

August 4, 2016 Volume 46, No. 31

PonteVedraRecorder.com

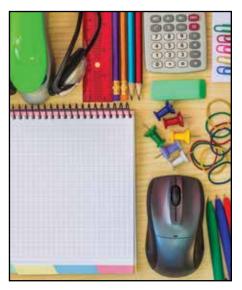
Not your average newspaper, not your average reader



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Woman's Worth stresses total well-being

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Back to School:

Shopping, supplies and more

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Ponte Vedra's Loeb wins Jax Amateur Golf Championship



Photo courtesy of JAGA

 $Ponte\ Vedra's\ Philip\ Loeb\ won\ the\ Jacksonville\ Amateur\ Golf\ Championship\ last\ weekend.\ Read\ more\ on\ page\ 41.$

Serving Ponte Vedra and the Beaches since 1969





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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 new website at

www.pontevedrarecorder.com

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

WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

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

All correct entries will be entered into a random drawing to win tickets for two adults and two children to the Jacksonville Zoo. In order to allow as many families as possible to win, participants are only eligible to win a ticket prize pack once every four months.

Several readers correctly identified last week's photo as Salt Life in Jacksonville Beach. Winner of the random drawing was **Dale Ratermann** – congratulations! You may pick up your prize at the Recorder offices during regular business hours.

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



ADOPT A PET

CAT OF THE WEEK

Hi there, my name is Shamrock the 4-year-old cat and I was brought to the pet center because my parents did not want to take care of me anymore. I am so good at snuggling; nobody can be my kitty cat cuteness. I'm so awesome at playing with my toys and taking naps in the sunny spot on the sofa. Come visit me today here at the pet center! #32459





DOG OF THE WEEK

Hi there, my name is Rocco and I am a 3-yearold male boxer who is looking for a new home. I was brought to the pet center as a stray. I'm kind of new to this whole leash thing, so please bear with me while I get used to it. I love going outside, though; nothing makes

me wag my little nub-tail like the idea of going outside to run and play and smell all the things! So come on by and visit me here at the pet center! #33290

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

St. Johns County Pet Center

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





Local teens arrested for Ponte Vedra car burglary

Detectives ask residents to check for missing keys

Three St. Johns County teens were arrested July 27 in connection with a Ponte Vedra vehicle burglary.

The suspects were identified as Jonathan Austin Lulloff, 18, 220 Nettles Ln., #101, Ponte Vedra; and two juveniles - one from Ponte Vedra and the other

from St. Augustine.

According to the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, deputies responded to a report of three individuals in dark clothing walking around the Walden Chase subdivision shortly before 3 a.m. July 27. The three suspects were later found

by deputies in Nocatee's nearby Austin Park neighborhood, and were taken into custody for questioning. Officers also located a backpack that allegedly contained property from a vehicle burglary at a residence in the 600 block of Battlegate Lane.

District detectives continued the investigation and located additional alleged stolen property from Lulloff's home, including several sets of keys that have not been identified. Detectives are asking Ponte Vedra residents

- particularly in the Walden Chase, Florentine and Nocatee communities - to contact the sheriff's office if they are missing keys or other property from vehicles within the



LULLOFF

past two weeks. For more information, contact Detective David Garns at (904) 824-8304.





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Entertaining is a breeze in this gracious pool home with a large sunroom and wet bar window that opens to the covered patio. MLS 822332

Rosemary Jones 904.501.2482 RosemaryJones@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



Ponte Vedra Office 904.285.6300

Interested in a Real Estate Career? Career Information: Wednesday, August 17th - 4:00pm - 6:00pm Mary Ann Bongiorno/Broker 904.280.2801

Email: MBongiorno@WatsonRealtyCorp.com

4 Community News Ponte Vedra Recorder · August 4, 2016

Candidates meet constituents at 'Politics in St. Johns'

By Jennifer Loque

A capacity crowd filled the Hilton Garden Inn in Ponte Vedra Beach July 27, as dozens of candidates turned out to meet with constituents and supporters at "Politics in St. Johns."

Co-sponsored by the Ponte Vedra Recorder and the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, the event attracted candidates from races up and down the ballot - including the 4th congressional district

Former Jacksonville Sheriff John Rutherford, who is seeking the office, said his decades of law enforcement experience would be an asset in Washington. "During my career, I mainly worked with very diverse coalitions - it's all about relationships," he said. "I'm not an ideologue. I'm not going to go to Washington and kick sand in people's faces. I believe in getting things done, and Congress needs to do the same thing."

State Rep. Lake Ray, who is also seeking the seat, said constituents tell him they are concerned about jobs, the economy, national security and immigration. In addition, he said, they're worried that the recent indictment of Rep. Corrine Brown on federal corruption charges and Rep. Ander Crenshaw's retirement will weaken Northeast Florida's representation in congress.

"People are very concerned about leadership - and about having continuity and strength of leadership," he said, adding that his experience as a state legislator would be an asset in maintaining that

Fourth congressional district candidate and County Commissioner Bill McClure, meanwhile, noted that redistricting has changed the composition of the district, with St. Johns County residents now comprising approximately 30 percent of its residents.

"St. Johns County will play a very big role in the election," McClure said. "We have a history of being very conservative - and I intend to keep it that way, fighting for conservative fiscal policies."

David Bruderly – the lone Democrat in the 4th District race - underscored different priorities, including creating jobs and rebuilding infrastructure through clean water, cleaner energy and by capitalizing on the technological capabilities of the region's naval bases.

"Obama's got the right idea with his climate plan but it's got to be implemented at the local level," Bruderly told resident Laura Warren, who identified herself as "a Ponte Vedra Democrat - one

"If Jacksonville wants to grow up and become a 21st-century city like the cham-

ber's always talking about," he continued, "it needs to get a little more progressive in terms of the people we send to Washington."

Sheriff's race

Both candidates seeking election as sheriff were in attendance, including former sheriff's office employee Debra Maynard, who said one of her priorities if elected would be to address domestic violence issues involving law enforcement officers.

"I have a real problem with officerinvolved domestic violence," she said. "If we're going to send people to jail, we better hold our own accountable."

Maynard said she was encouraged by the response she has received from

"I think I have a silent majority," she said. "People want a kinder, gentler law enforcement – someone who'll lower the testosterone level. They want more of a 'Mayberry, RFD' department."

Sheriff David Shoar - who is seeking re-election to his fourth term – sees things differently.

"People tell me, 'Sheriff, we're safe, we feel safe," said Shoar, adding that in the past five years the county has seen a 37 percent drop in crime. He acknowledged, though, that the significant increase in St. Johns County's population during that time has stretched the department's

"Of course, people would like more deputies in their neighborhoods and shorter response times," he said. "In some ways, I think we're a victim of our own

To address those concerns. Shoar said. he has submitted a budget request to add more officers in the coming fiscal year that begins Oct. 1.

County Commission

In the race for the Board of County Commissioners, candidate Henry Dean (District 5) called his first run for elective office a "grand adventure." Yet Dean is no stranger to public service: He served as executive director of the St. Johns River Water Management District for 17 years, during which time he negotiated the acquisition of the Guana River Preserve.

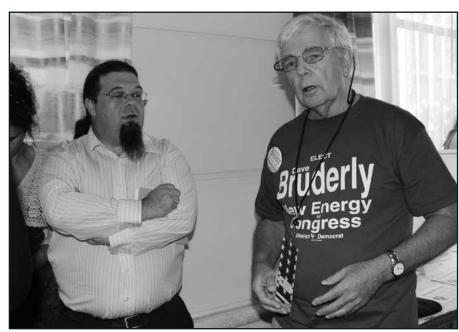
If elected, Dean said his priorities would include managing growth and reining in "runaway development."

'Very simply, any new development needs to pay for itself and needs to be in an appropriate area that's not destroying our natural resources and our wetlands,'

Business owner Paul Waldron (District



Carol Maurer, Chuck Schoonmaker and Anna Washington of the Hilton Garden Inn



Democratic congressional candidate Dave Bruderly talks with local Democrats.



St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Isabelle Rodriguez



Candidate for sheriff Debra Maynard

Candidates

Continued from 4

3), said county infrastructure, development and finances would be among his priorities, and cited his business experience as an asset he would bring to the board.

"Sometimes I feel the county has more of a spending issue than a funding issue."

Candidates Dottie Acosta (District 5) and Jerry Cameron (District 3) both touted their extensive administrative experience in government. Acosta worked for nearly three decades in the county Property Appraisor's Office – a role she said put in her regular contact with county and state officials.

"I know how the county operates, so I would make a smooth transition," Acosta said. "I'm not doing this for notoriety, I'm not doing this for money, I'm doing it for the citizens."

Cameron's background, meanwhile, includes a decade as St. Johns County's assistant county manager, a stint as city manager of Fernandina Beach and service as police chief of two communities.

In addition to issues such as development and infrastructure, Cameron said residents have expressed their concern over what they perceive as dissension among the current members of the Board of County Commissioners.

"It hampers decision making," he said. "When you're in a position of trust, you can't personalize any issue. We've got enough of that at the national level. The commission is going to have to work together to get things accomplished."

Resident Carole McManus praised

CANDIDATES continues on **Page 10**



County Commission Candidate (District 3) Paul Waldron, Ashley Zapata and Stephanie Waldron



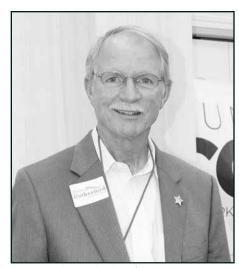
Circuit judge candidate Malcom Anthony, Waine Banyas and Chef Izzy Sipinowski



Candidate for Republican State Committeewoman Elizabeth Granite-Amato, County Commissioner – and 4th Congressional candidate – Bill McClure and Kim McClure



County Commission Candidate (District 5) Henry Dean, Chuck Johnson and County Commission Candidate (District 3) Jerry Cameron



Former Jacksonville Sheriff and 4th Congressional District Candidate John Rutherford

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Christine Hoffman first moved to the Jacksonville area as a small child when her father was transferred to Naval Station Mayport. A Beaches resident since 1992, she now serves as a Jacksonville Beach city councilor and executive director of the Beaches Area Historical Society – roles that have strengthened and deepened her roots in the Beaches community. — By Jennifer Logue

Christine Hoffman

You're currently running for re-election to the Jacksonville Beach City Council. What prompted you to seek public office and what do you hope to accomplish if re-elected?

When I first ran in 2012, there were quite a few openings due to term limits. I saw it as a great opportunity to jump in with both feet to help steer the direction of the city. As citizens, we seem to get so much more engaged in presidential politics, when in reality things like roads, trash collection, public safety and electricity are local issues! Jacksonville Beach is in very good shape, financially. We've been able to lower the property tax rate, keep our pensions healthy and run a good, tight city budget while maintaining the quality of life and service levels that our citizens expect. My ambition for the next four years is to really start to see the potential that we have, particularly in our downtown area.

What do you think are the key issues facing Beaches residents that you could impact on the city council?

In the big picture, public safety, economic impacts and quality of life are overarching. Making sure our citizens feel and are safe, keeping the cost of living low and ensuring that this is a great place to live are all important. But everyone approaches those things differently. I believe that a strong housing market and business community will make this an even better place to live, bring in better retail and restaurants and increase quality tourism. In particular, I want to make sure we invest in purposeful ways in our downtown area to bring in the types of businesses that we want to see and to elevate the image of the area throughout the region.

What do you enjoy most about your role as executive director of the Beaches Area Historical Society?

We have a very small staff so everyone wears many different hats. I love that every day is different. I could be walking the park talking about future plans, helping an exhibit committee hang panels, setting up for a chapel concert or working with one of my board committees on the future of the organization. It's been really fun to wake up a sleepy little museum in the past two years. There is always something going on here and I'm so proud to see the community coming out, getting excited about the history, art and culture that we are offering here!

You have a long association with the American Cancer Society. How did you first become involved with the organization and what are some of the roles you've held with ACS?

When I was a sophomore in college, my mom was diagnosed with breast cancer. I spent the summer home from school going to chemo appointments, wig shopping and keeping her company through her fight. When I got back to Gainesville that fall, I went to the ACS office and asked how I could get involved. Amazingly, they put me right to work arranging services for cancer patients and staffing an office at the Shands Cancer Center. Not only was I giving back, but little did I know I was also building my resume.

When I graduated with a political science degree, the staff at ACS told me about an advocacy position in Tallahassee. I jumped on the chance to help impact statewide policy, particularly on tobacco issues. During my first two years there, I was part of creating a campaign to make all restaurants and workplaces smoke-free. I left ACS to become the North Florida field director of Smoke Free for Health, a ballot initiative on the 2002 ballot. We won resoundingly and you no longer hear "smoking or non" when you go into a restaurant! When that campaign concluded, I was recruited to move back to work in the Jacksonville Beach office of ACS. I served as the executive director for four years, covering St. Johns, Nassau and the Beaches. I lost my mom in 2008 after she fought cancer for 11 years. She was the strongest person I know and I admire her and miss her every

Are there other charitable/civic organizations with which you're involved?

When I left the American Cancer Societv. I decided I wanted to be involved in a local, more grassroots organization. I joined the board of BEAM in 2009 as the fundraising chair and was very excited to be a part of their 25th anniversary of serving the community. As part of that, we founded the "Beach Ball" and raised over \$60,000

each year, for the first three years. Considering the economy at the time, that was a great feat and huge for BEAM. Two years ago, I joined the Rotary Club of Jacksonville, Oceanside. I chair the community service committee and through that, we've gotten involved in projects for all the great organizations at the beach, including Mission House, BEAM, Beaches Habitat, Beaches Community Kitchen, Beaches Fine Arts Series and the USO. This summer, we are putting on the first annual "Beaches Health Jam." We wanted to bring the St. Vincent's Mobile Health Unit to the Beaches area and the three area Rotary Clubs joined forces to create an entire community event that will



have music, games, information, health screenings, dancing and more.

