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PonteVedraRecorder.com



A NEW VOICE

Lisa Kelly, a seasoned performer of Celtic Woman and Riverdance fame, announced this month that her voice academy will open new location in Ponte Vedra in February to serve the First Coast. Page 10



Soccer

Lady Sharks
blank Palatka 6-0

Ponte Vedra dominates
in win over Matanzas

Page 35



Santa Paws

Tips to keep your pet healthy
and safe this holiday season

Pages 19-30

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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 or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach.**



Visit our brand new website at www.pontevedrarecorder.com

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

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

What's this?



Do you know what this is?

Email your answer to kelly@opcfla.com by Tuesday at 5 p.m.

We'll throw all the correct answers in a hat and choose the winner with a random drawing. If we receive no correct answers, we'll award four Jacksonville Zoo tickets (two adults, two children) to the best wrong answer we receive.

gwynrn1@aol.com was randomly selected from the people to correctly identified the Mathnasium sign. Please pick up your zoo tickets!



Better luck this week, guessers! And don't forget — incorrect but entertaining guesses might also be rewarded with a trip to the zoo.

Adoptable pets at the St. Johns County Pet Center

CAT OF THE WEEK

Hi there! I'm Kat, a 2 year old female kitty who is looking for a new loving home. I was brought to the Pet Center as a stray. As this animal was a stray there may be some traits that are



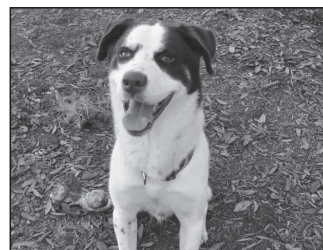
unknown at this time. Any new pet being introduced to a new home will need time to adjust to their new environment. Please reinforce house-training and behavioral training and be mindful of interacting with other pets. Come visit us today here at the Pet Center! #27864 Adoption fee sponsored by the Friends of the Pet Center

(Kat has been with us here at the shelter a rather long time, we're trying our best to get her the home she deserves in time for the holidays.)

All cat adoptions at the Pet Center are \$20 for males and \$30 for females. Dog adoptions are \$35 for males and \$50 for females. The fee includes neutering/spaying, rabies vaccinations and shots. The Pet Center is located at 130 N. Stratton Road. Hours are Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. **For more information, call (904) 209-6190.**

DOG OF THE WEEK

My name is Bob and I am a 3 year old male mixed breed who is looking for a new home. I was brought



to the Pet Center as a stray. As this animal was a stray there may be some traits that are unknown at this time. Any new pet being introduced to a new home will need time to adjust to their new environment. Please reinforce house-training and behavioral training and be mindful of interacting with other pets. Come visit us today here at the Pet Center! #28712



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ZOO Lights



Happy Owlidays.

December 11-13, 18-Jan. 2
 Closed Christmas Day.

Mon - Thurs 6 pm - 9:30 pm
Fri - Sun 6 pm - 10 pm

Featuring LED displays throughout the Zoo, local artists and performers, warm weather ice skating and s'mores on the Great Lawn (additional charge).

\$8 Members | \$10 Non-Members
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RCGSA hosts Christmas party next week

The Republican Club of Greater St. Augustine will host a Christmas party on Dec. 14 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Shrine Club, 250 Brainard Dr. in St. Augustine. The event will feature music, dancing, trivia and dinner. Attendees are asked to bring a side dish or dessert.

The event is free to members and \$10 for guests. The party will also include a silent auction with Christmas gifts for family and friends, featuring items like tickets to the Limelight Theater, St. Augustine Pirate & Treasure Museum, Colonial Quarter, Fountain of Youth, World Golf Hall of Fame, Alligator Farm and San Sebastian Winery. Guests will

also be able to bid on a tour of the U.S. capitol with Congressman Ron Desantis.

Proceeds from the event and auction will benefit a scholarship fund for local high school seniors. Last year's scholarship recipient will attend the event to give everyone an update on college life.

If you cannot attend the event, donations can also be mailed to Republican Club of Greater St. Augustine, P.O. Box 860053, St. Augustine, FL 32086-0053. Make check payable to "RCGSA." Be sure to write "scholarship fund" on the memo line.

Visit www.RepublicanClubGSA.com for more information.

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Twenty-seven year real estate veteran Missy DeKay reaches new heights by accomplishing a personal record: highest volume in a single month, totaling over 20 million dollars (4 transactions) for the month of October. Missy is consistently ranked as the #1 producer in the Watson Realty Corp. Ponte Vedra Beach office. This year's production will bring her volume to over \$34 million.

Year after year Missy ranks among the top Realtors® in Jacksonville and she is included in REAL TRENDS list of top producing agents nationwide.

DIRECT: 904.280.2838
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2015 nominees in 24 hospitality categories.

NFHLA seeks ROSE Award nominees

Nominees accepted in 24 hospitality categories for 8th annual event on Feb. 9

Leigh Cort

Community submission

North Florida Hotel & Lodging Association is well-known in the northeast Florida area's five counties that boast some of the finest hospitality destinations in the country. Recognized as an issue driven association that represents more than 120 hospitality-related companies spanning Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau and St. Johns County, it continuously advocates for over 40,000 employees in the lodging and hospitality industry.

The ROSE Awards is an annual red carpet event that recognizes and celebrates Northeast Florida's front-line hospitality employees who demonstrate excellent customer service. These industry champions showcase the region's commitment to creating an extraordinary visitor experience.

It is time to announce that nominations are now being accepted for

REQUIREMENTS

Eligible nominees must meet the following requirements:

- Individual must be a front-line employee
- Individual must work or be affiliated with an NFHLA member business or with the management company of the member business
- Individual must work at a place of business for at least 90 days from the ROSE Award Event Date
- Individual should exemplify the following characteristics: Dependable, Passionate, Serves as a role model to peers, Exemplifies a commitment to customer service, Creates a positive impression for the visitor

the 8th annual ROSE (Recognition Of Service Excellent) Awards. The event is slated for Feb. 9, 2016 at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront Hotel.

The Master of Ceremonies 2016 is WJXT-TV's News Anchor Bruce Hamilton, an Emmy Award-winning television, radio and newspaper journalist.

"I'm very pleased to share in the



2015 Scholarship Presentation for \$6117

excitement of the ROSE Awards as we recognize many of our region's most professional and passionate hospitality employees," Hamilton said.

All nominations must be submitted through the online form at www.nfhlaroseawards.com ~ Due Friday, January 15, 2016.

Monies raised from the ROSE Awards are given to scholarship

recipients. The first scholarship is awarded to students who are currently enrolled in a Hospitality or Culinary college program, and who have graduated from a high school or college program. Recipients must currently reside or have immediate family residing within Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau or St. Johns County

AWARD continues on Page 15

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Growth in Palm Valley

The importance of community involvement in future land development

How many times have you been driving down the road and laid eyes on those little red and blue county signs out in front of an undeveloped parcel of land?

Most of us pay little or no attention.

Even if you do stop to read it, they do not provide much information. They are there to let you know that change and growth are coming. The county has a protocol for informing us

of the change. It involves announcements in the local papers and holding public zoning board meetings. Unfortunately, most meetings are scheduled during working hours. Therefore, it is important to investigate and get educated on the proposed project.

That is what is happening now in my local Palm Valley Community. This particular project has the chance of changing our landscape forever — and

not for the better.

That is where our small community centers and organizations come into play. They help to inform and organize the citizenry. You should seek them out, get involved and affect change.

If not, you too could have a cruise ship-sized development in your neighborhood.

Victoria Corlazzoli
Palm Valley Resident

Letters policy

The Ponte Vedra Recorder welcomes letters of up to 400 words. Include first and last name, city of residence and daytime phone number for verification.

Letters responding to or attacking other letter writers will not be published. Submissions are limited to one letter per month per writer.

The Recorder reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity and cannot assure the publication of any letter.

Submit letters for consideration by email to kelly@opcfla.com; fax to (904) 285-7232 Attn: Kelly McDermott; or by mail to Kelly McDermott, 1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082.



Photo by Susan Griffin

Ribbon cutting at Integrated Webworks

On Wednesday, Dec. 2, the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting at Integrated Webworks (10175 Fortune Parkway, Jacksonville). Integrated Webworks specializes in integrating web technology into its clients' day to day operations to enhance visibility and increase productivity leading to improved sales and brand loyalty. For more information, visit www.integratedwebworks.com.

IN REMEMBRANCE



POPE

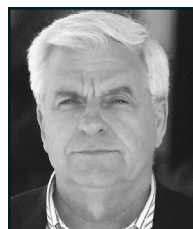
Jack R. Pope

Jack R. Pope, 85, passed away December 2, 2015. He was born to Chloe and Hazel Pope in Fairfield, AL, on September 14, 1930. Jack retired from Westing-

house Electric Company after 33 years where he served in multiple capacities including Engineering, Marketing and Business Development. He is best known to the Ponte Vedra Community from his role as advisor to the Planning Division of the Ponte Vedra Municipal Service District.

Jack is survived by his daughter, Kathy Lynn Braden, of Atlanta, GA; his sons Mark Allen Pope, of Raleigh, NC and Richard Glenn Pope of Birmingham, AL; and loving companion, Gina Bliss of Ponte Vedra Beach, FL.

A Memorial Service was held at 10:00 AM on Monday, December 7, 2015 at Christ Episcopal Church in Ponte Vedra Beach. In lieu of flowers please make donations to Community Hospice of Northeast Florida. Please sign the online guestbook at www.pontevedravalley.com.



REESH

Robert Ray Reesh

Robert Ray Reesh, 79, passed away peacefully on November 27, 2015. He was born on March 2, 1936 in Youngstown, Ohio. Robert (Bob) received his BBA

from Youngstown University and his MBA from Kent State University. He held high level management positions with JT Baker Chemical, General Foods and Gallo

Winery. During his career, he traveled throughout Ohio, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and New York. Bob moved his family to Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida in 1974. He and his talented wife, Joyce, earned a successful career in real estate followed by happy years in retirement.

Bob is survived by his loving wife, Joyce, of 58 years, daughters Michelle (Dan), Sondra (Bill) and son Rob. Grandchildren Shannon (Rufus), Heather, Lauren, Julia and Bill. Great Grandchildren Derek and Jeremiah. He is preceded in death by his sisters Virginia and Margaret.

A funeral celebration will be held at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church on December 12 at 10:30 a.m. with Father Ed Shaner as Celebrant. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Community Hospice of Northeast Florida.

Joan Lee Roberts Brock

Joan Lee Roberts Brock, 78, and a long time resident of Ponte Vedra Beach, passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 3rd surrounded by family, friends and loved ones. Joan was a beloved wife, mother, daughter, sister, aunt, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend. Her love of life and desire for fun was contagious and she brightened the lives of those around her with her warm spirit and often-times her song. Joan was born in Dearborn, Michigan on December 20, 1936 to Florie and Leroy Wilcoxon and was the older sister to Patty Wilcoxon Dillane and Carol Wilcoxon Ritea. She attended Southfield High School and Wayne State University, where she met the love of her life, Norman A. Roberts. Norm and Joan wed in Dearborn in 1956 and subsequently had four children, Mark Roberts, Laura

Roberts Goodijohn, Kathy Roberts Van Buskirk, and Matthew Roberts. Joan, along with her husband and kids, loved to travel, to read, to cook and entertain, to visit the beach, play tennis and golf and enjoy time with family and friends. Due to Norm's busy career Joan became an expert at moving homes and settling her whole family comfortably in Michigan, Ohio, Texas, New Jersey, Florida, New York, and ultimately back to Florida again for retirement. Her humor and warm personality brought new friends in to her growing circle in each town she lived in.

After Norman passed in 1987, Joan was lucky enough to find another incredible love with Robert (Bob) Brock. Joan and Bob traveled the globe, shared a love of music and golf, and spent many wonderful years getting to enjoy time with their kids, grandkids, and friends before Bob passed on in 2014.

Whether getting a chance to hold one of her young grandbabies, laughing at a funny movie with her kids, joining in

song with friends, or beating her family with her mad scrabble skills, Joan truly lived life to the fullest. Her joy and spirit will be dearly missed by everyone.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the National Alzheimer's Association or to the Alzheimer's branch near you.

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Valerie Costello is a Nocatee resident who is getting ready to open an all-natural pet food and supply store, EarthWise Pet Supply, in January. The store will be located in the South Beach Regional Shopping Center in Jacksonville Beach. In addition to all natural pet food and treats, the store will also have a groomer on staff and a self-wash area for patrons to bathe their pets using the store's all-natural bathing products. Costello and her husband, Daniel, have three children – one boy and two girls ages seven, five and three. The family also has two cats: Sampson and Sheffield, but as Costello noted, with three children begging for a family dog, a canine companion is surely in their future.

— Carrie Resch / The Recorder

Tell me about your family.

My husband Daniel and I have three children: seven, five and three – one boy and two girls.

Where are you from originally?

I grew up in Oxford, Ohio, and then from there I went to Chicago after college, met my husband and then we lived in Pinehurst, North Carolina, for about three years. And then we moved to Jacksonville Beach from Pinehurst about eight and a half years ago.

Tell me about EarthWise.

EarthWise is actually a franchise that started in Portland, Oregon. Nationwide, there are a total of 34 stores. There are only four actually in Florida though, so we are going to be the fifth one to open in all of Florida.

Basically the mission is just to help our pets live the healthiest, longest lives that they can through nutrition. Just like with us, what we put in our bodies affects the way that we feel, the way that we look and the same goes for our pets. A lot of the problems that animals have can be related to the diets that they are on. So much of the food that's in the big box stores is kind of like just feeding your pet McDonald's every day. So if you ate McDonald's every day, you wouldn't feel so good.

So EarthWise all of our food is corn, soy, wheat and by-product free. It's high-quality food, but the goal is to anybody that walks in your store, we will be able to find an appropriate food based on your budget.

What other services do you offer?

In addition we also offer grooming services and a self-wash area where you can wash your pet using all of our all-natural products. We provide the towels — you can even get nail trims if you want.

Besides pet food, what other types of items will the store stock?

Just about anything – leashes, collars, toys, treats — and again, anything food based will still be within our goal of all natural. I can pretty much get my hands on anything that anybody wants. I'll be able to help customers with anything they are specifically looking for.

What made you decide to open this store?

I was a fourth grade teacher in North Carolina and prior to that I actually did litigation consulting in Chicago. With our oldest son starting school, we just started thinking about in five years, where do we want to be and what do we want to be doing, so we started looking at different franchise opportunities. We absolutely love animals, and we try to live very healthy ourselves — and we accidentally stumbled across this and we started researching it. It just seemed like a great way to combine both of our passions. It's kind of amazing. So we ventured down this road and the franchise vetted us and we vetted them and it seemed like a great fit — and so here we are. Like I said, it combines two of our passions so hopefully for other people, it will meet their needs as well.

When will the store be opening?

Jan. 9, 2016.

Do you have any pets?

We have two cats: Sampson and Sheffield.

SHORT TAKES

Second Saturday Family Seining Event

The GTM Research Reserve will host Family Seining on the second Saturday (Dec. 12) from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Join staff and/or volunteers for a guided family seining activity.

Visitors will get the chance to pull a seine net through Guana Lake, collecting species of fish, crabs and more, and then learn about the animals and their roles in the habitat.

All necessary gear, including waders and boots, will be provided.

There is a \$3 per vehicle parking fee. The event is free.

