

# Ponte Vedra Recorder



June 16, 2016  
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75 cents

*Not your average newspaper, not your average reader*

PonteVedraRecorder.com

## Trump clinches nomination:



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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CRAIN FAMILY

Dr. Mark Bleiweis poses with one of the "Heart for Hunter" cutouts that came to symbolize Ponte Vedra teen Hunter Crain's wait for a heart transplant. Last week, Bleiweis performed the life-saving operation on Hunter. **Read more on page 3.**

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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. If you have hard copies of photos you want us to feature, feel free to bring them to our office — we'll scan them and hand them right back. 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)

## Correction

In the June 9 edition of the Recorder in the article titled "Auto buying concierge service take the hassle out of buying cars," the business name was mistakenly listed as Auto Buyers' Consultations instead of Auto Buyers' Consultants of Florida. The Recorder regrets the error.

## 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.

No one correctly identified last week's photo as **EarthWise Pet Supply**. Better luck this week, readers!

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



## ADOPT A PET

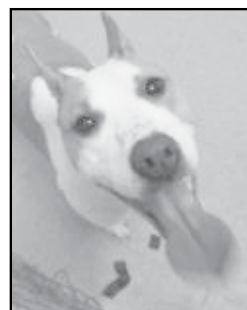
### CAT OF THE WEEK

Hello, my name is Percy and I am a 1-year-old male kitty who is available for adoption and looking for a new home. I was brought to the pet center as a stray. I am a loving cat who wants to find a forever family that will show me the love and attention I need. Please come and visit me at the pet center! #31753.



### DOG OF THE WEEK

Hi there! My name is Winnie and I am a 3-year-old female dog who is available for adoption and looking for a new home. I was surrendered by my parents because they did not want me anymore. I prefer to be the only pet, but I love people. Come visit me at the pet center #32261.



Any pet being introduced to a new home will need time to adjust to a new environment. Please reinforce house training and behavioral training and be mindful of interacting with other pets. Come visit us today here at the pet center.

## 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.**

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

M	A	D	A	M	U	S	A	S	H	O	E		
A	G	O	R	A	R	U	B	T	I	A	R	A	
S	H	E	E	R	A	N	A	A	T	L	A	S	
K	A	R	A	K	U	L	F	I	R	E	F	L	Y
		S	E	N	S	T	O	P					
S	P	A	T	I	N	T	N	O	D	O	F	F	
L	A	N	E	T	E	A	L	N	I	S	E	I	
I	T	E	M	Y	O	D	E	L	R	I	N	G	
D	E	N	I	M	N	I	N	E	T	E	C	H	
E	N	T	R	A	P	U	S	P	S	R	E	T	
				T	E	R	M	E	W	E			
B	O	N	F	I	R	E	D	R	I	V	E	I	N
O	N	I	O	N	E	T	A	V	E	R	N	E	
L	U	P	U	S	V	A	T	E	R	G	O	T	
T	S	A	R	E	N	E	L	Y	O	N	S		

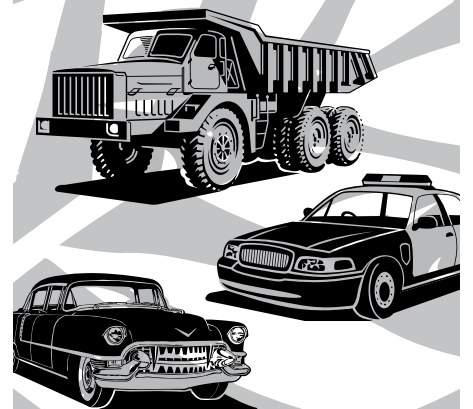
3	5	4	8	7	6	9	1	2
6	7	2	1	5	9	4	8	3
1	9	8	2	4	3	7	6	5
7	3	5	4	9	1	8	2	6
8	4	6	3	2	7	5	9	1
9	2	1	6	8	5	3	7	4
4	1	7	5	6	8	2	3	9
5	6	9	7	3	2	1	4	8
2	8	3	9	1	4	6	5	7

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

# FATHER'S DAY

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# Ponte Vedra teen receives a new heart

'Heart for Hunter' fundraising events July 10-11 to support teen's recuperation, transplant medications

By Jasmine Marshall

Ponte Vedra residents may already be familiar with Hunter Crain, the local teen whose battle with an underde-



Photos courtesy of Nancy Crain

veloped left ventricle launched the "Heart for Hunter" campaign to help him receive a life-saving organ transplant.

Last week, the call the Crain family had been waiting for

finally came. On June 7 at 5:35 a.m., the family received news that a heart was available. After receiving the call, Hunter, 19, and his mother Nancy rushed to UF Shands in Gainesville for the surgery, which was conducted by Dr. Mark Bleiweis, MD, director and surgeon of the Congenital Heart Center.

Less than 24 hours later, Hunter was able to sit upright and offer a "thumbs up" to his family.

"We are just so excited and happy for him that this time has come," Nancy Crain said. "There's still a ways to go, but we're so thankful."

While Hunter has done well following his surgery, she said, the family has their sights set on overcoming the hurdles that lay ahead as Hunter's new

heart "takes hold in its new home." After starting anti-rejection medications June 9, Hunter will need to continue taking them every day. He is expected to remain in UF Shands for at least two to four weeks to recover; following his discharge from the hospital, he'll need to stay isolated for no less than a month to minimize the risk of infection and illness, to which the medications make him more susceptible.

He will also need to have frequent checkups with his heart transplant team

and undergo monthly cardiac catheterizations for approximately one year to rule out rejection of his new heart. But despite the various additions to Hunter's routine, the Crain family is committed to heeding the advice of his nurses and doctors so he can get back to his own plans for the future.

"Hunter is feeling grateful, and is highly motivated to take care of this heart and do whatever the doctors and

HEART FOR HUNTER continues on Page 4



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# St. John Paul II Mission church to open new Nocatee parish center

The Catholic Diocese of St. Augustine will officially open its new parish center in Nocatee with a Mass and blessing ceremony next week.

To be held June 23 at the new 12,000 square-foot center located at 127 Stonemason Way, Jacksonville – west of Nocatee's Kelly Pointe neighborhood – the event will begin at 7 p.m. with Mass, followed by a blessing ceremony conducted by Bishop Felipe J. Estévez. The public is invited to attend the inaugural Mass and blessing ceremony, which will be followed by a reception.

The new center will serve as a worship space, with auditorium-style seating for 450 until the mission can afford to build a church. With a fully equipped commercial kitchen, administrative offices, conference rooms, stage and chapel, the building will serve a variety of purposes.

St. John Paul II is a mission of Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in

Ponte Vedra Beach under the leadership of Msgr. Keith Brennan. A mission is a congregation too small or too new to be established as a separate parish. Mission churches are usually administered to by a priest or priests of a nearby parish designated by the bishop. Bishop Estévez appointed Father Edward Shaner to serve at Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish as a parochial vicar in March 2014. Father Shaner oversees the mission at Nocatee.

Effective Friday, June 24, daily Mass will be celebrated at the parish center Monday through Friday at 8:30 a.m.; and



Saturday at 5 p.m., with confession at 4 p.m. Sunday Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

"This is an exciting time for Catholics living in the Nocatee community," said Msgr. Brennan, noting that St. John Paul II has grown from 136 families in 2012 to more than 232 families today. "Due to the rapid growth of this area, I fully expect St. John Paul II will become a

parish that can support a resident priest in the near future."

The faith community of St. John Paul II broke ground Aug. 8, 2015 on the new parish center, which is located on 35 acres donated to the Diocese of St. Augustine by the Davis family. The \$5.5 million project included \$3.5 million for the building and another \$1.5 million for road work, fees and furnishings.



Photo courtesy of Archdiocese of St. Augustine

The new parish center will open June 23 with a Mass and blessing ceremony.

## Heart for Hunter

Continued from 3

nurses ask of him so that he can get out of the hospital and go home," Nancy said.

### Community support

After having life-saving, reparative surgeries to his heart at just 15 days old, followed by two additional heart surgeries before his second birthday, Hunter spent his adolescent years in the typical fashion of a teenage boy. An interest in sports would translate into dreams of becoming a general manager for an NFL team, and the former Ponte Vedra High School student had his sights set on college.

But in the spring of 2013, after being invited to the Tim Tebow Foundation Celebrity Golf Classic, Nancy Crain realized something was wrong when her son was unable to walk long

distances between the holes. Having been diagnosed as a child with variant hypoplastic left heart syndrome, doctors determined that Hunter had a severely dilated right atrium – a complication of his earlier surgeries – and was in need of a transplant. He was added to the list that November.

It wasn't long before the community rallied to his support, launching the "Heart for Hunter" campaign. "Flat Hunter" paper dolls "in search of a heart" made appearances in the hands of everyone from NFL stars to soldiers in Afghanistan. The Crain family, meanwhile, worked tirelessly with the Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) to organize and guide communities in raising funds for Hunter's transplant-related expenses.

In particular, Nancy Crain said, Ponte Vedra High School was instrumental in drumming up support for her son, from hosting "Heart for Hunter" nights to facilitating COTA Cares – a fundraising

program run by Hunter's sister and baseball team manager Courtney Crain.

"We know our course has just changed paths and we have miles to go before we rest, but I just can't thank you enough," Nancy Crain said to Hunter's supporters.

"Please continue your prayers for an unremarkable (recuperation) free of rejection, infection, clots or other complications."

Hunter's journey is set to return him to Ponte Vedra High School this fall, where he will act as an assistant football



Hunter Crain post-operation with Dr. Mark Bleiweis, MD, director and surgeon of the Congenital Heart Center at UF Shands.

## Heart for Hunter events

Three Heart for Hunter events will be held in support of the Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) in July at the Atlantic Beach Country Club:

July 10, 6 p.m.: Heart for Hunter Pairings Party

July 11, 7:30 a.m.: Second Annual COTA Heart for Hunter Golf Classic

July 11, 2 p.m.: Second Annual COTA HFH Golf Classic Golf Ball Drop

coach alongside Coach Matt Toblin.

In addition, the Crain family still plans to proceed with previously scheduled COTA fundraising events next month. The Heart for Hunter Pairings Party scheduled for July 10, and the second annual COTA Heart for Hunter Golf Classic and Heart for Hunter Golf Classic Ball Drop scheduled for July 11 will continue as planned to raise money needed for transplant-related care. The events will take place at the Atlantic Beach Country Club. The Crain family encourages local businesses and community members to reach out and get involved with the fundraising events.

Local businesses interested in sponsoring the golf tournament can contact Bill Rodish at (904) 400-2490. Those interested in helping the family can contact Jeanie Leapley at (904) 673-3346.

For more information about upcoming events or to track Hunter's progress with his new heart, visit [www.cotaforhunter.com](http://www.cotaforhunter.com) and [www.facebook.com/HeartForHunter](http://www.facebook.com/HeartForHunter).

## Neptune Beach Bono's relocates to new location

Bono's Pit Bar-B-Q in Neptune Beach has a new home.

The longtime local restaurant opened June 3 at 1307 Atlantic Blvd., approximately 100 yards behind its previous location. The new location features a new prototype for the popular barbecue franchise, with a larger local beer selection, a new Bono's design and a patio that opens with garage doors.

Bono's Pit Bar-B-Q was created in 1949 by its original founder, Lou Bono. It was purchased in 1980 by Joe Adeeb, a lifelong restaurateur in Jacksonville dating back to his family's Sea Turtle and Green Turtle restaurants.

"It's not just about serving great food, it's about providing the most authentic traditional southern barbecue experience you've ever had," Adeeb said. "We have worked hard to ensure that every time you walk into one of our restaurants you are presented with a genuine down-home experience, where customer service, incredible food and full stomachs are never taken for granted. That is why we cook all of our award-winning barbecue fresh every day and finish it on a live pit, the way real barbecue is supposed to be cooked."

# Trump secures delegates to clinch nomination

## Ponte Vedra Recorder among media on hand for New York victory speech

**By Janet Westling**  
Special to the Recorder

Real estate developer Donald Trump formally ended the primary phase of his campaign last week, securing enough delegates to clinch the Republican Party nomination for president of the United States.

“One chapter has closed and now another one begins,” Trump said in a June 7 speech at the Trump National Golf Club in Briar Cliff Manor, New York. Before a standing-room-only crowd of supporters and media from around the world, Trump made a pledge to his audience.

“I will make you proud of your party and of our movement and that is what it is – a movement,” Trump said. “I understand the responsibility of carrying the mantle and I will never let you down. To those who voted for someone else in either party, I will work very hard to earn your support.”

Charging that presumptive Demo-

cratic nominee Hillary Clinton and her husband sold favors and government access in return for millions of dollars in donations to the Clinton Foundation, Trump pledged to put an end to politics as usual in Washington.

“The Clintons have turned the politics of personal enrichment into an art form for themselves,” said Trump, adding he would change that by “putting America first, with a foundation of change that has been missing for a long time.”

Trump spelled out his agenda in the speech, vowing to become America’s champion through his “America First” initiative.