How do you enjoy spending your free time?

Free time? I don't understand the question! Truly my passion beyond serving my community is travel. I'm always planning and saving up for a trip and have been able to go to Cuba, the Middle East, India, South Africa, Europe, Thailand, etc. One of my favorite trips was a cross-country road trip with my sister. We have a beautiful country and I don't think enough people know or fully appreciate that!



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All properties listed are in Ponte Vedra unless otherwise noted

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7

Thursday, Aug. 4

Friday, Aug. 5

Sunday, Aug. 7

Politics in St. Johns: St. Augustine

Politics in St. Johns, one of St. Johns County's premier political events that offers citizens the opportunity to meet candidates running for a wide array of public offices, will be held Aug. 4 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the Solomon Calhoun Center, 1300 Duval St., St. Augustine. This special event is open to St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce members, guests and the general public. Admission is free but registration is required. Register online at www. stjohnscountychamber.com.

Concerts in the Plaza

The 2016 Concerts in the Plaza summer music series continues Aug. 4 with a performance by Triple Rock Blues Band live at 7 p.m. at Plaza de la Constitución, 22 Cathedral Place, St. Augustine. The concerts continue every Thursday through Sept. 1. All concerts are free. For more information, call (904) 825-1004 during weekday office hours or visit www.concertsintheplaza.com.

S.T.A.N.D. Against Bullying Magic Show

Magician Mark Alan's S.T.A.N.D. Against Bullying Magic Show will be held Thursday, Aug. 4 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library, 101 Library Blvd. The magic show is intended to show kids how to embrace their inner hero by standing up for themselves and for others. All children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the program. For more information, call the library at (904) 827-6955.

Main-iac Robotics Lab

Kids, ages 10-16, are encouraged to join the Main Branch Library's Main-iac Robotics Lab Thursday, Aug. 4 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Main Branch Library, 1960 N. Ponce De Leon Blvd., St. Augustine. Space is limited, so registration is required. For more information, contact Youth Services Librarian Andy Calvert, at (904) 827-6943 or atacalvert@sjcfl.us.

'The Last 5 Years'

Limelight Theatre presents "The Last 5 Years," a contemporary musical on stage now through Aug. 21. For tickets, call (904) 825-1164 or visit www.limelight-theatre.org.

Apex Theatre presents 'Godspell'

Featuring a cast of high school and college-age students, the nonprofit Apex Theatre Studio presents "Godspell" Aug. 5 and 6 at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, 1050 A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach. Performances are Friday, Aug. 5 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 6 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for general reserved seating; \$20 for students and seniors. Visit www.pvconcerthall.com for more information or to purchase tickets

Guana Reserve volunteer orientation

GTM Research Reserve will offer an introduction to the volunteer program to those who sign up for the Friday, Aug. 5 new volunteer orientation at 11: 30 a.m. For more information, contact Shannon Rininger, volunteer coordinator, at (904) 823-4500 or email her at Shannon. Rininger@dep.state.fl.us. The orientation will take place at the GTM Research Reserve Environmental Education Center, 505 Guana River Road, Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information about the volunteer program or to fill out a volunteer application, visit www.gtmnerr.org/volunteer.

'Memphis' at Players by the Sea

Players by the Sea summer musical "Memphis" will be performed on the Mainstage through Aug. 13. General admission is \$28; Thursday night is student night with half price tickets at the door with a valid student ID. Players by the Sea is located at 106 6th St. N., Jacksonville Beach. For tickets, call (904) 249-0289 or visit www.playersbythesea.org.

Cultural Center's 'Friends for the Arts'

Become a "Friend." The Cultural Center recently recreated a new volunteer organization dedicated to supporting the arts. Get involved in the arts by joining a team of fellow art supporters in Ponte Vedra Beach. Help develop and support fundraising projects and help initiate special projects to benefit and promote The Cultural Center and the arts in the community. More than 50 volunteer art supporters have already joined. Make a difference in our community. For more information visit www.ccpvb. org./friends-for-the-arts.

Katz 4 Keeps Adoptions Adoption Days

Saturday, Aug. 6

Katz 4 Keeps adoption days will take place Saturday, Aug. 6 and Sunday, Aug. 7 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Katz 4 Keeps, 935B A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach (next to Sherwin Williams). For more information, call (904) 834-3223 or email katz4keeps.org.

Beaches Health Jam

The inaugural Beaches Health Jam, a free community event, will be held Saturday, Aug. 6 beginning at 3 p.m. Guests will be able to have free health screenings; sample healthy recipes; participate in line dancing, Pilates and Tai Chi demonstrations; and play games, among other health-based activities. The afternoon will be capped off by the Beaches' biggest "Wobble" dance event at 5:30 p.m., followed by a kickball tournament at 6 p.m. The Beaches Health Jam will be held at Carver Center, 777 5th St. S., Jacksonville Beach.

Cheese & Wine Pairing

Coastal Wine Market & tasting room will host a gourmet marinara, rigatoni, cheese and wine pairing with wine guru Don Lott Saturday, Aug. 6 from 6 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$30. Limited space is available. Visit www.marinaratastingatcwm. eventbrite.com to reserve your spot. Coastal Wine Market is located at 641 Crosswater Parkway. Suite B. Ponte Vedra.

Cummer Museum Pokemon Go event

Celebrate the end of summer vacation with the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens, 829 Riverside Ave, Jacksonville for a Back to School Bash with a Pokémon theme. There are seven Pokéstops on the museum campus that will be provided with lures from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 6.

Back to School with BEAM

BEAM will provide school supplies and clothing for preschool to high school students in the beaches area who need help getting ready for a new school year Aug. 6 from 8 a.m. to noon at Beach United Methodist Church, 325 7th Ave. N., Jacksonville Beach. Be sure to bring picture ID, proof of residency, and social security card or shot records for each child. For more information, call (904) 241-2326.

Practice with Purpose at Big Fish Yoga

Practice with Purpose is an all-level yoga class offered on Sundays from 4 to 5 p.m. at Big Fish Power Yoga. The fee for the class is a \$5 cash donation that goes to the charity that Big Fish Power Yoga has selected for the quarter. Big Fish Yoga is located in the South Beach Regional Shopping Center in Jacksonville Beach at 3852 South Third St. For more info, call (904) 372-0601.

Collection Tour

Join the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens on Sundays for a guided tour of its permanent collection. The tour is free with the cost of admission. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville.

Travel Training Program

The Council on Aging's Travel Training program is designed to assist seniors in learning to ride the Sunshine Bus. Residents interested in expanding their transportation options or who would like to increase their confidence as a bus rider can receive assistance from trained volunteers in navigating routes, reading time tables and making transfers. Contact the mobility manager at the Council on Aging at (904) 315-6505 or email Katie Arnold at karnold@stjohnscoa.com.

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 Habitat helps build them a simple, decent place to live. For more information on volunteering, donating or qualifying for a Habitat home, visit habitatstjohns.org.

Annual Activity Member

Become an Annual Activity Member at The Players Community Senior Center. Membership includes discounts on fee-based classes, designated events and Coastal Travel along with complimentary participation in a wide variety of scheduled activities. Call Darlene Mahany at (904) 280-3233 for more information.



August

Activities

for Members

Member Monday Every Monday Evening

Taco Tuesday Every Tuesday

Wing Wednesday Every Wednesday Evening

Party Bridge Every Thursday Noon

Thirsty Thursday Every Thursday Evening

Back to School Bash Saturday, August 6

Kindergarten Ice Cream Social Monday, August 8

70 for Monday, August 8

Blues, BBQ, Bourbon & the Beach Friday, August 12

Book Club Tuesday, August 16

Kids Yoga Workshop Wednesday, August 17

Howl at the Sturgeon Moon Thursday, August 18

Dive In Movie "Angry Birds" Saturday, August 20

Around the Spa Event Thursday, August 25

Kids Movie Night "Zootopia" Friday, August 26



AUGUST
ACTIVITIES
FOR MEMBERS

To learn more about enjoying these wonderful events and membership in the Club, please call the membership office at (904) 273-7716 or visit www.pvicmember.com

Sunday Brunch Buffet Every Sunday

Bridge Monday's at 12:30 p.m.

Lobster Night Every Wednesday

Prime Rib Buffet Every Friday

Meditation Workshop August 14, 21, 28

Bold City Tap Takeover in The Seahorse Grille August 5 - 7

Italian Night Monday, August 8

Member Shopping Day Tuesday, August 9

Trivia NightTuesday, August 9

EILEEN FISHER Trunk ShowThursday, August 11

Dive In Movie "Zootopia" Friday, August 12

PV Date Night Saturday, August 20

Around the Spa Event Thursday, August 25

Kids PJ Party Saturday, August 27

Junior Golf Clinic Begin Tuesday, August 23

Call 273-9500 for more information

Monday, Aug. 8

Tuesday, Aug. 9

Thursday, Aug. 11

Democratic Club meeting

The monthly meeting of the Ponte Vedra Democratic Club will be held Monday, Aug. 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library, 101 Library Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach. Everyone is welcome. For more information, visit facebook.com/pontevedrademocrats/events.

Caregiver Support Group

The Players Caregiver Support Group meets every Monday from noon to 1 p.m. at The Players Senior Center, 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach. Kimberly Weir of Heartland Hospice facilitates a weekly discussion of current concerns and issues of caregivers. For more information, call (904) 280-3233.

Darwin & Dinosaurs

The Museum of Science and History (MOSH) presents Darwin & Dinosaurs now through Sept. 5 at MOSH located at 1025 Museum Circle, Jacksonville. The exhibition features full-size dinosaur skeletons, scientific instruments, original letters and first editions of Darwin's main works, including "On the Origin of Species." For more information, call (904) 396-MOSH or visit www.themosh.org.

Republican Club Meeting

The Republican Club of Greater St. Augustine will meet from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 8 at 250 Brainard Drive, St. Augustine. Meetings are held the second Monday of every month and are open to all registered Republicans. There is no charge for attending. For more information, visit republicanclubgsa.com or email information@republicanclubgsa.com.

Sawgrass Women's Club Meeting

The Sawgrass Women's Club meets the second Monday of the month at 10 a.m. at Sawgrass Country Club Golf Club. For more information, email Susan Summers at sritchiesummers@aol.

First Coast Plein Air Painters exhibition

The First Coast Plein Air Painters will have its Summer Members' Exhibition and Sale through Sept. 2 at The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach, 50 Executive Way. For more information, call (904) 304-9631 or visit www.ccpvb.org.

Lilies of the Valley

The next "Lilies of the Valley" widows social support group luncheon hosted by Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home and Cemetery will be held Aug. 9 at 11:30 a.m. The complimentary luncheon includes sharing time and ladies are requested to bring pictures of their husband. Reservations are requested and should be made by Aug. 5. Bring a friend! For more information, call Rene (904) 285-1130. The Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home is located at 4750 Palm Valley Road.

Free Bridge Lessons

Free beginning bridge lessons are available at the Jacksonville School of Bridge, 3353 Washburn Road., Jacksonville Beach on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Lessons start 9:30 a.m. and end at 10:15 a.m. This is followed by an actual game at 10:30 a.m. and ends by 2:15 p.m. Contact Burt O'Dell at (352) 428-1075 for more information.

Adult Coloring Club

The Adult Coloring Club will meet Tuesday, Aug. 9 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library, 101 Library Blvd. Supplies will be provided, you just need to pick out your design and start coloring.

Sunset Rotary Club weekly meeting

The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset meets Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn. Community leaders are welcome to attend. For more information, call club President Janeene Hart at (904) 412-5409 or email jwhart1208@gmail.com.

Arbor Terrace Life Enrichment Group

The Life Enrichment Group Day Program takes place every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra, 5125 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra Beach. The group is designed for those with memory changes who would like to stay active mentally, physically and socially. For more information, call (904) 497-4346 or visit www.at-pontevedra. com.

Chamber Before Hours

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division Chamber Before Hours will be held Wednesday, Aug. 10 from 8 to 9 a.m. at the Ponte Vedra Recorder, 1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach. The event is free to preregistered members and guests; \$5 at the door. Continental breakfast will be included. For more information or to register for the event, visit www.stjohnscountychamber.

Wednesday, Aug. 10

Newcomers Monthly Meeting

Newcomers of the Beaches monthly luncheon is Wednesday, Aug. 10 at 11 a.m. at the Marsh Landing Country Club in Ponte Vedra Beach. The cost is \$23. Reservations are required. For more information, visit www.newcomersofthe-beaches.com

PV Professionals Networking Group

The Ponte Vedra Professionals Networking Group meets the second, third and fourth Wednesday of the month from noon to 1 p.m. The first Wednesday of the month, the group hosts an after-work social mixer. Meeting locations vary; for more information, call Dave at (904) 248-9871 or visit www.pvpng.com.

Ponte Vedra Toastmasters

The Ponte Vedra Toastmasters Club offers opportunities for developing your leadership and communication skills. The group meets Wednesdays at The Players Community Senior Center, located at 175 Landrum Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach. The meeting starts promptly at 7:30 a.m. Contact Carmen J. Sardiñas at (904) 382-3303 or contact-5199@toastmastersclubs. org for more information.

