

Ponte Vedra Recorder



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October 29, 2015
Volume 45, No. 43
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Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

PonteVedraRecorder.com



Valley Ridge Academy opened its campus up to more than 1,400 guests this weekend as part of its Fall Family Festival, where kids and parents were invited to enjoy a day of fun. Photos by Kelly H. McDermott



Kids and adults enjoyed two human-sized "hamster balls."

Day of Fun

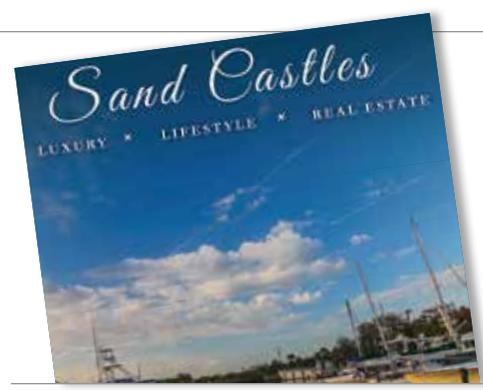
—Story and more photos, **Page 44**



Students were given the opportunity to soak faculty, staff and volunteers at this scaled-down version of a dunk tank.

Whitney Sea Turtle Hospital opens **Page 43**

BLUE ANGELS descend on Jacksonville Beach **Page 13**



SPECIAL SECTION
SAND CASTLES
Lifestyles, First Coast listings and more.

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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.**

Halloween coloring contest winners!

We received 97 entries this year in our annual Halloween coloring contest, and had a great time looking at all of the creative submissions. Everyone did an awesome job! Winners, please pick up your Spooktacular tickets! Our winners this year are:
 3-5 Category: **Elliet Claire Minch**, age 3
 6-9 Category: **Maddie Hootselle**, age 7
 10-12 Category: **Grace Perez**, age 10

What's this?



Do you know what this is?

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

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

Tons of readers identified the Ponte Vedra Post Office sign! Stacy Munnell is our lucky guesser, chosen at random. Stacy, please pick up your zoo tickets!



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

Adoptable pets at the St. Johns County Pet Center

CAT OF THE WEEK

Hi!! My name is Binks. I am a 2 year old, male cat. I was brought to the SJC Pet Center as a stray and now I am looking for a new home. I am a very sweet



pet who loves attention and to be scratched. I also play well with my fellow feline friends. Any new pet being introduced to a new home will need time to adjust to their new environment. Please reinforce house-training and behavioral training and be mindful of interacting with other pets. Come visit us today here at the Pet Center! 27424 **Adoption fee is sponsored by the Friends of the Pet Center.**



DOG OF THE WEEK

Hi there! I'm Sam a 5 year old beagle mix who is looking for a new loving home — with no cats, please — to call my own. I was brought to the Pet Center as a stray

because I was wandering around all alone with no owner. As this animal was a stray there may be some traits that are unknown at this time. Any new pet being introduced to a new home will need time to adjust to their new environment. Please reinforce house-training and behavioral training and be mindful of interacting with other pets. Come visit us today here at the Pet Center! My adoption fee is sponsored by the Friends of the St. Johns County Pet Center for the month of October! #27224

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

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

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

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

Abraca-zebra



Spooktacular

October 16-18, 23-25, & 28-31

6:30 - 10 p.m.

Members: \$8 Non-Members: \$10



jacksonvillezoo.org

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Photos by Susan Griffin

Above: Fran Charlson, John Rutkowski & Loretta Swit at Underwood Jewelers Ponte Vedra
Left: Actor Loretta Swit with a display about Ayla's Acres

Second annual three-day Underwood benefit for Ayla's Acres

Kelly H. McDermott

Underwood Jewelers presented its second annual three-day benefit for Ayla's Acres No-Kill Animal Rescue from Oct. 22 to 24. Underwood Jewelers donated a portion of their sales, hosted a cocktail party and raffle and feature an adoption day — all to support the mission of Ayla's Acres No-Kill Animal Rescue.

The benefit began with a cocktail party in Ponte Vedra on Thurs., Oct. 22. Actor, artist and animal activist Loretta Swit partnered with Underwood to raffle off a bracelet from renowned designer John Hardy. On the next day, Swit visited Underwood's San Marco location. The benefit concluded on Saturday with an adoption day at the Ponte Vedra location.

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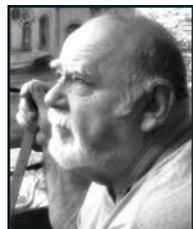
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IN REMEMBRANCE

Joe W. Taylor

Joe W. Taylor of Elkton, renowned Artist, went home to his heavenly father on Friday evening, October



Taylor

23, 2015 following an extended illness. Loved by all, his paintings of N.E. Florida, historic St. Augustine and beyond will live on forever.

Born in Indianapolis, Joe arrived in St. Augustine with his family in 1942 "in the middle of a hurricane," riding in a Model A Ford. He attended local schools and in 1958 graduated from

Ketterlinus High School. He was 17 and immediately joined the U.S. Navy.

After he got out of the service, Joe began studying art professionally including earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts from then-Valdosta State and attending the New York Art Institute. In time he owned the Colours Studio Gallery on Aviles Street, retiring in 2002. He is currently an artist with the Gayle Nick Gallery.

He and his beautiful wife Gloria built an idyllic jasmine-covered cottage in Elkton where Joe had two studios for painting.

St. Augustine has been the subject of many of his paintings. He loved painting Lincolnville in particular. One can find his historic paintings, done painstakingly for accuracy, in museums and galleries worldwide.

His big heart, infectious laugh, love of Southern Cookin', and generosity are well known by his legions of friends and admirers. His priceless sense of humor and enormous talent touched many lives.

Joe was preceded in eternal rest by his parents and brother, Danny Taylor of Jacksonville and half-sister Jean Travis of Hollywood, Florida. He leaves to cherish his memories his beloved wife, Gloria Jeanne Taylor, daughters Vicki Marcey (Rob) of St. Augustine and Traci Taylor of Jacksonville, stepdaughter Debbie Clifford of St. Augustine, Cheryl Collins of Brunswick, Georgia, stepsons John Clifford of Polly Island, So. Carolina, and Allan Wages of St. Augustine, Beloved sisters ~ Judy DeBow (Tom) of Ponte Vedra and Vicki Johnston of

St. Augustine. Joe adored and doted on his 15 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. His cherished dogs Roxie, Lire and Ginger, and one cat, Whiskey were always by his side.

Funeral service will be held 11 AM Tuesday at Craig Funeral Home, Fr. Kiran Medipalli officiating. A visitation will be held from 10-11 AM prior to the service. Burial will follow at Craig Memorial Park.

Flowers are accepted or donations can be made in his memory to St. Jude's Children's Hospital or the Community Hospice of N.E. Florida.

Joe would want us to Rejoice in the Memory of his Life ~ he was a man that lived every day to the fullest.

Craig Funeral Home Crematory Memorial Park is in charge of arrangements.

Antonio Arturo Puente 12.25.25-10.22.15

Antonio (Tony) Arturo Puente peacefully passed away, in Jacksonville, FL on October 22, 2015 surrounded by family. He was born in La Habana,

Cuba on December 25, 1925 to Antonio Maria Puente and Silvia Suarez Puente. He leaves a sister, Marta Puente Palmer of Miami and was predeceased by his sister Silvia Andino. He is survived by two sons, Antonio Enrique

Puente (Linda) and Enrique Antonio Puente (Sue); five grandchildren Krista Puente Trefz (Greg), Enrique Antonio Puente II (Emili-Erin), Antonio Nicolas Puente, Lucas Llanso Puente (Jill) and Alexander Ahern Puente; and two great grandchildren Kaya Trefz and Rylan Trefz.

Tony was raised in La Habana, Cuba by his parents, where he attended LaSalle School. Tony married the love of his life, Silvia Llanso Puente, in 1949 and started a family in Cuba. He was a member of the Habana Yacht Club and later an elected board member. Due to the emergence of Communist policies, he and his family immigrated to the United States on November 6, 1960 with no knowledge of the English language, any employment and \$300. He proudly became an American citizen and was thankful and proud of the accomplishments that his adopted country afforded. They settled in Jacksonville, Florida in 1962 where he

worked with M. D. Moody and Sons, one of the nation's largest distributors of heavy equipment, for almost 40 years rising to the position of Treasurer of the Board of Directors.

A Memorial Mass will be held 11 a.m. on Monday, November 9, 2015 in Holy Family Catholic Church in Jacksonville, Florida followed by private burial services at Greenlawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Heart Society and American Diabetes Association.

Arrangements are under the direction of Hardage-Giddens Greenlawn Funeral Home and Cemetery.

Please offer condolences at www.greenlawnjacksonville.com



SPECIAL REFERENDUM ELECTION
NOVEMBER 3RD
OPEN TO ALL REGISTERED ST. JOHNS COUNTY VOTERS

Last day to request an absentee ballot TO BE MAILED is October 28th @ 5 PM

ABSENTEE BALLOT DROP-OFF LOCATIONS
 Absentee ballots CANNOT be turned in at the polls on Election Day. Look for the RED ballot drop-off box INSIDE each of these locations.

Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library • 101 Library Blvd. Ponte Vedra Bch.
 Mon.-Wed. 10 AM – 8 PM • Thur. & Friday 10 AM – 6 PM
 Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM • Sunday Closed
 Election Day November 3, 10 AM-5 PM

Tax Collectors Office, Ponte Vedra Annex • 5430 Palm Valley Rd. Ponte Vedra Bch.
 Monday – Friday 8:30 AM – 5 PM • Election Day November 3, 8:30 AM-5 PM

VOTE EARLY

SPECIAL REFERENDUM ELECTION
 9 AM - 6 PM DAILY AT ALL LOCATIONS
 BEGINS Saturday, October 24 • ENDS Saturday, October 31

Supervisor of Elections Office 4455 Avenue A #101 St. Augustine, FL. 32095	Julington Creek Annex 725 Flora Branch Boulevard Saint Johns, FL. 32259	St. Augustine Beach City Hall 2200 A1A South St. Augustine, FL. 32080
Ponte Vedra Branch Library 101 Library Boulevard Ponte Vedra Beach, FL. 32082	Southeast Branch Library 6670 US 1 South St. Augustine, FL. 32086	Hastings Town Hall 6195 South Main Street Hastings, FL. 32145

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MaliVai Washington

Photos by Susan Griffin



Chris Evert



Paula Anderson & Sylvester Pinckney

MWYF celebrates 'Champions for Children' at gala



Jeff Reel

Kelly H. McDermott

Last week, the Malivai Washington Youth Foundation presented its largest annual fundraiser, the Current/Sherman Group of Merrill Lynch Champions for Children Gala at the Florida Blue Conference Center in Jacksonville.

The gala has traditionally raised approximately \$200,000 annually to support the programs and services of the Malivai Washington Youth Foundation (MWYF).

Eighteen MWYF students who have earned scholarships were recognized during the dinner, and guests had the opportunity to participate in several raffles and bid on auction items.

Alumni members Keanna Bell and Deshawn "Scotty" Brown gave testi-

monials about the foundation during the dinner. Guests also heard from founder and Ponte Vedra resident Malivai Washington and featured guest Chris Evert.

"Chris' first appearance at the Gala was in 1997 and we are so pleased that she has chosen to return to support us at our 19th event," said MWYF Founder and Ponte Vedra Beach resident Malivai Washington. "Chris' work ethic and accomplishments both on and off the court make her a great example for our students."

During her career, Evert won 18 Grand Slam titles and appeared in either the finals or semifinals in 52 of her 56 Grand Slam appearances. Evert's career highlights include holding the No. 1 rank in the world

for seven years, being the first player to win 1,000 singles matches and having a .904 win average during her 17 year career.

MWYF promotes academic achievement and uses tennis to engage students in an active and fun youth development program. Their flagship program, TnT (Tennis-n-Tutoring), is a comprehensive five-day-per-week after school program which includes tennis lessons, daily homework assistance, and life skills classes to Jacksonville's most underserved youth. The mission of the Malivai Washington Youth Foundation is to develop champions in classrooms, on tennis courts and throughout communities. For more information, visit www.malwashington.com.

Chris & Rachel Lazzara, Cricket & Phillip Kelly



Vance & Claire Berry

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Michael W. Bugg is the founder and principal of The Condo Group in Jacksonville Beach – but his history with real estate is much longer and more storied than that. Bugg founded The Condo Store and Piedmont Brokers in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1993. The company was the first of its kind specializing in resale as well as new home sales, and quickly became a driving force in the burgeoning condominium market in Atlanta. Bugg returned to Jacksonville in 2001 to open Lifestyles Realtors. A Flagler graduate, Bugg has been very involved in The Flagler Alumni Association and has contributed to an annual Student Scholarship for students recognized for their outstanding “Entrepreneurial Studies.” He is also involved in Doctors Without Borders, First Start for Women and a member of St. Mark’s Methodist Church.

— Kelly H. McDermott
The Recorder

Where are you from originally?

I’m originally from Charlottesville, Virginia, and I ended up down here because I attended Flagler College. I moved back to Jacksonville a long time ago after college. I was with a corporation, MCI, for 13 years and then I started a company in Atlanta called the Condo Store. I sold that after seven years and opened up Lifestyles here. I just recently moved back and started the Condo Group.

Your online bio calls Jacksonville your true home?

It’s always been my home. In my heart, it’s my home. I got back from Charlottesville and I couldn’t wait to get back to warm weather. I’ve always considered this home. My mother lived here for a long time and was a member of the Ponte Vedra Club. It’s just natural. All my friends are here. This has always been my hub, I guess.

What is your role at The Condo Group?

I’m the principal of the Condo Group. I have Kathy Browning who is my vice president and principal. I’m the sales leg and she’s the marketing leg. We manage everything from concept to closing – from when they have the idea and they’re looking at the land to the closing. We look at finish levels. We help with crown molding, granite, condo docks, sales and marketing materials, inventory control – every aspect of the condominium offering, we are involved in it. It’s extremely process-oriented.

What’s different about this from your past businesses?

My other company was huge; Lifestyles was 450 people in 11 cities over five states. I had speech writers – I had all that stuff – and I don’t want that this time. I want to get involved in every project and I don’t want to leave North Florida. I want to do a great job here and be well-known for doing a great job here in Florida.

Tell me about this project, The Palazzo on St. Johns.

This was a takeover from another company not from Jacksonville.

Does it make a difference being based in Jacksonville?

Absolutely. We’re very different – we’re a small town. Large companies come in and they throw in things that really are not our town. The community involvement is essential here – that’s how the word gets out. They just didn’t know Jacksonville and they weren’t getting traffic.

What do you like to do for fun?

I love architecture. I love remodeling houses and building houses. Real estate has always been an enormous joy. It’s not even work to me. I like design and architecture. I love taking an ugly duckling and making it beautiful. I walk a lot and I’m running again – but I don’t have tons of interests other than my work!

Nocatee Happenings: The latest news from Nocatee

Loop Pizza Grill in Nocatee opens for business

New restaurant brings burgers, pizza and salads to diners at the Nocatee Town Center

Kelly H. McDermott

Nocatee residents have yet another option for “fast casual” dining in the community. The Loop Pizza Grill’s new location in the Nocatee Town Center is now open.

“This is a perfect place because it is family-focused,” said franchisee Maurilio Gonzalez in a news release. “People are able to walk, ride their bikes or drive their golf cart to our new location.”

The Loop offers a menu with soups, salads, pizza, burgers, shakes and a kids’ menu. The restaurant chain is based in Jacksonville and was founded in 1981. Today, there are 14 locations across two states.

The new Loop at Nocatee is 3,200 square feet and seats 130 people, in-

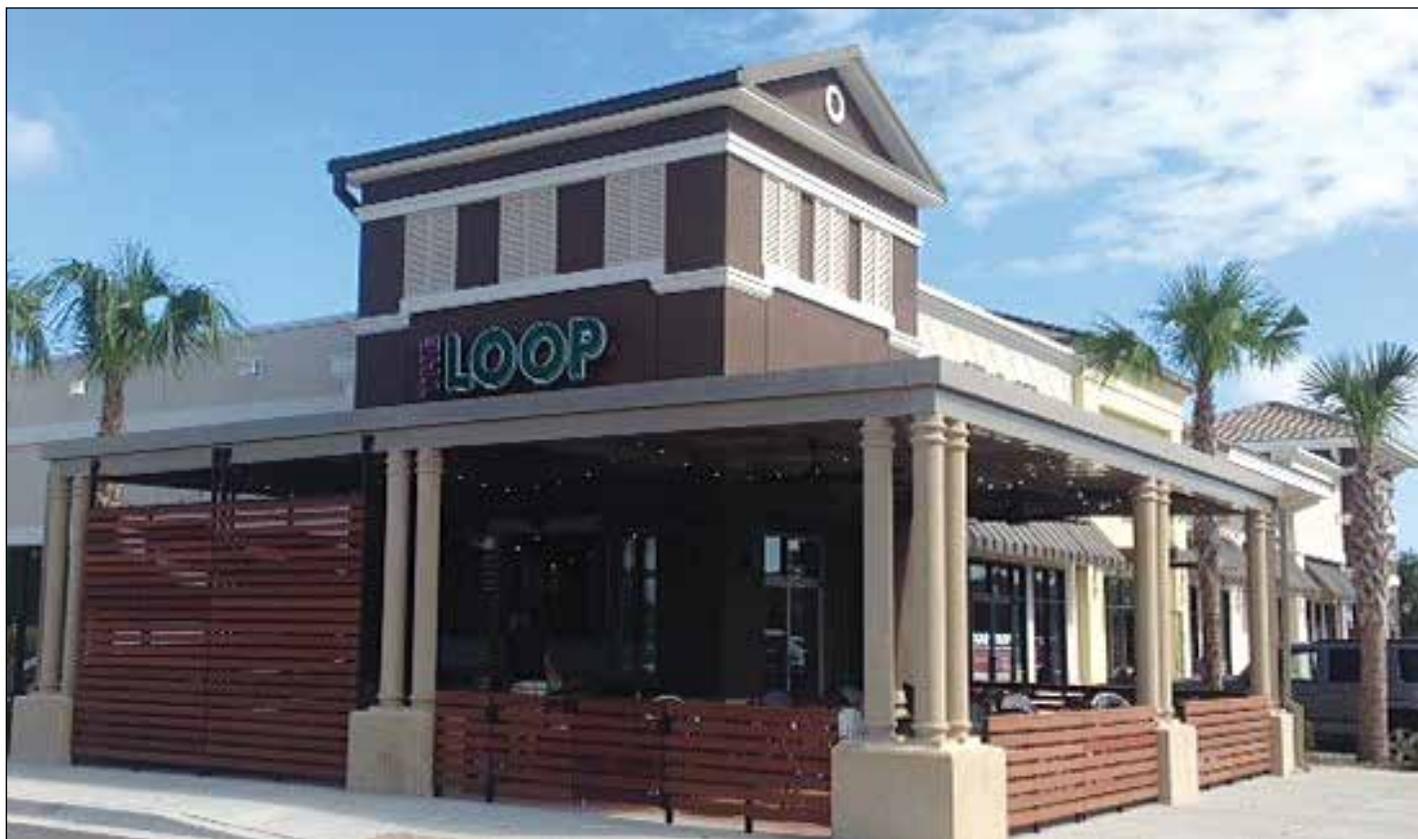


Photo provided by Cathy Manzoni

OPEN continues on **Page 8** The newest Loop Pizza Grill is now open at the Nocatee Town Center.

