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Honors continue for Nease NJROTC



Photo provided by Scott LaRochelle

Nease High School NJROTC cadets stand behind their trophies following the awards ceremony at a drill meet hosted by Florida A&M University on Jan. 30 in Tallahassee. The team placed third overall among the 16 schools from the Navy JROTC's Area 7, 8 and 12 regions. Read about the drill on page 8.



TREAT YOUR VALENTINE TO A LOVELY DAY

Find ideas for special gifts, info about local sweet shops and more inside Page 19



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Send us your newsWe 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.



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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.

Pediatrics

Ashleigh Fountain was one of two guessers this week, selected at random, who correctly identified Rainbow Pediatrics in Nocatee. Ashleigh, 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 Z00.

Adoptable pets at the St. Johns County Pet Center

CAT OF THE WEEK

Hi there! My name is Magnolia and I am a 3-year-old female cat who is looking for a new home. I was brought to the Pet Center as a stray. I love to be the center of attention and snuggle up to everyone. 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! #29851



DOG OF THE WEEK

Hi there! My name is Flipper and I am a 2-year-old male pup who is looking for a new home. I was brought to

the Pet Center as a stray. I love to go outside and walk around and soak in the sun while I sniff all the new and interesting smells! Come visit us today here at the Pet Center! #29875

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.



Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.



Chamber After Hours: Dance Alday of PVB



Photo by Susan Griffin

Cindy Bishop, Carol Maurer and Jeanell Wilson

The St. Johns Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division's Chamber After Hours event took place Jan. 27 at Dance Alday Dance Studio in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Dance Alday, a locally owned and operated Ballroom & Latin studio, was established 15 years ago by Allan Alday. The studio just celebrated its three-year anniversary in its current location in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Alday said they were honored to host the Chamber After Hours event and celebrate their anniversary with Chamber board members and ambassadors. See more photos on page 4.





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Missy DeKay 904.280.2838 Missy@MissyDekay.com





Chamber After Hours





Photos by Susan Griff Above: Dance Alday owner Allan Alday Left: Ribbon cutting with staff from the St. Johns County Chamber Ponte Vedra Beach

Division and Dance Alday.



Dance Alday dance instructors Adam Horna, Carolyn Morriss, Megan Wallace and Allan Alday



Dr Erika Hamer

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

PVB variance issue has high stakes for county

Dear Editor,

We have an interesting situation here in Ponte Vedra, St. Johns County.

A man named Burr, a developer from Jacksonville, wants to bring in thousands of truck loads of dirt, to fill a wetland that drains into the Guana River and Estuary Reserve so he can build a road to place more homes on his property.

The county said you need a variance to do that.

Mr. Burr got his variance, but it was challenged. When the legal

merits of the challenge turned out to be pretty valid, he got nervous and decided that instead of playing by the rules, he would reinterpret them so they wouldn't apply at all. So he hired an engineering firm — England, Timms and Miller (the same consultants on the Kings Grant case). Ten months after the county told Mr. Burr he needed a variance, Miller came up with the creative opinion that Mr. Burr never needed a variance to begin with.

Now the fun: Do the County Attorney and the County Administrator support their own experts on the county staff, that we the public pay for, or do they overrule them

in favor of this rich developer from Jacksonville?

You may ask where are the County Commissioners? Are they remaining neutral as they legally must, or are they helping their contributors in this election year?

Do these Commissioners tell the County Attorney and Administrator to stand by their excellent staff experts or do they cave? It would be so much easier to just do the right thing. But not nearly as exciting!

One can also ask: would this be happening if it were a St. Johns County developer? But alas the best one in the county turned down this piece of land as being too difficult and unsuitable to be bothered over.

Where is this piece of land? Why, on Ponte Vedra Blvd., of course — across from oceanfront homes on one side and guardians of the environment and the estuary on the other.

The stakes are high for Mr. Burr, but the stakes are higher for the citizens of St. Johns County. What precedent will this set if the developers can dictate what rules apply?

We all have to play by the same rules. Let's see if the county feels that special people deserve otherwise.

> Mary F. Kohnke Ponte Vedra Beach

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Peterbrooke opens in Sawgrass Village

Peterbrooke Chocolatier recently announced the grand opening of their relocated chocolate store in Sawgrass Village Shopping Center at 333 Village Main Street. The official grand opening will be held on Fri., Feb. 5 from 6-9

The public is invited to meet the Peterbrooke team for samples of chocolate covered popcorn and other chocolate delicacies, gelato and baked goods. There will also be a raffle and the opportunity for one lucky guest to win a tub of 54oz chocolate covered popcorn once a month for a year.

"Peterbrooke has been a part of the Ponte Vedra retail community for many years. We are pleased to open our new store in the Sawgrass Village shopping center close to Publix. The Peterbrooke in Ponte Vedra has a new look which features new products in addition to our traditional product offerings. We are excited to share our new store with our friends and neighbors," said Billy Morris President of Peterbrooke.

The new store carries coffee, gelato, frozen yogurt, gift baskets, baked goods from the Peterbrooke Bake Studio and their signature handmade chocolate delicacies. The location will be able to host intimate private parties, events and local fundraisers. For more information, call (904) 273-7878 or visit www.peterbrooke.com. Peterbrooke Chocolatier is located at 333 Village Main St suite 650, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

New VP & GM at Ponte Vedra Inn & Club

The AAA Five Diamond Ponte Vedra Inn & Club announced this week that Trov Bennett will act as its new Vice President and General Manager, effective immediately. In his position, Bennett is responsible for leading key operations, overseeing sales and marketing, and leading a staff of over 700 at the Florida resort.

With over 25 years in the industry, Bennett brings with him extensive experience in senior management

ing fee. For more information, call

SHORT TAKE

positions. In his most recent position as Founder and Principal at eXceed Hospitality Asset Advisors, an inde-



Rennett

pendent hospitality operations advisory firm, he worked both nationally and internationally with hotel groups such as The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company, Westin, Sheraton, W. Luxury Collec-

tion, Hilton, and Marriott International, among others.

Prior to eXceed, Bennett held the position of Senior Vice President of Operations & Asset Management for Gencom's \$5B Ritz-Carlton and luxury hotel portfolio. Bennett also previously served as Vice President of Asset Management for Host Hotels & Resorts where he managed a \$1B portfolio of 15 hotels in North, Central and South America. Additional past positions held include Managing Director of Benchmark Hospitality and Kessler Collection and General Manager at various luxury independent hotels and resorts.

Bennett attended the University of Florida before graduating from the University of Central Florida with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. In addition, he has completed courses in Hospitality Law at Harvard Law and the Fundamentals of Hotel Investment and Financial Decisions at Cornell University. He is a member of the Certified Hotel Administrator (CHA), a globally recognized elite group of hospitality professionals, who by combining education and experience with dedication to the industry have achieved a high level of expertise.

For more information or reservations, call 877-699-2878 or visit http:// www.pontevedra.com/.

Watson Realty Corp. Leadership Receives Global Relocation Professional Designation

Carlotta Landschoot, Executive Vice President, Tammy Vlah, Vice President, Director of Relocation and Judy Bissell, Vice President, Director of Relocation of Watson Realty Corp., recently achieved the Global Relocation Professional (GRP) designation from Leading Real Estate Companies of the World® (LeadingRE), a collection of over 500 premier residential real estate firms in nearly 50 countries worldwide.

Landschoot, Vlah and Bissell earned the designation after completing a series of online courses on topics including managing international referrals, implementing relocation guidelines, understanding referral policies and successfully serving relocating customers.

The designation was created by LeadingRE to provide members with comprehensive professional development in the area of referrals and relocation, supporting the network's 30,000+ affiliate-to-affiliate customer referrals each year.

"We continually strive to help our members set the standard for excellence, whether they are assisting customers who are new to their area or those moving across the country or around the world," said LeadingRE Director, Member Services Brent Williams. "By earning the GRP, Carlotta Landschoot, Tammy Vlah and Judy Bissell have demonstrated a strong working knowledge of and commitment to superior relocation services."

"The GRP designation furthers the expertise that Watson Realty Corp. brings to its relocation partners and customers both locally and abroad. It heightens the confidence our partners have in us, and the high quality service we provide our customers," said Bissell.

In addition to the extensive referral network, Watson Realty Corp. has access to a full range of services through their LeadingRE affiliation, including branding support, luxury marketing, global online exposure, technology systems, and other industry-leading professional development programs.

For more information about Watson Realty Corp., see www.watsonrealtycorp.com.

Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra hosts Virtual Dementia Tour

On Wednesday, Feb. 17 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra invites the community to visit for a virtual dementia tour, a scientifically proven method that teaches you the physical and mental challenges of those living with dementia. The tour simulates changes associated with cognitive decline and offers hope to caregivers and family members, providing you with valuable tips and

Arbor Terrace is located at 5125 Palm Valley Rd. in Ponte Vedra Beach. Call the Concierge Desk at 904-834-7578 or email *KHether*@ arborcompany.com to schedule your time slot.

Momentum, Athleta partner for local fashion show

Momentum Wellness has partnered with Athleta and will be hosting a fashion show event, showcasing Athleta's 2016 spring collection of athleisure-wear and workout attire.

The event will be hosted at Momentum Fitness (5150 Palm Valley Rd., Suite 103) on Feb. 11. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Please call for your free tickets to this event, 904-395-3266, or email info@getmomentumfit. com.

— Compiled by Kelly H. McDermott



GTMRR Guided Beach Exploration: 904-823-4500 or go to https://gtmre-**Beach Stroll and Discovery** searchreserveexplorations.eventbrite. On the third Saturday of the month (Feb. 20), from 8:30-10:30 a.m., join the GTM Research Reserve interpretive guide for a beach walk at the Guana

south beach location. Learn about the weather. The event is free. animals that call the beach their home as well as seashells and other interesting facts. This is a "Beaches 101" experience the entire family will enjoy. Park at the GTM Research Reserve South Beach Access Lot. 1798 Ponte Vedra Blvd. (A1A) in Ponte Vedra Beach. There is a \$3 per vehicle park-

com to reserve a spot online. Space is limited so please RSVP. Provide your email and phone number, in case cancellation is necessary due to inclement

After the walk, visit the Exhibit Hall at the GTM Research Reserve Environmental Education Center or enjoy our many miles of trails. The Center is located at 505 Guana River Road in Ponte Vedra Beach. Admission fee into the Exhibit Hall is \$2 for adults, \$1 for children ages 10-17, and children under ten are free.



6 One of Us



Dr. Abigail Levini is a licensed clinical psychologist and ADHD specialist. In 2008, Dr. Levrini founded Psych Ed Connections, a private practice specializing in ADHD coaching and cognitive-behavioral treatment for children and adults with ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder). Levrini, her husband and their two daughters – Evie, 5 and Reese, 3 – relocated from the Washington, D.C. area to Ponte Vedra last August. Levrini recently opened a Ponte Vedra Psych Ed Connections location in the Town Plaza Offices at Nocatee. Operations at the new Ponte Vedra location are based on the same principles of her other practices. The location also offers tutoring services for all kids, including children with special needs.

Where are you from originally?

I am from outside of Washington, D.C. in a suburb of northern Virginia. I was born and raised there but kind of traveled all around doing my schooling and all those sorts of things. Then I settled back [in Virginia] in 2008, which is where I actually started my practice.

How many Psych Ed Connection locations are there now?

I still have three locations up in northern Virginia that are still active. I'm sort of running things from a distance for that practice, and then I started this one down here. The Kentucky location is headed by a good friend from graduate school who has her own practice in Kentucky. They've kind of adopted our ADHD coaching piece as part of the services that they offer there.

What inspired you to open another location here in Ponte Vedra?

We have the ADHD coaching which is teaching kids and adults with ADHD coping skills as well as parents ways to manage it at home, but that's just one piece. We have the psychoeducational diagnostic testing and psychotherapy — and tutoring is actually our last piece because it's a real close connection, I think, from the world of psychology to the world of education and how we approach teaching our kids.