Music by the Sea concert series

The Music by the Sea concert series takes place every Wednesday through Oct. 12, 2016 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the St. Augustine Beach Pier, 350 A1A Beach Blvd. On Aug. 10, Spanky the Band will perform. The concerts are free; guests can purchase a dinner plate for \$10 from the sponsoring restaurant. Food is served at 6 p.m. and the music starts at 7 p.m. For more information, call (904) 347-8007 or visit www.augustine. com/event/music-sea.

Mayport exhibit opening

The Beaches Museum and History Park will present a new exhibit: "Mayport Village: On the River of Change." The opening reception will be held Thursday, Aug. 11 from 6 to 8 p.m. The evening will include a first look at the exhibit, steamed shrimp and a chance to meet the people who made the exhibit possible. The event is free to museum members with a \$5 suggested donation for non-members. The museum is located at 381 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 241-5657 or visit www.beachesmuseum.org.

Concerts in the Plaza

The 2016 Concerts in the Plaza summer music series continues Aug. 11 with a performance by Big Pineapple live at 7 p.m. at Plaza de la Constitución, 22 Cathedral Place, St. Augustine. The concerts continue every Thursday through Sept. 1. All concerts are free. For more information, call (904) 825-1004 during weekday office hours or visit www.concertsintheplaza.com.

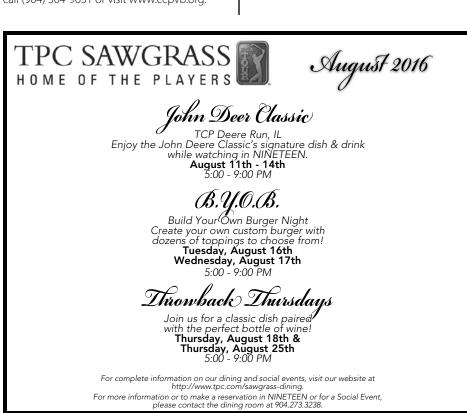
Life Enrichment Group

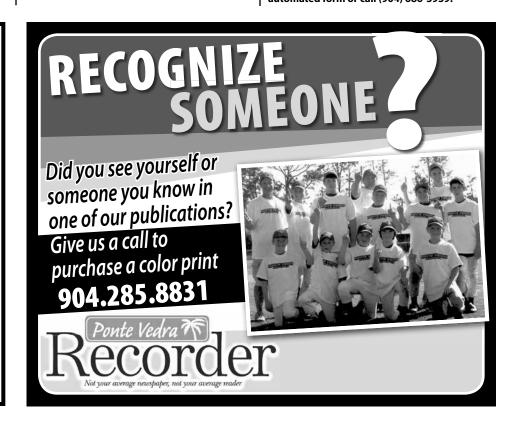
The Life Enrichment Group is a program designed for those with memory changes who like to stay active mentally, physically and socially while allowing caregivers and loved ones some free time for themselves. This program is offered weekdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Ashford Court, 1700 The Greens Way in Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 568-8174, or email life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com.

Mental Health Recovery Support

Free mental health support is available to the public facilitated by Georgia/Florida Certified Peer Specialist Whitney Bolin. Sessions are by appointment only Monday through Friday; call (770) 403-4991 or email whitneybat76@ gmail.com. Bolin also facilitates a mental health recovery group at Flagler Hospital from 2 to 4 p.m. every Tuesday.

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.





Candidates

the St. Johns County Chamber and the Recorder for organizing the candidate/constituent meet and greet. "I think it's a great idea to have events like this so people can meet with the candidates," said McManus, the chairman of the First Coast Tea Party. "Education is key."

While McManus agreed that development is an issue of concern to many residents at the local level, she said that voters have more basic concerns when it comes to their representation in Washington.

"People want to have their elected representatives be accessible to them," she said, "and to vote according to their constituents' wishes."



State Rep. and 4th Congressional District Candidate Lake Ray and Clerk of Circuit Court Candidate George Lareau



Tamara and Ronald "Doc" Renuart



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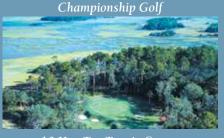
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DeSantis moves to Flagler County



DESANTIS

U.S. Rep. Ron DeSantis has moved to Flagler County, relocating to a home within the newly drawn boundaries of the 6th Congressional District.

According to voter registration records, DeSantis – who is seeking re-election as the 6th District's U.S. representative - now lives in an oceanfront condominium in Palm

Previously, DeSantis lived in Ponte Vedra

Beach; congressional redistricting, however, placed DeSantis's Ponte Vedra home within the boundaries of the redrawn 4th Congressional District.

DeSantis had been seeking election to the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by current Sen. Marco Rubio. When Rubio decided to re-enter the senate race following his unsuccessful presidential bid, DeSantis announced his intention to seek re-election to his 6th

congressional seat. That decision prompted criticism from some of DeSantis's opponents, including candidate Fred Costello, who questioned why the congressman was running in the 6th district and not the 4th.

While congressmen are not required by federal law to live in the district they represent, DeSantis's move to Palm Coast ensures he is a resident of the 6th District.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

People are asking me can they vote in the primary election for the commissioners if they are not Republicans.

Yes, if there is no one else running

except Republicans. That is true only in the District 1 election.

So be alert, Independents and Democrats. This will be the first time in ages that you can vote for a commissioner of your choice. It's a shame considering the huge growth in St. Johns County and the lack of sufficient money to meet the needs of the county.

We need commissioners who are not afraid to control growth and only allow

that which is approved in the comprehensive plan and can pay for itself. We need commissioners who are not afraid to find the money to maintain our infrastructure, our libraries, our beaches, our fire service and police.

In District 1, we have a commissioner Mr. Johns, who will not control growth. Nor will he provide the funds to maintain our county infrastructure. Nor allow us a vote, to find the money, to do it

So you better vote for one who will. Mr. Al Abbatiello says he will.

Mary Kohnke

Ponte Vedra Beach

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Coming Aug. 18:

Recorder Primary

Election

Guide

The Ponte Vedra Recorder will publish its special 2016 Primary Election Guide in the Aug. 18 edition of the paper.

As Ponte Vedra's paper of record since 1969, the Ponte Vedra Recorder is the paper residents turn to for credible, thoughtful, original reporting. Our coverage of public affairs is second to none, offering readers timely and compelling coverage of the important issues that affect their daily lives.

To be published just two days before the start of early voting, the Recorder's 2016 Primary Election Guide will provide residents with the information they need to make an informed decision in the voting booth. Be sure to look for a copy in your Aug. 18 paper.

National Farmers Market Week Celebration at RAM

In honor of National Farmer's Week, the Riverside Arts Market will hold a celebration with farming demonstrations, educational events, farm animals and more Saturday, Aug. 6 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

RAM is held under the canopy of the Fuller Warren Bridge at 715 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville every Saturday. For more information, visit www.riversideartsmarket.com.



Shoar for St. Johns County Sheriff

PROVEN SERVICE

Sheriff Shoar is a 24-year veteran of the Florida Army National Guard. He has served our country and state during several operations, including the Gulf War, and during relief efforts after Hurricanes Andrew and Opal. He also served as an Operations Officer at State Headquarters in St. Augustine. He retired with the rank of Major.

- Meritorious Service Medal Recipient
- **Southwest Asia Service Medal Recipient**
- Two-Time Army Commendation Medal Recipient
- Humanitarian Service Medal Recipient

Sheriff Shoar was also awarded the Liberation of Kuwait Medal from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

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Political advertisement paid for and approved by David Shoar, Republican, for St. Johns County Sheriff

Gourmet food and wine pairing with Don Lott

Coastal Wine Market & tasting room will hold a special gourmet food and wine tasting this weekend. Attendees will be able to sample two of New Jersey's finest homemade sauces and enjoy authentic Italian Gerardo's marinara and vodka sauces with gourmet rigatoni, crispy Italian bread sticks and slices of Parmesan Reggiano Saturday, Aug. 6 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Coastal Wine Market,

located at 641 Crosswater Parkway, Suite B, Ponte Vedra Beach.

The food samples will be paired with Italian wines. Tickets are \$30 and are in limited supply. Visit http://marinaratastingatcwm.eventbrite.com to reserve a spot.

For more information about the event. call (904) 395-3520, email info@coastalwinemarket.com or visit www.facebook. com/coastalwinemarket.



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Planning underway for Ponte Vedra Auto Show



Photo courtesy of St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce ounty Chamber of Commerce recently met to finalize

Planning is now underway for the annual Ponte Vedra Auto Show. Officials from the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce recently met to finalize details of the popular auto show, which will be held Sunday, Sep. 11 from a 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Nocatee Town Center.

Aqua Grill Viglo dinner Aug. 10

Local residents will have an opportunity to participate in a Viglo dining experience this summer, when Chef Mimi Lan brings the globally influenced Vietnamese cuisine to Ponte Vedra's Aqua Grill for a special "pop-up dinner."

To be held Wednesday Aug. 10 at 7 p.m. at Aqua Grill, the dinner will feature a five-course Viglo menu, with Chef Mimi providing cultural and historical commentary for each dish. Working in collaboration with Chef Mimi will be Aqua Grill Executive Chef Mike Thomashunis.

The dining experience will begin with charred shishito peppers in yuzu topped with bonito flakes and an Asian pear martini with palm seed fruit. The first course will feature shrimp toast – featuring shiitake, chipotle mayo, chives, onion confit, roasted garlic and sesame oil on a French baguette crostini – followed by a second course of green papaya salad. The third course will be bean thread crab noodle, followed by a fourth course offering two tastings of Peking duck and duck lo mein. The menu will conclude with flourless chocolate and Asian pear cake in a pistachio butter crumb crust.

Reservations are now being accepted for the Viglo dinner, which is limited to 40 guests. Reservations are \$75 per person plus tax and gratuity and must be paid in full at the time of reservation. While no refunds will be given, reservations are transferrable. Reservations may be made by calling (904) 285-3017.



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Grace Conservatory holds grand opening in Nocatee

By Jennifer Logue

Scores of little girls clad in pink leotards and tutus flocked to Grace Conservatory Sunday, as the dance studio held its grand opening in Nocatee Town Center.

Located at 485 Town Plaza Ave., Ste. 450, the studio held a ribbon cutting and open house, attracting hundreds of local families.

"You have given us the ultimate gift by entrusting us with your children," said Vaughan Robison, who owns the studio with his wife, Kristina.

A former professional dancer, Kristina Robison thanked those who came to the studio's grand opening.

"Thank you all so much for being here and sharing this with us," she said, fighting back tears. "This is my dream come true."

A graduate of the dance conservatory at Texas Women's University, Robison taught dance in her native San Antonio before moving to New York City to dance professionally. When she and her husband moved to Nocatee with their three young children last fall, they decided to bring the arts to Nocatee while making Kristina's dream of owning her own dance studio a reality.



Already, that dream is succeeding beyond the Robison's expectations.

"We already have 300 students taking classes," Kristina Robison said.

Grace Conservatory offers classes in a wide variety of dance styles – including tap, jazz, ballet and hip hop – for both boys and girls as young as 2 years old through adults. Registration is available online at www.graceconservatory.com.



Photos by Jennifer Logue

Vaughan and Kristina Robison cut the ribbon at the grand opening of their new dance studio, Grace Conservatory, in Nocatee.



Students take part in an introductory lesson at the grand opening of Grace Conservatory.

Nocatee Welcome Center – Meet Kerry Hinote

By Jasmine Marshall

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

This month's featured representative is Kerry Hinote.

How long have you been with the Nocatee Welcome Center?

I have been with the Nocatee Welcome Center since November 2015. I've been able to witness a tremendous amount of development in Nocatee since November, and it's been exciting to be part of the growth.

How does the experience differ from other places you've worked?

The entire team that makes up Nocatee – from The PARC Group to Nocatee's Resident Services – feels like one big family. Everyone cares about one another in a very genuine way. If I had to describe the people I work with in one word I would say "integrity."

You must meet hundreds of people a day – are there any new families in particular that you have a special memory of helping?

I have been very lucky to work with many incredible individuals and families. I enjoy getting to know prospects as they are starting the search for their new home. It is always a joy when someone whom I have helped comes in and tells me that they purchased in Nocatee.

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

Working in the Welcome Center



Kerry Hinote pictured with Julie Alen (left) and Heather Douglas (right).

does not feel like a job. I genuinely enjoy talking with people about all that Nocatee has to offer. Finding a new home is such a big life event, and it's an honor to get to play a small role in helping in that journey.

What about the Nocatee community are you most passionate about?

Nocatee residents have such a strong sense of community. To me, that is one

of the great things that makes Nocatee unique. There is always something exciting going on in Nocatee. Resident Services does a fantastic job of planning events that bring neighbors together. I know from speaking to residents that they go beyond that to plan events for their specific neighborhoods. Nocatee is very inclusive, and residents



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County Commission sets tentative millage rates, approves off-beach parking fees for non-residents

Commissioners trade barbs over decision not to put sales tax increase on last year's ballot

By Jennifer Logue

A special County Commission meeting to set tentative millage rates and address a shortfall in the Beach Services budget descended into a contentious discussion among board members over last year's 3-2 decision not to put a county sales tax increase on the ballot for voter consideration.

During the July 26 meeting, commissioners voted 4 to 1 to begin charging non-residents a \$5 per day fee for offbeach parking at county-owned lots, with discounts for seniors and veterans. Currently, the county only charges for on-beach parking, and those fees would remain unchanged. The commission also voted 3 to 2 to set the tentative millage rates, approving Commission Chair Jeb Smith's request to shift some money from the general fund to transportation, thereby requiring a millage adjustment. The approved tentative rates were 5.12 for the general fund and 0.73 for transportation.