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

TO SIGN UP CALL
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Nocatee Happenings: The latest news from Nocatee



Photo provided by Cathy Manzon

The new Nocatee Loop has dramatic indoor and outdoor seating.

Open

Continued from 7

cluding seating for 44 on the outdoor covered patio and room for 86 inside. The interior space features exposed beams, large windows and artwork from local artists.

This is Gonzalez's third Loop Pizza Grill location. He also has franchises in Neptune Beach and Julington Creek. He plans to open two additional Loop locations on the First

Coast in the next few years.

"We want to congratulate Maurilio on opening his latest Loop location," said Loop co-founder and owner Mike Schneider. "Nocatee is thriving and the residents are just as excited as we are for The Loop to become part of the community."

The Loop Pizza Grill is open for lunch and dinner daily, and is located at 101 Marketside Ave. Call (904) 834-2078 for more information, or visit www.looppizzagrill.com/locations/nocatee.

PVWC announces wellness center in Nocatee

Kelly H. McDermott

Wellness is a focus of the Nocatee community – and to that end, a local Ponte Vedra practice is branching into the growing area.

Dr. Erika Hamer, chiropractic neurologist and owner of Ponte Vedra Wellness Center, announced plans this month to open a new location in Nocatee.

This will be the second office for the Ponte Vedra-based wellness center. The new location will be in the Watson Realty building, across from Publix in the Nocatee Town Center, and is slated to open in early 2016.

The Nocatee office will offer all the same services as the Ponte Vedra Beach location, including chiropractic adjustments, spinal decompression, physical therapy and rehab services, personal training and nutrition counseling, therapeutic massage and community health events.

"We are thrilled to be able to open a wellness center in Nocatee and look forward to serving this community so focused on active lifestyles and healthy living," said Hamer. "We have had the support of the Ponte Vedra Beach community for over 11 years and we really felt this was the right time to expand services into this growing, active, family-friendly community."

Hamer said she hopes that the new location will help the business branch further into St. Johns County.

"We also look to serve those living nearby in St. Augustine and bringing chiropractic care and wellness services to entire families," Hamer said. "We believe we can make a difference by not only helping people get relief from acute pain due to car accidents and other injuries but also by helping people stay healthy and injury-free through regular chiropractic care."

Founded in 2004, Ponte Vedra Wellness Center is a traditional chiropractic neurology clinic for adults, children and pregnant women. The current location is at 100 Corridor Rd., Ste. 220, in Ponte Vedra Beach.

For more information, call (904) 273-2691 or visit www.pontevedrawellnesscenter.com.

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Home-grown boutique celebrates fourth birthday in Jacksonville Beach

The celebration included live music in the boutique's outdoor area.



Photos by Susan Griffin

On Oct. 14, local home and fashion boutique Sidney Cardel's celebrated four years on the First Coast at an informal evening soiree at their location in Jacksonville Beach.

The free public event featured live

music, champagne, appetizers and a store-wide sale. Sidney Cardel's is located on 237 5th Ave., S., in Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 372-4000 or visit www.sidneycardels.com.



Cara Burky, Chris LeFever, Gary Woods, Mel Intemann, Cathy Thomasson and Robin Beatty



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Thursday, Oct. 29	Friday, Oct. 30	Saturday, Oct. 31	Sunday, Nov. 1
<p>'Absence' reading at UNF "Absence" is a play about Helen, a strong-willed wife and mother who begins to lose her memory. The play, written by Peter M. Floyd, will be featured Thursday, Oct. 29 at the Student Union, 1 UNF Drive Building 58W, Room 2704, Jacksonville. A reception and vendor fair will take place from 5:30-6:30 p.m. and the play reading will take place from 6:45-8:15 p.m. Space is limited; there is no cost to attend. Reservations can be made online at http://arbr.co/absence.</p> <p>Horror Make-up 101 MOSH After Dark presents The Woodley Special Effects: Horror Make-up 101 Thursday, Oct. 29 at 6:30 p.m. at the Museum of Science and History, 1025 Museum Circle, Jacksonville. The cost is \$15; \$12 for MOSH members. This program is for adults ages 18 and up only. For more information or to register, call (904) 396-MOSH or visit www.themosh.org.</p> <p>Arbor Terrace Life Enrichment Group The Life Enrichment Group Day Program takes place every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Arbor Terrace Ponte Veda, 5125 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Veda Beach. The group is designed for those with memory changes who would like to stay active mentally, physically and socially. For more information, call (904) 497-4346 or visit www.at-pontevedra.com.</p> <p>Performing Arts Studio productions Two Halloween-themed productions at the Performing Arts Studio at Players by the Sea will be performed at the theatre Oct. 29, 30 and 31: "All I really Need to Know I Learned from Being a Zombie" Oct. 29 and Oct. 30 at 6 p.m. and Oct. 31 at 1 p.m. and "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" Oct. 29 and Oct. 30 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 31 at 3 p.m. Adult tickets are \$10 per performance and children under 10 are \$5. Players by the Sea is located at Sixth St N, Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 249-0289 or visit www.playersbythesea.org.</p> <p>Live Music at Table 1 Table 1 at 330 A1A N will host the Gary Starling Jazz Band live starting at 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>MOSH \$5 Fridays Every Friday, come to MOSH to enjoy \$5 admission and extended hours. The museum will be open late every Friday until 8 p.m. (Note: Additional discounts or coupons are not permitted.)</p> <p>ABET presents 'Black Pearl Sings!' The Atlantic Beach Experimental Theatre presents "Black Pearl Sings!" Oct. 30 and 31 and Nov. 6-8 and 13-15. Friday and Saturday performances will begin at 8 p.m. and Sunday performances are at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online at www.abettheatre.com. Performances take place at Adele Grage Cultural Center, 716 Ocean Blvd., Atlantic Beach.</p> <p>'Finding Baroque' exhibit Edgar Endress "Finding Baroque" will be on display at the Crisp-Ellert Art Museum through Nov. 25. The exhibit is a collaborative project between Flagler students and artist Edgar Endress. The exhibit is open during regular business hours Monday through Friday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission is free. The museum is located at 48 Sevilla St., St. Augustine. For more information, visit www.flagler.edu/news-events/crisp-ellert-art-museum.</p> <p>Pictures in the Park: 'Ghostbusters' "Ghostbusters" will be screened Friday, Oct. 30 at Hemming Park presented by Florida Blue. Moviegoers are encouraged to arrive early and bring lawn chairs, blankets, and/or snacks. Popcorn, beer, wine, and food truck fare will be available for purchase. Alcohol, glass, and animals are prohibited. This family-friendly event begins at 7 p.m. and ends at 9 p.m.; the movie will begin at dusk. The movie is free and open to the public. Hemming Park is located at 303 N. Laura St., Jacksonville.</p> <p>Trick-or-Treat Off-the-Street Trick-or-treat at participating St. Augustine Premium Outlet stores Friday, Oct. 30 from 4-6 p.m. Stop by the information center for a special treat, a list of participating stores and a complimentary VIP coupon book. St. Augustine Premium Outlets is located at 2700 State Road 16, St. Augustine. For more information, call (904) 825-1555 or visit www.premiumoutlets.com.</p>	<p>Free Halloween portraits Ponte Veda Beach Photographer, Larry Tallis will open his garage studio on Halloween to give each trick or treater a portrait to take home. The studio, located at 313 Sawmill Lane in Odom's Mill, will be open from noon until the last child is photographed. Donations are accepted and all proceeds will benefit the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund Foundation.</p> <p>Movies at Hanna Park – 'Hocus Pocus' Saturday, Oct. 31 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hanna Park lake, 500 Wonderwood Dr., Jacksonville. Free with regular park admission. It is recommended to bring a blanket, chair, flashlight and bug spray. For more information, visit http://www.coj.net/departments/parks-and-recreation/recreation-and-community-programming/events.aspx.</p> <p>'The Christians' at Limelight Theatre "The Christians" will be performed at Limelight Theatre through Nov. 15. Limelight Theatre is located at 11 Old Mission Ave. in St. Augustine. For more information, call (904) 825-1164 or visit www.limelight-theatre.org.</p> <p>'Anything Goes' at Alhambra "Anything Goes" will be performed through Nov. 22 at Alhambra Theatre & Dining, 12000 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (904) 641-1212 or visit www.alhambrajax.com.</p> <p>'BLOOM' at J. Johnson Gallery A brand new group exhibition is currently on display at the J. Johnson Gallery in Jacksonville Beach. "BLOOM," features the work of six artists hailing from New York City, Miami and Europe, showcasing art inspired by nature. An opening reception was held the evening of Sept. 11. "BLOOM" will be on display at the gallery through Nov. 5. J. Johnson Gallery is located at 177 Fourth Ave. N., Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 435-3200 or visit www.jjohnsongallery.com.</p> <p>Live Music at Table 1 Table 1 at 330 A1A N will host Paxton & Mike live starting at 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Fine Arts Series concert Palms Presbyterian Church is pleased to announce the Fine Arts Series concert featuring The University of North Florida Orchestra on Sunday, Nov. 1, at 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The concert will feature music by Bach and works inspired by Bach, as well as works by Arvo Part and Villa-Lobos. All are welcome to join Palms as they connect and celebrate the gift of music at this special concert. All concerts are free, open to all, and nursery is provided. Palms Presbyterian Church is located at 3410 S. Third St., Jacksonville Beach. For more information about Palms, visit www.palmschurch.org or call, (904) 246-6427.</p> <p>Cemetery tour The third annual historical tour of H. Warren Smith Cemetery in Jacksonville Beach will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 1. Visit the graves of a former CBS Vietnam War correspondent who was eulogized by Walter Cronkite; John F. Kennedy's right-hand man on PT-109; prisoners of war from World War II and the Civil War; a former sports personality from the 1950s; and well-known Beaches residents such as Hughie Oesterreicher and Arthur Penman. The tour will be led by Johnny Woodhouse, The Beaches Leader's resident history detective. Admission is \$7 for Beaches Museum members, \$10 for non-members. Tickets are available for purchase at the museum or online at www.beaches-museum.org. The tour starts and ends at the entrance to the cemetery on Penman Road.</p> <p>Depression Support Group A Depression/Bipolar Support Group meets Sundays from 6-8 p.m. in the Azalea Room at Baptist Beaches Medical Center, South, 14550 Old St. Augustine Rd., Jacksonville. The support group is free and open to the public. For more information, call (770) 403-4991 or email whitneybat76@gmail.com. The group is facilitated by: Georgia State Certified Peer Specialist.</p> <p>Collection Tour Join the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens us on Sundays for a guided tour of our permanent collection. The tour is free with the cost of admission. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville.</p>

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Monday, Nov. 2	Tuesday, Nov. 3	Wednesday, Nov. 4	Thursday, Nov. 5
<p>Life Enrichment Group The Life Enrichment Group is a program designed for those with memory changes who like to stay active mentally, physically and socially while allowing caregivers and loved ones some free time for themselves. This program is offered weekdays from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Ashford Court, 1700 The Greens Way in Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 568-8174, or email life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com.</p> <p>Caregiver Support Group The Players Caregiver Support Group meets every Monday 12:00-1:00 p.m. at The Players Senior Center, 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach. Kimberly Weir of Heartland Hospice facilitates a weekly discussion of current concerns and issues of caregivers. It is a great opportunity for caregivers to share resources and ideas. For more information, call (904) 280-3233.</p> <p>Travel Training Program The Council on Aging announces a Travel Training program designed to assist seniors in learning to ride the Sunshine Bus. If you are curious about expanding your transportation options or you would like to increase your confidence as a bus rider, let one of our trained volunteers assist you in navigating routes, reading time tables and making transfers. If you are interested, please contact the Mobility Manager at the Council on Aging, (904) 315-6505, or email Katie Arnold at karnold@stjohnscoa.com.</p> <p>Habitat for Humanity volunteers Habitat for Humanity of St. Augustine/St. Johns County needs volunteers to help build homes throughout the community. No skill is necessary. Volunteers must be 16 years of age or older to participate. Contact the Volunteer Coordinator at (904) 826-3252, ext. 2002 or visit www.habitatstjohns.org/volunteer to register and sign up for a volunteer build day. Please visit our website for more information regarding homeownership and donations.</p>	<p>Civil War discussion group The monthly meeting of the "Understanding The Civil War" Discussion Group will be held Nov 3 at 1 p.m. at the Anastasia Island Branch Library, 124 Seagrove Main St., St. Augustine. The topic will be a special presentation by Dr John Paling, retired professor from UF, entitled "The Thomas Jackson Letters- One Man's Battle To Stop Slavery". Jackson was an English immigrant to America prior to the Civil War and became a passionate abolitionist who resided in Pa. Through his letters home to his family that were published in English newspapers, he hoped to convince the English not to support the Confederacy. Dr Paling is a distant relative of Jackson. The meeting is open to the public. For more information, email Charlie Smith at smithc32@bellsouth.net.</p> <p>Sunset Rotary Club weekly meeting The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset meets Tuesdays from 6-7:15 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn. Community leaders are welcome to attend. For more information, call Club President Ron Mott at (904) 460-7092 or email HOJRON@aol.com.</p> <p>Palm Valley Farmers Market The Palm Valley Farmers Market takes place every Tuesday from 1:30-5:30 p.m. at the Palm Valley Community Center, 148 Canal Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>SPLASH at PVPC Tuesday evenings, 7-8:30 p.m. the Singles Ministry SPLASH (Single People Loving and Serving Him) gather at Ponte Vedra Presbyterian Church, 4510 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra. All single adults in the community welcome for fellowship, discussions on applying the Bible in our everyday lives along with a light dinner provided by KC's Kitchen. Mission and social opportunities as well. For more information, email julie@pvpc.com or call (904) 285-8225.</p> <p>Holiday Party at Driftwood Driftwood's annual holiday party is Tuesday, Nov. 3 from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Driftwood is located at 415 Pablo Ave., Suite 110, Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 372-0790.</p>	<p>PV Professionals Networking Group The Ponte Vedra Professionals Networking Group meets every Wednesday from noon-1 p.m. at Mulligans, 43 PGA Tour Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, call Gloria at (904) 635-6103, visit www.pvpng.com, or email pontevedrapng@gmail.com.</p> <p>Ponte Vedra Toastmasters Make this the year to develop your speaking and leadership abilities! The Ponte Vedra Toastmasters Club offers opportunities for improving your communication skills. PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME! Join us every Wednesday at The Players Community Center at 175 Landrum Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach. The meeting starts promptly at 7:30 a.m. and lasts one hour. Want to know more? Contact Lucy Reep at (904) 607-3695 or contact-5199@toastmastersclubs.org.</p> <p>Annual Activity Member Become an Annual Activity Member at The Players Community Senior Center! There are so many reasons to become a member: discounts on fee-based classes, designated events and Coastal Travel, complimentary participation in a wide variety of scheduled activities, to name a few! Please call Darlene Mahany at 280-3233 for all the details.</p> <p>For The Love of Driving Volunteer drivers are needed to assist seniors in achieving their mobility goals in St. Johns County. Transportation needs range from trips to the grocery store and classes to spousal hospital visits or social activities. If you are interested, please contact the Mobility Manager at the Council on Aging, 904-315-6505, or email karnold@stjohnscoa.com.</p> <p>Lightner Museum Curator's Tour Lightner Museum Curator Barry Myers gives monthly tours of the special treasures of the Lightner Museum. The tours are the first Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. Tours are included in the price of admission and will begin on the second floor of the Museum The Lightner Museum is located at 75 King St., St. Augustine. For more information, call (904) 824-2874 or visit www.lightnermuseum.org.</p>	<p>Kids Designer Warehouse Sale The Kids Designer Warehouse Sale, a fundraiser for Accotink Academy by the Sea, is Nov. 5*, 6 and 7 at Accotink Academy, 171 Canal Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach. All new designer clothing brands for children, including fall and holiday items, will be on sale for up to 60 percent off retail. Proceeds benefit Accotink Academy. The event is open to the public, and admission is free. The sale will take place Friday, Nov. 6 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 7 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 5 is an invitation-only event. Call Accotink Academy at (904) 273-4267 to learn how to be included in VIP night. For more information about the event, call (904) 477-4287, email info@kidswarehousesale.com or visit www.kidswarehousesale.com.</p> <p>Leftover Salmon at the PV Concert Hall Rootsy, string-based "slamgrass" pioneers Leftover Salmon will perform at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall Thursday, Nov. 5. Tickets for the standing room only show cost \$25 in advance; \$30 day of show. Doors open at 7 p.m.; show starts at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre and Ponte Vedra Concert Hall box office, as well as online at www.ticketmaster.com, at all Ticketmaster outlets or by phone at (800) 745-3000. For more information, visit www.pvconcerthall.com.</p> <p>Limelight Theatre gala Limelight Theatre's 24th annual gala is Thursday, Nov. 5 from 6-10 p.m. at The River House, 179 Marine St., St. Augustine. The event includes a sit down dinner provided by The Raintree and Gypsy Cab, live performances from area groups, a silent auction, open bar and dancing. Cocktail attire. The cost is a \$100 donation per person. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (904) 825-1164 or visit www.limelight-theatre.org.</p> <p>Free calendar listings for community groups and nonprofit organizations are published at our discretion on a space-available basis. Send your event at least 10 days before publication. Submit events to pvrecorder@opcfra.com, post online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com using the automated form, or call (904)285-8831.</p>

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Pineapple Post relocates to Sawgrass Village

After 42 years in the Costa Verda Plaza of Jacksonville, Pineapple Post will be joining the retailers at Sawgrass Village on Nov. 4. The new store will be located across the street from Berkshire Hathaway, Caffè Andiamo, Peterbrooke Chocolatiers, Marcia's Place and A'Propos.

