

Ponte Vedra Recorder



August 3, 2017
Volume 47, No. 31
75 cents

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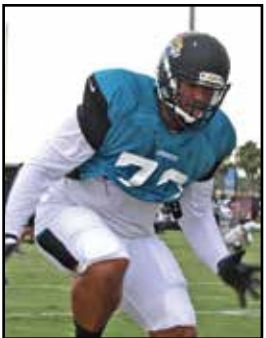
PonteVedraRecorder.com



Back To School
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Business Weekly
featuring Leaders
in Finance
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Sports
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CLOSING OUT THE SUMMER

Kids on the First Coast enjoy the last few days of summer at the beach before heading back to school.

Photo by Jon Blauvelt



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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.**



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5	2	1	9	4	8	6	7	3

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

Email your answer with your first and last name to jonb@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.

No readers identified last week's photo! As a result, we're providing you with another angle to give you another shot!

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

ADOPT A PET

CAT OF THE WEEK

My name is Panda, and I am a 2-year-old female cat who came to the pet center as a stray. As this animal was a stray, there may be some traits that are unknown at this time. Come visit me today here at the pet center! #38671



DOG OF THE WEEK

My name is Auggie, and I'm a 2-year-old male mixed breed dog who is looking for a new loving home to call my own. I love to go outside and romp around, and nothing makes me happier than playing tug of war with my new friends! Come visit me today here at the pet center! # 25207



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 Road, off U.S. 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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U.S.P.S. (705-300) Periodical Postage Paid at Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
Postmaster: Send change of addresses to: Ponte Vedra Recorder, P.O. Box 501, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL, 32004. (904) 285-8831
Subscription Rates, Bulk Mail: One year, \$35; six months, \$20. Rates not applicable in Canada or overseas.
To subscribe, call Circulation Manager Rob Conwell at (904) 686-3936.

The Recorder is published every Thursday at 1102 A1A N., Unit 108 Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Night at the Zoo

STAY UP FOR Something New!

FRIDAY

AUG 11TH

6:30 PM - 10:00 PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE VIA ONLINE PRESALE ONLY

Details at jacksonvillezoo.org

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SJC 4-H Youth Development Program seeks volunteers

The St. Johns County 4-H Youth Development Program is seeking club and project volunteers to work with youth ages 5 to 18.

Volunteers will teach children and teenagers leadership, communication and a variety of life skills through topics including animal and plant science, healthy living, citizenship, environmental education, technology, food preparation and photography.

Orientation for new club and project volunteers will be held from 6:30 to 8

p.m. Aug. 8 at the St. Johns County UF/IFAS Extension Office at 3125 Agricultural Center Drive.

The 4-H Office will provide assistance, including training, office support, resource materials and project curriculum. For more information, call (904) 209-0430.

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Local officials share accomplishments from recent legislative session at chamber breakfast

By Jon Blauvelt

Providing bonuses for St. Johns County teachers, increasing state-wide funding for mental health and substance abuse and revising and improving Enterprise Florida and Visit Florida were among the accomplishments of the 2017 legislative session shared by local officials at the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce's Economic Development Council breakfast last week.

Rep. Cyndi Stevenson, Sen. Travis Hutson, Rep. Paul Renner and St. Johns County Commission Chair James Johns provided these updates to business leaders from around the county at the chamber event July 28 at the Renaissance hotel in World Golf Village.

Hutson shared highlights from HB 7069, an education bill that he played a large role in writing. Most notably, the state senator shared that the bill will extend the Best and Brightest Scholarship Program, resulting in several bonuses for "effective" and "highly effective" St. Johns County teachers. 850 teachers will qualify for \$800 bonuses this year, next year and the year after, he said. 1,300 teachers, he continued, will qualify for \$1,200 bonuses each of the next three years. An additional 200 teachers, he stated, will qualify to receive \$6,000 bonuses each of the next three years.

Hutson explained that other results of the bill include conducting a study to replace the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) with another federally funded test that is more suitable for teachers; allowing schools more flexibility to shift the schedule of their testing; expanding funding for the Gardiner Scholarship, which supports kids with rare diseases and disabilities; and requiring 20 minutes of recess each day for kindergarten through fifth grade students. One controver-

sial aspect of the bill, Hutson noted, is the fact that it allows high-performing charter schools to establish more than one charter school in any year if it operates in the area of a persistently low-performing school and serves kids from that school.

The state senator also reported that the 2017 legislative session resulted in increasing the Bright Futures Scholarship for a child from 50 percent to 100 percent tuition reimbursement.

"If your child qualifies for Bright Futures, the state of Florida is going to pay the way," Hutson said, adding that this will take effect next year. "We want you in and out in four years with well-paying jobs so you can come back and contribute."

Rep. Stevenson provided a high-level overview of the state budget, sharing that it only increased by less than a quarter of a percent, or less than \$10 per person. She emphasized, however, that the state increased funding for schools by four percent and higher education by seven percent. Although health care funding slightly decreased, she said the state maintained strong priorities, enhancing funding for mental health and substance abuse, especially for efforts to combat the Opioid epidemic.

"I think we need to start calling this what it is," she said. "People are dying from injecting heroine and the new drug we hear, fentanyl."

Among several other items of local, state and federal interest, Stevenson noted that St. Johns County will benefit from \$13.3 million in funding to repair damage to its beaches post-Hurricane Matthew, and overall, she said several state employees will receive pay raises for the first time in 10 years.

Rep. Renner discussed two programs he



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

EDC Chair Victor Ramos, Rep. Cyndi Stevenson, Chamber President/CEO Isabelle Rodriguez and St. Johns County Commission Chair James Johns

said he played a part in improving: Enterprise Florida and Visit Florida.

Enterprise Florida, he explained, is a program in which tax payer money is given to private sector companies to lure them into Florida or keep them within the state. In the past, he said, this money has been given to companies with more than 1,000 employees, leaving many small businesses out to dry and creating a system of "winners and losers." In addition, he said tax payers generally expect their tax dollars to be used for something that can help them, and this wasn't always the case with Enterprise Florida previously.

With the revised bill, Renner explained that the monies now can't be used for any single company; they must be distributed to

a multitude of companies to allow for competition. In addition, he said the tax monies must be devoted to either infrastructure or workforce development.

Renner said that the legislature's recent efforts on Visit Florida, the state's official tourism marketing corporation, have resulted in more stringent accountability measures to ensure money for the program is being used for advertising.

St. Johns County Commission Chair James Johns concluded the presentations by discussing a recent trip he took to Washington, D.C., to meet with representatives from various federal agencies, including the Department of Transportation, Federal

BREAKFAST continues on Page 5

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Breakfast

Continued from 4

Emergency Management Agency and others. When he first received an invite for the meeting, he thought it was a prank.

“This administration says that they do not feel like they have communication lines with local governments and they wanted to change that,” Johns said. “We were all blown away.”

During a question and answer session at the end of event, Johns also discussed his stance on the potential implementation of a bed tax to generate additional revenue for the county.

“One of the most important things to me is not just generating revenues to meet

our needs but making sure we’re all on the same page as to what the end result is expected to be,” he said. “I want to make sure that place we’re intending to spend it is where you want it spent when we collect it. And so, if this is the mechanism by which the majority of the people want an issue resolved, then I would gladly support that effort.”

On a similar note regarding a potential increase to the county’s sales tax, Johns said following the breakfast he needs the majority of the county to support it before he will, and he also wants more clarity to be established concerning how those monies would be spent.

“I don’t want to spend people’s money without knowing where it will be spent,” he said.

The next EDC breakfast is Nov. 17.



Sen. Travis Hutson, St. Johns County Commission Chair James Johns, Rep. Cyndi Stevenson and Rep. Paul Renner participate on the EDC panel July 28.



Meeting attendees Emily Stimler, John Eaton, Aaron Emmel and Kyle Murdock



Meeting attendees Alex Acree, Mike Koppenhafer and Erik Kasper



Meeting attendees Heather Sciertelli, Denise Hagan and Mary Ann Steinberg

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Kim McNickle is the St. Johns County School District's homeless liaison, responsible for managing the district's ASSIST program. She's currently in the process of planning the district's annual Up Lift with ASSIST banquet, which support the needs of local children and their families.

Kim McNickle

By Jon Blauvelt

What are your roles and responsibilities as homeless liaison for the district?

As the St. Johns County School District's homeless liaison, I ensure that the rights and services guaranteed under the federal McKinney-Vento Act are implemented throughout the school district. I assist with school stabilization and/or enrollment, ensure students have access to all eligible programs and services and provide professional development to school personnel.

In addition, I promote awareness of the homeless situation in both schools and the community, solicit financial and supply support from community agencies and recruit mentors. We fundraise for school supplies, athletics, clothing, senior fees, basic family needs and other school fees.

You rarely hear us say "homeless" in our school district; we call our program ASSIST, which stands for Aid and Support for Students In Sudden Transition.

What don't most people know about homelessness in St. Johns County?

First, they don't think it's happening in all our schools in St. Johns, and then they are shocked by the number. An inadequate stock of affordable housing, fluctuating unemployment rates, high health costs, inadequate shelters for families and natural disasters combined with shrinking public resources have resulted in a steady increase of the number of children experiencing homelessness. Last school year, nearly 900 students were identified as being homeless—lacking a fixed, regular, nighttime residence. They may be in a car, a tent, a hotel or doubled up with another family. Of these, 152 were also unaccompanied, meaning they are not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian, making them vulnerable to a myriad of potential dangers. For these reasons, schools can often be the one place of stability, safety and support in the tumultuous lives of these students.

What are some of the projects you're currently working on as the school year starts back up?

We are currently working on gathering donations of school supplies and backpacks from the community. We are having our annual Up Lift with ASSIST banquet Oct. 19 from 6 to 9 p.m. at First Coast Technical College. This is a banquet and silent auction to support the needs of the children and their families. Without community support, we would not have the supplies and funding to help with the needs of our homeless children. We never want our children not to participate in school activities, sports or extracurricular activities due to lack of income, and without the community support, we couldn't provide the necessities to help them succeed.

How can people help support your mission?

Become a mentor; donate; support our banquet with auction items and attend the event; sponsor a family for the holidays; host a fundraiser; or have a drive for personal care products or food. Most of all, spread the word. We live in a wonderful county that



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

seems to live in a bubble when it comes to knowing about our homeless. We need to fix the problem and end homelessness so that our at-risk children grow up to be healthy and productive adults.

What do you enjoy most about living on the First Coast?

My family and I have lived in six different states along the east coast, and by far Florida's First Coast is home. We love the weather, the beach and being outdoors year-round. Even though it gets hot, at least we are not shoveling snow. The people on the First Coast are friendly and very supportive of all causes.

They accept new people into the community with open arms, and we are blessed to call this home.

How do you enjoy spending your free time?

I love being with family and friends, laughing while enjoying the day. I work out at Pearson Fitness, which is a stress reliever from the day. Who does not enjoy the beaches, taking walks, looking for shark teeth and enjoying the water? I love being outside in nature, boating, hiking or exploring. When the weather is too hot or rainy, a good book is always on hand.

