

# Ponte Vedra Recorder



November 17, 2016  
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75 cents

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

PonteVedraRecorder.com



## Gifts of Giving

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## Business Weekly



WCA breaks ground in Jacksonville, set to open in Fall 2017



### Hurricane recovery deadlines to know



By [Name] [Title]  
[Text]

### Jewelry designer Erica Courtney visits Ponte Vedra Beach for trunk show at Underwood Jewelers

By [Name] [Title]  
[Text]

## Business Weekly

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## Sharks head to semi-finals

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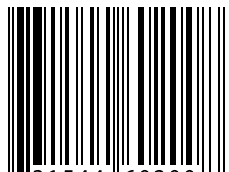
# Thank you, veterans

Local residents paid tribute to the nation's veterans last week with parades, ceremonies, luncheons and more. Read more in our special 'Salute to Veterans' section that begins on page 20.



Photo by Jennifer Logue

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## Real Estate Cannot be Lost, Stolen Nor Carried Away...

-Franklin D. Roosevelt



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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](mailto:pvrecorder@opcfla.com) or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach.**



Visit our new website at [www.pontevedrarecorder.com](http://www.pontevedrarecorder.com)

Plus, find the Recorder on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ThePVRecorder](http://www.facebook.com/ThePVRecorder)

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

S	T	E	A	L	E	E	K	L	O	C	I
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2	9	7	3	1	6	8	4	5			
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9	5	6	7	2	8	3	1	4			
7	4	3	1	6	9	5	2	8			

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

## WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

Email your answer to [jennifer@opcfla.com](mailto:jennifer@opcfla.com) by Tuesday 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.

Several readers correctly identified last week's photo as the Sawgrass Country Club sign. Winner of the random drawing was **Jamille Engstrom** – congratulations! You may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during regular business hours.



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

## ADOPT A PET

### CAT OF THE WEEK

Hi there! My name is Jasmine and I am a 14-week-old female kitten who is looking for a new home. I was brought to the pet center because I was found outside all alone with nobody to care for me. As this animal was a stray there may be some traits that are unknown at this time. Come visit us today here at the pet center! #34529



### DOG OF THE WEEK

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



here at the Pet Center! #34485

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

## St. Johns County Pet Center

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



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# KIDS

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**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

The Board of County Commissioners in St. Johns County, at the request of the PGA Tour, wants to experiment with electronic billboards on I-95 for two years.

When asked why, they said it would help advertise the Hall of Fame at the World Golf Village. Commissioner Rachael Bennett, a supporter of developers and business, helped usher this quietly through the system for the past eight months.

They added it to a new, needed change in the sign ordinance and it almost got through before three citizens saw it. The board scolded these citizens and passed it on to the PZA, the next step in the process.

When citizens first elected me to the Board of County Commissioners in 1999, they made it known to me that they wanted an overlay district to control signs in Ponte Vedra. When they got it, all the other coastal areas wanted the same; soon that desire spread all over the county. These citizens and the rest of the county went a step further. They wanted to get rid of billboards altogether. Over the past 16 years, they

were reduced from 579 to 278. Also, electronic billboards were forbidden.

The PGA Tour is almost a sacred cow in St. Johns County. The elected officials jump when called. They did this time but under a cloud of distraction by a hurricane and another ordinance to hide it within.

They passed it to the PZA, but it will come back to them, this time in the light of day and lit up by a bunch of very angry and disappointed citizens. Words are being yelled, saying it's dangerous and distracting, it's tacky and ugly, it's against everything we stand for, it's a form of light pollution. Who asked for this? Not the citizens.

Who is being paid off? The Tour wants it. Who elected them? Who are they wining and dining? Who comes first, the citizens or the Tour?

We are reminded about the foot in the door being just a start. So my friends and neighbors, it's your community, your county, step up or kiss it good bye. Reckon the turtles will see them.

*Mary Kohnke  
Ponte Vedra Beach*

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JON BLAUVELT

## Recorder welcomes Jon Blauvelt

The Ponte Vedra Recorder has named Jon Blauvelt as reporter/production coordinator.

In his new role, Blauvelt will write articles for the paper's news, features and business coverage, providing in-depth coverage of local issues and events.

"We are thrilled to have Jon join our team," Managing Editor Jennifer Logue said.

"For nearly 50 years, the Ponte Vedra Recorder has been the paper that local residents trust for thoughtful, intelligent reporting, and Jon's strong journalism background and exceptional writing skills will help us to continue to offer Recorder readers the stellar reporting they expect and deserve."

A Pennsylvania native, Blauvelt holds degrees from Penn State in both broadcast journalism and political science.

He brings experience in print and broadcast journalism as well as corporate communications to the Recorder.

He also has well-established ties to the Ponte Vedra community: Blauvelt's grandparents have been residents of Vicar's Landing and previously Solana Road for many years.

"I couldn't be more excited to report in such a beautiful community that has always held a special place in my family's collective heart," Blauvelt said. "I'm very thankful to be part of the Recorder team."

# Celebrate the women who won

By Edith Andersen

...to all of the little girls who are watching this, never doubt that you are valuable and powerful and deserving of every chance and opportunity in the world to pursue and achieve your own dreams."

Hillary Clinton's concession speech was probably the hardest speech she's ever given.

Yet, I believe that her path-breaking life prepared her, and she delivered it spot on. In every defeat lies a lesson and opportunities to bring home the prize. At this time, in this country, the price is greater involvement by women in government and a kinder world.

The day after the election, three of my granddaughters – college freshmen, one is gay and another biracial – texted me and their fear was palpable.

Away from home for the first time,

## COMMENTARY

hurricane winds had knocked them off their feet. These young women are not old enough to understand that politics rests on shifting sands that blow from all directions.

While all eyes were on the presidential race, a few down-ballot women candidates stepped into the public eye. And when the shock and hurt subside, my granddaughters will learn that new seeds of hope were planted and began sprouting on Nov. 8, 2016.

Eight freshmen women representatives will join the U.S. House of Representatives. Women who won a seat in the U.S. Senate:

Tammy Duckworth (D) will be the first biracial senator and the first female senator to have seen combat. "When we agree, I'll work with them on poli-

cies that help this nation. But when we disagree, I will stand up and fight for working people."

Former California Attorney General Kamala Harris (D) becomes the state's first senator of Indian descent. "When we have been attacked and when our ideals and fundamental ideals are being attacked, do we retreat or do we fight? I say we fight!"

Former Nevada Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto (D) holds the distinction of being the first Latina to serve in the Senate. "It's about time our government mirrors the diversity of our nation."

New Hampshire, Gov. Maggie Hassan (D) won her state's U.S. Senate seat. "This is a critical time for New Hampshire and our country, and now more than ever, we need to work together to address our challenges."



Participants doodle with their own sharpies during the silk scarf painting class.

Photos by Jasmine Marshall

## THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center paints the town

By Jasmine Marshall

THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center was awash with color Nov. 14 when a group of women came together for a silk scarf painting class. Led by fellow community member Midge Scelzo, the class learned how to paint their own "wearable art" using Sharpie markers and alcohol. The event was made possible by a State of the Arts License Plate Grant from the St. Johns County Cultural Arts Council.

"It's such a fun activity for the ladies

gathered here," said the senior center's Darlene Mahany. "And we're grateful that we get to offer this opportunity because of the (council)."

Scelzo delighted in passing the simple technique onto the gathering of roughly 20 women. Having learned the process from a friend during a party, she encouraged everyone to try it for themselves.

"It's fun, it's easy and best of all -- it takes absolutely no talent whatsoever," she joked. "Just don't think and let the colors fly."



Scelzo moves the inks on her scarf after spraying it with alcohol.

# FDOT to initiate construction of traffic light at US 1/Ray Road by September 2017

By Jon Blauvelt

After two Nease High School students were critically injured Nov. 7 in a car accident at the intersection of U.S. 1 and Ray Road, the Florida Department of Transportation said it plans to address public demands and initiate construction of a traffic light by September 2017.

“FDOT understands the urgency, and traffic safety is our priority,” said Ron Tittle, public information officer. “FDOT has been reviewing the intersection since early 2016, and the design is currently at 60 percent completion toward constructing a traffic signal at the intersection.”

Tittle said the proposed traffic signal has received construction funding for fiscal year 2017-2018, which begins in July for Florida. FDOT’s engineering team, he said, is working to expedite the design and review that should help in moving the project sooner into 2017 than September. That design includes the review of electrical lines, gas lines and other utilities at the intersection that may need to be relocated to accommodate for the traffic light. Before construction begins, Tittle said FDOT plans to install signs at the intersection as soon as possible.

Public frustration concerning the historically dangerous intersection mounted after Mackenzie Felmet, 17, and Sydney Felmet, 15, were airlifted to area hospitals following the Nov. 7 accident. According to Florida Highway Patrol (FHP), the sisters, who were stopped facing west on Ray Road in a Toyota Corolla, attempted to cross northbound lanes of U.S. 1 and failed to yield the right of way to an oncoming Hyundai Santa Fe headed north in the right lane.

Frustrated with the light’s delayed timeline, Nease students Katherine Carlo and Zach Yearwood have initiated petitions asking state legislators to expedite its implementation.

“As a Nease student, I fear for my



A car attempts to turn from US1 onto Ray Road, the scene of a serious car accident last week.

Photo by Jennifer Logue

friends, family and the entire community due to the numerous accidents that have occurred at this intersection,” wrote Carlo in her change.org petition. “This incident proves that the time for a stop light is now.”

Carlo’s online petition has been signed by nearly 1,900 supporters.

In Yearwood’s change.org petition, he implored government officials “to help us keep our children alive.” His petition has been signed by nearly 1,400 supporters.

Florida State Sen. Travis Hutson is one of the state government officials that was

petitioned. Although he said his office has not received any physical petitions, he is aware of their online presence and is planning to work with FDOT to review the intersection and address the concerns.

Hutson said he understands and appreciates the urgency of the project, but its timeline is dependent upon the budget allocation process. According to Hutson, the state can’t allocate money for projects until the end of session around July 1.

“If there’s a way we can find extra dollars to expedite, we certainly will,” said Hutson. “If not, we’ll have to see what

the holdup is and how we can expedite to get that done. As long as it’s not money holding us back, it should be priority one.”

Tittle said FDOT is also aware of the online petitions, and he applauds the student’s safety efforts. Before construction on the traffic signal begins, FDOT also plans to contact Nease High School, Tittle said, to conduct a presentation at the high school regarding road requirements to ensure children are safe in the interim.

## St. Paul’s By-the-Sea appoints new rector

St. Paul’s by-the-Sea Episcopal Church in Jacksonville Beach has appointed Rev. Louanne Loch as its 11th rector.

“I look forward to working closely with our headmaster, Martha Milton, and our children and youth director Brooks Slater, as well as our vestry and committee chairs to create a fresh vision for our parish,” said Loch, who previously served as rector of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Gainesville for nine years.

Loch led her first services on Oct. 26, and Bishop Samuel Johnson Howard of the Diocese of Florida presided over Loch’s official appointment as new rector on Nov. 10.

Loch has been ordained for 21 years and a rector for 18 of those years. Prior to moving to Gainesville in 2007, she

served at St. Matthias Church in Baltimore and St. Johns Episcopal Church in Fayetteville, N.C.

Within the Episcopal Diocese of Florida, Loch has chaired the convention nominating committee and finance committee and served on the executive committee and board of examining chaplains.

She is also the former president of the board of the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes and co-founder and co-president of the Alachua County committee on interfaith relations.

Loch has a master of divinity degree from Virginia Theological Seminary.

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*As director of sales and marketing for the Hilton Garden Inn Jacksonville/Ponte Vedra, Anna Washington oversees a sales team that works with both local and national accounts to coordinate bookings and events at the local hotel.*

## Anna Washington

By Jennifer Logue

### What are your duties and responsibilities as director of sales and marketing?

The sales department is the engine that keeps the hotel hopping. On any given day, I could be working on anything from booking groups for the hotel and Muligan's, negotiating with Hilton National Accounts, taking care of select local accounts, and reviewing our revenue management strategies; to managing two busy sales managers who also work with groups and local accounts. I absolutely love what I do! The contacts and guests I encounter on a daily basis make my job that much more enjoyable.

### How did you begin your career in the hospitality industry?

I started my hospitality career while in college at UGA, working nights at the front desk of a small hotel. When I had a few moments of down time at work I would squeeze in some studying. I graduated with a degree in Psychology from UGA, however I fell in love with hotels along the way and have worked in the industry for more than 25 years now. My career spans 10 different hotels and resorts, from The King and Prince Beach & Golf Resort on St. Simons Island, The Jekyll Island Club Hotel, Hawks Cay Resort in the Florida Keys, Sea Turtle Inn on Jacksonville Beach to several great select service Hilton brand hotels. I've called the Hilton Garden Inn in Ponte Vedra Beach my career home for six years and I truly couldn't be happier being a part of this amazing team.

### What types of events does the Hilton Garden Inn in Ponte Vedra host?

The Hilton Garden Inn has three function rooms of varying sizes. The hotel can host receptions up to 120 guests, catering events such as rehearsal dinners, Sunday brunch, and holiday dinners up to 72, as well as corporate meetings and conferences up to 65 depending upon set up. We have a full-service catering department equipped to handle all types of gatherings.

### What sets your hotel apart from other hotels or resorts?

I've worked in a wide variety of hotels over the years, but I've never met a more warm and friendly staff than we have at the Hilton Garden Inn. We truly make our guests feel like they've come home. There is no guest request too big or too small that we don't work very hard to accommodate.



Photo by Jasmine Marshall

### Are there any charitable activities in which you (or the Hilton) are involved that you'd like to highlight?

The Hilton Garden Inn Ponte Vedra Beach is very involved in the community and charitable activities. We have participated in the annual Caring Chefs

event, Brew at the Zoo, Feeding Northeast Florida, Toys for Tots and Gabriel House of Care, to mention a few. We also regularly support THE PLAYERS tournament, AJGA Golf and the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset.

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

I love being near the water, but even more I enjoy the wonderful people of Northeast Florida. They are genuinely warm and friendly. I cannot imagine living anywhere else.

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PV2-LV32898



Robert Trenholm discusses dementia at the Ponte Vedra YMCA's Healthy Living Center.

Photo by Jasmine Marshall

## Ponte Vedra Y lecture reviews the science of dementia

By Jasmine Marshall

The Y Healthy Living Center of Ponte Vedra's YMCA played host to another "Talk with the Expert" seminar Nov. 9, this time welcoming Baptist Health's gerontology educator, Robert Trenholm, MSN, RN, of the AgeWell Center for Senior Health to present new research on dementia.

Trenholm started by reminding the group of the "three Ds" commonly discussed in the same realm: delirium, depression and dementia.

"It's important to understand all three of these things because, out of the things that can happen to our brains as we age, those three are the most common and the most high risk," he said. "And they are often confused with one another."

In that vein, Trenholm introduced relatively new research obtained from a study more than three decades in the making with the Framingham Heart Study. The study followed the health of an original cohort in 1948 and two subsequent generations. According to Trenholm, the people in the study showed a small but definite decrease in the number of dementia diagnoses, and scientists have offered a few theories as to why it might be happening.

"Researchers decided to look at the lifestyle issues correlated with the reduction," Trenholm said. "And one thing that the data suggested was ... a higher level of neuroprotective (activity)."

Trenholm explained the scientific aspect of the research, including the development of neurons and how they work proactively to fend off the onset of dementia.