Founded in 1973, Pineapple Post

offers more than 300 lines of personalized stationary, invitations, announcements and cards, tabletop and home décor, ladies accessories and other gifts. Their services include complimentary gift wrap, bridal and gift registries, in-house printing for invitations and stationary, vinyl monograms, personal shoppers, special orders and shipping services.

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from Thurs., Nov. 5 until Fri., Nov. 6. Traveling the globe in search of unusual and rare colored gems of extraordinary natural beauty, Courtney is passionate about her mission, which she states is "to make one of a kind jewelry that is simply drop dead gorgeous." Courtney's jewelry is classic yet edgy with a collectible exclusivity that makes it a favorite of Hollywood's celebrities and style-makers looking for something truly exceptional.

Beverly Hills designer visits Underwood Jewelers

Award-winning Beverly Hills Jewelry Designer, Erica Courtney will be having a special Trunk Show at Underwood Jewelers' Ponte Vedra location from Tues., Nov. 3 until Weds., Nov. 4. She will then be at their San Marco location

from Thurs., Nov. 5 until Fri., Nov. 6. Traveling the globe in search of unusual and rare colored gems of extraordinary natural beauty, Courtney is passionate about her mission, which she states is "to make one of a kind jewelry that is simply drop dead gorgeous." Courtney's jewelry is classic yet edgy with a collectible exclusivity that makes it a favorite of Hollywood's celebrities and style-makers looking for something truly exceptional.



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Photos by Beth Resch

Kelly H. McDermott

Thousands flocked to Jacksonville Beach over the weekend for the annual Sea and Sky Spectacular, featuring two performances of aerial stunts and demonstrations by the Blue Angels on Saturday and Sunday.

A total of 17 officers voluntarily serve with the Blue Angels, according to the group's website. Each year the team typically selects three tactical jet pilots, two support officers and one Marine Corps C-130 pilot to relieve departing members.

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SHORT TAKES

Free Halloween portraits

Ponte Veda Beach Photographer, Larry Tallis will open his garage studio on Halloween to give each trick or treator a portrait to take home.

The studio, located at 313 Sawmill Lane in Odom's Mill, will be open from noon until the last child is photographed. Donations are accepted and all proceeds will benefit the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund Foundation.

Ponte Vedra YMCA Youth Basketball registration underway

Winter Youth Basketball Registrations for youth ages 3-17 years old is currently underway.

The season will begin with practices the week of Dec. 14, games will begin on Saturday, Jan. 9 and will run through Feb. 27.

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- JAN. 11 OLATE DOGS WINNERS OF AMERICA'S GOT TALENT
- JAN. 15 TROMBONE SHORTY & ORLEANS AVENUE w/ NEW BREED BRASS BAND
- JAN. 24 FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT PRESENTS DAVID BRUCE & MOZART
- JAN. 28 ANA POPOVIC
- JAN. 29 SHAWN COLVIN with LARRY CAMPBELL & TERESA WILLIAMS
- JAN. 31 COLIN HAY
- FEB. 5&6 UNDER THE STREETLAMP
- FEB. 11 ROBERT RANDOLPH & THE FAMILY BAND with PARKER URBAN BAND
- FEB. 13 THE JAMES HUNTERS SIX
- FEB. 21 GARY CLARK JR. THE STORY OF SONNY BOY SLIM TOUR
- MAR. 4 ROGER MCGUINN
- MAR. 6 FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT PRESENTS HAYDN & BRAHMS
- MAR. 18 THE JOHNNY CLEGG BAND
- MAR. 19 THE FAB FOUR 2 PERFORMANCES!
- APR. 10 FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT PRESENTS BEETHOVEN & MENDELSSOHN
- APR. 19 ONE NIGHT OF QUEEN

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- BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HSFNR PARTNERS WITH JAGUARS TO MAKE "DREAMS COME TRUE"
- FALL 2015 LOCAL MARKET WATCH FROM SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY
- ¡VIVA ESPANA! AT THE 2015 ART & ANTIQUES SHOW

PHOTO BY BEKKAH CLIFFORD

Welcome to Sandcastles

By Janet Westling
Contributing Editor

Welcome to our fall issue and the second anniversary of Sandcastles, a luxury, lifestyle and real estate seasonal section. We launched Sandcastles on Oct. 31, 2013, just as we welcomed our Florida/Georgia fans to Jacksonville.

The Florida/Georgia game, an annual event that started in 1915, is sometimes called the “world’s largest cocktail party.” Many fans arrive early to vacation and take in the last days of beautiful summer weather. They stay in our resorts around the first coast and for some in their second homes.

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Janet Westling

Sales for Manormor Sotheby’s International Realty, delves into our local market with an analysis of the current indicators throughout the beach communities.

Twelve of our top agents share their stories about some amazing properties currently on the mar-

ket. From Queens Harbor to Vilano Beach, these properties for sale represent our thriving market and picturesque locale that we often refer to as “Florida’s best kept secret.”

Our First Coast is a wonderful place to live and with Georgia on our minds this issue we invite our visitors and residents to experience and enjoy our vibrant community and Florida lifestyle.

In our travel and leisure section we feature travel agent Susan Hudson, tennis pro Danny Witt and PR consultant Tera Williams who shares the last installment of “This Old House.” The Art and Antiques Show returns this December and celebrates the season with Viva Espana and an impressive lineup of speakers during the show. The Ponte Vedra Women’s

Club PR Chair, Patti Freeman, shares the calendar of events planned for this philanthropic organization.

And, it was just announced that Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty is partnering with Dreams Come True and the Jacksonville Jaguars.

Our home is our castle and at the beaches it is our castle in the sand. From palm trees to sand dunes, golf courses to resort living, Jacksonville, Ponte Vedra beach and the beaches communities offer the most desirable real estate in Northeast Florida!

Janet Westling,
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
Florida Network Realty
Sandcastles creator and contributing
writer
www.janetwestling.com

Market Watch

Local market watch: 2015 Beaches report

Janie Coffey

Director of Sales | Broker Associate – Manormor Sotheby’s International Realty

This has been an interesting year for real estate on the Beaches. While Jacksonville Beach and Neptune Beach still saw improving economic indicators across the board for the real estate market, Ponte Vedra Beach and Atlantic Beach saw some mixed messages from certain metrics.

Let’s get into the data a bit to understand what is going on in each sub-market.

Jacksonville Beach

Jacksonville Beach saw a healthy gain of 9% in average closed price for 2015 year to date over 2014, averaging \$379,000. Not only did the sales price average increase over the past year, but the number of homes on the market compared to the number of homes selling shrunk to a 4 month average inventory, which is just at the edge of a Stable Market, approaching a Seller’s Market. Months of inventory is an indicator of supply and demand. If not another new listing came on the market, all the actively listed homes would sell out in 4 months.

A Seller’s Market typically has less than a 4 month inventory of homes. A Stable Market is typically around 4-6 months of supply and a Buyer’s Market is typically over 6 or 7 months of listings. Of course, in higher priced areas, the months of supply for a stable market is a little higher as higher priced homes take a bit longer to sell on average.

Not only did Jacksonville Beach have a tighter supply of homes, the percent a home sold for versus its listed price rose to 95%, up from 93% last

year. Jacksonville Beach is definitely a good market right now for sellers, and buyers are finding they need to be very competitive in their offers if they want to go under contract.

Neptune Beach

Neptune Beach was a close second to Jacksonville Beach regarding strong metrics. Up 7% over last year, the average home in 2015 sold for \$388,000 year to date. The months of inventory is a little higher than Jacksonville Beach, but still in a Stable Market with a 5.5 month supply of active listings.

The properties that sell are selling over 20% faster than they did last year, going under contract in 83 days compared to 106 last year. And the average closed price was 92% of list price, the same as it was for 2014. For buyers in Neptune Beach, they definitely need to act quickly with homes going under contract in less than 3 months.

Atlantic Beach

The real estate market in Atlantic Beach has mixed indicators in 2015. While they have a tight supply (less than 5 months of inventory), the days on the market rose a bit, taking 94 days to sell on average, compared to 84 days last year. Sales prices declined slightly, down around 4% to \$341,000 on average compared to last year. For homes that sold, the list to sales price ratio in Atlantic Beach is the highest on the beaches, selling at 96% on average, meaning there was not too much room for negotiation.

Both Buyers and Sellers should speak to their agent when pricing a home to sell or making an offer, as the mixed metrics show that a deep

analysis needs to be made for your property to price it to sell or make an offer to purchase.

Ponte Vedra Beach

Ponte Vedra Beach experienced a similar market to Atlantic Beach, with some mixed indicators. The average closed property sold for \$643,322, down slightly (3%) in 2015 compared to 2014. Properties took approximately two weeks longer to sell than they did in 2014 yet the absorption rate remained fairly steady at roughly 7 months throughout 2015. Properties that do sell are selling much closer to list price than they did in 2014. Up to 93-95% versus 91% in 2014. As in Atlantic Beach, with the mixed market indicators we are seeing in Ponte Vedra Beach, it is especially important to speak to your real estate agent when pricing a home to sell or making an offer so that all factors can be weighed out to result in a successful purchase or sale.

With season almost upon us and a good one third of all luxury properties on the Beaches owned by out of area owners, now is the best time to consider listing your property to sell. Historically November through January sees a decrease in homes on the market, lowering your competition from other active listings. For home buyers, you will need to work with your agent to find the best properties in a decreased inventory during the season, and make sure your offer is competitive while the supply is tighter with more buyers in the market than off season. A professional real estate agent can help you analyze the data in your specific area to make sure you price it to sell or submit the winning offer if you are purchasing.

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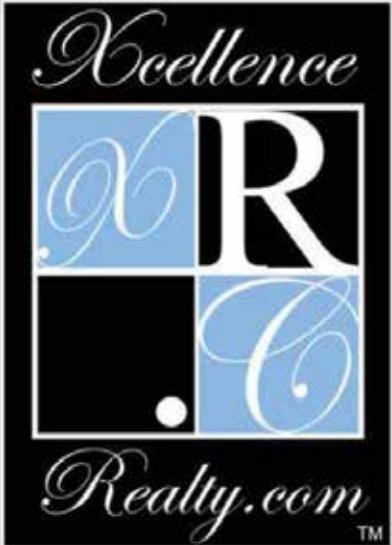
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Real Estate Listing

One-of-a-kind home on Ponte Vedra Blvd.

**Tina Webster**

This Ponte Vedra Blvd. home is completely unique. Wake up to amazing sunrises over the Atlantic Ocean from your master bedroom and wind down with picturesque sunsets in the early evening over the Guana Preserve from this spectacular Ponte Vedra Boulevard home. Enjoy ocean views from most living areas of this beautifully updated home with 4200 SF located on a premiere section of Ponte Vedra Blvd between The Lodge & Club and Sawgrass Country Club. Bring your surfboard and sailboat because this home has a deeded, private beach access that is directly across the street. A side and circular drive leads to a 3 car garage and allows plenty of room for guests to park.

The Living areas and Master bedroom both provide amazing ocean views. Enjoy coffee from your master suite as you watch the sunrise over the Atlantic Ocean. The spacious family room with fireplace and built ins provide east and west scenic views. The gourmet kitchen gives you an ocean view while prepping your food or washing dishes! Enjoy three additional bedrooms and two additional bathrooms plus a family room on the bottom floor of this home which provides all the space your family and friends need!

The backyard is an endless retreat with



an amazing pool with waterfall and plenty of room to entertain numerous guests after a day at the beach while watching the sunset. You are minutes away from some of the top golf courses in our area to include Sawgrass Country Club, Ponte Vedra Inn & Club and the

prestigious Stadium Course at TPC. You do not want to miss this opportunity for the best in Ponte Vedra Beach Living! Listed and represented by Tina Webster, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services, Florida Network Realty. Offered for \$2,399,000.

Real Estate Listing

Queen's Harbour: Not all waterfront is created equal



Michele Rossie

Designed to capture water views from almost every room, this residence is sited on over one-half acre with breathtaking vistas of 180' of the harbor. Located a short boat ride to the Intracoastal and the Atlantic Ocean, the 60' concrete dock, equipped with water and electric, is ready for your watercraft and will accommodate a yacht up to 100' with a 6.5' draft.

This beautifully landscaped home is 6526 square feet and the open floor plan with sun-filled interiors can accommodate casual or formal living. The remodeled kitchen with gleaming wood cabinets, honed granite, double ovens and a 1000 bottle walk-in wine cellar are just a few of the fabulous features of the home. The spacious first floor owner's suite overlooks the peaceful harbor and the second floor of the home offers 5 additional bedrooms and 4 full baths

providing everyone in the family, or visiting family and friends, their own private retreat. The second floor study also overlooks the harbor and the young and young at heart can be as creative as they want in the large craft room with a built in sink! To complete the offering, there is a fabulous bonus room that provides abundant space to entertain and a full view of the water. Wind down and enjoy endless evenings of golden sunsets from the second floor balcony or your first floor terrace that overlooks the sparkling pool and the harbor.

When you ask the owners what they love about their home they will tell you the lifestyle. Queen's Harbour has a fresh water navigational lock system that provides an effortless boating lifestyle. They enjoy being able to walk out of their back door to their dock a few feet away to take a short evening boat



ride or a day long fishing trip. They can also enjoy golf, tennis, fitness and fun club activities without ever leaving their community. They love that they live in the best location in the city just minutes from the shores of the Atlantic Ocean at the Beaches Town Center and a short drive to the St. John's Town Center, downtown Jacksonville or the airport. What they cherish most about their home

is being able to welcome and accommodate all the members of their large family who travel many miles to spend holidays with them.

You won't want to miss this opportunity to enjoy everything living on Florida's First Coast has to offer!

This home is located at 13675 Little Harbor Court. Offered by Michele and Newman Rossie of Manormor Sotheby's International Realty.



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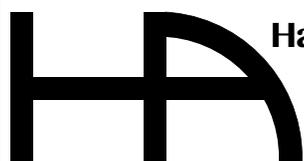
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Lifestyle

Witt Tennis: a full service junior developmental program

Dan Witt

I first introduced myself and my program to the readers of the Ponte Vedra Recorder back in July. Since then I have begun my Fall 2015 tennis program that consists of 2 main components: developmental and schools programs. The developmental program, with enrollment of more than 50 kids, is offered to young athletes ages six and up and comes with very specific programming and a pathway to development.

This pathway includes the introduction and developing a love of the game, competing locally (Jr. Team Tennis, Grand Prix Circuit), competing state-wide and/or nationally, setting goals (i.e., making the middle or high school team) and possibly achieving a state and/or national USTA ranking. A select number of players at the top of the pathway pyramid will achieve college scholarships and aspire to play professionally. I have new kids joining my program throughout the year as well as students coming in from out of town to train periodically during the school year, holidays and summer vacations.

The second component is school tennis enrichment programs. The programs are typically 6 weeks in length during the school year and are geared towards getting racquets into the hands of kids for the first time at a young age (pre-K through 3rd grade). These programs are designed for convenience for parents as all groups are held on campus where we utilize gymnasium space, blacktop areas and school tennis courts if they are available. We use low compression balls, portable nets and properly sized racquets. This formula al-



lows for greater success sooner with the ability to rally and move along the learning curve at a faster rate.

Current school programs have over 100 kids learning the game and many for the first time. I run programming at the Bolles Ponte Vedra campus, Beaches Episcopal, St. Paul's Catholic Academy and Accotink by the Sea. I have been assisted by the USTA Florida Section with equipment grants to start the programs and most equipment I donate to each school for use during PE, etc. The after school programs are very popular because they are convenient for the parents and they offer a new and fun way to get outside and play while in a familiar and structured environment.