Please meet the guides at Guana Dam Recreational Area.

They will be located at either the north or south boat launch, depending on the tide.

For more information, call 904-823-4500 or go to <https://gtmresearchreserveexplorations.eventbrite.com> to reserve a spot online.

If spaces are full, a Family Seining event is also offered on the fourth Saturday of the month.



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– Evelyn, ER Nurse at Baptist Beaches

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Nocatee Happenings: The latest news from Nocatee



HIGH-FLYING FUN

at Nocatee Farmers Market

It was a clear and breezy day at last month's Pet Lover's Nocatee Farmers Market. The event, hosted at the Nocatee Town Center, featured two performances by the world-famous Disc-Connected K9s, as well as pet adoptions, face painting and more than 80 local vendors.



Photos provided by Nocatee



Landrum Middle School ... School House Rock Club presents \$1700 2015

Submitted by Christine Barned

From Pictured from left to right are: Principal Jewel Johnson, Jonathan Southerland, Harry O'Connor, Isabella DiStefano, Phoebe Collins, Kendall Welling, Max McBride, Volunteer for Patriot service Dogs Susan Bolton, Veteran Chris Smith, Service Dog Georgia, club presidents Brielle Kelley and Alyssa Bacchus, and sponsor Laurie Stanton.

Landrum club expands projects in community

In the spring of 2015, Landrum Middle School's "School House Rock Club" created, implemented and executed their first annual talent show in order to raise funds to help Patriot Service Dogs of Jacksonville train a service dog for a local veteran suffering from PTSD.

The club organized the show, provided con-

cession stand items and had opportunities for attendees to donate to the cause.

The team of students were the emcees, the stage crew, and even provided some entertainment between acts where they showcased some creative ways to learn tough academic concepts like heredity!

The club is now in its 5th year, and is in the process of choosing their new charity and adding a school dance to their fund raising repertoire.

Club sponsor and 7th grade teacher Laurie Stanton would like to recognize the students as great innovators and philanthropists.

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Lisa Kelly Voice Academy to open in PV

Singing academy will offer instruction for singers ages 6 and up

Kelly H. McDermott
The Recorder

The Lisa Kelly Voice Academy, a singing academy owned and operated by Irish singing sensation and former Celtic Woman, Lisa Kelly, will open its second location in Ponte Vedra on Feb. 1, 2016. The Academy, located at 880 AIA North, Suite 24, is now accepting students at thelisakellyvoiceacademy.com.

The Lisa Kelly Voice Academy opened in Peachtree City, Ga., in January 2013. According to Lisa, who co-owns the academy with her husband and former Celtic Woman CEO Scott Porter, Ponte Vedra Beach was a natural choice for their second location.

"We had spent a lot of time in Jacksonville and we knew there was a huge base there for Irish music and Irish culture,"

Kelly said. "It's always been a wonderful place for us, show-wise."

Kelly said that although she found students traveling from all over the U.S. to attend classes in Peachtree City, she was surprised by the amount of students from the First Coast.

"We started to get phone calls from Jacksonville. A few

VOICE continues on Page 11



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Free gift wrapping from MS Society

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p.m. at Betsy's Hallmark in Jacksonville Beach. Drop by Betsy's Hallmark at 3908 3rd St. S. with any gift.



Photos by Bruce Reid

Voice

Continued from 10

students were traveling every weekend, and I couldn't believe that," Kelly said. "It's a five-hour drive, and most students come in on a Saturday and go home the same day. Any time we did master classes or summer camps, there was a huge influx of students from the Jacksonville area."

Kelly said that after she and her husband visited the area several times, they felt that it would be a good fit for the next branch of the academy.

"It's clear that this region is extremely passionate about supporting the arts and fostering quality education programs," she said. "We look forward to joining the cultural community."

Kelly and Porter both spent years in the spotlight as touring members of Riverdance and the multi-platinum singing group Celtic Woman. Through their experiences, they learned to value technique, skill, hard work and discipline above raw talent; those principles guide the student experience at The Lisa Kelly Voice Academy.

"Lisa and I feel very strongly that a public performance should never be



the sole purpose of any artistic study," said Porter. "Our academy's purpose is to help each student find his or her voice, build confidence and develop skills that will last a lifetime both on and off stage."

Children as young as 6 years old and adults of all ages are welcomed. Semesters will be offered each spring and fall, with students required to attend one class per week. Tuition costs \$30 or \$40 per student, per class, based

on class size. During the summer, one-week camps and weekend-long master classes will also be available.

While students will learn the art of vocal expression, Lisa Kelly is careful to note that her academy is not structured like a typical choral training program; instead, it is based on the training and techniques that bolstered her exceptional career.

"Our stage-based performance technique is based on what has worked for

me, and what has worked for our students," said Kelly. "Students of all skill levels have seen tremendous growth in their confidence and technique as a result of our methods of teaching performance art in a non-competitive environment."

Kelly emphasizes that for classes of any age and experience level, she strives to keep the environment from feeling intimidating.

"I don't expect people to sight read music or be superstars or have loads of prior experience singing," Kelly said. "It really is about building on what you have in the moment and making it better."

For experienced singers, it's about finding new input on their craft.

"Music and singing is so subjective, so the more they can expose themselves to other vocal coaches the better singers they will be."

For newcomers, Kelly said the focus is first on gaining confidence.

"If you can stand up and sing in front of people, you can really do anything," Kelly said. "It's probably the most nerve-racking thing anyone can do."

To learn more, visit theliskelly-voiceacademy.com.

Red Rose Ball to celebrate 100 years of compassionate care

Preparations for the 35th Annual Red Rose Ball are underway. The event, hosted by the St. Vincent's HealthCare Foundation, will be held at the Jacksonville Marriott at Southpoint on February 12th, 2016, as St. Vincent's celebrates its 100th anniversary. Chair-

ing the 2016 Red Rose Ball are Rhonda and Mark Mostovych, MD; Rosalind and Mark Travis and Jan and Lou Walsh along with the Honorary Chair, Sister DeSales Wisniewski, D.C.

Each year, the Red Rose Ball raises money for various projects at St. Vin-

cent's HealthCare, a member of Ascension, the nation's largest Catholic and non-profit healthcare system. Last year, the event raised almost \$400,000.

"The Red Rose Ball is a wonderful event which helps us fulfill our Mission to provide compassionate care to all

people in our community, no matter where they are in life," said St. Vincent's HealthCare Foundation President, Jane R. Lanier, CFRE. "Each year, our sponsors and patrons help us raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for programs that help make our community healthier for all."

This year, all proceeds will benefit the St. Vincent's Mobile Health Outreach Ministry, which provides free medical care to those who are struggling the most, including uninsured or underinsured men, women and children throughout the area.

This year's theme will focus on the 100th anniversary of St. Vincent's, founded by the Daughters of Charity in 1916 to provide health services to the communities in North Florida. The event will feature a cocktail hour, dinner and dancing, as well as live and silent auctions. Cocktails begin at 7 p.m., followed by dinner at 8 p.m.

For more information about the Red Rose Ball, including how to make reservations or to become an event sponsor, contact Jessica Waugaman at St. Vincent's Foundation at 904-308-7306 or Jessica.Waugaman@JaxHealth.com.

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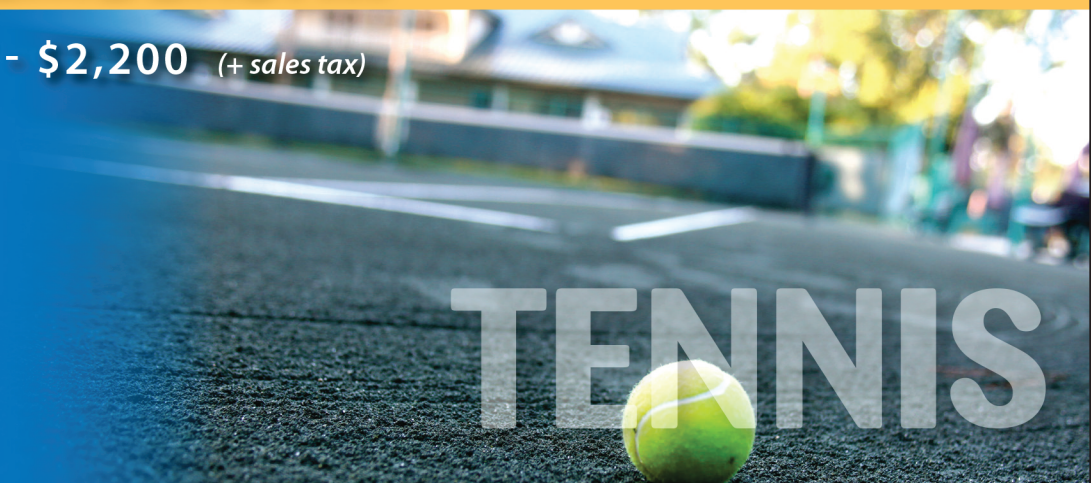
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The company of Godspell at Players by the Sea Theatre.

Exploring the teachings of Jesus Christ:

Players by the Sea presents 'Godspell'

Carrie Resch
The Recorder

At a time of year when many theatres focus on holiday productions, Players by the Sea chose to set their sights on a non-holiday production this month, but a production nonetheless that fosters the underlying meaning of the holiday season – one of community, hope and acceptance.

At the core, the show is about the man Jesus Christ, teaching lessons on how to be a good person, be kind to one another and the importance of acceptance, according Bradley Akers, director of the Players by the Sea production.

The play was written in by John-Michael Tebelak in the early 70s and composed by Stephen Schwartz, the seasoned composer whose body of work includes productions such as "Pippin (1972)" and "Wicked (2003)" to movies such as "The Prince of Egypt (1998)" and "Enchanted (2007)". Initially an off Broadway production, the musical experienced a revival in 2011 on Broadway. "Godspell" is mostly based on the Gospel of Matthew. The production includes popular hymnals such as "Day by Day" and "Prepare Ye (The Way of the Lord)".

But it's the theme of the production that keeps "Godspell" relevant today.

"... ["Godspell"] was written indirectly in response to the Vietnam War and miscommunications, but it's so relevant to today because we still, maybe even more, live in a world where we still don't know how to communicate with each other," Akers said. "And I think it's communication and how we're told how to communicate with people that ultimately leads to those really bad things that are happening in our world. So 'Godspell' is still timely because it's teaching love for your neighbor no matter what."

The show has a religious feel to it, but whether you are a believer or not, the play explores the life and teachings of a historical figure who promoted love and kindness, Akers said.

The production consists of 10 performers, of which only two are named characters: Jesus, played



The company of Godspell sings "Day by Day."

Photos provided by Players by the Sea



Sadie La Manna, Nikki Ignacio and Jemel Washington retell a parable in Godspell.

by Keaton Matthews, and a dual role of John the Baptist/ Judas Iscariot played by Mitchell Wohl. The other eight members of the "tribe" as Akers refers to them, are portraying characters known by the actors' names.

Akers chose to set the play in an abandoned vaudeville theatre, exploring the contrast between an abandoned, decrepit theatre against the theme of brightness and love. Even though the play has sad

elements as it touches on the Passion of the Christ in the second act, Akers said he's hoping that the audience will take away with them the feeling of hope and feel uplifted and inspired at the end of the show.

"Godspell" opened at the theatre last Friday and will be performed on the Mainstage Thursdays-Sundays through Dec. 20. The two-act musical includes around 15 musical numbers has a running time of 1 hour and 30 minutes. The show is family-friendly and involves audience participation for volunteers wishing to be a part of the production.

The audience will also have the opportunity to participate in a fundraising effort promoted on social media as #giveatgodspell.

Players by the Sea, a 501(c)3 not for profit organization, is celebrating their 50th season this year. The building in which the theatre has been housed since 1999, is in need of some improvements which include expanding the ladies room and improving the education classroom. The goal is to raise \$50,000. If you donate \$5, donors can sign a converse sneaker that will be displayed on the wall. Converse sneakers are symbolic in the play as Jesus gives each of the tribe members a pair as a way to unite the group.

General admission tickets for "Godspell" are \$28. The Thursday-Saturday curtain is at 8 p.m.; the Sunday curtain is at 2 p.m. Players by the Sea theatre is located at 106 Sixth St. N., Jacksonville Beach. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (904) 249-0289 or visit www.playersbythesea.org.

Award

Continued from 4

The second scholarship is a tuition reimbursement scholarship awarded to hospitality employees who are seeking to continue their education in their respective field

NFHLA's Mission is to "Serve its membership with a lobbying voice at local and state levels on all issues affecting the Northeast Florida hotel industry — as well as serving its membership and the community with pertinent resources, education, scholarships and networking opportunities".

For more information on the ROSE Awards visit www.nfhlaroseawards.com or contact Caitlin Mauney at (904) 421-9176 or nfhla@northfloridalodging.com.

2016 ROSE Award Categories

Administrative Assistant

Bartender

Behind the Scenes (Includes accounting, human resources, IT, etc.)

NEW! Customer Service: Airport (Includes Airline and Airport Employees)

NEW! Customer Service: Event Services (Includes tour guide, retail, event companies, ticket takers, ushers, etc.)

Customer Service: Spa and Recreation

Customer Service: Tourism Ambassador

Food Service: Kitchen Staff

Ground & Water Transportation

NEW! Guest Service: Bed & Breakfast

Guest Service: Concierge

Guest Service: Front Desk- Full Service Hotel

Guest Service: Front Desk- Select Service Hotel

Guest Service: Housekeeping- Full Service Hotel

Guest Service: Housekeeping- Select Service Hotel

Guest Service: Laundry- Full Service Hotel

Guest Service: Laundry- Select Service Hotel

Guest Service: Maintenance/Engineer- Full Service Hotel

Guest Service: Maintenance/Engineer- Select Service Hotel

Guest Service: Security

NEW! Guest Service: Valet/Bell Attendant

Server: Banquets, Catering

Server: Restaurant- Full Service Hotel (includes Upscale, Fine Dining Restaurant)

Server: Restaurant- Select Service Hotel

\$40 member ticket, \$50 non-member ticket

\$400 member table of 10, \$500 non-member table of 10

\$25 previous ROSE Award winner ticket



Center Luz Crowley - The Inn at Mayo Clinic

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Live Walk Through Nativity

Friday, December 11th
6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Saturday, December 12th
5:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Stroll through the 8,000 sq. foot city while a cast of 200+ recreate Bethlehem as it might have been on the night of Jesus' birth.

Bring Christmas to life for your family!

This event is free of charge, however there is a \$5 per car parking fee with free shuttles from the TPC parking lot, located just west of Florida A1A on Palm Valley Road. Wheelchairs are available for visitors with special needs. Handicapped parking only at the church.

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Photos provided by Stephanie Augusta

Kids bring cheer with Christmas trees

Kelly H. McDermott
The Recorder

Many Ponte Vedra kids have been hard at work this season, decorating and delivering miniature Christmas trees to bring some cheer to youngsters at Wolfson's Children's Hospital in Jacksonville.

Girl Scout Troop 843 led the effort, decorating and donating a dozen Christmas Trees on Dec. 3.

"The girls put a lot of thought into how their tree was decorated, and spent one afternoon making them beautiful," said Girl Scout volunteer Stephanie Augusta. They then drove to the Wolfson's Children's Hospital on Thursday Dec. 3 after school and were able to deliver the trees to the staff to brighten the children's rooms.