The average human brain, he said, has about 100 billion neurons. Most activity in the brain occurs either inside the neuron or between the cells where they communicate with one another, and where chemicals and "synaptic connections" cross paths. Those cells and what goes on in and around them is what allows them to manufacture the chemicals needed to communicate with one another.

But it's possible to lose neurons due to disease — especially at the onset or in the throes of dementia. "You'd be left to operate with 50 billion neurons, which isn't too good," Trenholm said.

Trenholm suggested that an "extra buildup" of neurons is something that occurs in childhood when the brain is still growing. That growth continues throughout life, but the process of adding neurons slows greatly as people get older.

But that doesn't mean adult brain growth stops.

"The other part of this equation is the synaptic neuron," Trenholm said. "Each one of those neurons has branches like tree limbs that reach out to other neurons. The more of those that they have, the more connections they make and the more memory patterns you can create with those neurons communicating with each other."

It's with this knowledge that Framingham researchers were able to form one hypothesis about the slow-down of dementia diagnoses amongs study subjects: The key to reducing new dementia cases could be education. When separated, scientists found that the group of subjects who only had a high school level education didn't see a decrease in the percentage of dementia. The group of subjects with post-secondary education, however, did see a drop.

The growth of synaptic connections — a process that naturally occurs each time something new is learned — can offset the lack of "extra" neurons, and it's easier to do than forming new ones.

"This is what's known as neuroplasticity," Trenholm said, noting that the active

learning environment of a post-secondary education could naturally encourage the growth of connections formed in the brain, making it neuroprotective. "That's our brains' ability to continue to grow and learn throughout our life. And we continue to form ... synaptic connections throughout our whole lives."

Another theory suggested by researchers was that people who received higher education might know more about health and make better choices to help reduce their risk. The third theory was that people who don't receive post-secondary education had less access to health care coverage and resources due to lower wages, which put them at greater risk over the decades the study was conducted.

Trenholm noted that the research is still in its early stages, and the theories need more testing before any one cause can be determined — but he also encouraged the group to look to tried and true advice.

"Unfortunately, there's no 'silver bullet' to preventing dementia," he said. "The usual advice of eating well, exercising, avoiding stress and learning new things all apply. But 'exercising' the brain and being a proactive learner is ... a good place to start."



# Ponte Vedra sisters crowned in Winter Park pageant

Two Ponte Vedra sisters were crowned Miss Winter Park 2017 and Miss Winter Park's Outstanding Teen during the 2017 Miss Winter Park Pageant Oct. 29.

Kelly Savage, 22, is a 2012 graduate of Ponte Vedra High School where she served as student body president and was crowned Miss PVHS and Miss St. Johns County 2012.

She graduated in 2016 from the University of Mississippi and now resides in Orlando, where she works professionally as a digital media host and producer for Advanced Recovery Systems.

"Being named Miss Winter Park is a tremendous honor in and of itself," said Kelly. "To have this opportunity alongside my sister is a very unique experience and one I know we'll treasure for a lifetime."

Caitlyn Savage, 16, attended Ocean Palms Elementary and Landrum Middle School, and is now a junior dance major at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts.

She is a member of the Dance The-

ater company at the school and is also featured soloist for the upcoming First Coast Nutcracker Ballet.

The 2017 pageant was comprised of 25 contestants, ages 13 to 23, who competed in the Miss and Teen divisions. Categories included a private interview, talent, onstage question, evening gown and lifestyle and fitness in active wear for the teen participants, with a swimsuit category for the misses.

Kelly will go on to represent Winter Park at the Miss Florida 2017 pageant, the official state preliminary to Miss America.

Caitlyn will represent Winter Park at the Miss Florida's Outstanding Teen pageant, the preliminary to the Miss America's Outstanding Teen pageant. Both state pageants will be held in Lakeland in July 2017.

The Savages look forward to active engagement in the Ponte Vedra and Winter Park communities and are available for community functions, charity events, speaking engagements, school visits and more.



Caitlyn and Kelly Savage

Photo courtesy of Kelly Savage

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Ginny Bowen/Sally Sergeant



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Jayne Young/Gwinn Volen



**PONTE VEDRA BEACH**  
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Patti Armstrong



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6BR/5BA/2HB • \$1,349,000  
Michael Curet



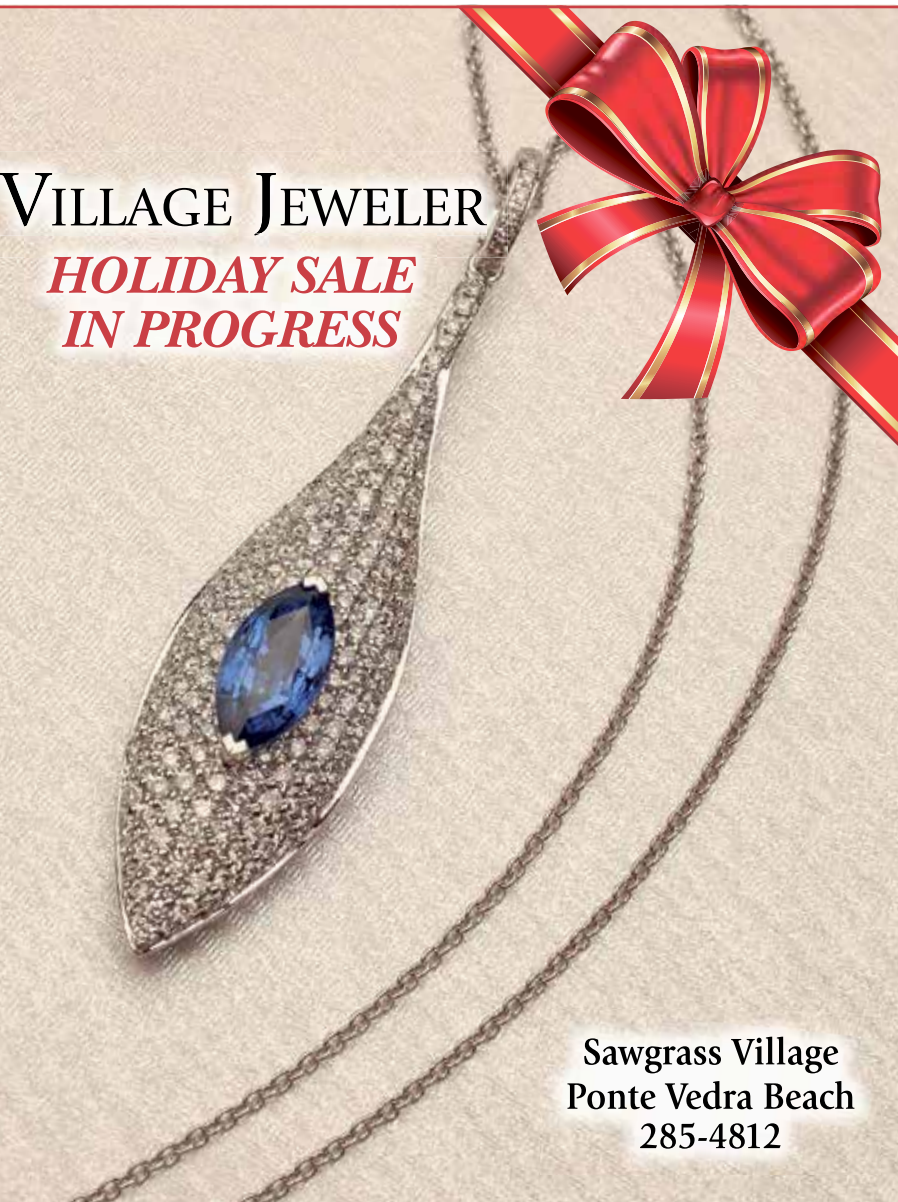
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# Bolles School students named National Merit semi-finalists

A group of local high school students from the The Bolles School recently received National Merit Scholarship Program recognition, as well as National Hispanic Recognition Program honors.

Based on their 2015 Preliminary SAT scores, seniors Jared DeMarco, Kunal Kanaparti, Arthur Lee, Cassidy Mizell, Mercer Peek, Alan Perry, Natasha Pillai, Ricky Thames and Journey Wise were named National Merit semi-finalists.

They will now contend for the approximately 7,500 scholarships worth more than \$33 million offered this spring. According to the program's organizers, about 90 percent of the semi-finalists are expected to attain finalist standing, and more than half of the finalists will win a scholarship and earn the Merit Scholar title.

Seniors Isabella Array, Andrew Culver, Harrison Dinsbeer, Duncan Evans,

Kayla Fender, Claire Gurtler, Ally Hajda, Devon Haskell, Sai Kancha, Vikram Margam and Justin Wolter were named National Merit commended students. Array also received honors from the National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) for being named an outstanding Hispanic/Latino student.

The NHRP identifies academically outstanding Hispanic/Latino high school students and honors about 5,000 of the

highest-scoring students from more than 250,000 Hispanic/Latinos who take the PSAT/NMSQT during their junior years.

"Upon learning of the changes in the test format, our dedicated faculty collaborated within departments and in the classroom to prepare our students for the PSAT," said Tyler Hodges, associate head of school. "This year's results are another example of the pursuit of excellence at The Bolles School."



# Flagler College students volunteer throughout county during day of service

More than 100 Flagler College community members volunteered with nonprofit organizations across the county during a "Reach Out Raise Up" day of service recently, helping local organizations by completing a range of tasks from landscaping to cleaning debris along Vilano Beach.

The event marked the college's second day of service, with an inaugural "Reach Out Raise Up" held in February. Timothy Mellon, Flagler director of student services, helped oversee the day's operations.

"St. Augustine is a tight knit community that has recently been strengthened even more since Hurricane Matthew," he said. "It makes me proud to see the amazing relationship between our Flagler students and our city."

The St. Augustine Center for Living, Haven Horse Ranch, Alpha Omega Miracle Home, Betty Griffin Center, United Way of St. Johns County, St. Francis House, Council on Aging, St. Augustine Youth Services, St. Johns Parks and Recreation, St. Augustine Wildlife Reserve and Ser-toma 2nd Time Around were among the organizations Flagler students helped. The

experience was heralded by participants as "uplifting."

"I've done community service in the past and really enjoyed it," said student Max Dela Merced. "It just gives me a warm, fuzzy feeling at the end of the day."

Fellow student Katie Kelderman agreed, adding that volunteering on the college's day of service better connected her to the greater community.

"It's a great way to introduce students to places in the community – to be involved and volunteer, instead of just living here," she said.

The students made their presence known around the city. At St. Francis House, a homeless shelter in downtown St. Augustine, students helped restock the food pantry.

Political science major Colton Neubauer joined six other students in unloading food items and organizing the food supply.

"It's rewarding to do this – extremely rewarding," he said. "And it gives me hope in my fellow Flagler students when they're up and at the student center at 8 a.m. to volunteer to help others."



Photos provided by Flagler College

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# Santa's mailbox to accept letters at Sawgrass Village

By Jennifer Logue

First Coast children seeking to send their Christmas lists to Santa Claus may post them at the new Santa's mailbox in Sawgrass Village.

To be located on the Sawgrass Village green next to Nona Blue, the mailbox will be in place by Nov. 19 and will accept letters to Old Saint Nick through Dec. 16. What's more, letters mailed to Santa that include a return address will receive a personal response thanks to a special arrangement the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce has made with the North Pole.

"We want to make sure all the kids here in sunny Florida can get their messages to the North Pole on time, so we arranged for this special mailbox," said Lin Jones, director of the chamber's Ponte Vedra Beach

Division. "We're especially excited that kids will receive a response to their letters, so don't delay, kids! Get working on those Christmas lists and mail them at Santa's mailbox today!"

In addition to cards and letters from boys and girls on Santa's "Nice" list, the mailbox will also accept heartfelt letters of

apology from children who suspect their behavior this year may have landed them on the "Naughty" list.

"First Coast kids are so nice we don't expect to receive many of those," Jones said. "We're just looking forward to helping kids share their Christmas wishes with Santa and enjoy the holiday season!"



## City of St. Augustine to provide free shuttles to Nights of Lights

The City of St. Augustine will offer a free Park & Ride Shuttle for the busiest weekends during its annual Nights of Lights celebration in cooperation with the St. Johns County administration and the St. Johns County Health Department.

Beginning with Light-Up! Night Nov. 19, the shuttle will resume service Nov. 25-26, and continue operating every Saturday night in December. The shuttle will be in service from 1 p.m. through 11 p.m., with pick-ups scheduled approximately every 20 minutes.

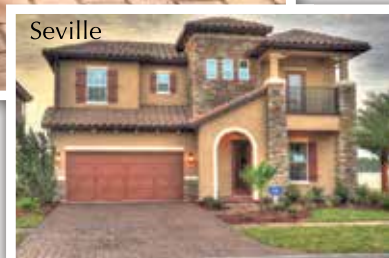
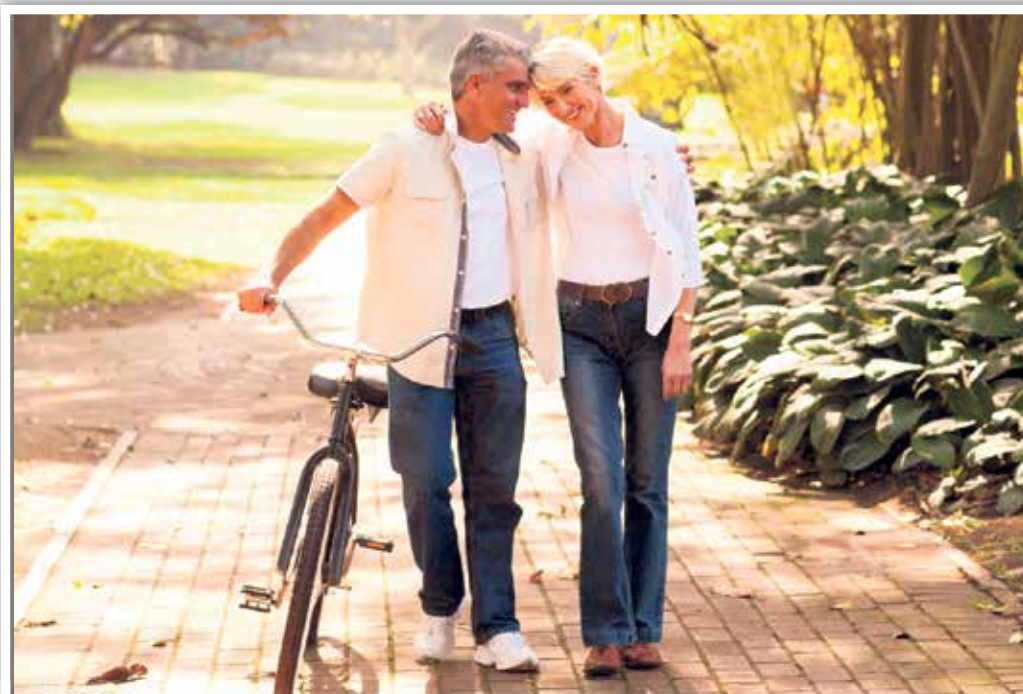
The shuttle will bring passengers to the Visitor Information Center at 10 S. Castillo Dr. from three locations north of the city: the St. Johns County Administration Building at 500 San Sebastian View, the St. Johns County Health Department at 200 San Sebastian View and North San Marco Lot at 301 San Marco Ave.

For more information about the Park & Ride Shuttle, call (904) 209-4211 or email [mobility@citystaug.com](mailto:mobility@citystaug.com).

