTER

by JENNIFER LOGUE

If you've been to Hershey Park, Six Flags or a host of other popular theme parks, chances are you've seen Drew Edward Hunter's handiwork. As vice president of creative design for Jacksonville's Sally Corporation, Hunter guides the design and creation of theme park rides, attractions and animatronics.

What are your primary duties as vice president of creative design at Sally Corporation?

This truly is my dream job! I work with clients and our entire Sally team to conceive, design and create dark ride attractions, animatronic shows and walk-through attractions for theme and amusement parks around the world. My duties include conceiving and designing all or some aspects of an attraction – such as the story and script, characters, costuming, ride layout, vehicle design, scenic elements, show action, target opportunities (if the show is interactive), CGI and special effects, sound and music – and more. I work with all our departments – electronic, mechanical, construction, art finish, mold making and others – in the process of design. And once designs are in the hands of the Sally Production Department, I art direct the project as it is realized and often go on site to help out in the final stages of installation. And then, finally, I love watching guests enjoy our work – that's the real payoff!

What are some of the more unique or challenging theme park projects on which you've worked?

There have been many, but by far the most creatively challenging was working on Nights in White Satin: The Trip. This was a dark ride for the now long-gone Hard Rock theme park in Myrtle Beach, and it was probably the most unique and unusual dark ride ever. I was only one of many designers and creative minds who put ideas into the pot, but it was a fascinating experience. After a concert in Jacksonville, we met with the Moody Blues – who had written the song Nights in White Satin in the 1960s – and asked about their inspiration. Our team of designers went off on wild flights of fantasy to invent numerous special effect-heavy scenes which would enhance the lyrics and music. The final result was a highly imaginative ride which indeed was a trip in the truest, late-1960s meaning of the word!

How did you come to have a career creating amusement park rides and attractions?

The very first movie I ever saw was Walt Disney's masterpiece, "Fantasia," and it changed my young life. It inspired my love of art, of storytelling, of color, of music and of fantasy. When I was 8, I was in a stage production of "The King and I" (as one of the king's many kids), and that inspired my love of live theater. My parents took me to Disneyland just two years after it opened and I experienced the three original dark rides, and loved those. I knew then that I wanted to grow up and design such rides! Soon, I discovered the classic old Universal monster movies on late-night TV, and my brewing love of all things phantasmagorical was unleashed. (Did I mention that my birthday is just a few days before Halloween?) I studied fine arts and theater in college; was a freelance artist; painted murals; designed and painted stage scenery; acted in, wrote and directed local stage productions; was graphics director for a CBS affiliate; designed haunted entertainment for theme parks; and was Bozo the Clown for another TV station. So, all of this prior creative life – and much more – helped prepare me for what I do now at Sally Corporation.

One of Us continues on **Page 8**

The Coffey Team

the First Coast waterfront specialists



Over 7.4 AC within Queen's Harbour

JACKSONVILLE 7,500,000

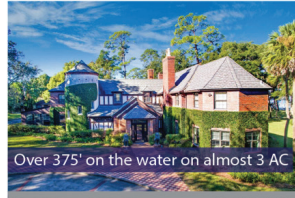
1335 WINDSOR HARBOR DRIVE
4 BED | 3.5 BATH | GUEST HOUSE
3,100 SF | 7.4 AC LOT



Double Lot within Harbour Island

PONTE VEDRA BEACH 3,000,000

24701 HARBOUR VIEW DRIVE
6 BED | 7.5 BATH
7,213 SF | 1 AC



Over 375' on the water on almost 3 AC

JACKSONVILLE 2,985,000

1108 PALMER TERRACE*
8 BED | 6.5 BATH | GUEST HOUSE
8,253 SF | 2.41 AC



Cronk Duch Designed on the St Johns

JACKSONVILLE 2,900,000

4134 ALHAMBRA DRIVE
5 BED | 7 BATH
6,992 SF | 0.94 AC



Motivated Sellers on the St Johns

JACKSONVILLE 2,450,000

1319 WEAVER GLEN ROAD
5 BED | 6 BATH
6,057 SF | 1.18 AC



Oceanfront Custom Home

ATLANTIC BEACH 2,000,000

2297 OCEANSIDE COURT
4 BED | 4 BATH
3,481 SF



Oceanfront in Hammock Beach

PALM COAST 1,950,000

16 OCEAN RIDGE BLVD N
4 BED | 5 BATH
5,080 SF



Equestrian Facilities on St Johns

ST AUGUSTINE 1,695,000

10536 COUNTY ROAD 13 N*
5 BED | 4 BATH | GUEST HOUSE
4,880 SF | 19 AC



Oversized unit in The Waterford

JACKSONVILLE BEACH 1,350,000

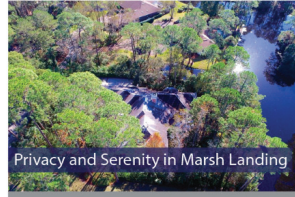
1221 1ST STREET S 11B
4 BED | 4 BATH
2,913 SF



Upgrades and oceanviews in Aquilus II

JACKSONVILLE BEACH 1,074,000

1201 1ST STREET N 501
3 BED | 4 BATH
2,525 SF



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PONTE VEDRA BEACH 764,000

24517 INDIAN MIDDEN WAY
3 BED | 4 BATH
3,627 SF | 0.79 AC



Private Homesite on North Island

PONTE VEDRA BEACH 745,000

463 ROYAL TERN ROAD S*
0.7 AC LOT



In waterfront Bayside community

ST JOHNS 569,000

1015 RAVINE TERRACE
4 BED | 4 BATH
4,295 SF | 0.48 AC



Homesite on Barrataria Island

ST AUGUSTINE 500,000

256 BARRATARIA DRIVE*
0.54 AC LOT



Coastal Charm in Little Marsh Island

JACKSONVILLE 499,000

7239 RAMOTH DRIVE
4 BED | 3 BATH
3,037 SF | 0.44 AC



High and Dry Lot with existing utilities

GREEN COVE SPRINGS 299,000

3 HAMMOCK LANE*
0.34 AC LOT

* Possible Owner Financing



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You've worked on numerous projects centered on a haunted house or Halloween theme. What prompted your interest in spooky attractions?

I remember vividly my first viewing of the incredible "Night On Bald Mountain" sequence from "Fantasia." It scared me, but more than that I loved the imagery and the way all the visuals were so choreographed to the powerful music. That, in association with my near-Halloween birthday and my fondness for the old Universal monsters on TV made me want to create my own frightfully entertaining realms. I started by making haunted houses in my grandparents' attic, then did some for several churches and schools. In 1975, I designed my very first professional haunt at the Louisiana State Fair, and eventually ran my own Halloween/haunt consultation and design company.

What's the key to creating a successful haunted attraction?