The discussion on adjusting the millage rates originally proposed by the Office of Management and Budget became heated, however, after Smith read a prepared statement in which he charged that - unlike the successful surtax ballot measure passed by

voters to benefit the county schools the proposed county sales tax would have failed because citizens have less respect for the current Board of County Commissioners than they do for the school board, which oversees the top-ranked St. Johns County School

"The voters of St. Johns County do not trust this board," said Smith, citing the longevity of many school board members compared with the relatively short tenure of all five county commissioners. "This board is not respected and is perceived to be more politically driven than community focused...I'm tired of being berated and derided that the sales tax was not put on the ballot."

Smith's remarks drew a strong response from Commissioner Jay Morris.

"I disagree with everything you just said in that sermon..." Morris said. "If I thought this county had no trust in this board, I would resign tomorrow, you should resign and the other three county commissioners should resign...I think it's a degradation to say that."

Commissioner Rachael Bennett agreed. "I find your sermon extremely offensive, for you to speak for the people of this county and say they have no trust in this administrator or

this board," she said, adding that OMB was "extremely competent" and their recommendations should carry weight with the commission. "For us to come in at this point and say, 'Oh, by the way, we don't trust what you've done,' that is self-serving. We had an opportunity (with the proposed sales tax), we turned our back on it and now is not the time to be pretending that we

As commission members divided between those in favor of approving the millage rates approved by OMB and those who felt it was the commission's duty to adjust the figures as they believed was necessary, Morris said the board was "missing the big picture."

"To me, what this board does in a lot of cases is play small ball," Morris said. "We've got a major problem. Our reserves run out in 2021, so we've got to do something today."

Off-beach parking

The meeting initially began with a presentation on the growing shortfall in the Beach Services budget. OMB Assistant Director Jesse Dunn noted that for the past several years the general fund has been subsidizing the growing Beach Services budget. To

address the current \$866,000 shortfall, he said. OMB commissioned a study to determine how much revenue would be generated by charging a fee for offbeach parking at county lots.

"The county possesses a world-class beach system," said consultant Greg Butler of Public Financial Management, which conducted the study. "However, the operational expenses associated with the safety and maintenance of the county's beaches outpace associated revenues.'

Under the original proposal presented for the board's consideration, both residents and non-residents would pay \$5 a day for off-beach parking; residents would also be able to purchase a \$50 annual pass. Doing so, Butler said, would net the county approximately \$1.6 million, thereby covering the shortfall and generating additional

Several county residents in attendance spoke out in opposition to that

"I don't want to pay a fee to go park off-site as a St. Johns County resident," a St. Augustine resident said. "I go frequently with my wife to Vilano to see the sunset and I don't want to have to pay to do that.'

> Several commission members agreed, including Commissioner Bill McClure and Morris.

"I'm against nitpicking the residents of St. Johns County to charge them to go see their beaches, which is the reason you came here in the first place," Morris said. "I would not be in favor of anything that is going to charge the residents of St. Johns County in this area."

City of St. Augustine Beach Commissioner Andrea Samuels also opposed the proposal, noting that the consultants who conducted the parking study never contacted St. Augustine Beach leaders to discuss what impact the fees would have on the beach community.

"I'm going to be advocating for my residents and this will drive people to be parking on their



County Commissioners

streets," Samuels said. "Without our beaches and our pristine natural resources, your tills would be empty. I think you need to consider what you're doing and work with us."

County Commissioner James Johns noted, however, that the deficit in the Beach Services budget has grown significantly in recent years.

"These parking lots are not free - we have to maintain them," he said, highlighting just one of the costs included in the Beach Services budget. "The discussion is how do we pay for the cost of what we already own and already provide as a service and where does the public want the money to come from?"

Commission members also heard a detailed presentation on possibly using a portion of the Tourist Development Tax to fund the Beach Services shortfall. Numerous local officials spoke against that measure, however, saying that maintaining a consistent marketing budget was crucial to fueling the county's tourism

Ultimately, the board voted 4 to 1 to approve Bennett's motion to implement the off-beach parking fee for non-residents only, with discounts for seniors and veterans. County Administrator Michael Wanchick noted that Bennett's changes would reduce the amount of revenue generated from the initial \$1.6 million projections, and said the new fees could be implemented in 2017.

St. Johns River State College to offer non-credit art history and drawing classes

St. Johns River State College will offer art history and drawing courses this fall on the St. Augustine campus. The non-credit courses will be taught by local artist and Florida School of the Arts instructor David Ouellette. Classes include:

- Art History III: Into the Modern Era. Tuesdays and Thursdays from Aug. 30 to Sept. 22. Registration for this course is \$62.50.
- Drawing I Tuesdays and Thursdays, from Sept. 27 through Oct. 27. Registration for this course is \$80.
- Art History I: Pre-Historic Aegean culture through Greek, Roman, Late Antiquity and Byzantine Art - Tuesdays and Thursdays, from Nov. 1 through Dec. 6. Registration for the course is \$62.50.

Applications for the classes are available online at www.SJRstate.edu/continuinged.html. No prerequisites are required for registration.

Guided cultural and historical hike

A Guided Cultural and Historical Hike will be held Saturday, Aug. 6 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the GTM Research Reserve.

Visitors can learn about the cultural history of the Guana Peninsula during a guided cultural hike. Find out about the peninsula's 5,000 years of human history, including how native peoples used estuarine resources, what European plantation life was like and current efforts to learn about and save these

resources.

Hikers will meet at the GTM Research Reserve's Trailhead Pavilion, located west of the Guana Dam. Wear comfortable closed toe shoes. There is a \$3 per vehicle parking fee. Register online at https://gtmresearchreserveexplorations.eventbrite.com

The Guided Cultural and Historical Hike is held on the first Saturday of every month from 8:30 to 10:30

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River Garden receives Gold Seal Award



President of the River Garden Foundation Jeanine Rogozinski

25 STONY FORD DRIVE

By Jasmine Marshall

The River Garden Hebrew Home/ Wolfson Health & Aging Center received a Florida Governor's Gold Seal Award for Excellence in Long-Term care July 29 for the eighth time.

Recognized for exceptional care, the nonprofit River Garden Hebrew Home has continuously held the honor since the seal was created by the Florida legislature in 2002.

State Sen. Aaron Bean made an appearance at the ceremony held in the Cohen Auditorium, applauding the efforts of River Garden in the health care realm and presenting the award to River Garden President Marsha Pollock.

"River Garden is blessed with a cohesive and exceptional team." Pollock said. "(And we) thank the supporters and volunteers who work tirelessly."

The award recognizes Florida nursing homes that "demonstrate excellence in long-term care over a sustained period, promotes the stability of the field and facilitates the physical, social and emotional well-being of nursing home facility residents." First

implemented in 2002, the Gold Seal program rewards facilities with exceptionally high standards and quality of care, requiring each facility to meet strict criteria that considers financial soundness, a high quality of care ranking and its record with the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman program among others.

The River Garden Hebrew Home also holds five-star quality ratings from the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).





State Sen. Aaron Bean speaks with Shirley Stone, president of the River Garden Council of Residents



Welcome home to Cypress Trails In Nocatee! Just minutes to the beach, this 4 bedroom 3 bath home is beautifully designed with a chefs kitchen that opens to the family room. Just sold! \$317,205



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Kerry Hinote

Continued from 19



go out of their way to make Nocatee a great place to call home.

What does a typical work day look like for you?

No two days are ever the same! The only constant is that I spend time each day talking to prospects and Realtors about the Nocatee lifestyle.

What impact have you seen in the community with the work that you do as part of the Welcome Center staff?

Everyone in the Welcome Center firmly believes that it is a privilege to help prospects as they search for a new home. We are fortunate enough to play a part in Nocatee continuing to be the third best-selling community in the nation.

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

The grounds in Nocatee are stunning. It's always so calming to drive onto Nocatee property. It really does feel like I'm driving into a resort!

What is your favorite thing to do in Nocatee and why?

I love Nocatee-A-Glow! Christmas time is my favorite time of the year. Nocatee takes the holiday season to the next level. Splash Water Park is completely decked out with Christmas lights that are set to music. It can't be beat!

In your spare time what sorts of things do you like to do?

I am a proud Florida State University alumna and love to watch and attend FSU football games. (Go Noles!) I enjoy volunteering at my church, spending time with family and friends, and working on DIY projects.



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836 Prudential Drive, Suite 1405 Jacksonville, FL 32207 **20 Community News**Ponte Vedra Recorder · August 4, 2016

Adult coloring clubs bringing artists extraordinaire together: Coloring is not just for kids anymore

By Carrie Resch

Coloring in between the lines was a fundamental skill all kindergartners had to master, but with the recent coloring book craze hitting the nation, adults have found that a little bit of coloring can be enjoyable for them too.

Touted as a way to reduce stress and anxiety – even as a way to meditate – adults are finding the benefits of the coloring craze and having fun and meeting new, like-minded people while they're at it.

There is even a National Coloring Book day holiday held annually Aug. 2, where coloring enthusiasts across the country unite to mark the occasion. Locally, the Southeast Branch Library hosted a National Coloring Book Day Party Aug. 2 to celebrate.

At the July 28 regularly scheduled meeting of the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library Adult Coloring Club, women of a variety of age ranges filed into the PGA Tour Media Room to be greeted by familiar faces sitting at tables strewn with coloring books, printouts and supplies.

The library began offering the classes Jan. 12; a dozen people turned out for the first event. Due to the interest in the club, the library quickly decided to expand the meetings to two-times per month.

For each meeting, the room is reserved for a block of four hours, so participants can come and go as they please.

"The nice thing about the coloring group is you can come when you want, stay as long as you want or leave whenever you want – it's not a set time that you have to be here from this time to this time," club participant and library volunteer Gail Hilliker said. "You can bring your own materials or we've got all these pencils and crayons and papers, so we have a nice variety to work with."

Fellow coloring club enthusiast Virginia Peyton attended the first club meeting and keeps coming back.

"It's just a group," Peyton said.
"There's no instruction, no tests or

Remaining Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library Adult Coloring Club dates for 2016

Tuesday, Aug. 9 - 10 a.m. to noon Thursday, Aug. 25 - 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13 - 10 a.m. to noon Thursday, Sept. 29 - 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11 - 10 a.m. to noon Thursday, Oct. 27 - 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 8 - 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Dec. 6 - 10 a.m. to noon anything like that and we use different mediums – whatever we want to." The coloring club is a great way to get out of the heat, get out of the house and get away from chores, she added.

Neither of the women said that they had a particular favorite type of scene to color. Choices range from intricate patterns to butterflies, flowers and mandalas.

While summertime travel has impacted the group's attendance somewhat, the group has seen as many as 20 participants attend.

Adult coloring books can be found almost anywhere now. Craft stores, drug stores and even grocery stores have been known to stock adult coloring books. Peyton said that she is amazed whenever she walks into a bookstore and sees the coloring book displays peppered with everything from "Harry Potter" to "Game of Thrones."

"There's something out there for everyone," she said.

Peyton admitted that when she first joined the club she was nervous about making a mistake.

"When I started out, I was terrified," she said. "When you first lay that pen down, you think you've committed, but you can't make a mistake because there's no rule."

Colored pencils give the most variety when it comes to coloring choices, she said, but she's also used markers and crayons, too.

The bright and soothing colors themselves are what appeals most to Hilliker.

"I like to look back at the ones that I've done and just see the colors," she said. "They just make me feel good."

The group has even colored bookmarks – fitting for an event held at their local library – and had them laminated.

"It makes the colors really pop," Pevton said.

The next Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library Adult Coloring Club meetings will be held Tuesday, Aug. 9 from 10 a.m. to noon and Thursday, Aug. 25 from 1 to 4 p.m. There is no cost to attend and reservations are not required. Supplies will be provided, and all adults are welcome.

Other St. Johns County Public Library System branches also offer coloring meetups.

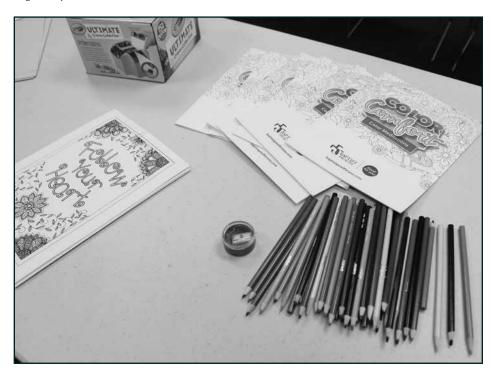
The Anastasia Island Branch's "Coloring Your Life for Adults" meetup will be held Tuesday, Aug. 9 from 2 to 3 p.m. and the Bartram Trail Branch Library Adult Coloring Club's next meeting will be held Thursday, Aug. 11 from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

For more information about the adult coloring clubs or any St. Johns County Public Library System program, call the local library, go to the library's reference desk, or visit www.sjcpls.org.