What other features would you say make your practice stand out?

Something that I think makes us stand out is I don't have an administrative assistant. You might get a voicemail but I always call you back within 24 hours. I'm the first point of contact. I make sure I talk through everything beforehand with people. I've always just really valued that customer service and that connection.

Tell me about the two books you have published.

They were both written with the American Psychological Association. One is a self-help book for adults with ADHD and the other is actually a guide for professionals [covering] how to do treatment with ADHD.

What made you want to go into this field?

Wanting to put positive change out into the world as best I could on my individual level, and wanting to have a greater purpose and just put something positive out there. I couldn't be happier.





All properties listed are in Ponte Vedra unless otherwise noted



2649 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD. \$795,000



5346 COMMISSIONERS DR. \$419,000



2767 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD. \$595,000

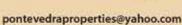


325 5. OCEAN GRANDE #102 \$374,000



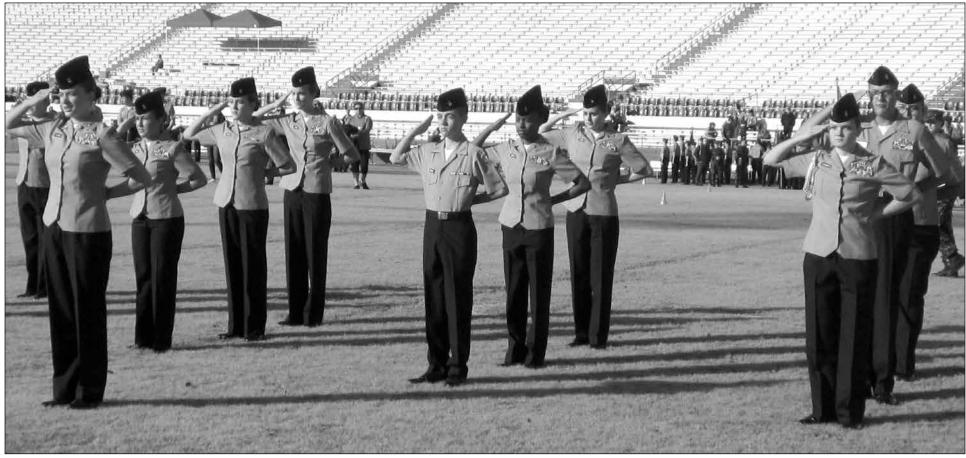
425 N. OCEAN GRANDE DR. Unit #304 - \$495,000





8 Community News

Ponte Vedra Recorder · February 4, 2016



Nease NJROTC's Unarmed Exhibition executes its winning performance at the FAMU Drill Meet on Jan. 20 in Tallahassee.



Nease NJROTC takes third place at FAMU drill meet

Story submitted by Scott LaRochelle

Nease NJROTC's varsity drill team competed at a major drill meet hosted by Florida A&M University on Jan. 30 in Tallahassee — taking home third place overall among the 16 schools from the Navy JROTC's Area 7, 8 and 12 regions.

The team presented a strong showing across the board taking home 12 individual event trophies. The Unarmed Exhibition Drill team captain by Cadet

Olivia Jacobi took first place, marking the second consecutive drill meet the team has garnered top honors. The team also finished in first place at the Terry Parker Drill Meet in December.

"We've practiced hard, and that effort is now paying off," said Jacobi.
"We now need to keep the momentum going forward into the Area-12 Championships next month in Georgia."

Other top performances included: second place in Personnel Inspection, Team Push Ups; third place in Overall Academics, Overall Drill, Overall Athletics, Armed Basic Drill, Team Sit Ups, Armed Exhibition Drill; fourth place in 200 meter relay, and fifth place in Color Guard.

Nease, currently the top NJROTC program in the nation out of 579 units worldwide, will be competing in the Area-12 Drill Championships and Area-12 Brain Brawl Championships next month with hopes of earning berths at the Navy National Drill Championships in Pensacola and National Brain Brawl Championships at the U.S. Naval Academy in April.

NEWS BRIEFS

Nease teacher fired for improper communication with students

St. Johns County Schools plans to fire a physical education teacher at Allen D. Nease High School, Dione Younce, 28, for allegedly engaging in inappropriate communications with multiple students. The decision will be finalized at a meeting on Feb. 9.

Younce was placed on paid leave late last month. Written allegations from at least three students indicated that Younce texted and direct messaged students, along with interacting with them on Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat. St. Johns County Sheriff's deputies were called on the same day as the allegations to escort Younce from the Nease campus for "possible sexual misconduct" with students.

Younce began her employment with St. Johns County schools at the beginning of this school term and is still in a probationary period, meaning that she cannot appeal her termination. Police investigation into possible sexual misconduct is ongoing.

DeSantis raises nearly twice as much as opponents combined in Q4

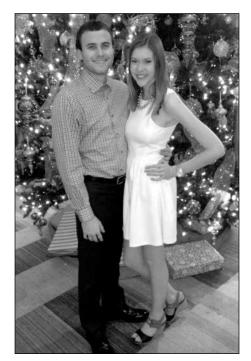
The Ron DeSantis for Florida campaign released the following statement after news that the campaign had raised nearly twice as much (\$772K) as the Senate campaigns of Republicans David Jolly (\$112K) and Lopez-Cantera (\$318K) in the 4th quarter of 2015. The DeSantis for Florida campaign finished 2015 with \$2.6M cash on hand — far more than any

of his opponents.

"It's become clear that Ron DeSantis is the only candidate who will have both the resources necessary and the conservative grassroots support to beat Patrick Murphy or Alan Grayson in November," said Brad Herold, campaign manager for Ron DeSantis for Florida.

"One of our opponents has already given up on fundraising or running a serious campaign while the other continues to struggle. Conservatives throughout Florida are uniting behind our campaign because Congressman DeSantis is the only candidate who will keep Florida's Senate seat in Republican hands."

ENGAGEMENT



Ryan Moale, Amanda Leigh Copenhaver

Mark and Michelle Copenhaver of Ponte Vedra, FL are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Amanda Leigh Copenhaver, to Ryan Moale, son of Keith and (stepmom) Hollie Moale of Melbourne, FL.

Amanda is a second year medical student at USF Health Morsani College of Medicine, and Ryan is a second year pharmacy student at UF College of Pharmacy.

A summer 2017 wedding is planned.

Briefs

Continued from 8

RCGSA meets Monday

The Republican Club of Greater St. Augustine will meet on Mon., Feb. 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the St. Augustine Shrine Club, where they will hear from candidates for St. Johns County Clerk of Courts, Hunter Conrad and George Lareau. Jake Riley has withdrawn his name from the race. For more information call (904) 471-3734 or email *info@republicanslubgsa.com*.

Save the date for Night at Roy's

The Monique Burr Foundation for children announced this week that its annual Night At Roy's fundraiser will be hosted this year on April 19 from 6 to 9 p.m. The event will include wines, tropical cocktails, live music, a live and silent auction and contemporary Hawaiian-influenced gourmet cuisine by James Beard Award Winner and world-renowned chef, Roy Yamaguchi. The event price is \$100 per ticket and sponsorship opportunities are available. Contact Tammy Long at *tlong@moniqueburrfoundation.org* or call (904) 562-1849 for more information.

— Compiled by Kelly H. McDermott



Marcia Barton, Julie Conley, Mercedes Smith, Val Wildesmith and Angie Cox at the 2015 26.2 with Donna marathon to finish breast cancer.

Racing toward a cure

Carrie Resch

The Recorder

The 9th annual 26.2 with Donna breast cancer marathon takes place Valentine's weekend.

The countdown is on.

In just over a week's time, thousands of breast cancer survivors, supporters and runners will descend on Ponte Vedra and the beaches in an effort to finish breast cancer for good.

The ninth-annual 26.2 with Donna, the only marathon in the country dedicated to breast cancer research and care, will take place Feb. 12-14.

Runners will begin the race at the Celgene Start Line located near The Players parking Lot off ATP Tour Boulevard in Ponte Vedra Beach and race towards the finish line at the Mayo Clinic Jacksonville. A post-race party will take place from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at Runners' Village at the Mayo Clinic

Since the inaugural race in 2008, more than \$4 million has been donated to breast cancer initiatives

with 70 percent of the money raised going to support ground breaking breast cancer research the Mayo Clinic and the remaining 30 percent going to The Donna Foundation. The foundation uses the funds to provide temporary assistance for women and men who have been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Both the marathon and the foundation were founded by Jacksonville Beach resident, Donna Deegan, a three-time breast cancer survivor.

The marathon draws race participants from out-of-state and from other countries. Last year's race participants included racers from Britain, Holland, Kenya and Ethiopia. In the October 2015 issue of "Women's Running Magazine," readers voted the 26.2 with Donna their favorite charity race.

For more information about the 26.2 with Donna or to see a full schedule of events, visit www.breast-cancermarathon.com. For more information about The Donna Foundation, visit www.thedonnafoundation.org.



Mike and Cathy Haga at the 2015 26.2 with

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SHORT TAKES

Jacksonville Science Festival

The 4th Annual Jacksonville Science Festival, a free three-day communitywide event promoting STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) education in Jacksonville, announces its partnership with Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) and The Foundation Academy.

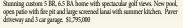
The event will be presented Feb.

25-26 from 9 a.m. -2 p.m. each day at FSCJ's South Campus and Feb. 27 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Friendship Fountain Park/MOSH.

Highlights include interactive booth presentations, food trucks, vendors, BIG science by MOSH, STEAM Talks, performing arts and lots of fun activities. For more information, call (904)-493-3535 or visit www.jacksonvillesciencefestival.org.

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Physicians at St. Johns Center for Clinical Research are conducting a research study to evaluate an investigational medication in individuals with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes and have high cholesterol.

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 - or are unable to tolerate statin therapy

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For more information call: ST. JOHNS CENTER FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH (904)209-3173 www.stjohnsresearch.com

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Nocatee Happenings: News from Advanced Disposal, 20 Mile



Photo provided by Advanced Disposal / Benny Sibbitt

From left: Advanced Disposal's Richard Burke, CEO; Lori Lamb, Trash Talker of the Year; Steve Edwards, Municipal Marketer of the Year; Harvey Corrigan, Good Samaritan of the Year; Jenny Taylor, Admin./ Clerical I Employee of the Year; Regina Caronia, CEO's Award; Alverda Galon, Admin./Clerical II Employee of the Year; Joseph Fail, Operations Employee of the Year; and John Spegal, COO.

New Nocatee amenity announced

Nocatee announced last week that a new amenity will be opening this summer, dubbed Twenty Mile Post. Twenty Mile Post will be located at the entrance of The Crossing at Twenty Mile and will include a covered pavilion with tables and restrooms, a spacious dog park, a peaceful nature trail, a children's playground and a sports activity field.

Nocatee-based Advanced Disposal commences initial public offering of common stock

Advanced Disposal Services, Inc. announced on Monday the launch of its initial public offering of 21,428,571 shares of its common stock.

The company is offering 9,037,033 shares of common stock and the selling stockholder is offering 12,391,538 shares of common stock.

The company's common stock has been approved for listing on The New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol "ADSW."

The underwriters have the option to purchase from the selling stockholders up to an additional 3,214,285 shares of common stock.

The company intends to use the net proceeds from the shares offered by it to repay outstanding borrowings under the Term Loan B portion of its senior secured credit facilities.

As the fifth largest solid waste company in the U.S., Advanced Disposal provides integrated, non-hazardous solid waste collection, recycling and disposal services to residential, commercial, industrial and construction customers across 17 states and the Bahamas.

Advanced Disposal honors top employees

Advanced Disposal honored top employees at the company's fifth annual employee of the year awards celebration in Orlando last month. Sixty-eight employee nominees and their guests attended the event held at Disney's Yacht Club Resort.

All nominees were presented with a plaque, and winners received crystal and cash awards recognizing the tremendous accomplishment.