A successful haunted attraction incorporates several elements: 1) Total disorientation 2) Darkness 3) Effective sound and music 4) A memorable theme and host figure 5) A dedicated and talented cast and crew. And the most important: The creation of underlying unbearable suspense and dread – punctuated by nerve-shattering jolts of scream-inducing shocks and surprises!

Your home was recently featured on the Historic Springfield Tour of Homes. What are some of the architectural and design elements that make your home unique?

I had lived in Springfield from 2000 to 2002, then moved away, but found I missed the spirit of Springfield. So, in March 2016 I bought a big 1903 house. I'd searched for about four years for the perfect place

for me. The location was ideal, and the house met several important requirements, including having a beautiful front porch and a grand foyer staircase. And it had plenty of rooms for me to create my themed realms, such as the steampunkish 20,000 Leagues Theater, the cozy Dragon's Lair Library and the hauntingly mystical Red Table Room. I also have a wonderful art studio and several other interesting chambers. Plus, in the rear there's the "Odditopia!" guest cottage where my g-gauge custom sideshow train is on display. As a kid, my favorite TV family was The Addams Family, and I wanted to live in their house which was like "a museum where people come to see 'em." So now, at last, I finally have my own big, old house which I have titled "The Drewseum."

How do you enjoy spending your free time?

Apart from my wonderful career at Sally Corporation, I am an artist and, as I like to claim, a "creative." I'm always up to some artful project at my house, be it a large painting, a small sketch, or a tiny addition to something that nobody will ever really notice but myself. And I love movies – especially classic Hollywood – and films of fantasy and fright – and cult oddities. I often host "The Saturday Evening Esoteric Cinema Sensation" at The Drewseum. I bill it as "Screening the movies you'd never voluntarily watch!" Also, usually once a year some friends and I head to New Orleans for a swashbuckling weekend. We have our own Krewe of the Loving Dead and happily stalk the Vieux Carré as zombie pirates. I have a great time and am never bored. After all, as Auntie Mame said: "Life is a banquet, and most poor suckers are starving to death." Well, not me!

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A photograph of a surfer riding a wave at sunrise. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden glow and a rainbow in the spray of the wave. The surfer is in silhouette, leaning forward with arms outstretched. The overall mood is energetic and serene.

Surf's up

First Coast features fun
breaks for all surfers

by JON BLAUVELT

A surfer in St. Augustine
catches an early morning
wave.

PHOTO COURTESY
OF CODY COLEMAN
PHOTOGRAPHY

While the First Coast may not be known as a world-class surfing destination like Southern California or Oahu's North Shore, the region's waves and riders will surprise you if you visit the right place at the right time. Here's a sampling of the area's top surf spots, based on input from a few of the First Coast's most gnarly and stoked surfers.



A surfer makes his way through a barrel at Jacksonville Beach Pier.



A surfer glides down the line at Mayport Poles.

PHOTOS
COURTESY
OF 911 SURF
REPORT

Jacksonville Beach Pier 503 North First St. Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

The Pier has long been one of Jacksonville's most popular surf spots, with surfers gathering on the north and south sides of the structure on a daily basis.

As with any structure in the ocean, the Pier's pilings trap sand and prevent it from flowing away, explains Garrett Carmichael from Sunrise Surf Shop. Sand bars consequently form on either side of the structure, which help in building the waves' shape and form.

These sand bars also allow for good conditions with varying directions of wind and swell, Carmichael says, although a west wind blowing offshore is most ideal, as is the case at any spot in the area.

Whereas this spot doesn't necessarily discriminate with wind direction, the Pier is known as mostly a high-tide break. It's also known to get crowded, especially during the summer. So, Carmichael advises that beginners head north or south of the Pier to find their own space and ensure they don't cut off any old-timers. But don't worry, he says, there's usually plenty of parking to accommodate for this abundance of people in the water.

Also, remember that the Pier is currently closed for sightseeing/fishing due to damage sustained during Hurricane Matthew. So bring the board and keep the fishing pole at home!

Mayport Poles 500 Wonderwood Drive Jacksonville, FL 32233

When the wind is blowing 25 mph during a raging nor'easter, Mayport Poles is one of the few spots you'll find on the First Coast that maintains clean, quality surf. Located inside Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park on the south side of the St. Johns River and Mayport Naval Station, this spot's beach bends outward toward the inlet's south jetty, which stretches about a quarter mile to the north. As a result, the jetty blocks any wind coming from the north, leaving surfers at the Poles with rosy conditions on what may seem like a gloomy day.

Known as the First Coast's most consistent surf spot, the Poles is a sand bar break that works best at low tide. Although it gets extremely crowded, especially during the fall and winter, Carmichael says peaks at this spot are spread out well, allowing plenty of room for beginners to find their own space if they need it. However, when the surf picks up, beginners shouldn't surf the Poles. This spot packs a punch, with its waves usually thicker and more powerful than other breaks.

Another word to the wise: Because this spot is located within Hanna Park, you'll need \$5 to cover admission and to park your car.

Mickler's Landing Beach
1109 1/2 Ponte Vedra Blvd.
Ponte Vedra, FL 32082

Although Ponte Vedra is mostly known for its world-class golf courses and country clubs, surfers at Mickler's Landing Beach will tell you otherwise. Mickler's is the only public beach access (with public parking) between south Jacksonville Beach and Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve, and the waves here can ramp up during the summer when other spots are flat.

Scott Holmes from Aqua East Surf Shop and Surf into Summer Surf Camp has been surfing at Mickler's since he was 12 years old, and he finds this spot to be best with a southeast or south trade wind swell or ground swell in the morning at incoming tide. Head to Mickler's under those conditions, he says, and there will be an hour or two window when you can score.

According to Holmes, what makes Mickler's appealing to surfers is the deep water that seems to characterize the spot. When a wave travels from deep water and breaks on a shallow sand bar, he explains, it can become powerful and sometimes even hollow.

Because the conditions at Mickler's tend to be best during the summer, Holmes says the spot can become crowded in June, July and August. If you'd prefer to avoid the masses, you can always head 10 miles south to the GTM Research Reserve, where you can go kayaking or canoeing and even launch a boat.

Vilano Beach
2750 Anahma Drive
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Vilano Beach is the most challenging and consequently gnarly surf spot on this list. Located north of downtown St. Augustine and south of Ponte Vedra, Vilano Beach is a typical shore break, with its waves breaking directly on the beach or very close to it, in extremely shallow water. As a result, Carmichael says it's not uncommon for surfers to break boards or injure themselves at Vilano, as the abrupt impact with the shore can sometimes be unforgiving. Vilano is also highly localized and usually crowded, he says, with many of its regulars having surfed the spot their entire lives. As a result, surfers there are not always welcoming to newcomers.