I am very passionate about teaching youth the game that has given me so much! I have been very fortunate in my own ability to develop as a coach and form my philosophy from several mentors along the way. To find out more about Witt Tennis, please contact me at WittTennis.net.

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Berkshire Hathaway HSFNR announces partnership with Dreams Come True, Jaguars

BHHSFNR

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty is proud to announce its new partnership with Dreams Come True and the Jacksonville Jaguars.

"We are thrilled to continue supporting the important mission of Dreams Come True through a new collaboration with the Jacksonville Jaguars," said Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty Founder, President and CEO Linda Sherrer. "With the power of the Jacksonville Jaguars and the support of our valued customers and passionate team members, we

will continue to help make dreams come true for many deserving Northeast Florida children."

During the past two years, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty has donated more than \$60,000 to Dreams Come True, the First Coast's only locally based nonprofit organization dedicated to fulfilling the dreams of children with life-threatening illnesses. Under the new partnership, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty will continue to donate a portion from every completed home sale to fund the sponsorship for Dreams Come True.

The funds will support marketing and public relations efforts for Dreams Come True as well as Special Times with the

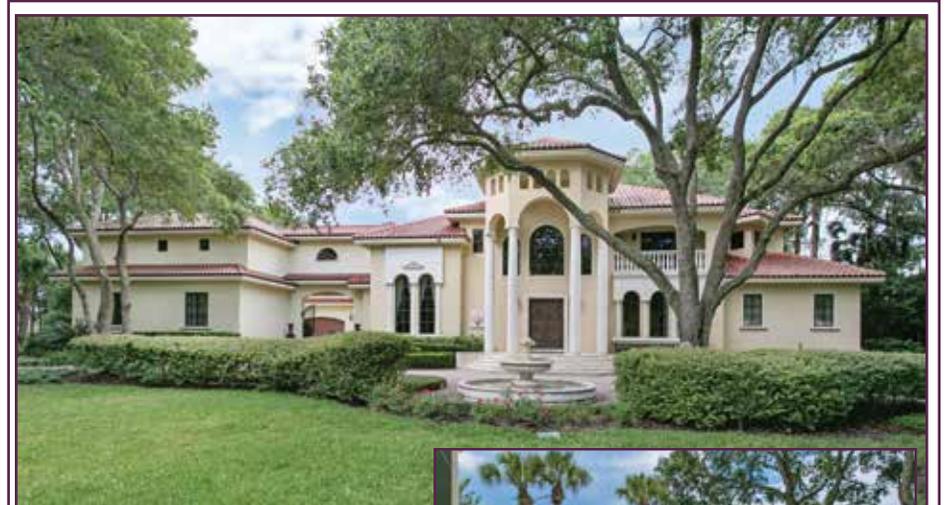
Jacksonville Jaguars in conjunction with

PARTNERSHIP continues on **Page 29**



Provided by BHHSFNR

From left, Dreams Come True of Jacksonville Executive Director Sheri Criswell, Jaxson de Ville and Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty Founder, President and CEO Linda Sherrer.



Harbour Island at Marsh Landing Intracoastal Waterway



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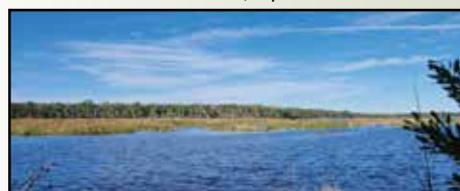
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Real Estate Listing

Panoramic views of the lake in Jacksonville Golf & Country Club



Katie Hughes & Janet Westling

You'll love this gorgeous, 2-story charming estate home with spectacular panoramic views of the lake in Jacksonville Golf & Country Club! This 6 bedroom, 4 bathroom home with 2 half baths and a 3 stall garage will give you over 4400 feet of generous space to move about (without losing that warm, cozy atmosphere when it's time to cuddle up by the fireplace with a good book or a glass of wine). Wake up each morning to breathtaking Florida sunrises in the East and drift off to sleep each night with the peaceful sounds of your spa. Situated in Jacksonville Golf and Country Club, this spacious home is just minutes to the beaches, the Town Center, Mayo Clinic and the University of North Florida. Touted as one of the most desirable gated communities and country clubs in the area,



families and members enjoy a lifestyle with limitless recreational and social opportunities within an active, family-friendly private club.

As you step inside 3739 Pinckney Island experience a beautiful updated sun filled home with a large office to work in a spacious backyard with spa to play, and an amazing theater room to entertain family and friends!

The home theatre was designed

and built for an active family and gathering of friends and includes custom theatre seating and a wet bar. With state of the art audio visual equipment and atmospheric lighting this expansive theater checks all the boxes for a great family experience.

Designer finishes include wood flooring, a completely updated kitchen with wood shaker cabinets, exotic granite countertops, stone back-

splash and stainless steel appliances. The master bedroom and bathroom feature large spaces plus a superior remodeled bathroom including all new vanities, flooring & shower with a rain head, showerhead & handheld plus jets! Welcome to relaxation. If that's not enough, enjoy the stacked stone spa complimenting the large lake front property. Situated across from the Jax Golf park and fields on a quiet cul-de-sac street make this a perfect location in the community.

Jacksonville Golf and Country club was built in 1989 and is a private, member-owned country club. An \$11,000 equity membership is included in the home and is transferrable to the club. This gorgeous home is listed by Katie Hughes and Janet Westling and represented by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, Florida Network Realty. Offered for \$775,000.00.

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Real Estate Listing



Luxury living in Pablo Creek Reserve



Linda Ostoski

Want to live close to town and the beach

but be away from everything? Have you considered Pablo Creek Reserve? The location lets you get to the beach, Mayo Clinic, shopping and work with ease. Driving through the magnificent gates and scenic entry takes you to one of the most exclusive neighborhoods in Northeast Florida.

The Pablo Creek Reserve lifestyle is the old Florida easy living with large wooded reserve areas, winding lakes and miles of walking trails and sidewalks. The community Central park with children's playground and fountains is the focal point of the community where neighbors can meet, barbeque and enjoy each other's company. This community is 400 acres with only 270 home sites. It offers several types of timeless and classic architecture.

Have you ever dreamed of living in an Italian Villa? Well your dreams can come true at 5300 Chandler Bend! This exquisite house being constructed by the well-known Pineapple Corporation sweeps you away to Italy with its 2 courtyards and extensive covered promenade.

Walk through your entry gate into a large courtyard with a fireplace for those cool nights. Family room, dining room, library and guest room all

enjoy private entrances to the courtyard. Enter the main house through eight foot French doors into a dramatic two story great room with views to the outside patio and preserve.

This house has the open living floor plan with great room, dining room and kitchen all flowing together. The epicurean kitchen and prep kitchen includes quartz and natural stone countertops and a generous island.

The owner's suite is finely appointed with a built in coffee bar for those early mornings in which you can enjoy your coffee on the adjacent patio overlooking the preserve. The suite offers a fireplace for those wintry nights. The vaulted barrel ceiling and lavish owners vanities add to the opulent feeling of this finely constructed house.

Multiple outdoor living areas are spacious and wonderful for entertaining family and friends or for a very large party. A pool can easily be added for your enjoyment.

This 5 bedroom, 6 bath, just over 5,000 square feet estate home can be yours for \$1,947,000. Listed by The Luxury Leaders Linda Ostoski, represented by Watson Realty Corporation.



Real Estate Listing

1500 Windjammer Lane in Vilano Beach



Jim Zeller

What is the ultimate relaxed and active beach and Intracoastal lifestyle? The lifetime goal of so many successful people is to eventually find their personal piece of paradise, allowing them to be healthy and active with a location that affords dynamic outdoor possibilities yet is comfortable and relaxed.

1500 Windjammer Ln. in Vilano Beach, St. Augustine, is one of the few locations that can deliver on this goal. At over 4,900 square feet with five bedrooms and four full and one half bath, the size delivers with space for all family and friends to share in the enjoyment of reaching this goal. All this, only 14 miles south of the heart of Ponte Vedra Beach. The rear of the property faces a lake and gorgeous marsh with tidal entry for

kayaking and canoeing, taking you to the Intracoastal Waterway. It's also only a two-block walk to the east with dedicated beach access on the Atlantic Ocean.

This three-story home has been constructed with the finest materials including reinforced building block, guaranteed Rhino exterior finish, in-home generator and windows and glass doors designed to withstand 200 mph winds. There are laundries on all three floors and a personal elevator. The first floor boasts a perfect inlaw suite with full kitchen, living area, bath and large bedroom. This can easily be retrofitted as a guest apartment.

The second floor has a two-story grand room completely with fireplace and huge windows with French doors leading to a large covered patio. This area is very open to the epi-

curean kitchen with large island and prep area. Large upscale gas cooking, built-in oven and warming tray allow for preparing large or small meals in a snap. There are two additional bedrooms and baths on this floor.

The third floor has a large "man cave" with built-in projection TV, Murphy bed and its own half bath. Also fully half of this floor is dedicated to the master suite. The Intra-

coastal view from the covered terrace is magnificent. This large space has a morning kitchen, fireplace and impressive bathroom. The large shower space has a rain shower and the soaking bubble tub is directly in front of the fireplace.

This personal, private piece of paradise is offered at \$1,341,000 by The Luxury Leaders, Jim Zeller, Watson Realty.



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Real Estate Listing

Marsh Landing living at 9060 Marsh View Court



Clare Berry

Literally a hidden gem, this is one of the best designs for home entertaining in all of Ponte Vedra Beach. The owners of this one-story home designed it purposefully; the plan allows them to throw open their 5 sets of French doors (all topped with Palladian windows for maximum light) to access the one-of-a-kind 1700-square-foot lanai.

Surrounded by lush foliage, with a tidal marsh beyond, they created a zenlike garden area. You'll love the Pebbletec pool and the convenience of the built-in bar, sink and grille. It's like being on vacation every day, surrounded by a tropical paradise.

Inside, the 4 bedroom home is nearly 3500 square feet of cooled space, floored mostly in travertine, with high ceilings and multistep mouldings. The builder was Glen Reynolds, who was known for his attention to detail. Take note of his signature Palladian door and window stylings, designed



to provide architectural interest as well as to allow lots of light into the interiors. The private master suite is spacious, with separate closets and vanities, a large shower and a soaking tub. The family room, kitchen and breakfast room are one big open space, anchored by a fireplace and wet bar, all with views to the lanai. In addition, there are

oversized living and dining rooms, with plenty of wall space for furniture and art.

The 3-car side entry garage off the paver drive was designed with extra storage space. There's an additional garden area on the north side of the property, which enhances the views from the bedrooms on that side of the house.

This tranquil lane in Marsh Landing is near the north gate, providing easy access to J. Turner Butler Blvd. You don't hear anything but the birds here! Marsh Landing Country Club, a private members-only club, is right around the corner and offers golf, tennis, swimming, fitness, dining and social activities for all interests.

The community of Marsh Landing is very unique, developed with extreme sensitivity to the natural beauty of the place. It's like living in a nature preserve!

Represented and listed by Broker Clare Berry of Berry & Co. Real Estate, This is a great value in Marsh Landing, offered for \$824,900.

Lifestyle



Get your calendars ready for the PVWC

Patti Freeman
PVWC, Public Relations

The Ponte Vedra Woman's Club has some fun events planned. On Nov. 10,

there will be a wine and food "tasting" benefit hosted at Table1, from 530pm -700pm. Tickets are \$25 per person and open to the public. Meet up with friends and family for a night out. Proceeds from this event will benefit St. Gerard's Campus. Other events being planned include an antique show, casino night, fashion show, underwood's trunk show, mother-daughter tea, field trips and service days at our charities. The Ponte Vedra Woman's Club will be hosting an Antique Show coming in January 2016. This event will be held at The Ponte Vedra Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Hall, 4510 Palm Valley Road, on Friday, January 15, 2016, 9:00am - 5:00pm and Saturday, January 16, 2016, 9:00am - 4:00pm. The Antique Show is an intimate show of 15 dealers with emphasis on quality and unique-

PVWC continues on Page 31



"My new closet is so beautiful. Tim's design solved all of my storage issues."
- Stacy, Ponte Vedra

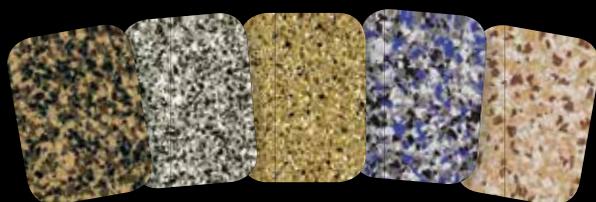


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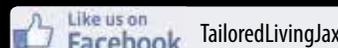
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Partnership

Continued from 21

Dreams Come True. Special Times provides the dream child and his or her family a time to momentarily forget the realities of life-threatening illnesses.

“Often, our children battle their illnesses long before and even after their dreams have been fulfilled,” said Sheri Criswell, executive director, Dreams Come True.

“Special Times make it possible for us to continually support our children with meaningful experiences designed to brighten their day. We appreciate the incredible support and generosity of the Jacksonville Jaguars and Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty to help us make this possible for our children.”

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty’s fundraising efforts for Dreams Come True began in August 2013 as part of the company’s 25th anniversary year. Company leaders and associates

are passionate about supporting Dreams Come True.

“We have the best job in the world... helping people achieve their dreams of homeownership! Our partnership with

Dreams Come True is a natural fit, allowing us to also fulfill the dreams of children and their families who need something exciting to look forward to,” said Broker/Executive Vice President Christy Budnick.

STUNNING JAX GOLF LAKEFRONT ESTATE!



This updated home includes over 4400 sf, 6 bedrooms, 4 full baths, 2 half baths and an amazing theater room! New roof in 2013. Custom finishes include wood flooring, a completely updated kitchen with wood shaker cabinets, exotic granite countertops, stone back splash and stainless steel appliances. The master bedroom and bathroom feature large spaces plus a superior remodeled bathroom. Welcome to relaxation as you enjoy the stacked stone spa complimenting the large lake front property. Situated across from the Jax Golf park & fields plus on a cul-de-sac street make this a perfect location in the community. \$11,000 towards equity membership.

\$775,000



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Katie Hughes, REALTOR®
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THE BEST OF PONTE VEDRA



Picturesque Ocean Views on Ponte Vedra Blvd.
Beautifully updated 4BR/3.5BA home with deeded, private beach access directly across the street! Wake up to sunrises & enjoy amazing sunsets in the rear of the house over the Guana Preserve while entertaining guests on huge back deck around the pool. Living areas & Master on the 2nd floor both provide amazing ocean views. Spacious family room with fireplace & built ins provide east & west scenic views. Kitchen gives you an ocean view while prepping your food or washing dishes! 2nd floor office. 3 BR plus family room on the 1st floor provide all the space your family & friends need! Home also has elevator. \$2,395,000



Spacious Private Pool Home in Plantation Oaks
6BR/5.5BA home on a quiet cul-de-sac street and large private, wooded lot. Sunlight fills this home through large windows, transom windows, french and sliding doors. Tropical Oasis salt water heated pool and spa and screened lanai. Stainless GE Profile Kitchen with granite counters, center prep island, breakfast bar and open to casual dining area and large family room with gas fireplace. Master bedroom retreat and 3 other bedrooms on the 1st floor, 2 huge bedrooms/bonus rooms on the 2nd floor. Lots of space for the family to spread out! \$884,900



Lakefront Pool Home in Plantation Oaks
Enter into this gorgeous 6BR/5.5BA/3-car garage home and you'll notice the designer touches including 20" tile thru-out, crown molding, beautiful chandeliers and decorative fans, gorgeous kitchen w/ stainless appliances, granite & beautiful custom cabinetry. Kitchen opens to large family room with beautiful built in entertainment center. Exit out to spacious lanai and sparkling screened pool area with built in bar and grill overlooking a peaceful lake. Master Bedroom and 3 additional bedrooms on the first floor. Two large bedrooms (or bonus room) on the 2nd floor. \$949,000



Pool Home in Cypress Creek - TPC Sawgrass
Surrounded by mature trees on a quiet street, this 3BR/2BA home features a great room with vaulted ceilings, wet bar and wood burning fireplace. French doors lead to the pool and sun filled patio perfect for relaxing. Split floor plan with Master bedroom and attached master bath plus two additional bedrooms share an additional full bathroom. Spacious kitchen with plenty of storage and counter space opens to a casual dining area and a separate screened porch. \$369,900



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Real Estate Listing

Luxurious oceanfront
condominium living**Carol Burns**

Luxurious oceanfront condominium living... that's the Windemere one at the Beach Club of Sawgrass Country Club in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida!

Florida's First Coast along the Atlantic Ocean is home to several special beachside communities. Ponte Vedra Beach is the northern understated equivalent to Palm Beach. Oceanview Windemere has a flair all its own, with a beautiful entry court and stunning architecture.

Windemere 933 takes this understated elegance and style to another level. It is an exquisite residence offering the most popular features of today coupled with breathtaking ocean views. This plan includes a large gourmet kitchen, a richly-paneled study, three bedrooms, three bathrooms, and three terraces, providing over 2,700 square feet of beautiful living space. The current owners removed all interior divisions, down TO THE STUDS. After reconfiguring the open space, they installed high impact windows and doors, new plumbing and air-con-

ditioning systems, arched passageways, solid wood interior 8' doors, pecky cypress front doors, onyx vanities, 24" square marble floors in all public areas and a kitchen with honed marble and the best appliances (Wolfe, Miele, Sub-Zero).