"It is an honor and a privilege to celebrate our best employees each year," said Advanced Disposal Chief Executive Officer Richard Burke.
"These team members are 'Driven to Deliver' and are our environmental heroes who dedicate their time to clean communities and serving with a 'Service First, Safety Always' attitude. The Employee of the Year event is only a small way for us to say thank you for everything they do. They are the heart and soul of our company, and their passion, hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated."

The employee of the year awards celebration is held in conjunction with the company's annual meeting so that all levels of management can celebrate in the company's accomplishments over the last year, review plans for achieving goals in the New Year, and most importantly, personally applaud their very best team members.



SHORT TAKES

Fourth Saturday Family Seining Event

Join GTM Research Reserve guides on the fourth Saturday of every month (Feb. 27) from 8:30-10:30 a.m. for a family seining activity. Visitors pull a seine net through Guana Lake, collecting species of fish, crabs and more, and then learn about the animals and their roles in the habitat. All necessary gear, including waders and boots, will be provided. There a \$3 per vehicle parking fee. The event is free.

Please meet the guides at Guana Dam Recreational Area. They will be located at either the north or south boat launch, depending on the tide. For more information, call 904-823-4500. Space is limited, so please reserve a spot online at https://gtmre-searchreserveexplorations.eventbrite.com. If the space is completely filled, you are encouraged to sign up for the waiting list.

Yonder Mountain String Band and Guests Trout Steak Revival to perform at the PV Concert Hall

The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, in partnership with Jax Live, present Colorado-based bluegrass ensemble Yonder Mountain String Band with special guests Trout Steak Revival on Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2016.

Tickets for the standing room only show are on sale now. Tickets are \$27 in advance; \$32 day of show. Doors open at 7 p.m.; show starts at 8 p.m.

Tickets are be available for purchase at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall and St. Augustine Amphitheatre Box Offices, ticketmaster.com, all Ticketmaster outlets and by phone at (800) 745-3000.

For more information, visit *www. pvconcerthall.com*.

PVWC Casino Night

The Ponte Vedra Woman's Club will host a Mardi Gras-themed Casino Night benefiting Haven Horse Ranch on Sat., Feb. 20, 2016 from 6 to 9 p.m., to be held at the Christ Episcopal Church, 400 San Juan Dr., Ponte Vedra Beach.

Haven Horse Ranch was recently burglarized with about \$12,000 in equipment taken, which wasn't covered by the insurance company. Nearly 100 special needs children get help through interaction and therapy with the horses on this ranch and as many as 400 therapy sessions are now in jeopardy because of the cost to replace the equipment

Tickets for this event will be \$50 per person in advance and \$55 at the

Go to www.pontevedrawomansclub. com for more event details and to make your payment online through

PayPal. If mailing a check, make it payable to PVWC and mail to: Marcia Kennedy, 700 Ironwood Dr., #711, PVB, 32082.

Jason Isbell to perform at St. Augustine Amphitheatre

Award-winning Americana singersongwriter Jason Isbell and special guests Shovels & Rope will perform at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre on Saturday, March 5, 2016. This concert date is Jason Isbell with Shovels & Rope's only Florida date. Tickets for Jason Isbell with special guests Shovels & Rope are on sale now.

Tickets range in price from \$29.50-\$49.50. Doors open at 6 p.m.; show starts at 7 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.staugamphitheatre.com*.

TRUNK SHOW 3 DAYS ONLY IN HONOR OF



Featuring Jewelry by DAVID YURMAN

Representatives will be on hand with the Spring 2016 Collection

Thursday and Friday, February 11th and 12th Show Hours 10:00AM - 6:00PM

Saturday, February 13th Show Hours 10:00AM - 5:00PM The Shoppes of Ponte Vedra

Enter our contest to win a \$1500 David Yurman Shopping Spree. No purchase requirements to enter.

10% of Show Proceeds will be Donated to the Ponte Vedra women's Club Charity Haven Horse Ranch Children's Therapy.



Serving Excellence Since 1928 Member American Gem Society

Avenues Mall (904) 394-1390
The Shoppes of Ponte Vedra (904) 280-1202
Avondale 3617 St. Johns Ave. (904) 388-5406
San Marco 2044 San Marco Blvd. (904) 398-9741
Jacksonville, Florida 32207

www.underwoodjewelers.com

Sunday, Feb. 7

Thursday, Feb. 4

Arbor Terrace Life Enrichment Group

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

St. Johns Reads: Family Storytime

The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library is hosting a special Family Storytime celebrating the 2016 St. Johns Reads selection, "To Kill a Mockingbird" on Thursday, Feb. 4 at 11 a.m. The storytime will include books celebrating our differences and what makes us special and storytime songs. Then, weather-permitting, head outside to chalk art with storytime friends. The library is located at 101 Library Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, call (904) 827-6950 or visit www.sjcpls.org.

'Honkey Tonk Angels' at The Alhambra

Alhambra Theatre & Dining presents "Honkey Tonk Angels" Jan. 5 through Feb. 7. Hear 31 of your favorite songs performed including, "Stand by Your Man," "Coal Miner's Daughter" and "Harper Valley PTA." The theatre is located at 12000 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (904) 641-1212 or visit www.alhambrajax.com.

For The Love of Driving

Volunteer drivers are needed to assist seniors in achieving their mobility goals in St. Johns County. Transportation needs range from trips to the grocery store and classes to spousal hospital visits or social activities. If you are interested, please contact the Mobility Manager at the Council on Aging, 904-315-6505, or email Katie Arnold at karnold@stjohnscoa.com.

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.

Friday, Feb. 5

Peterbrooke of PV grand opening

Peterbrooke Chocolatier of Ponte Vedra's grand opening party for their recently relocated store is Friday, Feb. 5 from 6-9 p.m. Come and meet the Peterbrooke team for samples of chocolate covered popcorn and other chocolate delicacies, gelato and baked goods. There will also be a raffle and the opportunity for one lucky guest to win a tub of 54oz chocolate covered popcorn once a month for a year. Peterbrooke Chocolatier of Ponte Vedra' is located in the Sawgrass Village Shopping Center at 333 Village Main St., #650, Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, call (904) 273-7878 or visit www. peterbrooke.com.

BEAM Thrift grand opening

A grand opening and ribbon cutting for the newest BEAM Thrift store is Friday, Feb. 5 at 10 a.m. at 7North, 318 Seventh Ave. N., Jacksonville Beach. The new, larger location will feature better parking and a more convenient donation drop-off. For more information, visit www. jaxbeam.org/beam-thrift-stores.

Under the Streetlamp

Under the Streetlamp featuring former cast members of "Jersey Boys" and other hit musicals will perform at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall for two nights: Friday, Feb. 5 and Saturday, Feb. 6. The group will perform classic hits of the 1950s-1970s. Tickets are \$59 for the first eight rows; \$49 for all remaining rows. Tickets for each evening are sold separately. Doors open at 7 p.m.; show starts at 8 p.m. The Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A N., Ponte Vedra. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall or St. Augustine Amphitheatre box offices or visit www.pvconcerthall.com.

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.)

Live Music at Table 1

Table 1 at 330 A1A N will host Samuel Sanders & Darren Escar live starting at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 6

Katz 4 Keeps Adoptions/ Open House

Katz 4 Keeps is having an adoption event/ open house on Saturday, Feb. 6 and Sunday, Feb. 7 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Katz 4 Keeps, 935B A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach (next to Sherwin Williams). For more information, call (904) 834-3223 or email katz4keeps.com.

Chariots of Fur beach run and festival

The 2016 Chariots of Fur beach run and festival. benefitting the St. Francis Animal Hospital is Saturday, Feb. 6 at the Seawalk Pavilion., 75 First St. N, Jacksonville Beach. The event includes a 5K run/walk (10 a.m.) and 1-mile fun run (9:30 am) Post-race festivities will include a festival with live music, vendors, contests, food trucks, dogs available for adoption, activities for kids, a raffle and a silent auction. For more information, including registration information for the run, visit www.saintfrancisanimalhospital.org/ chariots-of-fur-5k-beach-run.

Beaches Green Market

The Beaches Green Market is every Saturday from 2-5 p.m. at Jarboe Park (intersection of A1A and Florida Blvd.) For more information, call (904) 710-2022 or visit www.beacheslocalfoodnetwork.org.

Guided Exploration Hike

On the first Saturday of every month (Feb. 6), from 8:30-10:30 a.m., visitors can learn about the cultural history of the Guana Peninsula as well as the natural biodiversity of the reserve during a guided hike. Hear about the peninsula's 5,000 years of human history, including how native peoples used estuarine resources, what European plantation life was like and current efforts to learn about and save these resources. Meet at the GTM Research Reserve's Trailhead Pavilion located west of the Guana Dam. Wear comfortable closed toe shoes. There is a \$3 per vehicle parking fee. The event is free. For more information, call (904) 823-4500 or go to https://gtmresearchreserveexplorations.eventbrite.com to reserve a spot online.

Live Music at Table 1

Table 1 at 330 A1A N will host Robbie Litt live starting at 7:30 p.m.

'The Grapes of Wrath'

Limelight Theatre presents, "The Grapes of Wrath," Jan. 22 through Feb. 14 with a special preview Friday, Thursday, Jan. 21. Showtimes are at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Limelight Theatre is located at 11 Old Mission Ave., St. Augustine. For more information, call (904) 825-1164 or visit www. limelight-theatre.org.

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.

Practice with Purpose at Big Fish Yoga

Practice with Purpose is an all-level yoga class offered on Sundays from 4-5 p.m. at Big Fish Power Yoga. The fee for the class is a \$5 cash donation that goes to the charity that Big Fish Power Yoga has selected for the quarter. Big Fish Yoga has relocated to the South Beach Regional Shopping Center in Jacksonville Beach at 3852 South 3rd St. For more info. call (904) 372-0601.

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.

Habitat for Humanity volunteers

Habitat for Humanity of St. Augustine/St. Johns County is currently seeking qualified homeowners. Habitat does not give away homes for free. Instead, homeowners pay an affordable monthly mortgage payment and we help build them a simple, decent place to live. If you know someone who might benefit from Habitat homeownership, please refer them to our website. To find out more about how you can donate, volunteer, or qualify visit habitatst johns.org.



February

Activities

for Members

Value Mondays **Every Monday Evening**

Surf & Turf Night Every Wednesday

Party Bridge Every Thursday Noon

Trivia Night Monday, February 8

Kid's Baking Class Saturday, February 13

Valentine's Eve Dining Saturday, February 13

Cupid's Brunch Sunday, February 14 Valentine's Dining Sunday February 14

Team Gate Registration Deadline Sunday February 14

Sushi & Sake Social Tuesday, February 16

Kid's Disney Trivia Friday, February 19

Kid's Movie Night Friday, February 26

Cakebread Cellars Wine Dinner Friday, February 26



FEBRUARY **ACTIVITIES** FOR MEMBERS

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

Sunday Brunch Buffet Valentine's Dining Every Sunday

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

Lobster Night Every Wednesday

Tapas Night Every Thursday Prime Rib Buffet

Every Friday Lilly Pulitzer

Monogrammed Tervis Saturday, February 6

Italian Night Monday, February 8

PV Cup Golf Tournament February 13 & 14 February 13 & 14

Paiama Party for Kid's Saturday, February 13

Team Gate Registration Deadline Sunday, February 14

Kid's Movie Night with Priscilla & Poppleton Friday, February 19

Obagi Spa Event Friday, February 19

PV Date Night Saturday, February 27

Couples Leap Year Golf Scramble Saturday, February 28

Call 273-9500 for more information

Monday, Feb. 8

Tuesday, Feb. 9

Thursday, Feb. 11 Wednesday, Feb. 10

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.

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.

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.

Mental Health Recovery Support

Support is free to the public and facilitated by Georgia, Florida Certified Peer Specialist, Whitney Bolin. By appointment only M-F, contact at 770-403-4991 or whitneybat76@gmail.com. In addition, she facilitates a MH Recovery Group at Flagler Hospital from 2-4pm every Tuesday.