Vilano, which features public parking, is home to more than droves of talented surfers. Because it sits on the north side of the St. Augustine Inlet, it's also home to schools of bait fish traveling between the ocean and the Intracoastal Waterway. Consequently, sharks are known to frequent the spot, says Alec Zappone from Surf Station.

For those willing to brave the conditions, Eddie Pitts from 911 Surf Report says Vilano works best at high tide with a southwest or west wind. For those who would rather sit and watch on the beach, keep in mind that Vilano is the site of the annual Florida Skimboarding Pro/Am Tournament in August. It's also a popular spot for launching jet skis and fishing. In addition, Vilano is about a mile from Camachee Cove Yacht Harbor, a marina that features boat rentals, fishing, sailing, a boater's store and custom canvas shop.

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A surfer turns and jets down a wave at the St. Johns County Ocean & Fishing Pier.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CODY COLEMAN PHOTOGRAPHY


St. Johns County Ocean & Fishing Pier 350 A1A Beach Blvd. St. Augustine Beach, FL

The St. Johns County Ocean & Fishing Pier is St. Augustine Beach's most popular surf spot. Like the Jacksonville Beach Pier, this spot appeals to surfers because of the sand bars that form on either side of the structure.

The St. Augustine Pier is known to break at both tides, but Zappone advises surfers to try this spot at low tide when the waves are bigger and high tide when the waves are smaller. He also warns surfers to watch out for fishermen, who frequent the Pier just as often as the surfers.


Carmichael praises this spot for being family-friendly and a great place to learn, with plenty of space to move north or south of the pilings. This spot will break with varying wind directions, he says, although a west wind is always best.

The Pier features lots of public parking and several other attractions, including a gift shop, a splash park and playground, picnic tables and volleyball courts.



A longboard surfer scans the conditions at Mickler's Landing Beach.

PHOTO COURTESY OF "BUCKET BOB" DAVENPORT



A spectator at Vilano Beach watches a surfer enter a barrel.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CODY COLEMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

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A GATSBY CARNIVAL

The Lightner Museum was transformed into a 1920s carnival April 29, when Volkswagen of St. Augustine hosted its fourth annual “A Gatsby Carnival.”

Flappers, gangsters and similarly attired guests gravitated to the museum, where they were greeted by a traveling troupe of vintage carnival performers. From the proverbial strong man and limber acrobats to dancers, trapeze artists and even Henry Flagler himself, the performers guided guests to the museum’s former indoor swimming pool, where revelers enjoyed cocktails, hors d’oeuvres and live entertainment by Amy Hendrickson and the VooDoo Review as well as Chelsea Saddler and Chris Kearns. Along the way, visitors received a sneak peek at the Lightner’s highly anticipated “Dressing Downtown” exhibit – showcasing the period fashions of “Downtown Abbey” – scheduled to debut in October.

Organized by Volkswagen of St. Augustine owners Joe and Sway DiFeo, the Gatsby Carnival benefits local charities. Proceeds from this year’s event benefited the nonprofit St. Johns Cultural Council. Since its inception, the Gatsby Carnival has raised more than \$25,000 to benefit local charities.



Andrew DiFeo and eLise Reeves
PHOTOS BY JENNIFER LOGUE



Osceola Lloyd and Angelina Marturano



Logan and Gabriela Rivers with
Jessica and Harold Lewis



Judy Eckerstrom, Sheri Pirie, Anmarie Darcy,
Victoria Lane, Fran Keeping, Marie Almonte
and Evelin Le of Dancing with Victoria



Kelly Abbatinuzzi



Jill Ziebell and Judy Satinski



Brie and Eric Colitzas





Summer Whites

Forget the little black dress. In Florida, the little white dress is the wardrobe must-have, and summer is the perfect time to showcase the fun fashion trend.

“A lot of ladies have been coming in looking for white dresses,” says Carla Miles, owner of Mainstream Boutique. “It’s very trendy and comfortable.”

While women in colder climates may still abide by the old “Memorial Day to Labor Day” rule about wearing white, Florida fashionistas should feel no such constraints, local merchants say.

“White is a year-round color,” says Emily Rhodin, owner of Scout & Molly’s Boutique in San Marco and Ponte Vedra Beach. “We live in Florida. It’s hot! We don’t need to wait for Memorial Day to wear white.”

Rhodin says she sees women begin to break out their whites in late March and the trend continues all the way through October, when women seem to naturally want to shift to darker colors and heavier fabrics.

But for now, it’s all about the LWD!



ALA Board Members
Kate and Winton Mays at
last year’s The White Affair
PHOTOS BY JENNIFER LOGUE



Emily Rhodin displays
a little white dress by
Jade Melody Tam available at
Scout & Molly’s Boutique.

The Turquoise and White Affair

Need a place to show off that little white dress? The American Lung Association will host “The Turquoise and White Affair” Friday, June 9 from 7 to 11 p.m. at Nocatee’s Crosswater Hall. Guests will enjoy cocktails, dinner, entertainment, raffles, and live and silent auctions while displaying their best “beach chic” whites adorned with turquoise jewelry and accents. Proceeds from the gala benefit lung health research, education and programs, including the association’s camp for children with asthma, Camp Boggy Creek. For tickets or more information, visit www.jaxgala.org.

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Party of the Decades

Beatles danced with flappers while rocking out to the music of the '80s recently, when the Anheuser Busch Brewery hosted the Party of the Decades.

Guests could purchase tickets with a variety of levels offering access to the 1920s, 1960s, 1980s or all three decades. The party began in the Roaring Twenties to period music provided by The Chris Thomas Band. From there, guests moved on into the groovy '60s, where Beatles tribute band, BeatleBeat, brought back the sounds of the Fab Four. From there, guests went back to the future of the 1980s, where the Kenny Holliday Band channeled Rod Stewart and Jon Bon Jovi.



Mark Marlar, Mike White, Fallon Mayer and Leelynn Osborne



Chris Shriver, Stacey Steiner and Steve Strum





Flapper Joy Bell dances to the '80s sounds of the Kenny Holliday Band.
PHOTOS COURTESY OF PARTY OF THE DECADES



Miranda Balcar and Fallon Mayer



Renee Parenteau and Joe Snowberger



Pilar Langthon, Amanda Jones, Luke Morris, Mark Rojas and Steve Strum



Chris Thomas of the Chris Thomas Band



Cool down

Summer drinks to try during a record-breaking season

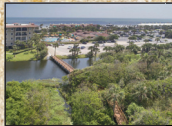
by JASMINE MARSHALL

Suzanne Sells the Beaches



Ponte Vedra by the Sea

Seaside Beauty! Walk to the beach from this 5BR/4.5BA concrete block home, plenty of room for everyone. Open & bright floor plan with hardwood floors in the main living areas. Spacious kitchen with granite and SS appls, opens to family room with FP. Sunroom opens to paved patio with bar & grill, perfect for entertaining. Master suite plus 2 more bedrooms finish out the main level. Upstairs is 2nd master suite, home office or 5th bedroom & media/bonus room. Newer Roof. HVAC replaced 2011/2015 and spray foam insulation. Offered at \$849,000