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# Christ Church ballet to present annual Nutcracker Tea

A popular local holiday tradition returns this weekend, as the dance program at Christ Church presents its annual Nutcracker Tea.

To be held Sunday, Nov. 20 at 4 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club, the Nutcracker Tea will offer attendees a preview of the 21st annual Christ Church Nutcracker Ballet, which will be performed Saturday, Dec. 10 at 6 p.m. at the University of North

Florida's Lazzara Theater.

The Christ Church Dance Ministry is directed by Felicia Rhoden.

Proceeds from the ballet will benefit a number of charities, including Pediatric Hospice, Dreams Come True and the Amistad Orphanage in Bolivia.

Admission is \$25 for the tea and \$22 for the ballet; tickets may be purchased online at [www.missfeliciasdance.com](http://www.missfeliciasdance.com).



## Local performers to bring 'jazzy' Nutcracker to Ponte Vedra



Ponte Vedra Ballet and Dance Company and FUSION Performing Arts Academy will once again perform a free presentation of the "Nutcracker Remixed," a 30-minute, jazzy rendition of the Nutcracker.

To be held at the Ponte Vedra Library Dec. 10 at 2 p.m., this special twist on the holiday favorite will feature student choreography under the direction of Artist in Residence Joanna Ursal.

Dancers for Dignity will also have a drop box for collection of new packages of underwear and socks. All donations will be taken to the Ponte Vedra Fire Station to be distributed throughout St. Johns County, along with other gifts to those in need this holiday season.

For more information contact Artistic Director Dawn Wolf at (904) 859-2223, or visit [www.pvballet.com](http://www.pvballet.com).



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## St. Johns County children to receive phone calls from Santa

The St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department will host its annual "Phone Calls from Santa" program in December. Santa is set to make phone calls from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Dec. 6-8.

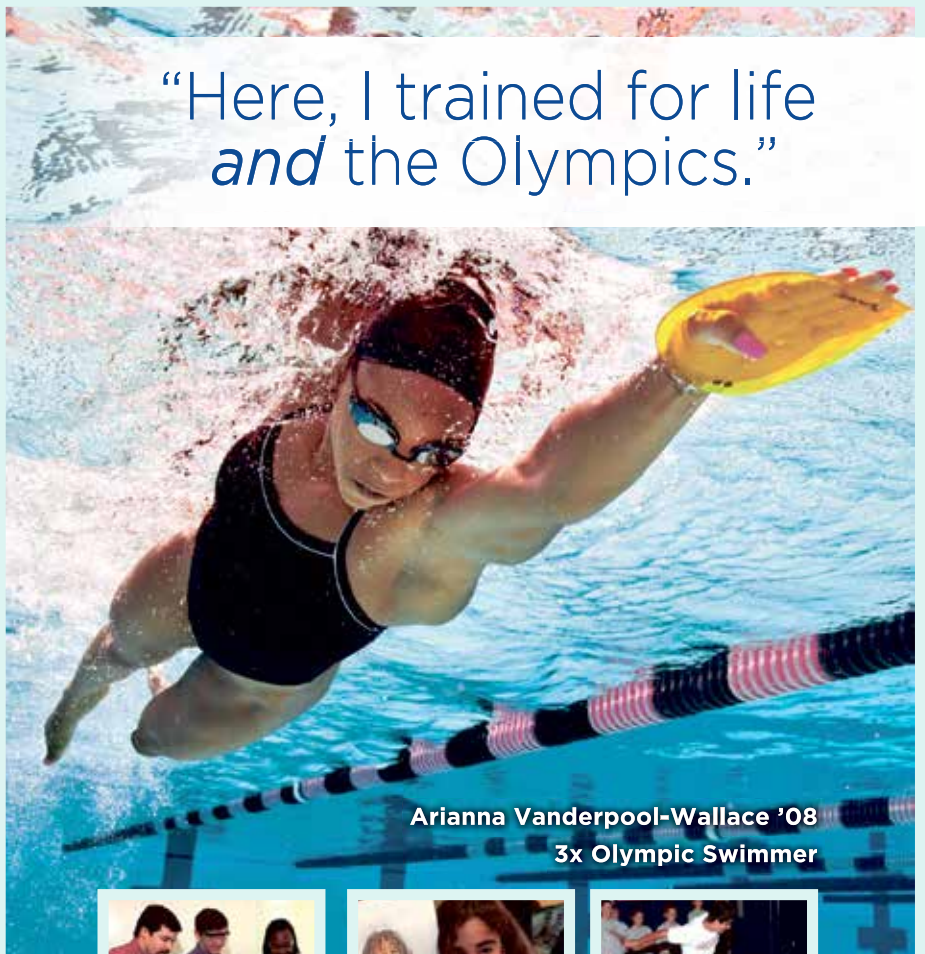
The program is for St. Johns County children ages 8 and under. Parents may register their children through Dec. 2. Registration forms can be found at [www.sjcf.us/youth](http://www.sjcf.us/youth) and faxed to (904) 209-0321, emailed to [ehallback@sjcf.us](mailto:ehallback@sjcf.us) or mailed to St. Johns County Parks and Recreation at 2175 Mizell Road in St. Augustine. For more information, call (904) 669-6612.

# Scout and Molly's to host 'Sip and Shop' event for Ponte Vedra YMCA

Scout and Molly's of Sawgrass Village will host a "Sip and Shop" night of socializing, shopping and food to benefit the Ponte Vedra YMCA Safety Around Water Program. To be held from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday Nov. 17, the event will enable shoppers to enjoy wine and appetizers while receiving 10 percent off of all pur-

chases. The boutique will also donate an additional 10 percent to the Ponte Vedra Family YMCA. The event is for adults aged 21 and older in the Ponte Vedra and Nocatee community.

Scout and Molly's is located at 340 Front Street, Suite 715 in Sawgrass Village (near Metro Diner and Nona Blue).



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Thursday, Nov. 17	Friday, Nov. 18	Saturday, Nov. 19	Sunday, Nov. 20
<p><b>Galactic/The Hip Abduction concert</b> Galactic with special guest The Hip Abduction will perform live at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall Thursday, Nov. 17. Doors open at 7 p.m.; show starts at 8 p.m. Advance purchase general admission tickets are \$24.50; day of show general admission is \$27. Tickets are available at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall and St. Augustine Amphitheatre box offices, ticketmaster.com and all Ticketmaster outlets or by phone at (800) 745-3000. The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A N.</p> <p><b>Savvy Job Hunters workshop</b> Artie Lynnworth, career coach and local author, presents "Effective Interview Preparation, Including Salary Negotiation Strategies and More," at the Nov. 17 Savvy Job Hunters workshop. Lynnworth will provide tips you can immediately apply to your at-home interview preparation. He will show how to handle those tough questions about salary expectations, while maximizing your opportunity for cash and non-cash benefits. The workshop will take place from 9 a.m. to noon at the Christ Episcopal Church Parish Center located at 400 San Juan Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach. RSVP to Cindy Corritore, ccorritore@christepiscopalchurch.org, or call the Pastoral Care Office at (904) 285-7390 ext. 231. For more information, email Pam Ottesen at pottesen66@gmail.com.</p> <p><b>'Annie Get Your Gun'</b> "Annie Get Your Gun" will be performed at Alhambra Theatre &amp; Dining through Nov. 20. Col Buffalo Bill discovers sharpshooter Annie Oakley, who joins his Wild West Show and later falls in love with the show's star, Frank Butler. Jealous of Oakley's success, Butler leaves to join a rival show but is ultimately pitted against Oakley in a final shoot-out. The theater is located at 12000 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville. For tickets, call (904) 641-1212 or visit www.alhambrajax.com.</p> <p><b>Live Music at Table 1</b> Table 1 at 330 A1A N will host Gary Starling live starting at 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Visions: Ancient and Modern exhibition</b> The opening reception for The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach's newest exhibition, "Visions: Ancient and Modern," will take place Friday, Nov. 18 from 6 to 8 p.m. The opening reception is free and open to the public. The exhibition, which will feature pottery from Worley Faver and a selection of abstract, acrylic paintings by Mary Lou Gibson, will be on display through Jan. 5, 2017. The Cultural Center is located at 50 Executive Way in Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, call (904) 280-0614 or visit www.ccpvb.org.</p> <p><b>PV Professionals Networking Group</b> The Ponte Vedra Professionals Networking Group meets Fridays at 9 a.m. at Watson Realty Corp., 615 Highway A1A S., Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, call Gloria at (904) 635-6103, visit www.pvpng.com or email pontevedrapng@gmail.com.</p> <p><b>Coastal Wine Market Wine Tasting</b> Coastal Wine Market will host a Friday wine tasting Nov. 18 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><b>Disney in Concert</b> The Jacksonville Symphony Fidelity National Pops Series will present Symphonic Night at the Movies on Friday, Nov. 18 and Saturday, Nov. 19 at 7 p.m. with "Disney in Concert: Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas." The movie, featuring the music of Danny Elfman, is a classic that takes viewers on the misadventures of Jack Skellington, Halloweentown's beloved pumpkin king. Jack is bored with the scare and scream stuff so he visits Christmastown. The symphony will play the soundtrack to the movie. Performances will take place in the Robert E. Jacoby Symphony Hall at the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts, located at 300 Water St. in Jacksonville. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (904) 354-5547 or visit Jaxsymphony.org. Tickets are also available for purchase at the box office in the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts.</p>	<p><b>'Christmas at Downton'</b> The Sisterhood of the Traveling Plants will show participants how to use food and flowers to create arrangements inspired by the popular British television series "Downton Abbey" Saturday, Nov. 19 at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library. The program will begin at 1 p.m.; doors will open at 12:30 p.m. Raffle tickets for a chance to win the arrangements created for the demonstration will be on sale. Light refreshments will be provided. The library is located at 101 Library Blvd. For more information, call (904) 827-6950 or visit www.sjcpls.org.</p> <p><b>A1A Super Scenic 72-Mile Garage Sale</b> The 8th annual Super Scenic 72-mile Garage Sale returns Saturday, Nov. 19 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. One of Florida's largest single-day garage sales, will include 10 major community sites or nearly 100 individual locations starting in Ponte Vedra and heading south for 72 miles all the way to Flagler Beach. For more information, visit www.scenica1a.org.</p> <p><b>Salt Marsh Brewgrass Festival</b> North Florida Land Trust will host the Salt Marsh Brewgrass Festival Saturday, Nov. 19 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Big Talbot Island. The festival will include live music by the Parker Urban Band, The Honeycutters and Flat Land along with local brews and an array of food trucks. There will also be games for kids, a guided 1.5-mile hike and guided paddle for an additional fee. Guests are encouraged to bring a blanket or chairs and reusable water bottles. Tickets are \$35 in advance or \$40 at the door. Children 12 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased online at www.northfloridalandtrust.org/brewgrass-2016.</p> <p><b>World Beat Café</b> World Beat Café, a Jacksonville Children's Chorus concert with Grammy-nominated Omnimusic, will be held Saturday, Nov. 19 from 7:30 to 10 p.m. at the Times-Union Center for Performing Arts, 300 Water St., Jacksonville. Omnimusic features the talents of musician-scholars from all over the world, Tickets start at \$21 and are available on Ticketmaster. For more information, call (904) 353-1636 or visit www.jaxchildrenschorus.org.</p>	<p><b>'Peter and the Wolf'</b> The Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra's Family Concert "Peter and the Wolf" will be Sunday, Nov. 20 at 3 p.m. The concert will include a new work by composer Viet Cuong called "The Wild Woods." It is set on the night before the events of Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf." The classic story of Peter and the Wolf revolves around a creative young boy, a bird, a duck, a cat and, of course, a wolf. Pre-concert activities will start at 2 p.m. The concert will take place in the Robert E. Jacoby Symphony Hall at the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts, located at 300 Water St. in Jacksonville.</p> <p><b>Victorian Crafting and Tree Trimming</b> The Ribault Garden Club will host a Victorian crafting and tree trimming event Sunday, Nov. 20 at the Lightner Museum. Participants will create their own turn-of-the-century inspired "tussy mussy" to take home. Free floral decorations will be raffled at the end of the program. Tea and cookies will be served. Ticket cost is \$40 per person. This workshop is recommended for adults. Tickets may be purchased online by visiting www.lightnermuseum.org/victorian-christmas. The Lightner Museum is located at 75 King St. in St. Augustine.</p> <p><b>Practice with Purpose at Big Fish Yoga</b> Practice with Purpose is an all-level yoga class offered on Sundays from 4 to 5 p.m. at Big Fish Power Yoga. The fee for the class is a \$5 cash donation that goes to the charity that Big Fish Power Yoga has selected for the quarter. Big Fish Yoga is located in the South Beach Regional Shopping Center in Jacksonville Beach at 3852 South Third St. For more info, call (904) 372-0601.</p> <p><b>Collection Tour</b> Join the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens on Sundays for a guided tour of its permanent collection. The tour is free with the cost of admission. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville.</p>