“We are all suffering,” he said. “We are \$19 trillion in debt – going quickly to \$21 trillion. Our infrastructure is a disaster, our schools are failing, crime is rising, people are scared. The last thing we need is Hillary Clinton in the White House or the extension of the Obama disaster.”

Trump said his “America First” agenda

would put America back to work, rebuild its inner cities, strengthen national security and make families safe, secure and prosperous again. He also reached out to supporters of socialist candidate Bernie Sanders, saying he would welcome them “with open arms” and reminding them that both he and Sanders agreed that the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) signed into law by Bill Clinton was bad for the American worker.

In the future, Trump said, “If it is not a great deal for our country, I will not sign it. I know some people think I am too much of a fighter, but I fought for my family, I fought for my business, and I am going to fight for you the American people.”

In a post-speech interview with Sean Hannity, former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich called the speech a “very big step in the right direction” as Trump makes the transition from the primary campaign to the general election.

“Donald Trump is at his best when he thinks big,” Gingrich said, “offering the kind of infrastructure program that a great builder like Trump could imagine, whether it is ports, highways, railroads – rebuilding America so we are a first rate country again.”

Gingrich also noted that as a businessman, Trump understands the importance of small businesses to the American economy and predicted a President Trump would improve the regulatory processes that can hamper a small business’s growth.

“The contrast between Trump the small business candidate and Hillary the red tape bureaucrat,” he said, “is what this campaign for America will be about.”

As the speech came to a close, Trump ended his primary race with the words that branded his campaign and placed him on top. “We will make our country strong again, ladies and gentlemen. We will make America great again.”

# Metro Diner opens in Sawgrass Village

**By Jennifer Logue**

It’s 8 a.m. on Saturday, and the newly opened Metro Diner is already more than three-quarters full.

“Chicken and waffles walkin’ in!” General Manager Chris Wade calls to the cooks busily preparing gourmet breakfast specials, as the diner’s small waiting area begins to fill up with local residents eager to try Sawgrass Village’s newest restaurant. Located at 340 Front St., #700, the Metro Diner is open from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

“Runners to the window, please!”

A longtime Jacksonville tradition – with eight locations in the First Coast area – Metro Diner has won numerous awards for such inventive breakfast fare as Yo Hala on the Square – challah bread stuffed with bananas, brown

sugar, cream cheese and fruit compote – pound cake French Toast, huevos rancheros and a wide variety of omelets and eggs benedicts, including the “Surf and Turf” benedict featuring a homemade crab cake and ribeye steak.

Its lunch and dinner menu, meanwhile, includes a selection of soups, salads, sandwiches and diner staples such as meatloaf, which garnered rave reviews from celebrity chef Guy Fieri when the diner was featured on the Food Network’s “Diners, Drive-ins and Dives.”

General Manager Wade said business has been booming at the Ponte Vedra location ever since its soft opening June 3-4, when the restaurant donated proceeds to local charities.

“We raised nearly \$11,000 – the most we’ve ever raised from an opening fundraiser,” said Wade, who recently re-

turned from Indianapolis, Metro Diner’s first out-of-state location. New locations are also set to open in North Carolina and Pennsylvania.

In addition to the chicken and waffles, he noted, the diner’s homemade corned beef hash and Charleston shrimp and grits have proven particularly popular with Ponte Vedra patrons.

Wade attributes the diner’s strong opening in part to the fact that the Sawgrass Village location is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

“Our Jacksonville Beach location isn’t open for dinner,” Wade said, “so we’ve been getting a lot of business from that.”

Patrons are also allowed to bring their own alcohol to the diner.

“We’ve been busy since we opened,” he said. “We’ve been getting a lot of people from Nocatee, Ponte Vedra

Beach... People say, ‘We’ve been waiting for a place like this here.’ It’s just been perfect.”



Juevos Rancheros are a popular menu item.



Photos by Jennifer Logue

Patrons enjoy breakfast specials at the Metro Diner’s new Ponte Vedra location.



The popular Metro Diner is the newest restaurant to open in Sawgrass Village.



Warm welcome: Miranda Rasky and Ashton Putnal greet guests at the Metro Diner.

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*In 2015, Toni Chrabot retired after more than two decades of service with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. She recently founded Confidance, a company that helps clients “control risk and secure secrets.” She is also a frequent media commentator on issues related to national security, drawing on her extensive FBI experience to offer insight and analysis on situations such as the recent terrorist attack in Orlando. — By Jennifer Logue*

## Toni Chrabot

### What types of services does Confidance provide to its clients?

Confidance is a network of problem solvers, with depth of knowledge gained from real world experience. We help individuals and organizations better understand and effectively manage risks. Our network of consultants possesses a unique blend of leadership, management, education and specialized training, with years of experience in leading diverse work groups, responding to and de-escalating high-risk situations, investigating sensitive matters, collecting and analyzing information, and managing and adhering to compliance and ethics programs.

### You're often called upon by the media to offer analysis of security situations. What are some of the key things you look for when examining a volatile situation?

There are a number of security and risk-related challenges. Incidents of terrorism, workplace violence, and disruptive violence in general seem to be on the rise. A look back at the incidents that have occurred at universities, businesses, and political rallies tells us there were often indicators. When there are indicators there is opportunity – opportunity to intervene and prevent. Police respond to these situations but they would much rather intervene – and that requires everyone to report suspicious behavior.

### What prompted you to become an FBI agent?

When I was a little girl, I played a lot of “cops and robbers!” And when I was a teen, I saw a movie about the first two female FBI agents. I thought then, “I would love to do that!” As I graduated college, I again thought I would like to work for the FBI or CIA, and I was provided an application that was an overwhelming 12 or more pages long. At the time, it overwhelmed me. But I always kept it in the back of my mind. About five years later, I was looking to change jobs and move outside of the hospitality industry. A friend of my husband's told me the FBI was trying to recruit women and there was a lot of opportunity within the agency itself because of its broad jurisdiction and size. So, I applied. After a lengthy testing, interview and background process, capped off with 16 weeks at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia, I graduated and took the oath as a special agent of the FBI. The following 20-plus years were an incredible journey for which I am extremely grateful and proud.

### What was the most challenging case on which you worked while at the FBI?

I worked on a wide variety of cases over my career. Each one had different challenges, levels of complexity, and levels of violence and danger. One time, another agent and I posed as talent scouts for a recording studio, in a sting-like operation. A guy showed up in a t-shirt, ripped jeans and with a pocket full of heroin. We agreed, that is not the way to show up for an interview! The cases that left a mark on my heart were those with child victims, like the kidnapping and murder of Somer Thompson in Clay County and Nevaeh Buchanan in Monroe County, Michigan.

### You were a woman operating at a very high level in a predominantly male field. Was that a challenge or a disadvantage?

It is true, currently female agents make up less than 20 percent of all FBI Agents. As I rose into supervisory positions, I was often the only female at the table. I looked different, sounded different, and sometimes had different ideas, so there was no avoiding being noticed! I always tried to contribute and add value to whatever group I was associated with. Most



Photo by Jennifer Logue

of my male colleagues, in and outside the FBI, were fantastic gentlemen, family men, kind and generous, and dedicated public servants. Being a female had its advantages, too. I was able to get access to people and places without suspicion! It really is a great career for women, and I take every opportunity to encourage young ladies to pursue a career with the FBI, if they

have any interest at all.

### How do you enjoy spending your free time?

I love to run, ride my bike and go to yoga. We have the best beaches here in Northeast Florida, and I can enjoy all three at the beach if I like.

### IN REMEMBRANCE

**Jeanette Elizabeth Bonaventure**, 80, of St. Augustine, Florida died June 9, 2016. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral

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# SJSO Ponte Vedra field office gives access to public safety services

By Jennifer Logue

From his desk in the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office field office in Ponte Vedra Beach, Commander Brian Harrington has a good view of the approach to the busy intersection of A1A and Mickler Road.

Located at 1108 A1A N., #105, the field office serves SJSO's northeast region, and offers easy access to the Beaches area for the command staff and deputies who work out of the office. SJSO moved into the office a year ago after outgrowing their previous space in the St. Johns County Tax Collector's office on Palm Valley Road.

"We were so cramped," Harrington said. "We had to expand."

In addition to offering space for Harrington and his command staff -- including a lieutenant, sergeant and corporal -- the Ponte Vedra field office offers a private interview room where deputies can meet with residents as well as space where staff can stop in, complete reports, package evidence and handle other administrative tasks.

For local residents, the office provides convenient access to a wide range of public safety services that otherwise would require travel to St. Augustine. From initiating employment background checks and fingerprinting to filing and

picking up accident or crime reports, local residents can save themselves a trip to SJSO's main headquarters and address those tasks at the Ponte Vedra office, which is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The office is closed from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch.

"Basically any report you could get at the sheriff's office in St. Augustine, you can get at the field office," Sgt. Jim Priester said. "The only exception would be older reports that have already been archived, and those can be emailed to people."

Other than major crimes such as homicide or cases involving the Special Victims Unit, Priester added, the field office deputies can address any public safety issues or concerns residents may have. In Ponte Vedra, Harrington said, the majority of calls they receive involve property crimes.

"The single biggest issue we deal with is car burglaries -- people not locking their car doors," said Harrington, noting that it's a crime that tends to increase in the summer when school is out. "It's a very easy problem to attack, as we can increase heavy routine patrols."

In addition to urging residents to lock their vehicles, Harrington stressed not to leave handbags, wallets or valuables in plain sight in a locked car, as bur-

glars may break a window to get them. He also encouraged residents to report crimes to the field office instead of posting information on social media, where it can get distorted as people share it and misinterpret key details. He pointed to a recent situation where social media posts referred to a "rash of car break-ins" in a particular neighborhood, causing concern among residents. In reality, there had been just one incident.

"(Social media) is a big, big issue,"

he said. "It's very critical that people have accurate information. Don't take it as gospel just because you saw it online."

Sometimes, residents will report what they believe to be a crime, and when deputies follow up as part of the office's "victim call-back program," they learn that

new information has come to light.

"Someone may report that their mailbox was vandalized," Harrington said, "and when we check back later, we learn that a neighbor accidentally knocked it over."

Harrington urged residents to call the field office to report crimes or if they hear reports that concern them. The Ponte Vedra field office can be reached at (904) 209-2215; the countywide non-emergency number is (904) 824-8304.



Photo by Jennifer Logue  
SJSO Northeast Regional Commander Brian Harrington (right) with Corporal David Garns.

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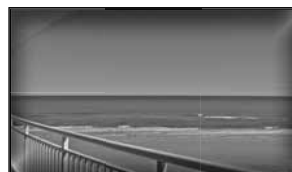
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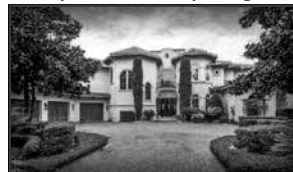
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# McCague: Police and Fire Pension Fund in better shape than people think

## Outgoing interim director updates Rotary Club on progress made

When Beth McCague stepped in as interim executive director of the embattled Police and Fire Pension Fund late last year, she expected the worst.

“When I walked in the door, I thought there was no process at all around how the funds were chosen,” McCague told members of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach last week. “To read the paper, you’d think (former Executive Director) John Keane had been sitting alone in a back office...calling up his buddies to come in and manage money for the fund. Nothing could have been further from the truth.”

As McCague prepares to turn over the pension fund reins to newly selected permanent director Timothy Johnson – who is expected to start sometime in mid-July – she clarified some of the misconceptions that she and others had about the state of the pension fund – which currently has a \$1.8 billion unfunded liability – and outlined some



Photo by Jennifer Logue

Police and Fire Pension Fund Interim Executive Director Beth McCague updates members of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach on the state of the fund.

of the accomplishments achieved during her tenure as interim director. For example, contrary to public perception, McCague said, she found the pension fund’s internal financial controls to be all in order. In addition, the fund has

benefited from an outside investment advisor since its creation in 1990 – and since that time, it has experienced only five down years.

She also contended that the benefits provided to police officers and firefighters through the fund are in line with similar plans throughout the state.

“People say, ‘these benefits are so rich,’” she said. “Well, they do look rich relative to corporate America these days, but relative to other at-risk officers’ plans throughout the state of Florida, the plan is about average.”

Following pension reform, she added, the cost of living adjustment (COLA) for new retirees with fewer than 20 years of service as of 2015 will be just 1.5 percent a year, compared to 3 percent previously.

McCague praised the caliber of the fund’s board of directors and the individuals who serve on its numerous advisory committees.

“These members bring a lot to the table,” said McCague, a longtime banking executive who agreed to take on the interim director position for six months until a permanent director could be hired. “Their role is to look out for and protect the long-term benefits of the members and survivors of the plan. And they take that role very seriously.”

She acknowledged, however, that the sizable unfunded liability was a challenge that could not be ignored.

“If you ask me, ‘With all these people working on the management of the fund, why are we \$1.8 billion underfunded,’ the answer is it’s not one person’s problem, it’s everybody’s problem,” she said.