The Palms

Meticulously maintained turn key home on quiet cul-de-sac in the heart of Ponte Vedra Beach. This 4BR/4BA home has loads of upgrades. Beautiful hardwood flooring on the main level with custom cabinetry, induction cooktop & top of the line SS Appls in the gourmet kitchen. The Butler pantry is complete with sink, wine chiller & walk-in pantry. Coffered ceilings in the Foyer & Family room. BR/office on main floor with Full bath & walk in shower. 4BR/3 Full baths & an oversized bonus room upstairs. Levolor Blinds throughout. Tranquil backyard setting with upgraded landscaping is big enough for a pool. Home is wired for Control4 Smart home. Priced to sell at \$654,000



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It's no secret that things heat up quickly on the First Coast.

The stretch between Ponte Vedra Beach and Jacksonville is in an almost perpetual summer, and with the temperatures creeping higher, staying cool remains a priority. Find some shade and try these easy summer drinks for a more tolerable season of heat.

Layered drinks

Layered drinks are part beverage, part science experiment; more formally known as "pousse-café," these dessert-style drinks can be tailored for kids and adults and are equally popular with both for the "stacked" nature and versatility of the drinks. Create gradients in a glass by using between two to three different drinks of varying density; the layered effect is caused by the difference in molecular weight that makes drinks with the least sugar float on top of drinks with higher sugar content.

Sunset: Create an idyllic summer sunset in a glass using red, orange or yellow drinks. In a glass filled with ice, slowly pour orange or pineapple juice, filling 1/3 of the glass. Follow with slowly poured strawberry or cherry juice, and top with lemonade. Garnish with skewered fruits across the rim of the glass.

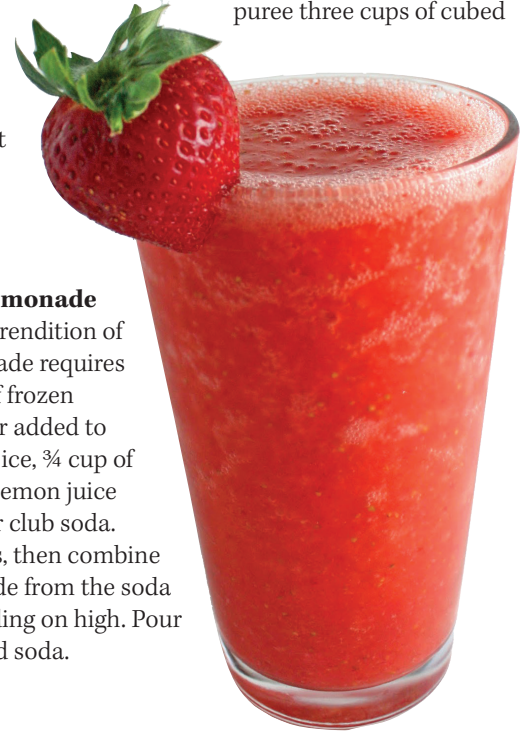
Patriotic: Switch up the ingredients to create a patriotic red, white and blue drink. Garnish the rim of a glass dipped in water with colored sugar or nonpareil sprinkles and fill with ice. Pour Hawaiian or fruit punch first, followed by blue Gatorade and a diet lemon-lime soda of choice. Tip: For best results, pour each additional layer slowly over the back of a spoon. Experiment with different drinks for taste.


New classics

Give the classic, fresh-squeezed lemonade of summers yore a twist by adding fruit for a punch of flavor.

Honeydew Lemonade: Give traditional lemonade more body and zest with honeydew melon. Combine ¾ to one cup lemon juice with three cups of chilled water and sugar puree three cups of cubed honeydew melon and mix well. Garnish with zest and mint sprigs and add berries (cranberry or raspberry) as desired.

Strawberry Lemonade Slush: This quick rendition of strawberry lemonade requires one to two cups of frozen strawberries, sugar added to taste, a handful of ice, ¾ cup of water, one cup of lemon juice and lemon-lime or club soda. Thaw strawberries, then combine all ingredients aside from the soda in a blender, blending on high. Pour in glasses then add soda.







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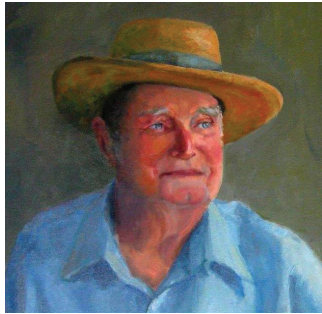
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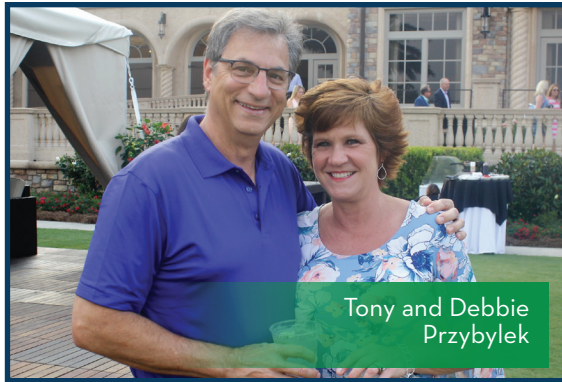
TP Seen

Thousands flocked to TPC Sawgrass in May for THE PLAYERS Championship 2017. The four-day tournament was accompanied by numerous parties, cocktail receptions and charity fundraisers. Spot anyone you know?