Another group, Kids Volunteer Network (KVN), also

gathered this month to create and donate trees. Close to 30 children, all members of KVN, met one Saturday afternoon at the Ponte Vedra Beach library, where they decorated 30 trees. The trees were then delivered at the same time, on Dec. 3.

"We're hoping the trees bring much joy to the rooms of the patients at the hospital during this time of year," said Augusta.

KVN is an organization which provides kids (usually ages 4 through 12) the opportunity to give back to those who need it most. The group encourages philanthropy through various monthly activities, all for the benefit of those in need in our community.

To join the Kids Volunteer Network, visit <http://www.kidsvn.org/join-kvn---ponte-vedra-beach.html>





Photos provided by YMCA

St. Augustine YMCA Junior Youth in Government program begins

Community submission

Middle school students, grades six through eight, motivated to learn more about how our state government works will want to sign up for the St. Augustine YMCA's Junior Youth in Government (JYIG) program. Through this program, students have the chance to build leadership skills, gain self-confidence and discover how our government operates. Students learn debate techniques and an experience to remember while working with high school mentors.

St. Augustine middle school students will begin meetings Thursdays, 6:30-7:30pm, at the St. Augustine YMCA starting January 7th. Junior Youth in Government also meets at the Ponte Vedra YMCA on Thursdays from 4:30 – 5:30pm.

This student driven program allows students to learn legislative protocol, formulate arguments and practice debate techniques by learning to “debate ideas not people”. They will learn to draft, research and present a bill in order for it to become state law, all while having a good time learning protocol and Robert’s Rules of Order.

Involved senior high school students are routinely rewarded with scholarships, college credit with two years of involvement, community recognition and most importantly the self-awareness and confidence to be lead-



ers. Junior Youth in Government for Middle School students also attend an assembly each year.

The cost of the program is \$75 (which includes all materials, tee shirt and an assembly experience at the County Auditorium).

For more information email Tia Loftin, TCraig@firstcoastymca.org or St Augustine YMCA 904-471-9622 ext 8 The state website is www.floridayig.net. YMCA Youth in Government of Florida's First Coast Facebook page has registration forms available as well as the St. Augustine YMCA.





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SHORT TAKES

Leon Russell to perform at the PV Concert Hall

The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall proudly announces that legendary rock 'n' roll session man and Hall of Fame Inductee Leon Russell will return to Ponte Vedra on Thursday, Dec. 17. Russell previously performed to a sold-out house in January of 2015.

Tickets for the seated show are on sale now. Tickets for the first eight rows are \$49; all remaining rows are \$39. Doors open at 7 p.m.; show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are available for purchase at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre and Ponte Vedra Concert Hall box office, as well as online at www.ticketmaster.com, at all Ticketmaster outlets or by phone at (800) 745-3000.

For more information, visit www.pvconcerthall.com.

Wine tasting to benefit Cultural Center at Table One

Join the community for a wine tasting at Table One to benefit the Music Therapy program at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. The tasting will be hosted on Thursday, Dec. 10 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Attendees will be offered the opportunity to bid on a beautiful hand-painted scarf by artist Jennifer Steinman.

Tickets are \$25 per person and can be purchased by calling (904) 280-0614 ext. 205.

Christmas Bake Sale

Eliminate the stress of Christmas baking - come to the Ponte Vedra United Methodist Women's Christmas Bake Sale on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the church located at 76 S. Roscoe Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach. There will be a wide variety of cookies and baked goods made by church members. All proceeds go to support local charities such as Dial-A-Ride, Mission House and Sulzbacher Center.

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All About Pets Holiday Guide



SPECIAL SECTION
DECEMBER 10, 2015

Ponte Vedra 

Recorder

Not your average newspaper, and your average reader.

Jacksonville Beach gains a 24-hour veterinary clinic

Community submission

Emergency and Critical Care Pet Hospital (ECCPH) has been known as the go-to place for pet emergencies and after-hour care at the beach for 25 years. During any normal week, ECCPH opened its doors in the evening as other veterinary clinics were closing, and remained open, treating animals throughout the night. Any pet that came in for care would need to be transferred by 8 a.m. — either back home or to their regular veterinarian — without exception.

In May of this year, owner and medical director, Cameron Jones, DVM, decided it was time to make some big changes in order to better serve patients, while trying to alleviate some of the inconvenience of having an emergency for pet parents. “We found that it was often difficult for clients to pick up their pets before work or school and then transport them to another facility, and that pets would be better off with consistent care. We wanted to do more to help.”

Jones added an integrative day practice and boarding facilities to the emergency hospital, and changed the name to BlueSky Veterinary Center. “We now have a veterinarian on staff 24/7. BlueSky is the only veterinary center at the beach that never closes. Sick or injured pets no longer need to be moved if it is inconvenient for the owner or dangerous for the pet.”

Having staff around the clock also allows BlueSky the ability to offer medical and stress-free boarding, which is great for older dogs and cats, those who stress easily, and those pets who need insulin or medical attention, but not necessarily hospitalization. “The client response has been very enthusiastic, as pet parents gain peace of mind knowing there is someone with their pet at all times,” says Jones.

The BlueSky wellness clinic has unique offerings as well, with an integrated Eastern and Western medical approach. Acupuncture, laser therapy, food therapy, traditional Chinese medicine, titration and aromatherapy are available in conjunction with conventional wellness programs, such as vaccinations, dentals, spay/neuter and heartworm prevention.

BlueSky is accepting wellness clients by appointment Monday through Saturday, and emergency walk-ins around the clock, including holidays. Drop-off conventional wellness appointments can also be made 24/7.

BlueSky is located at 14185 Beach Boulevard between San Pablo and Hodges. Appointments and boarding reservations can be made by calling 904.223.8000.

For more information please contact: Amy Olivieri Marketing Coordinator aolivieri@bluesky.vet 904/223/0881



Fresh Air & Fun

Put the fun back into walking your dog this season

Kate Godfrey

Special to The Recorder

Fresh air, innumerable scents, encounters with new things, and the chance for adventure! For a dog, the walk is extremely special and important – it does not matter if it is the first walk of the day or the fifth – it is the highlight of their day and a cause for celebration. We humans need to have a better understanding and appreciation of this special time. It is a chance to get away from it all and bond with our canine counterparts. Yet, so many people find walking their dog cumbersome and unenjoyable.

The walk should be an enjoyable and happy experience for all involved. The sight of the leash elicits wagging tails, happy dog smiles, and excitement. Perhaps we should take a cue from our dogs and take this sort of approach to the walk as well. After all, we are lucky to have such a willing accomplice on our little escape.

Personally, I love walking my dogs – there is nothing better in the world than walking with Beast and Saxon. It is a chance to take a break and simply enjoy being with them while getting exercise and fresh air. It brings a smile to my face watching them explore and simply have a good time. Dogs are like children in the sense that if they do not get to expel energy, they are often a bit wild. A dog is not born knowing how to walk on a

leash, it must be taught.

Many people get frustrated on walks and actually dread them. I see people yanking, yelling, and doing other inappropriate things that make the walk a sad and stressful time for their furry friend. The walk is not about you, it is about your dog getting the exercise it needs and exposure to the world to help him or her be a well-adjusted, healthy and happy dog.

It is not their fault if they have not been properly exercised or taught how to walk on a leash properly. They have basic needs and exercise is at the top of the list. So many people simply do not exercise their dogs enough yet wonder why they are out of control. A dog that is healthy and not properly exercised can be like a bottle of soda that's been shook up - the energy keeps building and building but either never gets released or is absolute chaos when it finally does.

Sure, we all have days where we are in a rush and patience is low, but instead of berating your dog to hurry up and pulling them around, why not take a kinder approach and talk to them in a voice that makes them want to hurry up while using appropriate body language and technique. It's amazing what a difference our tone of voice, body stance, and frame of mind can

Why You Should Adopt a Dog

Dogs make a house a home; there is no doubt about it. If you have ever thought about including a dog in your family, here are several reasons to consider moving ahead on a furry adoption.

Health Benefits

Between walks in the morning, walks in the evening and daily play time, dogs get everyone in the family active and moving each day -- an important part of a healthy lifestyle.

Dogs may have pervasive positive effects on human health, according to the National Institutes of Health, which reports that groups of new pet owners showed a significant reduction in minor health problems compared to those without pets.

Other studies have shown that spending time with ani-



mals can reduce blood pressure and cholesterol levels.

Why Adopt?

Between six and eight million homeless pets enter shelters every year. Because shelters cannot handle all the dogs that need a place to live, many that don't get adopted

are euthanized. Adopting a dog is a conscientious decision to make because it means you are saving a life.

Furthermore, animals in shelters receive medical care during their stay. As an adopter, you can be better informed about the state of your new pet's health, as shelters keep great records on vaccinations

and other treatments.

Lastly, adopting a pet is a much more affordable route to dog ownership than buying a dog from a breeder or store.

Where to Adopt

Dog adoption events are an excellent way to meet lots of potential pets at once, helping you find a dog whose temperament would be a good fit for your home and family.

Thankfully, many groups are helping to make such events happen. For example, Coldwell Banker Real Estate recently teamed up with Adopt-a-Pet.com to organize the Homes for Dogs National Pet Adoption Weekend. This nationwide event built on the success of the "Homes for Dogs Project," a national campaign hosted by Coldwell Banker and Adopt-a-Pet.com, which aims to find homes for

20,000 adoptable dogs in 2015.

"It's shocking to think of how many homeless dogs enter shelters each year," says Sean Blankenship, chief marketing officer for Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. "That's why we launched this program; between our 86,000 sales associates and the 15,000 Adopt-a-Pet.com shelters, we're hoping that we can truly make a difference."

Coldwell Banker offices in communities across the United States, along with shelters and rescue groups in the Adopt-a-Pet.com network, joined forces for one of the largest adoption events of the year. And they are planning future adoption weekends. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/Homes-ForDogs>.

To add laughter and love to your life, consider sharing it with a dog in need.

— StatePoint

Tips for grooming your furry friends

Veterinarians get asked a lot of questions by pet parents, including whether they should groom their pooch or kitty. Dr. Laura Wiles with the Bramton Vet Council encourages people to groom their pets themselves - starting when they're puppies or kittens if possible - so they get used to not only being groomed but also touched all over their body.

It also gives pet parents an opportunity to check for injuries and early signs of disease, such as growths or painful joints.

Grooming can also strengthen the

bond between people and their furry friends, according to Dr. Wiles, and it's extra fun if the whole family gets involved.

Dr. Wiles shares the top questions she gets asked about grooming, and her responses:

How often should I bathe my dog?

That depends on your dog's hair type and how dirty he gets, but no more than once a week or they'll get dry skin.

Avoid getting water in your dog's ears - squeeze them shut - as this could cause an infection.

What should I bathe my dog with?

Don't use a shampoo for humans because animal skin has a different pH to human skin. Instead, you want a shampoo that's quick and easy to apply all over your pet. Try a shampoo such as OUT! Easy Spray Shampoo which has an easy-grip bottle and 360-degree spray so you can spray, lather, and

rinse your pooch in as little as three minutes. Hold your dog with one hand while using the other to apply a gentle, continuous spray all over your pooch's body - even the hard-to-reach underbelly. Visit www.outpetcare.com for more information.

Do I bathe my cat?

No, cats hate water. If your cat gets terrible mats, have her groomed at the vet under sedation (do not try trim-

GROOMING continues on Page 23



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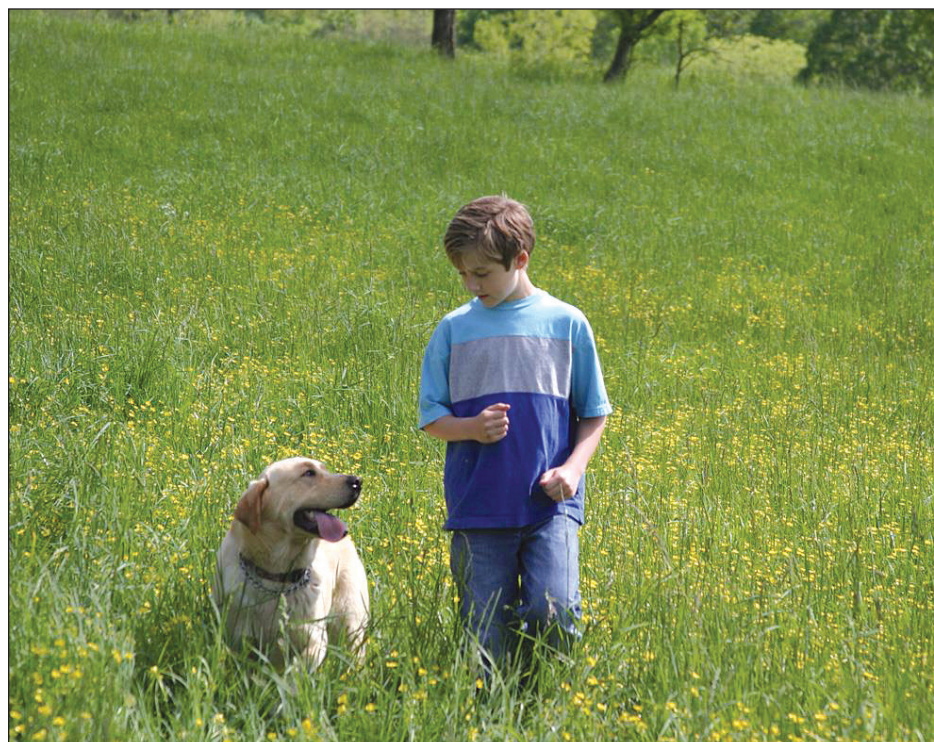
Tips for indoor pets that venture outside

Different types of animals and breeds have different needs, but one thing is certain: when the conditions are right, most dogs and cats love the outdoors. Like their wild cousins, our fur-covered friends typically welcome the chance to spend more time with Mother Nature.

Of course, just like people, dogs and cats also get cold or overheated. They're susceptible to bug bites, predators and poisonous plants. And depending on your community, dangers can be found in the street or a neighbor's yard.

Still, when done responsibly, letting your pets live both indoors and outside has many advantages, including exercise, stress relief and healthier coats, according to Bethany Segrest, a pet expert with the rural lifestyle retailer, Tractor Supply Company.

"There are more than 130 million domestic dogs and cats in the United States and for many of these rural and suburban pets, spending time outside is a natural and healthy part of life; however, it does mean extra care is needed to ensure their safety and well-being," Segrest said. "Pets are family, and because of that we want to ensure they are protected and happy during



their outdoor adventures, just as we would our kids."

Your dogs and cats deserve to experience the best of both environments, which is why we've compiled a list of five tips to help all of your furry family members live a long and healthy life.

Safe play environment

Providing proper shelter and containment is extremely important for outdoor pets, even on mild days. PetSafe wireless containment solutions offer pet owners a great alternative to the costly installation of a permanent

fence.

And remember, playing outside is exhausting, so in addition to an escape-proof play area, make sure your dog has a spot with plenty of shade and lots of fresh water.

Does your pet have ID?

The great outdoors is an exciting place and with a little determination, your pet might succeed in exploring an area beyond your land. Help ensure their safe return by investing in a pet ID or microchip.

Also consider purchasing a collar that allows your information to be directly inscribed - this will eliminate the possibility of an ID tag falling off.

Keep up with grooming

Grooming your pets frequently prevents infections, hairballs and severe hair matting.