A sample of our listings



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Thursday, Aug. 3	Friday, Aug. 4	Saturday, Aug. 5	Sunday, Aug. 6
<p>Yoga for Survivors The Y Healthy Living Center at the Ponte Vedra YMCA will host a "Yoga for Survivors" class Aug. 3 at 1 p.m. Cancer patients, survivors, caregivers and others with range of motion and pain limitations are invited to join in this gentle and safe yoga practice, which is free and open to the public. Call (904) 202-5376 or visit www.baptistjax.com/ymca to reserve a spot. The Ponte Vedra YMCA is located at 170 Landrum Lane.</p> <p>Concerts in the Plaza St. Augustine's Plaza de la Constitución will host the oldest city's summer-long concert series, "Concerts in the Plaza." The series will provide free concerts featuring local musical entertainment every Thursday night at 7 p.m. Aug. 3, the Session will play great American songbook jazz. All of the "Concerts in the Plaza" shows are free to attend and visitors are encouraged to bring lounge chairs for seating. Picnic dinners are allowed, but alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the plaza.</p> <p>X102.9 Presents 311 With Guests New Politics and Passafire Alternative rockers 311 will headline a tour stop at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre on Aug. 2 at 6 p.m. Singer/guitarist Nick Hexum, singer S.A. Martinez, guitarist Tim Mahoney, drummer Chad Sexton and bassist P-Nut formed 311 in 1990 in Omaha, Nebraska. Together, they've released 11 studio albums, two live albums, a boxed set and three DVDs. 311 mixes rock, rap, reggae and funk into a hybrid sound. Visit www.staugamphitheatre.com to purchase tickets. The St. Augustine Amphitheatre is located at 1340C A1A S.</p> <p>S.T.A.N.D. Against Bullying Magic Show Mark Alan will present a magic show for kids to S.T.A.N.D. against bullying, which means Stop the Bullying, Tell Someone, Ask for Help, Nobody Deserves Bullying and Don't Be a Bystander. The show begins at 4 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch library on 101 Library Blvd.</p>	<p>Art Walk The First Fridays Art Walk will take place Aug. 4 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. inside St. Augustine's historic downtown area. Old Town Trolleys and Ripley's Sightseeing Trains will provide complimentary shuttle service to a majority of the galleries, including the galleries on St. Augustine Beach. The event will feature food, wine and live entertainment. Parking is free after 5 p.m. at the Historic Parking Garage. Call (832) 779-2781 for more information. This event is sponsored by the Art Galleries of Saint Augustine.</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>Curatorial's Choice Exhibition at the Cultural Center The Curatorial Committee at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach has selected the works of Ronnie Burak, Helen Moody and Francesca Tabor-Miolla to be featured July 14 through Aug. 18. The exhibition will be comprised of photographs, paintings and mixed-media art. Admission is free. Located at 50 Executive Way in Ponte Vedra Beach, the Cultural Center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.</p> <p>Cannon Firing Demonstration at Castillo de San Marcos National Parks Service volunteers and personnel demonstrate a cannon firing at the Castillo de San Marcos museum / monument every Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Rangers and volunteers will demonstrate the weapons and tell the experiences of the colonial Spanish soldier of 1740s St. Augustine. Firing times are subject to change depending on weather conditions and staff availability. Castillo de San Marco is located on 1 South Castillo Drive in St. Augustine.</p>	<p>MOSH Boat Tours St. Johns River Taxi and MOSH host a St. Johns River boat tour every Saturday afternoon at 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. The tour features a History Host who explains the historical significance of the river and various landmarks in Jacksonville. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$12 for children. MOSH is located at 1025 Museum Circle in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Apex Theatre Studio's "Godspell" Apex Theatre Studio presents "Godspell" at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall on Aug. 5 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. "Godspell" is a modernized depiction of the Gospel of Matthew; the production features young artists from five area high schools including Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, Atlantic Coast High School and Stanton College Preparatory School. Tickets cost \$25 and can be purchased at www.pvconcerthall.com.</p> <p>Guided Exploration Hike Take a guided exploration hike focused on the Guana Peninsula's 5,000 years of human history. Located at 505 Guana River Road in Ponte Vedra Beach, the 1.5-mile guided walking tour of the GTM Research Reserve leaves from the Trailhead Pavilion located west of the Guana Dam. Parking is \$3, programs are free. The hike starts at 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Old City Farmers Market The Old City Farmers Market features fresh produce, baked goods, handcrafted items and plants along with live entertainment. Fresh seafood in season will be available for purchase as well. The farmers market takes place every Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre on 1340 A1A South. Admission is free.</p> <p>Militia Muster and Training at Fort Mose Visit Fort Mose to be transported back to the 18th century. Learn from the members of the Fort Mose Militia as they practice firing drills and demonstrate how to use historic weapons. Admission into the park is free. Event starts at 9 a.m. and ends at 11:30 a.m. Fort Mose is located at 15 Fort Mose Trail, St. Augustine.</p>	<p>Career Fair at Florida Blue Meet with representatives from Florida Blue to talk about a career in the health insurance industry and learn about the benefits of working for Blue Cross Blue Shield. Attendees should bring a resume for individual review and assistance. Located at 4855 Town Center Parkway, this career fair starts at 12 p.m. and ends at 2 p.m.</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 the Jacksonville Beach and Ponte Vedra area. For more information call (904) 417-7354 or email life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com</p> <p>Annie at Alhambra The classic Broadway musical "Annie" continues its run at the Alhambra Theatre & Dining on Sunday, Aug. 6. The Alhambra's summer family show, "Annie" tells the story of a Depression-era orphan who is chosen to live with a millionaire for a short time. A three-course dinner will be served starting at 5:30 p.m., and the curtain will rise at 7:30 p.m. The show will run through Aug. 13. The Alhambra is located at 12000 Beach Blvd, Jacksonville Beach. For tickets and additional information, visit alhambrajax.com or call (904) 641-1212.</p> <p>Riverside LuLaPalooza Join local retailers for a pop-up boutique featuring clothing in sizes ranging from XXS to 3XL, along with men's and kid's items. Dresses, skirts, tops and leggings will be available for purchase. The Riverside LuLaPalooza takes place on Tax Free Weekend, Sunday Aug. 6 at 2 p.m. Back-to-School discounts will be available for local teachers with a valid teacher I.D. This event takes place at 645 Oak St.</p> <p>Nature & Wildlife Exhibit Located at the St. Augustine Art Association gallery at 22 Marine St., this exhibit highlights nature and wildlife through the work of local and national artists. For more information, call</p>

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PV2-LV0913

Monday, Aug. 7	Tuesday, Aug. 8	Wednesday, Aug. 9	Thursday, Aug. 10
<p>MOSH Daily Programs Join Jacksonville's Museum of Science and History for its Daily Animal shows. On Monday at 2 p.m., explore "Skin and Scales" in the Florida Naturalist's Center, during which guests learn about the cold-blooded world of reptiles and amphibians. Prior to the program at 1 p.m., museum-goers can witness the exploration of space in the Bryan-Gooding Planetarium during "Astronaut," an interactive venture lead by a test astronaut named Chad. For tickets and additional information, visit www.themosh.org.</p> <p>'Friends for the Arts' Get involved in the arts by joining a team of fellow art supporters at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. Help develop and support fundraising projects and help initiate special projects to benefit and promote the Cultural Center and the arts in our community. For more information, visit www.ccpvb.org/friends-for-the-arts.</p> <p>PGA Championship Week at the Hall of Fame During PGA Championship Week, visitors can learn about World Golf Hall of Fame members, former champions and more at the Major Moments exhibit inside the Hall of Fame building. General admission is \$20.95. Attendees can also learn about how to get involved through membership programs and donations. The World Golf Hall of Fame building is located at 1 World Golf Place in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Florida Data Science for Social Good Reveal The 2017 Florida Data Science for Social Good (FL-DSSG) interns will discuss their findings and reveal insights gained from 10-week projects addressing public health, homelessness and post-traumatic stress. All are welcome to attend. A reception will follow the presentations at the Nonprofit Center for Northeast Florida located at 40 E Adams St. in Jacksonville. The event starts at 4:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Free Admission at Cummer Museum Every Tuesday, the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens offers visitors free admission to its galleries and gardens, for their "Florida Blue Free Tuesday" promotion.</p> <p>Tapas Tuesday The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens presents Tapas Tuesday at the Cummer Cafe every Tuesday from 5 to 7:30 p.m. View the sunset on the Cummer Cafe patio while listening to local musicians and enjoying beer, wine or artfully inspired tapas for sale at the Cafe. Reserve your table by calling (904) 899-6022. For more information, visit www.cummuseum.org. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave.</p> <p>Jax Beach Art Walk The Jax Beach Art Walk will take place Aug. 8 from 5 to 9 p.m. This family-friendly event will see local artists display their work along 1st St. from Beach Blvd. N. to 5th Ave N. Local participating businesses will be in attendance along with musicians and other live entertainers. For more information, visit www.betterjaxbeach.com.</p> <p>GhoSt Augustine Paranormal Tours GhoSt Augustine's non-theatrical ghost tours of haunted buildings have been featured on multiple TV shows such as My Ghost Story. Visitors can choose between Everdark Express or Hearse, Haunted St. Augustine, Total Paranormal St. Augustine or Dead Walk. The event takes place at 8:15 p.m. at 162 St George St., Ste. 19. Cost to attend starts at \$16, visit www.ghostaugustine.com for more information.</p> <p>The Art of Susanne Schuenke The public is invited to view artwork from international artist and St. Johns County resident Dr. Susanne Schuenke. The exhibition is on display from Aug. 1 to Sept. 21. at the St. Johns County Administration Building at 500 San Sebastian View St. in St. Augustine. Visitors must pass through a security station to reach the building's main corridor. The facility is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.</p>	<p>Wednesday Market Each Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., approximately 60 to 80 vendors participate in the Wednesday Market at St. Augustine Beach. Vendors and artists display produce, prepared foods, local seafood, art, crafts and more, placing an emphasis on home-grown and homemade items. The Market is held at the St. Johns County Pier Park at 350 A1A Beach Blvd, St Augustine Beach.</p> <p>Toastmasters Club Toastmasters Club #5199 of Ponte Vedra Beach meets every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. at the Players Community Senior Center. These meetings will help attendees improve public speaking and gain leadership skills. The senior center is located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach. Email Carmen at carmenjsardinas@gmail.com for additional information.</p> <p>Music by the Sea Concert Series The "Music by the Sea" concert series returns to the St. Johns County Pier for its 15th year, bringing free weekly concerts in a variety of genres from 7 to 9 p.m. every Wednesday. Visitors are encouraged to bring a chair or blanket. Dinner is offered for \$10 or less beginning at 6 p.m. The Aug. 9 concert will feature the group Go Get Gone. The St. Johns County Pier is located at 350 A1A Beach Blvd. in St. Augustine Beach. For more information, visit www.sabca.org.</p> <p>Summer Movie Series Ripley's Believe it or Not! and the Colonial Quarter will host a free showing of the film "Moana" at the Colonial Oak Music Park starting at 8:30 p.m. on Aug. 9. Ripley's Red Trains will provide free transportation from the St. Augustine parking garage and Ripley's stops to the St. George St. stop. The shuttles will run every 15 minutes from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. and will resume after the movie ends. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own seating. The Colonial Oak Music Park is located at 27 St. George St., St. Augustine. For more information, call (904) 824-1606.</p>	<p>Yoga for Survivors The Y Healthy Living Center at the Ponte Vedra YMCA will host a "Yoga for Survivors" class Aug. 10 at 11:30 a.m. Cancer patients, survivors, caregivers and others with range of motion and pain limitations are invited to join in this gentle and safe yoga practice, which is free and open to the public. Call (904) 202-5376 or visit www.baptistjax.com/ymca to reserve a spot. The Ponte Vedra YMCA is located at 170 Landrum Lane.</p> <p>Concerts in the Plaza St. Augustine's Plaza de la Constitución will host the oldest city's summer-long concert series, "Concerts in the Plaza." The series will provide free concerts featuring local musical entertainment every Thursday night at 7 p.m. Aug. 10, the Grapes of Roth will play classic rock. All of the "Concerts in the Plaza" shows are free to attend and visitors are encouraged to bring lounge chairs for seating. Picnic dinners are allowed, but alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the plaza.</p> <p>Bookmobile at Nocatee Town Center A Bookmobile is coming to Publix at the Nocatee Town Center every Thursday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Located at 120 Marketside Ave., Ponte Vedra Beach., the bookmobile features books, movies, music and more.</p> <p>Vinny Jacobs at Kingfish Grill Guitarist and vocalist Vinny Jacobs will be performing at Kingfish Grill Aug. 10 at 6 p.m. Jacobs is a versatile musician who specializes in solo acoustic classic rock, instrumental classical and Latin Guitar. Kingfish Grill is located at 252 Yacht Club Dr. in St. Augustine.</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 recorderintern@opclfa.com, post online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com using the</p>



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AUGUST ACTIVITIES FOR MEMBERS

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<p>Sunday Brunch Buffet Every Sunday</p> <p>Bridge Monday's at 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>Party Bridge Monday's at 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>2-4-1 Lobster Night Every Wednesday</p> <p>Prime Rib Buffet Every Friday</p> <p>Golf Club Garden Greens Every Saturday</p> <p>Junior Golf Clinic Every Tuesday</p> <p>Back-2-School Junior Golf Invitational August 7 & 8</p> <p>Member Shopping Day Tuesday, August 8</p>	<p>Pee Wee Golf August, 10, 17, & 24</p> <p>Big Trivia Challenge Friday, August 18</p> <p>Ladies Beginner Golf Clinic August 17, 24, 31</p> <p>Around the Spa Event Thursday, August 24</p> <p>Pancakes & Pajamas Kids Party Saturday, August 26</p> <p>Boyz Night Out Tennis Wednesday, August 30</p>
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PV2-LV40850

OBITUARIES



DALTON

Lorie Ann Dalton

Lorie Ann (Pieters) Dalton died peacefully on July 25, 2017 in Ponte Vedra Beach, embraced by the forever love of her family. Lorie was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, on Sept. 11, 1931 to J. Roelof and Loraine (Parent) Pieters.

On Dec. 27, 1952, she married the love of her life, Maurice J. (Bud) Dalton who had spotted her on the football field where he was participating in warm-ups while she was representing the freshman class as Homecoming Queen. They raised their family in Northbrook, Illinois, and upon retirement settled in Ponte Vedra Beach.

She was the most loving and devoted mother, delighting in her children's ac-

tivities and always being there for them in their time of need. She was a "social butterfly" who enjoyed being with her many friends and prided herself in being stylish and classy.

Lorie is survived by her devoted husband of 64 years and her four children, Diane Whittow (Brian), Linda Cooper (Dave), Susan Landgraf (Mark), and Jim (Julie) Dalton. She is further survived by 10 grandchildren and four great grandchildren who could always bring a smile to her face.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to Community Hospice Anne & Donald McGraw Center for Caring at 4715 Worrall Way, Jacksonville, FL 32224.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 16, 2017 at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 545 A1A North, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL, 32082 with Father David Keegan as Celebrant.



Lee Dorson

Lee Dorson, 77, died July 28, 2017. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com.



Oliasami

Lisa Brittany Oliasami

Lisa Brittany Oliasami, 33, loving daughter, sister, granddaughter, niece and cousin passed away on July 15, 2017, in Jacksonville Beach, Florida surrounded by her family. Lisa left us too

soon and with heavy hearts. We will miss her more than words can ever say.

Lisa was born August 3, 1983, in Houston, Texas. Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida became her second home in 1994 where she attended Nease High School and graduated in 2001. She continued her education at the University of North Florida and graduated with her Bachelor of Science in Health in 2006. Susan, Lisa's biggest fan, is heartbroken and will miss her immensely.

Lisa worked with her sister, Susan, at her parents' UPS Store. Lisa is survived by her parents Ivy and Jeffrey; sister and best friend, Susan; beloved grandmother Katherine Hibbs; Uncles Sam Oliasami, Marc Hibbs, Kevin Hibbs, and Gary Boyle; her Aunt Sheryl; and cousins. Special mention to her cousins Alexis and Samantha who shared so much of their lives with Lisa.