According to McCague, previous boards became distracted by lawsuits and other issues. “There was a lot of deferred maintenance,” she said. “For the past couple of years they had made no changes in their fund. And they needed

to make some changes...”

During her interim tenure, McCague said, the fund has settled or finalized a number of outstanding lawsuits, terminated low-performing fund managers, cut fees and added new asset classes in order to improve its financial performance. It has also begun implementing a new electronic records management system to replace the antiquated paper-based system still in place since 1990 that made searching for records an arduous and time-consuming task.

As she prepares to return to the banking world, McCague said that despite the challenges, she has enjoyed her interim role with the Police and Fire Pension Fund.

“The fund is on its way,” she said. “I’ve had a ball doing this job. I’ve been bruised and bloodied some of the time when I’ve come back from City Hall, but it’s been a privilege to serve in this role.”

### Rotarian of the Year

The Rotary Club’s June 9 meeting also saw the presentation of its annual “Rotarian of the Year Award” to Toni Boudreaux, whose father, Roy, was on hand to see her receive the honor.

Club President Will Montoya noted that Boudreaux – the development director for the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach – previously belonged to Rotaract, Rotary’s young professionals group.

“We saw a diamond in her,” Montoya said, adding that before Boudreaux even officially joined the club she took on the responsibility of producing the club’s weekly newsletter. “She has really lived up to the Rotary motto of ‘Service Above Self.’”

The club also presented a donation to the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach, and inducted Ponte Vedra Recorder Managing Editor Jennifer Logue as its newest member.



Photo by Jennifer Logue

Roy Boudreaux (left) was on hand to see his daughter, Toni Boudreaux, receive the Rotarian of the Year Award from Club President Will Montoya.



Photo by David O'Brien

Rotarian Jeptha Barbour (right) inducts Ponte Vedra Recorder Managing Editor Jennifer Logue into the club as President Will Montoya (left) and sponsor Chuck Day look on.

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# Father's Day festivities

Looking for something to do with dad to celebrate Father's Day? Brunches, a cocktail tasting, story time and a Father's Day Extravaganza are just a few of the many ways you can celebrate dad.

## NOLA MOCA Summer Cocktail Tasting

Avoid the holiday crowds by celebrating Father's Day early with NOLA MOCA's Summer Cocktail Tasting, to be held Thursday, June 16 from 6 to 8 p.m.

The menu will include small bites such as barbecue short ribs with grilled corn, smoked cheddar grits, macaroni and cheese fritters with house-made tomato jam and micro-basil, hot chicken and dill pickle waffle bites with house-made ranch drizzle, nachos with house-fried sweet potatoes, gorgonzola cream, scallions, and balsamic reduction and of course, cocktails.

The cost is \$30 per person; attendees must be 21 or older and free gallery admission is included with each ticket.

NOLA MOCA is located at the Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville (MOCA), 333 N. Laura St., Jacksonville.

For more information, call (904) 366-6911 or visit [www.mocajacksonville.unf.edu](http://www.mocajacksonville.unf.edu).

## Father's Day story times at Barnes & Noble

The St. Johns Town Center Barnes & Noble bookstore will host "Father's Day Storytime" Saturday, June 18 at 11 a.m.

The special story time to honor dads, grandfathers and caregivers will feature the books "Dad School" and "Grandpa Loves You!" followed by an activity.

Barnes & Noble is located at 10280 Mid Town Parkway, Jacksonville. For more information, call (904) 928-2027.

## Casa Marina Hotel Father's Day Brunch

Casa Marina Hotel's Father's Day Brunch will be held Sunday, June 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The brunch menu will feature a shrimp and grits and omelet station, grilled vegetable display, Bel-

gian waffles, desserts, a fruit and cheese display and more. The menu is subject to change.

The cost is \$34.95 per person, plus tax and gratuity, and \$16.48 for children aged 5-12. There is no charge for children ages 5 and under.

Casa Marina Hotel is located at 691 First St. N., Jacksonville Beach. For reservations, call (904) 270-0025.

## Father's Day brunch at Roy's

Roy's will offer a two-course Father's Day brunch Sunday, June 19 featuring hand-carved filet mignon and sides for \$29.95. A children's menu will be available for \$12.95.

Roy's opens at 10 a.m. and is located at 2400 Third St. S., Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 241-7697 or visit [www.roysrestaurant.com](http://www.roysrestaurant.com).

## Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens Father's Day deal and Zoom at the Zoo

Dads can get free entry to the Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens Saturday, June 18 and Sunday, June 19. Coupons for the special offer are available online at [www.jacksonvillezoo.org](http://www.jacksonvillezoo.org). The coupon is good for one free general admission ticket for Dad with the purchase of a child or adult ticket.

Zoom at the Zoo will be held Saturday, June 18 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event will feature a hands-on automobile show, barbecue and music on the zoo's Great Lawn.

There will also be kids' activities including bounce houses and the opportunity for kids to create a Father's Day card.

The Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens is located at 370 Zoo Parkway, Jacksonville. For more information, call (904) 757-4463.

## Father's Day brunch buffet at Moxie Kitchen and Cocktails

Moxie Kitchen and Cocktails will offer a Father's Day brunch buffet Sunday, June 19. Menu items will include Seminole

Pride ribeye, house-smoked salmon and omelets made to order.

The cost is \$34.95 for adults; \$12.95 for children 5-12. Children 4 and under are free. Reservations are strongly encouraged.

Moxie Kitchen and Cocktails is located at The Markets at Town Center at 4972 Big Island Drive, Jacksonville. For reservations, call (904) 998-9744.

## Father's Day Extravaganza at World Golf Village

Dad has lots of activities from which to choose at World Golf Village this Father's Day, whether it's a visit to the World Golf Hall of Fame, a round of golf at the Slammer & Squire or King & Bear golf courses, or a test of wits with Dinner & Trivia Night at The King & Bear.

Father's Day at the Hall of Fame will be held Sunday, June 19 with complimentary admission for all. Dads will also get a free round on the putting course. Closest to the pin contests – for a chance to win

prizes - will take place starting at 1:30 p.m. The Hall of Fame Museum and The Museum Café will be open from noon to 6 p.m. The world Golf Hall of Fame is located at One World Golf Place, St. Augustine. For more information, visit [www.worldgolfhalloffame.org](http://www.worldgolfhalloffame.org).

Dad can also play golf at the Slammer & Squire golf course for \$79 per person or the King & Bear for \$89 per person Sunday, June 19. The price will include complimentary lunch and a sleeve of Callaway golf balls. Call (904) 940-6088 to book your tee times.

Stay for dinner and a round of trivia with Dinner & Trivia Night at The King & Bear Sunday, June 19. Dinner will be served beginning at 5 p.m. with trivia at 6 p.m. Reservations for trivia can be made by calling Ursula Howard at (904) 940-6207. For more information, visit [www.golfwgv.com](http://www.golfwgv.com). The King & Bear is located at Two World Golf Place, St. Augustine.

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# Father's Day gift guide

Looking for guidance on what to buy dad for Father's Day? Look no further. The Recorder has compiled a Father's Day gift guide with ideas for any personality type: from aspiring train operators and golfers to football enthusiasts, spa fanatics or philanthropists. There's even the old standby – ties.



Photo courtesy of Sulzbacher Center  
Give a Good Night Father's Day card

Whatever you decide to give Dad, make plans soon as gift packages and offers sell out fast! Father's Day is June 19.

## At the Throttle Experience

Give Dad the gift of being at the helm of a real locomotive. With the St. Mary's Railroad At the Throttle Experience, individuals get the chance to run a real locomotive.

Openings for the At the Throttle Experience are July 2 and July 4. The cost is \$149.95. Tickets may be purchased by calling (912) 729-1103 or visiting [www.stmarysrailroad.com](http://www.stmarysrailroad.com). All excursions depart from Theatre by The Trax, 1000 Osborne St., St. Marys, Georgia.

## TPC Sawgrass Father's Day gift package

TPC Sawgrass Father's Day packages are available good for one round of golf on Dye's Valley Course (green and cart fees included), one dozen Bridgestone golf balls and an Oxford golf shirt.

Packages start at \$149; additional guests are \$99 each. Packages are valid June 15 – Sept. 30. For more information,

call (904) 273-3430 or visit [www.tpc.com/sawgrass-special-offers](http://www.tpc.com/sawgrass-special-offers).

## The Spa at Ponte Vedra Inn & Club

Treat Dad to a day at the spa – including lunch! Purchase any full-priced service over \$100 and Dad will receive a complimentary spa lunch. The offer is available Sunday, June 19 only.

The spa has a line of "Just for Him" men's spa treatments including gentleman's facial, therapeutic sports massage, restorative massage, haircut, manicure and pedicure.

Early reservations are strongly recommended. The Spa is located at 302 Ponte Vedra Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, call (904) 273-7700 or visit [www.pvspa.com](http://www.pvspa.com).

## Father's Day Workshop: Football Toss

Home Depot stores will hold a Father's Day workshop to learn how to build an outdoor football toss game Saturday, June 18 from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Workshop attendees will learn how to properly measure and accurately cut wood, safely operate both a circular and reciprocating saws, and a drill, and the proper technique to paint or stain the project, complete with grid lines. Register online at [www.homedepot.com/workshops](http://www.homedepot.com/workshops).

## 'Give a Good Night' Father's Day card

For a \$15 donation to the Sulzbacher Center – Northeast Florida's largest provider of comprehensive services for homeless men, women and children – Dad will receive a "Give a Good Night" Father's Day card acknowledging the gift in his honor. A personalized message can also be included. The Give a Good Night greeting cards feature original artwork created by children living at the Sulzbacher Center. Order online at [www.sulzbacher-center.org](http://www.sulzbacher-center.org) or by calling Linda Hemphill at (904) 394-8051.

## Underwood's Jewelers

Underwood Jewelers' Ponte Vedra location is a one-stop shop for Father's Day gifts such as ties from Bird Dog Bay, a Chicago-based company that features 100 percent silk hand-printed and handmade ties in colors such as hot pink, salmon, muted yellow, bright red, and purple with whimsical patterns such as Lacrosse Bones, Tortoise and Hare, Croquet Sunday or Golf Buddy featuring man's best friend.

Underwood's also carries a wide selection of Rolex watches and other gifts for Father's Day, including a William Henry knife, Barrington credit card holder and cell phone holder, and an array of Jan Leslie cufflinks including chicken and egg, agate, octopus, alligators, an insert-your-own photo pair of cufflinks and more.

Underwood's Jewelers is in the Shoppes of Ponte Vedra at 330 A1A N., Suite 204, Ponte Vedra Beach.

## San Sebastian Winery wins accolades in national competition

The parent company of St. Augustine's San Sebastian Winery recently took home numerous awards in two national wine competitions.

San Sebastian and Lakeridge Winery & Vineyards – both of which are owned by Seavin Inc. – received a total of 19 awards: three Best of Show Double Gold medals, three Double Gold, three gold, three silver and seven bronze medals from the WOS-Wines of the South wine competition held in Knoxville, TN.

Most highly decorated were San Sebastian Winery's flagship premium wines: Vintners Red and fortified Port, as well as its sparkling wine, Blanc de Fleur, and Lakeridge's Pink Crescendo.

The two wineries also participated in the Pacific Rim Wine Competition – held annually in San Bernardino, CA – earning 10 awards for eight individual varieties, including Best of Class/Gold, seven silver medals and a bronze medal. San Sebastian's flagship premium wine, Vintners White, received the top accolade.

"We are fortunate that our wine making team is always focused on quality," said Charles Cox, president of Seavin, Inc. "Winning the awards is just another example of their hard work and dedication."

San Sebastian Winery opened in 1996 at 57 King St. in St. Augustine.

"What a pleasant gift to receive as San Sebastian celebrates its 20-year anniversary," Cox said.