For cats and dogs who go outdoors regularly, grooming is even more crucial, as pets can get cockaburs, dirt, insects, and other outdoor elements stuck in their fur.

OUTSIDE continues on Page 25



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Grooming

Continued from 21

ming them yourself with scissors). If kitty is just dirty, wipe her with a dry washcloth or towel, or use a waterless shampoo for cats. Try something like Vet's Best Waterless Cat Bath, www.vetsbest.com, which acts as a soothing natural cleanser and moisturizes the skin and fur without affecting topical flea control products.

Should I clean my pet's ears?

Yes, but check first with your vet for advice on which cleaner to use. Soak a cotton ball with a cleaner that has a drying agent so they don't get an infection caused by water in the ears. Only clean the ear on the outside and

around the inside.

What else do I need to do?

You'll need to brush your pet to keep its coat clean and healthy. There are several types of combs, brushes and slickers available for cats and dogs. Select the right one for the length and thickness of your pet's coat. If your pet has long hair, it will need daily brushing; for shorter-haired pets, groom them at least once a week. If you decide to clip your dog's coat, invest in a good pair of dog grooming clippers and follow the instructions that come with it.

Dr. Wiles says you'll also need to regularly clean your pet's teeth, trim their nails (ask your vet to show you how to do this) and wipe their eyes if they're dirty or tear-stained.

— BPT



Fun

Continued from 20

do when working with a dog.

There will be days when there is little time or we are not in the best of moods, but our dogs simply don't understand that. How would you like it if you were reading the paper or a book and someone kept yanking on you? That is how it is for a dog – they are gathering information with their noses to the ground while listening and looking around.

If you take the time and put in the effort to teach them how to walk with clear communication, it is a delightful experience. For instance, there is a difference between what I call a "leisure walk" and an "exercise walk" – one is for letting the dog sniff around at its own pace, the latter is focused and fast

paced – but a dog cannot know the difference without proper communication.

A change in attitude is essential for making the walk a positive experience to look forward to. Look at it from a dog's perspective: they are (often) cooped up indoors or only have their yard to experience until we take them out for a walk, doesn't it seem natural that they are thrilled by the chance to smell and experience new things? Now, go for a walk enjoy the gorgeous December weather with your dog!

Kate Godfrey is the face behind Wagging Tails & Pattering Paws: Dog Walking, Humane Dog Training and Pet Sitting L.L.C. Godfrey a local holistic and humane dog trainer offering dog walking, exercising and pet sitting. Godfrey offers discounts for adopters/rescuers and is licensed, bonded and insured. Godfrey is available by phone at (904) 236-3780 or online at jaxdogwalk@gmail.com and www.jaxdogwalk.com.



How picking up after your dog can protect the environment

Dog waste doesn't vanish when it rains. Classified as an environmental pollutant by the Environmental Protection Agency, it gets washed into nearby waterways and can make people, wildlife and other dogs sick.

Indeed, one gram of dog waste can contain over 23 million bacteria, and no matter where you live, the ecosystem isn't built to handle the extra waste.

Being a responsible dog owner includes picking up after your pet using thick, leak-proof bags to prevent contamination of local water. Don't flush it either; many towns can't handle dog waste bacteria when treating wastewater, and even flushable poop bags can clog plumbing.

Under today's FTC regulations defining requirements for product

labeling, there are currently no dog waste bag manufacturers that can claim biodegradability, since the bags cannot be proven to break down completely in a landfill within a specified timeline. Some companies however, continue to label their bags as "biodegradable," which doesn't guarantee they're different from unlabeled counterparts.

Look for responsible companies doing their part to reduce their footprint and give back to the community. For example, Earth Rated, an affordable option, uses recycled materials in packaging and in the core of their rolls of dog waste bags.

More dog waste pick-up tips are available at www.earthrated.com

Don't forget: After you bag it, properly dispose of it.

— StatePoint

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Not all birds migrate

Attract resident birds to your backyard during cold weather

While beach-goers, sunbathers and other nature lovers may need to put their hobbies on hold when fall and winter arrive, bird watchers can continue to observe their feathered favorites from the comfort of their own homes. Bird watching through fall and winter simply requires you to know which birds are likely to visit your backyard and to ensure your outdoor spaces are as inviting to them as possible, with the right food and feeders for every avian taste.

Not all birds fly south for the winter. Those who do are likely looking for their favorite foods - like nectar, insects or fruit - that aren't usually available when the weather turns cold. Birds that eat seed are more likely to stay put and that means you can entice them to your backyard by serving their preferred varieties. Quality seed mixes and suet options are wholesome, nourishing fare for many kinds of birds that don't migrate.

Here are some songbirds that you might see in your area this winter, as well as some suggestions for what to serve in order to tempt them to visit your yard:

Goldfinches - Common throughout the United States, most goldfinches migrate, but in some areas, they will stay for the winter. During colder months their feathers fade to a yellowish green. These bright beauties primarily eat seed, so they'll appreciate a premium blend of sunflower meats and niger seed, like Finch Friends by Cole's. The finch mix is designed to work well in all kinds of tubular feeders, and is also appealing to purple finches and pine siskins.

Blue Jays - Big, beautiful and blue, these jays range from Midwestern states to the East Coast and can be found year-round. Entice them to your backyard this winter by serving

BIRDS continues on Page 26

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Outside

Continued from 22

You can even take on the task yourself with an at-home grooming kit, a purchase that will save you time and money.

Stay protected with vaccinations

Like any member of the family, it's important to monitor the health and well-being of your animal companion. Scheduling regular visits to your veterinarian is a pivotal part of pet parenthood and can help accurately diagnose and safely treat certain health problems. Spending time outdoors means exposure to things like ticks, fleas and mosquitos.

These pesky critters are known to transmit diseases like Lyme disease, tapeworm and heartworm - all fairly common and serious if left untreated. More than 800 Tractor Supply stores offer low-cost Pet Vet Clinics, which provide vaccine packages, de-worming, and other preventative treatment options that can save pet owners up to 70 percent on yearly vet bills.

Adjust food, water with season

Adjusting your pet's feeding habits can help regulate their body temperature throughout the year. Animals

exposed to low temperatures should consume two to three times the amount of calories they eat at a moderate temperature.

For outdoor cats and dogs, this may mean changing their present diets to include food higher in fat during winter months.

It's vital to note that water is the single most important resource to provide your animal, especially during warmer months.

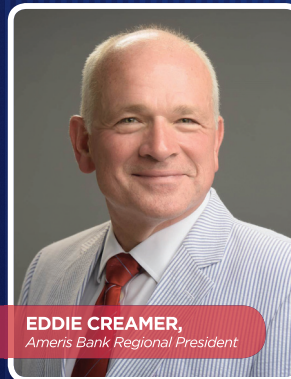
Make sure your pet has access to cool, clean drinking water at all times, and remember, water can evaporate quickly in high temperatures, so it's best to check on the amount of available water several times throughout the day.

If you're not at home, think about putting an attachment on an outdoor faucet so that your animal can get as much water as needed. Cold weather can also hinder your pet's ability to properly hydrate.

To ensure their water supply doesn't freeze over, consider placing a heated bowl outside. A good rule to remember is that pets should consume one ounce of water per pound of body weight.

With the proper care and precautions, your pets can thrive in both outdoor and indoor environments. Visit TractorSupply.com to find more great tips, products and articles on pet care.

— BPT



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Cats are pet of choice for many millennials, survey says

Move over, Rover. While dogs have long been considered the most popular pet in the United States, cats are a pet of choice for many in the millennial generation, according to research conducted earlier this year by Purina.

Close to half of 1,000 survey respondents in the millennial age range (18 to 34) say they own cats, and many believe their cat is similar to themselves. Many millennials consider themselves independent, yet social. Fifty-seven percent of millennial cat owners say their cat is as important in their lives as their friends, two in five consider their cat to be their new “best friend” and nearly 50 percent say they tell their cat secrets no one else knows.

According to the Pet Food Institute the U.S. pet cat population is more than 73 million - or two million more than the U.S. pet dog population.

Perhaps it's true what Sigmund Freud once said, “Time spent with cats is never wasted.”

More than 80 percent of millennial cat owners agree one of the main reasons they own a cat is their cat fits in well with their current lifestyle, perhaps because two-thirds of their cats stay entirely indoors.

“People like cats because they are great pets - they provide comfort to their owners and with appropriate socialization they can be warm and friendly,” said Purina behaviorist Sandra Lyn. “In addition, they don't need to be taken on walks or for bathroom breaks and they're generally happy doing their own thing, though they do like attention and cuddling.”

Pet ownership may also fill a companionship gap left as millennials get married and have children later than baby boomers did, according to a Wakefield Research study.

“The relationship between pets and people is continuing to evolve,” noted Lyn. “Through research and personal experience, the bond between pets and people can be viewed as an important part of improving quality of life.”

It's unclear whether the preponderance of cat videos (and the popularity of “celebrity cats” such as Grumpy Cat) in digital media has affected the political correctness of being attached to one's cat, but nearly three in five millennial cat owners surveyed by Purina consider themselves as “cat ladies” or “cat men.”

Many also see their pets as a form of social cur-

rency through which they can share photos and stories on digital media, according to the Wakefield Research study.

In fact, two in five millennial cat owners talk about their pets on social media, three in five have watched cat videos and half have shared cat memes.

In general, those identifying as cat people are 11 percent more apt to have an “open” personality than dog people, meaning they tend to be curious, creative, artistic and more apt to be non-traditional thinkers, says research by WebMD. Further, Purina found 88 percent of millennial cat owners consider themselves similar to their cats. Forty percent describe their lifestyle as independent, and 72 percent see themselves as friendly - with 46 percent motivated to own cats because they're also friendly.

For more information about the bond between pets and people, visit www.betterwithpets.com.

Editor's note: Purina's online study about millennials was conducted among 1,000 subjects ages 18 to 34 in the United States between Oct. 16 and 22, 2015. The research firm was Penn Schoen Berland of Washington, D.C.

— BPT



Birds

Continued from 24

suet and sunflower seeds or a blend that features sunflower meats. They also love peanuts, so try incorporating this high-protein, high-fat offering into the fare you serve through a product like Natural Peanut Suet.

Cardinals - Although the splash of a cardinal's bright red plumage against the snow is iconic winter imagery, these birds actually stay year-round

in their habitat of Midwestern to Eastern states. Cardinals are fans of virtually any kind of seed (except niger) and suet, so stock your feeders with a variety of seed mixes. Supply their favorite Safflower seed and you might see a cardinal at every feeder this winter!

Chickadees - The black-capped chickadee is probably the most recognizable member of the chickadee family, and you'll almost certainly see them in your backyard this winter if you live in the northern half of the country. Seeds

make up about half their diet in winter, so they will spend a lot of time dining in your backyard if you serve a variety of seeds. They also need fat to weather winter cold, so stock up on suet, too.

Eastern towhee - With plumage that resembles a robin, towhees occupy middle states and range east. Those that live in mid-Atlantic and southern states often forego migrating in winter. Towhees like seeds, berries, suet and small fruits, so look for options that incorporate more than

one of their favorites, such as Suet Pearls from Cole's. Serve this combination of nourishing sunflower meats and suet in a Mighty Mesh feeder or a Bountiful Bowl seed dish.

Dark-eyed Junco - These small gray birds are found year-round in the northeast and north/central western states, but appear only in winter in the rest of the country.



While they primarily eat seeds and insects, they do appreciate some berries and suet when winter arrives, so entice them to your yard with Nutber-

ry Suet Blend, which combines premium fruits, preferred nuts, whole kernels of sunflower meat, and insect suet kibbles. The blend also appeals to bluebirds and warblers.

Regardless of where you live and what birds you're trying to attract, remember they need fresh water and roosting spots throughout the year. Be sure to serve a variety of food options in a range of feeders - from tubular to dishes - and you'll be able to enjoy bird-watching throughout the winter.

— BPT

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Make your home holiday-ready for guests with asthma, allergies

More than 60 million Americans have asthma and allergies ... and it's likely some of them will visit your home this holiday season. When triggers can lurk anywhere and everywhere, it's important to take steps to ensure your home will be as comfortable as possible when your loved ones arrive.

The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America's Certification Program offers some tips for getting your home holiday-ready and asthma and allergy-friendly:

Cleaning to reduce triggers

Cleaning is the source and solution for two very common triggers: dust and chemicals.

Dust contains dust mite waste which causes many asthma and allergy sufferers to experience symptoms, such as itchy or watery eyes, violent sneezing, coughing or wheezing, severe nasal or sinus congestion, and in severe cases, difficulty breathing. So reducing its presence will make your home more comfortable for your guests with asthma or allergies. Take these steps to reduce the presence of dust in your home:

- * Before the holidays arrive, remove clutter where dust can collect.

- * Vacuum carpets regularly with a vacuum that has a HEPA filter.

- * Wash blankets, bed linens, towels, bath mats and throw rugs in hot water (131 degree F).

Harsh chemicals that are present in many common cleaning products can also cause reactions, so look for allergy-friendly alternatives. AAFA's asthma & allergy friendly Certification Program tests and identifies products that are more suitable for people with asthma and allergies. Some Certified cleaning products include hand dusters like Swiffer's dry and unscented dusters, hard-surface cleaners like Endust Free and hardwood floor cleaners like Bona's free & simple. Visit www.aafa.org/certified for a full list of products and appliances that are Certified asthma & allergy friendly.

Improving air quality

Research by the EPA has shown indoor air can actually be more polluted and full of allergens than the air outside your home. Improving the quality of indoor air can help ensure your guests with asthma and allergies are more comfortable when they visit.

In addition to cleaning products, a range of household products can help reduce the presence of allergens in the air. Consider placing an air-cleaning device in guest bedrooms. Prod-



ucts like the AeraMax DB5 Baby Air Purifier can remove impurities from the air in rooms up to 200 square feet. For asthma sufferers, a humidifier such as the Dyson Humidifier, can help to control humidity levels. The Dyson Humidifier is the first humidifier to be Certified by AAFA..

Decorating, redecorating with allergies in mind

Whether you're redecorating a guest room in anticipation of holiday guests or decking the halls throughout your house with holiday decor, be cognizant of how decor can affect allergies.

If you'll be repainting, opt for a zero VOC, zero emissions paint like the recently Certified Benjamin Moore Natura Paint. Flooring can also be a source of air pollution, so if you'll be recarpeting or changing flooring material, look for allergy-friendly products.

As you decorate, be sure to carefully clean and dust any holiday ornaments that have been in storage. If guests suffer from tree or pollen allergies, an artificial tree may be less irritating to them. Just be sure to avoid artificial trees coated with sprayed-on "snow." You can reduce mold problems in a live tree by thoroughly wiping the trunk with lukewarm water and diluted bleach (one part bleach to 20 parts water) before you bring the tree inside. It can also help to use a leaf blower on the branches to remove pollen grains. Finally, avoid scented candles and potpourri, which can cause respiratory irritation.

Approaching holiday preparations with allergies in mind can help ensure the season stays comfortable and bright for everyone who visits your home.

Visit www.aafa.org/certified for tips and resources.

— BPT

Safety

Continued from 28

their pet can get the love and attention it deserves. No matter what option you choose, be sure to read online reviews and talk to other pet owners that have used the service.