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Monday, Nov. 21	Tuesday, Nov. 22	Wednesday, Nov. 23	Thursday, Nov. 24
<p><b>Caregiver Support Group</b> The Players Caregiver Support Group meets every Monday from noon to 1 p.m. at The Players Senior Center, 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach. Kimberly Weir of Heartland Hospice facilitates a weekly discussion of current concerns and issues of caregivers. For more information, call (904) 280-3233.</p> <p><b>Life Enrichment Group</b> The Life Enrichment Group is a program designed for those with memory changes who like to stay active mentally, physically and socially while allowing caregivers and loved ones some free time for themselves. This program is offered weekdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Ashford Court, 1700 The Greens Way in Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 568-8174, or email <a href="mailto:life_enrichment-group@yahoo.com">life_enrichment-group@yahoo.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Travel Training Program</b> The Council on Aging's Travel Training program is designed to assist seniors in learning to ride the Sunshine Bus. Residents interested in expanding their transportation options or who would like to increase their confidence as a bus rider can receive assistance from trained volunteers in navigating routes, reading time tables and making transfers. Contact the mobility manager at the Council on Aging at (904) 315-6505 or email Katie Arnold at <a href="mailto:karnold@stjohnscoa.com">karnold@stjohnscoa.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Florida Archaeology Workshop</b> Take an in-depth look at archaeological materials and the science behind them Monday, Nov. 21 from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Southeast Branch Library for the Florida Archaeology Workshop. Participants will also get to try their hand at the same analysis techniques used by the pros. Registration is requested for this fun and informative series that includes glass, dates, and bones as items of discovery. Please call Emily Jane Murray at (904) 392-7874 or email <a href="mailto:emurray@flagler.edu">emurray@flagler.edu</a>. The library is located at 6670 U.S. 1 S., St. Augustine.</p>	<p><b>PV Library Book Club</b> The Ponte Vedra Beach Library Book Club will discuss "The Black Count: glory, revolution, betrayal, and the real Count of Monte Cristo," by Tom Reiss, Tuesday, Nov. 22 from 3 to 4 p.m. Everyone is welcome. The library is located at 101 Library Blvd. For more information, call (904) 827-6950 or visit <a href="http://www.sjcpls.org">www.sjcpls.org</a>.</p> <p><b>Gerson Yessin Music Series</b> The second music program for the 2016 – 2017 season will feature cellist Alexei Romanenko and pianist Lynne Radcliffe in concert Tuesday, Nov. 22 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library. Romanenko is the principal cellist of the Jacksonville Symphony and Radcliffe is the director at St Paul's by the Sea, adjunct professor at UNF and program coordinator and teacher at the First Coast Community Music School. Admission is free. Doors open at 6 p.m. and seating is limited. The library is located at 101 Library Blvd. For more information, call (904) 827-6950 or visit <a href="http://www.sjcpls.org">www.sjcpls.org</a>.</p> <p><b>Sunset Rotary Club Meeting</b> The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset meets Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn. Community leaders are welcome to attend. For more information, call club President Janeene Hart at (904) 412-5409 or email <a href="mailto:jwhart1208@gmail.com">jwhart1208@gmail.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Tapas Tuesday</b> The Cummer Museum of Art &amp; Gardens presents Tapas Tuesday sponsored by VyStar Credit Union at the Cummer Café. Every Tuesday from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on the Cummer Café patio, take in the sunset while listening to local musicians with beer, wine, or artfully-inspired tapas for sale at the Café. Reserve your table by calling (904) 899-6022. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.cummermuseum.org">www.cummermuseum.org</a>. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville.</p>	<p><b>Annual Activity Member</b> Become an Annual Activity Member at The Players Community Senior Center. Membership includes discounts on fee-based classes, designated events and coastal travel along with complimentary participation in a wide variety of scheduled activities. Call Darlene Mahany at (904) 280-3233 for more information.</p> <p><b>Ponte Vedra Toastmasters</b> The Ponte Vedra Toastmasters Club offers opportunities for developing your leadership and communication skills. The group meets Wednesdays at The Players Community Senior Center, located at 175 Landrum Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach. The meeting starts promptly at 7:30 a.m. Contact Carmen J. Sardiñas at (904) 382-3303 or contact-5199@toastmastersclubs.org for more information.</p> <p><b>Mental Health Recovery Support</b> Free mental health support is available to the public facilitated by Georgia/Florida Certified Peer Specialist Whitney Bolin. Sessions are by appointment only Monday through Friday; call (770) 403-4991 or email <a href="mailto:whitneybat76@gmail.com">whitneybat76@gmail.com</a>. Bolin also facilitates a mental health recovery group at Flagler Hospital from 2 to 4 p.m. every Tuesday.</p> <p><b>Habitat for Humanity volunteers</b> Habitat for Humanity of St. Augustine/St. Johns County is currently seeking qualified homeowners. Habitat does not give away homes for free. Instead, homeowners pay an affordable monthly mortgage payment and Habitat helps build them a simple, decent place to live. For more information on volunteering, donating or qualifying for a Habitat home, visit <a href="http://habitatstjohns.org">habitatstjohns.org</a>.</p> <p><b>Live Music at Table 1</b> Table 1 at 330 A1A N will host Javier Naranjo live starting at 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>IMAX Theater</b> "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" will be screened at World Golf Hall of Fame IMAX Theater daily through Dec. 15. Admission is \$13 for adults, \$12 for students, senior and military, \$10 for children ages 3-12 and free for children under 3. The theater is located at One World Golf Place, St. Augustine. For more information, call (940) 940-4123.</p> <p><b>Life Enrichment Day Retreat</b> Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra hosts a Life Enrichment Day Retreat every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra, 5125 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra Beach. The group is designed for those with memory changes who would like to stay active mentally, physically and socially. For more information, call (904) 834-7578 and ask for Ilene Thrasher or visit <a href="http://www.at-pontevedra.com">www.at-pontevedra.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Live Music at Table 1</b> Table 1 at 330 A1A N will host Gary Starling live starting at 7:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Meet the "Friends for the Arts"</b> Become a "Friend." The Cultural Center recently recreated a volunteer organization dedicated to supporting the arts. Get involved in the arts by joining a team of fellow art supporters in 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. Over 50 volunteer art supporters have already joined. Make a difference in our community. For more information visit <a href="http://www.ccpvb.org/friends-for-the-arts">www.ccpvb.org/friends-for-the-arts</a>.</p> <p><b>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 <a href="mailto:jasmine@opcfla.com">jasmine@opcfla.com</a>, post online at <a href="http://www.pontevedrarecorder.com">www.pontevedrarecorder.com</a> using the automated form or call (904) 686-3939.</b></p>

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For complete information on our dining and social events, visit our website at <http://www.tpc.com/sawgrass-dining>. For more information or to make a reservation in NINETEEN or for a Social Event, please contact the dining room at 904.273.3238.

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**OBITUARIES**



**Weeks**

Patricia Blankenship Weeks, 77, died peacefully at the Bailey Center for Caring in St Augustine Nov. 6, 2016. She was born in Hinton, West Virginia to Waldo B. and Nelma Lucille Blankenship.

She moved to Ponte Vedra Beach more than 40 years ago and was a real estate broker for Arvida Corp. for 20 years. Later she resided in St Augustine and worked

as a property manager. She then found her favorite role: being a grandmother to three grandchildren. She loved spending time with her two sons and daughters-in-law and especially any and all times spent with her grandchildren. She loved traveling, a nice walk on the beach and poking around the garden at home.

She is survived by her sons John ( Mary Lee) Weeks and Mark (Kathleen) Weeks and her grandchildren Mackenzie Terry, Colby Weeks and Casey Weeks. She was predeceased by her parents and by her brother, Robert Blankenship.

A memorial service was held Nov. 12 at Craig Funeral Home in St Augustine.

**Chelette**

Ira Lee Chelette, 79, died peacefully on Oct. 31 in Ponte Vedra Beach. He was born in Logan, WV, to Clarence and Bennie Chelette on Sept. 27, 1937. Ira proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He worked as a mechanical engineer with Dow Industrial and later retired from French-based Schlumberger Technology Corp. Ira was a

faithful member of the Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church, where he assisted with vacation bible school and was in the choir. Ira was a member of the American Legion Post 233, and he also volunteered with the Beaches Senior Center and gave his time to his community in many ways. He enjoyed fishing, boating, white water rafting, camping and traveling the world. He was preceded in death by his brother Luther Chelette; children Dennis A. Chelette and Margaret M. Chelette; son-in-law Jimmie Patterson; step-children Matt Bruton and Dana Bruton; and grandchild Christopher Chelette. Ira is survived by his loving wife of 39 years, Carolyn Chelette; sister Ellen Newby; sister-in-law Barbara; children Clarence E. Chelette (Melanie) and Renee Patterson; step-child Forrest Tucker; grandchildren Christi, Charity (Kiale), Dixie, Holly, Philip and Lindsay; great-grandchildren Cammie, Kiale Jr., Colin, Cayleigh-Grace, Alanna, Vincent, Devin and Emmalyn; several cousins and many friends whose lives he touched in numerous ways. Services will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 19, at Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church at 76 S Roscoe Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach, with fellow-

ship to follow in the church hall. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Community Hospice of Northeast Florida or the Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church general fund.



**Carney**

John "Jack" Carney, 74, died peacefully Nov. 8 in Ponte Vedra Beach. He was also a resident of Bass Harbor, Maine. Jack was a graduate of Boston University. He is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Theresa "Terri," sons Peter (Carrie) of Portland, Maine, and Patrick (Kirsten) of Jacksonville; brother Joseph (Gloria) Carney of Mineola, New York; and granddaughters Rivers Lea and Grace Frances. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Maine Seacoast Mission 127 West St., Bass Harbor, ME 04609, c/o Scott Fish.



# Budweiser Clydesdales to visit Jacksonville for Thanksgiving

The celebrated Budweiser Clydesdales will visit Jacksonville next week, giving local residents an opportunity to see and take photos with the horses.

To be on site at the Anheuser-Busch Jacksonville Brewery and Tour Cen-

ter from Nov. 22-27, the Clydesdales will be available for stable viewing all day Nov. 22-23 and Nov. 25-27. On Wednesday, Nov. 23 and Nov. 25-27, the hitch team and red wagon will parade around the brewery grounds from noon to 2 p.m., where guests can interact and take photos with them.

In addition, the Tour Center will be open to the public for walk-through tours from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 21-23 and Nov. 26-27. A variety of food trucks will also be on site, including Tasty Dog, Nitrogen Creamery, Julie's Sweet Stuff, Mother Truckin Pizza and Mangroves.

The Anheuser-Busch Brewery is located at 111 Busch Drive in Jacksonville.



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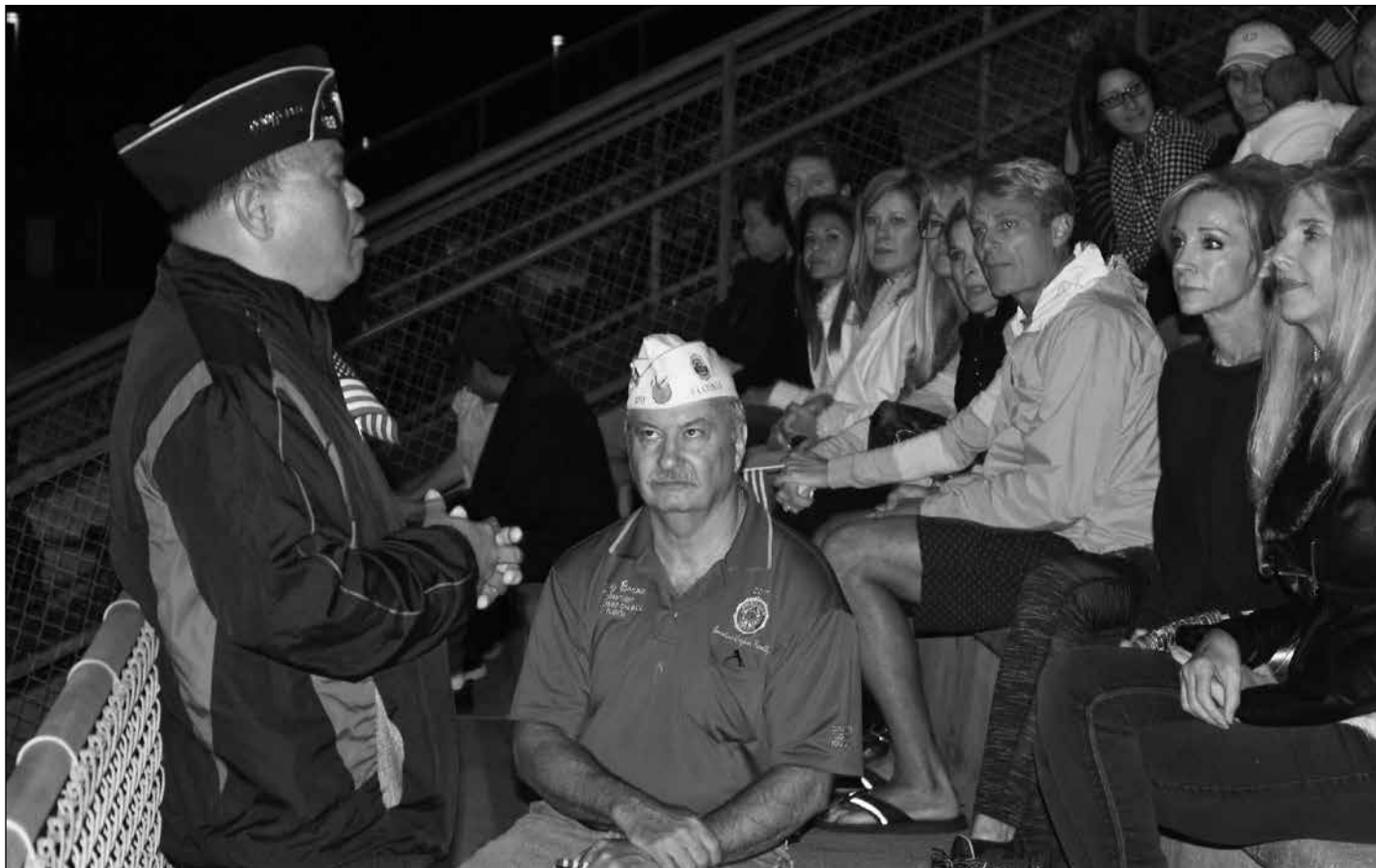


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**NOCATEE HAPPENINGS**



Photos by Jennifer Logue

**Celebrate the Night organizer Tammy Greco**

**Left: Ernie Florig shares his experiences in the military with local families at the Celebrate the Night veterans' tribute.**

# 'Celebrate the Night' ceremony honors, thanks veterans

**By Jennifer Logue**

Ernie Florig has a special appreciation for the freedoms many Americans take for granted.

A 30-year Air Force veteran and commander of American Legion Post 129 in Jacksonville Beach, Florig grew up on the island of Guam.

"My parents were children when the Japanese occupied Guam during World War II," Florig said. "They had their freedom taken away from them, so patriotism was always big in our house."

Florig was just one of numerous local veterans who were honored at "Celebrate the Night," a candlelit evening ceremony to express gratitude to U.S. veterans and the men and women serving our country. Held Nov. 10 at the Nease High School stadium, "Celebrate the Night" invited local residents to purchase a luminary candle bag in honor or memory of a loved one who served in the military. Those bags lined the track at the stadium during the ceremony, creating a "Path of Heroes" honoring local veterans.

"I am so thrilled by all the love and support," said Tammy Greco, who organized the event as a fundraiser for Valley Ridge Academy and the Nease High School Band after a chance encounter with a K9s for Warriors trainer awakened an aware-

ness of the struggles many veterans face when they return to civilian life. "(Celebrate the Night) was a night to show our veterans we appreciate their sacrifices."

The ceremony began with the Pledge of Allegiance, after which all children in attendance were invited down onto the track to participate in an opening march behind members of the Nease NJROTC program, who presented the colors as the Nease band played the national anthem.

Volunteers shared a poem and words of gratitude, followed by dancers from Atlantic Coast Dance Studio, who performed a specially choreographed routine to "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy."

Florig and fellow veteran Jerry Brandt then shared their stories with attendees before local children presented the veterans in attendance with certificates honoring their service and sacrifice. Organizers also recognized volunteers with certificates, and honored K9s for Warriors, representatives of which were on hand to share information about the nonprofit that provides specially trained service dogs to veterans struggling with PTSD and traumatic brain injury. A portion of the proceeds from "Celebrate the Night" will benefit K9s for Warriors, Greco said.

The ceremony concluded with a tribute



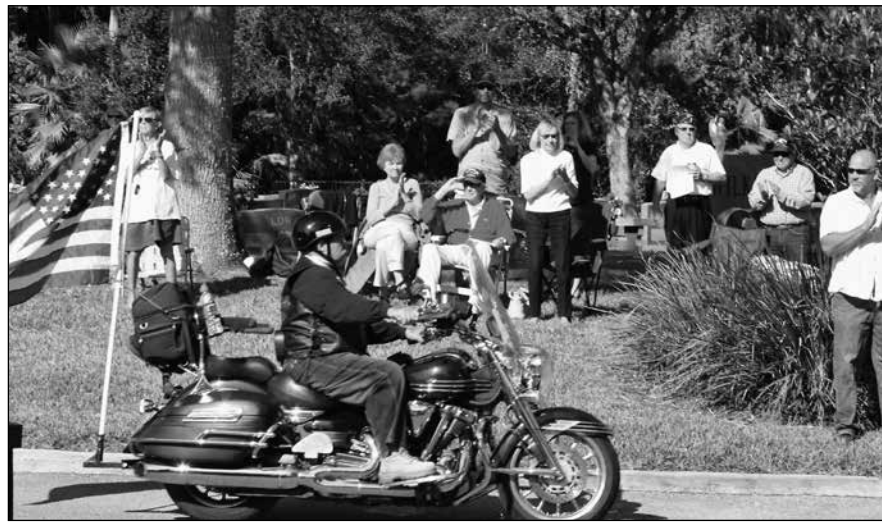
**Luminary bags honoring veterans create a "Path of Heroes" at "Celebrate the Night."**



**American Legion Post 129 Past Commander Jerry Brandt and current Commander Ernie Florig**



Members of the Nease NJROTC retire the colors.