Sunshine Center Volunteers

The adult day center located in the Coastal Community Center is seeking creative volunteers to assist with simple arts & crafts projects with seniors Mondays through Fridays from 12:30-2:30 p.m. For info, call (904) 209-3686.

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.

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.

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.

Friends of the GTM Reserve meeting

The Friends of the GTM Reserve will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 9, from 5-6 p.m. at the Environmental Education Center, 505 Guana River Road in Ponte Vedra Beach. The public is welcome to attend. For more information, please call Teri Webley at (904) 823-4527.

Yonder Mountain String Band

The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, in partnership with Jax Live, present Colorado-based bluegrass ensemble Yonder Mountain String Band with special guests Trout Steak Revival on Tuesday, Feb. 9. Tickets for the standing room only show are on sale now. Tickets are \$27 in advance; \$32 day of show. Doors open at 7 p.m.; show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are be available for purchase at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall and St. Augustine Amphitheatre Box Offices, ticketmaster.com, all Ticketmaster outlets and by phone at (800) 745-3000. For more information, visit www.pvconcerthall.com.

Newcomers Monthly Meeting

Newcomers of the Beaches monthly luncheon is at 11 a.m. at the Marsh Landing Country Club in Ponte Vedra Beach. Cost is \$23 dollars. Reservations are required. For more information, visit www.newcomersofthebeaches.com.

Civil Rights Cinema

Every Wednesday in February from 1-3 p.m., the Southeast Branch Library, 6670 US 1 S., St. Augustine, is hosting a St. Johns Reads Event: Civil Rights Cinema, a series of matinee movies relating to the African-American Civil Rights Movement. The Feb. 10 movie is "Selma." Call (904) 827-6900 for more information.

Hypnosis for Positive Thinking

Do you want to think more positively? The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library is hosting a free one hour session to help provide you with the motivation to think positively throughout your day, presented by Dr. Christopher Beverly, Certified Hypnotist and graduate of the Omni Hypnosis Center. Participants must be at least 18 years of age or 15 years of age accompanied by a legal guardian. The event takes place Wednesday, Feb. 10 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. The library is located at 101 Library Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information about Dr. Christopher Beverly and hypnosis, visit www. hypnotichypnotist.com. For more information about this and other upcoming library events, visit www.sjcpls.org.

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.

Ponte Vedra Toastmasters

The Ponte Vedra Toastmasters Club offers opportunities for developing your leadership and communication skills. Join us on Wednesdays at The PLAYERS Community Center at 175 Landrum Lane. The meeting starts promptly at 7:30 a.m. and lasts one hour. Want to know more? Contact Lucy Reep at 904-607-3695 or contact-5199@toastmastersclubs.org

'Heart of the Runway' fashion show

The "Heart of the Runway" luncheon and fashion show is Thursday, Feb. 11 from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Linda Cunningham's, 1049 Kings Ave., Jacksonville. This event is a benefit for North Florida School of Special Education. Call (904) 399-4864 for details.

Fashion show at Momentum Wellness

Momentum Wellness has partnered with Athleta and will be hosting a fashion show event, showcasing Athleta's 2016 spring collection of athleisure-wear and workout attire. The event is Thursday, Feb. 11. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Momentum Wellness is located at 5150 Palm Valley Road, Suite 103, Ponte Vedra Beach. Please call for your free tickets to this event, (904) 395-3266, or email info@getmomentumfit.com.

David Yurman Gemstone Challenge

The David Yurman Gemstone Challenge at Underwood Jewelers' Ponte Vedra Beach location is Thursday, Feb. 11 from 6-8 p.m., by invitation only. Contact the Ponte Vedra Woman's Club and get on the guest list. Guess the number of gems and win a \$1500 gift certificate. Purchase raffle tickets to win a David Yurman Bracelet. Stop by their store or go to the PVWC website at www.pontevedrawomansclub.com and purchase you tickets. The event will benefit Haven Horse Ranch.

Chapel Concert Series: Jim Suhler

Jim Suhler will perform Thursday, Feb. 11 at the Beaches Museum Chapel, 505 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville Beach. Tickets are \$20 for the show in advance, \$25 day of show. Prior to the concert, dinner by MoJo's BBQ will be available for a suggested donation of \$10 (weather permitting). Food and drinks at 6 p.m.; the concert starts at 7 p.m. All proceeds benefit the Beaches Museum & History Park. For more information, call (904) 241-5657. To purchase tickets, visit www.beachesmuseum.ticketleap.com/concertseries-iim-suhler.

Free calendar listings for community groups and nonprofit organizations are published at our discretion on a space-available basis. Send your event at least 10 days before publication.
Submit events to carrie@opcfla.com, post online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com using the

TPC SAWGRASS February 2016



Friday, February 12th & Saturday, February 13th Valentine's Weekend Dinner 5:00 - 9:00 PM

Share a romantic evening with your beloved and enjoy our specialty menu!

Sunday, February 14th Sweetheart Brunch

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM \$45.00++

Bring your loved ones to celebrate Valentine's Day with brunch & mimosas! Sweetheart Supper 5:00 - 9:00 PM \$25.00++

Wine & dine your sweetheart with our elegant Valentine's Day Dinner Buffet!

Wednesday, February 17th St. Augustine Food & Beverage Experience

6:00 - 9:00 PM \$90.00++ Experience a showcase of cocktails crafted by

St. Augustine Distillery Co. & craft beers brewed by Ancient City Brewing. We'll pair this with four entrees prepared by our Executive Sous-Chef Logan McCurry.

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



FORUM ON GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC POLICY

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11



St. Augustine, FL

Dan Fagin

Pulitzer Prize-Winning Journalist and Director of the New York University Science, Health and Environmental Reporting Program

"Connecting the Dots in Toms River and Beyond"

LECTURES BEGIN AT 7 P.M.Lewis Auditorium at Flagler College 14 Granada St.

NO ADMISSION CHARGE SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS PROVIDED

SHORT TAKES

Dublin's Irish Tenors and The Celtic Ladies concert

Dublin's Irish Tenors and The Celtic Ladies will perform one-night only in downtown St. Augustine. This headlining concert for the St. Augustine Celtic Music & Heritage Festival will take place at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 11 in Memorial Presbyterian Church, 32 Sevilla St., downtown St. Augustine.

Seating is limited for this event. Tickets are sold separately from the Celtic Festival passes. Tickets are \$25 to \$60. Purchase tickets at www.celticstaugustine.com/special-friday-night-event/. The 6th Annual St. Augustine Celtic Music &

open submission call

recently formed New Play Develop-

ment Process. Starting with an open submission call from Jan. 15 - March 1, 2016, aspiring and acclaimed writers are encouraged to submit 10 new pages of dialogue inspired by a concept they have for a new play. Writers are also asked to Heritage Festival is set for March 11-13. submit a 1-2 page proposal that clearly defines the concept for a new play along **Players by the Sea Theatre** with a brief synopsis (keeping in mind that it is absolutely subject to change), New Voices is Players by the Sea's reason to why this play would fit the mission of Players by the Sea and New Voices, and why the writer would benefit

> Submissions will be adjudicated locally and nationally by a Panel comprised of theatre and writing professionals. These panelists will select two playwrights who

from a year long development process.

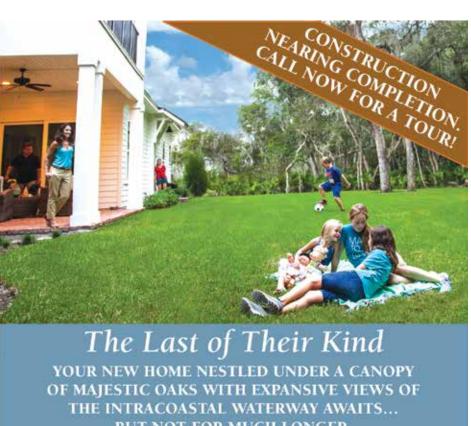
will embark on the year long development process. The accepted playwrights will be announced on April 1, 2016.

After selection, the two playwrights are assigned Dramaturgs who will help guide the play through the entire development process. Once the plays reach a draft that can be rehearsed, auditions will be held and the plays will enter the rehearsal process. Both plays will be fully mounted in April 2017 as part of Players by the Sea's 2016-2017 Season.

This process is open for writers residing in Duval, St. Johns, Clay, and Nassau Counties. Submissions must be sent in PDF format to newvoices@playersbythesea.org. Submissions will not be accepted or read before Jan. 15.







BUT NOT FOR MUCH LONGER. Palencia is preparing lots in its last estate-home neighborhood

— Costa del Sol. Build the home of your dreams with Arthur Rutenberg Homes, CornerStone Homes or Cottage Home Company on one of these 62 lots before the sun sets on this opportunity in Northeast Florida's premier resort-lifestyle community.



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Championship Golf



Boardwalks & Nature Trails



10 Har-Tru Tennis Courts







Local shops offer up tasty treats for Valentine's Day

By Carrie Resch

The Recorder

If you're looking for sweets for your sweet this Valentine's Day, you don't have to go far. The First Coast has some tasty choices when it comes to delectable delights. Whether you're looking for that signature item from local favorites, searching for inspiration, or just wanting to help support local businesses, The Recorder's sweet treat roundup can point you in the right direction for making this Valentine's Day the tastiest yet!

Claude's Chocolates

Chef Claude Franques uses his more than 40 years of culinary experience make handcrafted, small batch delicacies using premium Belgian chocolate and ingredients free of artificial flavors and preservatives.

Offerings include assorted bonbon and truffle collections, solid chocolate bars (including sugar-free varieties), peanut brittle, chocolate covered dried fruit and nuts, and more.

Claude's Chocolate has two locations: the Ponte Vedra store is located at 145 Hilden Road in The Shoppes at St. Johns Oaks and the St. Augustine Store is located at 6 Granada St.

For more information, call the Ponte Vedra store at (904) 829-5790 or the St. Augustine store at (904) 808-8395 or visit *www.claudeschocolate.com*.





Sweet Pete's

Pete Behringer launched Sweet Pete's in 2010. Last year, the candy store relocated from Springfield to the historic Seminole Club in the heart of downtown Jacksonville.

The new 23,000 sq. ft. space makes Sweet Pete's one of the largest candy shops in the United States. The company boasts over 1,000 different candy offerings, including Pete's Famous Sea Salt Caramel, caramel pecan clusters, Grand Marnier cherry cordials, sea salt candy popcorn and more! Special gift baskets and boxes and chocolate covered strawberries are available for the Valentine's Day holiday. The candy shop also has vegan and gluten free options.

Sweet Pete's is located at 400 N. Hogan St., Jacksonville. For more information, call (904) 376-7161 or visit www.sweetpetescandy.com.

Photo by Jasmine Marshall

Whetstone Chocolates

Whetstone Chocolates, located in St. Augustine, is headed up by Virginia Whetstone, daughter of Whetstone Chocolate founders, Henry and Esther Whetstone who started the chocolate business in the sixties.

Whetstone's inventory includes 13 different flavors of fudge, hot cocoa mix, chocolate truffles, Chocolate Amaretto and Chocolate Cabernet wine sauces, Chocolate Espresso Liquor sauces, molded chocolate, non-chocolate confections, and gelato. Best sellers include salted caramels, almond toffee, and the Whetstone's signature chocolate sea shells that come in seven flavors.

The Factory Store offers daily chocolate tasting tours and is located at 139 King St. The historic district store is located at 42 St. George St. and the Anastasia Island store is located at 13 Anastasia Blvd. For more information, call (904) 217-0275 or visit www.whetstonechocolates.com.



Photo by Elizabeth Middlebrooks



Amelia Toffee Company

Anita Comisky, owner of Amelia Toffee Company, has taken toffee to a whole new level. Like the company's slogan implies, this toffee is "not your grandmother's toffee."

Signature toffee varieties include coffee toffee, bourbon toffee, on tap toffee (made with locally sourced imperial stout beer) and green leaf toffee (made with fresh green tea extract). Just in time for Valentine's Day, Amore Toffee made with Amaretto, white chocolate and raspberries.