Lisa loved The Footprints Prayer and now for our precious girl there is only

OBITUARIES continues on **Page 11**

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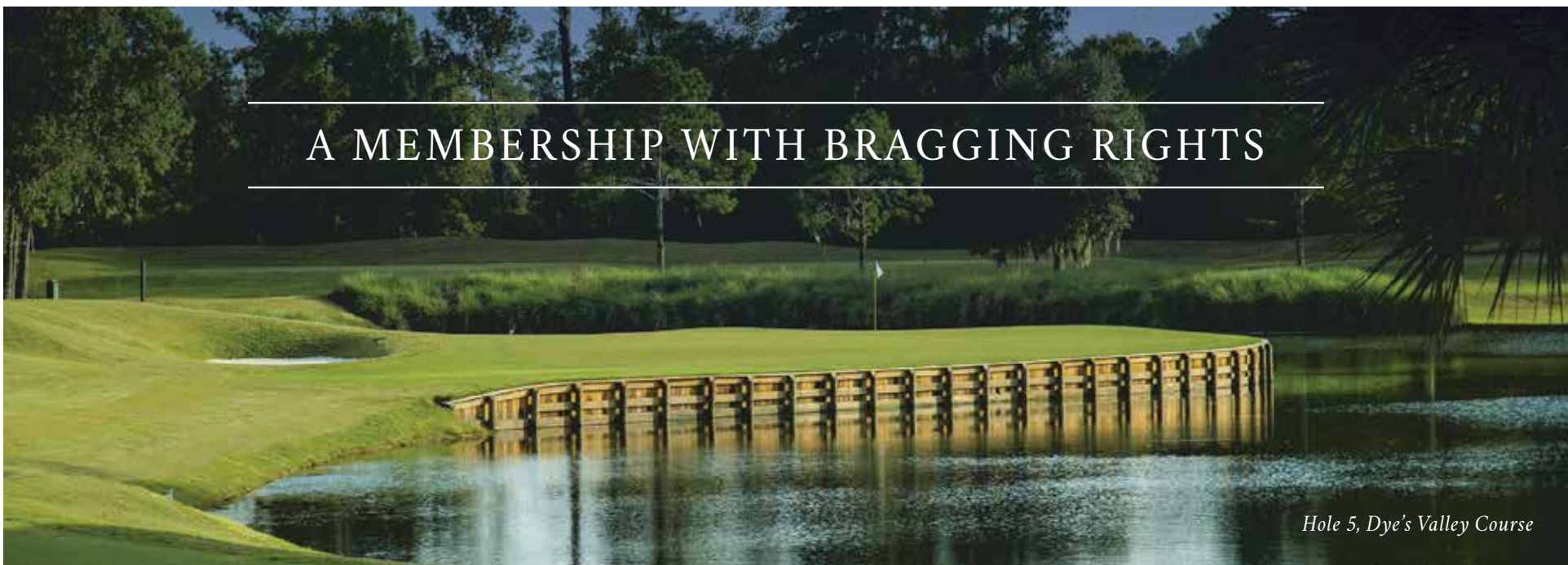
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Obituaries

Continued from 10

one set of footprints because she is being carried by the Lord.

A private service led by her cousin, Father Ryan Boyle, will be held in the chapel at the Ponte Vedra Valley Cemetery with interment to follow.

Lisa loved children and animals so donations can be made in Lisa's name

to The Gentle Barn. Donate online at gentlebarn.org/donate or mail checks to The Gentle Barn Foundation located at 15825 Sierra Highway, Santa Clarita, CA 91390.

Please sign the online guestbook at www.pontevedravalley.com



SHORT TAKES

Sing Out Loud Music Festival

The Sing Out Loud Music Festival, which will be held for three weekends in September, is the largest free music festival ever held in St. Johns County. Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from Sept. 8 through Sept. 24, music venues throughout St. Augustine will host various musical artists in a range of genres. Artists will include Steve Earle, Lake Street Dive, Wolf Parade, Dirty Dozen Brass Band and more. For the full schedule of performances and events, visit www.singoutloudfestival.com.

'The Dixie Swim Club' at the Alhambra

The Alhambra Theatre & Dining will present "The Dixie Swim Club" from Aug. 16 through Sept. 24. Starring Morgan Fairchild, the comedy follows five southern women who met on their college swim team, through 33 years of friendship. The opening performance will take place Aug. 16, with a three-course dinner to be served starting at 5:50 p.m., and the show to follow at 7:50 p.m. The Alhambra is located at 12000 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville. For more information, call (904) 641-1212, or visit www.alhambrajax.com.



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Save Guana Now celebrates one-year anniversary

By Jon Blauvelt

Save Guana Now, the local organization advocating for the preservation of the Outpost property, celebrated its one-year anniversary of nonprofit status last week.

According to Co-founder Nicole Crosby, the organization has accumulated 525 subscribers and gathered donations from hundreds of people around the country.

“It’s pretty amazing how broad the support has become,” she said in an email to the Recorder.

The Outpost property consists of 99 acres of Conservation property located at the end of Neck Road and adjacent to the Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve (GTMNERR). Ponte Vedra Corporation, who owns the property, is proposing to rezone it from Open Rural to Planned Unit Development to build a 66-home subdivision there known as Vista Tranquila.

Save Guana Now members claim development of the property would have a far-reaching impact on the environment and wildlife in the area, including migrating birds, threatened species and

species of special concern. The group has also expressed concerns about potential pollution that could contaminate the waterways, as well as increased traffic on Neck Road.

To celebrate its anniversary, Crosby said the organization has released a music video featuring drone photography by Aerial Photography Jacksonville that provides views of the Outpost that the public has never seen before. She said it also features a song performed by Elle Browning that pays homage to Joni Mitchell’s “Big Yellow Taxi” with the iconic lyrics, “They paved paradise and put up a parking lot.” In their version, Crosby said, the words are, “They paved paradise and put up some building lots.” The video can be viewed on the organization’s website: www.saveguananow.org.

The Save Guana Now co-founder also noted that the organization released its new banner at its beach meeting July 26 that depicts the bald eagle species that can be frequently spotted in tall trees on the edge of the Outpost. The banner features the photography of Graham McGeorge. Crosby added that the organization has distributed several yard signs



Photo by Marcie Hess Gallagher

Save Guana Now members display their new banner at a meeting held July 26.

and bumper stickers over the past year featuring the nature photography of Craig O’Neal, which she said has been very helpful in advancing their efforts.

“The generosity of photographers giving us permission to use their photos has been enormously helpful in telling our

story and engaging the public,” she said.

Save Guana Now is currently waiting for the Vista Tranquila proposal to go before the Planning and Zoning Agency and Board of County Commissioners. As of now, no dates for those hearings have been scheduled.

GTM Research Reserve receives grant to improve estuary health

The Guana Tolomato Matanzas (GTM) Research Reserve, and four other southeastern U.S. National Estuarine Research Reserves (NERRs), were recently awarded \$45,000 by the University of Michigan to create a region-wide teacher and student-driven program to further the understanding of restoring lost estuary habitats.

“This grant builds upon the success of the Spartina Transplant and Restoration (STAR) project conducted by the

GTM Research Reserve and the Seeds to Shoreline (S2S) program coordinated by the South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium,” said Dr. Michael Shirley, director of the GTM Research Reserve. “I’m excited that information learned on successful growing techniques for smooth cordgrass will be shared among the southeast region reserves.”

GTM Education Coordinator Kenneth Rainer will serve as lead investigator and collaborate with a team of other

education coordinators from the ACE Basin National Estuarine Research Reserve in South Carolina; the North Inlet-Winyah Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve also in South Carolina; the North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve; the Sapelo Island National Estuarine Research Reserve in Georgia; and the marine education specialist with the South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium.

The participating teachers and students will learn hydroponic growing techniques to assist the reserves in growing smooth cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*) plugs to be used for future restoration efforts. The knowledge and experience gained by the projects conducted at GTM and participating southeastern NERRs will be used to help create an online, interactive

resource center for teachers so they can integrate relevant lessons into their curriculum to support students’ education about plant growth, restoration and conservation efforts, the scientific process and data collection.

This science transfer project called “Spreading the Seeds of Estuary Health” is sponsored by the National Estuarine Research Reserve System Science Collaborative, which supports collaborative research that addresses coastal management problems. The Science Collaborative is funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and managed by the University of Michigan Water Center.

For more information about this project, email Education Coordinator Kenneth Rainer at kenneth.rainer@dep.state.fl.us or call 904-823-4500.

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Ponte Vedra student receives Craig Speziale Memorial Scholarship worth \$7,500



Jack's mother Julie Fox, Jack Fox and Ana Speziale

The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida awarded the Craig Speziale Memorial Scholarship worth \$7500 to Jack Fox of Ponte Vedra High School, a student who amassed over 386 community service hours and graduated with academic distinction.

Fox, who will be attending Notre Dame in the fall, is an Eagle Scout and the PVHS National Honor Society treasurer. He partici-

pated in cross country and wrestling during his tenure at Ponte Vedra High.

The Craig Speziale Memorial Scholarship recognizes a graduating senior who demonstrates academic excellence, school leadership and a commitment to community service.

To make donations to the Speziale Memorial fund, visit www.jaxcf.org/give/craig-speziale-memorial-fund.

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PV2-LV40924

Nemours Fund holds tea party in Ponte Vedra Beach to support Children's Specialty Care

By Samantha Logue

The Nemours Fund for Children's Health Women's Committee hosted a tea party July 28 at the Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach in support of Nemours Children's Specialty Care.

Since its founding in 1936, the Nemours Foundation, which encompasses the Nemours Fund, has been devoted to the restoration and improvement of the health of children, regardless of their financial status.

"Treating a child regardless of their ability to pay is paramount to Nemours' mission," said Lynn Erhard, wife of Dr. Michael J. Erhard, who is Nemours' new chief medical officer for Florida. "In fact, Nemours provides over \$20 million in uncompensated care annually."

According to Lynn Erhard, Nemours employs more than 110 pediatric specialists and researchers across 19 specialty divisions, and has more than 100 clinical trials currently underway that are supported by external research funding.

"Whether a child is seen at the clinic by a specialist, or benefiting from important research, or just feeling safe and comfortable in the environment dedicated solely to children, Nemours is an invaluable part of our community," she said.

For Jacksonville resident Casey Anders, Erhard's statement couldn't be more true. Anders shared her story with the attendees of the tea party, explaining that on Oct. 1, 2015, she brought her daughter Rue into the doctor's office for a precautionary check-up, only to receive shocking and devastating news: Rue had acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

"That's when our new normal began," Anders said. "When people used to say that phrase to me, 'new normal,' I hated it so much that if one more person said it to me, I would scream. But it was our new normal."

A cancer of the blood and bone marrow, acute lymphoblastic leukemia is the most common childhood cancer. After receiving the diagnosis, the Anders family was soon bombarded with medical knowledge about the disease.

"It's terrifying," Anders said. "It's overwhelming, and as a mom, through all that information, all I cared about was hearing that everything was going to be okay."

Over the next 21 months, Rue would undergo various medical treatments, including chemotherapy and monthly steroid injections.

"At the beginning of the steroids, I was like, 'I can't do this,'" Anders laughed. "If you see a toddler on steroids, you should run."

According to Anders, though, she owes the fact that she can laugh about the experience now to Nemours.

"I want you to know, it really is a personal experience with these people," she said. "It's not an easy place to be, but I know it has nothing to do with recognition. It's all about helping kids who are going through a difficult time, like my Rue."

Even as far as they've come, however, Anders and her family still have their rough days.

"It's very difficult to look back on the past 21 months of life," she said. "Every day I wish I could pinch myself and wake up and my daughter would not have cancer, but that's not reality. And then there's that part where you really do feel so fortunate to live in an area where we have access to such amazing care."

To enthusiastic applause, Anders tearfully announced that Rue's last day of chemotherapy will be Dec. 10.

"I know the relationships that we've formed over the last 21 months will far extend the 26 months of [Rue's] treatment," she said. "And from the bottom of my heart, I'd like to thank Nemours for taking such good care of my little buddy."

The Nemours Foundation will host its fifth annual "An Evening of Promise" Friday, Aug. 25 at 7 p.m. The event, which will include music and refreshments, will be held at the Jacksonville Public Library at 303 North Laura St. All proceeds will go to Nemours Children's Specialty Care. For additional information about the event, contact Kacie Shagnea at (904) 697-4415 or at kacie.shagnea@nemours.org.



Casey Anders with daughter Rue

Photos by Samantha Logue



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Since my name was mentioned in Mr. Al Aftoora's Letter to the Editor July 27, I feel I must respond. Mr. Aftoora states that our financial shortfall is all due to the rapid population growth in St. Johns County over the past 10 years. He wants the Board of County Commissioners to stop all new residential building permits in the county and to impose it immediately. His letter reminds me of the two to three calls I get a week stating, "I got mine, now make sure no one else gets theirs." In real estate law, there is something called PROPERTY RIGHTS!

The financial concern I've stated is not all due to growth. It has been heavily affected by the following circumstances:

- * The ad valorem tax reduction of 2008
- * Tallahassee putting a cap on real estate taxes collected by the county in 2007 no matter how positive the growth in the economy
- * A major setback, called the great recession, that started in 2008 that has currently left the county behind by over \$300 million in deferred maintenance and deferred capital expenditures
- * Hurricane Matthew, for which we have paid millions and will continue to do so for years to come
- * The state legislature's idiotic passage of \$25,000 additional homestead exemption that will cost the county

another \$9 – 10 million in 2019 to take effect in 2020 and every year thereafter

- * St. Johns County has the second lowest tax rate of the 67 counties in Florida and is 58 percent lower than in Duval County.

These are the reasons for the financial shortfall that will hit in the next two years.

As for the impact fees, I predict that they will be going up substantially this year. However, this will not even begin to solve the problem.

Lastly, you state that we should be "reviewing the property tax rate and make appropriate adjustments." Why would the county commission raise the millage rate

by 1.5 points to gain \$32 million of which the residents of St. Johns County would pay 100 percent, versus a one cent sales tax that would bring in the same \$32 million of which approximately 8 million tourists and passers thru would pay 40 percent of the revenue?