When you walk into this spacious condominium, you'll immediately notice the attention to the details, like the superior quality door handles and hinges, as well as finely crafted woodwork. The new spaces

easily accommodate large furniture. This plan lives like an oceanfront home because of its wide footprint and plentiful windows.

The Windemere one is a four-story elevator building, closest to the ocean of the two Windemere buildings. In the past five years, the Association upgraded Windemere's amenities to ensure that it continues as one of the most highly-desirable places to live at the beach.

Where else can you find all this? Luxury appointments in spacious rooms, ocean views, a private swimming pool for residents, Sawgrass Country Club golf course/tennis/fitness/dining (membership required) and across A1A, the prestigious TPC golf courses and clubhouse. This setting is private, serene and minutes from your favorite stores, restaurants, town center shopping, Mayo Clinic, Jaguars Everbank Field, The Jacksonville Symphony, Art Galleries, Museums, The Jacksonville Zoo and three airports. Offered for \$1,695,000. Represented By Berry & Co. Real estate, listed by Carol Burns, Realtor.



PVWC

Continued from 28

ness. We are very excited about this first time event and hope that you will join us. Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit St. Augustine Youth Services (SAYS), St. Gerard's Campus, Haven Horse Ranch and the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind.

The holidays are fast approaching. With that in mind, we started two fundraisers with Yankee Candle and Charleston Wrap. Visit our website, under News & Announcements for our account information so that we may be credited by your purchases.

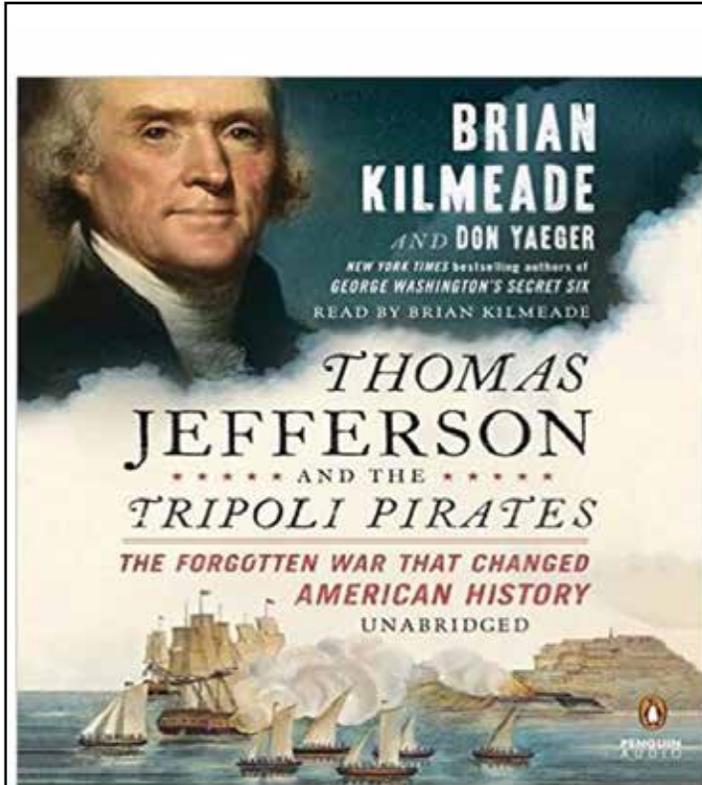
Another way that the community can help is by advertising your business with us for one year. A business card ad will be placed in our monthly newsletter, in our membership directory and on our website for a \$100 donation.

For more information about advertising, sponsoring a meeting or an event, please visit our website at www.pontevedrawomansclub.com, click on Our Sponsors tab. View upcoming events and meetings on the club's calendar. Like our new website? "Like Us" on Facebook and share our events with your friends and family.

New members from the surrounding areas are always welcome. Our mission is to enhance the quality of life through

charity, education and community service. The sense of community is felt when giving of your time and talents. Please think about joining the PVWC and help us make a difference in someone's life. All members are volunteers.

Do you know of a venue to hold a fundraising event? If so, please contact us at pontevedrawomansclub@hotmail.com.



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Real Estate Listing

Modern living at the St. Johns Town Center



Keely Kopp

“Georgetown is a private, gated community that provides a ‘maintenance-free’ lifestyle, as all exterior maintenance is taken care of for you,” says Semanik of SEDA Construction. “Your free time is yours to enjoy.”

4452 Congressional Drive is a beautiful end-unit townhome with three bedrooms and three and a half baths located in Georgetown, in the highly desirable St Johns Town Center area. Located in the heart of Jacksonville, you are close to everything. The University of North Florida is less than two miles away and the beaches are only ten miles away. Conveniently located minutes from I-295 makes it super easy to drive to your favorite locations in Jacksonville.

If you are looking for a night at home, you can also enjoy cooking in a spacious kitchen with beautiful 42” cabinets and stainless steel appliances while enjoying stunning preserve views. In the winter, cozy up by your fireplace in the great room while watching your favorite television shows. Dual master suites are another added bonus. When it’s hot outside or you need to blow



off some steam, stroll on over to the community pool or fitness center.

“For those wanting to live in the epicenter of Jacksonville’s best shopping and dining, Georgetown has it all.

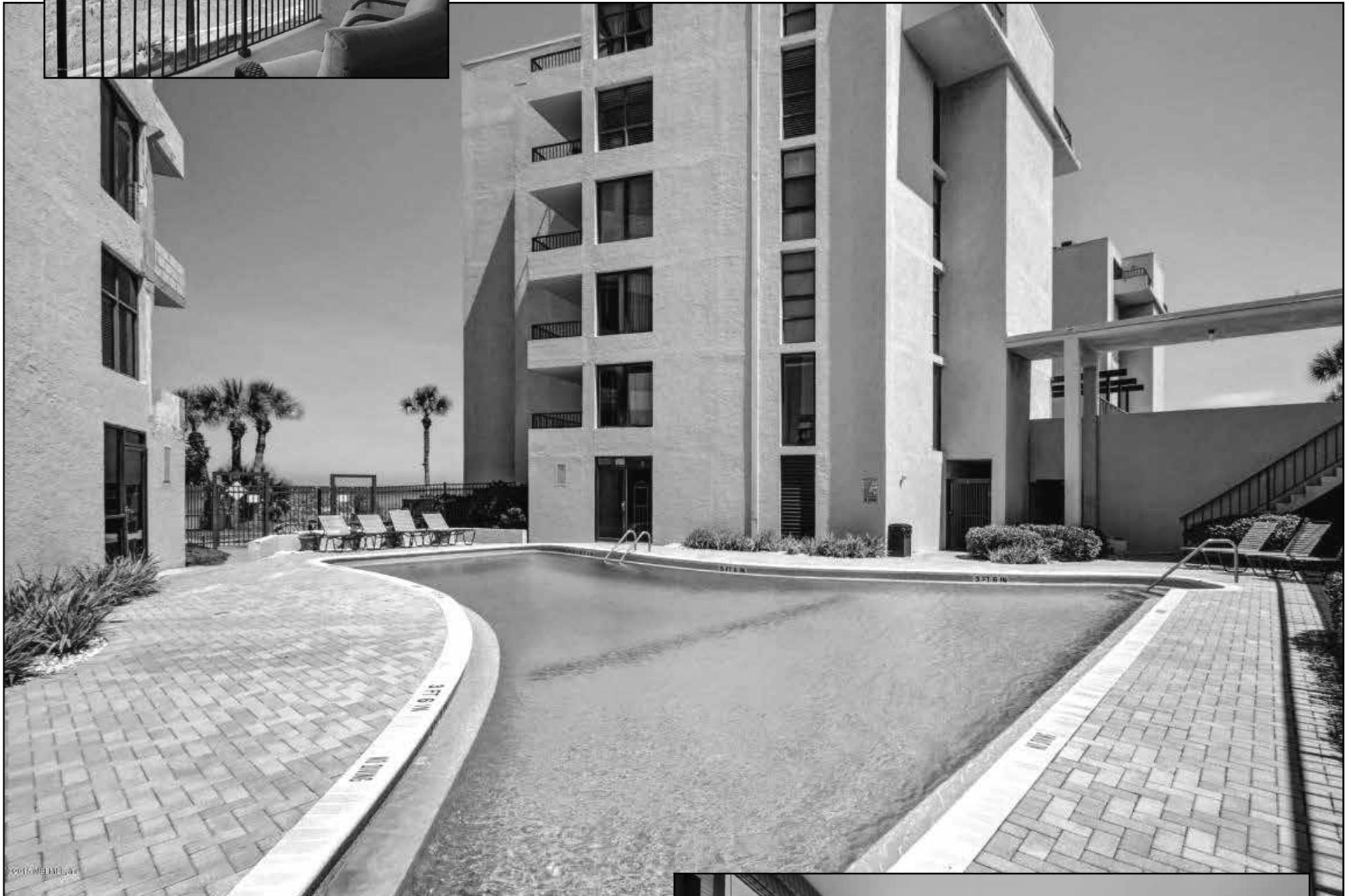
Homeowners will enjoy the benefits and ease of townhome living as well as the proxim-

ity to outstanding restaurants and shopping. No other townhome community offers this, making Georgetown truly a one-of-a-kind opportunity,” says Semanik of SEDA Construction.

Represented by Re/Max Unlimited, listed by the Kopp Group, Keely Kopp & Drew Kopp. Offered for \$ 250,000.

Real Estate Listing

Oceanfront living at its best



Sally Sergeant

Located in popular South Jacksonville Beach, this completely redone oceanfront condo is ready for a quick move-in. Perfectly suitable for either a second home, weekend getaway or year-round living, this comfortable three-bedroom condo can fit any of your lifestyle needs. Ocean 22 is located conveniently to Butler Blvd., restaurants and shopping. Jacksonville Beach has become a highly sought-after location with the many diverse housing opportunities it offers. In addition, there are so many choices for dining and shopping, both casual and upscale, that it is sure to please everyone. Jacksonville Beach is also popular for its festivals, clean beaches and happy environment.

Ocean 22's popularity has been long lived and will be for years to come. With its own private pool, secured entry and ample storage for bikes and beach chairs, its casual but well-managed environment is both inviting and attractive. Located on the second floor, from 2E you will enjoy wonderful views of the beach and ocean while enjoying easy access to the pool and beach.

This condo has many upgraded features and all

of the interior selections are well coordinated. From the stone flooring and beautiful appointments throughout, this condo feels more like a home.

The kitchen features all KitchenAid appliances, icemaker, custom pullout shelves and fold-out pantry, beautiful granite countertops and a stone backsplash. The bathrooms feature handsome furniture style vanities, granite tops and stone-walled showers. The oversized master bedroom and second bedroom feature a built-in marble topped desk or makeup area. The third bedroom or den has a private oceanfront balcony with grasscloth wallcoverings. The hurricane-rated stackable sliding doors are an updated feature for the lovely ocean breezes.

Unlike others, this condo includes a covered,



assigned parking space, so parking is not an issue. Be sure to inquire about the special pricing opportunity to join the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club or The Lodge with purchase of this property.

Marketed by Ponte Vedra Club Realty, represented by Sally Sergeant, Realtor, 2200 Ocean Drive #2E in Jacksonville Beach is offered at \$659,000.



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Real Estate Listing



Hidden gem on the Intracoastal Waterway

Lisa Barton

Seven Pines Island is a small enclave of custom built homes nestled along the marshes of the Intracoastal Waterway. This gated community has wonderful amenities including a private marina with floating docks, a tennis court and clubhouse.

We recently listed a newly renovated house, 2330 Pine Island Court, in Seven Pines Island. This four bedroom, three bathroom home has a brand new roof, new stucco, new landscaping, new paint, new carpet, you name it! It's pristine and move-in ready! The kitchen opens into the spacious family room and features all new stainless appliances, new granite counters, tons of cabinet space and breathtaking views of the marsh and Intracoastal Waterway. The downstairs master is huge with an updated master bath and enormous closet. Upstairs are 3 additional bedrooms and a second family

room. The covered balcony looks out on the marsh and water with simply fabulous views of nature. This home comes with a private floating dock in the neighborhood marina offering easy deep water access to the Intracoastal Waterway.

2330 Pine Island Court in Jacksonville is listed at \$829,000 by Lisa Barton, Broker Associate, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices.



River cruise in Vietnam: a perfect vacation for body and mind

Susan Hudson
Willamsburg Travel

Taking a river cruise, does not necessarily mean a European destination. If you have any adventure in your blood, perhaps

an Asian destination along the Mekong Delta should be on your horizon.

Since this was an area that was so much a part of our lives in the 60's and 70's, this is a trip that needs to be considered.

It should be noted that over 60% of the Vietnam population is under the age of 30. We encountered no anti-war hangover/hostility from anyone, anywhere on our trip. Tourism and consequently hospitality

is what the Vietnamese are known for now. Most Vietnam cruises actually begin inland in the city of Hanoi with an overnight stay.

CRUISE continues on **Page 39**

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Sawgrass Country Club

This stately 5BR/5.5BA home has been renovated & features new, dark hard wood floors, a gourmet kitchen with high-end appliances, gorgeous granite counters & custom cabinets for ample storage space. The outdoor living spaces are fabulous with a covered summer kitchen and living area, huge screened pool and hot tub. \$1,250,000
Call Lisa Barton 904-705-1382




Exceptional Marina San Pablo Penthouse

Rare two bedroom, 2 bath unit with vaulted ceilings in open Family Room. Kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances. Just a block away from the ocean with beach access & private boardwalk. \$2,200,000
Call Elizabeth Hudgins 904-553-2032




Incredible Property for Entertaining!

This spacious 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath home has an open floorplan with Hardwood Flooring, Formal Living Room with view of the Preserve, open Formal Dining Room, large Kitchen with Desk, Breakfast Bar and Dining Space overlooking large Family Room with Fireplace focal point. \$629,500
Call Nancy Massengill 904-910-7000

SOLD




Shows Like a Model in Odums Mill

Gorgeous all brick home with soaring 10ft ceiling and polished travertine throughout. Recent updates include new carpet, fresh paint, 4 French doors, new stainless steel appliances, gourmet kitchen with granite tops and slab backsplash. Enjoy the private wooded backyard and the view of water from the front. \$409,000
Call Latif Muhaimin 904-814-3545




Downtown Investment Opportunity

Great investment property located in the heart of Jacksonville's downtown overlay district. Consists of 3 parcels, that border N. Washington St. and E. Duval St. This will make a large corner lot of .34 acres! \$500,000
Call Janet Westling 904-813-1913




The Palms - Ponte Vedra Beach

This brand new 4/4.5 home is close to the ocean with over 3,400 sq. ft and features hardwood floors in all the downstairs rooms, high ceilings and big windows to let in the natural light. The gourmet kitchen offers a chef's quality appliances, beautiful counters and center island. The kitchen opens into a spacious family room with a beautiful fireplace. \$689,500
Call Lisa Barton 904-705-1382



BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
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Florida Network Realty



Stunning Condo with Amenities Galore in Sweetwater
Largest floor plan in The Tides. Gourmet kitchen. Spacious family room, vaulted ceilings, huge screened lanai, large master with luxurious bath. 3 BR/2 BA. 1 car garage. Easy to show! \$171,000
Call Rosemary Kristoff 904-333-4841



OPEN HOUSE SUN., NOV 1 ~ 2-4PM

109 25th Avenue South in popular Ocean's Edge.
1BD/1BA first floor condo - newly renovated and professionally decorated. Coastal flooring, updated bathroom and kitchen. A must see! \$239,900
Call Devon Witt 904-607-1281



Spacious Waterfront in Old Ponte Veda
Move-in ready with everything you want! 3 bedrooms, 4.5 baths plus bonus/4th bedroom upstairs. Recent upgrades include new roof and Rhino Shield exterior ceramic paint, new pool marcite, a/c unit, windows and more. \$1,550,000
Call Elizabeth Hudgins 904-553-2032



This World Golf Village Home Has It All!
Office/Formal Living Room, Dining Room plus soaring Ceilings, Fireplace. Second Floor includes 3 BR 2 Baths plus Bonus Room. Gated Golf Course Community includes Parks, Sports Fields, Pool, Fitness Center & more...HOME WARRANTY Included!! \$419,500
Call Nancy Massengill 904-910-7000



Sawgrass Country Club
Completely remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 bath courtyard style home with pool and waterfall. Hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances and solid oak cabinets. Great location - only steps to Sawgrass Golf Club and minutes to the beach! \$429,900
Call Susan Froman 904-635-9832



Glen Kernal Golf & Country Club
Stunning custom 5 BR, 6.5 BA home with spectacular golf views. New pool, open patio with fire pit and large screened lanai with summer kitchen. Paver driveway and 3 car garage.
\$1,795,000
Call Elizabeth Hudgins 904-553-2032



JUST SOLD

Country Club Living in Village Walk
Tucked inside the heart of Sawgrass is a special community built for the discerning homeowner who wants the privacy, security, convenience and amenities that living in a premier resort offer. \$565,000
Call Janet Westling 904-813-1913



Sea Hammock - South Ponte Veda
This corner end condo is nestled in between the magnificent homes in South Ponte Veda Beach. Large balcony to sit & watch the ocean waves. And there are no steps to enter this condo! The master bath & closet is 30 ft long! There is a 1 car garage & pool with a gorgeous dubhouse for entertaining. \$765,000 Call Sarah Hewett 904-334-3104



Intracoastal Waterfront Pool Home
Custom built 4BR/4.5BA with Travertine and wood floors, custom kitchen with Subzero and Fisher Pascal appliances, wet bar/wine chiller, paved & screened courtyard entry with pool, spa, summer kitchen, covered outdoor dining area, & separate guest house, media center, Trex, massive decking & boat house with 12,000 lb lift, custom electric canopy over deck, first flr office with direct access to full bath & much more! \$1,500,000 Call Molly Thompson 904-708-5002



Lighthouse Bend - Sawgrass Country Club
Enjoy expansive views of the lake and golf course from this 3 Br, 3 Ba home situated on large lot. Features heated/AC sunroom perfect for year round use, 3-car garage and much more!
\$995,000
Call Elizabeth Hudgins 904-553-2032



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Real Estate Listing



New Listing in Marsh Landing

James Smith

Northeast Florida rarely offers families an opportunity to move into a waterfront home with as much style, elegance and size as 116 Teal Pointe Lane. This majestic residence stands proudly along a quiet private road lined with luxury homes in Marsh Landing Country Club's prestigious "Peninsula" neighborhood.