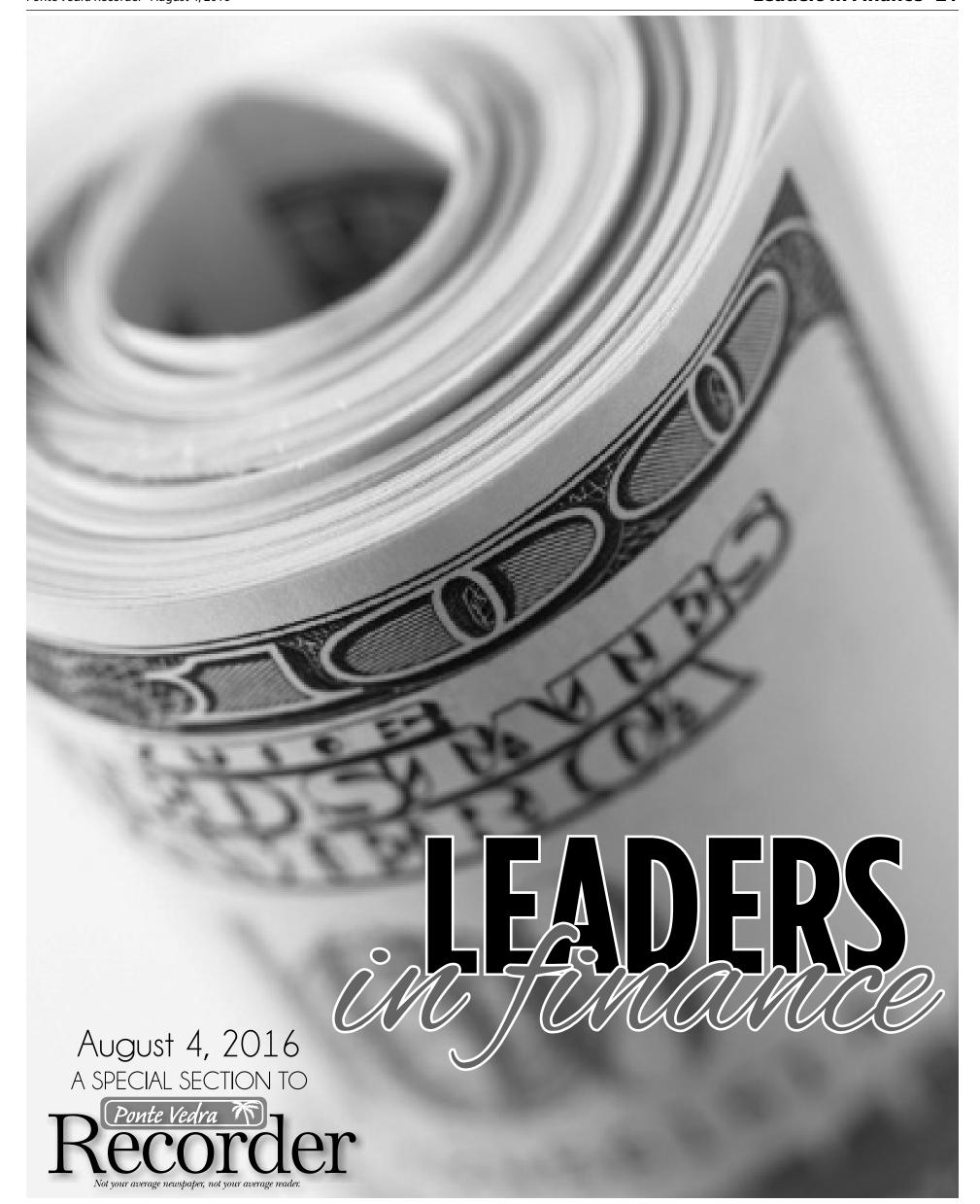
Photos by Carrie Resch

Virginia Peyton





The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library Adult Coloring Club meets two times per month to socialize, relax and explore their creativity.



22 Leaders in FinancePonte Vedra Recorder · August 4, 2016

Woman's Worth takes 'total well-being' approach to helping women achieve financial goals

By Jennifer Logue

Jeannette Bajalia studied the statistics and they were startling.

The president and principal advisor of Petros Estate & Financial Planning, Bajalia began to notice a trend among her female clients – namely that, for a variety of demographic reasons, many were financially ill-prepared for

retirement.

"Some had spent 30 years at home raising their children, only to find themselves suddenly divorced in their 50s," said Bajalia, a Ponte Vedra Beach resident. "I also began seeing widows in their 70s, some of whom had never even written a check. Their husbands had always handled the

finances."

Longevity was also a factor: In addition to the fact that women typically outlive their spouses, Bajalia said she was seeing an increasing number of younger widows and women who were finding themselves single at age 65. And because many of them had left the work force to raise their families or care for elderly loved ones, their retirement savings - and social security earnings had suffered.

"I looked at all this data," Bajalia said, "and I decided I needed a platform that would educate

women to give them the tools to make the right financial deci-



Photo courtesy of Jeannette Bajalia

Thoto courtesy of scarmette bajana

JEANNETTE BAJALIA continues on **Page 23**





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Ponte Vedra Recorder · August 4, 2016

Leaders in Finance 23

Jeannette Bajalia

Continued from 22

sions."

That platform was Woman's Worth, an independent company that specializes in helping women plan their financial futures.

A different approach

The need for a woman-centered approach to finance was necessary, Bajalia said, because women and men take dramatically different approaches to issues involving money.

"There's no area where gender differences are more prevalent than in finances," she said. "Women want more safety, more certainty; guys will live on the edge."

Women also are more concerned about being a burden on their children, and with leaving a legacy.

"They'll say, 'Oh, we can't af-

ford these extravagant trips,'" Bajalia said, "while the husbands want to spend every dime."

When it comes to estate planning, differences are also evident. "Women speak a planning language, not an investing language," she said. "Planning is a blueprint for retirement success driven by a desired lifestyle you've spent 40 years visualizing. Investing says, 'Once I have a plan, what do I do with the money to achieve the goals of the plan?'"

Men are also more actively engaged in strategic financial decisions, she added, whereas women tend to be in charge of the household's day-to-day operational decisions.

"What women tend to forget," she said, "is that one day they're going to have to make those strategic financial decisions on their own."

Total well-being

To do that, Woman's Worth employs what Bajalia calls a simple, fact-based lifestyle planning approach.

"I don't get into the rate of return or the latest, greatest investments (with clients)," she said.
"What women want to know is, 'What kind of lifestyle do I want and how do I get it?'"

The Woman's Worth approach is also different in that it adopts a holistic approach, taking into consideration a client's physical and emotional health as well as financial health.

"It's an integrated, educational approach to total well-being," she said. "With women living longer, the biggest risk to any woman's retirement is skyrocketing health care costs. So I integrate health education and a lot of self care into their retirement plans to make sure they know it's okay to spend money on themselves so

they don't jeopardize their health. I tell them, 'If you don't (spend money on self care), you'll be spending that money on co-pays and prescription drugs."

In addition to working individually with clients, Bajalia conducts numerous public workshops as well as monthly "lunch and learn" sessions designed to educate and reinforce the health/wealth connection. She has also written books on the subject and hosts a weekend "Woman's Worth" radio show on 103.9 FM.

"Women need to get their heads out of the sand and start the journey by creating a blue-print for retirement success," she said. "Sooner or later, a life event is going to rear its head and you need to be prepared – and you want it to be your plan, not anyone's else's plan."

Fuhgeddaboudit!



Harry Pappas

By Harry Pappas

Why does just about everything written about the stock market by self-proclaimed experts make me want to smear myself with honey and jump into a nest of fire ants?

The vast majority of the stuff these folks have to say has "conflict of interest" written all over it! In

the investing industry, the line between what is best for the client and what is best for the financial advisor is easily fuzzy. By the very nature of our profession, financial advisors have an agenda that conflicts with the client. This inherit conflict of interest applies to just about any industry, including the wine business.

Let us take a trip down memory lane. The year was 2001 and Frederic Brochet, a researcher at the University of Bordeaux, ran a study that lit a fire under the seats of wine snobs and sent shock waves throughout the wine industry. Determined to understand how wine drinkers decided which wines they liked, he invited 57 recognized experts to evaluate two wines; one red and one white. After tasting the two wines, the experts described the red wine as intense, deep, and spicy, which are commonly used to describe red wines. The white wine was described in equally standard terms: lively, fresh, and floral.

What none of these experts noticed, however, was that the two wines were the same wine. Even more damning, the wines were both white wines! The "red wine" was dyed with food coloring. Sip on that for a second. Swirl it around. Savor the essence. No, do not spit it out. Take a good long taste. Gee, that silence is getting loud. Any advice on how we should interpret Brochet study?" Fifty-seven wine experts could not decipher that they were drinking two identical wines. Perhaps Dr. Lee (from the O.J. Simpson trial) best articulates my feelings about this study when he was asked, "What do you conclude from this evidence, Dr. Lee"? He replied, "Something wrong."

I suggest that when a self-proclaimed stock market expert wants to tell us about the short-term direction of the market or some wine connoisseur who wants to enlighten us on how to recognize the expensive wine from the cheap stuff, we should immediately put on our phony-baloney glasses. In other words, fuhgeddaboudit!

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Ponte Vedra resident Vince Smyth named FCC Volunteer of the Year



Vince Smyth

Ponte Vedra resident Vince Smyth has been named Volunteer of the Year by the Florida Coalition for Children (FCC) for his efforts as a mentor to local foster children. FCC is a

statewide association that advocates for Florida's abused and neglected children and supports the agencies and individuals who work on their behalf. The award recognizes an outstanding state volunteer who is unselfish and devoted to serving foster children and generously gives time and talent to do so.

Smyth has been mentoring foster children since 2010 through Family Support Services of North Florida's Foster Buddies program. He was commended for spending quality time with the children as a caring

friend and role model. In the past two years alone, he devoted more than 600 hours mentoring foster youth providing them opportunities and experiences they would not otherwise have.

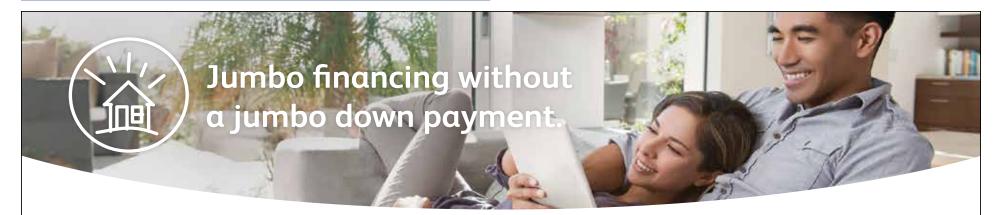
Family Support Services (FSS) Director of Community Development Dani Deyton said the children benefited from the friendship and bond they developed with Smith.

"They've had someone special to talk to and someone who paid attention to them, and they learned to trust," she said. "Many children in foster care no longer trust, after adults in their lives tend to fail them time and again."

Smyth takes great care to find out what interests each child, she added, and incorporates those interest into planned outings.

Smyth is the associate vice president of administration and finance at the University of North Florida.

To find out more about mentoring a child or teen in foster care, contact FSS at 904-265-8095 or mentor@fssnf.org.



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Jacksonville CEO moderates BioFlorida Panel



Quang Pham

Espero Pharmaceuticals Founder and CEO Quang Pham moderated a biotechnology and pharmaceuticals event hosted by JAX Chamber July 20. Pham was featured after being named an ELITE Entrepreneur by PM360 and recognized as one of the most influential people in healthcare.

The BioFlorida event focused on the industry workforce and offered several company perspectives on the talent currently available in northeast Florida. More than 500 professionals in the industry were registered to attend as members of the statewide organization representing companies and organizations in the life sciences field.





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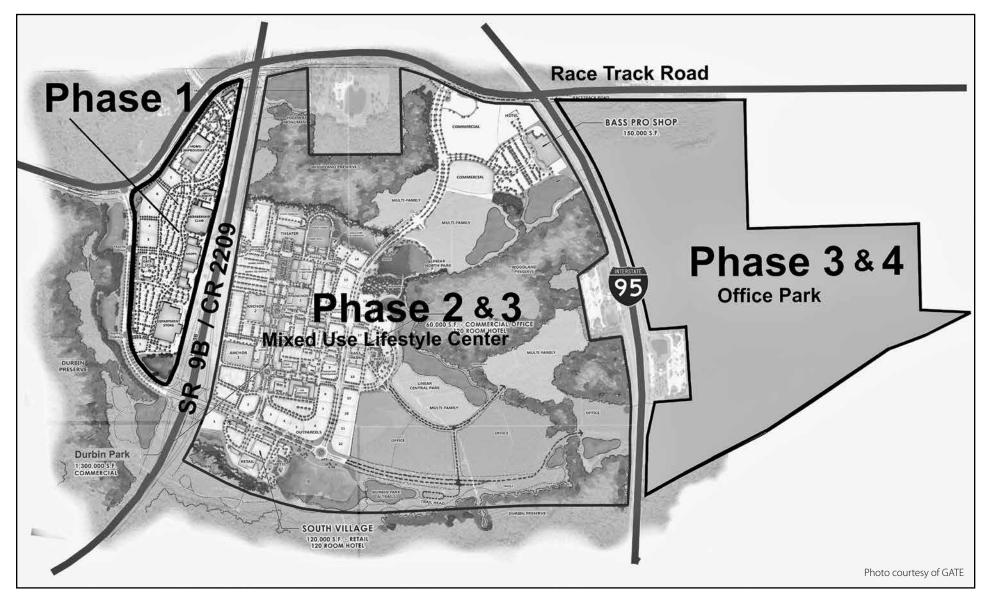
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Millions of square feet of retail, office space planned for Durbin Park



An estimated 2.4 million square feet of retail space, 2.8 million square feet of office space, nearly 1,000 multifamily units and 350 hotel rooms are being planned for the new Durbin Park development being planned for northern St. Johns County.

A joint project of GATE Petroleum and Gatlin Development, Durbin Park will be situated on 1,600 acres of land located along I-95 near the new 9B/2209 interchange. According to GATE Petroleum, which owns the property, Durbin Park represents the largest contiguous area in St. Johns County that is planned for intensive commercial development.