We need to have a funding source going forward; we don't have that now! A sales tax would have been the best and most equitable solution. Unfortunately, it's no longer an option.

Jay Morris
St. Johns County Commissioner, District 4
Ponte Vedra Beach

Two weeks ago, the St. Johns County Planning and Zoning Agency (PZA) approved a variance of easement for a proposed home on North Roscoe Boulevard that will be built high on pilings, will be over the marshland and will absorb 1000 square feet of county easement.

The PZA flipped its previous decision. PZA denied the exact same variance request in October of 2016, asking the applicant to consider a smaller home. Since October, nothing changed in the variance request. It raises suspicion when a county agency changes its mind on the exact same

information.

The PZA made the decision with incorrect information. PZA put heavy emphasis on a Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) permit as the basis of its decision. However, the DEP permit for this property had nothing to do with the variance request. The day after the hearing last week, we learned that the DEP permit was not properly processed last year, making the permit questionable. The DEP has now reversed itself and opened the permit again for public comment!

The County failed us. This location is

at a dead-end road. The county did not provision for road space to turn around in the road in front of this home, and now, the PZA just made the conditions worse. Service vehicles, fire trucks, ambulances, mosquito control trucks, utility and waste management vehicles all have extreme difficulty with the road space that the PZA just gave away. This property and the neighbor's driveways will be overrun with turnaround traffic.

The county sent a clear message. If you own land, then the county will allow you to build and capitalize on every bit of prop-

erty you own, regardless of safety or public impact. The county is clearly desperate for tax revenue money, and the PZA will sacrifice its integrity and rational thinking to generate that revenue.

It shocks the conscience that the same variance request was presented and passed, six months after being denied. Action by the PZA was suspect and has all the elements of negligence. The county has sold us short.

Nels Frostenson
Ponte Vedra

It's been distressing, to say the least, to learn that the St Johns County reserves could be depleted by 2021, if not sooner.

This conundrum didn't occur overnight. What fruitless measures have been put in place to offset the deficit? It's now perfectly clear why there has been overbuilding in the Palm Valley area, which has caused a myriad of unsolvable problems. It was an attempt for a quick fix to gain money from the sale of land to developers and allow them to build as many houses as possible to receive property tax money to

offset the shortfall.

Never mind that there is no infrastructure to accommodate a continuous inflow of people. Not to mention the fact that our narrow two-lane roads can't accommodate any more cars. Even worse, our wetlands are being filled in, and acres of ground are being covered with concrete. Where is excess water going to go during prolonged heavy rainstorms, not to mention hurricanes? We're asking for flash flooding that would result in, not only a loss of our homes, but also in a loss of our lives.

There needs to be a moratorium placed on the Ponte Vedra/Palm Valley community stating NO MORE MULTI-HOMES COMMUNITIES! In addition, there needs to be expeditious study of the flooding potential, and preventative measures need to be instituted in the immediate future. Every effort needs to be made to attempt to rectify this extremely dangerous situation.

Enough of viewing PV/PV as the source of money to compensate for the poor judgement of our county officials. It's

reached a point that our lives depend on emergency intervention. Please contact all St. Johns County commissioners and members of the Planning and Zoning Agency, and let them know that our health, safety and welfare are not bargaining chips.

Marilyn Jacobs
Ponte Vedra Beach

SHORT TAKES

Boardwalk Talk: Manhattan Beach

As part of its Boardwalk Talk series, the Beaches Museum & History Park will host a presentation entitled "Manhattan Beach: More than a Lost Landmark" Aug. 17 at 6 p.m. Speaker Brittany Cohill will give the story behind the creation of Florida's first African-American beach and its impact upon Jacksonville's African-American community in the early 20th century. The event is free for museum members with a suggested \$5 donation for non-members. The talk will be held in the Beaches Museum Chapel at 505 Beach Blvd in Jacksonville. For more information, call 904-241-5657.

Temple Bet Yam to present Trivia Night

Test your knowledge of trivia on Saturday, Aug. 12, at Temple Bet Yam, which is located at 2055 Wildwood Drive in St Augustine. The family fun begins at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person; kids under 16 participate for free. Food and prizes are included! Call Carol or Bernie for information and reservations at (954) 895-7332 or email Bernie.levy@att.net. Temple Bet Yam is devoted to the enhancement of Jewish life and was established in 1993.

Labor Day Savory Faire Food and Wine Tasting

Celebrate Labor Day with a three-hour food and wine tasting tour in St. Augustine, starting at 1:30 p.m., Monday, Sept. 4. Guests will visit various local restaurants and eateries as they sample their way around the Ancient City. Admission is \$59 per person. The tour will begin at the City Walks office at 4 Granada St. For more information, call (904) 825-0087 or visit www.staugcitywalks.com.

DEP to host single family dock building and repair workshop

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Northeast District will host a free workshop Aug. 23 from 10 a.m. to noon about departmental authorization requirements for single family dock building and repairs for existing docks. The department's self-certification and electronic permit processes along with compliance awareness issues will also be discussed. The workshop will be held at 8800 Baymeadows Way, West, Suite 100 in Jacksonville at the DEP's Northeast District building.

Ponte Vedra High School alumna working at CNN Center for Time Warner internship

By Jon Blauvelt

Elizabeth Bugbey, a 2015 graduate of Ponte Vedra High School and a rising junior at Georgia Tech, has spent her summer working at the CNN Center in Atlanta for an internship with Time Warner Inc.

A business administration major with a concentration in operations and supply chain management, Bugbey is working on process documentation and efficiency, as well as metrics analysis for the company, which she said is soon to be acquired by AT&T.

“It’s been really good,” said Bugbey, who also is working toward a certificate in business analytics and a minor in German. “It’s been really cool to be able to network with older people who can show their experiences to me.”

The Ponte Vedra native noted that working in the CNN Center has been a cool opportunity because it’s such a popular tourist attraction.

“It’s super cool working in such a fast-paced environment,” Bugbey said. “You can see people live editing the news. I’ve really enjoyed working there.”

Overall, she said her favorite part of the experience has been forming relationships with the people in the office, noting that everyone has been friendly and welcoming, ultimately making the move into corporate culture not as intimidating as it seemed.



Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Bugbey
Elizabeth Bugbey (right) sits on the set of Headline News (HLN) at the CNN Center with fellow intern Haerin Jang.

In addition, Bugbey said her time at PVHS has helped her be more prepared for experiences like this one and for college in general.

“Definitely a lot of the math skills I learned at PVHS have helped me in this job and at Tech,” she said. “Since the teachers at PVHS don’t go easy on you, it definitely prepares you for college because professors will definitely not go easy on you.”

Bugbey’s internship with Time Warner ends Aug. 11.



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PV2-LV40919

2017-2018 Florida Forum line-up features Tom Brokaw, Theo Epstein and Caroline Kennedy

The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital has announced that longtime journalist Tom Brokaw, baseball executive Theo Epstein and former diplomat Caroline Kennedy will serve as the featured speakers for the 2017-2018 Florida Forum Speaker Series at the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts.

The series, which raises funds to provide health care for children, kicks off Nov. 8 with Brokaw, who is best known as the anchor and managing editor of NBC Nightly News from 1982 to 2004. He was one of the "Big Three" news anchors in the U.S. during the 1980s, 1990s and early 2000s and is the author of "The Greatest Generation," one of the most popular nonfiction books of the 20th century, as well as five other books.

Brokaw has won every major award in the journalism industry, including Peabody, duPont and Emmy awards, and lifetime achievement recognition. In 2014, President Barack Obama awarded Brokaw with the Presidential Medal of Freedom. He now serves as a special correspondent for NBC News and works on documentaries for other outlets.

The series continues Jan. 16, 2018, with Theo Epstein, a baseball executive with the Chicago Cubs. Epstein became

the youngest general manager in the history of Major League Baseball, when the Boston Red Sox hired him at the age of 28 in 2002. In 2004, the Red Sox won their first World Series championship in 86 years and won another championship in 2007. In 2011, he resigned from his job in Boston to become president of baseball operations for the Chicago Cubs, who won their first World Series championship in 108 years in 2016.

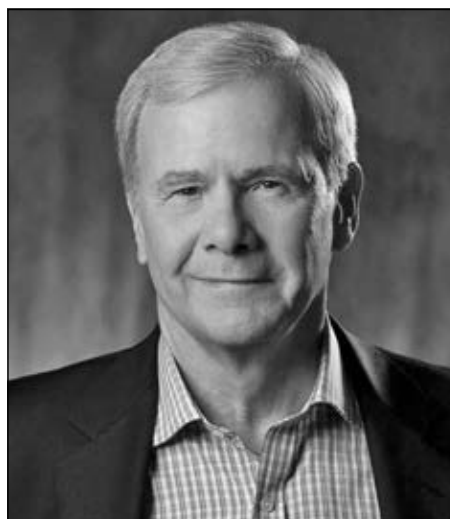
The series concludes March 5, 2018, with Caroline Kennedy, an author, attorney, and diplomat who served as the U.S. Ambassador to Japan from 2013 to 2017. She is also a prominent member of the Kennedy family and the only surviving child of President John F. Kennedy and First Lady Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy.

Kennedy is an editor of nine New York Times best-selling books on constitutional law, American history, politics and poetry. Kennedy is honorary president of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation and a member of the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award Committee. A graduate of Harvard University and Columbia Law School, she is also honorary chair of the Senior Advisory Committee of the Institute of Politics at Harvard University,

Since 1992, the Florida Forum has hosted renowned speakers from around the world, offering profound insights and discussion on a broad range of issues. The series is presented by Wells Fargo, Florida Blue and Landstar and will contribute funds for program and clinical equipment needs as part of a five-year, \$4 million pledge supporting the Pediatric Surgery Center of Distinction. For more information, go to The Women's Board website at <https://womensboardwolfsonchildrenshospital.com>.



Theo Epstein



Tom Brokaw

Photos courtesy of The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital



Caroline Kennedy

Boys & Girls Club merges with Project SOS

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida (BGCNF) and Jacksonville-based Project SOS are merging into one organization to serve youth through in-school life skills training and after-school programs aimed at teens.

"We are excited about this merger," said Pam Mullarkey Robbins, Project SOS founder and CEO. "We will continue to reach youth through our proven programming in the schools, and now we will be able to encourage teens to continue their lessons by participating in after-school programs offered by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida, and positively impact nearly 15,000 teens a year."

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida and Project SOS complement one another in mission and operations to serve youth and teens. BGCNF serves nearly 5,000 youth in after-school programs, and Project SOS serves over

10,000 youth annually through in-school programs. Locally, Project SOS has helped reduce the teen birth rate by 64 percent, juvenile crime by 35 percent and drug and alcohol use by 28 percent, according to the Florida Departments of Health and Juvenile Justice. According to data from the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, one out of every four teens leaves school with no place to go.

"Both organizations work to enhance lives to ensure a brighter future for youth in northeast Florida, and by merging, our community resources will be maximized and used more efficiently," said BGCNF President and CEO, Paul Martinez. "Project SOS serves students during their school days and the Boys & Girls Clubs serves youth in the afterschool space, and, through our collaboration, we will reach more students to make a greater impact."

United Way of St. Johns County accepts applications for partner agencies

Applications are being accepted now through Oct. 1 for nonprofits in St. Johns County that wish to become certified partner agencies of United Way of St. Johns County.

For acceptance, an organization must not currently be a certified partner agency, and it must be in compliance with all eligibility criteria and agree to comply with the membership standards as listed in the agreement document.

Although there are additional items, an organization must provide the following with its application: documentation that the nonprofit corporation is incorporated in Florida, proof of 501(c)(3) status and

authorization by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to solicit funds. The organization must also provide human services to St. Johns County residents. Human services are those services provided directly to individuals or families experiencing difficulty in meeting their basic human needs.

Visit bit.ly/2017partner to start the process of becoming a partner agency with United Way-SJC. For additional information, visit the United Way-SJC website at www.unitedway-sjc.org, or contact Jenny Harvey at (904) 829-9721 or jenny.harvey@unitedway-sjc.org.

The final cut



Ken Gillespie
Guest Columnist

By Ken Gillespie
Special to the Recorder

Over the years, this chore has cost me over \$8,000. It's consumed more than 700 hours of my life. I've been at risk in the hands of both skilled and unskilled people wielding sharp blades mere inches from my eyes. Even while physically restrained under a shroud secured at the neck, strangers chose not to intervene. I silently suffered the loss of something precious to me, yet seen by others as mere waste. As I look back, the entire experi-

ence seems surreal. I'm talking about getting a haircut.

Enough! I have resolved never to visit a barbershop again! I have started to cut my own hair. The timing is right as nature and age have left their mark, leaving me with ever-thinning strands the texture of cotton candy. I'm already counting the cash I'll save. Just as important, I'll also save my stylists from the tension they must feel as they dutifully stretch a three-minute task to fill a thirty-minute appointment. And lastly, I'll never again feel out of place as being the oldest guy in the shop.

So, after meticulous research, I bought a haircut kit. Price: \$20. What a deal; aren't I the smart one! It's a bargain considering what was in the box: an electric clipper, comb, scissors, brush, lube oil, ear

protectors, eight pages of instructions with photos and eight color-coded attachments. Trying to share my purchase enthusiasm with my wife was simply met with eye rolling. She was even less impressed as I shared a dozen YouTube videos showing how regular guys like me were getting into self-shearing.

No matter. Hey...I can do this! Off to the bathroom on a slow night; no witnesses. Here we go. The sides are no problem... smooth clipper motion while front facing the mirror. Easy now...not too deep. Looks good. Now, time to go around back: a bit more difficult now. How to juggle a clipper in one hand, a small mirror in the other, while aligning the view with a wall mirror.