4. Decorate without the dangerous decor. Decorations in homes with pets must be planned with care. Poinsettias, for example, are a holiday staple, but unfortunately they are highly toxic for cats and dogs alike. Tinsel can also be harmful if swallowed, and causes digestion problems in both dogs and cats. Before hanging any decoration, make sure other pet owners haven't experienced complications. If you do find poinsettias and other holiday ephemera irresistible, make sure it's placed high and out-of-reach. Same

goes for holiday sweets and things like chocolate. No one wants to spend Christmas dinner at the vet.

5. Keep an eye on doggie-doors. When guests arrive at your home, doors will be opening and closing constantly. If you're worried about a potential jail break, it may be helpful to download a pet tracking app like Tagg, which attaches to your pet's collar and lets you track them. That way you can find your pet at any point in the festivities, even if they do manage to get loose outdoors.

The holidays are an exciting time for families everywhere and with just a little extra planning on your part, you can make this season enjoyable for all the people and pets in your family. To learn more about how DogVacay can help make your holiday planning easier, visit DogVacay.com/how-it-works.

— BPT



Healthy

Continued from 28

"There's no way to accurately predict past or future transmission, so the American Heartworm Society recommends year-round heartworm prevention for dogs and cats," she explains. "Make sure to put a reminder on your holiday calendar to give routine monthly preventives to pets."

Give the Gift of Activity

"When we removed hunting from pets' daily lives, we reduced their physical and mental activity," explains veterinary behaviorist Dr. Jacqueline Neilson. "When pets lack mental stimulation, they can become bored and depressed, and often create their own stimulating activities, such as chewing items or barking at passersby."

Beat this concern with food puzzles and toys that require pets to work, play or "hunt."

"Consider your pet's personality when choosing holiday gifts," says Neilson. "If

your dog likes to chew things, a food toy that needs to be squeezed between the jaws may be ideal. Herding breeds may prefer a toy they can nudge."

Travel Prep

An estimated 30 million people travel with their pets annually, and holidays are primetime for hitting the road. Flying? Check your airline's pet requirements. For car travel, invest in a carrier.

"Your pet will appreciate a safe haven while traveling," says Dr. Robert Stannard, who recommends adding a favorite blanket to provide a sense of familiarity.

Travel bowls, favorite toys and medications are necessities, not luxuries. Just be careful not to overfeed.

"Like us, pets can get motion sickness," says Stannard. "Don't feed your pet right before leaving, and limit food during travel to help prevent digestive upset."

With a few precautionary measures, your four-legged family members can have a happy, healthy holiday season.

— StatePoint

ADVERTISEMENT

The Real Ponte Vedra Beach Preserve

PONTE VEDRA, FLORIDA — History shows that new neighborhoods in Ponte Vedra enjoy a special amount of scrutiny – that's because residents value their lifestyle and neighborhoods so much. Ponte Vedra Beach Preserve is no exception.

Ponte Vedra Beach Preserve will be developed in an environmentally sensitive manner resulting in a high quality, single-family community with homes that are compatible and complementary to the surrounding area. The developer, GreenPointe Communities and its leadership, has developed acclaimed communities across Florida for almost 30 years. GreenPointe has a reputation for creating special neighborhoods while minimizing the impact on the environment and has incorporated those principles in the planning and design of Ponte Vedra Beach Preserve.

Over the past few weeks, there has been a consid-

erable amount of misinformation circulating designed to inhibit the development of this new community located at 1044 Ponte Vedra Boulevard. A resident who lives on the oceanfront, directly across from the proposed community, is the appellant of the lawfully granted variance. This resident has been involved in two lawsuits with the previous owner of this property as well as several neighbors trying to impede their legal right of beach access through a long standing beach access easement that is located on her property. After receiving unfavorable rulings in each lawsuit, including the associated appeals, it appears the resident has now turned her efforts to challenging a valid and properly approved variance.

Based on the misleading information, it is incumbent upon us to set the record straight.

We invite you to join us
for a community meeting
to learn the **FACTS**

LOCATION:

Christ Episcopal Church,
400 San Juan Dr, Ponte Vedra Beach

WHEN:

Tuesday, January 12th at 6pm

The following is the **TRUTH** about Ponte Vedra Beach Preserve:

Did the developer increase the zoning to allow for 22 lots?

No. The property was zoned in 1974 for up to 30 home sites. The developer decided, responsibly and conservatively, to plan and develop only 22 lots, which represents 27% fewer lots than allowed on the property.

Do the lots require filling the Guana marshlands in order to be buildable?

No. There is absolutely no fill for lot development in the Guana marshlands and, in fact, the developer's plans call for an upland buffer of 1.29 acres to further protect the jurisdictional wetlands. At the most sensitive areas along the Guana Marsh, the developer is voluntarily providing additional upland buffer, up to 50', well in excess of the 25' buffer required by the regulatory agencies. For the total project wetland impacts are 0.66 acres and impacts to man-made surface watering holes are 0.54 acres. Specific to lot development fill is limited to isolated wetlands that total 0.38 acres, and existing surface watering holes that total 0.33 acres. The developer has proposed and will execute a wetland mitigation plan that offsets the minor wetland impacts and provides greater long-term ecological value to the watershed.

Will development of Ponte Vedra Beach Preserve cause the surrounding areas to flood?

No. The development has been carefully planned to meet or exceed all existing regulations to ensure that all storm water will be stored, retained and properly treated and that development does not cause adverse floodplain impacts to adjacent properties. Addition-



ally, the current flood insurance standing of adjacent properties will not be affected.

Will the water quality of the surrounding marshlands be negatively affected?

No. In fact, water quality experts have determined that the water quality will actually improve after the development is complete due to the state-of-the-art-storm water management system to be installed, as well as the elimination of several existing structures, including wells and a septic tank. Runoff from the site is not being treated currently. Post development runoff will be treated at or above required levels and beyond the existing treatment provided by nearby communities.

Will there be 5,000 truckloads of material brought onto the site to fill the lots?

No. Lot fill that will be placed during the 6 month infrastructure period is estimated at fewer than 220

truckloads. Lot fill that will be placed as each home is built over a two year period starting after the site infrastructure is complete, is estimated at fewer than 700 truckloads. Only a fraction of this lot fill is related to the variance as the average fill needed over the entire development is 1.3 feet, simply 3.6 inches more than allowed without a variance from the Ponte Vedra Zoning District Regulations. The areas that will require the most fill are areas that the previous owner excavated for ponds used as animal watering holes.

Was GreenPointe granted special privileges in the permitting of Ponte Vedra Beach Preserve?

No. GreenPointe designed Ponte Vedra Beach Preserve well within the limits set forth by all governing agencies including, St. Johns County, the St. Johns River Water Management District, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and FEMA. The community is designed to minimize impacts to and embrace the natural surroundings. In fact, the permitting agencies that have fully reviewed the plans and variance have recommended approval.

Conclusion: Each of the facts stated above is accurate and consistent with the plans that were presented at the previous hearing and are matters of public record. There has been a systematic effort to disseminate and spread inaccuracies, disguised as facts, about Ponte Vedra Beach Preserve, GreenPointe Communities, and its permitting, to create antagonism among neighbors and individuals. To ignore these facts and testimony is unfair.

The recent attempts to pressure the County Commission to overturn a properly granted variance that was, and is, supported by the County's own professional staff after their thorough and independent research is absurd. Ponte Vedra residents should be outraged that they have been misled in this manner and such tactics certainly should not persuade any one, especially not the members of the County Commission.

Sharks continue district play this week

Jim Moyes

Special to the Recorder

After finding success on the road, where the Ponte Vedra's Boys Varsity Basketball Team won 4 out of the five away contests, the Sharks were confident of extending their four game winning streak when they returned to the Shark tank on Friday, December 4.

However, the energized Nease

Panthers had other ideas as they completely shut down the high scoring Shark attack by employing a 3-2 zone defense in their stunning 47-40 victory over Ponte Vedra.

Playing in front a near capacity crowd that jammed the Shark tank, it was the Panthers who were able to feed off the energy from the raucous crowd while the host Ponte Vedra squad appeared very tight

throughout the contest.

Both teams got off to a jittery start as a full three minutes had elapsed before either team was able to net a field goal. The Sharks led 6-0 before the Panthers were able to get on the board with a pair of free throws with 2:44 remaining in the opening quarter. The Panther dry spell would be their last on the evening as the Nease duo of Sam Guenther and

Matt Seymour rallied the Panthers to a 21-18 lead at halftime.

The third quarter would prove fatal for the ice cold shooting Sharks as the hosts were only able to tally a minuscule five points, while Nease added a modest eleven markers to take a comfortable 32-23 lead heading into the final quarter.

PLAY continues on Page 39



ROLEX


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This holiday season, give the extraordinary.

In ancient times, China was known as the Land of the Divine. Everyone, from the emperors to the common people, believed that their culture was a divine gift. Chinese culture is thus known as "divinely inspired," and is the only culture in the world to have a continuous recorded history of 5,000 years. It has left behind countless literary classics, historical documents, cultural relics, and national records reflecting its immense scope.

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This holiday season, don't just give the usual—give the extraordinary. Give someone the Shen Yun experience.

Watch the video at ShenYun.com

"I reviewed over 3,000 shows. None can compare to what I saw tonight."
—Richard Connema, *Talkin' Broadway*

"The ancient wisdom it conveys will not only benefit the Chinese people, but the whole world."
—Ted Kavenau, *Founding producer of CNN Headline News*

"It was very uplifting, very uplifting and inspiring, and at times—very deep."
—David Eaton, *composer, music director and conductor at New York City Symphony*

"I kept thinking, this is the highest and the best of what humans can produce."
—Olevia Brown-Klahn, *musician*

Presented by Florida Falun Dafa Association

Live Music by the Shen Yun Orchestra

Thursday, Dec. 10	Friday, Dec. 11	Saturday, Dec. 12	Sunday, Dec. 13
<p>'Godspell' at Players by the Sea "Godspell" will be performed at Players by the Sea through Dec. 20. The theatre is located at 106 Sixth St. N., Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 249-0289 or visit www.playersbythesea.org.</p> <p>Winter Seasonal Blend The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Winter Seasonal Blend is Thursday, Dec. 10 from 5-7 p.m. at Colonial Quarter, 33 St. George St., St. Augustine. The event will feature Sam Pacetti, local guitarist, vocalist and composer, as well as door prizes, hors d'oeuvres and drinks. The cost is \$5 for members; \$10 for non-members. Register online at www.stjohnscounty.chamber.com.</p> <p>Holiday Open House On Thursday, Dec. 10 from 5:30-8:30 p.m., the public is welcome to visit The Beaches Museum & History Park to share festive cheer and to light up the park. The museum is located at 381 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 241-5657 or visit www.beachmuseum.org.</p> <p>Good for You Gathering A Good for You Gathering, "Staying active through the holidays," is Thursday, Dec. 10 at noon at the Y Healthy Living Center at the Ponte Vedra YMCA, 170 Landrum Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach. Join nurse coach Kym Dunton, RN, as she shares ideas on how to stay moving this holiday season to help keep stress at bay. Light refreshments will be provided. Seating is limited, so reserve your space today at baptistjax.com/ymca or by calling (904) 202-5376.</p> <p>Travel Training Program The Council on Aging announces a Travel Training program designed to assist seniors in learning to ride the Sunshine Bus. If you are curious about expanding your transportation options or you would like to increase your confidence as a bus rider, let one of our trained volunteers assist you in navigating routes, reading time tables and making transfers. If you are interested, please contact the Mobility Manager at the Council on Aging, (904) 315-6505, or email Katie Arnold at karnold@stjohnscoa.com.</p>	<p>Small Objects Holiday Art Sale The annual Small Object Holiday Art Sale takes place from Dec. 4-28 at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach, 50 Executive Way, Ponte Vedra Beach. Over 30 local artists will be displaying and selling their small hand-crafted art including handcrafted jewelry, glass work, paintings, pottery and more. All items are priced between \$25-\$350. For more information, call (904) 280-0614 or visit www.ccpvb.org.</p> <p>MOSH \$5 Fridays Every Friday, come to MOSH to enjoy \$5 admission and extended hours. The museum will be open late every Friday until 8 p.m. (Note: Additional discounts or coupons are not permitted).</p> <p>ZOOLights Thousands of LED lights will be on display at the Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens for ZOOLights, Dec. 11-13 and Dec.18-Jan. 2 (closed on Christmas Day). The zoo closes at 5 p.m. and reopens for ZOOLights 6-9:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 6-10 p.m. Friday-Sunday. The cost is \$10 for non-members; \$8 for members. Other activities such as warm weather "ice" skating, train rides, s'mores kits and the 4-D Theater ride featuring "The Polar Express," are offered for an additional fee. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.jacksonvillezoo.org.</p> <p>"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" will be performed on stage at the Limelight Theatre Dec. 11 through Jan. 3, 2016 with a special preview night Thursday, Dec. 10. Showtime is 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. There will be no performances Dec. 24-25. Limelight Theatre is located at 11 Old Mission Ave., St. Augustine. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (904) 825-1164 or visit www.limelight-theatre.org.</p> <p>Christina Hope exhibition Artwork from Christina Hope is currently on display at the J. Johnson Gallery, 177 Fourth Ave. N., Jacksonville Beach. The exhibition will run through Jan. 21, 2016. For more information, call (904) 435-3200.</p>	<p>'The Nutcracker' Christ Church presents the 20th annual Nutcracker, Saturday, Dec. 12 at 6 p.m. at UNF's Lazzara Performance Hall. The 2015 Nutcracker will feature almost 300 performers who range in age from two and a half to 90-year-olds. Proceeds benefit charitable organizations. Tickets are \$25 and are available for purchase online at www.missfeliciasdance.com. For more information, call (904) 923-0604.</p> <p>Palm Valley Light & Boat Parade The annual Palm Valley Light & Boat parade featuring festively decorated boats, is Saturday, Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. The boat parade takes place in the Palm Valley Intracoastal Waterway. The event is rain or shine. For more information, call (904) 395-5217 or visit www.palmvalleylightparade.com.</p> <p>Regatta of Lights The 2015 Regatta of Lights, a traditional light boat parade that takes place on the Bayfront in St. Augustine between the Bridge of Lions and the Castillo de San Marcos, is Saturday, Dec. 12 at 6 p.m. For more information, call (904) 824-9725 or visit www.staugustineyachtclub.com.</p> <p>Christmas and Holiday Concert The St. Augustine Community Chorus, along with the St Augustine Youth Chorus present the 67th Annual Christmas and Holiday Concert Saturday, Dec. 12 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 13 at 2 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica in downtown St. Augustine. Ticket prices are: \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door; \$5 for Students. Tickets can be purchased online at www.staugustinecommunitychorus.org or at select venues. For further information, call John Reardon at (904) 982-2210.</p> <p>Kate Spade Trunk Show at Carla Shoes Carla Shoes is hosting a Kate Spade Trunk Show Saturday, Dec. 12 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Meet Kate Spade's representative, Gabi Rivero. Carla Shoes is located in the Shoppes of Ponte Vedra at 330 A1A, Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, call (904) 543-1566 or visit www.carlashoes.com.</p>	<p>The Advent and Christmas Story On Sunday, Dec.13, Palms Presbyterian Church will celebrate its annual Service of Lessons and Carols: The Advent and Christmas Story presented in Word and Music, at its 8:30 and 11 a.m. worship services in the Sanctuary. Join the Palms Chancel Choir, The CAMP Choir, The Children's Choir, soloist Destiny Guerra, organist Cathy Fortson, 28 members of The Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra and conductor Dr. Ronn Cummings as we celebrate the season. All are welcome to join Palms as they celebrate and enjoy the gift of music. For more information about Palms, visit www.palmschurch.org or call, (904) 246-6427.</p> <p>Collection Tour Join the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens us on Sundays for a guided tour of our permanent collection. The tour is free with the cost of admission. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville.</p> <p>'Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer' A live-action production of "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" will take place Sunday, Dec. 13 at 1:30 and 4:30 p.m. at the Thrasher Horne Center for the Arts, 283 College Drive, Orange Park. For more information, visit www.thcenter.org.</p> <p>Annual Activity Member Become an Annual Activity Member at The Players Community Senior Center! There are so many reasons to become a member: discounts on fee-based classes, designated events and Coastal Travel, complimentary participation in a wide variety of scheduled activities, to name a few! Please call Darlene Mahany at 280-3233 for all the details.</p> <p>Practice with Purpose at Big Fish Yoga Practice with Purpose is an all-level yoga class offered on Sundays from 4-5 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 has relocated to the South Beach Regional Shopping Center in Jacksonville Beach at 3852 South 3rd St. For more info. call (904) 372-0601.</p>