Members of the Southern Cruisers Riding Club attend the Veterans Day ceremony.

# Ponte Vedra Valley marks Veterans Day with annual ceremony

By Jennifer Logue

Ponte Vedra Valley funeral home held its 18th Annual Veterans Day Ceremony Nov. 11, recognizing the service and sacrifice of America's military men and women.

Held at the Ponte Vedra Valley cemetery, the ceremony involved numerous local community groups that joined in paying tribute to the nation's veterans. Participants ranged in age from middle school Boy Scouts to senior citizens, who came together to say "thank you."

"Be sure that when you say, 'Thanks for your service,' that it comes from the heart and is not some politically correct statement with little thought," retired U.S. Army Col. Dan Davis told attendees. "It is not simply enough to bow to the protocol of another legal holiday. We need a new commitment to America and what she ought to be in the world."

After members of the Southern Cruisers Riding Club paraded around the cemetery, the formal ceremony began with members of Nease High School's nationally recognized NJROTC unit presenting the colors. Following behind the color guard was Nease Cadet Anna Thorsness – granddaughter of Medal of Honor recipient Leo Thorsness – who led the riderless horse through the cemetery. Members of Boy Scout Troop 288

escorted members of the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution as they presented wreaths recognizing Veterans Day and the service men and women the day honors.

Col. Davis, the ceremony's guest speaker, said he had often pondered the common characteristics shared by all veterans. "Time and again" he said, "the words that come to mind are patriotism, duty, sacrifice, love of country, accomplishing the mission and losing oneself in a cause that is bigger than oneself."

He thanked veterans for defending America and her citizens from those who would threaten our freedoms.

"Liberty is a fragile reality that is easily set aside by the insidious actions of those with other agendas," Davis said. "There are always those who would rather control people than to set them free. That's where our veterans come into play."

He stressed, however, that the duty of defending America's freedoms rests not solely with her veterans, but with us all.

"Liberty and freedom are only guaranteed as a result of a bold commitment by every one of us," Davis said. "...Hopefully, every one of us will be inspired to build a better community, a better country and a much better world. God bless our veterans and God bless America."



Photos by Jennifer Logue

Attendees observe a moment of silence for fallen veterans.



Troop 288 Boy Scouts Landon McIntosh, Ian Dahlin, Luke Paxton and Adam Lassonde volunteer at the Veterans Day ceremony.

# La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries contributes to Ronald McDonald House expansion

Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) of Jacksonville received a furniture donation from the La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries of Jacksonville to support the nonprofit organization's expansion.

Comprised of 26 sleeper sofas and living room furnishings valued at approximately \$30,000, the donation will be used in the new family suites recently unveiled at the Ronald McDonald House and in several of the common areas.

"This generous donation from La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries of Jacksonville helps us further our mission to provide a comfortable and welcoming interim home for families in need," said Diane Boyle, executive director of RMHC of Jacksonville. "We are truly grateful to have the support of Mr. Tom DeGoey, Mr. David Valentine and La-Z-Boy as our community partner, and we appreciate that they share our dedication in providing comfort to our precious families."

La-Z-Boy is the official furniture provider of Ronald McDonald House programs and Ronald McDonald Family Room programs nationwide. In Jacksonville, La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries of Jacksonville is a longtime donor.



Courtesy of RMHC Jax

The team at La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries of Jacksonville, which donated 26 sleeper sofas and living room furniture to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Jacksonville, recently celebrated the grand opening of its new store at the St. Johns Town Center.

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HEAL Founder, Leslie Weed with new Executive Director, Jason Gurka

The HEAL Foundation is a local non-profit organization in Northeast Florida. Through grants, HEAL supports organizations serving those with Autism Spectrum Disorders. The Foundation serves as an outreach organization providing educational programs and camps tailored to the needs of our Autism Community. Our newest initiative is called **iHeal - iPads Helping Enrich Autistic Lives**. After witnessing the progress students with Autism are making with iPads, the foundation was inspired to purchase over 100 iPads and donated them to Exceptional Student Education (ESE) classrooms across the five counties surrounding Jacksonville, Florida.

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# Children's Miracle Network Torch Relay travels to Ponte Vedra

## Sawgrass Marriott hosts Jacksonville stop on nationwide torch relay

By Jennifer Logue

The Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa was the setting for the Jacksonville stop on the national Torch Relay for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals Nov. 12, helping to raise funds for hospitals that provide life-saving treatments for children.

Approximately 100 volunteers from hotels and resorts across the First Coast gathered at the Sawgrass Marriott to welcome the torch and participate in a three-mile walk, raising more than \$6,000 that CMNH Jacksonville Director Emily Williamson said would go directly to local hospitals.

"All of the funds raised here will stay right here in the community, going to UF Health and Wolfson Children's Hospital," Williamson told participants. "My job is to find the machines that hospitals need most and purchase them."

For example, Children's Miracle Net-

work fundraising proved lifesaving for 4-year-old Celeste, Williamson said, who experienced complications at birth that resulted in her being deprived of oxygen for an extended period. But thanks to fundraising efforts like the Torch Relay, the hospital had cool-cap technology that cooled Celeste's brain and allowed it to heal, saving her life and preventing her from suffering any long-term disabilities.

"The money you're raising here today will benefit other kids in our community like Celeste – kids you know," Williamson said.

Initially begun in 2002 as a relay that started in Miami and ended in Orlando, the Torch Relay expanded to Northeast Florida and Georgia before becoming a nationwide event. This year's event will visit 20 cities from coast to coast.

Since its inception, the Torch Relay has raised more than \$11 million for children's hospitals across the country.



Photos by Jennifer Logue

Sawgrass Marriott General Manager Todd Hickey and torch bearer Elizabeth Zuniga prepare to participate in the Torch Relay for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. Participants dressed as superheroes in recognition of the event's theme of "Everyday Heroes."



Walkers start the relay.



Annabella Samples bears the Torch Relay flag to start the event.



Konnor Legassee gets ready to walk for the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL HOSPICE MONTH

 A black and white advertisement for Haven Hospice. It features the Haven Hospice logo, which includes a sunburst icon and the text "HAVEN HOSPICE". To the right of the logo is a photograph of a woman with long hair, wearing sunglasses, looking out over a body of water.

## Quality Time.

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# Annual Red, White and Blues festival to return Nov. 18

The 7th Annual Red, White and Blues will be held Friday, Nov. 18 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the riverfront home of Mr. Gary McCalla.

The annual food, wine and spirits tasting is one of North Florida School of Special Education's signature events, featuring live music, samplings of more than 15 restaurants and an auction of student artwork.

Tickets are \$100 per person and free valet parking will be available. McCalla's home is located at 3904 Alhambra Drive W. in Jacksonville.

For more information, contact Melanie

Jensen at [mjensen@northfloridaschool.org](mailto:mjensen@northfloridaschool.org). An invitation can be downloaded on the North Florida School of Special Education website's event page at [www.northfloridaschool.org](http://www.northfloridaschool.org).

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## PGA Tour player Russell Knox pledges to support Jacksonville's Child Cancer Fund

Before achieving a third-place finish in last week's OHL Classic in Mayakoba, Mexico, PGA Tour Player and Jacksonville resident Russell Knox pledged his support for Jacksonville's Child Cancer Fund, promising to donate \$250 for each birdie, \$500 for each eagle and \$1,000 for each hole in one he made in the tournament.

With a final score of 18-under 266, which included 24 birdies and one eagle, Knox will have the opportunity to follow up on his promise.

Introduced to the Child Cancer Fund two years ago while playing in a charity event, Knox said he has since fallen in love with the organization's mission and the kids he's met along the way.

"These kids and their families are heroes, and I know that every nickel counts for them," said Knox, who is the 19th ranked player in the world and 10th ranked player in the FedEx Cup rankings.

"I am just one of many people doing my part to support them."

The Child Cancer Fund is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to assisting children and their families through the challenges of a childhood cancer diagnosis and treatment.

The organization raises funds to provide Nemours Children's Specialty Care with a financial grant to secure the position of a child life specialist and to provide financial assistance to the parents of children battling cancer.

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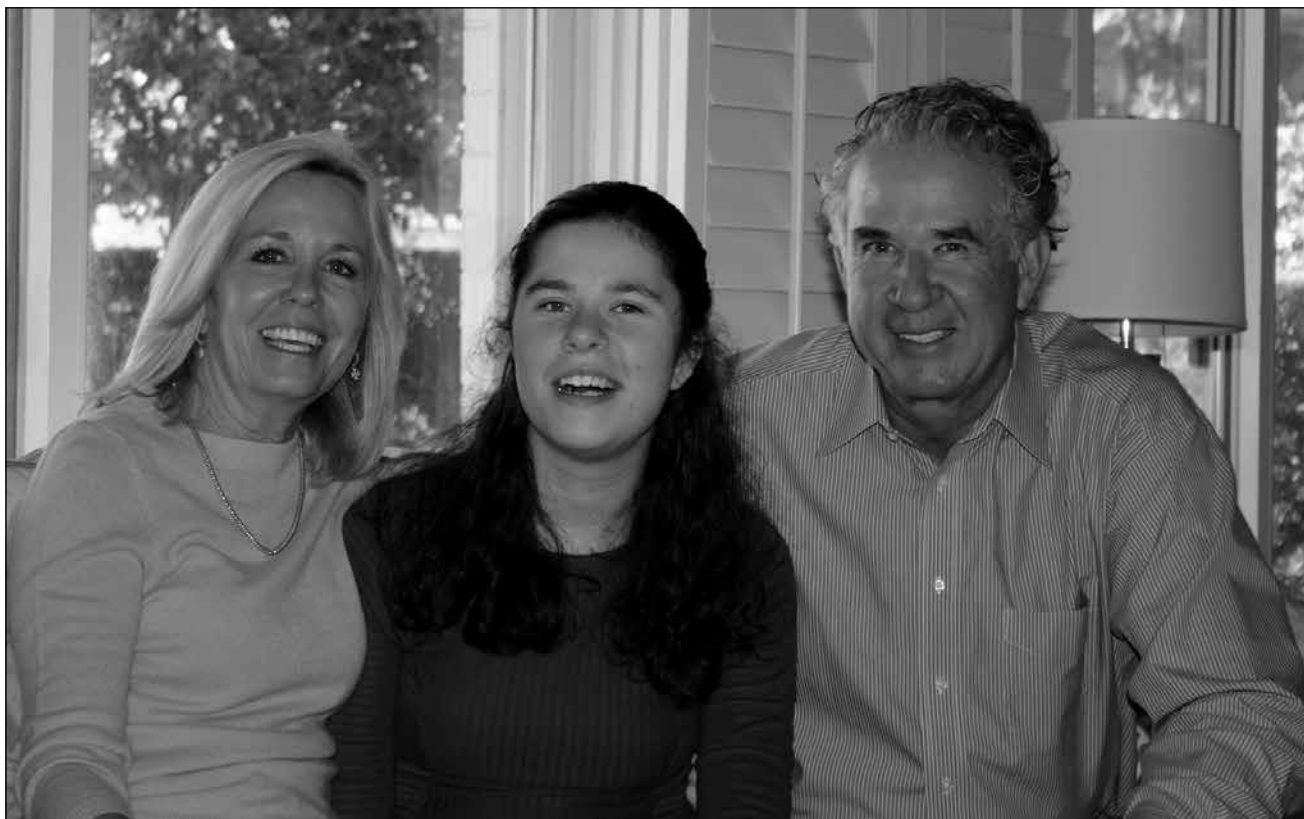
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Photos provided by Leslie Weed

Lanier Weed (center) with her parents, HEAL co-founders Leslie and Bobby Weed

# iHEAL – iPads helping enrich autistic lives

Imagine what it might be like to have all the words of language in your head but being unable to have them spoken with your voice. Imagine the stress, anxiety and irritation one must feel to not be able to express yourself like your other peers

The HEAL Foundation (Healing Every Autistic Life) wants to give kids with autism the power of communication by distributing iPads in ESE classrooms throughout Northeast Florida. Leslie Weed, founder of The HEAL Foundation, noted the benefits of the technology when she bought an iPad for her daughter Lanier, who is nonverbal and profoundly affected by autism.

“With the iPad, Lanier began to communicate with her family, siblings and teachers through a technique called ‘facilitated communication,’” Weed said. “She began to speak to us through the iPad – her teachers were astonished at how much she knew and her level of intelligence.”

By raising funds through HEAL, the goal is to place an iPad in every special needs classroom in six school districts in Northeast Florida. The initiative is called “iHEAL - iPads Helping Enrich Autistic Lives.” HEAL has partnered with Apple to launch the initiative. Together, we are introducing new learning opportunities to communicate with those who have learning disabilities and are non-verbal.

HEAL has partnered with Master



Lanier typing with Leslie on an iPad.

Facilitator Morgan Tyner of AC-CEPTS, and over the past two years, dozens of non-verbal school-aged students have started communicating with their families via iPads for the first time in their lives.

To date, HEAL has distributed over 100 iPads to teachers throughout six school districts. In November they

will deliver another 50 iPads. Since 2004, HEAL has given nearly \$2 million to the local autism community. In 2016, HEAL awarded \$200,000 for specialized camps, the arts, after school programs, classroom enhancements, iPads and Autism Service Dogs. For more information, visit [www.healautismnow.org](http://www.healautismnow.org).

## Rodeheaver Boys Ranch rises to new challenges

In the Spring of 2015, the Frank V. Oliver, Jr. Endowment at the Community Foundation for Northeast Florida issued a grant challenge to the Rodeheaver Boys Ranch: to raise the additional funds needed toward a new, 15-passenger van.

In May 2016, that goal was met. The Rodeheaver Boys Ranch purchased the new van, which serves as essential transportation for the boys who reside there.

According to Director of Development Krista Purcell, several community members came together to support the cause with direct gifts, including the Stellar Foundation, the Lastinger Family Foundation, Don Reid Ford and various private donors.

With that goal achieved, the Rodeheaver Boys Ranch has set its sights on another worthwhile project. The foundation recently received a grant from the Quad Club Rotary Collaboration of St. Johns County to create a learning center at the ranch. The Rotary Clubs of Putnam County also jumped in to support the learning center, including a grant from the Rotary Club of Palatka. With the gifts, Rodeheaver hopes to replicate a modern library or student center with at least 10 computer stations. The center is to be used at the ranch, where cottage parents and volunteers will be able to tutor and help the boys in residence with their homework, SAT prep and other academic studies.

The Rodeheaver Foundation and Rodeheaver Boys Ranch will host their second annual Rodeheaver Boys Ranch Benefit Bass Tournament on March 4, 2017 at Crystal Cove Marina in Palatka. Last year, Publix Super Markets Charities was the title sponsor.

Rodeheaver Boys Ranch has been providing complete care for up to 50 disadvantaged boys at a time for over 65 years. It was founded by Homer Rodeheaver, a gospel musician, who dedicated the land to always be used as a youth ranch.

For more information, email Krista Purcell at [kpurcell@rodeheaverfoundation.org](mailto:kpurcell@rodeheaverfoundation.org), call (386) 983-0658, visit [www.rodeheaverfoundation.org](http://www.rodeheaverfoundation.org) or send mail to Rodeheaver Foundation, PO Box 5, Palatka, Fla. 32178.