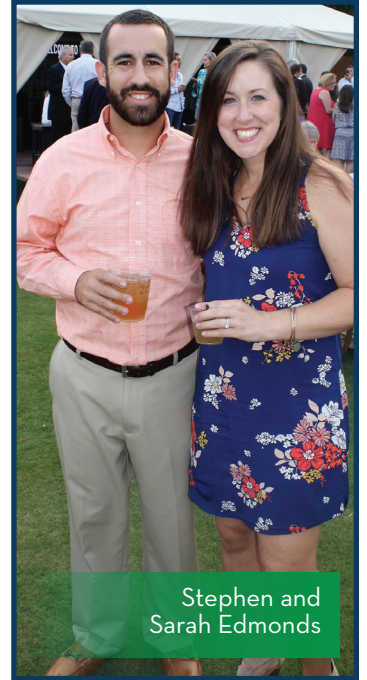
The Players Celebration



Donna London and Mary Hathy
PHOTOS BY JENNIFER LOGUE



Tony and Debbie Przybylek



Stephen and Sarah Edmonds



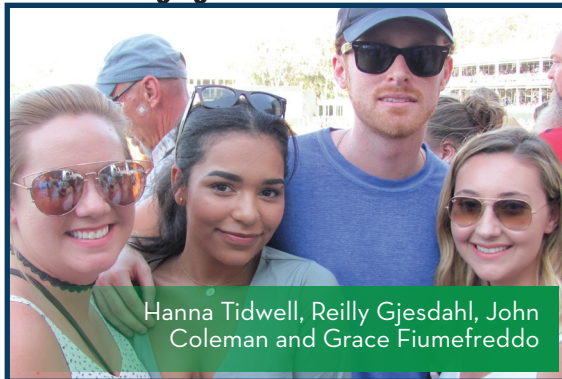
Kathy and Ric Clarson



Military Appreciation Day



Kori Withers and Megan Fowler



Hanna Tidwell, Reilly Gjesdahl, John Coleman and Grace Fiumefreddo



Ayesha Deleon, Kayla Shirk and Cathryn O'Brien



Lisa and Lindsay Hugo
PHOTOS BY JON BLAUVELT



Paula Ramberg, Amanda Childress and Tracy Wine



Operation Shower



Operation Shower luncheon host Tabitha Furyk (right) with daughter Caleigh, 14



Susan Bradshaw, Sandy Flaschner and Susan Kane



Sheila and Jared Rice

YMCA After Partee



Laura Cowie and Chris Watson



Ponte Vedra YMCA Executive Director Jennifer Ryan with parents Susan and Doug Gornto



Andy Stack and Suzanne Blake



Serena Baker and Chris Watson
PHOTOSBYJENNIFERLOGUE

A Night at Roy's

The Monique Burr Foundation celebrated its 20th anniversary May 16 at the nonprofit organization's annual "A Night at Roy's" benefit, raising \$55,000 for the foundation's programs.

Held at Roy's restaurant in Jacksonville Beach, the benefit featured the Hawaiian-influenced cuisine of James Beard Award winner Chef Roy Yamaguchi along with fine wines and tropical refreshments. WJXT News Anchor Mary Baer emceed the event, which included live music from Kurt Stevens and Colleen Orender, and a presentation by nationally acclaimed speaker and author Richard Guerry, founder of the Institute for Responsible Online and Cell-Phone Communication (IROC2).

Proceeds from the event benefit the foundation's programs, which provide students, parents, educators and professionals with strategies for preventing and responding to bullying, child abuse and more. To date, MBF programs have reached more than 1.6 million students.

benefits Monique Burr Foundation for Children



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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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WJXT News Anchor Mary Baer (far left) joins members of the Kappa Delta sorority at UNF as they present Ed Burr with a donation for the Monique Burr Foundation's Child Safety Matters program.



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PHOTOS BY SUSAN GRIFFIN
149 West Third St.

Seven distinctive homes in Jacksonville's Historic Springfield neighborhood opened their doors to the public May 20-21 for the 39th annual Historic Springfield Tour of Homes. Attendees had an opportunity to visit homes displaying a mix of vintage and modern décor, including six renovated Victorian homes as well as one new-construction home built to complement the neighborhood's historic architecture. Proceeds from the event benefited Springfield Preservation and Revitalization, a nonprofit dedicated to spurring investment in the neighborhood while preserving its historic character.

Historic Springfield Tour of Homes



1437 North Laura St.



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The kitchen at 450 E Sixth St.



The Acosta House living room



The Acosta house at 252 East Third St.



1343 Silver St.



Aloha!

Ponte Vedra Plastic Surgery annual luau



Corrine Howard and
Kelly Wilson
PHOTOS BY SUSAN GRIFFIN

Hundreds of guests turned out May 19 for Ponte Vedra Plastic Surgery's annual luau. Bright pink plastic flamingos floated in the pond outside the PVPS offices in Ponte Vedra Beach, complementing the tropical decorations throughout the practice's office and event tent.

Guests enjoyed refreshments, product and treatment discounts and the chance to win gift baskets valued up to \$2,750.

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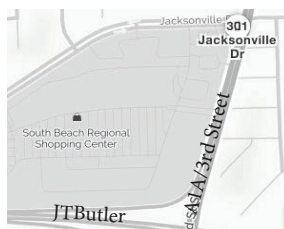


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Loretta Swit addresses guests at the gala to benefit Ayla's Acres. PHOTOS BY SUSAN GRIFFIN AND JENNIFER LOGUE

'Loretta Swit and Friends' Gala

by JENNIFER LOGUE

Actress Loretta Swit returned to the First Coast April 7 to host a gala benefit aimed at giving abused and neglected animals the chance for a positive second act.

Building on the success of last year's "M*A*S*H Gala" featuring Swit and her fellow M*A*S*H castmates, Swit returned to Ponte Vedra Beach to host another benefit for Ayla's Acres. Featuring a cocktail reception, dinner, entertainment and live and silent auctions, the benefit sought to raise funds to create "Peter's Friends," a 17.5-acre animal resource center that will provide animal rescue, adoption, education and spaying/neutering services in St. Johns County.

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

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

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

"Thank you all for loving Ayla's Acres as much as I do," Swit said. "What our animals do for us is incalculable. They give us unconditional love, which unhappily we human animals are incapable of. But they don't stop giving."

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

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



Gosia and Ali featuring Harold Fethe



Carrie Sharp, Loretta Swit and Julie Ann Brunsky



Ann and Mark Breidenstein



Carole Everitt and Karin Sufalko



Mary Rowley and Katherine Jose



Di McQueen and Shawn Tuomey

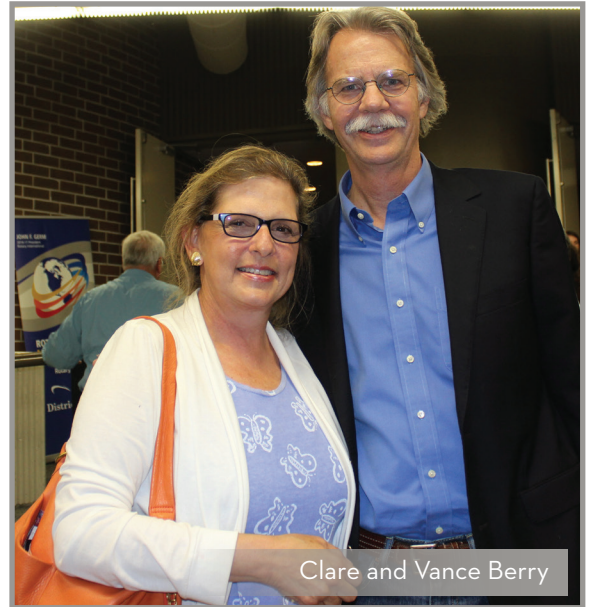


Sunset Rotary hosts 'Comedy for a Cause'

Local Rotarians and guests enjoyed a night of laughter and entertainment April 1, when the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset hosted "Comedy for a Cause."