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Monday, Dec. 14	Tuesday, Dec. 15	Wednesday, Dec. 16	Thursday, Dec. 17
<p>Caregiver Support Group The Players Caregiver Support Group meets every Monday 12:00-1:00 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. It is a great opportunity for caregivers to share resources and ideas. For more information, call (904) 280-3233.</p> <p>Life Enrichment Group 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.-2 p.m. at Ashford Court, 1700 The Greens Way in Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 568-8174, or email life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com.</p> <p>Arbor Terrace Life Enrichment Group The Life Enrichment Group Day Program takes place every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m.-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 www.at-pontevedra.com.</p> <p>'Coney Island Christmas' ABET presents "Coney Island Christmas" Dec. 4 & 5, 11-13 and 18-20. Showtime is 8 p.m. for Friday and Saturday night performances; 2 p.m. for Sunday performances. Tickets are \$20 for adults; \$10 for children. The theatre is located at 716 Ocean Blvd., Atlantic Beach. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (904) 249-7177 or visit www.abettheatre.com.</p> <p>'Christmas Carole' at The Alhambra Beginning Tuesday, Nov. 24, Bruce Allen Scudder's "Christmas Carole" will be performed at Alhambra Theatre & Dining. The play will be performed through Dec. 24. The theatre is located at 12000 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (904) 641-1212 or visit www.alhambrajax.com.</p>	<p>Kingdom Advisors Beaches Group You are invited to attend a monthly Kingdom Advisors presentation at the Caduceus Consulting offices on Tuesday, Dec. 15 from 7:30-8:30 a.m. The meeting will consist of a video presentation and open discussion. Caduceus Consulting is located at 238 Ponte Vedra Park Drive in the Griggs Group building. Contact Rick Weaver at 718-2507 or Rick@caduceusconsulting.com to attend.</p> <p>Help for small business owners The Main Library Branch is hosting a presentation from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Tuesday, Dec. 14 from 4-5 p.m. Learn about resources available for starting and growing your small business. If you plan on growing your business or are thinking about starting one but don't know where to turn, please attend and learn about the SBA's technical, financial, and government contracting assistance. The library is located at 1960 N. Ponce De Leon Blvd., St. Augustine. To reserve a spot at the event, email Donna at donna.padguag@sba.gov.</p> <p>Sunset Rotary Club weekly meeting The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset meets Tuesdays from 6-7:15 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 HOJRON@aol.com.</p> <p>Palm Valley Farmers Market The Palm Valley Farmers Market takes place every Tuesday from 1:30-5:30 p.m. at the Palm Valley Community Center, 148 Canal Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>SPLASH at PVPC Tuesday evenings, 7-8:30 p.m. the Singles Ministry SPLASH (Single People Loving and Serving Him) gather at Ponte Vedra Presbyterian Church, 4510 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra. All single adults in the community welcome for fellowship, discussions on applying the Bible in our everyday lives along with a light dinner provided by KC's Kitchen. Mission and social opportunities as well. For more information, email julie@pvpc.com or call (904) 285-8225.</p>	<p>Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus Bring in your little ones to have a very special visit with Santa and Ms. Claus Wednesday, Dec. 16 from 10:30 a.m.-noon at the Anastasia Island Branch Library, 124 Seagrove Main St., St. Augustine Beach. Santa will share stories about the North Pole and answer questions about what life is like for Santa. Don't forget to bring your cameras. For more information, call the library at (904) 209-3730 or visit www.sjcpls.org.</p> <p>Holidays Around the World Kids of all ages can learn about winter holidays found all around the world Wednesday, Dec. 16 at 11 a.m. at the Southeast Branch Library, 6670 U.S. 1 S., St. Augustine. The event will include treats and crafts inspired by each holiday. Fill up your holiday passport for a prize. For more information, call the library at (904) 827-6900 or visit www.sjcpls.org.</p> <p>PV Professionals Networking Group The Ponte Vedra Professionals Networking Group meets every Wednesday from noon-1 p.m. at Mulligans, 43 PGA Tour Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, call Gloria at (904) 635-6103, visit www.pvpng.com, or email pontevedrapng@gmail.com.</p> <p>Ponte Vedra Toastmasters The Ponte Vedra Toastmasters Club offers opportunities for developing your leadership and communication skills. Join us on Wednesdays at The PLAYERS Community Center at 175 Landrum Lane. The meeting starts promptly at 7:30 a.m. and lasts one hour. Want to know more? Contact Lucy Reep at 904-607-3695 or contact-5199@toastmastersclubs.org</p> <p>For The Love of Driving 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. If you are interested, please contact the Mobility Manager at the Council on Aging, 904-315-6505, or email katie.arnold@stjohnscoa.com.</p>	<p>Toy Drive for BEAM at PV Wellness Ponte Vedra Wellness Center is having a toy drive for BEAM. Everyone is invited to drop by Ponte Vedra Wellness, 100 Corridor Road S., #220, Ponte Vedra Beach, Thursday, Dec. 17 from 4-6:30 p.m. Bring a new unwrapped toy and receive a thank you gift from Ponte Vedra Wellness. For more information, call (904) 273-2691.</p> <p>North Beaches' Art Walk The North Beaches' Art Walk is from 5 p.m.-9 p.m. at the Atlantic and Neptune Beaches' Town Center. For more information, call First Street Gallery at (904) 241-6928 or Archway Framing and Gallery at (904) 249-2222 or visit www.nbaw.org.</p> <p>Grief support group 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 at 578 First Ave. North in Jacksonville Beach. The next meeting will be Thursday, Dec. 20, at 7 p.m. The group is for adults who are grieving the death of a family member or friend. For more information, call Kathy at (904) 553-8933 or Catherine at (904) 247-0665.</p> <p>Habitat for Humanity volunteers 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 we help build them a simple, decent place to live. If you know someone who might benefit from Habitat homeownership, please refer them to our website. To find out more about how you can donate, volunteer, or qualify visit habitatstjohns.org.</p> <p>Free calendar listings for community groups and nonprofit organizations are published at our discretion on a space-available basis. Send your event at least 10 days before publication. Submit events to carrie@opcfla.com, post online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com using the automated form, or call (904) 686-3939.</p>

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SHORT TAKES

**Guided Trail Hike
at River-to-Sea Preserve**

On Wednesday, Dec. 16 from 9:00-10:30 a.m., step into the ancient Florida coastal woodlands along the River-to-Sea Preserve trail and learn how Native Americans once thrived there on nature's bounty. Your GTM Research Reserve interpretive guide

will point out indigenous plants bordering the trail to the Matanzas River, where the mangroves grow.

Look for the River-to-Sea Preserve sign on A1A, just south of the town of Marineland across from the beach. For more information, call 904-823-4500 or go to <https://gtmresearchreserveexplorations.eventbrite.com> to reserve a spot online.

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The Palatka keeper makes a save as a pair of Sharks close in for a rebound.

Lady Sharks blank Palatka 6-0

By Jerry Norton
The Recorder

The Ponte Vedra Lady Sharks followed up last week's impressive conference win over Matanzas with a 6-0 win over the visiting Palatka Panthers on Monday evening and in doing so improved to 5-0 in the conference and 10-2-4 on the season.

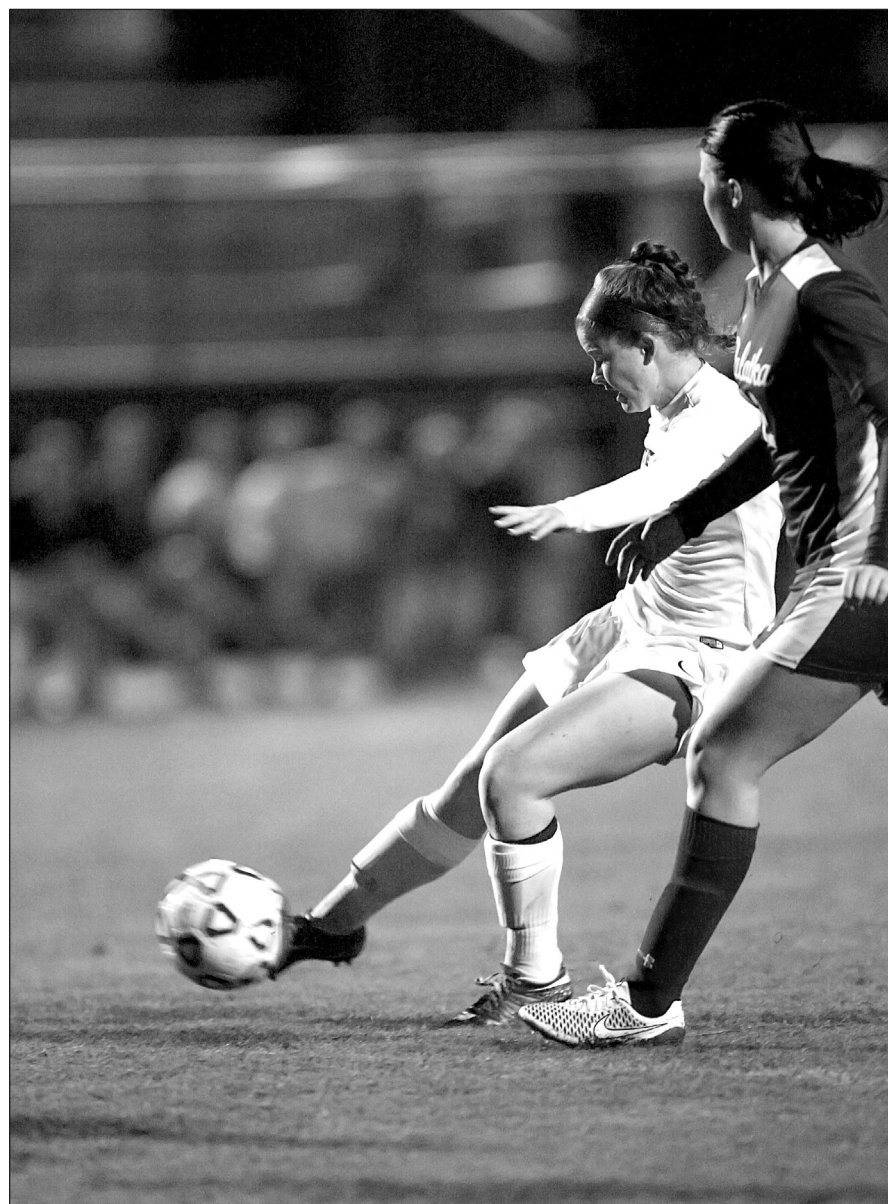
Angeline Daly's hustle put the Sharks on top when she brought the ball up the left side of the field, crossed to the middle and drove a blistering shot past the Palatka keeper eight minutes after the starting whistle.

Ponte Vedra benefited from a handball in the box to earn a penalty kick that Julia Worman rattled off the keeper then the left upright and into the cage for the Sharks' second goal.

Tatum Taucher pushed the Shark advantage to 3-0 as Ponte Vedra peppered the Panther goal practically at will. Before the half ended, Piper Dostikas hit the post on a shot and Jordan Grune's rebound just sailed wide by inches.

While the Sharks did not score again in the first half, their total domination of play with most of the starters in the game was evident by the fact that Palatka did not have a throw-in in the Shark end of the pitch until the final two minutes of the first half. In fact the visitors did not have a shot on goal in the entire game even while sitting most of the starters in the second half.

The second forty minutes started as



Angeline Daly drives the ball into the Palate goal for the Sharks' first score.

Photos by Chris Norton

Ponte Vedra dominates in win over Matanzas

By Jerry Norton
The Recorder

Last Tuesday's matchup between the Matanzas Pirates and the Ponte Vedra Sharks was anticipated by many to be a preview of the district 4 championship game.

The host Sharks came into the match with an 8-2-4 record while the Pirates boasted a 7-2 record. In addition the visiting Pirates had the district's leading scorer in Miracle Porter, who has scored 16 goals in nine games this season.

But the Sharks had Abby Miller, Piper Dostikas, Layla Adamo, Kristen Sandifer and at least seven other girls who understand that soccer is a team game and are able to execute coach Dave Silverburg's ball control strategy to near perfection in coasting to a decisive 4-1 win.

Ponte Vedra dominated play throughout the match although they trailed 1-0 with 8:47 remaining in the first half when Porter took advantage of a rare misplay by the Sharks' in front of their goal.

The Sharks got even on a corner kick by Dostikas that the Matanzas keeper bobbled before dropping the ball into her goal. It didn't take long for Ponte Vedra to take the lead. Miller's searing kick at the 37-minute mark beat the keeper badly to her far left side.

Sandifer pushed the Shark's advantage to 3-1 with 11 minutes left as Ponte Vedra continued to control the ball in the Pirates end of the field.

Until Miller's goal at the start of the second half, the Sharks outshot the visitors by a wide margin and they continued to dominate in the second half.

Mary Stephens sent a booming kick just over the cross bar then Dostikas banged a ball off the right post and another Miller blast just missed.

Matanzas appeared to be waiting for Porter to step up and make plays but the smothering ball control play of the Sharks did not allow it. Adamo capped the scoring for Ponte Vedra with an unassisted goal 15 seconds before the final horn.

KEEPING UP

PVHS grad excels on collegiate equestrian team

By **Barbara Boxleitner**

Special to the Recorder

Anna Rea has been performing well for the Texas A&M University women's equestrian team.

The junior, who attended Ponte Vedra High, competes in equitation on the flat. She competed in jumping since age 5, she said, but switched to equitation



ANNA REA

on the flat when she entered the Aggie program. "It's kind of like a new thing for all of us," she said. "We had to learn how to do it."

For equitation on the flat, she said, the riders receive a pattern

to learn two weeks before competitions. The pattern features nine maneuvers and lasts about two minutes, she said.

Heading into the winter break, Rea has a 3-2 record. She had consecutive victories in team wins over New Mexico State University and California State University, Fresno during an October weekend in Fresno, Calif. She had a high

score of 80 to earn Most Outstanding Performer against New Mexico State. She prevailed 76-70 over her Fresno State opponent.

"I was really happy with my performance," Rea said. "We had never been there. I really didn't know what to expect. Fresno is a pretty good team, too."

Football

Wofford College senior cornerback Brion Anderson is an all-Southern Conference second-team selection as voted by the media. The Bartram Trail High graduate had 42 tackles in starting all 11 games. He was fourth in the conference with three interceptions.