Amelia Toffee Company is located at 1776 Hammock Drive, Amelia Island. For more information, call (303) 475-0926 or visit www.ameliatoffee.com

Photo by Angela Hadl

Peterbrooke Chocolatier

Peterbrooke Chocolatier is having a grand opening celebration for their relocated chocolate store in Sawgrass Village Shopping Center at 333 Village Main St. The official grand opening will be held on Friday, Feb. 5 from 6–9 p.m.

The new store carries coffee, gelato, frozen yogurt, gift baskets, baked goods from the Peterbrooke Bake Studio and their signature handmade chocolate delicacies, including their ever popular chocolate covered popcorn.

For more information, call (904) 273-7878 or visit www.peterbrooke.com.



A relationship wellness checkup for Valentines

Try doing this relationship wellness checkup for Valentine's Day, and look at how you can better love (and be loved). Take turns addressing each of the following questions. Make sure both part-



Neil RosenthalColumnist

ners get an equal chance to address the questions, and assume there will be multiple answers to every question. You get bonus points for not being defensive, not explaining or justifying yourself and for

treating with importance whatever your Valentine says.

1. On a scale from 0-10, what number would you give our relationship right

now? What would raise that number for you?

- 2. What do I do that makes you feel especially valued and cherished? What would you like me to do that would help you to feel more loved and cared for?
- 3. What do I do that annoys, frustrates or hurts you?
- 4. Using the 0-10 scale, how affectionate am I? How affectionate would vou like me to be?
- 5. What does romance consist of for you, specifically? What could I do with greater regularity that would make this a more romantic relationship for you?
- 6. What would you like me to do that you're hesitant or embarrassed to ask for? What would you like me to say more often?
 - 7. What most helps you to feel con-

nected and close? When do you feel we are we most connected with each other? When are we least connected?

- 8. What should I do (and what should I not do) when you are angry or in a bad mood?
- 9. Are there any goals you want us to create as a couple this next year? What are they? What are the goals you have for yourself? Are there any goals you wish I would pursue?
- 10. What did you do this past year that you're most proud of? What did I do that you're most proud of?
- 11. How could I be a better communicator?
- 12. Is there anything you would like me to apologize for?
- 13. Are we spending enough quality time together? If not, tell me what you want instead.
 - 14. If I were wanting to be the best

partner possible for you, what would I do different?

15. Anything important that we are leaving out of this conversation?

If you do this every year at Valentine's, you will be able to gauge how your relationship is growing, developing and improving year by year, and you can compare your answers with what you said last Valentine's Day, and how you felt several years ago.

Neil Rosenthal is a licensed marriage and family therapist in Westminster and Boulder, Colorado. His column is in its 25th year of publication. You can reach him at 303-758-8777, or email him through his website: www.heartrelationships.com. The second edition of his book: "Love, Sex and Staying Warm: Creating A Vital Relationship," recently hit the #1 best seller list on Amazon its first day of release, both nationally and internationally.

5 ways to send your message of love

(BPT) — Valentine's Day is a time for building memories and connections with your child to show the special people in your life you care. With so many options for gifts and little ways to show how you feel, it's hard to decide where to start ... and why limit the fun?

This year, start a new tradition by creating a basket full of treats and fun activities your whole family will love.

Hershey is making Valentine's Day unforgettable this year with family-fun filled treats to create lasting memories and help you send a "message of love" to your other Valentine — your kids — with baskets full of new and classic treats.

From candy to baked goods to activities you can do together, here are five basket themes you can consider to help send a message of love this Valentine's Day!

Scavenger Hunt Basket

Show your playful side and include written clues in a basket full of goodies to start a Valentine's Day scavenger hunt.

Hide sweet treats around the house along with little messages of love, so when your loved ones find them, they will know you are always thinking of them.

Or, simply hide new HERSHEY'S KISSES Conversation Candies featuring sayings such as "XOXO" and "BE MINE" on each foil (sold exclusively at Target) around the house.

Telling someone how you feel

couldn't be easier when the chocolate treats say it for you.

Personalized Baskets

Create a basket that helps celebrate your kids and everything that makes them unique. Add touches that show your child's personality and create a personalized themed basket all about them.

Include fun items that make their favorite activity more special — from festive colored pencils for the artist to a new baseball glove for the athlete, personalized baskets help make the celebration much more fun.

Sweeten the deal with your child's favorite treats such as new HER-SHEY'S Milk Chocolate; KIT KAT AND REESE'S Assortment Heart Box; JOLLY RANCHER Bites; or REESE'S Peanut Butter Cup Miniatures 7-oz. Heart Box.

Playing Pretend Basket

Reading is a great way to spend time with your kids. Make the simple gifts exciting again and fill a basket with your favorite books and corresponding props for your little cuties this Valentine's Day.

Read the books together and use the props to create sweet memories, reenacting your favorite parts of the story together.

Spend Valentine's Day playing pretend with your little ones — from discovering new worlds, befriending dragons to building fairy fortresses out of pillows, playing pretend will create special moments

that will last a lifetime.

Fun and Games Basket

Spending time with your loved ones is a great way to celebrate Valentine's Day.

Create a game night basket the whole family is sure to love. Make things a little more fun by creating your own game or playing an old classic using HERSHEY'S Milk Chocolate Hearts filled with Caramel as playing pieces.

You can even play tic-tac-toe or checkers using HERSHEY'S Milk Chocolate Hearts and HERSHEY'S KISSES Milk Chocolates as the tokens.

This Valentine's Day basket is a sure what to make game night a

MESSAGES continues on Page 23





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Tips to bake pastries from scratch

(StatePoint) Even for talented cooks, dessert can be a different story, especially when you go beyond baking mixes to make pastries from scratch.

"Pastries, and the doughs that give them life, have daunting reputations, but they're not as complicated as they sound," says Russel Van Kraayenburg, food blogger and author of the new recipes and ratios book, "Making Dough." "Dough is often nothing more than butter, flour and water — a simple base for a never-ending variety of pastries." To demystify the art and science of baking from scratch, Van Kraayenburg's book offers instruc-

tions for creating a dozen crucial dough types and recipes for to use them. Here are some of his tips for improving your baking game, along with a recipe for pie dough.

• **Measuring:** Since different ingredients have different

PASTRY continues on Page 21





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Pastry

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densities, weighing them is the best way to produce precise results. (However, it is handy to memorize what 1 teaspoon of salt looks like in your hand. The same goes for baking soda, powder, sugar and any ingredient used regularly in small amounts.)

• **Storage:** Flour contains a small amount of water. Over time, it can either dry out or absorb moisture from the air. When you open a paper sack of flour, transfer it to an airtight container and store in a cool, dry, dark place, such as a pantry or cabinet far from

your oven. Keep both bread and cake flours on hand.

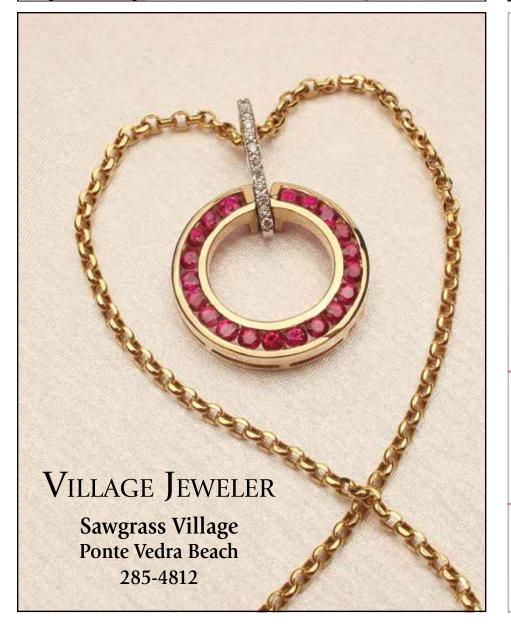
- **Sugar substitutions:** Substitutions that can work in cooking won't necessarily work in the laboratory of baking. Certain sweeteners caramelize when heated; others leaven and aerate mixtures. Always use the sweetener the recipe calls for and never replace a sugar with a chemical sugar substitute.
- **Trial by hand:** While a food processor or stand mixer could ease the doughmaking process, try each recipe by hand at least once. Getting a feel for the dough, literally, will help you understand its characteristics.

To make Pie Dough, Van Kraayenburg offers this by-hand technique.

Ingredients:

- 6 ounces bread flour
- 2 ounces cake flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 7 ounces unsalted butter, cold
- 1/4 cup water Directions:
- Mix flours and salt in a large bowl. Chop butter into 1/2 inch chunks and add to mixture. Pinch butter into flour, breaking it into large pea-sized pieces. Work quickly to keep butter from melting
- Pour water into flour mixture. Mix dough with your hands or about 10 to 15 turns of a wooden spoon, until it just starts to come together. The dough will be tough and should remain in a few large chunks.
- Place dough on a lightly floured surface and push chunks together. Knead 4 to 5 times, just until it holds together. Flatten into a disk about 1 inch think. Wrap tightly in parchment and let rest in fridge for at least one hour.









A gift certificate from the award-winning Spa at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club is sure to impress a loved one this Valentine's Day. Select from a menu of more than 100 beauty and pampering services. For easy ordering of gift certificates, please call 273-7700 or visit www.pvspa.com





Volunteers carefully stuff and close heart-shaped pillows cut and sewn by the Ocean Wave Quilters Guild.

Sharing love and spreading joy

Community invited to help project for hospice patients on Feb. 10

Carrie Resch

The Recorder

It is said that it is better to give than to receive.

Each year during the week of Valentine's Day, members from the Ocean Wave Quilters Guild and The Planta-

tion Stitchery Guild and community volunteers come together to stuff heartshaped pillows to donate to hospice patients in Northeast Florida.

The annual "Work Your Heart Out Day" was launched in 2007 by Ocean Wave Quilters Guild founder and Ponte Vedra resident Bonnie Talley. Talley started the volunteer campaign with the combined goal of giving back to the community while bringing sewers in the community together.

The event will take place Wednesday, Feb. 10 from 9:30 a.m.-noon in The Plantation at Ponte Vedra dining room. Lunch will be served afterwards. The goal is to make 600-700 pillows that will be donated to the Community Hospice of Northeast Florida which serves five counties: Baker, Clay, Duval,

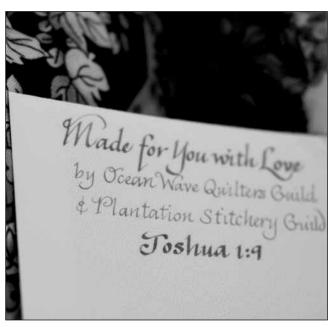
Nassau and St. Johns. The pillows are distributed to Hospice patients in at home care, long term care facilities and in-patient centers.

Anyone in the community is invited to join the event. No quilting or sewing experience is required in order to help, said Talley. Simply visit The Plantation dining room on the day of the event and those present will help find any new volunteer a way to help out.

For more information, call (904) 285-9707 and leave a message.

Bonnie Talley, Ocean Wave Quilters Guild founder and Quilt Lady, poses with a supply of newly finished pillows at last year's gathering.





Finished pillows are adorned with tags carrying heartfelt messages.

Victorian Valentines for Tweens at PV Library

Space is still available for the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library's "Victorian Valentines for Tweens," a special "What's Up?" Wednesday for February. The event is for all tweens ages 9 – 12 and takes place Wednesday, Feb. 10 from 4-5 p.m.