Bird Dog Bay ties at Underwood's Jewelers



William Henry knife at Underwood's Jewelers



Photos by Carrie Resch  
Barrington credit card holder, cell phone holder and Jan Leslie cufflinks at Underwood's Jewelers

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Thursday, June 16	Friday, June 17	Saturday, June 18	Sunday, June 19
<p><b>Volunteer Interest Meeting</b> The Beaches Museum &amp; History Park will host a meeting for prospective volunteers Thursday, June 16 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the museum, 381 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville Beach. Attendees will be able to tour the museum and learn about the many opportunities available to volunteers. High school students looking to complete community service hours are also welcome. For more information or to RSVP, call (904) 241-5657 or email <a href="mailto:info@beachesmuseum.org">info@beachesmuseum.org</a>.</p> <p><b>Grief Support Group</b> A Grief Support Group meets on the third Thursday of every month at St. Paul's Catholic Church in the library of the Family Life Center, 578 First Ave. N., Jacksonville Beach. The group is for men and women who are grieving the death of a family member or friend. The next meeting will be Thursday, June 16 at 7 p.m. For information, call Kathy at (904) 553-8933 or Catherine at (904) 247-0665.</p> <p><b>Coffee on the Coast</b> The JAX Chamber Beaches Division Coffee on the Coast will be held Thursday, June 16, from 8 to 9 a.m. at Ponte Vedra Wellness Center, 100 Corridor Road S., Suite 220, Ponte Vedra Beach. The cost is \$5; advance online registration requested. Continental breakfast will be served. Register online at <a href="http://www.myjaxchamber.com">www.myjaxchamber.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Concerts in the Plaza</b> The 2016 Concerts in the Plaza summer music series continues June 16 with a performance by Mike Hart's Decoy live at 7 p.m. at Plaza de la Constitución, 22 Cathedral Place, St. Augustine. The concerts continue every Thursday through Sept. 1. All concerts are free and attendees should bring lounge chairs for seating. Picnic dinners are popular, but alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the plaza. For more information, call (904) 825-1004 during weekday office hours or visit <a href="http://www.concertsintheplaza.com">www.concertsintheplaza.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Live Music at Table 1</b> Table 1 at 330 A1A N. will host the Gary Starling Jazz Band live starting at 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>WAR in concert at the PV Concert Hall</b> Rock, jazz, Latin and R&amp;B fusion band WAR will perform live in concert on Friday June 17 at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall. Tickets for the general admission, standing-room-only show are \$43.50 and on sale now. Doors open at 7 p.m.; show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are available for purchase at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall and St. Augustine Amphitheatre box offices, <a href="http://ticketmaster.com">ticketmaster.com</a> and all Ticketmaster outlets or by phone at (800) 745-3000. The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.pvconcerthall.com">www.pvconcerthall.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Community First Night Owl Cinema</b> Community First Credit Union and the St. Augustine Amphitheatre present Community First Night Owl Cinema, a free summer movie series of family-friendly films in June and July. The series kicks off June 17 with a screening of "Star Wars: The Force Awakens." Parking will be free during movie nights and concessions will be available for purchase. Gates open at 7 p.m.; the movie will begin around 8 p.m. The St. Augustine Amphitheatre is located at 1340C A1A S., St. Augustine. For more information, call the St. Augustine Amphitheatre Box Office at (904) 209-0367 or visit <a href="http://www.staugamphitheatre.com">www.staugamphitheatre.com</a>.</p> <p><b>MOSH \$5 Fridays</b> Every Friday MOSH offers \$5 admission and extended hours until 8 p.m. Additional discounts or coupons are not permitted.</p> <p><b>Mommy &amp; Me Paint Night</b> The Ponte Vedra YMCA will be hosting a Mommy &amp; Me Paint Night Friday, June 17 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Children ages four and up and their moms will each paint their own 8x10 portrait, following step-by-step instructions. The cost is \$12 per person for members, \$17 per person for non-members. Space is limited; registrations will be taken at the welcome center or online at <a href="http://www.firstcoastymca.org">www.firstcoastymca.org</a>.</p> <p><b>Live Music at Table 1</b> Table 1 at 330 A1A N. will host Ryan Cray live starting at 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Nocatee's Farmers Market</b> Nocatee's Farmers Market: Island Experience will be held Saturday, June 18 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This month's farmers market will include performances by Prince Pele's Polynesian Revue including a variety of Polynesian dances, costumes, live music and fire dancing. Nocatee's Farmers Market includes more than 80 local vendors offering items such as organic produce, herbs, spices, delicious unique foods, crafts, jewelry and more. Free face painting will also be available, along with a bounce house. The farmers market is held at 100 Markside Ave., Ponte Vedra. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.nocatee.com">www.nocatee.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Salt Life Festival</b> The Salt Life Festival will take place Saturday, June 18 from noon to 10 p.m. at the Seawalk Pavilion in Jacksonville Beach. The festival will include musical performances by Dirty Pete, J Collins, Danka, Ramajay Intercoastal, The Band Be Easy, Splint Tone and Roosevelt Collier as well as food trucks and a vendor marketplace. Big Fish Yoga will offer a free sunrise yoga session at 6:30 a.m. the morning of the festival. VIP tickets are available for \$20. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.saltlifefest.com">www.saltlifefest.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Beach Exploration</b> Join the GTM Research Reserve interpretive guide for a beach walk at the Guana South Beach location Saturday, June 18 to learn about the animals that call the beach their home as well as seashells and other interesting facts. The beach exploration will take place from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Park at the GTM Research Reserve South Beach Access Lot, 1798 Ponte Vedra Blvd. (A1A) in Ponte Vedra Beach. There is a \$3 per vehicle parking fee. For more information, call (904) 823-4500 or go to <a href="https://gtm-researchreserveexplorations.eventbrite.com">https://gtm-researchreserveexplorations.eventbrite.com</a> to reserve a spot online. Space is limited. The event is free.</p> <p><b>Live Music at Table 1</b> Table 1 at 330 A1A N. will host Latin All Stars live starting at 7:30 p.m.</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>Cummer 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> <p><b>Destination: DINO</b> Twenty-five species of life-size and life-like animatronic dinosaurs will be on display at the Jacksonville Zoo &amp; Gardens through July 4. The cost is \$4 for non-members; \$3 for members. Zoo admission is not included. The zoo is located at 370 Zoo Parkway, Jacksonville. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.jaxzoodinos.org">www.jaxzoodinos.org</a>.</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>For The Love of Driving</b> Volunteer drivers are needed to assist seniors in achieving their mobility goals in St. Johns County. Transportation needs range from trips to the grocery store and classes to spousal hospital visits or social activities. Contact the mobility manager at the Council on Aging, (904) 315-6505, or email <a href="mailto:KatieArnold@stjohnscoa.com">KatieArnold@stjohnscoa.com</a>.</p>

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Monday, June 20	Tuesday, June 21	Wednesday, June 22	Thursday, June 23
<p><b>'The Longest Day' Alzheimer's event</b> Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra, 5125 Palm Valley Road, will celebrate its one-year anniversary by participating in The Longest Day of 2016 fundraiser for the Alzheimer's Association June 20 from 4:30 p.m. to sunset. The event will include a wine and cheese party, a silent auction and a musical performance by Priscilla Johnson. RSVP by calling (904) 834-7578.</p> <p><b>5th annual Book Fair</b> The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library will host its 5th annual Book Fair Monday, June 20 from 6:30 to 7:35 p.m. Meet four regional authors for a book talk and book signing: Thomas Bragg, author of "Nankipoo Ranger," a memoir of his time in the Army Rangers; Martin Olsen, author of "We Were Amateur Soldiers: How the Great Generation Changed the Face of America, a memoir;" Sheila Weinstein, author of "Moving to the Center of the Bed: The Artful Creation of a Life Alone;" and Bill Yancy, author of "Quantum Timeline," a science fiction thriller exploring the machinations and ramifications of time travel. A portion of all book sales benefits the Friends of the Library</p> <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_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com">life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com</a>.</p>	<p><b>Sunset Rotary Club weekly meeting</b> The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset meets Tuesdays from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn. Community leaders are welcome to attend. For more information, call Club President Ron Mott at (904) 460-7092 or email <a href="mailto:hojron@aol.com">hojron@aol.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Palm Valley Farmers Market</b> The Palm Valley Farmers Market takes place every Tuesday from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Palm Valley Community Center, 148 Canal Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Arbor Terrace Life Enrichment Group</b> The Life Enrichment Group Day Program takes place 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) 497-4346 or visit <a href="http://www.at-pontevedra.com">www.at-pontevedra.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 <a href="mailto:Katie.Arnold@karnoldstjohnscoa.com">Katie.Arnold@karnoldstjohnscoa.com</a>.</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>Overeaters Anonymous meeting</b> Overeaters Anonymous meets every Wednesday at noon in the CFC room 203/205 at Christ Episcopal Church, 400 San Juan Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop eating compulsively. There are no dues or fees. Call (904) 405-8664 for more information.</p> <p><b>PV Professionals Networking Group</b> The Ponte Vedra Professionals Networking Group meets the second, third and fourth Wednesday of the month from noon to 1 p.m. at Mulligans, 43 PGA Tour Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach. The first Wednesday of the month, the group hosts an after-work social mixer at various locations. For more information, call Dave at (904)248-9871, visit <a href="http://www.pvpng.com">www.pvpng.com</a> or email <a href="mailto:pontevedrapng@gmail.com">pontevedrapng@gmail.com</a>.</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, 175 Landrum Lane, Ponte Vedra. The meeting starts promptly at 7:30 a.m. Contact Lucy Reep at (904) 607-3695 or contact-5199@toastmastersclubs.org for more information.</p> <p><b>Music by the Sea concert series</b> Music by the Sea takes place every Wednesday through Oct. 12, 2016 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the St. Augustine Beach Pier, 350 A1A Beach Blvd. On June 22, Catch the Groove will perform. The concerts are free; guests can purchase a dinner plate for \$10 from the sponsoring restaurant. Food is served at 6 p.m. and the music starts at 7 p.m. For more information, call (904) 347-8007 or visit <a href="http://www.augustine.com/event/music-sea">www.augustine.com/event/music-sea</a>.</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>Led Zeppelin tribute band at PVCH</b> Zoso The Ultimate Led Zeppelin Experience will perform Thursday, June 23 at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall. Doors open at 7 p.m.; show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets for the general admission, standing-room-only show are \$25 in advance; \$28 day of show. Tickets are available for purchase at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall and St. Augustine Amphitheatre box offices, <a href="http://ticketmaster.com">ticketmaster.com</a> and all Ticketmaster outlets or by phone at (800) 745-3000. The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.pvconcerthall.com">www.pvconcerthall.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Rebelution concert</b> The St. Augustine Amphitheatre presents Rebelution with special guests The Green and J Boog, Stick Figure, Through The Roots and DJ Mackle in concert June 23. Gates open at 4:25 p.m.; show starts at 5:20 p.m. Tickets start at \$32.50. The St. Augustine Amphitheatre is located at 1340C A1A S., St. Augustine. Tickets are available for purchase at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall and St. Augustine Amphitheatre box offices, <a href="http://ticketmaster.com">ticketmaster.com</a> and all Ticketmaster outlets or by phone at (800) 745-3000. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.staugamphitheatre.com">www.staugamphitheatre.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Concerts in the Plaza</b> The 2016 Concerts in the Plaza summer music series continues June 23 with a performance by The Rick Arcusa Band live at 7 p.m. at Plaza de la Constitución, 22 Cathedral Place, St. Augustine. The concerts continue every Thursday through Sept. 1. All concerts are free and attendees should bring lounge chairs for seating. Picnic dinners are popular, but alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the plaza. For more information, call (904) 825-1004 during weekday office hours or visit <a href="http://www.concertsintheplaza.com">www.concertsintheplaza.com</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:carrie@opcfla.com">carrie@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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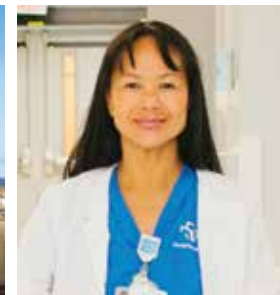
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# Volunteers in Medicine celebrates, recognizes volunteers with 'Evening of Heartfelt Thanks'

Volunteers in Medicine recognized and celebrated the contributions of its volunteers recently, when the nonprofit organization held its annual "Evening of Heartfelt Thanks" service recognition and awards reception.

Held in the Riverfront Café in Jacksonville's Haskell Building, the event honored the 230 active volunteers who donated free medical care valued at more than \$1 million to Jacksonville's uninsured working families.

"Our volunteers perform a variety of functions in our downtown clinic," said Mary Pat Corrigan, CEO of Volunteers in Medicine. "These caring physicians, registered nurses, advanced nurse practitioners, pharmacists, licensed mental health counselors, and many non-clinical volunteers, including healthcare students from local universities and colleges, provide an essential service throughout our organization. This evening is dedicated exclusively to them and to thank them for their dedication and service to our patients and the community."

Receiving 250 Annual Hour Presidential Awards

were Linda Bardole, Hamza Salau, Tocca Chester, Barb Vitsky, Laine MacWilliam, Ralph Mancusi, Dixie Murphy and Karen Russell. The 500 Hour Cumulative Awards were given to Sylvia Blancett, Dr. Parita Patel, Anita Dunford, Hamza Salau and Mickie Haag. Ellen Balanky, Tom Prince, Tocca Chester and Barb Vitsky were awarded 1,000 Hour Cumulative Awards, while Carolyn Hinckley and Nancy Mason received 2,000 Hour Cumulative Awards.

Rounding out the evening, Jacob Henderson, Erika Turko, LeeAnne Herlong, Karen Young and Ebony Smith were presented with 100 Hour Awards, while Blake Boudreaux, Dr. Tim Schneider, Perla Calica-R.N., Cathy Taylor, Genevieve Cole, Tim Woodward, M.D. and Floyd Gonder, M.D. received 300 Hour Awards.