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# Arbor Terrace residents take flight with Ageless Aviation

By Jennifer Logue

Marilyn Van Huss's late husband served in the U.S. Air Force for 30 years, flying more than 100 missions as a fighter pilot in Vietnam and receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross.

But last week it was her turn to take flight, as Van Huss, 87, soared into the wild blue yonder aboard a Boeing Stearman biplane. Joining her were seven other Jacksonville-area Arbor Terrace residents, who participated in the flights arranged by the Ageless Aviation Dream Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to honoring seniors and U.S. military veterans.

Participants included 92-year-old Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra resident Arthur Jensen. A retired Merchant Marine captain, Jensen served during World

War II, and recalled transporting 200 German prisoners to a POW camp in Oran, Algeria. The oldest participant in the Nov. 8 flights was 103-year-old Mada Allen. A retired teacher, Allen flew in memory of her late husband, Navy veteran A.W. Brann; and her son, Bob, who served in the Army.

Following the flights, the Arbor Company presented Ageless Aviation with a \$2,200 donation.

"In the past year, Ageless Aviation has enabled 130 residents in 22 of our Arbor communities to realize their dreams of flight," said Laura Ellen Christian, vice president of engagement for the Arbor Company. "The \$2,200 expresses our appreciation with a donation of \$100 for each community they have flown for us this year."



Photos courtesy of The Arbor Company

Arthur Jensen of Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra takes a ride in a biplane through Ageless Aviation.



Ponte Vedra Beach Rotarians Bruce Barber, Don Blackburn and David O'Brien helped organize the veterans luncheon.

World War II Army Veteran Nelson Johnson served in multiple locations across Europe, including Omaha Beach in France, the Belgian town of Bastogne to support troops in the Battle of the Bulge, and the Elbe River in Central Europe to join forces with the Russians.



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

Floyd Miller, a World War II Navy veteran and former newspaper photographer for Navy News Guam, sits with Darlene Tye at the veterans luncheon hosted by The PLAYERS Community Senior Center in Ponte Vedra Beach on Nov. 10. With experience working for a newspaper in high school in Danville, Ill., Miller said the Navy appreciated his journalistic background. He said his job was to meet the daily airplane and make sure the admiral got his picture on the front page of Navy News Guam.



Joseph D'Aloia, a World War II Marine veteran in the South Pacific theatre, enjoys lunch with Joanne Woosley. D'Aloia's two brothers served in the Army, with another brother serving in the Navy. Calling it a patriotic time, he said they all volunteered to serve the day after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

## Council on Aging hosts veterans luncheon

The PLAYERS Community Senior Center in Ponte Vedra Beach hosted a veterans luncheon Nov. 10.

The event included patriotic music and

entertainment followed by a barbecue lunch. Veterans from different branches of the military and wars throughout history attended.



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

The Nease High School Navy Junior ROTC (NJROTC) program marches down Castillo Drive in St. Augustine at the Veterans Day parade on Nov. 11. Nease's program was selected as the most outstanding NJROTC unit in the nation in 2015.

# St. Augustine salutes veterans with annual parade



World War II veteran Herb Naumann, who served in Guam, rides with a group of Iraq War veterans in a military cargo truck at the beginning of the St. Augustine Veterans Day parade in front of the Castillo de San Marcos.



Chris Railing (driver), Lucky Howe (passenger) and Christopher Railing (back) step back in time and drive down Orange Street in a vintage 1945 Willys MB. More than 1,500 people marched in the parade, including veterans and active-duty units, ROTC groups, high school bands and historical reenactors.

By Jon Blauvelt

Several hundred spectators dressed in red, white and blue with American flags in hand lined the streets of downtown St. Augustine Nov. 11 for the city's Veterans Day parade.

Starting in front of the Castillo de San Marcos and ending at Francis Field, the parade featured more than 1,500 marchers, including veterans and active-duty units, local high school and college ROTC groups and bands, reenactors in period dress from throughout American history and vintage military vehicles.

"Anybody that saw what I saw today would know that this country is not nearly through," said Chuck Whatley, an 85-year-old Korean War veteran from Mississippi visiting St. Augustine for the weekend.

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County and the Ancient City Chapter of the Military Officers Association in America organized and presented the event.

"It brought tears to my eyes," said Carol Owens, a Delaware resident visiting her sister in St. Augustine.

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**Jill D'Amato of St. Johns Cares Kids, which helped organize the event, receives a certificate of appreciation.**

Photo by Jennifer Logue



# Veterans

Continued from 20

to fallen veterans: Following a moment of silence and a musical tribute, attendees were invited to stand, bow their heads and place their hand on the shoulder of the person next to them, creating a "chain of unity" as Taps was played.

Yet even as attendees expressed gratitude to America's military men and women, veterans returned that sentiment, presenting Greco with a patriotic angel pin and thanking attendees for their love and support.

"I hear a lot of people say they support our troops – but they don't show it," Florig said. "You people all have busy lives, but you took the time be here tonight. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you and salute you."



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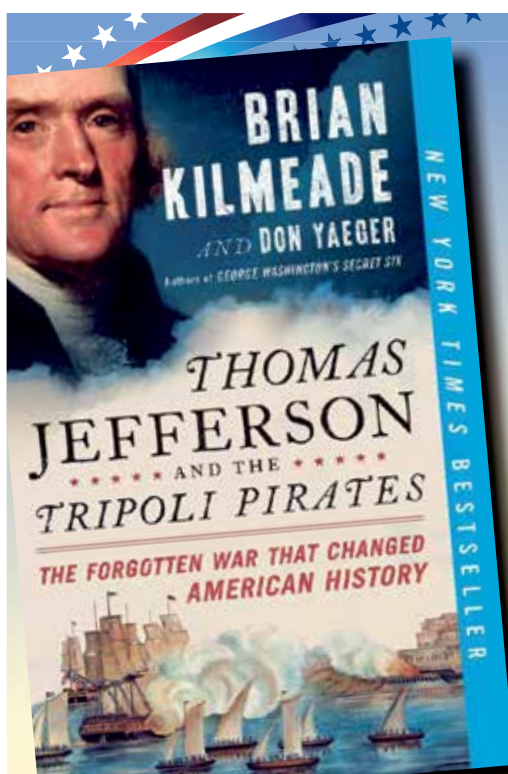


Harbour Island is known by locals as one of Northeast Florida's hidden gems. This 5-bedroom, east-facing Mediterranean home on Cabbage Creek boasts exceptional detail at every turn: Pool/Cabana, leaded glass, custom mouldings, built-in party bar, distinctive architectural details, including the Spanish barrel tile roof... and it comes with a 50' dock in the Harbour! Priced right: \$1,999,000.

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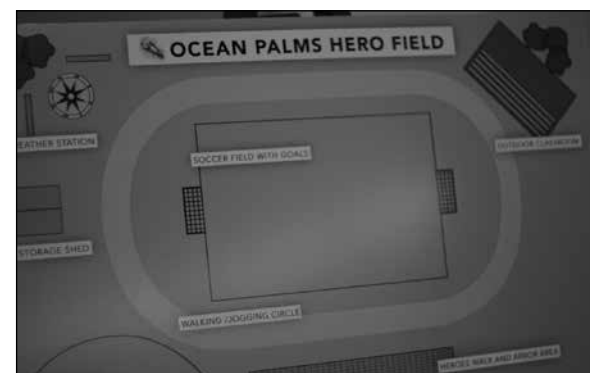
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# Ocean Palms Elementary presents a musical show of thanks to veterans



Rendering of the Ocean Palms Hero Field

By Jasmine Marshall

Local veterans were treated to a morning musical Nov. 10, when Ocean Palms Elementary students took to the stage for a Veterans Day celebration.

For the third straight year, the school welcomed veterans and their families to the cafeteria to hear the Ocean Palms Show Choir and Fun Friday Music Club, directed by music teacher Jennifer Schlechte, as they performed renditions of patriotic songs of old. Alongside a set list consisting of “God Bless the U.S.A.” and “My Country ’Tis of Thee” and other classic anthems, several children stepped up to the microphone to give thanks to the servicemen and women in the crowd, many of whom were their parents. The students also shared their creations with their parents, running the gamut from poems to essays.



Photos by Jasmine Marshall

“In my younger life, I grew up as part of a military family,” Principal Jessica Richardson said. “And I know that for me, personally, my parents instilled the importance of the flag and what it represents in me and my sister. They taught us the rights ... and sacrifice and values that it stands for, and to honor those things even when we couldn’t see it.

“I know that a lot of the parents here today have those same values,” she continued. “So we thank you for being here as we all do the same for our kids.”

## A show of thanks

During the celebration, Richardson also unveiled a rendering of the school’s planned “Hero Field,” illustrated by PGA Tour Production Artist Nikki Haywood. The field is under renovation in memory of Charles Keating IV, a Navy Seal who was killed in combat in May. Keating’s

younger sister, Ali Joseph, is a fifth-grader at OPE.

Richardson welcomed the family to the stage, where they thanked the PTO members, volunteers and supporters who made the field a possibility.

“Thank you for giving him this legacy,” Keating’s mother, Krista Joseph, said, “a legacy that (will be shared) with Ali and the students of Ocean Palms Elementary.”

When complete, the field will be a multi-purpose activity field for soccer, kickball and outdoor classroom space. It will also feature a weather station and a dedicated brick area with bench swings to honor heroes in the community, as well as a path for walking and running. The first brick paver will be dedicated to in memory of Keating.

## Honorable mentions

In addition, three fifth-grade students

were presented with contest awards by Linda Williams, president of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 233, for their essays on “Americanism.” Ava Pollock, who read her essay on stage, was the state winner for Florida.

Following the show tunes, Richardson asked servicemen and women in the crowd to stand to be recognized as they introduced themselves and shared their years of service. First Lt. Denis Oliverio then invited the audience to participate in the tradition of the Marine Corps Cake Cutting Ceremony for the 241st birthday of the United States Marine Corps. Oliverio cut the birthday cake with a sword and presented the first slice to Joseph, the guest of honor.

The second slice, per tradition, was shared between the oldest marine in the room, William B. O’Malley – “the most ‘seasoned’ marine,” Oliverio joked – and

the youngest, David Cavanaugh.

## A note of thanks

The show of gratitude didn’t end with the morning’s festivities. Guests enjoyed refreshments provided by the PGA Tour, and Richardson revealed that the school was participating in Operation Gratitude, wherein every student writes a card of appreciation to the military and collects candy, both of which were presented to the Mayport USO.

Though the gestures of gratitude speak volumes themselves, Richardson said she and the school will never tire of paying homage to their veterans.

“We just always look forward to this time of year when we ... get the opportunity to show our men and women in uniform how much what they do means to us,” she said. “And we’re so grateful to have the support of this community.”



Chief Ben Greenwood with wife Jennifer and kids Bryce and Madison



Principal Jessica Richardson addresses the audience.



The family of Charles Keating IV, from left: Keating’s sister, Ali Joseph; Ronald Joseph, and mother Krista Joseph.



# Chamber of Commerce hosts second annual veterans luncheon

By Jennifer Logue

The panelists came from starkly different backgrounds.

One grew up in a trailer park with a single parent. Another enjoyed an upper middle-class upbringing as the child of a college professor and chemist. The third joined the army so he could “blow stuff up.”

Yet it was their military service and desire to help other veterans make a successful transition to the civilian world that united the three speakers at the second annual St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce veterans luncheon last week. Organized by the chamber’s Ponte Vedra Beach Division, the Nov. 9 luncheon at The Plantation clubhouse gave local business and community leaders a chance to learn about opportunities to hire veterans and how the skills military men and women develop make them responsible, valuable contributors in the workplace.

“The Marine Corps built an exceptional level of confidence in me,” said Joe Padlo, who spent 11 years in the military before founding a commercial cleaning business that provides employment opportunities for other veterans. “When I make a decision, I’m going to stick to that decision and I’m going to run with it.”

John Fails said when he joined the military, he saw service as a way to make money that he could send home to his struggling family. “I was just thrilled to have three square meals a day,” he said. “So for me, (enlisting) was about making my own path and helping to make a path for my family.”

Serving in the military taught him how to analyze situations and problems, Fails said – skills he now uses as executive director of Bunker Labs Jacksonville, a nonprofit that helps veterans start and grown their own businesses.

Each of the veteran panelists described how serving in the military changed them as individuals and made them the people they are today.

“Remember the shy kid in school? That was me,” SFC Michael Kube said. “Becoming a drill sergeant was the last thing I ever imagined I would do.”

Doing so, however, helped him develop leadership skills while also imparting those skills to others.

“Seeing parents’ expressions when they would see how much their sons had grown up was a rewarding experience,” said Kube, who has also started his own business. “The army gave me the opportunity to help other people change their lives.”



Photos by Susan Griffin

SFC Michael Kube, John Fails and Joe Adlo share how their military experiences have translated to the workforce at the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce’s second annual veterans luncheon, held Nov. 9 at The Plantation clubhouse in Ponte Vedra Beach.



State Rep. Cyndi Stevenson and SJC Chamber President Isabelle Rodriguez



Rob Schlingmann and Ed Mercel



Dr. Erika Hamer and Brian Anderson



Sandra Ingram and Felicia Cox

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### ST. JOHNS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PONTE VEDRA BEACH DIVISION


## PVB Division Holiday Merriment Party

Date/Time: Wednesday, December 7 / 5:30- 7:30 p.m.  
Location: Cutter & Cutter Fine Gallery


**Info:** St. Johns County's premier networking event will feature great door prizes, hors d'oeuvres, drinks and live music by Ryan Cray. Bring your spouse or friend and come celebrate with us this special evening of enjoyment & holiday merriment at the Cutter & Cutter Fine Art Gallery, located in Sawgrass Village.

**Cost:** \$35 member (\$40 @the door, \$40 non-member)- includes hors d' oeuvres and two drink tickets.



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# Business Weekly

PAGE 35 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2016



IKEA breaks ground in Jacksonville, set to open in Fall 2017

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Photos by Jon Blauvelt

Jewelry designer Erica Courtney displays her pieces to Underwood's Vickie Lynn, customer Karen Darr and manager Denise Chislett, explaining the stories and details behind some of the rare and exotic gems that characterize her jewelry.

## Jewelry designer Erica Courtney visits Ponte Vedra Beach for trunk show at Underwood Jewelers

By Jon Blauvelt

Los Angeles-based jewelry designer Erica Courtney hosted a trunk show at Underwood Jewelers in Ponte Vedra Beach Nov. 10.

Courtney shared her pieces with employees and customers and then spoke about a recent trip to Vietnam to find a rare spinel, a famous mineral and gemstone that Courtney uses to design her pieces.

"I love the dirty part just as much as the fabulous part," said Courtney after describing the sometimes-treacherous conditions involved with these gem-collecting adventures. "I go to learn where everything comes from."

Courtney, who has been designing jewelry for over 30 years, said her career began one day when she attached a few rhinestones to a pair of sunglasses, placed them on her head, walked out of her home in Dallas with her mom and received a compliment about the sunglasses from a random passerby. Her mother told the person Erica was a jewelry designer and that the person should buy the glasses from her. Since then,



Jewelry designer Erica Courtney joins customers Scott MacKenzie (left) and Jerry Cruz at the Underwood Jewelers trunk show.

Courtney has seen her pieces in movies, in primetime television shows and on the red carpet, adorning celebrities such as Jessica Alba, Sofia Vergara and Sandra Bullock.