Held at the University of North Florida's Robinson Theater, the comedy fundraiser featured stand-up comics Danny Johnson and Paul Jensen, with Club President Janeene Hart welcoming guests and Past President Waine Banyas serving as master of ceremonies. Guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction, with proceeds from the evening benefiting the Rotary Foundation, which is celebrating its centennial in 2017. Attendees celebrated the service organization's 100th anniversary of "Doing Good in the World" through programs such as Rotary's global End Polio Now campaign, which after three decades is on the cusp of eradicating the debilitating illness from the face of the earth.

With more than 1.2 million members in 35,000 clubs around the world, Rotary is one of the world's largest service organizations, with members working to promote peace, fight disease, provide clean water and sanitation, support education, save mothers and children and grow local economies around the globe.



Clare and Vance Berry



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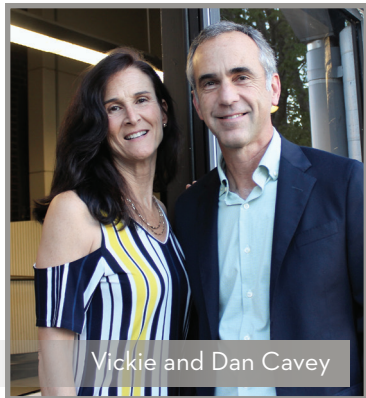
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Sunset Rotary President Janeene Hart with comedians Danny Johnson, Paul Jensen and Past President Waine Banyas, who served as emcee
PHOTOS BY SUSAN GRIFFIN



Vickie and Dan Cavey



Anette and Andrew Saalmann with Ray and Anna Washington

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Janet Westling, First Lady Melania Trump, and Katie Hughes
PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY JANET WESTLING



Janet Westling and country singer Lauren Alaina, who performed at the First Lady's Luncheon

Designing a Florida fragrance for the

First Lady's LUNCHEON

by JANET WESTLING



Palm Beach Southern White House fragrance



Katie Hughes and Mary Kay Ashby of Ponte Vedra Beach

It all started in 1912, when the Congressional Club held a breakfast in honor of the wife of the president of the United States.

Today, this tradition continues and 105 years later, on May 4, 2017, more than 2,100 guests attended this year's luncheon at the Washington Hilton honoring First Lady Melania Trump. My daughter, Katie Hughes, and I were there to be a part of this time-honored tradition.

The Congressional Club was incorporated by an act of Congress on May 20, 1908. The purpose of the club is to provide a non-partisan setting for friendship among the spouses of the House and Senate during their tenure in Washington, D.C. Each member of the club is invited to bring three guests to the First Lady's luncheon and this year's event was filled to capacity.

So how did my boutique fragrance company, located in Ponte Vedra Beach, become a part of this coveted springtime event? In December, I received an e-mail from Carolyn Yoho, wife of Congressman Ted Yoho, asking me if I would like to be a part of this year's luncheon.

I had created the fragrance "La Florida" in 2011, when Pat Mica chaired the luncheon. In early January, while I was in Washington for Congressman John Rutherford's swearing-in, Mrs. Yoho and I met over tea at the Willard to talk about creating a new fragrance for this year's luncheon. I brought my fragrances Ponte Vedra, Pomelo and La Florida to the meeting as a starting point to talk about what we wanted to create.

I learned that the theme of this year's luncheon would be "A New Direction" and I received a sample of the tablecloths, designed by Kravet Fabrics. Each year the theme changes and the event is known for the unique bags and gifts that are at each place setting. I left Washington with the fabric samples, my ideas and a schedule. To create and coordinate a new perfume for 2,100 people in under four months, I definitely had to get organized quickly!

From there, I contacted my chemist in Atlanta, my bottlers in New Jersey, my printer in Jacksonville and my graphic designer. In record time, the chemist sent us four samples of the newly created fragrance for First Lady Melania Trump. I met with the designer to design the box that incorporated the colors in the cloth, the compass rose and the name of the fragrance.

Then it was time to select a name for the new fragrance. I sent several possibilities to Mrs. Yoho and the committee for consideration, but my favorite was Palm Beach... Winter White House. The president had referred to Mar A Lago, his Florida home, as the Southern White House in several tweets. After a lot of emails back and forth including contacting the press office at the White House to confirm what it was called, we decided on Palm Beach...Southern White House!

The day of the event, my daughter Katie and I were invited to the VIP reception, where we mingled with guests including fellow sponsors and wives of cabinet members and Supreme Court justices. Prior to the luncheon, we posed for a photograph with the First Lady herself.

Several guests from Ponte Vedra and Jacksonville were also spotted at the luncheon, including Congressman Rutherford's wife Pat, daughter-in-law Francesca and daughter Lee Halford. Katie's friend Mary Kay Ashby from Ponte Vedra Beach also attended the luncheon with her sister-in-law, Kelly, wife of Sen. Rand Paul.

All of the products donated for the luncheon were American made, including my fragrance. I cannot describe what an honor it was for me, my company and my daughter to be a part of this wonderful, perfectly designed event executed by Mrs. Yoho and her committee.

How forward thinking that the congressional spouses at the turn of the last century thought this would be a bridge to better relations. This timeless tradition has not only lived up to, but most definitely exceeded, their expectations.

Members of the Churchmen gathered at the Sawgrass Beach Club in April with their spouses and significant others for the annual Churchmen Spring Fling.

Attendees of the event enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and cocktails followed by dinner and dancing. Group Chairman Lennox Stuart explained that the occasion is the organization's only event of the year at which members bring dates. As a result, he said, the Spring Fling provides couples the opportunity to meet and mingle with one another.

The all-male Churchmen organization was founded in 1977 by a group of gentlemen at Christ Episcopal Church with the purpose of building and fostering relationships within the Ponte Vedra community. Forty years later, it has become a non-sectarian institution that embraces all faiths.

The organization, which currently has 177 members, meets on the third Thursday of every month at the Sawgrass Country Club for lunch and interesting speakers. Membership costs \$40 per year, in addition to a small fee for each luncheon.

Churchmen

come together for

annual Spring Fling



Anne and John Ruvane,
Judy Ham and
Bruce Rosborough
PHOTOS BY JON BLAUVELT

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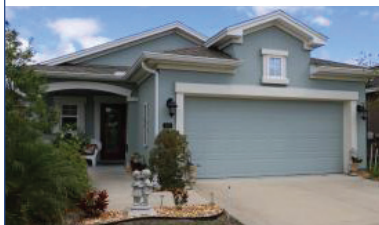
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Judy Flynn, Churchmen Chairman Lennox Stuart with his wife Margie and Gay MacArthur

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Jacksonville Symphony

performs in Ponte Vedra
at annual BRASS gala

by JENNIFER LOGUE



BRASS Ring winner Leila Warren, 8, with parents John and Ana-Lucia Warren



Jacksonville Symphony CEO Robert Massey and Jessica Mallow



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER LOGUE
Seana McAfee, BRASS
resident Michael Imbriani and
Jacksonville Symphony Board
Chair Matthew McAfee



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Monica and
Robert Jacoby



Nathan Aspinall conducts
the Jacksonville Symphony
at the annual BRASS gala.