The 1.35-acre property is comprised of 7,000 square feet of luxury living space, an enormous pool, meticulously manicured grounds and a pool house featuring its own full bathroom. The home's private 300-foot boat dock provides the perfect setting to relax and enjoy the view of both a rising and setting sun as well as an ideal launching point for boaters to gain access to the beautiful Intracoastal Waterway.

The residence offers the benefits of six sizable bedrooms, three upstairs plus three more on the first floor with each boasting its own full bathroom, including the magnificent master suite. The home is equipped with a total of eight bathrooms, six full and two half baths. The gourmet kitchen includes a Viking range, two Bosch dishwashers, Thermadore refrigerator, Wood-Mode fine custom cabinetry and a gorgeous view of the pristine marsh and expansive pool bordered by stone balustrades leading to the pool house. The house features top-of-the-line new maple hardwood flooring, two fireplaces, four layers of hand-laid stucco, steel-reinforced hurricane beams, five HVAC zones, and tankless water heat-



ing to provide you hot water instantly.

It will be difficult to find a study more exquisite than the corner office in this home. Movie lovers can also take advantage of the family room that converts into a home theater by a remote control-activated ten-foot screen and digital projector that emerges from the floor like magic.

The estate occupies an ideal location for a family that appreciates privacy coupled with convenience. The Marsh Landing Country Club driving range, tennis center and clubhouse are located

just up the road. The home's three-car garage is just a couple of minutes' drive from Marsh Landing's North security gate, allowing quick and easy access to Butler Boulevard and the beaches.

The original owners custom built the stately residence as the optimal setting to raise their family. Now they're providing you this rare opportunity to make this one-of-a-kind home your own.

This luxury property listed by James Smith and Suzanne Schinsing of Watson Realty Corp. is being offered for \$2,494,000.



Cruise

Continued from 36

My recommendation would be to stay in Hanoi a couple of nights and then opt for the 4 night add-on before the cruise starts. This is a once in a lifetime trip and needs to be dealt with accordingly. Start off with 2 nights in Hanoi. This gives you a day to catch your breath after a very long international flight and just relax. The next day would be a city tour after breakfast. The tour might include a pedicab ride around the old quarter, a water puppet show, HoChiMingh's House (built on stilts), the "One Pillar Pagoda" an historic Buddhist temple, the Military History Museum, and the Temple of Literature, built for Confucius.

A stop for most Americans is the Hoa Lo prison (commonly referred to as, Hanoi Hilton) gatehouse. The "gatehouse" and small museum is all that is left of the prison where Senator John McCain was held for almost 6 years. The next day, a trip to Halong Bay. Halong Bay is a UNESCO World Heritage site. The waters are an emerald color and the islands that dot the bay are limestone topped with rainforests. This is a great place for rock climbers, scuba divers and junk (the Chinese wooden sailing boats) tours. A full day and night should be reserved here.

The next stop is Hue. Hue is another UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is known for its monuments and the tombs of several emperors. One of the most popular sites is Thien Mu Pagoda (Heavenly Lady). It is the tallest religious building in Vietnam and is 7 octagonal stories. The next day you will be travelling to Hoi An, a small city on the South China Sea. Hoi An has pristine white sandy beaches. Originally it was an important trading center during the 16th and 17th centuries between Chinese, Japanese, Dutch and Indians. Today, there are numerous art and craft shops and tailors who produce made-to-measure clothes in 24 hours at a fraction of western prices. There are also several internet cafes, bars and restaurants along the waterfront.

Danang is about 25 minutes away and also has beautiful beaches, the most famous, immortalized during the Vietnam War for American servicemen on R&R, is "China Beach". It will soon be home to several 5 star resorts, but for now, the beach is still a quiet place ideal for an afternoon swim or picnic.

After Danang, your next stop will be HoChiMinh City (Saigon, as we knew it)– located on the Saigon River. It is considered the most important city in Vietnam. It has wide boulevards with a lot of historic French colonial buildings. Some of the structures in the city, seen on any city tour are: the Reunification Palace, City Post Office, and Notre Dame Cathedral. The tour usually ends with a rickshaw ride to the large Chinese market. Not to be missed are the famous CuChi tunnels. These tunnels were used by the Vietcong as hiding areas during the Vietnam War and they served as communication and supply routes, make shift hospitals, food and weapon caches as well as living quarters. After the war, a few tunnels were left intact and are now a tourist attraction that visitors can view and see first-hand a part of history.

HoChiMinh city is the embarkation point for all river cruises

on the Mekong Delta. The boats on the Mekong are quite a bit smaller than the ones on the Danube and Rhine, but they have all the requirements of a river boat. The accommodations can be very "comfortable" to extremely luxurious. It all depends on your pocketbook. On our boat we even had a European chef that gave us a variety of fresh Asian and Continental cuisine. The scenery along the Mekong Delta, is vibrant. You will see a mix of boats – work boats, hauling "goods" down the river, fishing boats, and others docked (or tied up) and used as living accommodations.

All along the river are rice fields and farms with either oxen or women plowing and working the fields. Every day your river boat heads up river and pulls onto a sandbank after breakfast for excursions inland. These excursions might be to see a pagoda, a school, a snake farm or one of the many floating markets.

On the 5th day of your cruise, there is a border crossing (on the river), which takes you into Cambodia. Members of the Cambodian military actually board the boat and check all passports. It is all very no-nonsense and is not done quickly.

Our stop for the afternoon is Phnom Penh. Phnom Penh is the capital and largest city in Cambodia. It is the wealthiest and most populous city in Cambodia. It is probably best known for the fighting that went on in 1975 between the South Vietnamese that came across the country to escape the Viet Cong and the ruling government, Khmer Rouge. It was a short period of only 4 years but during that time over 1 million citizens were killed from starvation, fighting, and labor camps.

Now there is a very important museum, Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum at the "killing fields". It portrays the events, much like the Holocaust Museums that are dotted around the world. This is a full and solemn afternoon. However, if you are not worn out, and wish to lighten the day, there is an exceptional market to visit. It is in the shape of a dome and was built in 1937 by the colonial French. It is still going strong with stalls showcasing a variety of products.

There are also newer "western-style" shopping centers but these are not as much fun as the markets. Among the other sites to see is the Silver Pagoda, the Royal Palace, the Independence Monument and the National Museum.

Our final stop and debarkation city is Siem Reap. Just like on a large cruise ship, all of your luggage is taken off the boat by the crew and deposited in your hotel room. You are left to explore the area for the rest of the day on your own. There are plenty of stalls filled with arts and crafts and small restaurants to keep you occupied. It also is a city full of French colonial architecture.

The most famous tourist attraction and another UNESCO World Heritage Site is Angkor Wat, about 5 miles away. The central feature there is the "Angkor" temple. In addition, there are said to be over 1000 temples (some, are not more than a few non-descript bricks). Angkor Wat purportedly is the world's largest single religious monument.

This is the end of our journey, tomorrow we fly out. I would say we have learned a lot and relaxed a lot – a perfect vacation for the body and mind.

A new chapter begins in this old house

Tera Williams

The complete reconstruction on "This Old House" that started in January is now FINISHED! I guess you can say Christmas came a little early for us this year! We couldn't be more excited to share the finished pictures with you! 164 Laurel Lane has been a labor of love from the beginning and it is now what Bill and Elaine Caldwell's call their "dream home". It has three big bedrooms, five bathroom and boasts more than 4200 square feet of living space. This home has been on the block in this part of The Plantation in Ponte Vedra for 26 years and the Caldwell's truly took it from studs to stunning!

Since January, Rich and Nancy Morrison of Benchmark Homes have been the brains behind this project. In the last issue you saw the finishing touches were being put on the remodel with the floors finally being installed. There were six different floor coverings all in different rooms to having the continuity of one beautiful stone floor throughout is just beautiful and ties everything in together.

The kitchen was also the final piece of the puzzle and took the longest since this is where the Caldwell's will spend most of their time. It's an open floor plan that flows perfectly into their cozy TV/living room. Elaine wanted to have flow and an open floor plan where she can cook and entertain easily for one or one-hundred.

Elaine's specialty is the decor. She has traveled all over the world and really want-

CHAPTER continues on Page 41



Lifestyle

¡Viva España! At the 2015 Art & Antiques Show

Christy Martin

Passion, Festivals, Fabulous Food and Music, Vibrant Color and Energy—all describe the Spanish culture and elements to be anticipated at the 2015 Art & Antiques Show to benefit Wolfson Childrens Hospital. One of the South's longest running art and antiques shows, the 39th annual event will celebrate the beauty and culture of Spain while showcasing the nationally recognized speakers and internationally renowned art and antiques dealers our pa-



Richard Keith Langham



Dr. J. Michael Francis



Juli Catlin and William Nash



Barbara Westbrook



Alexa von Tobel



Alexa Hampton

trons have come to anticipate. Show Chairs Sheila Collier and Christy Martin, along with a force of committed

volunteers, have worked diligently all year to create an experience that will surely satisfy the senses of sight, sound and taste and ensure a memorable Art & Antiques Show. The event December 3-6 features 45 dealers, six inspiring and informative lectures, delicious dining opportunities, the Children's Fashion Show and the annual Opening Night Party.

The Opening Night Party will wow patrons on Friday evening, December 4. Spanish flair, tapas and other Spanish delicacies, sparkling cava, Spanish guitarists and more will reflect the vibrant Spanish culture. Look for special surprise entertainment! And the evening will culminate with the fun and funk of the RiverTown Band, who consistently keep our patrons dancing until midnight!

Our Guest Lecturer series delivers six diverse topics of interest. Tickets to a Lecture

are \$30 and include all day Show admission. This year our speakers include the internationally acclaimed, perennially recognized interior designer **Alexa Hampton**, the diverse and delightful **Richard Keith Langham**, whose client list varies from the late Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis to Hillary Swank, and charming Atlanta-based designer **Barbara Westbrook**, renowned for her timeless and inviting designs. Also featured will be beloved local designer **Juli Catlin** and antiques expert **William Nash** with insight on Florida's distinct architecture and design. To celebrate our Spanish theme, historian and author **Dr. J. Michael Francis**, considered the preeminent, international expert on colonial Latin America, Early Florida, Spanish Borderlands, the Pre-Columbian Americas and Spanish Paleography, will share his love and insight

SHOW continues on Page 41

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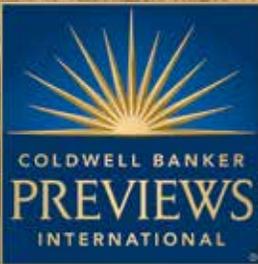
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Chapter

Continued from 39

ed to bring in different pieces from her travels. You can see that love throughout the house as each room, each sitting area, each bedroom has its own “theme”. She has carefully taken the time to think out every inch of space all the way down to the door knobs. She saw some in a magazine she just HAD to have and now they are on every door in the house. It’s the little touches like that you definitely can’t miss in this luxury love nest. Elaine wanted every room to be a special place she and Bill can spend quality time together.

One of the most prominent features of the home are the expansive views into the backyard and across the lake from all of the rooms in the house. New doors, floors and now windows were installed across the back to bring the outside in, specifically from the kitchen area. Elaine and Bill want to be able to walk from the kitchen to the outside... into a spacious and inviting space to enjoy summer afternoons or cool winter evenings. Outdoor lighting has been added to create a dramatic after dark look.

The massive entrance way gives and new meaning to a “grand entrance” with custom wood, custom doors, custom door knobs. It’s all in the details for Elaine who loves recycling old furniture and turning it into new. The chandelier

inside was given a new lease on life by one of Elaine’s favorite local artists, David Walker. Elaine and Bill’s new home definitely has that WOW factor from the moment you walk up to the front door.

The master bathroom and bedroom is now fit for a King... and was designed by a Queen, of course. It is simple yet elegant and organized - exactly what Elaine envisioned.

Elaine Caldwell owns and runs Luxury For Less in Ponte Vedra. The part consignment, part new furniture store recently opened in a more prominent location on A1A in Ponte Vedra. Elaine spends much of her time refurbishing, re-designing and re-decorating homes all around the area. She’s known for her simple yet chic style as well as her impeccable taste for finding finer furnishings - for less. Elaine hand-picked pieces consigned in her store and ordered new, modern beach chic decor from some of her favorite vendors to complete her dream home. She shares monthly updates with her fans on Facebook and on her blog.

Oh wait! One more thing we almost forgot to mention. The jewel of the house, literally. No home could be complete without the perfect pet. Jules Caldwell II just recently joined the family and is loving his new home!

Thank you for following along on the journey of THIS OLD HOUSE with us! Elaine needs a new project to work on now... Who’s next?

Show

Continued from 40

of Spanish Florida. More information about our Lecturers and their speaking topics and books have been provided at the end of this article.

At a new event on Thursday evening targeted at our younger patrons and professionals, Jacksonville’s own celebrated financial celebrity and New York Times bestselling author **Alexa von Tobel** will also be a guest lecturer.

The heart of the weekend is the Children’s Fashion Show, themed this year, “¡Vivan Los Niños!” (“Long Live the Children!”), the fashion show will feature 30 current and former patients of Wolfson Children’s Hospital dressed in the latest clothes. Special entertainment will include one of Jacksonville’s—and Wolfson’s—own, X-factor finalist and Nashville star Rion Paige, as well as classical dancers from The Mary Pauline Dance Conservatory. A family centered reception will follow complete with crab racing and crafts for the children. This is a wonderful event to bring your children or grandchildren. Tickets to the Children’s Fashion Show, “¡Vivan Los Niños!” (“Long Live the Children!”), are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

Show visitors can shop for antique treasures, drop by the Book Nook for take home inspiration, meet friends in the Tea Room or Pastry Café, shop Decorations Resale or just sit and enjoy the inspiring vignettes created by Design Presenter Ballard Designs.

We always want to keep before us the

Tickets

Show Admission: \$15

Lecture Tickets: \$30

¡Vivan Los Niños! Children’s Fashion Show: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children

Opening Night Party: \$1,200 - \$100 per person (for Young Collectors, 35 years and younger) Corporate sponsorships are available

real reason we do all this. Wolfson Children’s Hospital treats approximately 100,000 children a year and never turns any child away, regardless of ability to pay. The Women’s Board is in the third of a five year, \$4 million pledge for the creation of a Pediatric Surgery Center of Distinction. The center will enable a highly skilled surgical staff to advance surgical techniques, expand the use of minimally invasive and robotic surgery and help Wolfson meet the needs of child trauma patients. One trip to Wolfson Children’s Hospital is all it takes to realize the incredible importance of our cause. We are proud to support Wolfson and honored to have your partnership with us.

Join us as we kick off the holiday season at the 39th Art & Antiques Show! Be inspired, and invest in a special product... the lives of our community’s children. We look forward to seeing you at the Show!

For more information or to purchase tickets, call The Women’s Board office at 904.202.2886 or visit www.artandantiquesshow.com. If you haven’t checked out our social media, do it today! Like us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, and follow our blog: Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/womensboardwch>

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Blog: <https://artandantiquesshow.wordpress.com/>

Show Schedule

Thurs., December 3, 2015

5:30 - 8 p.m.: Sneak Peek

6:30 - 6:30 p.m.: private Benefactor Preview

6:30 p.m.: Doors open for Alexa von Tobel lecture ticket holders and Benefactors only

6:45 - 7:30 p.m.: Guest Speaker, Alexa von Tobel

Jacksonville native and Bolles High School and Harvard graduate Alexa von Tobel is a celebrated financial expert and New York Times bestselling author. Fortune Magazine recently named her the “Most Powerful Woman Entrepreneur of 2014.”

Fri., December 4, 2015

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.: Art & Antiques Show hours

10 - 11 a.m.: Lecture with book signing, Alexa Hampton, Decorating in Detail

Alexa Hampton is internationally recognized as one of the top designers in the field and a perennial member of Architectural Digest, House Beautiful, and Elle Décor’s top designer lists. Her newest book, Decorating in Detail, teaches readers how to approach a room and incorporate details with function.

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.: Lecture, Juli Catlin and William Nash, Florida Architecture and Style: From Ponce de Leon to Lily Pulitzer

Designer Juli Catlin and antiques expert William Nash will explore Florida’s design aesthetic and its influences from Spain’s Ponce de Leon to Palm Beach’s Lily Pulitzer. ASID credit, 3.0 CEU Florida State approved

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.: Benefactor Reception

7:30 - 11:30 p.m.: ¡Viva Espana! Opening Night Party with The RiverTown Band

Sat., December 5, 2015

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.: Art & Antiques Show hours

10 - 11 a.m.: Lecture, Richard Keith Langham, If These Walls Could Talk

Richard Keith Langham brings lighthearted whimsy threaded with formal history to homes as the award-winning interior designer to Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Mrs. William F. Buckley, Hilary Swank and Renee Zellweger, among others.