"These caring people are Jacksonville's finest," Vol-



Photo courtesy of Volunteers in Medicine. Volunteers receiving awards for 1,000 hours of service were Ellen Balanky, R.N., and Tocca Chester. Awards were presented by Board Chair Helen Morse, Co-Founder Dottie Dorion and Director of Volunteer Services Catie Wallace.

unteers in Medicine co-founder and noted philanthropist Dottie Dorion said, "and without them there would be no clinic."

## Land conservation benefits both property owners and environment

Land conservation has many benefits – not just for the environment, but for the landowner as well. North Florida Land Trust, a nonprofit land conservation organization, recently identified more than 112,000 acres of land that are in critical need of preservation, which is vital to our environmental health and beneficial to the economy.

North Florida Land Trust is working to preserve these lands. Funded largely by private and corporate contributions, the organization is committed to protecting and preserving ecologically, agriculturally and historically significant lands throughout Northeast Florida to ensure they will be protected and enjoyed by future generations. NFLT acquires land either through donations or purchases of both land and conservation easements. A conservation easement ensures the land will never be developed; ownership resides with the donor and still allows for farming or recreation.

A private landowner can receive financial advantages by preserving land through the North Florida Land Trust. Land donors can take a 50 percent deduction from their annual income for up to 16 years. Qualifying farmers and ranchers who donate conservation easements, meanwhile, can deduct up to 100 percent of their income for up to 16 years. Placing an easement on your land may also lower or even eliminate your property tax bill.

Many property owners have concerns as to how their land will be used after their death. A conservation easement ensures the property will not be developed in the future. It also provides relief from the estate tax. If the tax advantages of donating an easement are not of interest, there is also the potential that a local, state, or

federal government program may be able to pay for the purchase of land or a conservation easement. NFLT can assist with that transaction.

### Planned giving

Planned gifts also have benefits to NFLT and the donor. Planned gifts provide the resources to create extraordinary opportunities and preserve North Florida's legacy. With a planned gift, a donor can make a substantial gift commitment to benefit NFLT and receive meaningful tax and financial benefits for themselves and their heirs. Planned gifts include a bequest, charitable gift annuity, charitable remainder trust, charitable lead trust, life insurance, life estate, real estate and retirement assets. Most gifts provide a variety of tax benefits such as tax-free income, avoidance of capital gains tax, increased charitable contribution deduction and potential estate tax savings.

Another way to help NFLT's mission is through volunteering. Professionals in biology, law, finance, research, management, administration, bookkeeping and more can give their time as professional advisors, committee members or board members. Volunteers who appreciate nature, value the mission and enjoy participating in events and outdoor opportunities are also important to NFLT. As landowners, the organization needs volunteers to help maintain trails, docks and other structures, and assist in monitoring land. NFLT hosts clean-ups and landscaping workdays. Volunteers also assist with outreach and facilitate fundraising.

For more information on how to become part of the effort to preserve our natural heritage, visit [www.northfloridalandtrust.org](http://www.northfloridalandtrust.org).

## Council on Aging gala, golf tournament to be held August 28-29

Plans are underway for the St. Johns County Council on Aging's annual gala and golf tournament.

The annual COA Gala will be held at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, August 28 at River House, located at 179 Marine St. in St. Augustine. Highlights of the gala will include dinner and cocktails overlooking the Matanzas River, along with both live and silent auctions featuring art, gifts, entertainment and travel items. Tickets for the gala are \$85 per person.

The 2016 COA Championship Golf Tournament will be held the following day at the Slammer and Squire, 2 World Golf Place in St. Augustine. A Captain's Choice event, the tournament is still accepting foursomes and sponsors. For registration fees and more information, contact Jane Faybik at (904) 209-3687.



# McGala fundraiser supports Ronald McDonald House Charities

More than 500 people recently attended the 2016 McGala, an annual fundraising event benefiting Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) of Jacksonville.

Held May 21 at the Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa, the Mardi Gras-themed event featured dinner, dancing, live music and more. The event raised

\$275,000 for the organization.

“We are grateful for the community’s generous support and we appreciate everyone who joined us to celebrate our mission as a ‘home away from home’ in the vibrant style of the Big Easy,” said Diane Boyle, executive director, RMHC of Jacksonville. “One hundred percent of the proceeds from

this event support our mission of providing families of children receiving pediatric medical services in Northeast Florida with the care and assistance they need.”

A nonprofit organization, Ronald McDonald House Charities provides a “home away from home” for families that need to near a hospital for their

child’s medical treatment. RMHC of Jacksonville supports five local hospitals, serving more than 1,100 families each year. The Ronald McDonald Family Room® at Wolfson Children’s Hospital, meanwhile, provides a place of respite for more than 25,000 visitors a year.



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Photos courtesy of Ronald McDonald House Charities. Donovin and Allyson Darius, Riona Soni, Linda and Vince Ferrigno, Earl and Amy Evans, and Amal Soni



Mark Lamping and Jacksonville Jaguars’ guests

## United Way collects books, supplies to help students succeed in school

**By Jasmine Souers**  
Special to the Recorder

The United Way of Northeast Florida is seeking local residents’ help in ensuring that students and teachers have a successful start to the upcoming school year. The organization is hosting “Summer Daze of Action,” a celebration of United Way Worldwide’s Day of Action.

“Summer Daze of Action” is a two-part education initiative featuring book and school-supply collection drives to ensure teachers and students in Northeast Florida go back to school with the tools they need to succeed. Held in partnership with the Jacksonville Public Library, the book drive is underway through June 20. Community members are invited to donate children’s books at any of the 21 Jacksonville Public Library branches, including the Beaches Branch in Neptune Beach. Donations will benefit United Way’s ReadingPals initiative and Friends of the Jacksonville Public Library.

In July, United Way will host “Stuff the Bus” in partnership with First Coast News. School supply donations will benefit United Way’s Full Service Schools and Achievers for Life initiatives. Registration for companies interested in hosting school-supply collection drives at their offices opens June

22, with collections held throughout July. First Coast News will also host a community-wide school supply drop-off day July 29, the time and location of which will be announced.

“Summer Daze of Action” is generously supported by Depend. For more information, visit [unitedwaynefl.org/summerdaze](http://unitedwaynefl.org/summerdaze).



Photo courtesy of United Way.

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# Salvation Army marks 125 years of meeting the needs of First Coast residents

By Kelly Belich  
Special to the Recorder

In 1891 – 125 years ago – The Salvation Army arrived in Jacksonville, when Adj. and Mrs. J.C. Smith were sent from Philadelphia to minister to the needs of this community. They set up day care centers to help working mothers, an anti-suicide bureau, summer camp outings for children, gave out free ice water in the summer and wood for fuel in the winter, and held an annual Christmas program.

The goal then was the same as the goal now: to meet human needs in the name of Christ without discrimination; to meet people where they are – in crisis or in their darkest hours – and give them help and hope.

Today, The Salvation Army in Jacksonville is still working hard to help people when they find themselves in a tough place, including serving a hot dinner every night of the year to anyone who is hungry; offering supplemental groceries to 250 families every week through the food pantry; providing a safe place to stay for women and families at the Red Shield Lodge; and offering affordable, supportive housing for men coming out of homelessness or addiction at the Towers Center of Hope.

The Salvation Army's Child Development Center, a five-star rated child care center in downtown Jacksonville, provides high quality care to children age 6 weeks through pre-k. While the center serves families from a range of socio-economic backgrounds,

scholarships are available for homeless children.

The Adult Rehabilitation Center on Beach Blvd is a 125-bed facility where men break the chains of addiction and find hope as they mend their broken lives – at no financial cost to them.

The Salvation Army's work in Northeast Florida spreads beyond Jacksonville as well, with corps in Saint Augustine and Clay County, the Hope House in Nassau County, and operations in Baker and Putnam Counties.

Throughout its history, The Salvation Army has been able to minister to the needs of the hurting every day because of the generosity of those who believe in the work it is doing. When you put your

change in a red kettle during the holiday season, or when you give at any time of year, those funds stay in the community where they were given, and 82 cents of every dollar goes directly to help people in need.

One hundred twenty-five years after arriving in Jacksonville The Salvation Army is still here, and will still be here 125 years from now, pursuing its mission to meet human needs in the name of Christ without discrimination.

To learn more, give, or volunteer go to [www.salvationarmyfla.org](http://www.salvationarmyfla.org).

*Kelly Belich is the special events and community relations coordinator for the Salvation Army of Northeast Florida.*

## Registration open for Susan G. Komen 'Race for the Cure'

Registration is now open for the 22nd annual Susan G. Komen North Florida Race for the Cure.

This year's race is set to be held Oct. 15 at St. Johns Town Center, moving from its previous location of Metropolitan Park. According to Susan G. Komen North Florida, a substantial increase in attendance is expected due to the change, and participants are encouraged to register early to secure a spot.

"We've received an incredible amount of support and excitement from sponsors, the town center and participants during pre-registration," said Delores Wise, executive director of Susan G. Komen North Florida. "We're grateful for this immediate response and recommend runners register early."

Also new this year: an 8K run to promote the eight warning signs of breast cancer. The 8K run will begin at 7:30 a.m., followed immediately by the 5K and 2K runs. Runners must register online, by mail or in person before or on the day of the race. Official race routes will be available in July. The new race route begins and ends at Target, stretching from the new Baptist emergency center to Gate Parkway and through the town center's main shopping corridor.

In addition to the race relocation, Komen North Florida also recently relocated its office from Mandarin to Downtown Jacksonville in May.

"Our new location places us in the heart of our community," Development Director Cynthia Kruty said. "We're eager to build relationships and a presence with North Florida's leaders so we can continue to get closer to our ultimate goal: a cure for breast cancer."

To register for the 2016 Race for the Cure, visit [www.komennorthflorida.org](http://www.komennorthflorida.org), or mail a completed Race entry form with payment to 200 West Forsyth St., Ste. 1620, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

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f t i p

## Go Red for Women raises \$500,000

First Coast's Go Red for Women movement recently reached a new milestone during its annual celebration at the Florida Blue Conference Center. The group of volunteers, advocates and staff members raised \$500,000 for the American Heart Association campaign, the proceeds of which will go to cardiovascular research, education and awareness.

Attending the event were Florida Blue CEO Pat Geraghty and his wife, Inger, who served as chairs of the Go Red for Women campaign. Pat Geraghty emceed a fashion show orchestrated by MIA Styling CEO Mel Intemann featuring survivors as models. Local CEOs Russ Thomas, Eric Mann, Darnell Smith, Jack Cullen, Steve Halverson and more acted as model escorts.

In addition to the fashion show, the celebra-

tion featured a red carpet event; the presentation of three-dimensional printed busts of survivors; screenings provided by Mayo Clinic, Brooks Rehabilitation and Baptist Health; and a production by First Coast News about heart transplant recipient Annemarie Ward.

Next year's celebration is scheduled for May 2017 as part of Go Red's year-round mission to raise funds and awareness for heart health.

The American Heart Association's Go Red For Women movement was created in 2004 to empower women to learn more about heart health. Since then, more than 900,000 women have joined the movement to educate women and provide awareness of women's cardiovascular health.



Photo courtesy of American Heart Association.

Go Red for Women Chairs Inger and Pat Geraghty and Heather Crawford of First Coast News.

## Blue Ocean Sails to host 'Ocean Sampling Day' June 21

By Carrie Resch

Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve summer campers, local 4-H Marine Ecology Club members and St. Johns River State College students will be among the participants in Ocean Sampling Day 2016 taking place June 21.

The event was organized by Blue Ocean Sails (BOS) a new, St. Augustine-based entity recently launched by St. Augustine resident Mike Alyea with the goal of facilitating, assisting and supporting local marine science.

"In terms of local involvement, it has gotten wide support at all grade levels," Alyea said. "That was exciting to see."

BOS did not design the Ocean Sampling Day program, but coordination of the logistics for local participation in the event is right up its alley, according to Alyea. Ocean Sampling Day is a European-based initiative launched in 2014 whereby a simultaneous sampling of the world's oceans takes place in order to provide insights into fundamental rules regarding microbial diversity and function.

A total of four teams will take water samples at five separate sample sites, with three of those teams conducting geographically specific sample sites along the First Coast from Mickler's Landing south to Marineland. The fifth team will be comprised of Dr. Ed McGinley, assistant professor of natural sciences at Flagler College, and one of his marine science students. Alyea will take that team 10 to 20 miles offshore from St. Augustine June 21 aboard his 43-foot sailboat "Sea Breeze" to do their sampling in the offshore environment.

The students will then meet up with Alyea at the Conch House Marina to turn in their processed samples. Alyea, as part of BOS, will then freeze the samples and ship them to the Miami office of the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which in turn will ship the collected samples to the organization spearheading the program.

### Blue Ocean Sails

Ocean Sampling Day is just the first of many projects Alyea plans to organize with local students through BOS, for which Alyea hopes to secure nonprofit status. He and his wife, Cindy, relocated to the St. Augustine area last fall from their home near Atlanta.

Alyea purchased his sail boat in North Carolina, had some modifications made, and sailed the sail boat from North Carolina to St. Augustine in December. A retired Air Force pilot and current American Airlines pilot, Alyea was planning for his retirement when he developed the idea for BOS, which first germinated about two years ago.