Whoa! I aim the clipper to the right, but the reverse mirror image shows it going left. Disorientation! After a few tries, I manage a reasonably smooth motion from the neck up and things look reasonably ok. Now, one more piece to go...around the ears, the most challenging geography of the noggin. Whoops! In wanting to avoid

snipping my lobe, I angled the clipper a bit much and zzzzz'd deep, creating a very pronounced silver dollar size bald patch over my left ear. Uttering a loud cuss word, my wife calls to ask how it's going, followed by a sarcastic chuckle. No matter...time to regroup. I continue and finish up: mission sort of accomplished.

It's not perfect and, yes somewhat uneven. It reminds me of our last lawn cut just before I fired the landscaper. But in all honesty, who really notices an old man's hair? Out in public, I'll just favor my right profile for the next few weeks. So, if you see me around the community, be kind and don't stare. And by the way, I'm now available for consulting should any of you bros wish to take the leap!

Ken Gillespie is a Dell Webb Ponte Vedra resident and a member of the community's writing club. Now retired, Ken previously worked a long career in human resources for M&M/Mars Inc., while consistently writing for local community publications along the way.

Hollingsworth

Continued from 17

"UMSL's Chancellor's Certificate pro-

gram allows county finance professionals to broaden their knowledge and learn the latest trends in their field, which will help them administer the duties of their office more effectively," said Dr. Deborah Balser, associate professor and

director of the Public Policy Administration program at UMSL. "Dennis Hollingsworth's completion of the program demonstrates a commitment to public service."

The education program included a

peer-to-peer session, education sessions on cybersecurity and employee training. For more information on UMSL's Public Policy Administration program, visit www.umsl.edu/ppa.

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Beaches-area Rotary groups partner for second annual 'Beaches Health Jam'

The Carver Center in Jacksonville Beach will once again serve as the location of the "Beaches Health Jam" on Saturday, Aug. 5 from 3 to 6 p.m. The event, founded in 2016 by the Rotary Club of Jacksonville – Oceanside, brings together area health and healthy lifestyle organizations for an afternoon of fun.

Other area Rotary Clubs have joined together to lead the event, including Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach, Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset, the Beaches and UNF Rotaract Clubs and Fletcher Interact. Twenty-six other organizations have joined in the event, which brought out over 500 people in its first year.

"We are so thrilled to have diverse groups and organizations participating," said Cathy Hagan, the 2017 event chair. "From bike safety with Velofix to Zumba with Shakin' with Shay,

and several health organizations providing screenings and information, everyone in the community will benefit from stopping by."

One of the main goals of the creation of the event was to bring the St. Vincent's Mobile Health Unit to the beach.

"Rotary Clubs across our area worked hard to fund the Health Unit, and we wanted to find the opportunity to bring this great service to our beaches community," said Mary Stutts, president of the Jacksonville Oceanside Rotary Club. "We are so glad to be going in to a second year of successfully bringing this and dozens of other great health resources and information right to the heart of the beaches."

The event is designed for all ages, but several activities will be geared towards getting kids active, including a bouncy obstacle course, a kickball tournament and other games and activities led by the Rotaract and Interact clubs.



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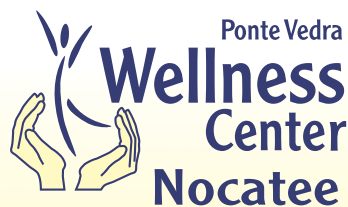


Photo courtesy of Chris Hoffman

The winners of the 2016 Beaches Health Jam kickball tournament gather together.

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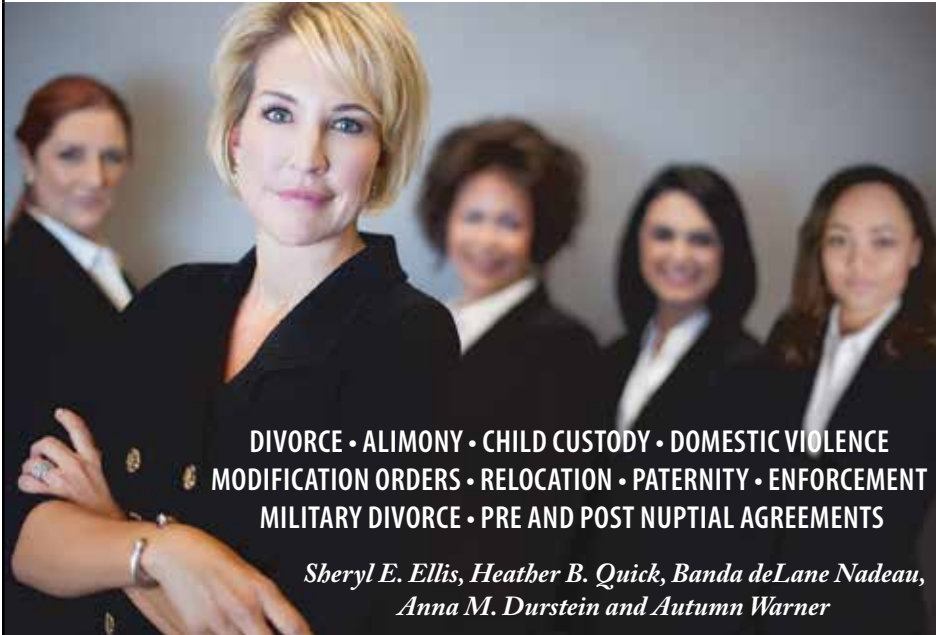
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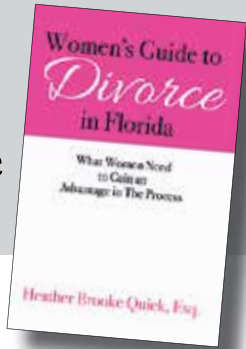
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 AUGUST 23</p> <p>THE PSYCHEDELIC FURS
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St. Johns County Chamber prepares for annual auto show



Photo by Susan Griffin

The Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce held a committee meeting July 25 at the TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse to prepare for the upcoming annual Ponte Vedra Auto Show. The auto show will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 10 at Nocatee Town Center and will be free to attend.

Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa to host solar eclipse viewing party Aug. 21

The Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa is hosting a solar eclipse viewing party on Cascades Deck at 1 p.m. on Aug. 21.

To be held at 1000 PGA Tour Blvd., attendees can celebrate the moon's path

crossing in front of the sun with eclipse-themed activities such as "make your own pinhole viewer," sun catcher painting and other earth-moon-sun crafts. The event will also feature live entertainment, specialty cocktails (the Eclipse Martini

and the Sudsy Eclipse with layered drafts Guinness and Shocktop) and culinary options like pork sliders, calzone, salads and desserts.

The entry fee is \$18.

Sawgrass Marriott contains 514 guest

rooms, suits and villas along with a full-service spa and four swimming pools. Guests can enjoy privileged access to championship golf courtesy of the adjacent TPC Sawgrass, home of the Stadium Course.

Ponte Vedra Beach Library prepares for total solar eclipse

A total solar eclipse will take place Monday, August 21, and the First Coast will have a front row seat. To celebrate the occasion, the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library, in partnership with NASA, will host a series of eclipse-related events in the days leading up to the main event:

Aug. 16

Families are invited to attend this month's "Goodnight Moon Family Bedtime Storytime" Aug. 16 from 6 to 7 p.m. Arts and crafts will be followed by stories and songs about the moon. Kids are encouraged to wear their pajamas for this family bonding experience.

Aug. 17-19

Children and their families will have the opportunity to make their own NASA eclipse models and learn about outer space in the children's department of the library Thursday, Aug. 17 through Saturday, Aug. 19.

From 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, visitors can also listen in as NASA

Solar System Ambassador Sam Turley provides tips for viewing the eclipse safely.

Aug. 21

From 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., astronomy enthusiasts of all ages will gather at the library for the live nationwide streaming of the eclipse. Glasses for viewing the eclipse safely will be provided while supplies last. There will also be a station for visitors to make their own solar eclipse viewers out of cereal boxes brought from home. The eclipse will occur between 2 and 3 p.m.

Following the eclipse, the library will show the Disney movie "Flight of the Navigator" on its large screen from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.




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New storage community for luxury vehicles coming to Nocatee in 2018

By Jon Blauvelt

A new storage facility for luxury vehicles is opening in Nocatee in early 2018.

Known as WheelHouse, the facility will specialize in the storage of high value assets, including exotic and vintage cars, boats, RVs and motorcycles. It will be located near the eastern Nocatee monument on the north side of Nocatee Parkway and off Palm Valley Road.

“We’re real excited to bring this concept to the market,” said WheelHouse President Chris Pilinko. “It’s something that really doesn’t exist today in Northeast Florida.”

The facility will feature 36 customizable storage suites that range in size from just over 700 square feet to several thousand square feet. The suites will include

cable and high speed internet, HVAC, a water and sewer connection, insulated panel and man doors, a fire protection system and 100 amp electrical service with interior lighting and an electrical package.

Suite owners will have access to the facility’s community-centered covered outdoor patio and club room, which features a big screen TV, comfortable seating, WIFI and two bathrooms with shower facilities. Pilinko noted that each storage unit is for sale, with prices starting in the low \$100s. The facility offers the option to combine units to accommodate larger collections.

The WheelHouse president emphasized that the site is safe and secure with two access gates, wide drive aisles to accommodate coming and going of larger



Renderings courtesy of Chris Pilinko

vehicles and a 24/7 security surveillance system. He also noted that it’s protected from any potential hurricanes, with the property located west of the Intracoastal Waterway and sitting 17 feet above sea level.

Pilinko said he’s spent the last few years travelling around the country to visit similar facilities in Colorado, Texas, Minnesota and California to understand what makes them successful and inter-

esting to prospective owners. Overall, he said response to the Nocatee facility so far has been positive, confirming his belief that such a facility will be popular and successful in this area.

“We’ve been overwhelmed with the amount of interest,” said Pilinko, whose facility’s website is <http://wheelhousestorage.com/>. “It’s really been exciting for us after planning this and working on this for so long.”

Nocatee Resource Day to be held Aug. 8

For the second straight year, local families will have the opportunity to meet with representatives from various St. Johns County schools, the St. Johns County Sheriff’s Office and several nonprofit organizations at Nocatee Resource Day Tuesday, Aug 8.

To be held at Crosswater Hall and the Splash Water Park from 6 to 9 p.m., the event will first feature a meet and greet with school district principals and representatives from Valley Ridge Academy, Ocean Palms Elementary School, Landrum Middle School, Nease High School and Ponte Vedra High School. District 4 School Board Member Kelly Barrera will also be present.

Deputies from the sheriff’s office will then conduct a few presentations regarding

laws that affect children, with specific topics including the consequences of texting and social media, as well as Internet safety for parents. Representatives from numerous nonprofit organizations, including EPIC Behavioral Healthcare, PACT Prevention Coalition, Tobacco Free Florida and many others, will also be on hand to answer questions and provide information on the resources they provide to the community.

Parents are encouraged to bring their children (ages 5 to 15) to the event, with supervised age appropriate games and activities planned for the evening. Free food will also be provided.

RSVP by emailing fun@nocatee.com.

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Back-to-school can be trouble for your child's back



Dr. Erika Hamer
Columnist

By Dr. Erika Hamer

Special to the Recorder

It's hard to believe, but it's that time of year again. Summer vacation is over, and it's time for kids to get back to the books. It is important to keep in mind several things that can impact your child's health when he or she returns to school. Low back pain in children is a significant concern. According to a recent survey of school-aged children, the lifetime prevalence of low back pain is over 40 percent. And up to 26 percent of children missed school because of low back pain—with over 13 percent of cases including recurring and/or disabling pain!

From activity to inactivity

Once out of school, a good number of kids spend the summer being more physically active, and activity is great for keeping the joints moving and healthy. When they go back to school, kids' levels of activity often decrease significantly. While a minimum amount of exercise is required in most curriculums, kids spend the majority of their time sitting at desks. To keep your child's joints healthy, it's important for children to have a healthy amount of physical activity planned for after school, with a minimum of two to three times per week recommended.

Posture, posture, posture

The majority of the time spent at school is sitting at a desk. Incorrect sitting positions can place an abnormal amount of pressure on the joints and discs of the lower back, and this can contribute to bouts of back pain. Be sure to review proper sitting posture with your child and solicit advice from your health care professional if unsure.

Backpacks can be a burden

According to many researchers, backpacks are a major contributor to back pain in school-aged children. Most children use backpacks that are too big for them, and they don't wear them properly. They also fill their backpacks with too many items. The effect is an overload on the lower back joints and discs, an altered spinal curve and an increase in back pain. Be sure your child has a proper backpack. Your health care professional can provide tips on the correct type, size and usage of these bags for kids.

When your child suffers low back pain

Recurring bouts of back pain not only require treatment but also investigation regarding the cause of the symptoms and tips on how to prevent it. If your child reports an acute incidence of back pain, rest and ice should be considered as your first options to decrease the symptoms. If the pain persists past one or two days, you should take your child to a professional for an assessment. Irritation of the spinal joints, muscles and discs can be as much of a problem for a child as it can be for an adult. Treatment is important to reduce the risk of your child developing a more serious or chronic back issue.

Dr. Erika Hamer, DC, DIBCN, DIBE, is a chiropractic neurologist and the owner of Ponte Vedra Wellness Center, offering chiropractic care and related health and wellness services at offices in Ponte Vedra Beach and Nocatee Town Center.



Independent private school set to open in Palm Valley Aug. 10

By Benjamin Naim

Collage Day School, a private learning institution in Palm Valley for infants through fifth grade, is set to open Aug. 10.

“There’s some very unique philosophies associated with the school that we believe strongly in,” said Karen Rieley, the school’s marketing and admissions officer, responsible for the school’s website, marketing, community outreach, branding, communications and admissions efforts.

According to Rieley, Collage will provide students with a distinct academic environment through differentiated learning, a philosophy in which faculty and administration work individually with each student to maximize their strengths and grow their self-confidence. The school will

also utilize the Reggio Emilia approach, a teaching framework based on the four components of the learning environment: the child, the teacher, the family being part of the learning process and the classroom itself.