The program will be run by the library's new Youth Services Assistant,

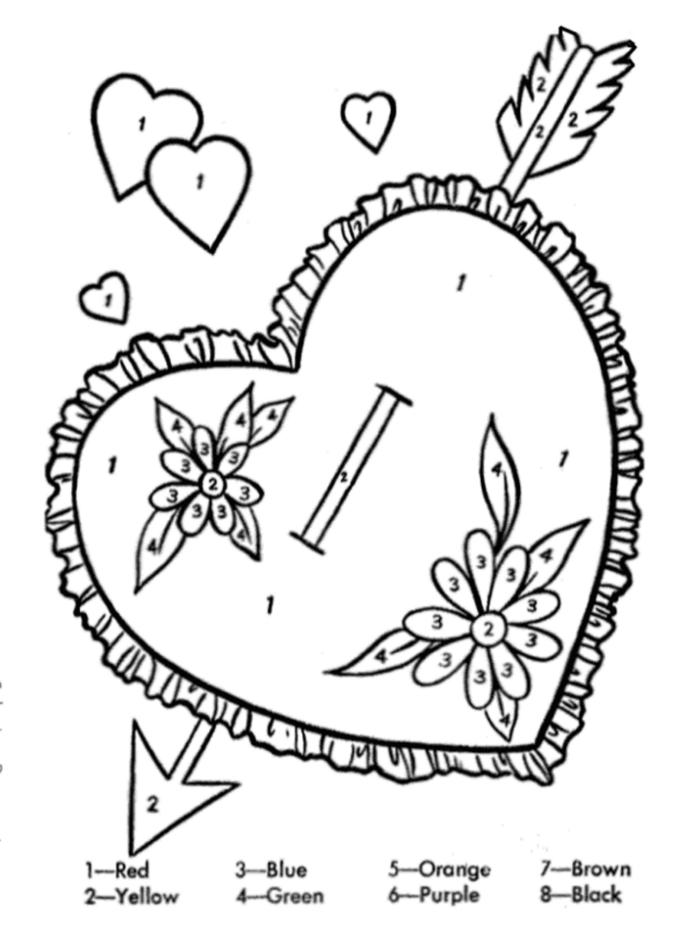
Suzanne Egeln, who will be going "old-school" with helping tweens create valentines with doilies and making sachets for friends or family.

To register for the event, stop by the Reference Desk at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library, 101 Library Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach, or call the library at (904) 827-6950.



The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library's "Victorian Valentines for Tweens" takes place Wednesday, Feb. 10 from 4-5 p.m. Tweens between the ages of 9 and 12 can create valentines with doilies and make sachets (like the ones pictured) to give to friends or family.

Photo provided by the library



Messages

Continued from 19

whole lot sweeter.

Sprinkle Your Valentine with Love Basket

What better way to celebrate Valentine's Day than with an activity you can do together? Pull together a fun basket of goodies with different ingredients for a delicious baked good you can make together. Need inspiration? HERSHEY partnered with Betty Crocker to create fun recipes such as these "Sweetheart Cookies," perfect for Valentine's Day:

What You'll Need:

- 1 pouch BETTY CROCKER sugar cookie mix (Butter and egg called for on cookie mix pouch)
- 2 tablespoons GOLD MEDAL all-purpose flour
- 3 tablespoons white sparkling sugar or granulated sugar
- 3 tablespoons coarse pink sparkling sugar or pink decorator sugar
- 1 tablespoon instant coffee powder or granules

About 36 HERSHEY'S KISSES Milk Chocolate Candies, unwrapped About 36 HERSHEY'S HUGS Can-

dies, unwrapped

- 1. Make cookie dough as directed on package, stirring in flour. Roll dough into 36 (1-inch) balls. Combine sugars and coffee powder in small bowl. Roll balls in sugarcoffee mixture. Place about 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheet.
- 2. Bake at 375°F 7 to 9 minutes or until set. Immediately press one HERSHEY'S HUGS Candy into center of each cookie. Allow to stand about 5 minutes until soft; press lightly. Top melted candy with chocolate candy.
- 3. If desired, reverse the candies on the cookies. Cool; place on cooling racks. Cool completely.





Pick the right watch for your valentine

(StatePoint) The stakes are high on Valentine's Day. When you are shopping for just one special someone, there's very little room for error.

For the perfect gift, consider a timeless classic — a watch to suit his or her personal style. But remember, one watch will not fit all personalities or lifestyles.

Matthew Shell, vice president of product development at watch brand Armitron, offers these suggestions for finding the right watch for your loved one:

• The trendsetter: For those who love looking their best, coordination of accessories is key. So whether you opt for a genuine leather strap or a bracelet watch, look for a versatile timepiece that can transition from day to night or be dressed down or dressed up depending on the occasion. Before making a selection, consider your recipient's

favorites — taking preferences like gold versus silver and vintage versus modern into account.

- The athlete: Enhance your loved one's training efforts with a bold, sporty watch built to move. For example, Armitron Pro-Sport Digital watches feature lap timing, stop watches and chronographs to help runners, swimmers and other athletes push past their goals. Water resistant to 330 feet, this category of watches offers multicolored dials, soft touch resin straps, chrome bezels and silver tone buckle closures.
- The sentimentalist: If your gift recipient already has a favorite watch for everyday wear, consider something elegant that can but doesn't have to be reserved for special occasions. For instance, a bangle watch functions as jewelry and timepiece, putting form and function on the same level. Or for him, a watch featuring a diamond dial.

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SHORT TAKES

Second Saturday Family Seining

The GTM Research Reserve will host Family Seining on the second Saturday (Feb. 13) from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Join staff and/or volunteers for a guided family seining activity. Visitors will get the chance to pull a seine net through Guana Lake, collecting species of fish, crabs and more, and then learn about the animals and their roles in the habitat. All necessary gear, including waders and boots, will be provided. There is a \$3 per vehicle parking fee. The event is

Please meet the guides at Guana Dam Recreational Area. They will be located at either the north or south boat launch, depending on the tide.

For more information, call (904) 823-4500 or go to *https://gtmresearchreserve-explorations.eventbrite.com* to reserve a spot online. If spaces are full, a Family Seining event is also offered on the fourth Saturday of the month.



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GTM Marineland Monthly Lecture

The GTM Research Reserve, in collaboration with the Marineland Dolphin Adventure, invites the public to a free lecture on Tuesday, Feb. 16, from 10-11 a.m., at the lecture location: Marine-

land Dolphin Adventure, 9600 Ocean Shore Blvd. Dr. Alistair Dove, director of research & conservation at the Georgia Aquarium, will present "Wonderful Whale Sharks." Reservations are required to attend. Visit *www.gtmnerr.org* or

https://www.eventbrite.com to reserve a spot online. For more information, call (904) 823-4500. Please arrive at the gift shop by 9:45 a.m. All attendees will receive a special wristband for free admission to Marineland after the lecture.



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26 Sports



Shark keeper Brian Salzman deflects the ball over the goal on a Stanton direct kick.

Photos by Chris Norton

Find a gallery of pictures from the game online at www. pontevedrarecorder. com.

Shark soccer boys one game away from state playoffs

By Jerry Norton

The Ponte Vedra boys' soccer team is running a week behind their distaff counterparts but seem to be on the same track to the State playoffs. The boys will play Tuesday evening against Matanzas in the District 3A regional finals hoping to earn a spot in the state final four.

The Sharks advanced to the regional final playoff round with an impressive 8-0 mercy win over Stanton on Saturday at the Sharks'

field. Ponte Vedra made it look easy scoring nearly at will against a strong playoff team. Michael Bennett helped propel the Sharks to victory with 5 goals — including one on a penalty kick. Munir Adamo scored a pair and Nick Kostrubsky added the other Shark goal.

Bennett's penalty shot came at the 28-minute mark when Kostrubsky was pulled down in the box and the Sharks' leading scorer had little trouble beating the Stanton keeper low and on the right side. Curiously, less than a minute later, the Blue Devils were awarded a penalty shot but the shooter did not have Bennett's success.

Shark keeper Brian Salzman guessed right and made a diving save on the PK. A few minutes later Salzman made another key save on a Stanton direct kick, deflecting the ball over the goal.

The Sharks took a 4-0 lead into the second half and less than 12

minutes later scored the eighth and mercy goal to end the game.

Ponte Vedra boasts an undefeated 23-0 record with 140 goals scored and but 16 goals allowed. To advance to the final four, the Sharks will have to beat Matanzas for the third time this season.

If they do, they will play the winner of the Fort Walton Beach/ Choctawhatchee match at Melbourne High School at a date to be determined.





#24 Chris Howard heads the ball clear of the Shark goal against Stanton.

Lady Sharks head to States again

By Jerry Norton

If you were ranking girls' high school soccer coaches, Dave Silverburg ought be number one on your list. To appreciate why, consider Silverburg's record over his 14-year coaching career.

In seven years at Nease High School, the coach won state championships in 2002, 2005, 2006 and 2008. Dave then came to PVHS and won state titles in 2009 and 2012. He lost in the state finals in 2013, 2014 and 2015 and modestly admitted that his teams haven't won the championship in the past three visits. But he couldn't deny that they in fact played for the championship these past three years.

Not bad for a guy who never played the game. To be sure he still does not play. All he does is coach and he certainly does that better than anyone else

His players realize that and follow his system to a tee. They have done so well in executing their coach's strategies that they have advanced to the State Final four again — the fourth straight year qualifying for States.

To qualify, the Sharks had to beat Stanton and Gulf Breeze in the same week. The game against Stanton this past Tuesday was a good example of the soccer quality in the regional playoffs. The Sharks and the Blue Devils battled to a standoff for nearly 75 minutes before a goal was scored. Then Marissa Reinker scored it for Ponte Vedra with just 5 minutes and 26 seconds left to play on a perfect pass from Piper Dotsikas.

Friday's game against Gulf Breeze was the next hurdle for the Sharks. This time Ponte Vedra produced a first half goal with ten minutes left in the period when Angeline Daly sent a rocket into the upper left corner of the goal that the Breeze keeper had no chance of stopping. Dotsikas provided an insurance goal early in the second half on a setup by Kristen Sandifer to keep their fans' nail biting to a minimum.

Ponte Vedra will face Merritt Island on Wednesday, Feb. 3, at 4 p.m. at Tom McIntyre Stadium in Melbourne in the State Semi-final round.



The Sharks celebrate Reinker's winning goal over Stanton.

Photo by Chris Norton

Find a gallery of pictures from the game online at www. pontevedrarecorder.

Sawgrass Country Club serving up Pro Am Tennis Tournament

Ospreys can often be seen flying overhead at Sawgrass Country Club, but it's not likely you'll see one sporting a tennis racquet. On Saturday, Feb. 6, a different sort of Osprey, the kind that hail from the University of North Florida, will descend upon the Sawgrass Country Club tennis courts to compete in the inaugural Sawgrass Country Club Pro Am Tennis Tournament.

The event, formerly known as the Osprey Invitational,

Sawgrass RACQUET CLUB Sawgrass Country Club will host the inaugural Sawgrass Country Club Pro Am Tennis Tournament Feb. 5 and 6. Event participants include University of North Florida tennis athletes, area tennis professionals and Sawgrass Country Club Tennis members. Proceeds from the event will go to the UNF Tennis Program.

Provided by Sawgrass Country Club

TENNIS continues on **Page 28**

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Tennis

Continued from 27

will feature University of North Florida tennis athletes, area tennis professionals and Sawgrass Country Club Tennis members.

"We have added some really exciting formats and scoring to make this competitive event that will guarantee great tennis action, " Ken Veney, Sawgrass Country Club Tennis Director said in a news release. "This is a marquee event for Sawgrass and one that we plan to host each year," he said.

A "Pairings' Party" will take place the evening of Friday, Feb. 5 during which players will draw for the Pro Am portion of the event.

Following the draw, 16 pros will compete in a Pro to Pro tournament utilizing the Fast Four format in a

compass draw format which is first of four games and a nine point tie breaker at three games all.

Saturday's Pro Am event will feature a Klotz Round Robin with four divisions of six teams to determine where the players who place in Round Robin will be placed in the tournament.

Sawgrass members will be competing for a share of a \$400 purse. Proceeds from the event will go to the UNF Tennis Program.

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Sharks enter playoffs with momentum from week's sweep

Jim Moyes

The final week of the season could not have been scripted any better for Ponte Vedra's 2015-16 boys basketball squad.

Friday's exciting 69-61 victory over Nease capped a three game week that saw the Sharks sweep all three of their games, providing some much needed momentum heading into the FHSAA playoffs beginning that began this past Tuesday.