Switching from sky to sea was not a random act. Prior to his aviation career, Alyea began his college studies as a marine biologist. He also used to do a lot of SCUBA diving in his native Ocala, Florida. With the launching of a venture such as BOS, Alyea noted, he is coming full circle.

"Our goal is to support, assist and facilitate students, educators, citizen and research scientists in taking their marine science studies to the next level, in taking their science projects to the next level, in taking their ocean awareness to the next level and indeed taking their research to the next level," he said.

Response to the BOS project has been enthusiastic.

"What I have found so far is that it's almost taken on a life and energy of its own," Alyea said. "Everyone I talk to, everyone is excited about it and supportive of the concept."

Alyea has already met with the St. Johns County School District and two high school teachers from Nease and Ponte Vedra high schools, among other local operations, including Marineland.

### Future projects

In the near future, Alyea plans to participate in the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Cooperative Shark Tagging Program (CSTP) and hopes to involve local high school students in the NOAA Global Drifter Program.

As part of that initiative, Alyea said, NOAA will ship BOS a global drifter buoy that he will deploy 75 to 100 miles off St. Augustine's shore into the Gulf Stream waters this October. The buoys float in the ocean for a set amount of time and transmit meteorological and oceanographic data via satellites back to a large database. Alyea would like to explore ways the SJCSO could integrate the buoy deployment operation into its curriculum, especially since the project, is something that would support STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education.

"We're not proposing to take a group of high school students 100 miles offshore, but they would have real-time involvement with our sailing vessel Sea Breeze at the docks," Alyea said. "Because it is launched out of their local ocean waters, we just feel like that really could elevate their sense of involvement in marine science."

## Nonprofit Works 2016 conference to be held June 28

The Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida will host the "Nonprofit Works 2016 – Managing High Impact Organizations" conference Tuesday, June 28.

To be held in the Jessie Ball DuPont Center at 40 E. Adams St. in downtown Jacksonville, the daylong conference is designed for nonprofit board members, staff and volunteers. The event will offer a variety of workshops aimed at helping participants understand what it means to perform as a leader and team player within an organization that serves the community.

Keynote speaker for the conference will be Leslie Crutchfield, author of "Forces for Good" and a leading authority on scaling social innovation and high-impact philosophy. Topics to be addressed include advocacy and communications, employee and volunteer development, finance and operations, fundraising, governance, and planning, evaluation and impact.

The event will also feature the presentation of the annual Local Focus. Lasting Impact.™ Awards during the conference luncheon, which will include the presentation of the Social Innovation award, the Nonprofit Advocate Award and the Collective Action Award, which this year will be given to a Beaches-area organization. The conference will conclude with a networking reception.

The registration fee is \$119 for Nonprofit Center members, \$239 for non-members and \$59 for students through June 17; thereafter, fees are \$139 for members, \$279 for non-members and \$69 for students. Visit [www.nonprofitctr.org](http://www.nonprofitctr.org) to register or for more information.

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# EMTs, humane society help rescue pet parrot

By Carrie Resch

Emergency medical technicians are used to saving people's lives. But two employees of ASI ambulance had an opportunity to save another type of life recently – that of an escaped African Grey parrot – and help reunite the bird with its owner.

EMTs Martin Reinholz and Roger Senior were driving down Old Moultrie Road in St. Augustine May 10 when they spotted the bird perched high atop a barbed wire fence. They pulled the ambulance over and went into rescue mode. Some passersby stopped as well to try and offer assistance, but when St. Augustine Humane Society Executive Director Carolyn Smith happened upon the scene, she asked the EMTs if they wanted her to drive back to the humane society to fetch a net. The men enthusiastically said yes.

While the humane society was only about 300 feet away from the scene, by the time Smith returned Reinholz and Senior already had the ambulance's electric gurney out and were using it to reach the bird. Smith gave them the net and they were able to capture him in mid-flight as he tried to flee.

"I couldn't believe they caught him in mid-flight," said Smith, who noted that the bird was very lucky because he was found near a big, open field where hawks and ospreys often hunt.

The rescue team decided to bring the bird to a

parrot enthusiast and friend of Senior, who kept him overnight while the Humane Society posted a "lost parrot" announcement on its Facebook page.

The post was shared on several other pages, where it was eventually spotted by an acquaintance of St. Augustine resident Nadia Rubin, who had been searching for her 10-year-old parrot, Max, ever since he flew the coop May 9.

Rubin called the contact number listed and left a message saying that she would tell them anything they wanted to know about Max – what he says, what he does – to prove that she was his owner. It only took three questions before they were convinced that she was the owner, according to Rubin.

Max was brought to her house in a box. "As soon as he saw me, he tried to come out of the box," Rubin said.

Smith, who was there for the reunion, said there was no doubt that Max indeed belonged to Rubin.

"Max hates strangers – he will bite people, he squawks at them, he won't go to people," Smith said. "As soon as she walked up to him, he reached his little claw out and grabbed her hand and started talking to her."

Rubin, who hoped and prayed that Max would be found, is extremely grateful to

the good Samaritans who stopped to rescue him. "I'm really glad," she said, "that they had all that patience to stay there and try to catch Max."



Photo courtesy of Humane Society.  
Roger Senior, Nadia Rubin and Max, and Martin Reinholz



Photo courtesy of Nadia Rubin.  
Nadia Rubin and Max finally reunited

## River Garden to receive Governor's Gold Seal Award

River Garden Hebrew Home for the Aged will be recognized with an 8th Florida Governor's Gold Seal Award for Excellence in Long-Term Care. Of the more than 680 nursing homes in Florida, the nonprofit River Garden Hebrew Home has continuously held this recognition since it was created in 2002 by the Florida Legislature.

The Gold Seal Award recognizes Florida nursing homes that "demonstrate excellence in long-term care over a sustained period,

promotes the stability of the field and facilitates the physical, social, and emotional well-being of nursing home facility residents."

Located on a 40-acre campus in Mandarin, River Garden serves clients from diverse religious and ethnic backgrounds. In addition to the Gold Seal Award, the community is a five-star rated community by Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) and CMS (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services).

## St. Johns River Taxi to offer sunset 'river jam,' eco tour, zoo cruises

St. Johns River Taxi is offering a variety of new river cruises this summer, featuring everything from musical sunset excursions and eco tours to river trips to the zoo.

The taxi's new "River Jam Sunset Cruises" will be offered from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday through Sunday evenings, with entertainment provided by both locally renowned and emerging musical artists. Guests may bring refreshments aboard, although no coolers will be allowed. The one-hour cruise will depart from Friendship Park on the river's south bank and make one stop at the Jacksonville Landing on the north bank before proceeding west into Riverside and Brooklyn.

The service's narrated Eco Tours, meanwhile, will ferry passengers east toward the Sports Complex and around Exchange Island, providing guests with information about the local

river landscape. Eco Tours will be offered from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday through Sunday evenings.

And for those who want to spice up their river cruise with some exotic wildlife sightings, St. Johns River Taxi is offering day trips to the Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens every Saturday morning. The cruise will depart from downtown Jacksonville at 10 a.m. for a 45-minute cruise to the zoo, where guests will have approximately four hours to enjoy the exhibits before returning to Jacksonville by 4:30 p.m.

All tours will occur on either a 50-passenger or 100-passenger boats and tickets must be purchased in advance. Tickets for both the river jam sunset cruises and eco tours are \$20 per person. Tickets for the daylong zoo cruise are \$40 for adults, \$30 for children under 12 or zoo members. Visit [rivertaxiandtours.com](http://rivertaxiandtours.com) for tickets and more information.

## 30th annual Bike MS Kick-off Ride to feature 'Back to the 80s' theme

Leg warmers, headbands and scrunchies will be on full display June 18, when the North Florida chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society celebrates its 30th annual PGA Tour Cycle to the Shore with a "Back to the 80s"-themed kick-off ride.

Scheduled to begin at 7:30 a.m. at TPC Sawgrass (registration opens at 6:30 a.m.), the ride is open to all cyclists ages 12 and up. With 40-mile, 20-mile and 10-mile "Rookie Ride" options, the event marks the launch of this year's training ride and is a preview of the Bike MS: PGA Tour Cycle to the Shore, a two-day, round-trip cycling fundraiser from Ponte Vedra to Daytona Beach held each October. Proceeds from the ride, which attracts more than 2,000 riders, benefit the National MS Society. To register for the ride, participants can visit [BikeMS.org](http://BikeMS.org).

Participation in the June 18 kick-off ride requires a \$5 donation, and free parking, food and beer are included. Cyclists are encouraged to don their best 1980s garb and invite their teams to participate. The team with the most members will win ice for their tent in Team Village at Bike MS in October.

For more information about this year's kick-off ride, visit <http://www.nationalmssociety.org/Chapters/FLN/Fundraising-Events/Bike-MS-Kick-Off-Ride> or call (904) 332-6810.

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# From hotel housekeeping to home cleaning: Tricks that work

**By Shana Peconga**  
Special to the Recorder

Few people keep house cleaning on the top of their weekend to-do list. While spring and the holiday season are often the times that people pay extra attention to home cleaning, it becomes much easier and much more effective when you clean on a daily or weekly basis.

At the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront, each one of our housekeepers will clean at least 15 rooms per day. We in the hospitality industry set the highest standards when it comes to cleaning. Below are some simple and effective tips that will help you keep your home in tip-top shape all year long:



Shana Peconga

## Homemade cleaning supplies

Making your own cleaners gives you greater control of the ingredients that go into them, therefore ensuring the safety of your home environment. Just a few basic ingredients can help you

create a variety of cleaning products. These key ingredients include baking soda, lemon juice, vinegar, hydrogen peroxide and dish soap. Some of these products work well independently, such as using baking soda for scrubbing jobs, or one part vinegar to one part water

in a spray bottle to clean windows or mirrors. Whenever possible, buy these ingredients in the bulk section in stores and find reusable packaging to reduce waste.

Also, when mixing chemicals, always **HOUSEKEEPING TRICKS** continues on **Page 26**

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# Green Hands festivals to be held at St. Augustine Amphitheatre and Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

Two “green” sustainability events will take place the last weekend in June at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre and Ponte Vedra Concert Hall.

On Saturday, June 25, the St. Johns County Cultural Events Division, in partnership with Edible Northeast Florida magazine and the U.S. Green Building Council, will present the inaugural Green Hands Sustainability Fest. The festival will feature a myriad of local nonprofit organizations, including the GTM Research Reserve, Keepers of the Coast, Giving Greens, Matanzas Riverkeeper, and Whitney Laboratory, which will be on site to educate attendees on a wide variety of water and natural resource issues. Food trucks and live music by Aslyn and The Naysayers, Kenny and The Jets, Teresa Rose and Ghost Tropic will also be available.

The festival – which kicks off at 4 p.m. – will culminate with an 8 p.m. screening of “Tapped,” an award-winning documentary that provides a behind-the-scenes look into the unregulated and unseen world of the bottled water industry and examines its

role and effect on our health, climate change, pollution and our reliance on oil.

On Sunday, June 26, the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall will host a Green Hands Sustainability Soiree. The soiree will also feature local non-profit organizations and a free screening of “Tapped” along with live music by local singer/songwriter Chelsea Saddler and a wine and cheese reception hosted by Whole Foods Market.

Doors open at 4 p.m., followed by the screening of “Tapped” at 6 p.m.

Both the Green Hands Sustainability Fest and Green Hands Sustainability Soiree are free and open to the public. Event parking will also be free.

## Green Hands initiative

The Green Hands Sustainability events align with the SJC Cultural Events Division’s Green Hands initiative.

“The Green Hands initiative is a program that the SJC Cultural Events Division created to establish and maintain operating practices that align with our

commitment to conservation,” Green Hands Coordinator Megan Murphy said. “The initiative was unveiled at the start of the 2016 concert season but has been a vision for a long time and has been created to continuously work within our industry and community to minimize our impact on our invaluable resources, both locally and globally.”

As part of the Green Hands program, environmental initiatives are being implemented at both the amphitheatre and concert hall, such as the continuation of the already established recycling program and a transition to LED lighting.

One of the major programs of the initiative is the “One Less Plastic Bottle Program.”

“Over the past few years, the staff has been hard at work figuring out how to eliminate the use of unneeded plastic water bottles in an industry that relies heavily on them,” Murphy said. “This season, we were very excited to announce the installation of our water bottle refill stations at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre. Patrons are now encour-

aged to bring their own non-metal refillable container to use during events and all artists and staff have access to stations backstage.”

In addition, concessions at both venues have made the transition from plastic water bottles to boxed water. This season, a backstage composting program at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre was established to help eliminate waste from landfills. The compost is then used to help nourish the amphitheatre’s community garden.

The Sustainability Fest and Soiree are the first collaborative events between the SJC Cultural Events Division Green Hands Initiative and the local community.