"Unique to Northeast Florida, Durbin Park will be a distinct destination where individuals and families can live, work, shop and be entertained all within a park-like setting," said John Peyton, president of Gate Petroleum Company. "GATE is proud to own, develop and manage numerous premier properties in North Florida, including the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, Deerwood Park, Southpoint Office Park, Kendall Town Center and Deerwood Center. The Durbin Park development will bring long overdue amenities to one of the fastest growing counties in the country."

In addition to retail, office and residential space, planners said, Durbin Park will feature an abundance of green space, lakes, walking trails and family entertainment offerings. Gatlin Development will oversee the retail development portion of the project.

"In my 40 years in the development industry, I have never seen a project with as much potential as Durbin Park," CEO Frank Gatlin said. "The large amount of land and the unique topography will allow us to create a destination that features abundant shopping options, dozens of dining experiences and exciting, family-fun entertainment offerings all within a backdrop of hundreds of acres of lakes and green space."

The full development will be built in four phases. Phase I – located on an 80-acre parcel west of the new 9B/2209 interchange – will include approximately 700,000 square feet of retail space anchored by at least three big box retailers. It is projected to open during the second quarter of 2018.

Phase II, located east of the 9B/2209 interchange and adjacent to I-95, will include lifestyle retailers, restaurants, entertainment components and a Bass Pro Shops. It is

expected to follow Phase I by 12 to 18 months. The Shopping Center Group will serve as leasing agent for the project.

The Durbin Park project is the culmination of years of effort between the County and GATE to bring high quality mixed-use development to St. Johns County," St. Johns County Administrator Michael Wanchick said. "Not only will it provide convenient retail and office opportunities currently not available to St. Johns County residents, it will also help keep sales tax dollars local and support county-wide programs and services. We are excited to watch the project come to fruition and positively impact St. Johns County on many levels."

Ponte Vedra Recorder · August 4, 2016

Leaders in Finance 27

Attorney Heather Quick recognized as 'Florida Legal Elite'



Heather Quick

Jackson-ville attorney
Heather Brooke
Quick was
recently recognized in the
2016 edition of
Florida Trend
magazine's
"Florida Legal
Elite."

The founder and CEO of The Quick Law Group, Quick was recognized in the Marital

and Family Law category. The Quick Law Group specializes in offering family and marital law services to women.

Actively practicing Florida attorneys were asked to name the attorneys that they hold in highest regard as professionals – lawyers with whom they have personally worked and would recommend to others.

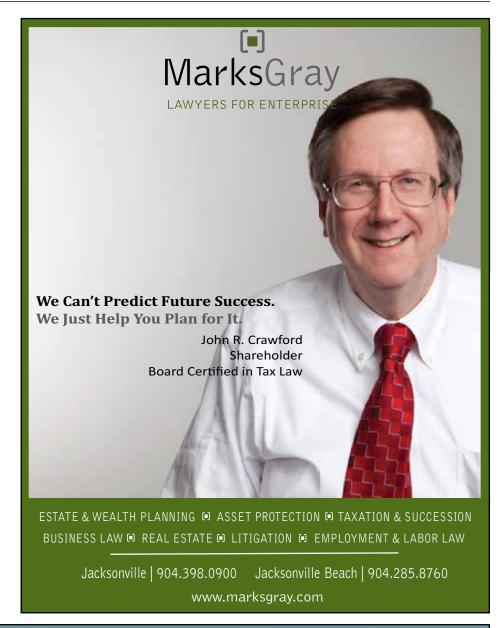
"I am honored that my peers would nominate me for this prestigious designation," Quick said. "I thoroughly enjoy my work and strive to do the very best for each and every one of my clients. It gives me great pleasure to know that I have empowered these women and helped them through what can be a very difficult process."

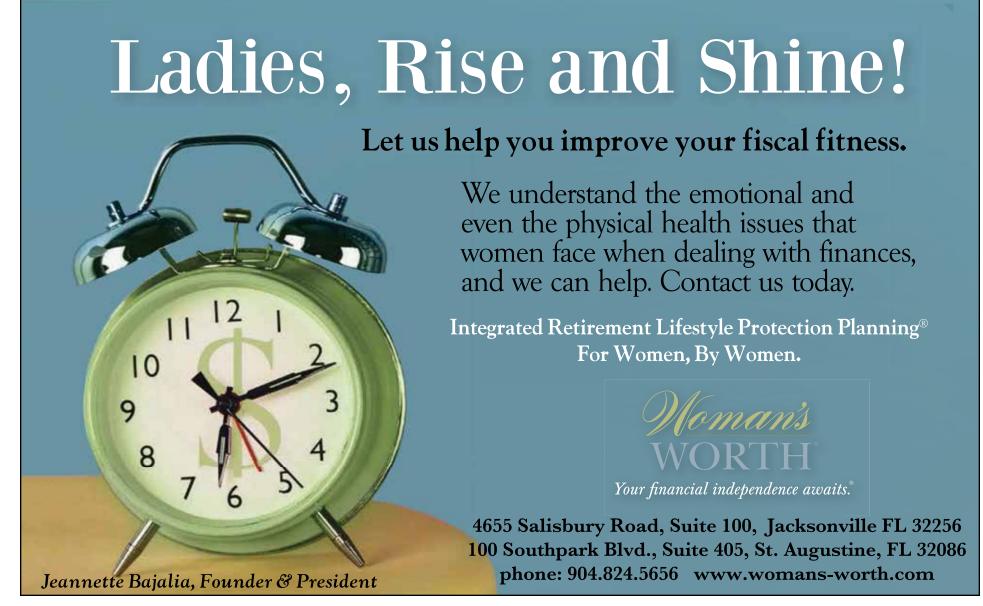
The list of 1,144 honorees, published in the July issue of Florida Trend, includes attorneys in private practice as well as top government and non-profit attorneys.

"Florida Trend's 250,000 readers are executives who rely on the legal community for many crucial corporate assignments," Publisher Andrew Corty said. "When we first published Florida Legal Elite in 2004, our goal was to provide a resource for our readers. Over the past 13 years, I've heard many accolades about the program. Florida Legal Elite is a guide to selecting a trusted legal partner to handle delicate business concerns. Our website, floridatrend.com, offers another pathway for the dissemination of this key information."

The entire Legal Elite report can be viewed at www.FloridaTrend.com/Legal-Flite

The Quick Law Group is the only divorce and family law firm for women in Northeast Florida. For more information or to contact the firm, visit thequicklaw-group.com.





28 Leaders in Finance

Ponte Vedra Recorder · August 4, 2016

Rogers Towers attorneys named to 'Florida Legal Elite 2016'

Three attorneys in Rogers Towers' Ponte Vedra Beach office were recently named to Florida Trend magazine's list of "Florida's Legal Elite 2016"

Kevin B. Cook, M. Scott Thomas and Troy K. Smith were all named to the list, along with eight other Rogers Towers attorneys: A. Graham Allen, Fred D. Franklin, Jr., L. Javan Grant, Scott J. Kennelly, David H. Peek, J. Scott Slater and Cheryl L. Worman were also named among the 2016 "Legal Elite."

In addition, attorney Janet C. Owens was named to 2016 "Up and Comers" list, which includes 130 attorneys under 40 years old who represent the future of the legal profession in Florida.

Founded in 1905, Rogers Towers has offices in Jacksonville, St. Augustine, Amelia Island, Ponte Vedra Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Fort Myers, Tampa Bay and Orlando. The firm provides counseling and legal services in the areas of: banking and financial; litigation; construction; corporate; labor and employment; environmental; eminent domain; elder law; family law; health law; immigration; intellectual property; land use; public finance; real estate; taxation; transportation and logistics; tusts and estates; and wills.







M. Scott Thomas



Troy K. Smith

Photos courtesy of Rogers Towers

Pineapple Corporation opens new office in Jacksonville

The Pineapple Corporation recently opened a new office on Pablo Oaks Court in Jacksonville.

The Jacksonville-based builder of custom and semi-custom homes relocated from its former location on Sutton Park Drive. The new office located at 4337 Pablo Oaks Court, Suite 104, is approximately 3,500 square feet – more than double the size of its former location.

In the past year, the company's size has more than doubled, increasing from five to 11 employees. The new office was designed to accommodate future growth.

"This is an exciting time of tremendous growth and success for our firm," President Spencer Calvert said. "Our new office reflects our company's exceptional creativity and is designed to enhance an outstanding home building experience for our clients."

Under the direction of The Pineapple Corporation's Director of Design Tasha Carver, the new office showcases contemporary design with an environmentally-inspired color palette and the latest trends in furniture and lighting. The office is designed with open spaces to support team collaboration and offer a welcoming atmosphere for clients and guests.

The company will be offering five new floorplans in the upscale The Vista at Twenty Mile development in Nocatee





Photos courtesy of The Pineapple Corporation

Jacksonville-based The Pineapple Corporation - one of the builders of The Vista at Twenty Mile at Nocatee – recently opened a new office located at 4337 Pablo Oaks Court, Suite 104 in Jacksonville.

Lassiter joins Watson Realty's Nocatee office

Judy Lassiter has joined the Nocatee office of Watson Realty Corp.

A Georgia native, Lassiter has been a Jacksonville and St Johns County resident for more than 30 years. She gained experience in property management and leasing before obtaining her real estate license and joining Watson Realty Corp. in 2005. For the past decade she has worked out of Watson's Mandarin North office, and is now a founding member of the recently opened Nocatee office.

Lassiter is a certified military relocation professional and Leading Real Estate Companies of the World® relocation specialist. She is also a Nocatee certified agent. During her time at Watson, she has been regularly recognized as a top producer and a President's Award recipient for 2014 and 2015. Lassiter specializes in residential, condo, waterfront and vacant land listings and sales.



Judy Lassiter

Saint Augustine Ballet to hold 'Nutcracker' auditions

The Saint Augustine Ballet will hold open auditions for its 8th annual production of "The Nutcracker" Saturday, Aug. 13 at Abella's School of Dance, 1711 Lakeside Ave., Unit 9, St. Augustine.

All dancers, male and female, who are currently studying ballet are encouraged and invited to try out for a part. Auditions are open to all students of ballet regardless of dance studio affiliations.

Registration will start at 8:30 a.m. Dancers must be 8 years old by Sept. 1, 2016. Auditions will begin promptly at 9 a.m. Auditions for female solos will be done en pointe. A non-refundable \$25 audition fee will be charged at the time of registration.

For complete details, visit www.saintaugustineballet.com.

Advanced Disposal promotes Jay Warzinski to vice president of landfill operations

Jay Warzinski has been promoted to vice president of landfill operations for Advanced Disposal.

With nearly 30 years of environmental services industry experience, Warzinski has acted as director of landfill operations for three years. He has led the negotiation of multiple gasto-energy projects in addition to the development of policies and procedures of landfill management systems. Before joining Advanced Disposal, he was a senior regional engineer with Veolia Environmental Services for more than 17 years. At that position, he was responsible for landfill operations, technical support, permitting, site planning and capital expenditure projects. He has also worked for STS Consultants providing environmental management services.

"Advanced Disposal continues to grow its business strategically in all facets, and Jay's promotion was a simple decision based upon his industry tenure, technical expertise, leadership abilities, strong work ethic and self-initiative," said Randy Arnold, senior vice president of operations and landfull. "This is a natural progression in Jay's career path and I look forward to his continued contributions to our operations team."

Warzinski earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Marquette University, and is certified as a landfill manager in Missouri and Wisconsin. He will continue to report directly to Arnold and work out of the corporate headquarters in Ponte Vedra.

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The Ponte Vedra Recorder publishes weekly on Thursdays. Deadline to reserve space is Friday, one week prior to publication.

Our PRIMARY ELECTION GUIDE publishes August 18th and deadlines on Friday, August 12th.

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Ponte Vedra Recorder · August 4, 2016

Back to School 31

Back-to-school shopping tips from AAA

St. Johns County students will head back to school next week, and as parents prepare to take advantage of this weekend's tax-free shopping holiday, AAA reports that while 87 percent of shoppers plan to do their shopping in-store, many will be using their smartphones for assistance. From using mobile devices to compare prices and redeem coupons to making purchases, smartphones can help parents score the best back-to-school

shopping deals, the automobile organization says.

"Some of the best deals can be found, literally at your fingertips," AAA's Josh Carrasco said. "Many retailers will match prices found online or post coupons that can be used in the store. Spending a little time researching your purchases can add up to big savings."

According to AAA, while just over one-fourth of Floridians (27 pecent) report feeling financially better off than last year – thanks in part to low gas prices and wage increases – consumers are always looking to save money at the register. The average Florida family with children K-12 plans to spend on average \$589 on their back-to-school shopping. Shoppers heading to the store for school supplies can keep costs down by planning ahead, looking for discounts, and skipping unnecessary items.

AAA Back-to-School Shopping Tips:

- Shop at Home: Once you create your back-to-school shopping list, take an at-home inventory. School lists often carry over items from the previous year, so make sure you aren't buying multiples of things you already own.
- Shop Online: Before you buy, pull out your phone. Sometimes you can find a better deal for the item online or at another store. The majority of parents (50 percent) will use their smartphones or tablets to compare products and prices and about one-third (31 percent) will use it to make a purchase.
- Shop Tax-Free: In Florida the back-to-school tax-free holiday begins Friday, Aug. 5 and runs through Sunday, Aug. 7. Parents can skip the tax on clothing under \$60 and school supplies under \$15.
- Use Membership Savings: Membership organizations like AAA offer many instant discounts and rewards at a variety of retailers. Visit aaa.com/specialoffers for a variety of savings on your back-to-school shopping.