“If a parent comes out to look at our classroom, the first thing the parent notices is we have very active looking classrooms,” Rieley explained. “There’s a lot of things going on in the classroom and a lot of elements of the classroom...that are there to encourage active learning. There is formal instruction but there’s also a lot of opportunity for them to work individually and also in groups to really express themselves.”

Another unique element of Collage, Rieley said, is the school’s Timber Nook



Photo courtesy of Collage Day School

program, which will offer students the opportunity to learn outdoors and explore nature on an 8-acre campus featuring an organic garden, a music and art garden and a social area.

“There’s a lot of activity outside that’s far beyond just playing on the swing set,” Rieley added.

Collage Day School’s curriculum will offer children the basics, such as math, science, language arts and reading. The difference, according to the school’s website, is their academic philosophy will teach students how to think, rather than what to think. That statement, Rieley noted, is not an indictment on the public-school system.

“It’s not an indictment at all,” she said.

“It’s simply stating a philosophy that we’re really trying to hold our standard to, and we believe we’ve seen it be successful already, and we believe it will be a great environment to bring to the Palm Valley/Ponta Vedra Beach area.”

Rieley cited the growth of Nocatee and the surrounding communities as the main reason Collage is opening in Ponte Vedra. Additionally, she revealed that the school’s Chief Executive Officer Dr. Katie Falwell lives in Ponte Vedra and has two young children.

“She knew the niche and the need within that niche, so this is a great way to educate her children as well as other children,” Rieley said.

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My House Fitness now open in Ponte Vedra Beach



Photos by Susan Griffin

The My House Fitness team participates in a ribbon cutting ceremony as part of its grand opening event.

By Jon Blauvelt

A new My House Fitness franchise has opened in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Located at 2 Fairfield Blvd. (Suite 4) in the same plaza as Starbucks, the gym held a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony last Thursday, July 27. The business “soft” opened in the end of June.

According to Doug Siewart, the franchise’s co-owner and one of its personal trainers, the gym specializes in individu-

alized personal training that focuses on the goals and schedules of its clients. He said clients work one-on-one or in small groups with trainers, explaining that the small group option affords people the opportunity to train with their spouse, significant other, sibling or friend.

“We really try to hone in on what they’re trying to accomplish, and we make it adaptable to their schedule,” he said. “You tell us when you want to be here, and we’ll be here.”

The franchise owner explained that the gym is essentially redesigned for each training session. Most of the equipment, he said, lines the walls of the gym, leaving the middle of the facility wide open. For each session, however, trainers move the necessary equipment for that particular client or group of clients from the wall to the middle of the facility to personify the mission of providing clients with customized training plans.

Siewart noted that clients typically

participate in programs that include two or three sessions per week, with each training session lasting about 30 minutes and ranging in cost from \$25-30. He added that the business is currently offering a \$99 first month special to its first 50 clients. For more information about the new business, call (904) 834-4711.

“It’s about the individual goals and schedules of the clients,” Siewart reiterated. “We’re making it available for clients to live fit for the rest of their lives.”

Refinishing franchise sees growth potential in Ponte Vedra

By Samantha Logue

Miracle Method, a surface refinishing franchise, will bring its services to Ponte Vedra.

Headquartered in Colorado Springs, Colorado, Miracle Method has more than 140 locations throughout the United States and Canada. With ownership seeking to expand the business even further, Vice President of Franchise Development Gwyn O’Kane said that Florida would be an ideal place to start.

“What’s surprising to me is the fact that we don’t have a lot of representation here in Florida,” the Cocoa Beach resident said. “This is a part of the country where we have a lot of tile because of

the climate...so there’s huge potential for this market compared to other markets around the country where they tend to use a bit more carpet and linoleum.”

O’Kane explained that refinishing is a practical alternative to total refurbishment, as the process only takes a fraction of the time to complete.

“The process takes, usually, a day in prep and applying the resurface material, and then the second day it’s about coming in, cleaning, finishing and cleaning up,” O’Kane said. “So it’s a very quick process for homeowners or businesses... because we can be in and out within a couple of days, as opposed to having your bathroom out of commission for weeks.”

O’Kane added that refinishing is also a much more affordable option.

“For the consumer, it’s really about offering a cost-effective alternative to complete destruction of a bathroom and rebuilding,” he said. “We often say it’s about a 75 percent less cost than complete refurbishment.”

According to O’Kane, Miracle Method’s finish is ideal not only for aesthetics, but also for sanitation.

“Wherever you have grout lines, you have the potential for grime, dirt and germs,” he explained. “Our surface actually goes over the top of grout lines, so it makes the surface look beautiful, but it also makes it much more hygienic and much easier to clean. If you’ve got peo-

ple cleaning hotel rooms, or if you’re in a hospital where cleanliness is imperative, or in a school where you want to reduce germs and keep the kids clean, this is an incredible option to not only beautify, but also sanitize and make safe.”

O’Kane advised that while the franchise does not yet have a timeline in place as to when it will be able to open its Ponte Vedra location, the decision to do so is final.

“It’s coming,” he said. “We’ve got a lot of interest across Florida now that I’m spending time here and engaged with people throughout the entire state, including Ponte Vedra, so it’s not a question of whether, it’s just a question of when.”

Woolsey Morcom joins Nocatee community

By **Samantha Logue**

Jacksonville litigation firm Woolsey Morcom has chosen to make Nocatee its new home. As of Monday, July 31, the firm's primary office is now at 203 Fort Wade Road, Suite 105.

Woolsey Morcom Law, which will maintain a second office downtown at 630 West Adams St., primarily focuses its practice on wrongful death and catastroph-

ic injury cases, family law, commercial litigation, real estate and contract disputes and criminal defense law. Firm attorneys Josh and Casey Woolsey are residents of Nocatee's Cypress Trails neighborhood and recognized the potential the area held for their burgeoning business.

"We realized some of the best attorneys at the best firms in town live in Nocatee, Ponte Vedra and surrounding areas, so we naturally came together to discuss this opportunity," Josh Woolsey said. "We are

so excited to continue helping our friends and neighbors at a convenient office location here in Nocatee."

Noelle Pecora, another Nocatee resident, recently joined the firm to head up its Wills, Trust and Estates department.

"I enjoy helping families and friends plan for the future and getting their affairs in order," Pecora said. "I firmly believe that everyone can benefit from estate planning, especially when the documents are individually tailored to your circum-

stances."

The fourth member of Woolsey Morcom's team of attorneys is Nick Morcom. Formerly a shareholder at Smith, Hulsey and Busey, Morcom joined the firm this year to lead its growing family law practice.

"Our goal is to be the law firm for Nocatee, Ponte Vedra and the surrounding areas," Morcom said. "If you have any legal issues, please feel free to call us for a free consultation."

Anytime Fitness to open new location in Nocatee

Anytime Fitness, a 24-hour, co-ed fitness franchise, will open a new gym Oct. 1 at the Nocatee Town Center.

To celebrate the new location, visitors can take a tour of the club to learn about membership and view its amenities. Anytime Fitness is offering a \$1 enrollment deal for its opening day event, which is set to take place at 680 Crosswater Parkway in Nocatee. The gym will open in a currently-under-construction building owned by Skinner Bros. Realty.

According to the club's website, the

gym is small enough to offer personalized attention for all members. Whether the goal is weight loss or increased strength, the club says the facility will offer personalized attention to help members achieve results.

Nationally, the fitness franchise has an average of 800 members. Every gym is staffed roughly 9 hours a day, but members can access the facility using a computerized key-fob system even during unstaffed hours. The club's website states that the gym will always be clean, well-

maintained and beneficial for members who want to exercise whenever and however they like. Additionally, the club states that members can work with physical trainers who will track their progress and develop a personalized workout plan.

The Nocatee location will feature circuit and resistance training machines, free weights and cardio equipment including treadmills, elliptical machines, stationary bikes and group fitness classes. The gym's "Fitness on Request" system offers members access to video workouts that

can be viewed at any time. Gym members can also access an online wellness support system at AnytimeHealth.com.

For more information on the new gym location, call (904) 474-8700 or email NocateeFL@AnytimeFitness.com. Visitors can learn more about the Nocatee community at the Nocatee Welcome Center, or by calling (904) 924-6863.

Key International tops off St. Augustine Beach resort

Coastal resort celebrates pinnacle construction milestone with summer soiree

Key International – a real estate investment and development company specializing in hospitality – has topped off the first phase of construction on Embassy Suites by Hilton St. Augustine Beach Oceanfront Resort. The resort, which will serve as a business, leisure and event destination, is scheduled to open in the first quarter of 2018.

An exclusive, on-site topping off celebration was held July 18 in the resort's oceanfront ballroom. Local city and state officials, business leaders, as well as representatives from the owner, brand and operator were on hand to celebrate this milestone in construction.

"We are thrilled to see this St. Augustine Beach resort come to life," said Diego Ardid, co-president of Key International. "Reaching this monumental construction milestone brings us one step closer to filling the need for a family-friendly resort product in this market, an unmatched beachfront location that couples an extensive collection of active and leisure amenities with modern finishes

and dependable guest services."

Set adjacent to Anastasia State Park and steps from the sand, Key International representatives say the property will be one of the only upscale beach resorts in the St. Augustine market and one of only five beach-front properties with a resort designation under the Embassy Suites by Hilton flag. Boasting 535 feet of ocean frontage, it is intended to be a wedding, vacation and business destination.

"Adapted to blend seamlessly into St. Augustine's majestic coastal skyline, this resort is a testament to both the rising demand for suite-style hotels in prominent leisure and business event destinations, and the overall flexibility of Embassy Suites' prototype," said Alan Roberts, global head, Embassy Suites by Hilton. "We are proud to add this oceanfront property to our growing portfolio of All Suites by Hilton hotels, and look forward to delighting guests with our modern value-added amenities and one of a kind upscale all-suite experience."

The resort will have 175 keys, including



Photo courtesy of Key International

Embassy Suites by Hilton St. Augustine Beach Oceanfront Resort General Manager Justin Nels, HVMG Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Richard Jones, St. Augustine Beach Commissioner Maggie Kostka, Vice President and Global Head of Embassy Suites by Hilton Alan Roberts, Key International President Diego Ardid and President and CEO of St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra, and The Beaches Visitors and Convention Bureau Richard Goldman

king, studio king, two-bedroom and queen-queen suites, and several picturesque outdoor venues with ocean views. Each suite is equipped with a separate living area, private bedroom and wet bar. In-room entertainment will be provided by two high-definition, flat-screen televisions. The second phase of construction will add an additional 90 to 100

accommodations to the resort.

Guests will enjoy a wide selection of offerings and lifestyle amenities, including 7,500 square feet of indoor meeting and social gathering space, an oceanfront pool bar, an expansive resort pool, direct beach access, multiple

Local wealth management company releases wealth-building strategy video series

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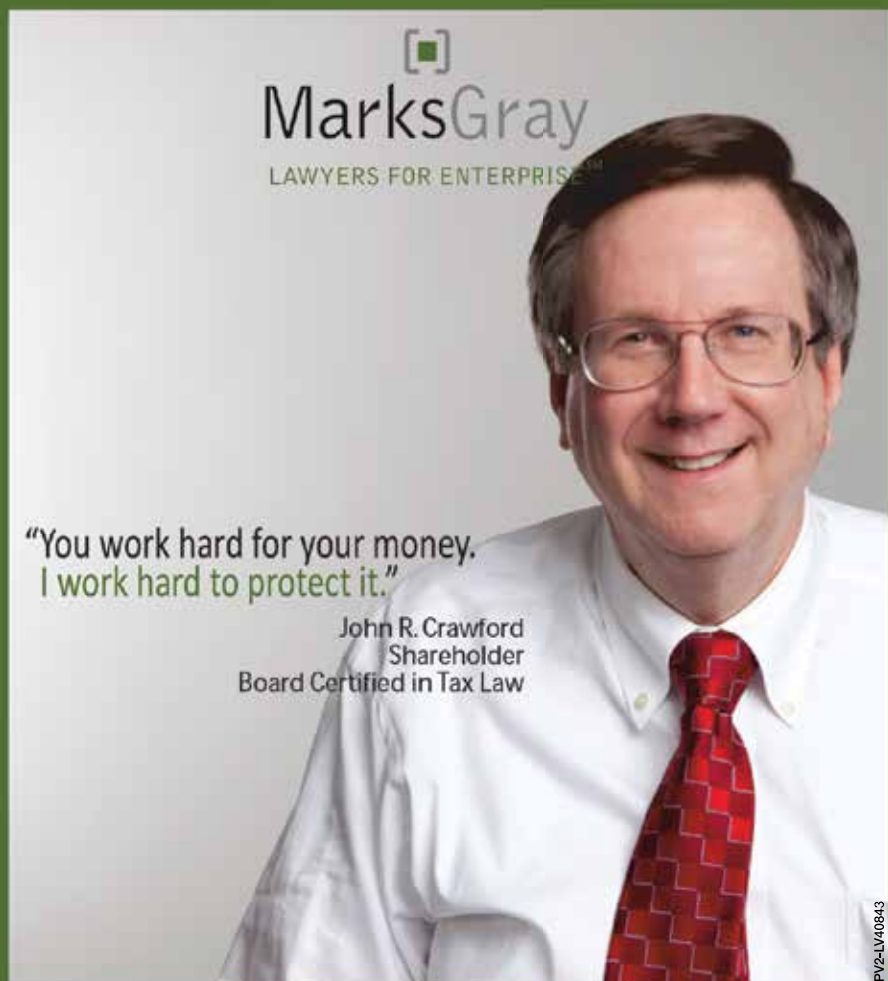
Freedom Wealth Services in Ponte Vedra Beach has released an online wealth-building strategy video series entitled “Uncover the Proven Strategies Used by the Wealthy.”