“We are thrilled about the opportunity to collaborate with the community and other local efforts,” Murphy said. “We are very excited to work with Edible Northeast Florida and the U.S. Green Building Council to create a shared space to bring education, awareness, and celebration to our community and its cherished resources.”

## Housekeeping Tricks

Continued from 25

be mindful about safety. Read safety labels and check a reputable source for what chemicals should and should not be mixed together.

### Quick tricks to remove tough stains

Take every precaution to protect your carpet or rugs in the hope that no accidents or stains will compromise their beautiful appearance. Whether it is wine or wax, it seems whatever is not supposed to land on the carpet always does. No need to panic—take a deep breath, read through the tricks listed

here, and that stain will vanish in just a few minutes.

### Red wine stain

- o Dry the spot by blotting with a dry towel. If there is a substantial amount of spillage, make sure you are not spreading the stain even more by changing cloths as they become saturated with the beverage

- o Place a clean wet towel on top of the stain

- o Slowly iron the towel on top of the stain on high temperature for a few minutes

- o Remove the towel to reveal your spotless carpet

- o Remember to unplug the high-

temperature iron for safety reasons!

The same technique applies for removing wax on your carpet—only this time, use a newspaper instead of a towel.

### Mistakes that are easy to make

As professional housekeepers, we see many mistakes that people make when cleaning their homes. Let’s start with the most commonly used cleaning tool: sponges. They are germ magnets, and it’s impossible to sanitize them completely. Instead, try microfiber towels. Unlike sponges, microfiber towels are easy to clean and do not absorb bacteria or dust.

Bleach is, without doubt, an instant germ-killer. It is also a highly concentrated chemical that can irritate your lungs, eyes and skin with overuse. If you’re cleaning countertops and other surfaces that will make contact with food or your mouth, use only one tablespoon of bleach per gallon of water, according to the Department of Health Services.

Creating a routine and experimenting with these tips can help make your house cleaning painless. After all, having a tidy, beautiful home should not be



a daunting task for you and your family.

*Shana Peconga is the executive housekeeper at Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront. She has been with Hyatt for more than 16 years. Starting as a hotel room housekeeper, Peconga has eight years of experience in housekeeping management and front desk management.*



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# Nocatee Welcome Center spotlight: Julie Alen

The Nocatee Welcome Center is the first stop for anyone looking to find out more about the master-planned community. The office offers resources such as interactive maps, tours and information about living in Nocatee. The most important resource, however, is the Welcome Center staff, who help newcomers get oriented. Each month, a different member of the Welcome Center team will be featured in this space.

This week's featured representative is Julie Alen.

## You've been at the Nocatee Welcome Center for a year now. During that time, what sort of duties has your job entailed?

I love having the opportunity to assist those who visit the Nocatee community. Here, we meet with those who are interested in learning more about the Nocatee lifestyle, and answer any questions that they may have. We also help Realtors who would like to be educated on the Nocatee community. With the amount of growth that Nocatee is having, there's so much to learn!

## Working at the Nocatee Welcome Center has put you in contact with a lot of people newly interested in the community. What do you most look forward to helping them with?

Our hope is that when families leave the Nocatee Welcome Center, they will have a better understanding of the community's master plan, as well

as how to navigate the nearly 14,000 acres that comprise Nocatee. We love it when we can help people have a better understanding of the neighborhoods and amenities, so that they can find the home and builder that best suits their needs.

## Have there been any people or families in particular that left an impact on you during your time at the Welcome Center?

Of course! I've met hundreds of people and many come in to say hello after they've moved into their new home. I thoroughly enjoy working with every family, but those who have to relocate to Nocatee for work specifically stand out in my mind. There is so much to worry about when relocating – finding a neighborhood and a builder, choosing a floorplan, enrolling in new schools and then bringing their family to a new state. Finding a new place to live can be overwhelming. I am so happy to assist and be a part of their moving experience. I feel privileged that families share so much with me and count on us to assist them.

## What about the Nocatee community are you most passionate about?

My passion for Nocatee runs deep. I've worked for The PARC Group for many years now, and have felt passionate about being in the "development" field. So many things happen when you develop land into a community. Jobs are created and homes are provided for thousands. The economy gets a surge of revenue from job growth. Be-

ing a part of this feels wonderful. I'm passionate about how the developer handles the task – with key components such as preservation, conservation and building homes within huge areas of green space. The fact that 60 percent of Nocatee will remain preserve makes me happy that future generations will enjoy the beauty of nature.

## What does a typical work day look like for you?

People, people, people! I think one Saturday I worked with 15 families. I love talking with families and sharing the Nocatee lifestyle.

## What do you think the impact of your work with the Welcome Center has been in the community?

We are the first face of Nocatee in many ways as Welcome Center representatives. I hope others feel my passion about Nocatee and that I genuinely care about each and every family that I speak with.

## What is something you'd like everyone to know about your job?

It's a fun job! I consider it such an honor that we have the opportunity to help so many families. I've met some of the most interesting, kind, loving and special people here, and feel very privileged to be a part of each of their journeys to Nocatee.

## What are you most excited for when you go to work each morning?



Photos courtesy of Nocatee Welcome Center.

I love sharing the Nocatee lifestyle every day. And it's a beautiful area – we get to spend each day within a resort-style water park, which can't be beat!

## Outside of work, what sorts of things do you like to do?

Any type of outdoor activity – wave riding, bike riding, walking on the beach, playing the piano. My favorite thing to do is spend time with my children and grandson.

# Nocatee's Welcome Center hosts 3rd annual Daddy Daughter Dance



Rajesh, Lila and Kira Gopal



Dave Keim and daughter



Joel and Elizabeth Parker



Photos courtesy of Nocatee  
ABOVE: Anthony and Mallory Vasquez

Nocatee's Welcome Center recently hosted its third annual Daddy Daughter Dance, ushering in fathers and daughters of the community for an afternoon of fun, dance and quality time.

Held at Nocatee's Crosswater Hall, dads and daughters were treated to food, songs spun by a professional DJ and a surprise visit from Disney's "Frozen" stars Elsa and Olaf. The hall also included a booth where guests were welcomed to create their own memories with photo mementos.



LEFT: Olaf greets attendees at the Daddy Daughter dance.

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# Stevenson: Improving education is critical to Florida economy

By Jennifer Logue

Florida has made significant progress in its efforts to improve the state's public education system, but more work remains to be done if Sunshine State graduates and businesses are going to compete in a global economy.

That was the message at two recent education summits attended by state Rep. Cyndi Stevenson. In a June 10 meeting at the Ponte Vedra Recorder's offices, Stevenson provided

an update on efforts to ensure that Florida students receive the rigorous academic or career preparation needed to provide good-paying jobs and a strong economy. It's a topic, Stevenson said, about which all state residents should be concerned.

"I'm cognizant that the rest of the state doesn't have the same educational opportunities that we have," said Stevenson, noting that St. Johns County residents have access to the top-rated school system in the state. "It's not enough just to not mess up here: We

have to help the rest of the state meet their needs, because their problems become our problems."

Given the rapid growth in St. Johns County, however, Stevenson noted that she and Sen. Travis Hutson were instrumental in adding an amendment to the state's new school choice law specifying that the decision as to whether a school district had the capacity to accept out-of-district students would remain in local hands.

Both the Governor's Degrees to Jobs

conference and the Florida Chamber of Commerce's From Learners to Earners summit stressed the importance of having a well-prepared workforce in order to keep the state economy strong. Among the projections shared: By 2030, half of all jobs will be related to new technologies.

"The velocity of change is remarkable," Stevenson said. "Things are moving so fast, it's difficult for companies to predict what skills and jobs they're going to need even five years from now."

What is clear, she added, is that the days of entering the workforce armed only with a high school diploma, working for the same company for 40 years and retiring with a gold watch are over.

"It was amazing to hear that if Florida was the number one state for education, we would be number 15 when compared to other countries," Stevenson said. "You don't stop progress – you have to make adjustments."

To that end, the state has committed to ensuring that all Florida students graduate high school "college ready or career ready," with the preparation needed to pursue higher education or specialized skills/career training.

"The belief is that, nationally, the jobs are going to go where the talent is," Stevenson said. "As a state, we're in a very competitive time for jobs. Whoever becomes the next president, I think you'll see them pressing

STEVENSON continues on Page 35

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# Chamber holds annual golf classic, 'Seasonal Blend'

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce held its annual Golf Tournament and summer Seasonal Blend last week, bringing together business and community leaders from across the county for a day of golf and networking.

Held June 8 at the Slammer & Squire in World Golf Village, the event featured a golf tournament with a variety of course games. The daylong event concluded with a cocktail reception featuring awards, raffles, door prizes and more.

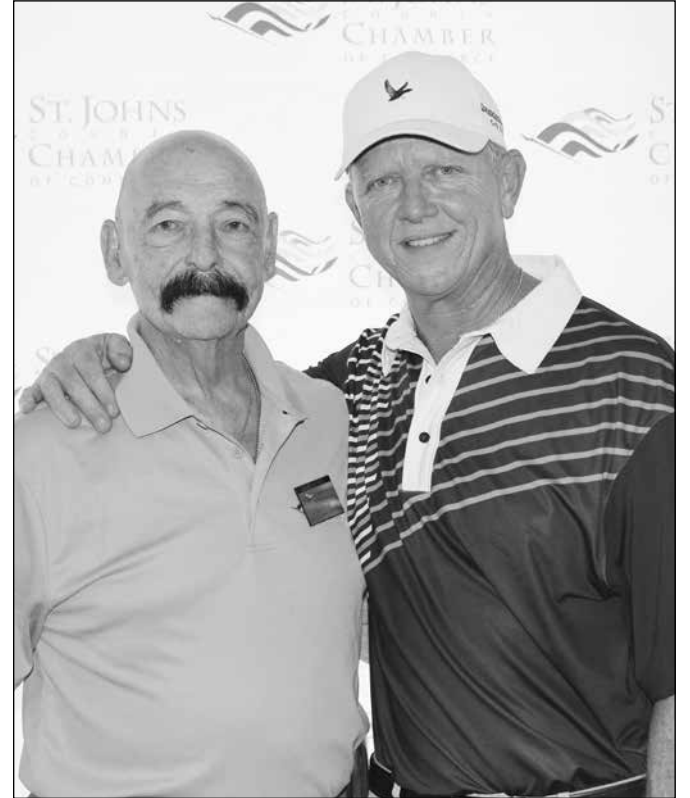
Winners of the various contests included:

- Putting contest: Sam Sissine of Brennan, Manna & Diamond
- Best dressed golfers: Pat and Jay Kane, Pop A Lock
- Longest Putt: Greg Otte, Beach 105.5
- Closest to the Pin: Chad Prizzia, Web.com
- Longest Drive: Julie Ownes, FLC Contracting; and Bill Lodise, BBT
- 1st Gross: Rogers Towers
- 2nd Gross: Ponte Vedra Wellness Center
- 1st Net: FLC Contracting
- 2nd Net: Malcolm, Anthony, P.A.



Photos by Susan Griffin

Best dressed golfers Pat and Jay Kane of Pop A Lock.



Ed Mercel and Brett Duncan



1st Place Net Team FLC Contracting; also pictured: Cathy Johnston and Isabelle Rodriguez



2nd Place Net Malcolm Anthony team; also pictured: Cathy Johnston and Isabelle Rodriguez



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## Free screenings of Benghazi film '13 Hours' to be held June 18, 24

Two free screenings of the feature film "13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi" will be held in Jacksonville in the coming weeks.

The first screening will be held at 5 p.m. Saturday, June 18 at 2657 Park St. in Riverside. The second screening will be held at 6:30 p.m. Friday, June 24 in the auditorium of the Salem Centre, 7235 Bonneval Rd. in Southside. Both screenings are sponsored by Turning Points in America. Refreshments will be available.

Directed by Michael Bay and starring John Krasinski, "13 Hours" recounts the harrowing tale of the brave men who on Sept. 12, 2012 fought back as terrorists attacked the U.S. Special Mission Compound and the nearby CIA Annex in Benghazi, Libya. A small team of U.S. veterans repelled the attackers and save many lives in the battle that would eventually claim the lives of U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens, Navy veteran Sean Smith and veteran Navy SEALs Tyrone Woods and Glen Doherty.

To reserve seats for the free screenings, visit [www.benghazitribute.org](http://www.benghazitribute.org).

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## Salt Life Festival

The Salt Life Festival will take place Saturday, June 18 from noon to 10 p.m. at the Seawalk Pavilion in Jacksonville Beach.

The festival will include musical performances as well as food trucks and a vendor marketplace. Big Fish Yoga will offer a free sunrise yoga session at 6:30 a.m. the morning of the festival. VIP tickets are available for \$20.

For more information, visit [www.saltlifest.com](http://www.saltlifest.com).