The Sharks needed to defeat Menendez, a team they already defeated twice, in order to advance to tomorrow night's (Friday, Feb. 5) district championship against the winner of Tuesday's game between Clay Co and Palatka. To catch the results go to the team's web site at http://www.leaguelineup.com/welcome.asp?url=pvsharksbasketball. Or, just Google Ponte Vedra basketball and the link will immediately pop up.

The win over Nease improved the Shark's season record to 15-10 and assures PVHS of a winning season, a quality accomplishment for a team that returned but two contributors from the previous year.

When asked if a .500 record would be an acceptable mark for this young basketball team prior to the start of the current campaign, veteran head coach Bud Beech agreed that would be a realistic goal. Mission accomplished — and then some!

A 15 win regular season surely can not be attributed to the Sharks scheduling a number of 'cream puffs'. Playing state ranked powers such as Bolles (twice), Providence, and Creekside (twice) the Sharks were able to bounce back and defeat three teams who had defeated PVHS earlier

in the season, a sure sign of a team that exudes improvement during the course of a season.

The Sharks began their week with a win over Baker County, a team that had defeated PVHS in both of their previous encounters.

Coach Beech did a marvelous job spreading the minutes for his entire roster by keeping fresh legs assembled on the court, fully aware of the upcoming arduous work week. Beech used his entire roster in the 58-49 victory over Baker County, with 10 of the 11 players that saw action denting the scoring column.

Following an explosive third quarter, when they outscored the visiting Wildcats 26-14, the Sharks had a seemingly secure lead, a margin that had one point stretched to 18 points.

However, the Wildcats whittled the lead all the way down to a shaky six points with less than 3 minutes remaining.

Beech then inserted four of his starting five back into the lineup, along with seldom used senior Cole Martin. Martin then made his coach look like a genius by hitting the game's biggest shot, a clutch three point basket that spread the lead back to nine to clinch the Sharks' 58-49 win over Baker County. Two nights later the Sharks provided the perfect ending for their followers on Senior Night. One of the pair of upcoming graduates, Cole Martin, gave the Sharks a big lift in the beginning, while the other senior, Matthew Johnson, supplied the finishing touch at the end of a thrilling 56-55 victory over a very athletic Mandarin team.

Getting his first start of the season, Martin again delivered in the early minutes by scoring five quick points to quickly galvanize the large crowd in attendance.

After the Sharks had taken a slim four point lead into their locker room at intermission, it appeared chances for a victory on Senior Night were doomed as the visiting Mustangs went on a 18-2 run to temporarily silence the loyal Shark supporters.

The Sharks then mounted a determined comeback, and rallied to take a 53-51 lead with less than two minutes remaining after JD Pirris scored two of his seven fourth quarter points. That lead was short-lived as the Mustangs answered with four unanswered tallies, before Matt Johnson had his own senior moment.

With Mandarin holding a two point lead, and the clocking winding down inside the final minute of the contest, Johnson came up with his third steal of the game and made the layup to knot the game at 53 all. Mandarin's Ceri Phillips then seemingly put the Sharks away with a two pointer with 15 seconds left.

However, Mandarin had lightning strike them twice when Matt Johnson, after receiving a perfect pass from Eston Hensley, for the second time this season defeated the Mustangs with a three point basket as the Sharks fans erupted.

Mandarin still had time as 0:06 was left on the clock. The Mustangs' Andrew Duong dribbled the length of the court and had a clear path to the basket, but his last second lay up was cleanly swatted away by Hensley and the Sharks escaped with their 14th hard earned victory of the season.

The Sharks had little time to enjoy their last minute heroics as less than 24 hours later a date with archrival Nease was in the cards. The Sharks traveled across 'The Ditch" with high hopes of turning the tables on the Panthers after a disappointing showing against their rivals in a loss in early December.

As usual, when these two foes meet on the hardwoods, another jam packed crowd filled Nease's gymnasium to the brim. And for those who expected yet another exciting PV-Nease matchup, they would not go away disappointed.

For much of the game it appeared the Sharks would have an easy time with the host Panthers, with Ponte Vedra holding a 32-21 lead at half-time. However, energized by their loud following from their fellow students bedecked in Hawaiian attire, the Panthers would not go away quietly.

Trailing 53-44 in the final quarter, the Panthers stirred their fans into a frenzy by going on a 9-0 run that tied the score at 53-53 with but 3:12 remaining in the contest.

The Sharks appeared worn down and desperately needed a spark from someone. Coach Beech found the ignitor in junior fireball Chris Tomacewski. Chris energized the Sharks with his fearless play and scored 10 second half points, many of those coming in the game's final moments.

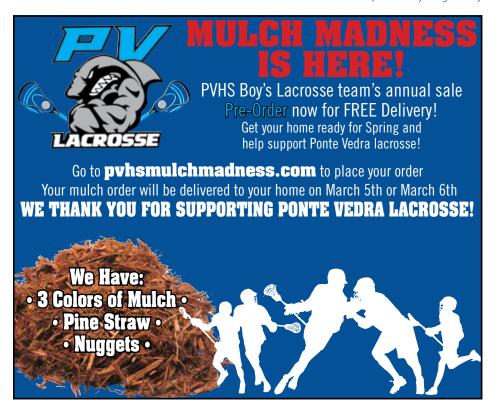
Ponte Vedra also received some first-rate play from Eston Hensley, who stopped the Nease comeback with a pivotal three pointer as the Sharks retook a lead they would never relinquish at 56-53. The Sharks then confidently made eight consecutive free throws over the game's final minutes to salt away the victory and provide the locals with some much needed momentum heading into their tournament opener with Menendez.





Team spirit: Youth from YMCA cheerleader program perform

The Winston Family YMCA Cheerleaders ages 5 - 9 cheered at the PVHS Boys Basketball game last Tuesday night, performing at half time. The YMCA Basketball/Cheer program continues on Saturdays through the end of February. Brooke Cleary, Anna Swan & Sophia Bono (absent) are YMCA Volunteer Coaches for this program. Practices are on Tuesdays at the YMCA, introducing a





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Ironing is a 'pressing' affair

Bonnie Talley

Quilt Lady

While listening to a few of my friends chatting, I tuned in when they started discussing ironing. I can't think of a more revolting topic of conversation, but obviously I have been missing something! One friend was discussing her newest purchase: a cordless iron.

Wow, that sounded interesting. The few times that I have ironed in the past 25 years, the darn cord was such a nuisance. It always drug across the object being scorched and wrinkled it terribly. The reason I don't iron is that I am terrible at this chore.

Back in the olden days of early marriage, I would try to press my husband's white shirts after they returned from the laundry; however, after scorching several to the point of no return and having to throw them away, I was asked politely to, "Leave them alone, please. I don't mind a few wrinkles!"

When polyester came into existence, I knew I was saved from this horrible task. I bought everything that read 100 percent poly. Wow, what a blessing that was to a marriage. It might have saved mine! I put my iron in the sewing room to be used only in dire circumstances.

When I married Mr. Whoozy, I didn't even buy an iron. I told him flat out that I didn't iron, and of course he knew that I didn't cook — but was a great conversationalist and a good dancer.

One afternoon after golf he came in to find me at my letting pressing board in the sewing room with my tiny iron that I used to press seams open and exclaimed, "You're ironing!" I quickly explained to him that I was not ironing — I was pressing. His response to that was, "Is there a difference to ironing and pressing?"

"Oh my, yes," I quipped. "A big difference!"

I always have to tell quilters that seams should be pressed with a hot dry iron. Never use steam in quilting. It distorts the fabric. After slaving 30 minutes to get your star points or seam intersections to match perfectly, a steam iron can ruin all of that. Throw your steam iron away and get one of the new small irons that are perfect for pressing seams.

Pictured is our fantastic president of Ocean Waves Quilters Guild, Sharon Warner. Sharon is an artist, a seamstress, and a fearless leader of our guild. She is also the mother of Jennifer, who owns the Secret Garden restaurant in Jacksonville Beach. She is pictured here with an adorable lobster apron that she whipped up in her spare time for Jennifer. She was seen putting hems in a chef's jacket at stitchery the other day. There is nothing that she can't do. I believe. She is a true Renaissance lady. Her smile is infectious and keeps us all smiling.

The next big event for the Guild is "Work Your Heart Out Day," Feb. 10 at The Plantation dining room at 9:30 to noon. Lunch will be served afterward. This is the day that ladies of the Guild and of The Plantation join together to stuff 600 to 700 heart pillows to be donated to the Hospice Center of Northeast Florida.

On Feb. 12, I am presenting a program to the Guild that meets at The Players Community Center on Landrum Lane, off CR-210, behind the Shell station from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. It will be about color and applique. Anyone interested in quilting is invited to this program. The Guild meets on the second Friday of every month.

Quilting is a means of socialization that is so important in one's life.

Quilters are a friendly group of ladies who gather to discuss their own problems with quilting, and to learn more about the art form. Join us!



The less we know the better when it comes to stocks

I have argued for as long as I can remember that the vast majority of investors would be happier if we only had annual access to our investment portfolio. That is correct, no daily online viewing and no monthly statements. We get nothing except a yearly review with our financial advisor. No matter how much we listen and watch the swollen headed pes-



Harry Pappas Columnist

simist, the naysayers, the voices of doom, there is nothing that we can do about it until yearly reviewing consultation. Now, I can almost hear your mind saying, "This guy may be on to something, or just on something!" I

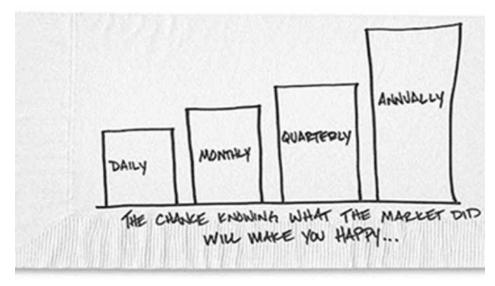
understand that my approach to portfolio management is about as exciting as rearranging our sock drawer. Nevertheless, Wall Street is not a Steven Spielberg movie. It is about implementing prudent investment strategies that make us money in the end. Said differently, until we invent a cure for the human tendency to flee the stock market with the herd, the small investor (you and me) will likely to be continually disappointed with our portfolio performance.

Check out the signature cocktail napkin sketch from financial advisor and author Carl Richards, underscoring my position of keeping our itchy finger off the fear and greed trigger! The sketch speaks volumes about how knowing too much can be a detriment to our decision making.

Richards looked back on the stock market (S&P 500) from 1950 to 2012 to see how often we would likely feel positive, based on how frequently we observed the S&P 500. Check out the results below.

- If we checked daily, stocks would be positive 52.8% of the time.
- If we checked monthly, stocks would be positive 63.1% of the time.
- If we checked quarterly, stocks would be positive 68.7% of the time.
- If we checked annually, stocks would be positive 77.8% of the time.

If history clearly demonstrates that the stock market is positive 77.8% of the time, then why do we continue to torture ourselves by wanting to know how the market performed for the day or how much our portfolio increased or decreased? I put forth that the answer is all about pain and pleasure, which piggybacks off its uncle fear, and greed. Let me explain. Why do so many folks think they can time the market by attempting to get in and out at the right time?



We cannot help it. It is in our DNA to act on our intuition. For example, during the Great Panic of 2016, one may feel PAIN if they stay invested in stocks and potentially see their stock value decline further. After moving to cash, one feels PLEASURE, as they no longer have to worry about losing more money. However, the pleasure eventually turns to PAIN again as they begin to worry that they may miss the next big move higher, eliminating the opportunity to recoup some or all of the money that they already lost. Of course, if you are like what I argue are the smart investors, they are not caught up in the market time game. Instead, these cool folks adhere to the notion that time in the market is much better than timing the market. Moreover, they know from history that about 78% of the time the market is positive.

If you have access to a computer and are one of the peeps who think you can outsmart Mr. Market, I encourage you to Google search "How foolish it is to sell stocks right now" and partake in an entertaining and jawdropping experience that tests your stock market trading shrewdness.