The Jacksonville Symphony came to Ponte Vedra Beach in April, performing a special concert at the annual gala for BRASS (Beaches Residents Actively Supporting the Symphony).

Held April 23 at the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club, the evening featured a cocktail reception, dinner and live auction for such special experiences as the opportunity to have symphony musicians perform a concert in the high bidder's home, all-week tournament tickets to THE PLAYERS Championship 2017 and the chance to conduct the symphony at the 2018 BRASS gala. Jacksonville Symphony Associate Conductor Nathan Aspinall then conducted the symphony in a concert that included John Philip Sousa's "Liberty Bell March," Dvorak's "Carnival Overture, Op. 92" and "Intermezzo" from Act III of Puccini's "Manon Lescaut" as well as selections by Elgar, Schubert and Strauss.

A special highlight of the evening was a performance by 8-year-old violinist Leila Warren, who recently won the grand prize in the 2017 BRASS Ring Student Music Competition. Gala attendees gave a standing ovation for Warren, the youngest musician to ever win the competition's grand prize, which includes a \$500 music scholarship.

Proceeds from the gala benefit BRASS's efforts to promote concert attendance and music education while providing financial assistance to the Jacksonville Symphony. The nonprofit, all-volunteer group's support, Jacksonville Symphony CEO Robert Massey said, is critical.

"BRASS is absolutely vital to the symphony's growth in Northeast Florida," Massey said at the gala, noting that thanks to BRASS's support, the symphony's reach has grown from 160,000 people to 201,000 people, 70,000 of whom are children.

Symphony Board Chairman Matthew McAfee agreed.

"BRASS members are the lifeline of the symphony," he said. "The Beaches communities are critical to our ongoing success."

At Apryle Showers 'Hollywood Nights' glamour and giving are both in style

by JENNIFER LOGUE

Nocatee's Crosswater Hall took on the feel of a glamorous Hollywood movie premiere April 21, as the Apryle Showers Foundation held its second annual benefit gala.

Guests clad in evening gowns and long gloves walked the red carpet and had their photos taken paparazzi-style before entering the Nocatee Room, which was decorated with stars, glitter, miniature award statuettes and numerous pink umbrellas symbolizing the foundation. An estimated 200 guests enjoyed a buffet by TacoLu, a dessert bar by Cinotti's and the chance to bid on dozens of silent auction items at the gala, which was billed as an "adult prom." Entertainment, meanwhile, was provided by the band Briteside, one of the evening's co-sponsors.

Yet throughout the evening's glitter and glitz, the woman who inspired both the foundation and its fundraising efforts was never far from attendees' hearts and minds. Apryle Schmidt was just 37 years old when she was diagnosed with stage four breast cancer. Despite battling her illness courageously, she lost her fight in August 2015.

"Apryle was a Nocatee resident, so it's been really important to us to have a presence here," said Apryle's friend, Lauren Stafford. "The point of tonight is to celebrate life. Apryle was such a vital person. She loved to dance – if she were here tonight, she'd be leading the dancing out on the floor."

A cancer survivor herself, Stafford now serves as president of the board of the Apryle Showers Foundation, which provides healing, restorative getaways for people ages 30 to 55 who are battling cancer.



Blaine and Scott Thomas
PHOTOS BY JENNIFER LOGUE



Jessica Mauch
and Dorothy Bennett



Apryle Showers Foundation
President Lauren Stafford
welcomes guests to the
"Hollywood Nights" adult prom.



John and Jaclyn Olwin



Foundation beneficiary and cancer survivor Hope describes her weekend getaway.



Todd and Katie Philcox




Debby Carter, Vicki Fuhrmann, Barbara Yost, Sean Yost and Lisa Laettner



Cancer survivor Julie describes the benefit of having a weekend away from fighting cancer.



Maribeth Adamski and Holly Bondra



Save Guana Now *Gala*

by JENNIFER LOGUE



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

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

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

Chapin was one of 150 attendees who signaled their opposition to plans to develop The Outpost by attending Saturday’s “Save Guana Now Gala.” Held at the home of Neck Road residents John and Martha Denneen, the event attracted guests from across the First Coast to the benefit aimed at fighting the Ponte Vedra Corp.’s plans to build a 77-home housing development to be known as Vista Tranquila on The Outpost.

“We just can’t keep building on every piece of land,” said Sheila Hickson-Curran, a Neck Road resident who has lived in Ponte Vedra for more than 20 years. “It’s conservation land, period.”

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

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



Sophie Allen displays her prizewinning illustration with Nicole Crosby.



Gloria North



Jennifer Serotta, Sophie Allen and Richard Serotta



Hotel Palms, Penelope T partner for beachside

by JASMINE MARSHALL

fashion show



Nickie Smith with Kristi and Cali Koerner

PHOTOS BY JASMINE MARSHALL



Czarina Serra, Ahn Kidd and Tanieen Delaney



Kimberly Mashek and Stephanie Mack-Carney



Amanda White and Nina Cohen

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Hotel Palms was alight with music, food and fashion April 6 as the newly reopened motor court hotel acted as a beachside venue for its collaborative fashion show with Penelope T.

With the show set against the backdrop of the setting sun, models strutted the hotel's private courtyard to the tune of music mixed by DJ Nick Fresh before an audience of local business owners, influencers and fashionistas. The show commemorated the opening of Jacksonville Beach's Penelope T Boutique and marked the first of what Hotel Palms co-owner Stevan Brown and Penelope T co-owner Manne White hope to make an annual event.

The spring fashion presentation consisted of coordinates from the boutique's Jacksonville Beach storefront specializing in contemporary clothing and accessories, one of two exclusive locations. The other, located in Tampa, is helmed by White's college friend and co-owner Nickie Smith.

Penelope T's boutique offerings fall right into place at the beach thanks to what White calls a versatile style.

"I think we appeal to women at the beach because we have a nice curation of casual that can also be worn during the day and quickly paired with necklaces or wedges for plans at night," White says. "There's a lot of good transitional pieces which is great at the Beaches, where things aren't too dressy."

The fashion show brought out the Beaches' best dressed for a trendy evening that the co-owner hopes will continue to create "thrilling" opportunities for local shoppers and for the fashion scene in Jacksonville Beach.