### Salt Life Festival Music Lineup:

- Noon to 1 p.m. - Dirty Pete
- 1:20 to 2:20 p.m. - J Collins
- 2:40 to 3:40 p.m. - Danka
- 4 to 5 p.m. - Ramajay Intercoastal
- 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. - The Band Be Easy
- 7 to 8:15 p.m. - Split Tone
- 8:40 to 10 p.m. - Roosevelt Collier

## Grant Blackwood and Steve Berry at The BookMark

Grant Blackwood, successor to the late Tom Clancy, the New York Times bestselling author of "Tom Clancy Under Fire" will be at The BookMark Monday, June 17 at 7 p.m. to discuss and sign copies of his latest book, "Tom Clancy Duty and Honor: A Jack Ryan Jr. Novel."

Blackwood will be accompanied by bestselling author Steve Berry, author of "The 14th Colony" for this event.

The BookMark is located at located at 220 First St., Neptune Beach.

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# Jazzin' up the beach

## Summer Jazz Series returns to Seawalk Pavilion

By Jasmine Marshall

Local residents armed with beach chairs and coolers took to the green of the Seawalk Pavilion Sunday to enjoy



Photos by Jasmine Marshall

Jazz series guests dance as The Groov performs.

an evening of jazz music, as the City of Jacksonville Beach presented the first of two concerts for its 15th annual Summer Jazz Series.

Beginning at 5 p.m., The Groov, J.J. Sansaverino and headlining act The Jazz All Stars performed for the crowd. First-time visitor Tommy Green followed the music, citing the atmosphere of the beach paired with smooth jazz as the highlight of the event. Attendee Danielle Burns of

Jacksonville, meanwhile,

was making her third visit to the annual event.

"I plan to come here every year," Burns said. "I love jazz."

The Groov enlivened the audience with instrumental jazz covers of classic hits such as "What's Going on" by Marvin Gaye, while J. J. Sansaverino performed originals, among them "Montego Bay" from his latest album, "Waiting for You."

Between sets, Jacksonville Beach Mayor Charlie Latham took the stage at 6 p.m., asking visitors to bow their heads

for a minute of silence at Governor Rick Scott's request to honor the victims of Sunday's terrorist attack in Orlando.

The Summer Jazz Series continues next month on July 10, with Isaac Byrd, Jr., Althea Rene & Jeanette Harris and headlining act Four 80 East featuring special guest Art Sherrod, Jr.



J.J. Sansaverino performs "Montego Bay"



Carlos Peterson, James Davis and Jesse Reyes of The Groov jam with the audience.

# Neptune Baptist Church establishes youth athletic club

By Jasmine Marshall

As summer begins for school-aged children, Neptune Baptist Church has joined the ranks of recreational programs vying for their participation with the newly established North Shore Athletic Club.

Hosted on the 24 acres of church-owned land that makes up Marshside Campus, the ministry works to keep kids busy outside of school with athletic activities that aren't covered in the church's football, cheerleading or surf programs. According to Pastor Tom Bary, North Shore Athletic Club serves as a link to

bring that recreation full circle.

"It's the first year we've started this club, having already established Upward programs for flag football and cheerleading as well as a surf camp," Bary said. "But not all kids like those sports. And since our church has a high value on reaching children, it's a nice connecting point for us to include more kids."

The ministry is spearheaded by Bobby Grant Jr., who first brought the idea to Bary's attention with another counselor, Jordan Walker. Having been heavily involved with the church's Upward

programs for the past 10 years, Grant was eager to begin building a new program that would address the needs of both children and their parents once the sports season was over.

"It occurred to me that with the season only being three months, (there were) nine months in which the kids do not have that positive safe environment to play and have fun," Grant said. "And quite frankly, I wanted to change that."

In three months, the team was in preparation to begin the first two sessions of the sports camp. Alongside counselors and coaches Walker, Billy Grant and Alex Awad, the small but growing ministry encourages children to engage in athletic play in a friendly environment.

To be held from 9 a.m. to noon June 27-30, the camp will enable kids will play sports such as baseball, soccer, flag football and kickball in addition to other non-traditional sports such as Gatorball. The ministry is set to announce a golf tournament, a softball game and a trivia night.

The activities also extend to the school year, with the club hosting flag football every Friday after school for elementary students as well as a family fishing tournament and lacrosse lessons for beginners.

According to Grant, the main focus of the club is to bring people together through sports. Coming from an athletic background himself, Grant says he understands the bonds that form from positive competition, and hopes to give kids and families the opportunity to build



All photos by Jasmine Marshall  
Counselor Alex Awad gives Clayton Payne tips before his swing.



and strengthen friendships through it.

"We're all very excited about this camp and having a burning passion for helping others," he said. "And we feel we can do that through athletics."

For more information about the North Shore Athletic Club, visit the ministry's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/northshoreathleticclub](http://www.facebook.com/northshoreathleticclub) or call (904) 250 6557.

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1. Beaten as punishment in some countries
6. Tai's partner
9. Suite cleaner
13. Savory taste sensation
14. Time delay
15. \*Colonial money: pounds, shillings and \_\_\_\_\_
16. Dyed fabric
17. Pooh's wise friend
18. Can't stand
19. \*Grilled July 4th favorite
21. \*The Washington Monument, e.g.
23. Confession subject
24. Under a fig leaf?
25. Talking Heads "And She \_\_\_\_\_"
28. New Zealand fruit
30. \*At center of the American Revolution
35. Crumbs
37. Before "saw" and "conquered"
39. Butterfly, pre-metamorphosis
40. Curved molding
41. Each and all
43. Pinocchio's claims
44. Albrecht \_\_\_\_\_, Renaissance artist
46. Alleviate
47. Legal wrong
48. Pined
50. Hibernation stations

**DOWN**

1. Mowgli to Raksha in "The Jungle Book"
2. Nanjing nanny
3. North Atlantic Alliance, acr.
4. Gives off
5. Tiny antelope
6. Heidi's "Magic Wooden Shoe"
7. TV variety show "Hee \_\_\_\_\_"
8. Icy hut
9. One of three square ones
10. Opposed to
11. Frosts a cake
12. Office furniture

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15. \_\_\_\_\_ red, pH indicator
20. On the rocks
22. Baby's apron
24. Lemonade cousin
25. \*Guthrie of "This Land Is Your Land"
26. Lock horns
27. "Private Parts" author
29. \*"...star-spangled banner yet \_\_\_\_\_"
31. Sodium
32. The Three Musketeers and Destiny's Child
33. Not hidden
34. Highly unpleasant
36. "As \_\_\_\_\_ on TV"
38. Gaelic
42. Gossipmonger
45. Say it differently

49. Indian restaurant staple
51. \*"The Independence Day: Resurgence," e.g.
54. Grind teeth
56. Post-rain ditch
57. Mount Vesuvius output
58. Mosque V.I.P.
59. Nay, to a baby
60. Prompter's comments
61. Lawyers' charges
62. Too much \_\_\_\_\_
63. \*What you hope it doesn't do on July 4th?
66. Poe's Morgue
68. Lt's subordinate

## Boyfriend's low self-esteem causes him to sabotage what he really wants

Dear Neil: I am dating a man who has major trust issues and erratic mood swings. He's bought me things that I warmly accepted, and then has accused me of being a user and thinking of him like he was an ATM machine. He's thrown hurtful insults at me that will never go away. Although he has low self-esteem, he has tried to convince me that he's the best man out there. When I moved in



**Neil Rosenthal**  
Columnist

with him, he told me he felt like my prisoner, but every time I left our condo, he wanted to tag along. Recently he left me, and I stopped communicating with him because his angry words hurt me. But my retorts hurt him back, so now he says he can't forgive me.

I want him back. I want to believe it takes someone like me to love someone like him. – What Do I Do?

Dear What Do I Do: You are with a man who is giving you double messages. He wants you, but he can't be close with you. He can hurt you, but he can't tolerate being hurt by you. He can freely give to you, but if you take what he offers, he will accuse you of using him or of being a leech. He can't stand being your "prisoner," but he can't let you out of his sight. He wants to live with you, and he equally wants to get away from you because he doesn't trust you or your motives.

This is a man who indeed has very low self-esteem, and he is sabotaging what he also wants very badly. Nobody can succeed in having a close relationship with him this way. He won't let anyone get terribly close before he pushes her away. So how intimate, attached and devoted a relationship do you think you can have with him the way things are right now?

So what do you do? If the two of you decide to get together and talk things out, confront him with these double messages, and set some ground rules and boundaries regarding what's acceptable to you and what

isn't. How about if the two of you agree to stop leveling hurtful, angry words at each other? What if you questioned his invitation for you to move in with him, yet he felt like a captive when you did? How about his message that he's the best man out there for you, but he thinks that gives him license to insult and demean you? How about asking for an apology for his hurtful words and alienating behavior – and an ironclad agreement about how future disagreements will be handled differently?

If he won't agree to these basic rules of civil, respectful behavior – or if he agrees but

fails to follow through – you will keep getting this "crazy making" behavior until you cut the relationship off with him completely. And then you will have learned that someone like you cannot love someone like him without completely losing yourself.

*Neil Rosenthal is a licensed marriage and family therapist in Westminster and Boulder. He is the author of the bestselling book "Love, Sex, and Staying Warm: Creating a Vital Relationship." Contact him at (303) 758-8777 or visit neil-rosenthal.com.*

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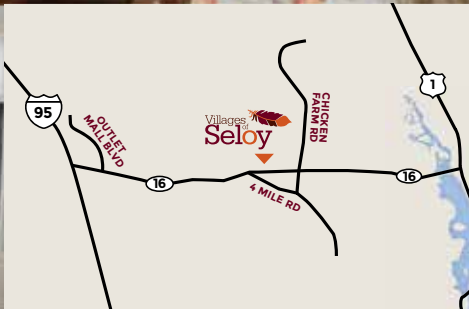
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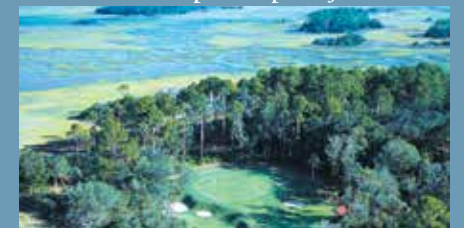
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# Stevenson

Continued from 28

to bring jobs and money back to America, and when those jobs come back on shore, I want Florida to be the most prepared state so we get the jobs and have a truly diversified economy.”

## Sheriff's award

Stevenson's visit with the Recorder came on the same day the legislator was honored by the Florida Sheriff's Association as a "Leg-

islative Champion." She received the award for her longtime support of law enforcement and for sponsoring legislation that rectified the unintended effects of previous legislation that had hampered law enforcement's use and implementation of "no contact" orders.

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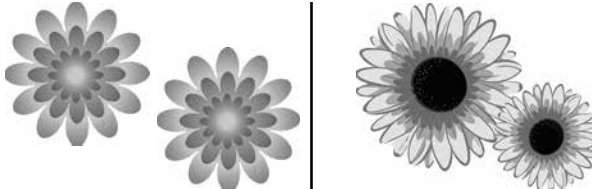


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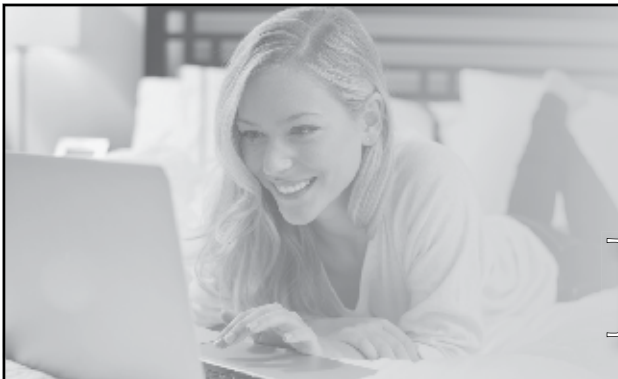



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# FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS NOW AVAILABLE

Marsh Landing Country Club

## Executive Pass<sup>\*</sup>

### ANNUAL GOLF MEMBERSHIP

INDIVIDUAL - \$3,250 | FAMILY - \$4,250 (+ sales tax)

- Limited to 100 participants
- Offers year-round golf privileges
- Access to golf and dining only
- Tee times available 7 days in advance
- Regular cart fees apply for each round
- Access to practice facilities (range balls included)



### ANNUAL TENNIS MEMBERSHIP

INDIVIDUAL - \$1,700 | FAMILY - \$2,200 (+ sales tax)

- Unlimited participants –  
at team's and pro's discretion
- Offers year-round tennis privileges
- Access to tennis and dining only



- **INDIVIDUAL** or **FAMILY** membership
- **Renews every 12 months**
- **Charge account privileges** (with a valid credit card on file)
- **No monthly dues**
- **No food and beverage minimum**

*Membership fee must be paid in one payment when joining*



MARSH LANDING  
COUNTRY CLUB

25655 Marsh Landing Parkway  
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida 32082  
[www.marshlandingcc.com](http://www.marshlandingcc.com)

\* 21% gratuity added to food and beverage purchases. Not available for downgrade to current members. ONLY available to individuals residing outside the gates of Marsh Landing Country Club. Not available to former Marsh Landing members who resigned within 24 months.

**TO SIGN UP CALL**  
**904.285.6514**