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32 Back to School

SJC schools to hold district-wide orientation Aug. 9

The St. Johns County School District will hold a districtwide orientation on Tuesday, Aug. 9 from 8 a.m. to noon. The orientation will enable students and parents to get supply lists, receive class schedules, and meet teachers prior to the official start of the 2016-2017 school year on Aug. 10, which will be a full day of classes with no early release

While many schools have scheduled orientations on other dates and times, staff will be available at all schools on Tuesday, August 9 from 8 a.m. to noon. Parents are encouraged to call or visit the school website to verify any changes in orientation and open house dates.

It is also recommended that parents register their children for school as soon as possible. Parents may access information regarding registration requirements and their child's attendance zone by visiting the school district website at www.stjohns.k12.fl.us and clicking on the "Families" tab. Additional information on registration and school attendance zones may be obtained from the Student Services Office at (904) 547-7797.



St. Johns County public school students return to school Aug. 10.

BEAM to distribute school supplies Aug. 6

Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry (BEAM) will hold its 23rd annual Back to School with BEAM event Aug. 6, during which they will distribute backpacks, school supplies, clothing and other necessary items for students in grades K-12.

The Back to School with BEAM event will take place at Beach Church, located at 325 Seventh Ave. N. in Jacksonville Beach from 8 a.m. to noon. Clients are asked to bring picture ID, proof of residency and social security cards or shot records for each child.

Native Sun will provide snacks to the children attending the event. In addition, Native Sun will donate vitamins, supplements, nutritional shakes, snack bars, and other nutritious options to the drive to help kids get off to a healthy start and to help ensure that kids in need are able to take home nutritious foods as they prepare to begin the new school year.

BEAM is a nonprofit organization that provides emergency assistance to low-income families and individuals in the Jackson-ville Beaches area and helps guide them to self-sufficiency. Due to community support last year, BEAM was able to provide help to 800 local Beaches students at this event. For more information, visit www.jaxbeam.org. To learn about volunteering, call (904) 241 7437 ext. 112 or email Colleen Brennan at colleen@jaxbeam.org.

ELC, RSVP seek volunteer 'Reading Pals'

The Early Learning Coalition (ELC) of North Florida and the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of St. Johns County are seeking volunteers to expand the Reading Pals program.

ELC Reading Pals are matched with local preschool centers, while the RSVP Program places readers in Head Start and VPK classrooms to read once a week to children. Recently, the Head Start program added six new classrooms, and volunteers are urgently needed.

Training for new Reading Pals will be held on Thursday, Sept. 8 from 10 a.m. to noon at the St. Augustine Record Building at 1 News Place in St. Augustine. In addition learning how to choose age-appropriate books, volunteers will learn helpful information about child development, including the attention span of preschoolers, who to present books to preschoolers, and promoting early literacy through phonetic reading.

"It is so exciting when you see children learn, that letters make words and words turn into stories," volunteer Reading Pal Karen Brown said. "I love to make books fun; if you can make children laugh, you can get them interested in learning. Pull out a puppet, wear a silly nose, speak in different voices, you have nothing to lose but your dignity, so have a good time reading!"

Studies have shown that the best opportunity to influence a child's lifetime learning is before kindergarten, and that instilling an early love for reading in children is crucial for future success in school.

To register or for more information about this training, contact Joan Whitson, early literacy coordinator at (904) 342-2267 or email jwhitson@ elcnorthflorida.org; or RSVP Director Cheryl Freeman at Cheryl.Freeman@stjohns.k12.fl.us.

Back to School 33 Ponte Vedra Recorder · August 4, 2016

Goddard School Ponte Vedra hosts 'Zoo to You Outreach' event

By Carrie Resch

A chinchilla named Mr. Burly Clyde and a pancake tortoise named Shel Silverstein were among the animals a group of preschool and Pre-K studentswere able to see and touch at a recent Zoo to You Outreach event hosted by the Goddard School of Ponte Vedra.

The event was a prime example of the types of programs Goddard School offers children in order to use real-life experiences as teaching tactics, said Elizabeth Scott, who along with her husband Trey recently opened Goddard School Ponte

"It's all child-led play," Scott said. "The children learn by experiencing and playing and things of that nature, so this is a good representation of some of the outside vendors we bring in to do that with them," Scott said.

The school, which is located at the site of the former Childtime daycare building at 45 Executive Way, opened its doors

July 13. The Ponte Vedra location is the greater Jacksonville area's fourth location for The Goddard School For Early Childhood Development, part of The Goddard School, Inc. franchise. GSI was founded more than 25 years ago with the first school location in southeastern Pennsylvania and has grown to more than 400 locations nationwide.

The preschool offers a year-round program Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. that is open to children ages six weeks through pre-K. The school has a capacity of 145 full-time students and is about 92 percent occupied. Scott said.

A grand opening celebration will be held Saturday, Aug. 6 from 10 a.m. to noon. The family-friendly event is open to the public and will give parents a chance to tour the school. Face painting, a balloon artist, a putt-putt course, magic show and food vendors are all part of the planned activities.



Preschool and Pre-K students had the opportunity to touch a porcupine quill at an educational outreach event by the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens' Zoo to You Outreach program.

Jacksonville Jaguars 'Backto-School'event

Jacksonville Jaguars' Wide Receiver Allen Robinson hosted his inaugural Back to School program last week, providing 30 Jacksonville-area children from the Boys & Girls Club of Northeast Florida with a shopping spree at Academy Sports & Outdoors.

Robinson accompanied children as they roamed the aisles, selecting shoes, clothing, sports accessories, backpacks and school supplies to their carts. Each child also took home a signed football.

"I can't think of a better way to spend the evening than by helping kids get ready to head back to school this fall," Robinson said. "These kids are bright, funny and many have aspirations of being future Jaguars players themselves. I hope they got as much out of our Back to School event as I did. It will always be a priority for me to make time for Jacksonville's youth."

The back to school event was a community outreach initiative of Allen Robinson's Within Reach Foundation. The foundation's mission is to provide educational opportunities and resources to lowincome and inner city Jacksonville-area students to help put success within their reach. Through his foundation, Robinson said he plans to make the back to school initiative an annual event. Last month, Robinson also hosted a Celebrity Surf & Turf dinner to raise funds for the foundation. Attended by more than 100 guests, the event raised more than \$90,000 to support the foundation's mission to give back to local youth.



Photo courtesy of Allen Robinson's Within Reach Foundation

Recorder congratulates coloring contest winners

Congratulations to the winners of the Ponte Vedra Recorder's Summer Coloring Contest. Winners by age category are:

Age 3 to 5: Leah Black, 5
Age 6 to 9: Haley Swank, 9
Age 10 to 12: Charlotte Dion, 11
Winners will receive a family fourpack of tickets to the Jacksonville Zoo
& Gardens. The Recorder thanks all the children who entered the contest and shared their artworks!

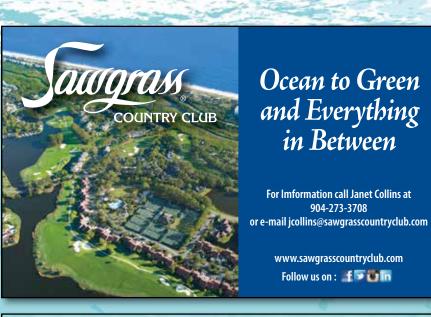








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Veterans Florida creates new **Troops to Truckers program**

Veterans returning to civilian life in Florida now have a new program designed to help them secure employment.

The "Troops to Truckers" program will offer expedited driver licensing and trucking career fairs to returning veterans. Created by Veterans Florida – a nonprofit created by the state to help veterans make the transition to civilian life – the program includes a series of events that give Reserve, National Guard and Active Duty Service Members the opportunity to take the written portion of the Commercial Driver License (CDL) test and find employment as a commercial truck driver all in the same day.

"The Troops to Truckers program offers a great opportunity for veterans to take the skills they used in the military and apply them to great career in the civilian trucking industry," Bobby Carbonell, executive director of Veterans Florida, said. "The trucking industry is currently in need of 50,000 new truck drivers nationwide, and veterans are perfectly suited to fill those vacancies."

Carbonell said the program leverages the Federal Motor Carrier Administration's Military Skills Test Waiver, which allows veterans who drove heavy duty vehicles in the U.S. military to earn a CDL - and

find work that fits their experience - without having to take the road test portion of the state's licensing exam. The state of Florida grants the waiver to military personnel who have separated from service no more than 90 days before applying for the waiver, and have operated a motor vehicle representative of the CDL classification they are applying to operate for at least two years immediately preceding their appli-

"The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles is committed to supporting our nation's veterans. In fact, almost 20 percent of the DHSMV workforce is made up of veterans," said Terry L. Rhodes, executive director of the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. "We are excited to support the Troops to Truckers initiative to keep qualified, safe drivers on the road, moving Florida's economy."

To be eligible to test for the CDL, applicants must complete several forms prior to participating in the hiring events, one of which must be signed by their commanding officer or transportation officer.

Those who may not meet the requirements for the CDL waiver are encouraged to attend one of the trucking career fairs. The first



hiring event was held July 16 at the Camp Blanding Joint Training Center in Starke. Future hiring events are scheduled for Tallahassee, Orlando and St. Petersburg.

For more information about Troops for Truckers or to RSVP for one of the Trucking Career Fairs, visit www.veteransflorida.org/ events/troops-to-truckers.

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Riding into History supports K9s for Warriors



Photo courtesy of Riding into History

Representatives from Riding into History presented K9s for Warriors with a \$40,000 donation last week, representing the proceeds from the group's antique/vintage motorcycle show held in May. Riding into History Chairman Jennifer Samioglou (center) presented the check to K9s for Warriors Executive Director Rory Diamond. Joining them are members of

the BMW of NE Florida Motorcycle Club, the Jacksonville Beaches Chrome Divas, the Christian Motorcycle Association and the Philos Foundation, all major supporters of Riding Into History. Pictured with Samioglou and Diamond from left are Nancy Broome, Bill Peterson, Holly Bond, Peggy Lynch, Cecil Broome, Jim Quinn and Hugh Peters.



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Ponte Vedra Beach teen wins international awards



Photo courtesy of Linda Muldoon Shari Lin Muldoon

Ponte Vedra Beach teen Shari Lin Muldoon was awarded top honors in the recent Imperial Beauties of the World competition in Orlando.

Participants included contestants from Australia, the Bahamas, Cayman Islands, Scotland and United States among other countries. Muldoon represented the state of Florida in the Teen (16-19) division, competing in the interview, fashion runway, evening gown and talent competitions. Following the preliminary competitions, she was named Miss Photogenic and Model of the Year, earning crowns, trophies and scholarship money.

At the pageant finals, Muldoon received awards for Positive Personality (world interview award) and World Supermodel, which combined the judge's scores in both fashion runway and evening gown. She was also recognized onstage for Prettiest Eyes and Miss Personality among all teen contestants. She came in first-runner-up for the overall World teen title.

The daughter of Linda Muldoon, Shari Lin Muldoon will be a junior this fall at Ponte Vedra Beach High School. She has studied dance with both Miss Felicia and Miss Dawn of Ponte Vedra Beach, attends Christ Episcopal Church, enjoys the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, and was recently added to the staff at Vicar's Landing in Ponte Veda Beach. She is also an experienced local performer who has appeared in CEC's annual Nutcracker, "Oliver" and "Peter Pan" directed by Iason Woods

Muldoon is currently National Teen Miss Heart of the USA, which she earned based on beauty (evening gown and casual fashion), confidence when speaking on stage, judges' interview and community service. She volunteers for several organizations, including Holt International and CEC's theatre camps for autistic children and young people of all ages. She was also recently selected as a National Calendar Queen for the Miss Heart organization.

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Lost Memory #2154: "Jacksonville Beach, Summer 1968"

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Apex Theatre Studio to present 'Godspell' at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

The Gospel of St. Matthew will receive a rockin' contemporary spin when Apex Theatre Studio mounts its production of Godspell on Friday, Aug. 5 and Saturday, Aug. 6 at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall.

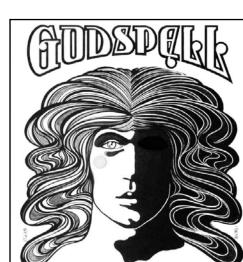
An instant hit when it was produced off Broadway in 1971, Godspell offers a variety of musical styles and theatrical formats to make the Gospel of St. Matthew accessible to today's audiences. Its much-loved score includes the hits "Day By Day" and "Prepare Ye The Way."

"We had such a phenomenal re-

sponse to the production last summer," Artistic Director Ian Mairs said. "It was clear to us that we needed to provide the artists and the community with more opportunities to experience the show."

Mairs created the Summer Musical Theatre Intensive along with vocal coach Matt Morgan, to provide a select group of theater students with the opportunity to receive advanced-level training. The cast includes students from the University of Florida, Florida State University, University of Central Florida, Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, Stanton College Preparatory School and Bartram Trail High school.

Apex Theatre Studio's production of Godspell will be performed on Friday, Aug. 5 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 6 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for students and seniors. For more information, visit www.pvconcerthall.com. General Admission tickets are available online at www.pvconcerthall.com as well as at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall Box Office. Student and senior tickets are available only at the Box Office.



Malcolm Anthony holds Ponte Vedra meet and greet

Candidate Malcolm Anthony held a "meet and greet" July 8 on the rooftop deck at Pusser's in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Attendees had an opportunity to meet with Anthony and hear his positions regarding his race for circuit judge.

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Interested candidates please call Susan Griffin at 904-686-3938 and email your resume to susan@opcfla.com.





Photos courtesy of Malcolm Anthony campaign

Datil Pepper Fall Festival seeks vendors

The UF/IFAS Extension in St. Johns County is seeking vendors with home and garden products to participate in the annual Datil pepper festival.