"She comes up with some stones that you've never heard of," said Scott MacKenzie, an Underwood Jewelers customer and Ponte Vedra Beach resident. "It's just different."

On Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, Underwood's will host another trunk show to benefit Ayla's

Acres No-Kill Animal Rescue. The event will conclude Dec. 1 with a cocktail party from 6 to 8 p.m. and a raffle for a Lagos Diamonds & Caviar diamond-beaded bracelet valued at \$2,750. All of the raffle proceeds will benefit Ayla's Acres, and 10 percent of overall sales on Lagos jewelry at the event will also be donated to the organization. Actor, artist and animal advocate Loretta Swit will be a special guest at the party.

## Hurricane recovery deadlines to know



Isabelle Rodriguez  
Chamber President

We are back in business. Over the last few weeks, the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce has been reaching out to businesses throughout the county

and it is great to see that people are back at work and that the community continues to heal itself from the effects of Hurricane Matthew. We have taken our first few steps to full recovery and knowing the people of this community as I do, soon this county will be better than ever.

As we recover, I want to make sure that everyone, especially those in the business community, are aware of the important deadlines coming up. The Small Business Administration (SBA) offers loan assistance for businesses that sustained physical damage and/or economic injury. The deadline to apply for a loan for physical damage is Dec. 16, 2016, and the deadline to apply for a loan for economic injury is July 17, 2017. If you have questions or would like help completing the required paperwork, you can come to the chamber's St. Augustine office, where the SBA has opened a Business Recovery Center. For individual assistance, residents can visit the Disaster Recovery Center at the St. Johns County Wind Mitigation Building. If you have experienced damage to both your business and

DEADLINES continues on Page 39

## MEET YOUR MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL

# Spices that help improve your health

By Dr. Erika Hamer

Special to the Recorder

We are reaching that time of year when food seems to take a dominant role in our lives – from Thanksgiving and Christmas to New Year's Eve and all the holiday parties in between. When preparing food for all these various occasions, consider that certain spices can actually help improve your health.

A spice is any dried part of a plant except for the leaves used for flavoring, coloring or preserving foods. Dried

seeds, fruits, roots, berries and bark can all be used for these purposes but spices can have a profound effect on your health, too. Spices, along with herbs, deliver antioxidants and other important bioactive components and can be used in recipes to replace less healthy ingredients, such as sugar. Spices can have specific or wide-ranging health effects on your body. Spices can also help protect you from disease or help with your overall health maintenance.

**Cinnamon** - Cinnamon has historically been used to help relieve diarrhea and nausea, boost blood flow to the

extremities, warm the body and improve digestion (especially fat metabolism). This spice also helps combat fungal infection and has been used for weight loss and diabetes management. Cinnamon extract is proven to have a positive influence on proper insulin function and provide natural support for healthy blood pressure and healthy fat metabolism. Studies have also shown that cinnamon improves the body's antioxidant status and can exhibit anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial and anti-tumor properties.

**Ginger** - Ginger is one of the most commonly used spices for cooking

purposes and the list of health benefits associated with this spice is impressive. Ginger has been used by various cultures around the world for reducing inflammation, stimulating circulation, reducing spasms and as an antimicrobial agent for wounds and sores. Morning sickness, motion sickness, indigestion, hot flashes, headache and muscle pain are all health problems that ginger has been used to treat.

**Garlic** - Garlic has historically been used to stabilize blood sugar levels, enhance immune function and improve cardiovascular health by lowering blood pressure, improving circulation and treating arteriosclerosis, or hardening of your arteries. Recent nutritional studies support the idea that garlic is a powerful agent for preventing and treating atherosclerosis, hyperlipidemia and diabetes. Garlic may also be helpful for sinusitis, colds and flu, digestive problems, insomnia and ulcers and contains the following nutrients: vitamins B1, B2, B3, C, selenium, zinc, calcium and folate, among others.

**Turmeric** - This spice grown in India and other tropical regions throughout Asia has long been used in the ancient healing traditions of India and China for a variety of health purposes. The American Cancer Society notes that turmeric destroys or slows the growth of cancer cells in laboratory dishes, slows the progression of several types of cancer in lab animals and shrinks animal tumors. Studies have shown that turmeric helps boost detoxifying enzymes, prevents DNA damage, enhances DNA repair and reduces inflammation. This spice has also been used in India for healing wounds, treating rheumatic disorders and addressing gastrointestinal symptoms.

Before you decide to use any spice for medicinal purposes, consult with your health care professional, who can provide you with relevant information about safe and effective dosage. But as you approach this season of holiday eating, consider seeking out those dishes that use cinnamon, ginger, garlic or turmeric. That way, you know you will not only be eating something delicious, but something that could have a positive effect on your overall health as well.

*Dr. Erika Hamer, DC, DIBCN, DIBE, is a chiropractic neurologist and the owner of Ponte Vedra Wellness Center, with offices in Ponte Vedra Beach and Nocatee Town Center. Dr. Hamer also runs Ponte Vedra Training Company, specializing in doctor-supervised training programs customized according to individual goals and physical limitations.*

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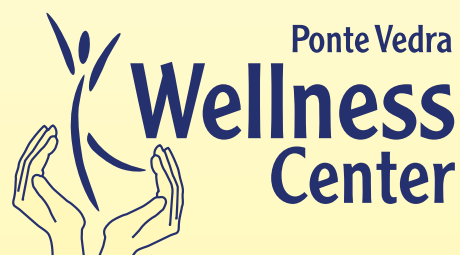


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PV3-LV32826

**MEET YOUR MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL**

# Memorial Hospital launches Rx to Go

Memorial Hospital has installed an automated, interactive medication dispensing kiosk. Rx to Go offers patients, visitors and staff a convenient way to pick up their prescriptions without having to make an extra stop at the pharmacy.

“When people are sick or injured, they want quick and convenient care,” Chief Financial Officer Andy Miller said. “By

bringing the pharmacy vending machine technology to our facility, we are able to improve the care process by offering patients a one-stop experience where they can not only be treated quickly, but they can also pick up their medications before returning home.”

Located in the main lobby of the hospital’s ER and available 24 hours a day,

Rx to Go is stocked with a formulary of top-prescribed medications, excluding controlled substances. After a patient scans in his prescriptions and provides payment, the medication is dispensed through the machine. During the process the patient videoconferences with a live pharmacist. They also have the option to pick up the kiosk phone for added privacy.

“This is an innovative concept and the first in-hospital kiosk of its kind in Northeast Florida,” said Dr. Fred Jenkins, medical director of the Memorial Hospital ER. “This kiosk allows patients to fill their prescriptions and interact face-to-face with a pharmacist before leaving the ER, which can lead to increased compliance and improved outcomes.”

**MOVERS & SHAKERS**

**Sawgrass Marriott receives award**

The Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa recently received a 2017 Top New or Renovated Meeting Site Award from ConventionSouth. The resort – which is undergoing a multimillion-dollar renovation of its facilities – was one of 55 meeting facilities across the south to be recognized with the award.

**UNF professors honored as Fulbright Scholars**

Three University of North Florida professors were recognized recently for having been Fulbright Scholars over the years.

UNF President John Delaney joined

with Philip Rakita of the Fulbright Association Nov. 8 to present medallions to Dr. Mark Tumeo, Dr. Alison Bruey and Dr. William Slaughter. Tumeo, an Atlantic Beach resident, was a Fulbright Scholar in Peru in 1990 and Germany in 1999. Bruey, also from Atlantic Beach, was a Fulbright Scholar in Chile in 2003, while Slaughter, a professor emeritus in American literature, traveled to Egypt in 1980 and China in 1987. He lives in Jacksonville Beach.

Founded in 1946 by U.S. Sen. J. William Fulbright, the Fulbright program offers competitive, merit-based grants for international education exchange for students, scholars, teachers, professionals,

scientists and artists.

**SCORE presents Watson Realty with Longevity Award**

SCORE’s Jacksonville chapter has honored Watson Realty Corp. with the Thriving and Surviving Honoring Longevity 2016 award

Presented Oct. 24 at the “Thriving and Surviving: The Last 50 Years” event held at Unity Plaza, the award recognized Watson and other businesses founded in the Jacksonville area that have thrived for 50 years or more.

“It was certainly an honor to be rec-

ognized among the many reputable local companies celebrated at this event,” said Watson Realty Corp. President Ed Forman, who accepted the award. “It truly is a powerful statement for an organization to have continually been in business for 50 years.”

SCORE is a nonprofit association whose purpose is to develop and educate small businesses nationwide. The organization is supported by the U.S. Small Business Administration and currently has a network of more than 11,000 volunteers and more than 320 chapters across the country.



Dr. Alison Bruey

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**We Have New Pricing Options and Good News for Women with Medicare!**

## Meet Dr. Carlson at Wise Women



Dr. Carlson practiced Medical Gynecology at Mayo Clinic in Florida from 2012 until March, 2016 and has cared for thousands of women from all over the world. A diagnostic specialist, she has focused her practice on the diagnosis and nonsurgical management of gynecologic conditions.

She has particularly enjoyed caring for mature women and addressing their unique gynecologic concerns. She is delighted to have the opportunity to provide preventative care in a private setting at Wise Women in the Town Plaza Offices at Nocatee.

Prior to joining Mayo Clinic, Dr. Carlson practiced high risk obstetrics and gynecologic surgery in New England. She is Board Certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology and is a Fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

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## BUSINESS BRIEFS

**The Learning Experience to host grand opening celebration**

The Learning Experience will host a grand opening celebration Saturday, Nov. 19 from 10 a.m. to noon.

To be held at the early education center located at 70 Greenleaf Drive in Nocatee (opposite Valley Ridge Academy), the event will feature face painting, balloon and caricature artists, food trucks and more.

Non-perishable food items will also be collected for donation to the St. Johns Ecumenical Ministries food bank.

**BDO expands to Northeast Florida through acquisition of LBA Group**

Leading accounting firm BDO USA, LLP has expanded into Northeast Florida through the addition of 102 staff from The LBA Group. The transaction also includes the services currently offered by LBA Healthcare Consulting and LBA Retirement Plan Services.

Combined with BDO's existing offices in Coral Gables, Fort Lauderdale, Lakeland, Miami, Orlando, Tampa, West Palm Beach and Winter Haven, BDO will have more than 400 professionals serving Florida clients.

The agreement was expected to completed Nov. 16.

"LBA's experience in the healthcare, real estate, construction, nonprofit and manufacturing sectors, melds well with our existing industry strengths," said Wayne Berson, CEO of BDO USA. "They also have an entrepreneurial culture that is a natural fit for BDO and should make the integration of their practice as seamless as possible."

LBA Managing Partner Neil Von Stein said joining with BDO will continue LBA's long tradition of serving Jacksonville businesses.

"Our clients will continue to receive the close personal attention they have come to expect from our team, while having access to a wider array of services, broader industry experience, and the full coverage of BDO's global network," he said. "BDO has a very similar culture to our own and, like us, a well-earned reputation as a highly desirable place to work. As part of a national firm, we will have improved resources for recruiting and training, and our people will now have access to many more opportunities to pursue career growth."



The Learning Experience

Von Stein will serve as the tax managing partner for the Jacksonville BDO practice, while Eric Martinez will serve as assurance managing partner.

**Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation donates life-saving equipment**

The St. Johns County Sheriff's Office was among 21 public safety organizations to receive a donation of lifesaving equipment from the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation.

The sheriff's office received 15 automated external defibrillators (AEDs) valued at a total of nearly \$20,000. The donation was part of more than \$356,000 in lifesaving equipment donated to local organizations, and builds on the foundation's increased focus on sudden cardiac arrest through its Michael Namey AED Initiative. According to the foundation, sudden cardiac arrest is responsible for more than 600,000 deaths each year.

"Jacksonville is the home of Firehouse Subs and Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation," said Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Executive Director Robin Peters. "Many of the organizations

receiving grant awards are friends and neighbors so it is especially gratifying to award these life-saving grants right here in our backyard."

**Attorney leads webinar on hurricane recovery**

A Louisiana attorney involved in recovery efforts following Hurricane Katrina

hosted a webinar for local Hurricane Matthew victims recently at the Hilton Bayfront in St. Augustine. J.R. Whaley, a veteran of Hurricane Katrina litigation, offered insights on ways in which policy holders can receive full and fair compensation from their homeowners' and flood insurance carriers. The session was co-hosted by attorney Tom Young of Tampa.

**REAL ESTATE SNAPSHOT****By Michael Hannon**

Special to the Recorder

Northeast Florida Association of Realtors recorded 20 residential sales in Ponte Vedra 32081 and Ponte Vedra Beach 32082 for the week of Nov. 4 -11, 2016.

**RECENT SALES****Single Family – Ponte Vedra, 32081**

\$270,000	42 Charter Cir	3b/2b
\$285,971	322 Park Lake Dr	3b/2b
\$303,000	610 Howland Dr	3b/2b/1hb
\$330,362	91 Park Lake Dr	4b/3b/1b
\$347,943	59 Queensland Cir	3b/3b
\$362,113	246 Cobbler Trail	2b/2b
\$373,714	474 Cobbler Trail	2b/2b
\$430,885	315 Stone Ridge Dr	4b/3b/1hb
\$439,894	279 Senegal Dr	4b/4b
\$442,979	472 Wingstone Dr	2b/2b
\$460,000	262 Citrus Ridge Dr	4b/4b
\$489,000	199 Eagle Rock Dr	4b/4b
\$1,105,201	414 Deer Valley Dr	4b/4b/1hb

**Condominium - Ponte Vedra Beach, 32082**

\$105,000	211 Colima Ct 1125	1b/1b
\$120,000	11 Arbor Club 211	2b/2b
\$126,000	878 Coral Reef Way 878	1b/1b
\$148,000	501 Tournament Rd	2b/2b

**Single Family - Ponte Vedra Beach, 32082**

\$310,000	501 Salt Wind Ct E	2b/2b
\$525,000	1512 Turtle Bay Cv	4b/3b
\$1,645,000	358 San Juan Dr	4b/4b

The list above illustrates representative sampling of reported sold transactions. Property information is not guaranteed. © 2016 MLS and FBS

**Have real estate questions? Email them to have your question answered in a future column. Submit questions to [mh@michael2020.com](mailto:mh@michael2020.com).**

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# IKEA breaks ground in Jacksonville, set to open in Fall 2017

Ware Malcomb, an award-winning international design firm, has been named Project Architect for IKEA's new Jacksonville, Fla.

Swedish home furnishings retailer IKEA broke ground on its future Jacksonville store Nov. 3, with plans to open its fifth Florida store in Fall 2017. Currently, IKEA has stores in Orlando, Tampa, Sunrise and Sweetwater.

Located approximately 10 miles southeast of downtown Jacksonville, the 290,000-square-foot proposed IKEA store and its 950 parking spaces will be built on 25 acres along the northwestern corner of Interstate 295 and Gate Parkway.

IKEA Jacksonville will feature nearly 10,000 exclusively designed items, 50 room settings, three model home interiors, a supervised children's play area, and a 300-seat restaurant serving Swedish specialties such as meatballs with lingonberries and salmon plates, as well as American dishes.

Other family-friendly features include a "Children's IKEA" area in the showroom, baby care rooms, play areas throughout the store and preferred parking.