"I think this whole community is so great with supporting local and I would love it if after this ... more people could start getting excited about fashion, about blogging and clothes, even though we're a casual community," she says. "In the future, I want to see more people get dressed up to support local functions and community events."

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Children's Home Society Luncheon

by JASMINE MARSHALL

Monique Kerrin's voice wavered as she took the microphone amid applause to thank the supporters gathered at the Children's Home Society luncheon on March 29.

"This was really my mom's calling ... and the reason I wanted to do it was because I felt like everyone should have a mother like mine," said Kerrin, looking in awe at the bronze statue given to individuals and organizations recognized for their dedication to children in need. "Someone who was supportive and was just always there for everything. I couldn't have asked for a better mother, so this has been my way of sharing her with other kids who don't have what I have."

Monique and her mother, Jan Kerrin, formed the mother-daughter duo of foster parents who were awarded Foster Parents of the Year at the annual Under the Tent event honoring child advocates. The team trained together as specialized therapeutic foster parents in order to better meet the medical and emotional needs of children who've been traumatized through a program that teaches caregivers how to assist with child therapy.

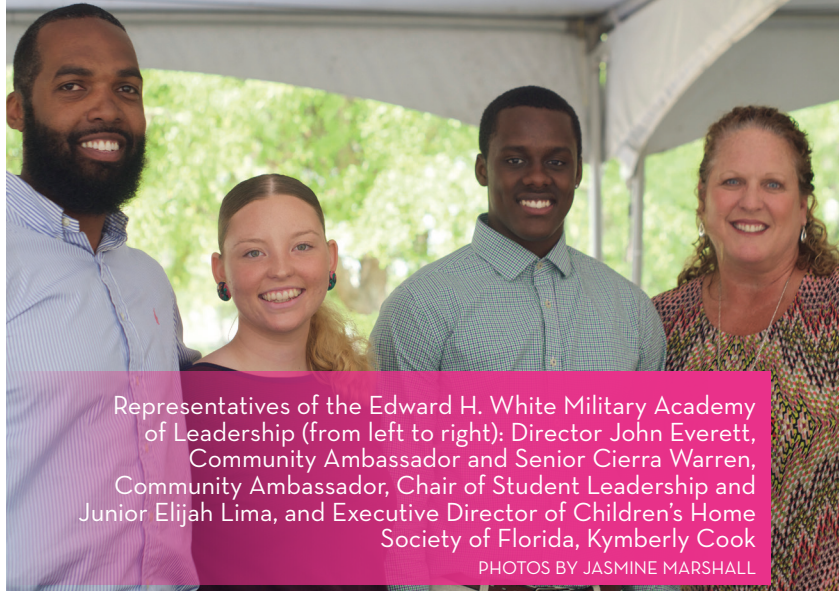
The Kerrins were among the six honorees and more than 150 guests who gathered under the tent for the annual luncheon. WJXT Channel 4's Melanie Lawson-Minor, Children's Home Society board member and supporter, acted as emcee, announcing the winners of several other awards. Additional honorees included author and business owner Rosemary Winbush, who was recognized as the R. David and I. Lorraine Thomas Child Advocate of the Year; Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits, which was recognized as Corporate Citizen of the Year; Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry, who was recognized as Public Official of the Year; and Sergeant Daisy Peoples, who was recognized as Volunteer of the Year.

Current Chair Kent Barry thanked everyone involved for the success seen by the organization in the year since its last Under the Tent luncheon.

"Today, we're celebrating all of the efforts and everything you've done for families in 2016," Barry said.

Lawson echoed that sentiment, recalling the gatherings and events wherein Children's Home Society chairs and volunteers came together to help First Coast children in need.

"Every time we gather, there's just an amazing synergy," Lawson said to the honorees and attendants. "Children's Home Society isn't just about the individual (successes) — and it's not just in Duval, it's in Clay, Baker, Nassau, St. Johns County and stretches all over the state. And there are many families who are now thriving because of the work you're all doing every single day."



Representatives of the Edward H. White Military Academy of Leadership (from left to right): Director John Everett, Community Ambassador and Senior Cierra Warren, Community Ambassador, Chair of Student Leadership and Junior Elijah Lima, and Executive Director of Children's Home Society of Florida, Kymberly Cook

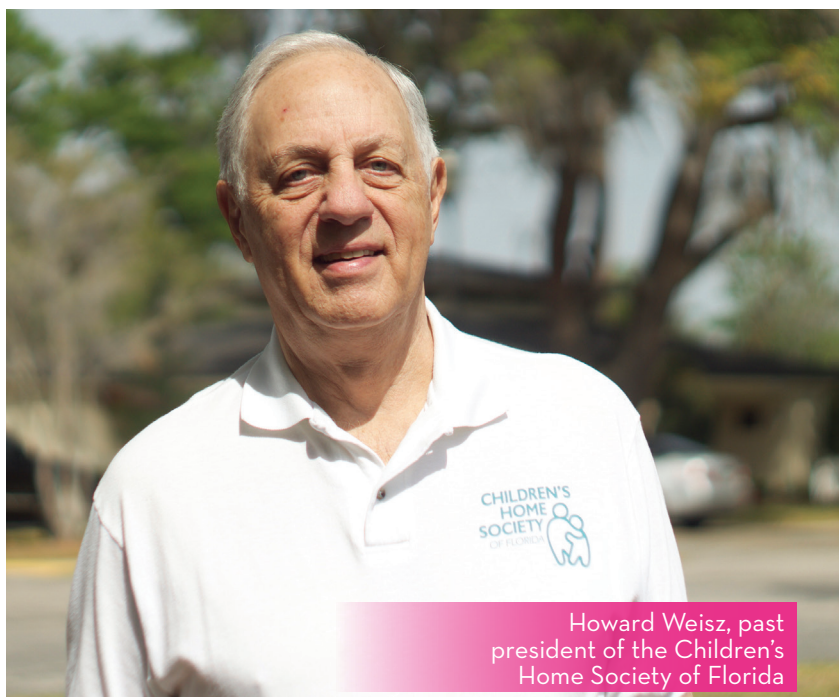
PHOTOS BY JASMINE MARSHALL



Melanie Lawson-Minor of WJXT Channel 4 acted as emcee to the event.

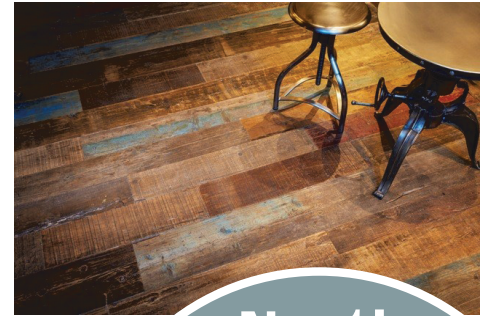


Monique and Jan Kerrin accept their award.



Howard Weisz, past president of the Children's Home Society of Florida

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