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.: Lecture with book signing, Barbara Westbrook, Every House Has a Story

Interior designer Barbara Westbrook’s style has been likened to that of Chanel’s little black dress. Her book, Gracious Rooms, explores the dynamic between comfort, charm, and elegant style.

Sun., December 6, 2015

11:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.: 2015 Art & Antiques Show hours

1 - 2 p.m.: Lecture with book signing, Dr. J. Michael Francis, Before Jamestown: Europeans, Africans, and Indians in Spanish Florida

To celebrate the Show’s Spanish theme, historian and author Dr. J. Michael Francis, who is considered the pre-eminent international expert on colonial Latin America, Early Florida, Spanish Borderlands, the Pre-Columbian Americas, and Spanish Paleography, will share his love and insight of Spanish Florida.

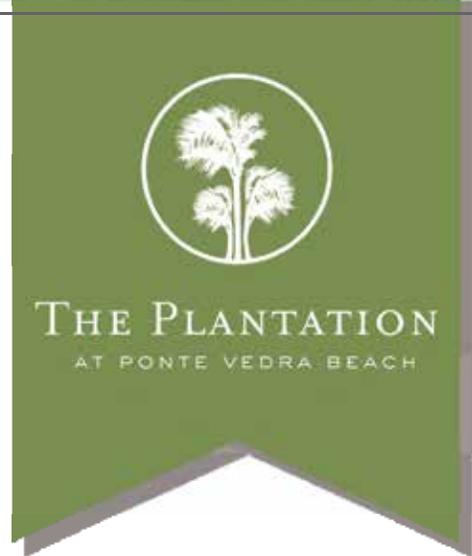
2:30 - 4 p.m.: ¡Vivan Los Niños! Children’s Fashion Show, featuring current and former patients of Wolfson Children’s Hospital and special entertainment

4 - 5 p.m.: ¡Vivan Los Niños! Children’s Fashion Show Reception



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Photo by Carrie Resch

Nancy Condron and Catherine Eastman, local sea turtle advocates who were instrumental in the development of the sea turtle hospital, do the honors of cutting the ribbon. Eastman is the sea turtle program coordinator for the sea turtle hospital and Condron is on the sea turtle founding trustee committee.

Whitney sea turtle rehab, research hospital opens in St. Johns County

Carrie Resch

A grand opening celebration and ribbon cutting for The Sea Turtle Hospital at UF Whitney Lab in St. Augustine took place Saturday, Oct. 24. Hundreds were in attendance on Saturday to tour the new facility and participate in family-friendly activities.

The sea turtle hospital will focus on three cornerstones: rehabilitation, research and education. There are four 1,100 gallon tanks that can hold up to four turtles each located at the hospital. Each tank has its own filtration system and the capability of

TURTLE continues on Page 48



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Photos by Kelly H. McDermott

Kids could choose from seven different bounce houses.



Photo provided by Valley Ridge Academy

The Valley Ridge Adacemy performed for onlookers Saturday as part of the festivities.

Valley Ridge PTO hosts day of fun for Nocatee community

Kelly H. McDermott

The sun was shining and the weather felt more like summer on Saturday as music, cheers and laughter filled the air at Ponte Vedra's newest school, the Valley Ridge Academy. The new K through 8 school was the site of the Valley Ridge Academy PTO's second annual Fall Family Festival on Oct. 24.

"This is the second year and generally the idea was community building. It's a brand new school but a brand new community as well," said school principal Wayne King. "More than 50 percent of the people who enroll begin outside the state of Florida – so the vision last year was to bring people together, bring their kids, and have fun while they get to know each other."

A reported 1,424 people attended the free event, which was run by 89 volunteers. Guests enjoyed a video game truck, obstacle course, art projects, book fair, bounce houses, pumpkin bowling, raffles and human-sized "hamster ball" races. There were also food trucks representing home-grown eateries like M Shack, Bold City Pops and Trasca & Co. Lazzara Orthodontics, which provides sponsorship to a number of St. Johns County Schools, was the presenting sponsor for the event.

"It's a great honor to be partnered and affiliated with schools as wonderful as the ones in St. Johns County," said Dr. Jon Lazarra.

"Our parents are here, our students are here – it's great!" said co-chair of the event, Tory Eulenfeld. Eulenfeld organized the event in just six weeks with her co-chair Connie Herrell and the help of other volunteers from the Valley Ridge PTO.

In addition to fun and community-building, the event helped raise funds



Kids and families anxiously awaited a drawing for a massive gift-basket raffle.

for the school's playground and for local charity the Jim & Tabitha Furyk Foundation. Those attending were asked to bring a box of stuffing to be donated to the Foundation. The donations will then be included in packages of food sent home with county students in need during the First Coast Blessings in a Backpack annual event.

Eulenfeld said the PTO will split the money generated Saturday through donations, giving half back to Valley Ridge Academy and half to the Jim & Tabitha Furyk Foundation.



Families could get cool as they browsed gift baskets in the shade of the campus' large outdoor pavilion.

PTO

Continued from 44

The event is in its second year, and has grown proportionately with the school.

“There was a lot of effort that went in last year but it was really just a school event. This year, it’s spread out more to the community and we were able to welcome in more business partners,” said Principal Wayne. “We’re building not only a school but a community together – I think that’s really important.”

For more information about the Valley Ridge Academy PTO, visit www.valleyridgeacademypto.com.



Photos by Kelly H. McDermott

ABOVE: Rhonda Ryan of Bold City Pops was on hand as part of the food truck offerings at this year’s festival. The vintage trailer was stocked with handmade popsicles. **LEFT:** Volunteers Megan Degance and Willow Logue collected donations and boxes of stuffing for the Jim & Tabitha Furyk Foundation’s Hope for the Holidays event.

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Hurns' TD catch gives Jags second win of season

Jacksonville scores first victory at Wembley Stadium, 34-31

Mike Bonts
Special to the Recorder

After losing a big lead over Buffalo, Jaguars QB Blake Bortles threw a touchdown pass to Allen Hurns and sealed a 34-31 win over the Bills before a crowd of 84,021 on Sunday at London's historic Wembley Stadium.

"We have been in this situation before but on the sidelines the players were saying: 'We're not going to give this one up.' Our players will take this and grow from it," said Jaguars head coach Gus Bradley.

Despite a 2-5 record the Jaguars are very much alive in the playoff hunt since they play in the weakest division in the NFL, the AFC South. Where no team has more than three wins. There has also been talk of possible realignment after the season due to the division's woe performance as a whole. The Jaguars are a game out of first place.

As far as Bradley being on the hot seat after going 9-30 so far in his head coaching career, the NFL Network's Ian Rapoport reported before Sunday's game that "Bradley is considered safe this year and next year. Team understands patience."

The win in England will only extend that patience.

Trailing 3-0 early, the Jaguars scored 27 unanswered points. Bortles was 13 of 29 for 182 yards with touchdowns to Tony Washington and Hurns. One interception by Corey Graham, resulting in a 44-yard TD. Rookie running back T.J. Yeldon rushed for 115 yards on 20 carries and one TD.

"To be able to stay calm and to have a big lead and give it up and be able to come back and score to win the game is huge," Bortles said. "I think it speaks to the personality of this team."

The 65 points combined was the second-highest in the series. According to Elias Sports Bureau, this was just the third NFL game in the last 10 years where both teams scored a go-ahead touchdown of 30 yards or longer in the last six minutes of the fourth quarter

LONDON NOTES - Jaguars' kicker Jason Myers missed another extra point... Buffalo continues to be the most penalized team in the league, at 72 times for 670 yards. Worse in both categories... The Jaguars won their first game in London after losing the last two visits ... Bills' head coach Rex Ryan men-



Photos by Rick Wilson/Jacksonville Jaguars

Allen Hurns caught a 31-yard game winning touchdown pass from QB Blake Bortles against Buffalo with 2:16 remaining.



Telvin Smith on his way to a touchdown for Jacksonville after intercepting Buffalo QB E.J. Manuel. The Jaguars beat the Bills 34-31 their first win at Wembley Stadium and second of the season.

tioned "unacceptable" communication issues in which silence and static were all that could be heard in the team's headsets... Coming into this game there had been 141 rushing touchdowns in the first six weeks of the NFL season. The Jaguars had not scored a one until Yeldon's run.

TIMELY TAKEAWAYS - Jacksonville had no defensive scores this season - then recorded two within seven seconds Sunday. Coming into the game they had three takeaways so far. They

matched that number on Buffalo's first three possessions of the second quarter. Two for TDs in a seven second span. Chris Clemons returned a fumble six yards for a score. Linebacker Telvin Smith's interception was returned 26-yards for a TD. Middle linebacker Paul Posluszny's interception led to T.J. Yeldon's touchdown run. Josh Evans recovered a LeSean McCoy fumble caused by safety Johnathan Cyrien in the final quarter.

EJ MANUEL FALTERS - The former FSU quarterback committed three turnovers in a span of 1:41 against the Jaguars. Manuel is now 6-10 as a starter since Buffalo picked him in the first round of the 2013 draft. He started 10 games as a rookie. He beat out Tyrod Taylor over the summer, but started the last two games in place of an injured Taylor. Manuel was 24 for 42 for 298 yards, two TDs, two interceptions and the lost fumble.

DISMAL DIVISION - Indianapolis, Houston and Tennessee all lost Sunday. Only Jacksonville's victory over Buffalo kept the AFC South from a winless Sunday. In NFL history only two team have won a division with a sub-.500 record—Carolina (7-8-1) last season and Seattle (7-9) in 2012. The Colts are alone atop the South at 3-4, their only three wins coming within the division. Houston and Jacksonville each have two wins so far. Tennessee has one. In Indy there are rumors of head coach Chuck Pagano's internal rift with general manager Ryan Grigson. All good news for the Jaguars if they can take care of business moving forward

UP NEXT - Bye week is here. Then road games against the New York Jets and Baltimore Ravens. Next home game at EverBank Field is a Thursday NFL Network matchup on Nov. 19 at 8:30 p.m. against AFC South Rival Tennessee.

PVHS performs at Bishop Kenny 5k meet

JV cross country athletes leave it all on the course in last event of season

Willow Logue

Community Submission

The Junior Varsity Championships is the last race for many of the Ponte Vedra High School cross-country athletes for this season. All the summer running, early morning darkness before school with no sleep-in Saturdays since mid-August all comes down to this final race. Luckily, the Bishop Kenny High School Cross Country 5k meet is a nice setting on the river for the runners to whoop out their fastest legs and show that all the hard work was going to pay dividends.

The Ponte Vedra Boys started fast and furious against the best JV teams in North Florida. The speedy early miles were paced by rival schools but the patience effort and running that the PV lads have learnt was setting the race up exactly the way they wanted it. After mile 1, the PV team was ready to start taking over the race. The boys began to working their way thru the field and moving up positions. The excellent effort continued for the entire race which produced season bests for nearly all 25 of the athletes. Harrison Crowley topped the PV team with flying 18.36 with Olek Kolodziejewski behind by 3 seconds. Freshmen Chandler Garcia, Matthew Quintal, Junior William Lancaster and Freshman Jacskon Noye all running 19.00 and under. This in itself is a great benchmark to break in a 5k race. Another 4 PV runners also clocked under 20.00 which makes for highly successful JV team for years to come. Overall personal bests dropped between 40 seconds to as much as 3 minutes for run-

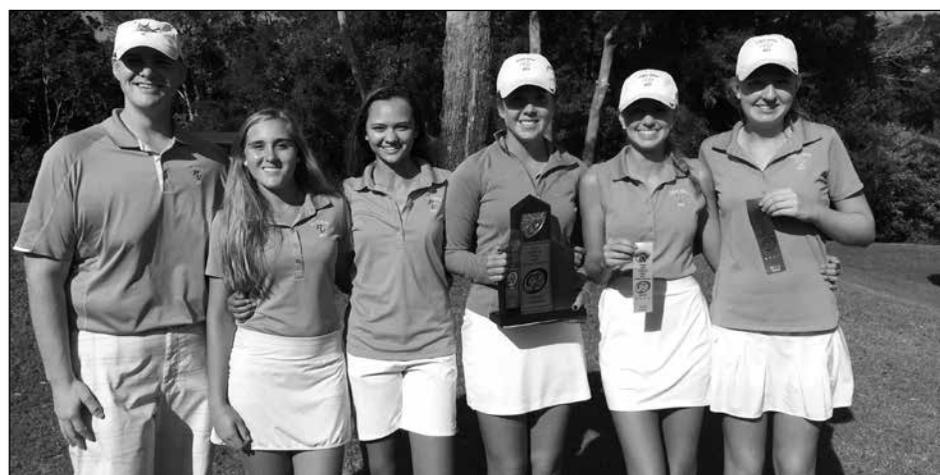
ners. They should all come away from the season with great confidence knowing they gave their all.

Of course, the Girls JV Cross Country would not be outdone. Whatever the boys can do, they always do better. This race is always dominated by Bolles in the past years but this year PV girls were right in the mix from the start. Fabienne Voegeli found her place near the front pack and was not giving up anything to anyone. Her race strategy was that she was going to lead the PV girls and inspire with her effort. Caroline Bing and Sydney Stavros followed suit and formed a formidable team. The girls ran strong all race and their results reflected their great effort with 5th, 10th and 13th place respectively. All dropping huge chunks of time from their previous best races. Isabella Pulzone and Logan Gillespie both ran smart and strong races to complete the finishing top 5 scoring points for the PV team, which took home 3rd team place. Their best finish team ever in the JV Championship. Overall the team had 12 ladies run faster than they had ever before. Special mentions must go to Mae Logue, Anna Chattaway, Claire Fodor, Madison Cooper and Hannah Beatty who all add over 2 minute drops in their personal bests. This just goes to show that effort is truly rewarded and can celebrate their finish of the season.

Congratulations to everyone for a not only a great week of racing but a fantastic season. Go Sharks!



Harrison Crowley



Sharks secure regional golf championship

Mark Berman

Community Submission

The Ponte Vedra High School Lady Sharks Golf Team continued their post-season run early last week, winning the Class 2A Regional Championship with the school's second best-ever team score of 312. Along with tournament runner up Bishop Kenny High School (365), the Sharks advance to the Class 2A State Championship being held Oct. 29-31 at Mission Inn Resort. The Sharks took a sweep of the top three individual spots. Senior team captain Hannah

Berman was the individual Regional Champion firing a 73. Sophomore Sophie Membrino took second with a 75 and junior Sara McKeivitt took third with a 77. Nease High School sophomore Katherine Jakeway advanced to States as individual with a 5th place overall finish (81).

Pictured left to right are Head Coach Clint Finlay, freshman Meghan Burke (94), senior Theresa Irwin (87), with Regional Championship trophy Hannah Berman (73), Sara McKeivitt (77) and Sophie Membrino (75).



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Photos by Carrie Resch

The treatment room: Steven Nelson, certified veterinary technician at the sea turtle hospital, answers visitors' questions during the grand opening celebration.



Luke Gregoire, 3, from St. Augustine gives a high-five to "Barry" the sea turtle mascot.

Turtle

Continued from 43

using the center's sea water system or it can be self-contained for quarantined sea turtles or for other special circumstances, for example, if red tide is present in the area.

The sea turtle center fills a void we've had here in Northeast Florida, sea turtle founding trustee committee member, John Perkner articulated. Prior to the opening of this facility, injured or sick sea turtles found

in Northeast Florida had to be transported miles away for treatment, the closest treatment and rehabilitation facility being the Georgia Sea Turtle Center on Jekyll Island.

The Sea Turtle Hospital at Whitney will also treat turtles affected by the Fibropapilloma virus, a mysterious disease that impacts the health and well-being of sea turtles. Through the Fibropapilloma research initiative. Faculty at the sea turtle hospital will also be researching the mysterious virus in order to better understand it.

TURTLE continues on **Page 49**

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Physical therapy with heart and soul: Part 2

A conversation with Aaron Robles

Manual Physical Therapy is outside the box of the traditional physical therapy so many of us have experienced in our lifetime. As I have mentioned, when I needed a physical therapist to strengthen me for the hip replacement surgery I am facing, I knew from past experience that I wanted a manual physical therapist. The practice and the therapist I found was John Goetz Physical Therapy in Jacksonville Beach, a franchise owned by Certified Functional Manual Therapist, Aaron Robles.

The initial evaluation was long and detailed. It involved filling out a questionnaire, and a hands-on process of Aaron determining the condition of my 77 year old body.

Sheila: "Why is the initial visit so lengthy?"

Aaron: "It's because we want to get as complete a picture of the patient as we can in order to make a plan of care. Giving patients time to let us know the background of their injury or, say, the onset of arthritis and how it affects their life and what their goals are. Sometimes the patient's goals and mine aren't the same, being that the treatment can hurt or make them sore. But I emphasize that it's necessary for their ability to move. We do some treatment on the first visit so they can begin to get out of the cycle of pain and dysfunction they've had to deal with."

Sheila: "There are so many physical therapists in Jacksonville. What makes John Goetz in Jacksonville Beach different?"

Aaron: "The profession of Physical Therapy is geared to rehabilitation - getting people back to their previous function. In the past it used a lot of modalities - hot packs, ultrasound, electric stimulation, and some exercise. More recently we realized that our hands are some of our best tools, and that manual



Sheila Weinstein
Grow Old With Me

therapy promotes better function and alignment of the body for optimal performance. That's what we dedicate ourselves to in my practice. The hands on approach to rehabilitation finds what segment of the body, whether joint or myofascial or neural dysfunction, needs help moving better. What better way to find solutions rather than just giving exercises to strengthen? I don't think you can really understand what's going on in a patient's body without putting your hands on them."

Sheila: "Do you require MRIs or X-rays before you work on someone?"