The foundation of the game is simple and straightforward. The site selects a random 10-year history of the stock market (S&P 500) and provides you the opportunity to see if you can select the best time to sell stocks to avoid the inevitable correction. Of course, if you follow my recommendation of staying fully vested and just go for the volatile ride. However, that would not be as much fun compared to being a market timer guru, who thinks he can outsmart Mr. Market! Nevertheless, the game begins with a \$10,000 investment. As the chart progresses through the ten-year period, you will have just one chance to sell and one opportunity to buy back. Said differently, when you think that you should take your money out of the market, hit "Sell." When you want to get back in, hit "Buy." The computer

will analyze your results within sec-

In closing, I suggest that investor Ralph Wagoner's explanation regarding how the stock market works is not only spot on, but also thought provoking. He likens the market to an excitable dog on a very long leash in New York City, darting randomly in every direction. The dog's owner is walking from Columbus Circle, through Central Park, to the Metropolitan Museum. At any one moment, there is no predicting which way the pooch will lurch. However, in the end, you know he's heading northeast at an average speed of three miles per hour. What is astonishing is that almost all of the market players, big and small, seem to have their eye on the dog, and not the owner. Therefore, I encourage you to relax

and enjoy the walk to the Metropolitan Museum.

Harry Pappas Jr., CFP® **Managing Director-Investments** Certified Estate and Trust Specialist™ **Certified Divorce Financial Analyst®** Pappas Wealth Management Group of **Wells Fargo Advisors** 818 A1A N, Ste. 200 Ponte Vedra, Florida 32082 904-273-7955

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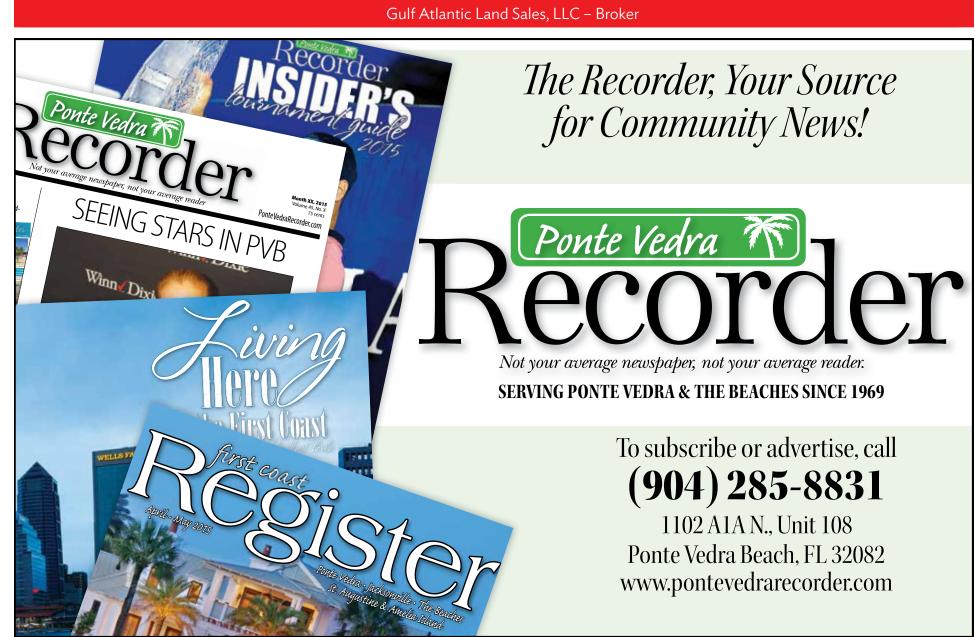


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SHORT TAKES

Marineland River-To-Sea Trail Walk

On Wednesday, Feb. 17, from 9:00-10:30 a.m., take a guided trail walk at the River-to-Sea Preserve. Step into the ancient Florida coastal woodlands along the preserve trail and learn how Native Americans once thrived there on nature's bounty.

Your GTM Research Reserve interpretive guide will point out indigenous plants bordering the trail to the Matanzas River where the mangroves grow.

Look for the River-to-Sea Preserve sign on A1A, south of the Town of Marineland (across from the ocean).

Your guide will meet you in the parking lot. Visit *https://gtmre-searchreserveexplorations.eventbrite.com* to reserve a spot online or call (904) 823-4500 for more information. The event is free.

Guided Exploration Hike

On the first Saturday of every month (Feb. 6), from 8:30-10:30 a.m., visitors can learn about the cultural history of the Guana Peninsula as well as the natural biodiversity of the

reserve during a guided hike.

Hear about the peninsula's 5,000 years of human history, including how native peoples used estuarine resources, what European plantation life was like and current efforts to learn about and save these resources.

Meet at the GTM Research Reserve's Trailhead Pavilion located west of the Guana Dam.

Wear comfortable closed-toe shoes. There is a \$3 per vehicle parking fee. The event is free. For more information, call (904) 823-4500 or go to https://gtmre-searchreserveexplorations.eventbrite.com to reserve a spot online.

Friends of the GTM Reserve Board Meeting

The Friends of the GTM Reserve will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 9, from 5:00-6:00 p.m., at the Environmental Education Center, 505 Guana River Road in Ponte Vedra Beach. The public is welcome to attend. For more information, please call Teri Webley at (904) 823-4527.

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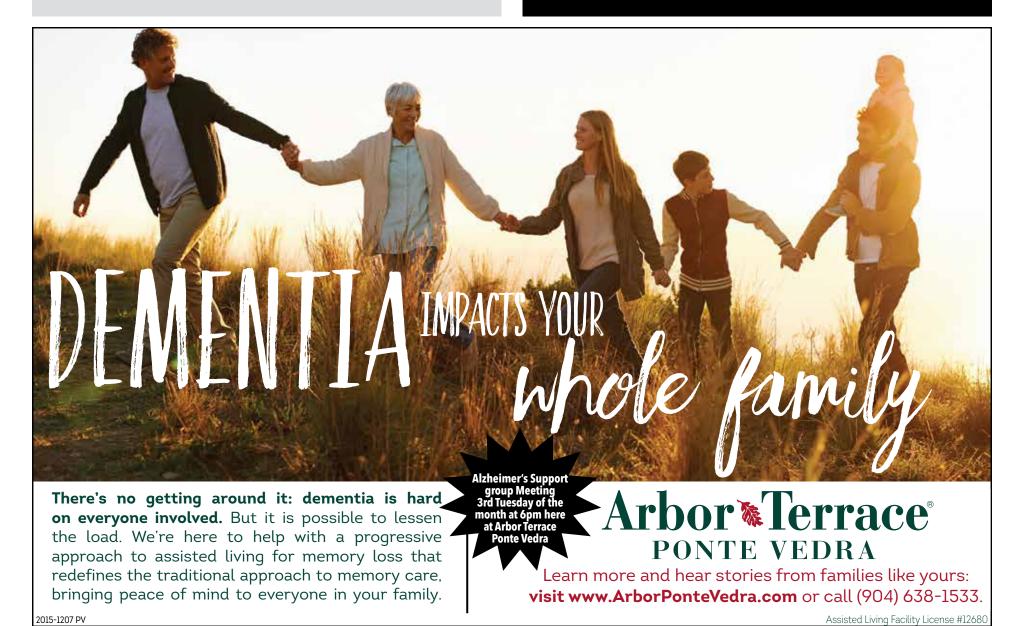
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Where has this been? It's better than dessert

'Where has this been? It's better than dessert' originally appeared in The Ponte Vedra Recorder on Feb. 6, 2014.

"I promise to love, honor, obey, and make yummy desserts every night."



By the Way...

I don't remember saying this as part of my wedding vows, 50 years ago, but I must have.

I did abide by the fourth part of the vow because I was, for the most part, a good "Do Bee." Now THAT ages me.

And you too, if you understood it. I experimented with outrageously rich desserts every night for two years until I had babies. Ah the 60s. No food cops anywhere or articles titled "The New

Food Wars: Big Mac vs. Big Organic" (Reader's Digest, September 2013.)

When I grew up we never had desserts in our house, so I bought them for myself at a drug store on my way home from school. I snuck them into a drawer in my desk. Clark bars. Snickers. Zero bars. Not really desserts, but for me, they passed. I could hardly fling a chocolate bar at my newly minted husband. I wanted to make up for the real lost desserts of my child-

My just-out-of-college, rings-on-ourfingers friends and I channeled Betty Crocker and read recipes at work, burying Good Housekeeping magazines out of sight on our laps so our bosses wouldn't see them. We'd write down ingredients for lemon bars, key lime pies, chocolate pies and much more. Consequently I gained the freshman 15 all over again when I was only twelve months into my marriage. I was newly wed, newly rotund.

Then in 1968 I discovered Weight Watchers. Founder Jean Nidetch became a success, starting in New York City, where I lived. She spoke at various places, not called venues then. One woman in the audience asked her, "Mrs. Nidetch, my husband wants me to have cookies and cakes and ice cream in the house all the time. What should I do?" Mrs. Nidetch didn't waste a minute, "Darling," she said, mimicking the woman's heavy Russian accent, "Get rid of him."

When Nidetch came upon an idea, she shared it. She fell upon the NY Department of Health's food plan for healthy dieting and did exactly that: she shared the diet with the world. Well, I am no Jean Nidetch, and what I want to share is not in the food category, but I have discovered something wonderful. It's a very convoluted way of telling you about it, but never mind. Stick with me.

It's a simple, inexpensive spray

called Sprayway Glass Cleaner that you can get at Home Depot and some grocery stores. The people who installed mirrors in my home recently told me about it. It is ammonia free and streakless. It's also foamy, creamy, just like whipped cream, only it doesn't taste good. You use Sprayway like any glass spray product but it is so much better. It doesn't drip. Use it on counter tops, mirrors, and even outdoor PVC furniture. You can take a paper towel, shake the can vigorously, and wipe down the glass on your car's windshield, rear window and other windows. You won't believe the grime that comes off every week. I like it because it feels as though I'm spraying whipped cream around.

Wouldn't it be great if you could buy a glass spray cleaner that you could also put on pie and eat? I'm looking for it.

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46. Mexican money

47. *Multiple winner

Levine of Maroon 5

50. Former Speaker

52. Pilot's estimate

55. "____ he drove

of the House

53. Back talk

48. Fate

out of sight..." 57. *What kind of Funk? 60. * Shakes 64. Willow tree 65. Flow alternative 67. Bottom-ranking employee 68. Continually annov 69. Unagi 70. Absurd 71. Ayatollah's home 72. Marbled bread

73. Formerly Hannah

DOWN

Montana

1. *Ric Ocasek's The were nominated but lost 2. Park City State 3. Actor's part 4. Motivate 5 Hindu retreat 6. *What Skrillex and Diplo do 7. Ornamental ponddweller 8. Legal excuse 9. *"____! In the Name of Love," nominated in 1966 10. French Sudan after 1960 11. *Michael Jackson's "Thriller" was on this label 12. *The _ band that never won a Grammy 15. *Best _ _ Word Album category 20. Relating to axis 22. Frigid

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Across

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used as a shooter

51. *No Doubt's

'____ Kingdom"

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.

24. Reproductive organs of a flower in '97 25. *Swift's space? 26. Forearm bones contempt 27. Plural of #40 29. *Fetty Wap's Queen" Tower 31. Scotch partner 32. Like a snicker 33. Audience's ap-34. MLK march site means 36. Kind of cell 38. Corner of a diamond 42. Wheel on a spur Greeks 45. Vacation location 49. Fancy marble

album, nominated 54. Expression of 56. Black wood 57. ____-friendly 58. Site of Leaning 59. *"Smells Like Spirit," Grammy loser in 1993 60. Having the 61. Way, way off 62. List of dishes 63. Mars, to the -Wan 66. Turkish title of respect

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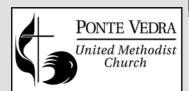
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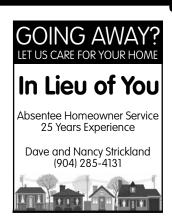


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