St. Augustine's popular pepper will again take center stage this year for the 9th Annual UF/IFAS St. Johns County Datil Pepper Fall Festival, to be held Oct. 1-2 at the St. Johns County Agricultural Center, 3125 Agricultural Center Drive, St. Augustine.

The festival will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 1 and 10

a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 2. Festival events will include the Datil Pepper Restaurant Cook-off Oct. 1 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., where local chefs will offer samples of their Datil-inspired cuisine, a food court, rain barrels for sale, a Master Gardner plant sale, amateur hot sauce competition and more.

For more information about becoming a vendor or reserving a space, call the extension office at (904) 209-0430. For more information about the festival, visit http://stjohns.ifas.ufl.edu.

Dance Alday offers free dance classes at Ponte Vedra library branch

After two successful dance classes in the spring, Alan Alday returned to the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library to present a series of dance classes for ages 14 and up.

The owner of Ponte Vedra dance studio "Dance Alday" held classes July 18 and July 25, with an additional class scheduled for Aug. 1. From 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Alday presents different types of dancing during the free events. The classes were made possible by the Friends of the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library.

The remaining session will consist disco dancing and will be held in the library's community room. No registration is required for the class.







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OneBlood donors to receive zoo admission

Individuals who give blood in the Jacksonville metro area on the Big Red Bus during the month of August will receive a special buy-one-get-onefree admission offer from the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens.

Donors will also be treated to a soft-sided OneBlood cooler and a wellness checkup that includes blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count and cholesterol screening.

Generally healthy people 16 or older who weigh at least 110 pounds can donate blood.

For blood drive locations or to make an appointment, visit www. oneblooddonor.org or call 1 888 9 DONATE (1 888 936 6283). Walk-ins are also welcome.



Hotel Palms hosts market event

By Jasmine Marshall

Hotel Palms held its Palms Market July 23, welcoming local vendors and community members to enjoy the hotel's new lounge and support small businesses.

The market day marked the third to be held in the hotel's courtyard and the first since renovations began at the hotel, formerly known as Palms Retro. Local musician Mere Woodard serenaded guests with live music as they perused the offerings of beachside boutiques Sailors Siren, Soulshine and Sunrise Surf Shop.

"We were so excited to be doing this for a third time," said Hotel Palms Co-owner Stevan Schwartzenberger. "We're just so thankful for the support of the community and the vendors for helping us bring it all together again. We look forward to doing this again when the hotel is completely done with renovations."

Also among the vendors was Julianne Gamel, the artist and owner of Couture Jems, who said the market gave her a chance to reach out to new people.

"I love it, being able to (sell) here, to see and support other local artists' businesses is just an excellent opportunity," Gamel said. "I work out of a home studio, I don't have a brick-and-mortar location. I normally wholesale to boutiques and do some business online, but the Market Palms gives me the chance to show everyone what I've got. It's a great local experience."

Matthew Sloan of Atlantic Beach's Happy Cup was similarly excited about the experience as he joined the market for the first

"It's great to be a part of something where beach locals and businesses can enjoy a partnership, help the community together," he said. "We've developed a relationship with the hotel where we'll be able to provide breakfast items for the guests. It's always a rewarding experience to work with other local businesses."

According to Schwartzenberger, the Hotel Palms expects to have another market event in December once renovations are complete. For now, she's grateful for the support and excitement surrounding the boutique hotel.

"It's a mutually beneficial thing for locals and businesses," she said. "We're happy to be able to be a part of the beaches community in this way."



Julianne Gamel's "Couture Jems"



Julianne Gamel's "Couture Jems"



Local musician Mere Woodard



A decorative arrangement of vintage goods made for a photobooth at the market day.



Madison West of Sunrise Surf Shop



Michele Toomer and Whitney Canney, owners of Sailors Siren



Ponte Vedra Recorder · August 4, 2016

Sports 41

Ponte Vedra's Loeb wins 55th Jacksonville Amateur Golf Championship

Ponte Vedra Beach resident Philip Loeb took home the trophy at the 55th Jacksonville Amateur Golf Championship last weekend.

Loeb, an Elon College sophomore, birdied holes 15, 17 and 18 to catch John Lobb of Jacksonville at the end of regulation play and added another on the first playoff hole to claim the title at the championship, held at Queen's Harbour Yacht & Country Club. Loeb's win served as an extra special gift to his mother, who was celebrating her birthday and among those following her son along with her husband.

Loeb (70-76-68) and Lobb (72-71-71) finished the 54-hole championship with 2-under-par 214 totals. Finishing third with a score of 218 was first- and second-round leader Julian Rippert (76) of Munich, Germany and Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

Rounding out the top five were Jalen Ledger (70), also of Palm Beach Gardens, at 218 and Duke Butler IV (73) of Ponte Vedra Beach at 219.

After a tee shot in the right rough on the par-5 fifth hole on Friday, Loeb took nine more strokes before retrieving his ball from the cup. The 20-year-old, who plays out of TPC Sawgrass, hung in the rest of the way, carding a ,respectable 76 to begin the final round only four shots off the 36-hole pace.

A birdie by Loeb on No. 9 on Saturday completed a front nine of 35. With Rippert stumbling and the retired former Mayport Naval Station commander Lobb in the lead midway through the back nine, Loeb reeled off birdies on three of his last four holes to catch Lobb.

With the tees moved up to 290 yards on Queen's Harbour's 18th, the champion nearly pitched his second shot in the hole from just off the green for an eagle in the overtime. Moments later Lobb would miss from 15 feet for birdie, making his younger competitor the 55th Jacksonville Amateur champion.

Lobb, a Jacksonville Golf & Country Club member, was seeking to win a JAGA (Jacksonville Area Golf Association) double by capturing both the JAGA Senior Amateur (April) and the Amateur Championship in the same

5th ANNUAL JACKSONVILLE AMATEUR CHAN LOEB CHAMPION 70 76 146 68 214 MOODY 76 71 148 77 915 BUTSCHER 78 80 158 86 244 NAPOLITANO NICHOLS 76 75 151 72 223 LYNN 81 79 160 MC COLLINS 50 82 162 MC 184 MC OGLESBY 87 88 175 MC MASSEY 80 87 167 MC COMSTOCK 80 80 160 MC PEARCE 77 77 154 73 227 MCDERMAND 79 63 162 MC GOULET 88 87 CRUZ 83 74 157 WD PIERPONT 85 86 173 MC MCDONALD 82 76 158 76 234 GRAY DEL ROCCO 76 78 154 72 226 PLUNKETT 81 79 160 M MCKINNON 71 81 152 70 222 GRO! DEMYANOVICH RAGLAND 73 75 148 73 92 82 84 166 MC 1ESSER 85 80 165 MC HEN 84 DRISCOLL 80 78 158 77 235 RIPPERT 68 74 142 76 218 11LTON 77 73 150 74 224 HEN SC

Photos courtesy of JAGA

season. The 53-year-old now sets his sights on competing in the Aug. 11-14 U.S. Senior Open Championship at Scioto Country Club in Columbus, Ohio, where Jack Nicklaus learned to play the game. Lobb qualified for the USGA event last month in Ocala.

Rippert, who plays on the University of the Pacific golf team, held the lead going into the back nine, only to hit his tee shot out of bounds on No. 10, resulting in a double bogey that was followed by another and two bogeys on Queen's Harbour's incoming stretch.

The Jacksonville Amateur Championship has been conducted by JAGA since 1962.

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42 Sports Ponte Vedra Recorder · August 4, 2016



Web.com Tour President Calfee to retire at year's end

Web.com Tour President Bill Calfee will retire at the end of this year, the PGA Tour announced last week.

Succeeding Calfee will be Web. com Senior Vice President and Chief of Operations Dan Glod, who will officially become president Jan. 1, 2017. Following the transition, Calfee will continue to assist the Web.com Tour on strategic initiatives through 2017.

"We greatly appreciate all that Bill has done for the PGA TOUR since joining the staff 25 years ago," Commissioner Tim Finchem said. "In particular, he has played a tremendous role in the growth and success of the Web.com Tour. As a former member of the PGA TOUR, Bill has maintained a keen sense of awareness of the members' best interests while applying his experience to help build the overall quality and business aspects of the Tour."

Calfee has served as president of the Web.com Tour since 2006. A 1971 economics graduate of the University of Maryland, where he was Scholar-Athlete of the Year as a senior, Calfee competed on the

PGA TOUR from 1976 to 1985. He started his own financial planning and investment consulting business in Tampa, before being hired by Finchem in 1991 as the PGA Tour's director of player benefits and services.

Calfee became vice president of player relations in 1993, and in 1995 was placed in charge of competitions for the PGA Tour, PGA Tour Champions and the Web.com Tour. In 1999, he was named chief of operations of the Web.com Tour before stepping into his current role in 2006.

"I've been extremely fortunate to spend virtually my entire career with the PGA Tour as a player and on the business side," Calfee said. "I'll be forever grateful for the opportunity that Tim offered to me to come work at the Tour in 1991, and later to oversee the Web.com Tour. I feel we've made tremendous strides in building the Tour over the past decade, both in terms of growth and consistently producing tremendous

CALFEE RETIRING continues on **Page 43**



Calfee Retiring

players on the PGA Tour, and I'm proud to have played a role in that."

Under Calfee's watch, the Web. com Tour has had a number of significant developments, including Jacksonville-based Web.com being introduced as the new umbrella sponsor in 2012 through a 10-year agreement.

"Sponsorship of the Web.com Tour has proven to be a good fit for us and an important part of that has been Bill's passion and commitment to the Tour, sponsors and players," said David Brown, Web. com's chairman, CEO and president. "I've thoroughly enjoyed working with Bill over the past four years and sincerely appreciate his strong commitment to looking out for our best

interests and providing value for our involvement. Bill will be leaving with a strong team in place and I look forward to seeing how the Web.com Tour will continue to evolve in serving the greater golf community.'

Glod has served in his current role since 2014, working closely with Calfee on business operations and strategy. He came to the PGA Tour in 2003, starting in business development/corporate marketing with various roles of increasing responsibility, culminating as vice president in 2010. Glod has also held leadership roles with PGA Tour Champions and THE PLAYERS Championship.

A graduate of the University of Florida, Glod began his career in golf as a golf professional in 1995 and spent several years in the financial industry prior to joining the

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Readers share effects of cell phone addiction



Columnist

Rosenthal First of a twopart series

I have written several columns about how the increased use of cell phones and computers have affected our

important relationships. One such column was about a girlfriend's cell phone addiction, which has generated a surprising number of emails from around the world. Allow me to print some of these stories, and I will address this subject in next week's column.

Dear Neil: Because of Netflix, Hulu, Amazon Prime, Facebook, Snapchat, YouTube and so on, my girlfriend is constantly streaming shows. She doesn't make time for her

family or me, except in short spurts. We have our own children, but have been together long enough that we have formed our own family. But her streaming and use of social media are going to break up a good thing. - Why is She Doing This in Kansas

Dear Neil: I've had to walk away from a lady I was in love with. Although it was heartbreaking, I could no longer play second best to Facebook, What's Ap and whatever other social media she was using. Even to suggest that she was on her devices way too much caused major fights between us. She was so defensive that nothing I said could get through. - Lost My Love to Facebook in Scotland

Dear Neil: Two years ago, I was diagnosed with an incurable brain tumor. My fiancée has since become addicted to social media. I am sick of seeing the top of her head while she is on the damn thing. Don't get me wrong: I enjoy social media also, but that doesn't mean I ignore my life. It hurts to be replaced by technology and not have love and affection in our relationship. I would do anything for my fiancée and her kids, but I can't waste what life I have left. - My Time is Short in the UK

Dear Neil: I'm 29, my girlfriend is 27, and we've been together 11 years. The last three years, she has ignored me when we're in the car on date nights and when celebrating special occasions. She's on her phone with friends every night for hours. I try to get her to talk to me to no avail. We can't even go out for a walk or bike ride without her having to stop – sometimes for hours – while she talks on her phone. - Shut Out in Manchester. UK

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IN REMEMBRANCE

Susan K. Hunter Barrett, 63, formerly of Palm Valley, died July 30, 2016. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery - (904) 285-1130 - www.pontevedravallev.com

Dear Neil: I broke up with my girlfriend of four years because of her addiction to her cell phone. I am now dating a girl who is not addicted to her phone and is also interested in a meaningful relationship. So guys, hear me out. Man up and bail. The problem is not her phone. It's her! - Hopeful in Florida

Neil Rosenthal is a licensed marriage and family therapist. He is the author of the bestselling book Love, Sex, and Staying Warm: Creating a Vital Relationship. Contact him at 303-758-8777 or visit neilrosenthal.

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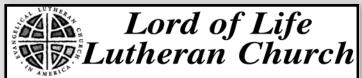
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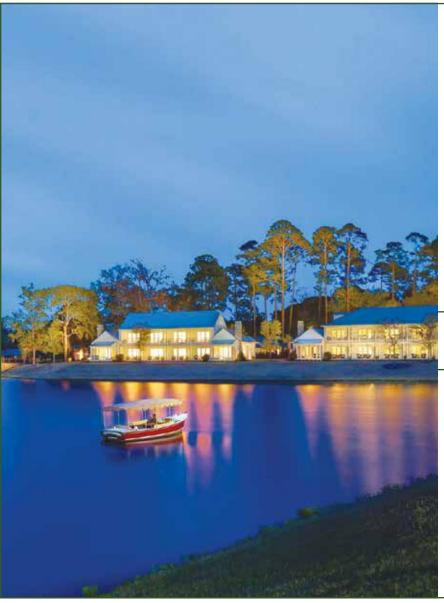
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