The series consists of 14 educational videos that focus on strategies used by the wealthy and the specific retirement vehicles they choose over others. Freedom Wealth Services CEO Bill Constain and his team of wealth strategists have studied the characteristics of several wealth accumulation vehicles and concluded that there’s an underlining commonality with the individuals who are best positioned for financial success: they’ve been educated on the financial principles of how to efficiently grow, protect and transfer wealth. The company says the videos series was created with this foundation in mind.

The videos are designed to empower individuals of all kinds – business owners, teachers, executives – with the knowledge needed to position themselves for financial success. The company says the videos are not meant to replace a financial advisor, but rather teach wealth-building concepts at an easy-to-understand level.

Ponte Vedra residents can access the entire videos series free of charge. To do so, visit www.freedomwealthservices.net to activate your account and start watching the videos

For more information, please contact Bill Constain and his team at (904) 373-8349 or info@freedomwealthservices.com.



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Something has to go wrong; it's been over eight years!



By Harry Pappas

Special to the Recorder

Get comfortable as I wind the clock back to March 3, 2009, when the stock market, measured by the S&P 500, bottomed and

the 2008-2009 stock market debacle was over.

Since then, the stock market has gained a whopping 334 percent (total return) and set 151 record closing highs through July 14, 2017. This equates to a 19.2 percent annual return!

Of course, the market's recovery was not straight up. In fact, we witnessed a boatload of gut-wrenching declines during the past eight years or so, as we climbed the proverbial wall of worry. Those of us that stayed the course in spite of the "head-for-the-hills" doom-sayers screaming "Armageddon" probably weathered the fiasco just fine.

There will always be the nattering nabobs of negativism calling for another stock market crash. One does not have to be educated in stock market

analysis to understand that nobody, and I mean nobody, knows the direction of the stock market. It is a loser's game.

Nevertheless, until we invent a cure for the human tendency to flee the stock market in panic, the Wall Street graveyard will continue to overflow with cadavers of those who allowed their emotions to get the best of them. To my chagrin, I am unfairly accused as a being a "perma-bull" and/or a "pie in the sky" optimist. Nothing could be further from the truth. I am a realist, not an optimist.

Nonetheless, I get it that many peeps simply cannot shake the memory of the stock market crash of 2008-2009, as it was a painful and frustrating time in our lives. It was downright scary and remarkably disturbing. Frankly, I do not blame people for wanting to hit the panic switch, as it is in our DNA to act accordingly, especially when the chicken littles are out in force and the bears, on cue, are yelling, "I told you so."

Furthermore, I understand the temptation to believe the Armageddon scenario, but I encourage you not to listen to the chatter. Pay no attention to the voices of doom and gloom. Just "fuhgeddaboutit!" No matter how

tough it gets, we must not give in. Instead, we must dig in!

The fact of the matter is that periodic crises are inevitable, but a recovery has historically followed. Heck, if we are looking for a reason to be worried about stocks, there are plenty of headlines right now to light our fuse. Sure, there will be a time when we witness another recession, and stocks will underperform once again. In fact, we could witness a stock market crash that pales in comparison to the 2008-2009 mess.

Bubbles and busts have been happening since the dawn of financial markets, and I suggest that they will continue to happen going forward. Therefore, when (not if) it happens, instead of worry or hitting the panic button, let's say, "It's about time. Bring it on!" In other words, let's be ready "mentally" for the next decline. Let's not try to duck the inevitable. Instead, let us meet the next stock market adversity head on, as we know that history tells us that a recovery always happens and stocks move higher.

I suggest that we follow the words of wisdom from the legendary Warren Buffet who said in his 2015 annual letter, "For 240 years it is a terrible

mistake to bet against America, and now is no time to start." Let's relax and stop overthinking what the market will do in the future.

Harry Pappas Jr. CFP®

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Financial focus: become familiar with these five key areas



By Karsten L. Jacobson

Special to the Recorder

As an investor, what are your goals? You can probably think of quite a few — but over the course of your lifetime, your objectives typically will fall into five key categories. And once you're familiar with these areas, you can start thinking of what they'll mean to you in terms of

your financial and investment strategies.

So, let's take a look at each of these areas and see what they might entail for you:

Preparing for retirement — With advances in health care and a greater awareness of healthy living practices, many of us can expect to live two or three decades in an active retirement. To pay for all those years, you'll need to save and invest early and often. So, while you're working, take full advantage of your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan, as well as contribute to a traditional or Roth IRA. After understanding your desired retirement lifestyle, your financial advisor can help you determine how, and how much, to save to provide for your income in retirement.

Planning for the unexpected — You can't see into the future, so you'll need to prepare for anything that comes your way. By building an emergency fund containing six to 12 months worth of living expenses, you can possibly avoid dipping into your long-term investments to pay for things such as a new furnace or a major car repair. And planning for the unexpected also means having sufficient life insurance to provide for your family in case anything happens to you.

Educating your children — College is already expensive — and college expenses have been rising faster than the overall rate of inflation. If you want to help your children, or grandchildren, pay for school, you may want to invest in a college savings vehicle, such as the 529 plan. You can contribute large amounts to a 529 plan, and earnings have the opportunity to grow tax-free, provided withdrawals are used for higher education. (Withdrawals not used for education are subject to income taxes and a 10 percent penalty.)

Living in retirement — Once you reach retirement, your investment emphasis will shift somewhat, from accumulating resources to making them last. By working with a financial advisor, you can develop a withdrawal strategy that can help ensure you don't outlive the income you receive from your 401(k), IRA

and other sources. At the same time, given the possible length of your retirement, you can't ignore the need to invest for growth, so you may need to consider some growth-oriented vehicles in your portfolio to help your income keep pace with inflation.

Transferring your wealth — When you've worked hard your whole life, you want to be able to leave a legacy — one that allows you to provide financial resources to the next generation and to those charitable organizations you may wish to support. So, when it's time to think about transferring your wealth, you'll want to consult with your financial and legal advisors to create an estate plan that's appropriate for your needs. And because these plans can take significant time to create, you won't want to wait too long to start.

So, there you have them: five key financial areas on which to focus as you travel through life. By doing your homework, planning ahead and getting the help you need, you can make the journey a pleasant and productive one.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones financial advisor. Karsten L. Jacobson is a financial advisor for Edward Jones at 2208 Sawgrass Village Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach.

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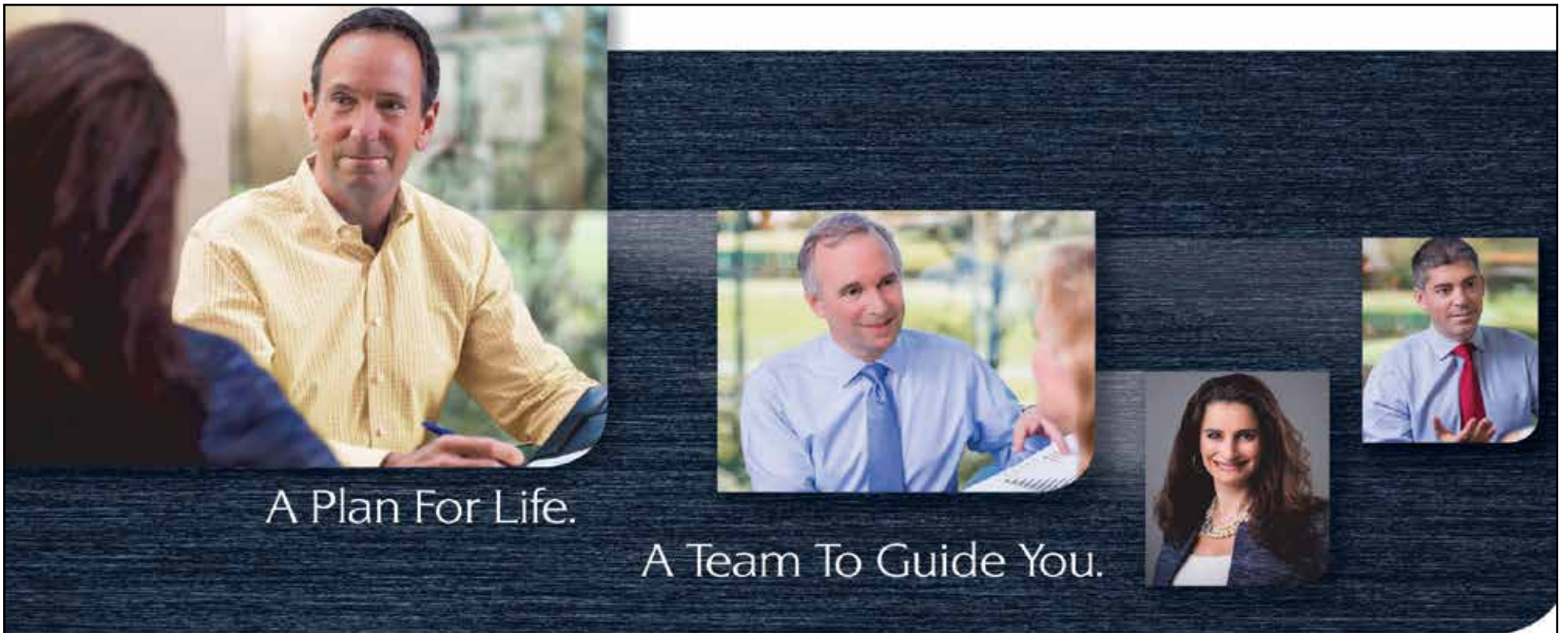
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Resort

Continued from 27

dining options and a fitness center. The hotel will also offer guests Embassy Suites' signature amenities, including free made-to-order breakfast each morning and a complimentary two-hour evening reception with drinks and snacks.

As a licensed Starbucks® franchise, the resort will also include a full-service coffee experience, serving as a gathering place for guests and locals seeking a caffeine fix, cold-pressed juice, pastry or on-the-go snacks.

The resort offers an intimate outdoor dedicated wedding lawn, complete with a pergola framing the St. Augustine

Beach pier, as well as an indoor ballroom. The site will feature a simplistic, flexible design that can be altered to fit any style or occasion.

J. Banks Design, the award-winning team behind the new Embassy Suites by Hilton interiors, was selected for their expertise in coastal hospitality design. A symphony of colors and textures can be found in every room, using local materials like Coquina from neighboring beaches, coral stone, wood ceilings and over-scale driftwood sculptures.

Designed by the architects of PFVS Architecture, the new Embassy Suites by Hilton will pay tribute to the "Nation's Oldest City," pairing the charm of a Mediterranean villa with the elegance and amenities of a beachfront destination.

The property occupies a 6.5-acre enclave stretching from A1A Beach Boulevard to the Atlantic Ocean, allowing for

maximum ocean-view accommodations. Its location next to Anastasia State Park prevents any development to the north, preserving the views of St. Augustine Beach from the lobby, outdoor terrace, ballroom windows and pre-function terrace.

Key International has partnered with hotel operator Hospitality Ventures Management Group – an Atlanta-based, fully-integrated hotel management and ownership company – to manage the resort. The new property, which Key International acquired for \$4 million in 2015, joins the firm's portfolio of hospitality, commercial and residential real estate projects throughout the Southeast U.S. and in Spain. Key International owns and manages a diverse collection of hotels, several of which are under the Marriott, Hilton and IHG flags.

FirstAtlantic Bank adds Greg Totten as new assistant vice president

FirstAtlantic Bank has added Greg Totten to its team as an assistant vice president and financial center manager. He will be responsible for managing the Ponte Vedra Beach financial center, which is located at 100 Corridor Road South, and developing new customer relationships.

Totten brings 30 years of financial services experience to his new position. He was most recently with Coastline Federal Credit Union and is the past president of the Ponte Vedra Beach Chamber of Commerce, as well as a volunteer for the United Way, March of Dimes and the St.

Vincent de Paul Society. He received a Bachelor of Arts in business management from Saint Thomas University in Miami.

"We are very pleased to have Greg join our team," said FirstAtlantic President and CEO Mitchell W. Hunt, Jr.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty welcomes Helen Kelble to Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty has added Helen Kelble to its Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office.

Originally from the United Kingdom, Kelble's sense of adventure has led her around the world. Joining Cunard as an officer on-board the Queen Elizabeth II, Kelble was able to travel extensively before settling in Washington, D.C., in 1990. As an employee of the World Bank Group for over a decade, Kelble gained insight into the diversity of the world's multicultural environment through working with people of all nationalities.

Kelble relocated to Jacksonville with her husband in 2007. She worked for J.P. Morgan Chase in the mortgage banking industry for ten years, sharpening her ability to not only manage multiple projects simultaneously but also to adapt to the challenging finance industry while meeting deadlines in this fast-paced environment. She said interacting with fellow buyers in her new housing community ignited her

passion for real estate.

"I joined Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty because of its professional standing, well-structured management, and international reputation," Kelble added.

Kevin Waugaman, broker/manager of the Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office said Kelble is a perfect fit for their company.

"She embodies our company culture of 'gracious with a kick,' and I look forward to seeing all that she will achieve at Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty," he said.

For more information, Kelble can be reached by phone at (904) 552-1977; by email at Helen.Kelble@FloridaNetworkRealty.com; or by website at Living-Jax.com. The Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office is located at 333 Village Main St., Suite 670 in Ponte Vedra Beach.



Photo courtesy of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty
Helen Kelble

Trailmark honored at Excel Awards

GreenPointe Communities, LLC was honored by the Florida Home Builders Association with two Excel Awards for TrailMark, a master-planned community located in northern St. Johns County. TrailMark was recognized with Excel Awards for Best Billboard and Best Newspaper advertisement.