Aaron: "Patients come with them but often nothing correlates to what they are feeling. With hands on I can find the true dysfunction that's causing their pain. I try to correlate how the patient moves, the special tests we do, and what I feel is wrong with what they say their problem is. Typically all those avenues lead to the root of the problem, and then we can help get rid of their pain and dysfunction. So often someone will bring in x-rays or scans that indicate that they couldn't possibly have walked in. But their body says, 'I can do this, no matter what the x-ray shows.'"

Sheila: "How many employees do you have?"

Aaron: "I have 3 full time physical therapists, including me. One part time physical therapist, and one part time physical therapy assistant. We have weekly training clinics and I train the therapists. I also host the courses the Institute of Physical Art provides and have my therapists attend those. The IPA was founded in 1978 and promotes the use of manual therapy and education. It took me 10 years before I was certified and I am still the only Certified Functional Manual Therapist in

Jacksonville."

Sheila: "The physical setting for your practice is attractive, with those large glass windows looking out on greenery. Did you choose that purposely?"

Aaron: "Yes. It's part of my whole philosophy of treating the patient as a complete person and not just a diagnosis. The physical facility, the aesthetics, cleanliness, tidiness are all conducive to the patient's comfort. If things aren't clean or are out of place, it can be distracting. If we can pay attention to folding towels, how much more will we pay attention to patients? We want all our patients to have a positive and complete experience of well being."

Sheila: "Your receptionist is always so kind and obliging. How important is the front desk to your practice?"

Aaron: "Our receptionist is an essential part of that complete experience I want to provide for patients - not only the look of our facility, but everyone patients deal with, from the receptionist to each and every therapist. It's a conscious effort on my part to hire someone in any position who has my philosophy about how to treat patients. Physical therapy is a whole experience - from making the appointment to working with the therapist."

Sheila: "Is a doctor's referral always necessary?"

Aaron: "Florida law says a doctor's prescription is not necessary for the first 21 days. After that, a doctor's prescription is necessary. We are governed by Insurance companies and also Medicare and their limits."

Sheila: "Do you see people of all ages?"

Aaron: "Absolutely. We have kids as young as 5 to patients over 90. The advantage of our techniques is that they are so individualized. We create a course of treatment for their particular issues and adjust them as needed."

Sheila: "Hands on body work with a trusted therapist, even if it's uncomfortable, can be more than just physical therapy but a healing experience. Often patients feel they have benefited just from being touched... from having someone

who knows their problems actually lay hands on."

Aaron: "That's one of the primary reasons I continue to do what I do. Initially I found that I had a skill and wanted to develop it. But when I heard from a patient: 'This is the first time someone has touched my pain,' I knew that I was doing something more than just manual therapy. I've come to know that putting your hands on the actual issue can be more of a confirming experience for the patient psychologically. It helps them connect with the therapist and continue to build trust. Physical problems affect their lives and not just their function. So a natural bond develops between the therapist and the patient. I've had some patients for many years and they will ask my advice before they buy a chair for their comfort. We have built a bond of trust."

Sheila: "What would you like people to know about John Goetz Physical Therapy, Jacksonville Beach when they are trying to make a decision about where to go?"

Aaron: "That I will do everything in my ability to help them back to their full function and goals. I also know my limitations and we have a network of other providers to help them accomplish what they are seeking, if they need to go further. We refer to personal trainers, acupuncturists, massage therapists and doctors for pain management as well. We know the practitioners who can better address their issues if we cannot."

Sheila: "How do most people find out about you?"

Aaron: "Mostly, referrals from physicians and word of mouth. Good news travels fast. One of my patients told me that three people who didn't know each other recommended me. We really try to promote good will in the community with the services we provide."

Sheila: "Is there anything else you want to add?"

Aaron: "Just that we treat everyone like family and we never forget that the injured body part is connected to a person with a mind, body and soul."

Turtle

Continued from 48

Director of the Whitney Laboratory, Mark Martindale, thanked addressed the crowd and thanked them for supporting the sea turtle hospital.

"I'm constantly amazed at the dedication that the local community has for sea turtles and for their natural world," Martindale said.

"This opening of the sea turtle hospital here is an immense opportunity for biologists like us to learn more about the transmission of disease in the marine environment about immunology, about the ecology and behavior of sea turtles and

there's plenty of faculty, for example in Gainesville, that are interested in utilizing this facility and I think that you're going to see enhanced involvement, and a bridge if you will, between Whitney Lab and the Gainesville main campus," he said.

Martindale also noted that they have had constant support from the Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research at the University of Florida in Gainesville, as well as the Aquatic Animal Health at the UF College of Veterinary Medicine and Dr. Terry Norton, director and veterinarian of the Georgia Sea Turtle Center. He also said that an emerging pathogens institute in Gainesville that's also expressed a lot of interest in utilizing this resource for their own research. The Sea Turtle Conservancy

located in Gainesville helped outfit the surgery center.

Funding for the sea turtle hospital was accomplished through private donors and a State License Plate Grant from the Sea Turtle Conservancy, making it truly a community and grassroots-type effort, according to Martindale.

The Sea Turtle Hospital at UF Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience is located at 9505 Oceanshore Blvd., St. Augustine.

For more information, to make a donation to the Sea Turtle Research and Rehabilitation fund, or to join the Friends of the Sea Turtle Hospital, visit www.whitney.ufl.edu/education-conservation/sea-turtle-hospital.



Photo by Carrie Resch
Director of the Whitney Laboratory, Mark Martindale, Ph.D with Dr. Terry Norton, director and veterinarian of the Georgia Sea Turtle Center located on Jekyll Island.

SHORT TAKES

St. Johns County Youth Basketball Clinics

The St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department is offering instructional basketball clinics to teach fundamentals of the sport including basic skills, sportsmanship, and team building, and prepare players for the March 2016 Youth Basketball League.

Clinic practices and scrimmages will be held from Nov. 16 through Jan. 30.

Practices will take place at the

Ketterlinus Gym, 60 Orange St., St. Augustine and scrimmages will be held at the Solomon Calhoun Center, 1300 Duval St., St. Augustine.

Registration is \$30 for the duration of the clinic and will continue through Nov. 13. Forms can be found online at www.sjcf.us/Recreation/Youth/basketballclinic.aspx. Registration for the recreational basketball league will be posted in January 2016.

For additional information, call (904) 209-0377 or (904) 209-0386.

UFOs in the Quilting World

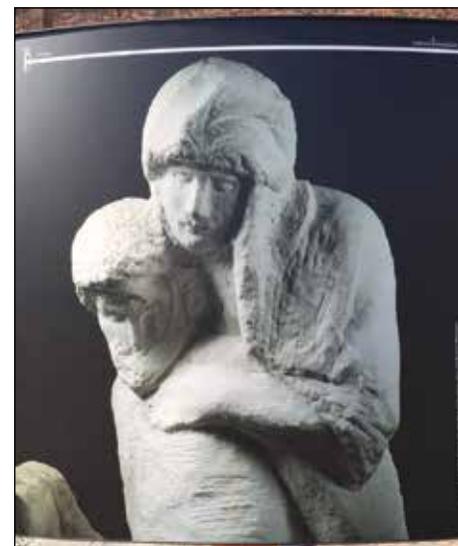
Bonnie Talley Quiltlady

Having just returned from Florence, Italy, that is Michelangelo country, I believe I now know about the greatest UFO on the planet. UFO in quilting language means Un-Finished Objects. I think Michelangelo's Rondanini Pieta, pictured here, is the classiest UFO to be found anywhere. It is housed in Sforza Castle in Milan, Italy. The castle itself is awesome.

For ones of you not as familiar as you should be about this famous sculpturer, let me clue you in. Michelangelo was born in the Republic of Florence on March 6, 1475 and grew to be the greatest sculpturer, architect, and artist of his time. At the age of 22 he began work on the first Pieta that is now to be seen in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. While in Florence we visited museums that housed several of his works. Seeing the colossal statue of David that he carved in 1504 is breath taking.

He started the Rondanini Pieta in 1550 and worked on it until the last days of his life. The sculpture is of the Virgin Mary mourning over the body of Christ. He hacked at the block of marble until his dying days. He died on February 18, 1564 at the age of 88, leaving the Rondanini Pieta unfinished. The picture of the full Pieta and the complete life of Michelangelo may be found on Google.

Driving from Milan to Florence we saw acres and acres of cut marble and granite ready for export. Some of the finest stone is found in that area.



When quilters get together, they tend to discuss their UFOs anytime they get the chance. Their UFOs are their "unfinished objects" known as quilting projects. Some quilters have numerous UFOs but I have only a couple that I really want to finish in this lifetime! I have always tried to finish any quilting project while it is important to me. Once I put it away, it is hard to take it out and work on it again. Lesson learned.

On Oct. 22, the Ocean Wave Quilters Guild met for an afternoon of cutting and doing the beginning sewing on the beautiful "heart pillows" that they will complete on Feb. 11, 2016 at the "Work Your Heart Out" day at The Plantation dining room in Ponte Vedra. The quilters along with residential members of The Plantation will finish the pillows by stuffing them with polyester fiberfil and finishing sewing the side seam. Once finished the pillows are delivered to the Hospice facilities of North Florida. This project has been ongoing since 2007. Every year more and more people pitch in to help with this worthy project. Hopefully, after your reading this article, you will put the date on your 2016 calendar to be a helper. No sewing experience is needed. More about this will be in future articles.

The Ocean Wave Quilters Guild meets the second Friday of every month at the The Players Community Center on Landrum Ln., off CR-210, at 10:00 - 12:00. Visit them anytime. You'll be so welcome!

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A few caring people can change the world

Harry Pappas

Sometimes in life, we are fortunate to meet truly inspirational people. Let me tell you about one incredible person who lived his life with purpose, passion and by design so that he could truly influence others' lives. This young man embodied what Earl Nightingale proclaimed in what may be the greatest motivational piece ever written, *The Strangest Secret*. According to the author, what makes this a secret is that "very few people have learned it or understand it. That is why it's strange, and why for some equally strange reason it virtually remains a secret." What makes J.T. Townsend so special is his remarkable and passionate message of "influence". J.T. reminds me of the words of Margaret Mead who said, "Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have."

J.T. Townsend epitomizes perseverance and commitment like no other. He was just an ordinary young man pushed beyond his limits to confront uncertainty, fear and pain. Growing up, JT had dreams of becoming a professional football player and he was well on his way as he accepted a scholarship to play football at Florida State University. This 17-year-old, six-foot-three-inch, 180-pound strong safety's dream was cut short when he was paralyzed from the neck down in a 2004 high-school football

game. "I went in to make the tackle. I hit the guy and fell to the ground. When I tried to get up, I wasn't able to get up," he said. JT knew something was very wrong and so did everyone around him, as he began gasping for air, went unconscious, and was rushed to the hospital.

Despite the fact that JT would need a wheelchair for the rest of his life, he was prepared to move forward by turning tragedy into triumph. JT's spinal injury took most of his physical ability but did not take away his burning ambition to accomplish his purpose and passion to fulfill his newly acquired dreams. Against insurmountable odds, JT committed to lead as normal a life as possible. While persevering through extraordinary obstacles, JT graduated from the University of North Florida in May 2013 with a degree in sports management. In 2011, while facing many roadblocks, physical pain and difficulties, he established the J. T. Townsend Foundation to provide physically challenged children and adults with medical equipment and assistance. With his limited capacity, JT gave more to others than many of us who are fully functional. JT was extremely grateful for the tremendous support that he received since his injury and one of his dreams was to repay the community that helped him when he needed help the most. JT simply wanted to pay it forward. He took a life-

changing situation and turned it into an opportunity to make life better for those less fortunate, and he gave all the glory to God. Never once did JT feel sorry for himself. He never asked, "Why me?" He knew it was God's purpose.

JT told me, "We must have a strong mind, believe in God, keep our faith, and live every day like it's our last".

This incredible 26-year-old role model demonstrated just how powerful a persistent mind could be. If someone had the right to give up on his dreams and accept defeat, JT did. Surrendering to adversity was not even a consideration for JT. Instead, he persevered and redefined defeat, not according to his physical restrictions but according to the size of his dreams.

To have been a part of JT's journey was a humbling and inspiring honor for me. The most important lessons I learned from JT was that one can often gain more wisdom from observing those who are less

fortunate than from observing those who have possessions and wealth. Witnessing JT's accomplishment underscored my conviction that if we want something badly enough, we can get it. Nobody and nothing could prevent JT from choosing to be exceptional, and that applies to you and me.

Harry Pappas Jr., CFP®, CDFA™, Managing Director-Investments, Certified Estate and Trust Specialist, Pappas Wealth Management Group of Wells Fargo Advisors, 904-273-7955, harry.pappas@wellsfargoadvisors.com.

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You need to brush your cats, folks. It's a good thing

When I showed my National Day Calendar to my writing group, the "Day" that sent them into paroxysms of laughter was National Hairball Awareness Day. The "Day" is listed as one of our unofficial national holidays. It's not just "Hairball Day." It's Hairball Awareness Day."

My feline friend, Laptop, wakes me up between 1:00 and 5:00 AM with a sound that is a cross between an air raid siren and a garbage truck backing up. A brachycephalic (snuffling) dog is no match for a cat doin' the hairball heaves. Initially I would bounce out of bed to reach the light on my nightstand, sure that there would be a pile of matted hair shaped like a mini pine cone. But then I learned: It helps to brush her.

Eliza, my cat who died in Au-



Mims Cushing
By the Way...

gust, let me brush her during the entire Oscars production with the wonderful hairbrush for cats I've mentioned in this column before: the FUR-minator. I was doing an experiment to see how long she'd lie on my lap, purring mightily, drowning out my A/C, before deciding she'd had enough brushing. Laptop only lets me brush her when the spirit is willing. Which is rare. Rare. Rare. She allows me to brush her when she is eating, but even that is not a given.

Two things help: one is a sticky,

tuna-flavored gel you can get from a pet store or your vet that helps prevent hairballs and is palatable and easy-to-use. It tastes like tuna fish, the tube tells me. I can put it on my finger and Lappy will lap it up, or you can put it on their paws or nose. It's taken her eight years to cotton to it.

The other thing you can try is dry chow specifically for hairball elimination and/or prevention. The problem with that is some of my past cats also have had urinary tract disorders and bleed so they must be on that formula or they get into problem. Just like with people, there's always something.

Summer is the time when fur grows the fastest, so hairballs are troublesome because cats have a hard time keeping up with groom-

ing themselves enough. I used to think cats only needing brushing when their hair thickens, in the summer. But it's good to keep brushing, at least through fall, if not all year 'round.

Here's something entirely different you cat fanciers might like to know: plastic grocery bags shouldn't be used to dispose of the litter clumps.

If you check the bottom of the bag, you will often find a hole or tear, and grains of litter will pass through onto the floor which is not savory. So get lunch bags from a dollar store, 50 bags for \$1.00, and use them.

Better for the environment too. Better get a lunch box if you are packing lunches for people so there isn't, God forbid, a mix-up.

THEME: VETERANS DAY

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
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ACROSS

1. Laugh at with contempt
6. *Veterans Day stems from this war
9. *Hand-to-hand combat weapon
13. Par on a short golf hole
14. Immeasurable period
15. Gossipmonger
16. Triangular road sign
17. "M*A*S*H" character
18. *Commander's instruction
19. *a.k.a. American flag
21. *Like soldier honored at certain tombs
23. Present plural of "be"
24. Acer, e.g.
25. Unit of electric current
28. Yearn or pine
30. *Traditional time for moment of silence
35. Luau souvenirs
37. Salad prep
39. Kidney problem
40. Cut or carve a design
41. Chose instead
43. High school breakout
44. Measure of alcohol
46. Republic of Ireland
47. Glorify
48. John Cusack's time machine, 2010
50. Irena Cara's 1980 hit
52. Fleur-de-_____
53. Snoopy

55. Argo propeller
57. *Washington or Carter
61. *Key's composition
64. 3-line poem
65. *Between "ready" and "fire"
67. Well-_____ machine
69. Skier's mecca
70. Winter glider
71. Unnerve
72. East India Company wares
73. Part of H.M.S.
74. T in Ferrari TR

DOWN

1. Hog haven
2. Like a "Vogue" ad
3. Three-layer cookie
4. Jolly good one
5. Indiana's head gear
6. What one does at the altar
7. Court or solicit
8. Bring upon oneself
9. "Where the Red _____ Grows"
10. *Vietnam, on the _____ china Peninsula
11. One-pot meal
12. Mountain lake
15. Bumpkins
20. Right-hand page
22. Denotes maiden last name
24. Bear witness
25. First in Hebrew alphabet
26. First M in MGM
27. Lace loop
29. *Honorary veteran, GI Bob
31. And elsewhere

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9				4		6		1
			5					

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

32. Singing part
33. Boredom
34. Required things
36. *Marksmanship Badge denotes a good one
38. "Que Sera _____"
42. Evil one
45. Charity race
49. Flapper's feathers
51. Have dinner at a restaurant
54. URL sign
56. *River Allies crossed in Invasion of Germany
57. Stairway to river
- in India
58. *At _____ soldier"
59. Australian palm
60. Adds to or augments
61. Gulf V.I.P.
62. They have oval leaves that come to a point
63. Source of protein
66. *Veterans Day Proclamation signer
68. Genetic stuff

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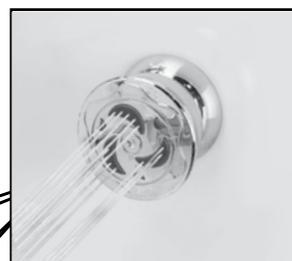
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