Ave Maria University senior offensive lineman Jeff Lindenmoyer was named to the all-Sun Conference first team. The past Bear played a career-high 10 games.

Sierra College freshman wide receiver Romello Bentley finished with 64 receptions for 714 yards and seven touchdowns, all third on the team. The former Bear led the squad with 11 kick returns for 238 yards and 13 punt returns for 92 yards.

Another from Bartram Trail, Springfield College defensive end Matt Mailhot had 19 tackles and two sacks in 10 games.

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



Photo by Chris Norton

#5 Mary Stephens attempts a header as the Panther keeper comes out to make a save.

Sharks

Continued from 35

Mary Stephens bumped the Shark's lead to 4-0 converting Abby Millers' rebound on a Piper Dostikas' corner kick.

Daly celebrated her return to action with her second goal of the night, this on a long drive at the 30-minute mark to put Ponte Vedra up 5-0.

Sophie Lesher finished the scoring for the Sharks when she banged home a rebound that came right to her following the Panther keeper's good save on Grune's point blank shot.



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Richard Mette, Angelia Savage, Rory Diamond and Janet Westling



Debbie Verges, Steve Landoll and April Hart

Photos by Susan Griffin

Recorder hosts holiday open house, artists' reception

More photos, Page 38



Bob Nickerson and Helen Moody

On Dec. 3, the Ponte Vedra Recorder opened the doors of our office after hours for an artist reception and holiday open house. The community was invited to join the Recorder staff to view paintings by First Coast Artists, and enjoy local catering from KC's Kitchen, Sweets by Holly and Taste! Catering on the Boulevard. For more photos from the event, visit www.pontevedrarecorder.com.

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<p>LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III DECEMBER 11</p> <p>KEVIN GRIFFIN OF BETTER THAN EZRA DECEMBER 12</p> <p>RISING APPALACHIA WITH AROUNA DIARRA DECEMBER 13</p> <p>LEON RUSSELL WITH SEAN CLARK DECEMBER 17</p> <p>FESTIVAL OF LIGHT: AN INTIMATE EVENING WITH MATISYAHU DECEMBER 18 & 19</p> <p>BUTCH TRUCKS & THE FREIGHT TRAIN BAND WITH BONNIE BLUE DECEMBER 27</p> <p>DONNA THE BUFFALO DECEMBER 30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2016 SHOWS</p> <p>JAN. 8 JOHN SEBASTIAN</p> <p>JAN. 10 X102.9 PRESENTS SILVERSUN PICKUPS</p> <p>JAN. 11 OLATE DOGS WINNERS OF AMERICA'S GOT TALENT</p>	<p>JAN. 15 TROMBONE SHORTY & ORLEANS AVENUE w/ NEW BREED BRASS BAND</p> <p>JAN. 21 THE COLLEEN & JOSH SHOW</p> <p>JAN. 24 FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT PRESENTS DAVID BRUCE & MOZART</p> <p>JAN. 27 GRAHAM NASH</p> <p>JAN. 28 ANA POPOVIC</p> <p>JAN. 29 SHAWN COLVIN w/ LARRY CAMPBELL & TERESA WILLIAMS</p> <p>JAN. 30 GAELIC STORM</p> <p>JAN. 31 COLIN HAY WITH HEATHER MALONEY</p> <p>FEB. 2 MOON TAXI</p> <p>FEB. 5&6 UNDER THE STREETLAMP</p> <p>FEB. 9 YONDER MOUNTAIN STRING BAND WITH TROUT STEAK REVIVAL</p> <p>FEB. 11 ROBERT RANDOLPH & THE FAMILY BAND WITH PARKER URBAN BAND</p>	<p>FEB. 12 MARTY STUART & THE FABULOUS SUPERLATIVES</p> <p>FEB. 13 THE JAMES HUNTER SIX</p> <p>FEB. 19 ST. PAUL & THE BROKEN BONES</p> <p>FEB. 21 GARY CLARK JR. THE STORY OF SONNY BOY SLIM TOUR</p> <p>FEB. 24 CHARLES BRADLEY & HIS EXTRAORDINAIRES</p> <p>FEB. 27 RICHARD MARX</p> <p>MAR. 3 THE ZOMBIES FEAT. COLIN BLUNSTONE & ROD ARGENT</p> <p>MAR. 4 ROGER MCGUINN</p> <p>MAR. 6 FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT PRESENTS HAYDN & BRAHMS</p> <p>MAR. 18 THE JOHNNY CLEGG BAND</p> <p>MAR. 19 THE FAB FOUR 2 PERFORMANCES!</p> <p>MAR. 20 ALAN DOYLE</p> <p>FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT PRESENTS BEETHOVEN & MENDELSSOHN</p> <p>APR. 10 AMY HELM</p> <p>APR. 15 RITA WILSON</p> <p>APR. 19 ONE NIGHT OF QUEEN</p>
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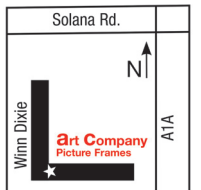
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Richard and Lynn Dickeson with a painting purchased from artist Helen Moody

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Play

Continued from 31

The desperate Sharks were able to close the gap to five points late in the contest by employing a full court press, but cold shooting from behind the three point arc doomed the Sharks.

Ponte Vedra netted but 6 of an astounding 32 attempts from three point land as Nease's zone defense shut off any PV inside game.

Coming into the contest the Sharks were averaging more than 62 points per game, but were thoroughly shut down by the determined Panthers.

Nease's duo of Seymour and Guenther combined for 31 points on the evening while the two season leading scores for the Sharks, JD Pirris and Matt Johnson were limited to a combined 22 markers, far below their season average. Pirris and Johnson managed to net only 8 of their 34 attempts from the field, including a frigid 2 for 21 from three point country.

If there was a bright light for the Sharks, it was the hustling play of junior Chris Tomacewski's from off the bench. Tomacewski's intense defensive effort contributed to a number of Nease turnovers in the

final quarter but his teammates were unable to take advantage due to their poor shooting.

When the final buzzer sounded with Nease on the top end of the final 47-40 score, the large throng of Nease supporters stormed the court to congratulate their beloved Panthers and their energetic, popular, and charismatic coach Josh Bailen.

The defeat brought to a sudden and disappointing end for what had started out to be a very productive week for the Sharks.

On Tuesday, Ponte Vedra breezed to a 54-35 victory over Clay and then followed up the following day with an impressive 75-60 win over Fletcher in their annual Battle of the Beaches.

The Sharks put Clay away early with a 20-9 lead after the first quarter as Matt Johnson scored 11 of his game high 20 points.

Pirris added 14 points for the game, just half the number of points the junior would net the following evening against Fletcher when he poured in a career high 28 points.

Matt Johnson chipped in with 15 while junior Lance Kren came off the bench and netted a career high 17 points, meshing 7 of his 8 shots attempted in the contest.

The Sharks hope to quickly atone from their stunning defeat at the

hands of their arch rivals with a couple of important district games this week.

On Tuesday the Sharks hosted Menendez, the team that eliminated Ponte Vedra last year in the FHSAA playoffs, before traveling to Palatka

tomorrow night (Friday, Dec. 11) to take on a traditionally successful Panther squad.

Both varsity game are schedule to start at 7:30 PM, following a pair of Junior Varsity games that tip off at 6:00 p.m.

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Wild fourth quarter goes to Titans in 42-39 win over Jaguars

Jacksonville hosts Indianapolis Sunday

Mike Bonts

Special to the Recorder

Jaguars head coach Gus Bradley called Sunday's 42-39 loss to Tennessee Jacksonville's most complete game of the season offensively. The stats support his enthusiasm.

Quarterback Blake Bortles was 24 of 36 passes for 322 yards and five touchdowns with no interceptions. A franchise-record 27 TD passes this season. He passed David Garrard who had 23 in 2010.

"I'd definitely rather win and break the franchise record for wins," Bortles said following the loss to the Jaguars' AFC South rival. Tennessee snapped an 11-game home losing streak by scoring twice in 44 seconds late in the final quarter.

With 7:46 to play in the game, a high snap over Bortles' head was returned by linebacker Wesley Woodyard three yards for a score, giving the Titans a 42-32 advantage.

But Allen Robinson caught his third TD pass of the game from Bortles to cut the deficit to 42-39. Robinson made 10 catches for 153 yards. Robinson now has 11 TDs this season, and he is the Jaguars' first 1,000-yard receiver since Jimmy Smith in 2005.

Rashad Greene and Julius Thomas each caught TD passes. Rookie running back T.J. Yeldon rushed for 57 yards on 15 carries with one TD and caught four passes for 79 yards.

The visitors sacked Tennessee QB Marcus Mariota four times and forced two turnovers they turned into 14 points. Mariota completed 20 of 29 passes for 268 yards and three touchdowns with one interception. He rushed 112 yards and on nine carries including an 87-yard TD.

Mariota's TD run put the Titans ahead to stay. He also became the first NFL player to throw for more than 250 yards, run for 100 yards or more and throw three TD passes in a game.

According to the sports statistical service STATS Jacksonville and Tennessee combined for six touchdowns in the fourth quarter alone, tying for the second-most TDs in a fourth quarter since 1940. Only Chicago and Detroit combined for more fourth-quarter TDs with seven in 2007.

TENNESSEE GAME NOTES – Jaguars cornerback Davon House set a career high with his third interception this season... Tennessee was nearing an NFL record of 14 straight home losses... the Titans' last home win was 16-14 over

Jacksonville in 2014... Jacksonville middle linebacker Paul Posluszny had a game-high 10 tackles... The Jaguars' defense allowed 467 yards in total offense to the Titans... Tennessee outscored Jacksonville 21-20 in the fourth quarter... The Jaguars were ranked 30th in the NFL in red-zone success, but went six-for-six against Tennessee... A Jaguars' win would have been a season sweep of Tennessee for the first time since 2005... Jaguars' defensive end Tyson Alualu caught a 16-yard pass.

HURNS TO RETURN - Allen Hurns, the Jacksonville's second-leading receiver has been cleared from the concussion protocol program. Hurns has caught 48 passes for 758 yards and seven touchdowns this season. Hurns sustained the injury against San Diego. The Jaguars have placed running back Toby Gerhart (groin) on injured reserve and promoted receiver Rashad Lawrence from the practice squad. Gerhart played in seven games this season, rushing 20 times for 44 yards and catching three passes for 23 yards. They also signed third-year linebacker Joplo Bartu and placed fourth-year running back Bernard Pierce on the reserve/injured list.

MISSED OPPORTUNITIES – Jaguars kicker Jason Myers has missed two extra points on Sunday and three in the last two games for a total of six this season. The rookie out of Marist has converted 22 of

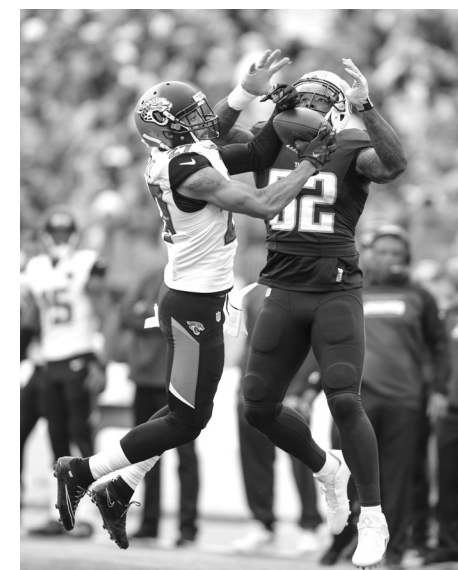


Photo by Rick Wilson / Jacksonville Jaguars

The Jaguars' DeWayne Gratz battles for the ball against the Titans' Steven Johnson in Sunday's 42-39 road loss to Tennessee.

26 field goals this season, and except for a miss from 26 yards against Baltimore he has made all of his field-goal attempts since missing two game-winners at Indianapolis on Oct. 4.

UP NEXT - Jacksonville finishes its home schedule with games against Indianapolis and Atlanta during the next two weeks. The Jaguars (4-8) will play the Colts (6-6) at Everbank Field Sunday at 1 p.m.

Georgia, Penn State to meet in TaxSlayer Bowl

FSU headed to Peach, Florida to Citrus

By Mike Bonts

For The Recorder

Heather Duncan, chairwoman of the TaxSlayer Bowl, announced Sunday that Penn State will play Georgia in the 2016 edition on Jan. 2.

The Nittany Lions and the Bulldogs were selected for just their second all-time meeting. The only other meeting between the teams came in the 1983 Sugar Bowl when the Nittany Lions claimed a 27-23 win over Georgia to claim their first National Championship.

That game featured "The Catch," a 48-yard diving touchdown reception by wide receiver Gregg Garrity from Todd Blackledge to give the Lions a 27-17 lead.

"This is an exciting opportunity for our team and especially our seniors in a great facility and warm weather city," said Georgia interim head coach Bryan McClendon. "It will be a chance to record another ten-win season and we're looking forward to playing Penn State which is one of the iconic brands in college football. They are very rich



Penn State and Georgia play in the TaxSlayer Bowl Jan. 2. Georgia QB Greyson Lambert hands the ball off to tailback Sony Michel during the Bulldogs' game against the Georgia Tech this season. (Photo by Sean Taylor)

in tradition and have had a successful season."

McClendon took over for Mark Richt who left the program at the end of the season. He is now head coach at Miami.

Georgia is 9-3 overall with a 5-3 mark in SEC play. The Bulldogs have SEC wins over Vanderbilt, South Carolina, Missouri, Kentucky and Auburn. They finished the regular season with a 13-7 win over in-state rival Georgia Tech.

"We are excited to be heading to the TaxSlayer Bowl," Penn State head coach



Penn State QB Christian Hackenberg leads the Nittany Lions into Jacksonville to face the Georgia Bulldogs in the TaxSlayer Bowl on Jan. 2 at EverBank Field. (Photo Penn State University)

James Franklin said. "We are looking forward to this opportunity to keep our family together for another month and spend more time with this fantastic group of seniors. Jacksonville is a great destination for our fans and we would love to see Nittany Nation in full force."

Franklin guided the Nittany Lions to a 7-5 regular season record to become

bowl eligible for the second consecutive season and 46th time overall. The Nittany Lions' coach has guided all five of his teams as a head coach to a bowl appearance.

"Both Penn State and Georgia have storied football programs with fantastic fan bases," Duncan said. "We are thrilled to host these two top-notch teams and their players, coaches and fans in Jacksonville for a great day of football."

BEEN THERE, DONE THAT - The Bulldogs have made four previous trips to the Gator Bowl. Georgia and Maryland tied, 20-20, Jan. 1, 1948, the 'Dogs defeated North Carolina, 7-3, Dec. 31, 1971, Georgia defeated Michigan State, 34-27, Jan. 1, 1989, and the Bulldogs suffered a 24-19 loss to Nebraska in the 2014 TaxSlayer Bowl game. This will be Penn State's fifth appearance in the former the Gator Bowl, with the last time coming in 1976 when the Nittany Lions fell to Notre Dame, 20-9. Penn State is 1-2-1 all-time in the Gator Bowl. The Lions made back-to-back Gator Bowl appearances in 1961 with a win over Georgia Tech (30-15) and in 1962 with a loss to Florida (17-7). Penn

Jingle Jangle makes a powerful noise

Accessorize! Not sure when that word came into our lexicon, and the origin didn't come up on the internet. In my senior year of high school most of my 16 classmates—all girls—were heavily into accessorizing with bangle bracelets. Not expensive ones. Just cheap ones you could get at Woolworths, which still existed in 1962. (Fast facts: it closed in 2009 and was called "Woolies" in Britain. It was beloved there.)