"We are thrilled to receive this recognition for our commitment to excellence and for successfully communicating TrailMark's natural surroundings, outdoor

inspired amenities and healthy style of living through our advertising and marketing efforts," said GreenPointe Communities Marketing Director Gaynelle James. "TrailMark offers the lifestyle families today are seeking. We appreciate the accolades from our industry peers and we hope it will encourage everyone to visit our community and learn more about living at TrailMark."

The billboard campaign showcases TrailMark's relationship with nature and

recreation with a twist. The billboard links these moments with a title that's a take on how busy people connect via technology (Instant Messaging, Group Chat and Livestreaming), bringing the idea back to the TrailMark lifestyle. The "Roaming" billboard maintains the community's simplicity with imagery that evokes childhood memories of wide open spaces and room to roam. The call to action, Live Life Connected, reinforces the joy of being connected to nature and each other, while relishing being disconnected from the digital world. The billboard accumulated more than 1 million impressions during the campaign.

The newspaper campaign also demonstrates the beauty and value of slowing down and enjoying the outdoor lifestyle offered at TrailMark. The "Live Life Connected" series of ads offers a clever play on the way busy people stay connected with a new way to interpret these terms, TrailMark-style. At the community, livestreaming is about being outdoors and taking advantage of the Six Mile Creek and Mill Creek waterways bordering the property while enjoying a healthier lifestyle and unique recreational activities in the neighborhood. The advertisements were published in Northeast Florida daily and monthly newspapers.

Ponte Vedra Concert Hall to host “Godspell” performance featuring artists from Jacksonville-area high schools

“Godspell” depicts the Gospel of Matthew with a contemporary spin

Apex Theatre Studio will present “Godspell,” a modernized theatrical performance of the Gospel of Matthew, live on stage at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall this weekend, Aug. 4 and 5.

“Godspell” utilizes a variety of musical styles and theatrical formats to depict the Gospel of Matthew with a contemporary spin. The production features young artists from five Jacksonville-area high schools, including Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, Atlantic Coast High School and Stanton College Preparatory School. Joshua K.A. Johnson, a rising freshman at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, will play the role of Jesus Christ.

Tickets for “Godspell” are on sale now and can be purchased at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, the St. Augustine Amphitheatre Box Office or at ticketmaster.com. The Aug. 4 performance will start at 8 p.m. while the Aug. 5 production will feature two showings, a matinee at 2 p.m. and an



Photo courtesy of Apex Theatre Studio
Joshua K.A. Johnson will play the role of Jesus Christ in this weekend’s production of “Godspell” at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall.

evening performance at 8 p.m.

Apex Theatre Studio Inc. is a non-profit performing arts training center that fosters aspiring artists through a series of classes, intensives, readings and theatrical presentation.



Photo courtesy of St. Augustine Amphitheatre

Multi-platinum artist Jack Johnson returns to St. Augustine

Granny-award winning musician and film-maker Jack Johnson will return to the St. Augustine Amphitheatre for a two-night concert run with guest Bahamas Oct. 2 and Oct. 3.

Johnson, who performed at the Amphitheatre in 2014, will release his 7th studio album “All the Light Above It Too” Sept. 8. The multi-platinum recording artist has released six studio albums and two live albums since 2001. Along with his wife Kim, Johnson founded the Kokua Hawaii Foundation to support environmental education in Hawaii’s schools and com-

munities, as well as the Johnson Ohana Foundation to support environmental, art and music education worldwide.

Green Hands Initiative will work with the St. Augustine Amphitheatre to integrate a number of energy and waste reduction plans into Johnson’s concerts. Six filtered-water refill stations will be available for attendees, coupled with BPA-free concessions featuring boxed water and Green Hands Nalgene’s refillable water bottles.

Doors open at 5 p.m., with the concert starting at 6:30 p.m.

Auditions coming up for Jacksonville Symphony’s First Coast Nutcracker Ballet

Auditions for “The First Nutcracker” by Jacksonville Symphony will be held Aug. 25 and 26 at the Douglas Anderson School of the Arts.

Registration will be in the lobby of the building, located at 2445 San Diego Road., 30 minutes prior to the date and time assigned to each age group. Performance dates are Dec. 15, 16, and 17 in addition to school performances on Dec. 14 and 15.

Audition times on Aug. 25 will be 4 to 6 p.m. for advanced dancers (male and female ages 15 and older) and 6 to 8

p.m. for intermediate dancers (male and female ages 11 to 14).

Auditions times on Aug. 26 will be 10 to 11:15 a.m. for dancers ages 11 and older and 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for dancers ages 9 to 10.

The Jacksonville Symphony is a nonprofit offering live performances at Jacoby Hall in the Times-Union Center for Performing Arts and other venues. The symphony also provides music instruction for youth. For more information, visit www.jaxsymphony.org.

Florida Oktoberfest & Music Festival set for Jacksonville

Festival will feature performances by rock, alternative and country artists

The inaugural Florida Oktoberfest & Music Festival, featuring stars from rock, alternative and country music, will take place Oct. 6, 7 and 8 at Jacksonville’s Metropolitan Park at 1410 Gator Bowl Blvd.

The event will showcase a group of tribute bands Oct. 6, while Oct. 7 and 8 will be designated for national headliners and supporting artists in rock, alternative and country. The festival will feature activities for all ages including a 100-foot Ferris wheel, games and arts and crafts vendors. Additionally, German-inspired dishes from 15 food trucks will be available for purchase along with German and Oktoberfest-style ales.

The Florida Oktoberfest & Music Festival is partnering with local charities such as Communities in Schools,

War Fighters in Arms, K9s for Warriors, the Jacksonville Jaycees, the Fraternal Order of Police and others.

Tickets go on-sale to the public Aug. 3.

“The Florida Oktoberfest & Music Festival will generate a lot of excitement and showcase Jacksonville as a destination for entertainment,” said President of 904 Happy Hour Charles Wagoner. “Events like this have a major impact on tourism and the local economy, and I am excited to promote this festival across the country.”

For ticket prices and more information about the featured artists, visit www.TheFloridaOktoberfest.com, www.facebook.com/FloridaOktoberfest or www.instagram.com/FloridaOktoberfest

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Four Jaguars practices remain on training camp schedule for public

The Jacksonville Jaguars are winding their way through the 2017 training camp, completing six of 10 practices that are open to the public.

The team will hold an open practice today, Aug. 3, from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the practice field adjacent to Everbank Field.

Tomorrow on Aug. 4, the Jags will hold their Florida Blue Family Night Scrimmage at Everbank Field from 6 to 8:30 p.m., with gates opening at 5 p.m. Before the practice, the event will feature opportunities for Jaguars alumni & The Roar autographs from 5:15 to 5:45 p.m. Following practice, fans will have the opportunity to get autographs from current Jaguars players, as well as enjoy fireworks. Tickets are free, but parking is \$5.

To register for tickets, visit <http://www.jaguars.com/familynight/>.

Open practices for the Jaguars will conclude next week when the team holds joint training camp Aug. 14 and 15 with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Both practices/scrimmages will take place from 10 a.m. to 1:05 p.m. in the field adjacent to Everbank.

To attend any practice outside of the Florida Blue Family Night Scrimmage, fans should register in advance online at www.jaguars.com/trainingcamp. Gates will open 30 minutes prior to the start of practice. Parking is available in Lots M and N, and concessions and merchandise will be available for purchase on site. Limited player autograph availability will occur at the conclusion of each practice.



Photos by Jon Blauvelt



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Bolles School graduate U Minn Woon captures 56th Jacksonville Amateur Championship

U Minn Woon of Jacksonville broke away from a tight pack on the back nine at Jacksonville Golf and Country Club July 22 to win the 56th Jacksonville Amateur Championship by three shots over Jeff Golden of Jacksonville and Graham Nichols of Timuquana Country Club.

Woon, a 22-year-old graduate of The Bolles School in 2013 and Farleigh Dickinson University this spring, recorded seven pars and birdies on Nos. 14 and 18 on his incoming nine to shoot a 2-under-par 70. His total was 4-under 212 for the three trips around the 6,892-yard layout.

With his mother Karyne following him every step of the way, Woon collected his first trophy since winning three college events while playing for Teaneck, New Jersey, -based Farleigh Dickinson. The Malaysian-born Woon came to the United States six years ago and hopes to turn professional in the future. He plays out of St. Johns Golf and Country Club in St. Augustine.

Golden was in ninth place, three shots back starting the day. Nichols, a Wake Forest student, was eleventh and five shots out of the lead. They posted rounds of 72 and 70, respectively, to finish at even-par 216.

Several of the 36-hole contenders had a rough go of things on Saturday. First- and second-round leader Toby Ragland (77)

had an incoming nine of 40 to dash his title hopes. The former University of Florida golfer finished solo seventh.

Another Bolles graduate, Osborn Theam, was one shot off the lead when the day began but drifted down the leader board with a back-nine 40 of his own to finish fourth.

Of the five golfers who were two off the overnight lead, only Mark Spencer could mount a charge. The 2017 Underwood Cup team member jumped into the fray with birdies on the sixth and 10th holes. Bogeys on 12, 16 and 17 sunk his chances. A 74 resulted in a T4.

Davis Roche (72) of the host club and Valdosta State rounded out the fourth-place finishers.

Defending champion Philip Loeb added his third consecutive 74 to place T13.

Former Amateur Championship winners Duke Butler IV (2009) shot 76 to finish T8, while Mike Bodney (1990) and David Anthony (2006) both placed T15.

The championship was conducted by the Jacksonville Area Golf Association (JAGA).

The rotation of future host venues includes Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, Sawgrass Country Club, Deerwood Country Club, Marsh Landing Country Club, San Jose Country Club, Timuquana Country Club and Queen's Harbour Yacht & Country Club.

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New lacrosse club based in Ponte Vedra to form

In response to the growth of competitive lacrosse in North Florida, X Factor Lacrosse Club is launching a new, elite travel boys lacrosse program based out of Ponte Vedra, with tryouts to take place the weekend of Aug. 12-13 at Landrum Middle School.

Under the leadership of former United States Naval Academy 2013 graduate and starting midfielder Bryce Dabbs, X Factor Lacrosse is coached by knowledgeable leaders and former players who have played at the highest level of competition possible in high school, club, collegiate and professional settings.

According to the club, its mission is to provide a transformative impact to the mindset, exposure and lacrosse IQ of its athletes. In addition, the club says

life lessons are taught on a daily basis, and influential mentorship is continuous. For high school athletes engaging in the tedious process of finding the right four-year home in college, X Factor Lacrosse Club coaches believe they have the tools, experience, and situational awareness to assist.

“We look forward to breaking barriers with our athletes to become stronger as both students of the game and as people,” said Dabbs. “Our players will find there is a direct correlation between lessons taught on the field and those that take you far in life.”

Dabbs will be joined by former NCAA Division 1 players Graham Dabbs, (Furman University, attack) and Jay Christopher (U.S. Naval Academy, defense).

Ponte Vedra Youth Lacrosse co-founder and high school lacrosse coach Dan McAulliffe said the community’s local young athletes, as well as those who recently graduated, have already benefited and will continue to benefit greatly from Dabbs’ experience, as well as from his leadership skills by leading men and women day today within the Navy.

“The character and vision that Bryce possesses is exactly what Ponte Vedra and North Florida needs to develop these athletes and more importantly develop men and women of character,” said McAulliffe.

Former Ponte Vedra High starter, St. Johns County Player of the Year and Towson University Men’s Lacrosse athlete Andrew O’Dare said X Factor has

helped him to learn to put full effort into everything he does, both mentally and physically.

Tryouts are free and will be held at Landrum Middle School fields as follows:

- Saturday Aug. 12th graduation Year 2023: 9-9:50am
- Saturday Aug. 12th Graduation Year 2022: 10-10:50am
- Sunday, Aug. 13th All High School athletes: 3-4:30pm

The high school, 2023 and 2022 teams will play against elite-level teams in tournaments along the U.S. East Coast. X Factor Lacrosse is part of X Factor Training, directed by former Clemson University/Dallas Cowboys defensive back Xavier Brewer.

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ACROSS

- Pink, as in steak
- “Death ____ for Cutie”
- Rum cake
- Czech or Serb
- “____ and hearty”
- Equipped with feathers
- Weather ____
- Seed covering
- Desktop pictures
- *The boss
- 32-card game
- Delhi dresses
- How the weasel goes
- Develop, as in story
- Covered porch
- Jersey call
- *Storage
- Garden ear
- Wet nurses
- Owned
- Ohio metropolis
- Ingrid Bergman to Isabella Rossellini
- Saudi Arabia money, pl.
- Masseur’s office
- Pastoral
- Right to enter
- Lincoln lumber
- ____ New Guinea
- *Paper mistake

- *Learning space
- South Pacific sailboats
- Angler’s decoy
- Arm bone
- Black Beauty, e.g.
- Singer Tori
- Skirt opening
- 15th of March
- Who’s from Mars?
- Hippocrates’ promise, e.g.

DOWN

- A requested response
- Wing-shaped
- Feminine of raja
- Be that as it may
- Plural of carpus
- Batman to Bruce Wayne
- *End of class notice
- *Worn to school
- Dwarf buffalo
- Out of shape
- *Found in the back of many year-books
- Bob, e.g.
- Golfer’s sun protection
- “When a Stranger ____”
- p in mph
- Savory taste
- Wanderer
- Like beer head
- Sacred Hindu writings

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					5			

- Relating to Scandinavia
- What ball does on New Year’s
- Pavlova and Karenina
- Swanky
- Mary ____ businesswoman extraordinaire
- *Special permission
- Singular of asci
- Equip with sails
- Memory failures
- These lips sink ships
- Enrico, of operatic fame
- D’Artagnan’s hat decoration
- Hammerin’ Hank
- Trampled
- Bygone era
- Chowder protein
- Paella pot
- Dealing with a problem
- *Calculating subject
- *Between Sigma and Epsilon ships

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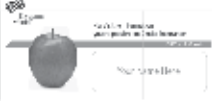
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