The company has chosen Ware Malcomb as project architect and Marcobay Construction as construction manager for the Jacksonville store. Other firms

assisting with the project are real estate brokerage CBRE for site selection support; Driver, McAfee, Peek & Hawthorne for local land use counsel; Prosser, Inc. for civil and traffic engineering; Bushra Tsai Inc. for structural engineering, RPM Engineers, Inc. for mechanical, electrical and plumbing design; Universal Engineering Sciences for geotechnical services; Environmental Services, Inc. and Gemini

Engineering for environmental resources; and GreenbergFarrow for development coordination.

"With contractors onboard, plans can proceed towards opening the future IKEA Jacksonville," said Lars Petersson, IKEA U.S. president.

"This store will provide a more convenient IKEA shopping experience for current and potential customers through-

out North Florida and Southern Georgia, complementing our growing southeastern U.S. presence."

IKEA estimates that construction of the store will create construction 500 jobs, with 250 jobs created when the store opens.

Founded in 1943, IKEA currently operates more than 380 stores in 48 countries, including 42 in the United States.

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## Deadlines

Continued from 35

your home, you can come to the Business Recovery Center here at One News Place to find assistance for both your personal and professional recovery needs.

As these deadlines approach, you can help by sharing the information with the people you think it can benefit. Neighbors are helping neighbors. Strangers are helping strangers.

You are all doing your part and for those of you who are looking to do a little more, I would suggest that there has never been a more important time to support your local businesses.

Buy a gift card from your favorite local store, start your holiday shopping in historic downtown or uptown St. Augustine and find a new favorite locally owned restaurant.

There are many ways to buy local, and right now, it is one of the easiest, tastiest and best ways you can contribute to your community.

To find out more about the Business Recovery Center or if you have any questions that we can help you answer, please contact the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce at (904) 829-5681.

**Isabelle Rodriguez is the president and CEO of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce.**

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Photos by Chris and Jerry Norton

**Above: Marshall Few, #5 pulls down Tronti's pass for a touchdown.**

**Right: #45 of the Sharks Duncan Van Kouteren blocks a Yulee point leading to Jake Maguire's touchdown.**



# Sharks maul Yulee 51-19 in 5A playoff win

**By Jerry Norton**

Friday night's District 5A football playoff matchup between the Yulee Hornets and the Ponte Vedra Sharks at the Shark Tank featured the area's top running back against the area's top quarterback.

What was expected to be a closely contested affair turned out to be a rout of the first magnitude. The Sharks, behind quarterback Nick Tronti, running back Hal Swan and receivers JD Pirris and Marshall Few, proved without a doubt that Ponte Vedra's multi-faceted attack was vastly superior to Yulee's powerful but one-dimensional offense featuring Jamari Peacock. The Sharks were never threatened as they rolled to an easy 51-19 victory.

Ponte Vedra took the opening kickoff and four plays later held a 7-0 lead. The drive featured a 13-yard run by Swan, a 22-yard reception by Pirris, a 9-yard Swan run and a 25-yard screen pass from Tronti to Swan for the touchdown.

Before Peacock had a chance to touch the football, the Sharks Cole McCormick stepped in front of an errant Yulee pass to put the ball back in Tronti's

hands on the Hornets' 15-yard line. On third down, Tronti connected with Swan for an 11-yard score. The game was less than three minutes old and Ponte Vedra had a 14-0 advantage.

On their next possession, the visitors shunned the pass and handed the football to Peacock twice, only to have the Shark defense hold the area's top running back to a net zero yards. Yulee was forced to punt and Ponte Vedra wasted no time putting up another score — this a 10-yard dive by Zach Walton.

Trailing 21-0, Yulee took advantage of three offsides infractions and a pass interference penalty to get on the board. Peacock gained 28 yards on eight carries in the drive.

The Sharks controlled the ball for nearly five minutes before settling for a 30-yard Chris Howard field goal and a 24-7 advantage. Ponte Vedra got the ball right back on the next play from scrimmage when a Yulee pitchout was fumbled and Jacob Reeves recovered. Swan found a big hole in the left side and scampered for a 12-yard touchdown. The Sharks led 31-7 with more than seven minutes left in the second



**#8 Hal Swan of the Sharks heads for the end zone behind the blocking of #57 Zach Lowery.**

quarter.

Yulee's vaunted ground game (read Peacock) finally showed up when their powerful running back broke several tackles en route to a 68-yard touchdown jaunt. A botched snap foiled the point-after, leaving Yulee on the short end of the 31-13 score.

Tronti, answering Peacock's long run, then engineered another 80-yard scoring drive; the big plays included a 23-yard strike to Jarrett Stepp and a 15-yard pass to Few. Tronti finished the drive calling his own number for the 4-yard TD. Sharks 38-13.

The Shark defense came up big once again forcing a Yulee punt with the Hornets inside their own 20. Duncan

Van Kueteren blocked the kick and Jake Maguire scooped it up for the score. Sharks 45-13. Yulee tried to get back in the game through the air, but JB Shepherd's interception for the Sharks killed that threat as the first half ended.

Yulee took the second half kickoff, but even Peacock could not help as the Shark defense swarmed to force another punt. Tronti and Few combined for a 44-yard pass and run play that put PV up 51-13. The PAT was blocked — the only downside of the night for the Sharks.

By this time Coach Toblin called on his backups. The Hornets would add



**HOUSTON 24, JACKSONVILLE 21**



Photos by Nancy Beecher

**ABOVE:** Jaguars QB Blake Bortles (5) completed 32 of 49 passes for 265 yards, two touchdowns and one interception for an 84.1 passer rating.

**LEFT:** Jacksonville running back T.J. Yeldon (24) rushed nine times for 32 yards and caught 3-of-3 targets for 27 yards in the Jaguars' loss to the Texans.

# Texans hang on to spoil Jaguars' comeback

**By Mike Bonts**

If there are any "must win" games for the Jaguars to make the NFL playoffs, they are against the team's AFC South Division rivals. That was the case Sunday. A chance to defeat division leading Houston at EverBank Field.

But the Texans scored on a turnover and two touchdown passes from quarterback Brock Osweiler and hung on for a (6-3) a 24-21 win over Jacksonville (2-7).

"It's the start of the second half of the season and we played hard but just like I told you, the three phases, everybody can take responsibility," said Jacksonville Coach Gus Bradley. "Talent. I think we're a talented team, but talent alone isn't enough. I think that it's talent and work ethic and the guys working together to accomplish this and playing smart and not having foolish penalties so a combination of things. I let them understand we still believe in them as a talented team but we're still not giving enough."

Osweiler was 14 of 27 for 99 yards with scoring passes to tight ends Ryan Griffin and Stephen Anderson.

With seven games remaining in the regular season, the Jaguars have three against AFC South opponents. Jacksonville has dropped four games in a row.

The Jaguars got off to rocky start. Quarterback Blake Bortles threw his 11th interception of the season on the opening drive. Kareem Jackson returned the ball 42 yards for a score.

Tight end Julius Thomas caught his third touchdown pass of the season, a 5-yarder



Jacksonville tight end Julius Thomas (80) caught a five-yard TD pass from QB Blake Bortles in the first quarter, which marked Thomas' 33rd receiving TD since 2013.

from Bortles to tie the game in the first quarter. The score marked Thomas' 33rd receiving TD since 2013. Thomas' 33 receiving TDs since 2013 are the most in the NFL over that span by a tight end and the fifth-most overall.

Bortles was 32 of 49 for 265 yards and one interception. He connected with Allen Robinson late in the game on a TD pass

and two-point conversion, but that was as close as the Jaguars could come to winning their third game of the season and second over an AFC South opponent.

Robinson caught nine passes for 107 yards and caught a 14-yard TD pass from QB Bortles with 1:25 remaining in the fourth quarter. It marked Robinson's first 100-yard receiving game of the season

and his first since Week 17 of the 2015 season.

The game was Robinson's fourth career game with 100-plus receiving yards and at least one TD reception. Wide receiver Marqise Lee caught four passes for 50 yards and had one carry for six yards.

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## Sharks

Continued from 40

another Peacock touchdown but it was far too little and far too late.

Ponte Vedra will host Ribault on Friday, Nov. 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the district 5A regional semi-finals. Last Friday, the Trojans beat Bishop Kenny 14-13

in the other district 5A playoff game. Ribault's season record is seven wins and three losses, including a 14-7 win over Yulee.

They have scored 192 points and allowed 117. Expect Tronti to be highly motivated against the Trojans. Ponte Vedra lost in first game of last season's playoffs, when the Trojans knocked the Shark quarterback out of the game with a broken collarbone.

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**KEEPING UP**

**By Barbara Boxleitner**

Special to Ponte Vedra Recorder

**Hannah Berman** has been recognized for her golf play. The Ponte Vedra High School graduate was named Nov. 3 as the Gulf South Conference freshman golfer of the month. She was cited for her performance at the NCAA Regional Preview, where she shot a 148 (74-74) to tie for sixth overall, third among the Argonauts.

“It was great,” Berman said of the honor. “Everything went really well. I wasn’t too confident going in.”

She said the coach had four qualifiers to determine which women would compete in the event, whose course she had not played until the practice round. “It had pretty tight fairways,” she said. “You don’t have a lot of room for error off the tee.”

Berman hit the fairways, and her “putting was good,” she said. “The greens were really nice.”

Berman said she wasn’t confident entering the event because she shot a 256 (82-85-89) in her only other showing, at the Ross Resorts Invitational. She competed as an individual. “I was pretty nervous,” she said about her debut. “I wanted to make a good impression.” Going forward, Berman said

she is “just trusting my ability and making sure that I’m practicing.”

**Women’s soccer**

Florida Atlantic University senior **Erica Burt** was named to the All-Conference USA first team for a second consecutive year. The center back out of Ponte Vedra High was the conference defensive player of the week twice this season.

Manhattan College goalkeeper **Olivia Printy** was named Oct. 31 the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference defensive player of the week for posting a shutout victory during which she made a career-high eight saves. The freshman competed for Ponte Vedra.

Columbia College (S.C.) junior goalkeeper **Katherine Yahnke** was the Appalachian Athletic Conference defensive player of the week in October. The Ponte Vedra Beach resident made five saves in posting two shutouts.

**Football**

University of North Carolina senior center **Lucas Crowley** was named the Atlantic Coast Conference offensive lineman of the week in October. The Allen D. Nease alumnus was cited for his performance in the team’s road win over ranked Miami.

*Send updates about area athletes to Barbara Boxleitner at [bboxleitner@outlook.com](mailto:bboxleitner@outlook.com).*

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**Jaguars**

Continued from 41

Myers added a 44-yarder to open the final quarter.

Cornerback Aaron Colvin registered a seven-yard sack on Osweiler with 10:08 remaining in the fourth quarter. It was Colvin's first sack of the season and fifth of his career. Since 2015, Colvin's five sacks are most in the NFL by a cornerback and tied for the most by a defensive back with Kansas City's Ron Parker who also has five sacks.

Linebacker Telvin Smith led the Jaguars with six tackles, four solo. It marked Smith's 29th consecutive game with five-plus tackles, the second-longest active streak in the NFL. Jalen Ramsey finished second on the team with six tackles, tied for the second-most of his career. Paul Posluszny finished third on the team with five tackles, four solo.

The teams meet again on Dec. 18 in Houston. Now the Jaguars go on

the road for games against Detroit and Buffalo.

"You can't really do anything about it. It does no good to get mad at the fans for whatever they do," Bortles said about fan reaction and the loss. "They're in control of nothing, so it's on us, it's on me, to go out and go play. Go play as hard as you can and have fun and be successful."

**Game Notes:** After missing field goals of 49 and 50 yards, Texans' kicker Nick Novak connected on a 51-yarder in the fourth quarter...the game marked Bortles' third consecutive game with 250-plus passing yards and multiple TD passes, which is tied for the longest streak in franchise history...Peyton Thompson led the team with two special teams tackles against the Texans. Rookie linebacker Myles Jack also registered one special teams tackle...tight end Ben Koyack caught three passes for 35 yards, increasing his career totals to eight receptions for 76 yards.



Jaguars' kicker Jason Myers (2) converted a 54-yard field goal in the second quarter and a 44-yarder in the fourth quarter, finishing 2-of-2 on FGs and 1-of-1 on PATs against the Texans.

Photos by Nancy Beecher

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<p><b>Private Party Line Rates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$14.00 1 week • \$23.00 2 weeks</li> <li>• \$31.00 3 weeks • \$37.50 4 weeks</li> </ul> <p><i>Add lines \$2.15 each</i></p> <p>(Couches, TV's, Beds, Household Items, Etc.)</p>	<p><b>Commercial Line Rates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$22.50 1 week • \$39.00 2 weeks</li> <li>• \$55.50 3 weeks • \$70.00 4 weeks</li> </ul> <p><i>Add lines \$2.15 each</i></p> <p>(Animals, Cars, Renting or Selling a Home or to Advertise Your Business or Services)</p>	<p><b>Employment Spotlight/Real Estate</b></p> <p>1x2 (2"x2") \$40.50/1 wk • \$70.00/2 wks. • \$100/3 wks. 1x3 (2"x3") \$61.50/1 wk. • \$112.00/2 wks. • \$150.00/3 wks. 2x2 (4"x2") \$82.00/1 wk. • \$153.00/2 wks. • \$200.00/3 wks. 2x3 (4"x3") \$123.00/1 wk. • \$225/2 wks. • \$300/3 wks.</p>	<p><b>Business &amp; Worship Directory</b></p> <p>1.5 x 2 \$55.00/month 1.5 x 4 \$96.52/month 1.5 x 6 \$149.52/month</p> <p><i>Rate Guide for: The Recorder</i></p>
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- You are aged 50 - 85 years with a diagnosis of Dementia with Lewy Bodies
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For More Information, Please Contact

<b>City</b>	<b>Study Contact</b>	<b>Contact Info</b>
Boca Raton .....	Jamie Lovering .....	(561) 392-1818
Orlando .....	Nadia Afgani .....	(407) 210-1316

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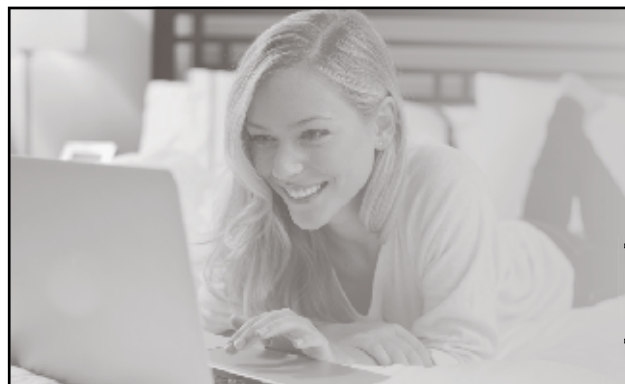
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*To inquire about placing an ad in this section, call 579-2154*

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To: 904-686-3700**

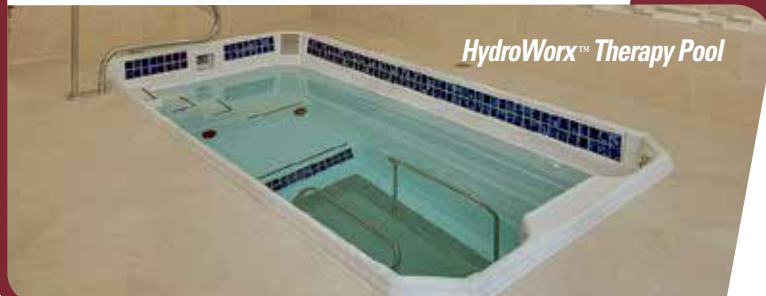
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