You could get 10 tacky bracelets for a dollar for two from Woolworths here in the states. They sparkled. We thought they were fab. One bracelet didn't hack it. You needed a bunch. The object was to jingle jangle the whole lot. It felt powerful. Must have driven teachers crazy, but they were nice enough to let us go on jangling as we moved our hand to flip to another page in U.S. World Geography, take notes, or open



Mims Cushing
By the Way...

the lid of our desk. I looked up "bangle bracelets" and the first thing that popped up on my computer was Cartier. You can buy a "Love Bracelet" from Cartier for \$15,600, which would have bought a fair amount of bangle bracelets at Woolworths. Cartier's has an adorable mini panther lying on it, hence the reason why it's called "Pathere de Cartier." Wish there were a jaguar de Cartier. (And I wouldn't have to spend time looking for an accent mark, as in panthere, which I never was able to use.)

Alex and Ani bangles, which you can buy at Artsy Abode, right here in

Ponte Vedra Beach, are more reasonably priced, at around \$28 and up ... \$58...\$78. They are made of recyclable materials. The bangle you choose could be your birthstone, a sailor's knot, mermaid, sand dollar, teddy bear and so on.

The high school bracelet fad also included charm bracelets. I still have mine, which sports bangles people gave me for my birthday. A tiny Christmas tree, a lobster pot, blow fish, a cap (minus the gown), a shell, sailboat. When I flicked my wrist about they did make a wonderful sound. And isn't that the point?

Dorothea Lasky suggests bangles are a great accessory: "The jangler the better," she says. She adds, "I wear as many as I can. ... Everyone looks good in them." And isn't it nice that one size fits all?

The other thing that makes a racket and are a symbol of power are high heels. I loved wearing them on the train to New York City, clickety-clacking my way through Grand Central Station and walking to the elevator in my office building.

You don't have to stop wearing bracelets as you age. High heels, especially today's models, are another story. I miss click-clacking in heels on wood floors or on tile, limestone... It gives a woman a sense of power to make noise walking past their boss's office when he's given you an assignment that will keep you aging in place at your desk until 7:00 p.m. I wonder if my boss got himself a headache, listening to my heels. Pity.

Lately I've decided you can feel pretty powerful without bracelets or heels. You know what power is? Being 70.

THEME: THE HOLIDAYS

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
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72						73				74				

ACROSS

1. Post-employment insurance
6. T-cell killer
9. Many focuses
13. Finno-_____ language
14. Cassius Clay
15. Noted Impressionist
16. Russian pancakes
17. And not
18. Oxygen-containing compound
19. *Spiked holiday libation
21. *a.k.a. Timothy Cratchit
23. Not a regular teacher
24. Animal waste
25. _____ y pimienta
28. *Hanukkah dreidel has Hebrew letter on each one
30. 1/100th of a ruble
35. "_____ to perfection"
37. Habitual twitches
39. Wood turning device
40. Back of neck
41. Like the north face?
43. Inmate's weapon
44. Nashville player
46. Edible tubes
47. Prima donna's numbers
48. Not digital
50. Wide river valley
52. Break a commandment
53. No parking _____
55. *Done during Christmas dinner
57. *Pan-African celebration
61. *Festival of _____
64. Relating to birth
65. Knot-tying words
67. Shoelace bunny ears
69. Skip the big wedding
70. Jean-Claude _____ Damme
71. Bar, legally
72. Familiar deciduous trees
73. Hurricane center
74. Easily irritated

DOWN

1. Chicago base-baller
2. Check out
3. Place for mutinous sailor
4. Saturn's feature, pl.
5. Just one of acini
6. *Done to ornaments
7. International Labor Organization
8. Taste for fine objects of art
9. Like Jimi Hendrix' Lady
10. "Put a lid _____!"
11. Ghana monetary unit
12. Found on a list
15. Golden Horde member
20. Newspaper notices
22. Octopus' fluid
24. Do like Pinocchio
25. *One "chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf"
26. "Encore!"
27. Former Greek coin
29. Flighty person
31. Aaron Rodgers' move
32. Community spirit
33. Popular cook-off dish
34. *Macaulay Culkin's character
36. *Look for a good one on Black Friday
38. "_____ good example"
42. Mushroom caps
45. Hose attachment
49. India's smallest state
51. Aerie baby
54. Like Forrest Gump or C-3PO?
56. Not these
57. Wounded _____ Massacre
58. Hit this when tired?
59. Tiny piece of anything
60. Takes a siesta
61. Like TV's famous ranger
62. *Marines' holiday donees
63. Dick and Jane's dog
66. *Boxing _____
68. Melissa McCarthy's 2015 role

SUDOKU

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9	7				2			1
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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

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The first noel

Bonnie Talley
Quiltlady

I was perusing new items in an adorable shop in Ponte Vedra this morning, when I came across a coloring book for adults. Actually, it was a coloring book for any age person, but since the drawings were so meticulously drawn, I ventured to say that it was for adults. It is said to relieve stress to sit and color in between the

dark lines. I remember as a child that I was anything but, relieved of stress when coloring, as my mom would sit by me and say, "Stay inside the lines, Bonnie Jo!" Being the non-conformist that I am, today, I know that I would have liked to have crossed over the lines now and then to create a more interesting pattern. You see, I've been like that all my life.

Every September I buy a new box

of crayons. I love to color. Colored markers are fun, too, but not as much fun as the crayons. I usually find the largest box that is in the stores, as I love all the different hues of the colors of the rainbow. Fabric markers are great, too. Most of them are set with heat once the coloring is done.

For those of you who don't remember the Christmas carol, The First Noel, Noel is French for Christmas. My precious granddaughter who was a French major in college, told me that there should be two dots (known as Umlauts) over the 'e.' I don't know how to do that on this computer, so you'll just have to look at the pic-

QUILT LADY continues on Page 44

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A DIAMOND IS FOREVER

Happy Hanukkah!

On the evening of Dec. 4, Jewish people from around the world lit the first candle of their menorah



Harry Pappas
Columnist

to celebrate the miracle of light in the Temple in Jerusalem. Hanukkah, known as the Festival of Lights, remembers the triumph of an exceptionally weak Jewish military but with an incredibly strong spiritual

foundation over the colossal forces of a ruthless enemy that had overrun Jerusalem. A loyalist named Judah Maccabee and his followers came face-to-face with their bullies to take back the Holy Land. For the next 2100 years or so, Jews have celebrated this victory of light over darkness and given thanks for the presence of a just and loving God. The Hanukkah narrative mentioned above is one that I learned many years ago. Moreover, I know there is much more to learn and appreciate about this special Jewish tradition.

Many Christians do not know that Hanukkah is mentioned in the New Testament (John 10:22-23), "And it was at Jerusalem the feast of the dedication, and it was winter. And Jesus walked in the temple in Solomon's porch" (Hanukkah derives from a Hebrew word meaning, "to dedicate"). I argue that if Hanukkah was worth Jesus' attention, it is worth mine and other Christians. As Jews celebrate the Festival of Lights, I pray the lights of Hanukkah will illuminate you and your family so that you may experience joy, both materially and spiritually.

Bowl

Continued from 40

State also tied Florida State (17-17) in the 1967 Gator Bowl.

The game will air on ESPN. The 71st Annual TaxSlayer Bowl will be played on Jan. 2, 2016 at noon at EverBank Field. Tickets and Bowl information are available online at www.taxslayerbowl.com.

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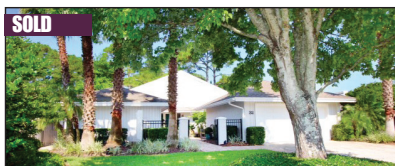


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If you don't know where your boyfriend stands, ask him

Dear Neil: I'm in a year and a half relationship with a guy from Saudi Arabia. We are both professionals, but he is 26 and never married, and I am 37, divorced and I have 2 kids. Because we are Muslims, our relationship is not allowed, and his parents don't know about us at all. I don't know if he is serious about me, whether he's thinking about marrying me, or if he just desires a girlfriend. Any suggestions?

— *Needing Help in the Philippines*

Dear Needing Help: Being in a relationship implies that the two of you talk about important issues and feelings. If you don't know where your boyfriend stands regarding a future with you, ask him.

And you could also tell him how you feel and what you want. Perhaps something like: "How are you feeling about us, and do you see yourself



Neil Rosenthal
Columnist

proposing anytime soon?" If he says he is undecided, you could ask him what he would need—or what it would take—for him to decide.

You being 37 with kids may mean you are ready to marry, and him being 26 may signify he's not. You have so much more to lose than he does if you think about the scenario you described.

He may feel he has all the time in the world, where you may not, and you have children to consider.

I am reluctant to advise about the religious aspects of your relationship because I don't know enough about your faith, but it is my understand-

ing that there is no Muslim law that prevents the two of you from marrying, although there may be a dictate about the two of you being chaste before marriage. That being said, having his parents supportive of his decision may be extremely important to him, and having his parents disapproval may be too much for him to deal with. This is why it is prudent for you to have the conversation with him now about how he envisions the future.

Dear Neil: Is it considered cheating if one person stays "active" on dating websites after a couple have become serious?

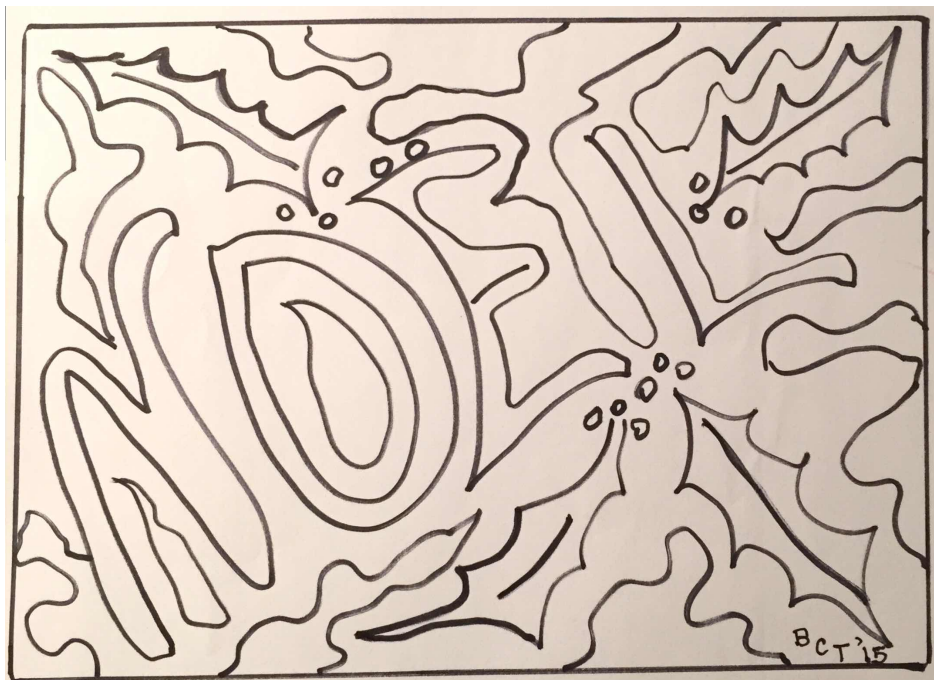
— *Wanting to Know*

Dear Know: Yes. If you are on dating sites, you are representing yourself to the world as single and available, and you are putting temptations in front

of you. If you have entered a serious relationship, presumably you do not want to do anything to threaten the stability of that relationship, hurt your partner or give him or her reasons to feel insecure around you.

If your partner finds out, you will have immediate and powerful trust issues in this relationship, and trust issues have a long afterlife and are hard to get rid of. You are therefore playing with fire if you stay active on dating sites while also being in a serious relationship.

Neil Rosenthal is a licensed marriage and family therapist in Westminster and Boulder, Colorado. His column is in its 24th year of publication, and is syndicated around the world. You can reach him at 303-758-8777, or email him through his website: www.heartrelationships.com. The second edition of his book: "Love, Sex and Staying Warm: Creating A Vital Relationship," recently hit the #1 best seller list on Amazon.



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Quiltlady

Continued from 42

ture. Pictured is my drawing of my own Christmas card that I am going to use as a pattern for a little Christmas pillow ornament to put on my front door. I shall print the card on fabric, and use fabric markers to color "between the black lines." I shall add a little glitter to make it sparkle when the light hits it.

Here's how to make the ornament: cut the fabric card out leaving a 2" border; layer it with batting and a lining; do a little machine quilting on it; cut out a backing; sew the right sides together leaving a small hole to flip and turn; then stuff it with polyfil polyester; sew up the hole; add red satin ribbon to hang it onto my front door handle and have a unique little Christmas ornament.

This Christmas, leave your "wish list" in a prominent spot for your spouse to find. Be sure to tell him or her where the items may be found. This takes the guess work out of it. Mr. Whoozy used to get lost in Joanns trying to find something that I had

put on my wish list. It was always a "hoot" what he would get for me if he couldn't find what was on the list.

He loved to shop! I have more scissors than any other human on the planet, thanks to the time I asked him to buy me a pair of Gingher scissors. There were at least seven different sizes of those.

He bought all seven of them for me. I knew I had a "keeper" when he gave me a new Bernina sewing machine for a wedding present! Such a jewel!

Hope you are having fun with your Christmas shopping. I usually do it in one store and get out of there with something for every person on my list. That is a challenge that I make for myself to do.

Mark your calendars. The next Ocean Wave Quilters Guild meeting will be Jan. 8, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at The Players Community Center on Landrum Ln., off of CR-210, behind the Shell Station. Start the New Year off right and visit this wonderful group of talented quilters. "Work your Heart Out Day" is Feb. 11 at The Plantation dining room where we shall stuff the heart pillows for Hospice.

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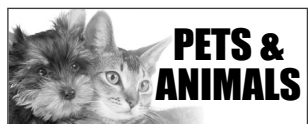
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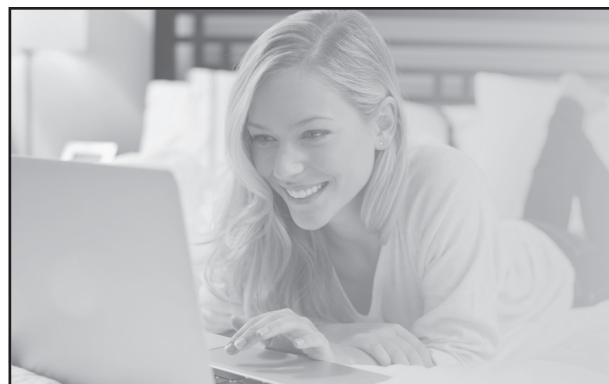
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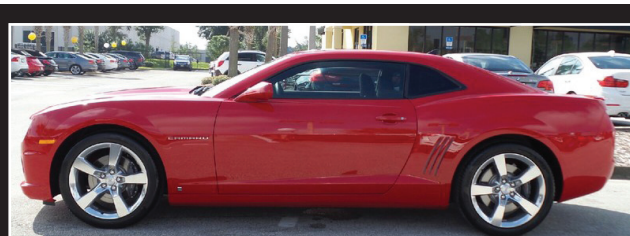
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