

# Ponte Vedra Recorder



October 6, 2016  
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75 cents

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PonteVedraRecorder.com



## Youth in action

Kids making a difference Page 8



## In the Arts

Page 17



## NEW! Business Weekly

Page 26



ALVES



PORTER



FORSON

## School board names superintendent finalists



CARTWRIGHT

# FINAL FOUR

The St. Johns County School Board has scheduled public interviews with the four finalists for the superintendent's position for Oct. 10. Read more on page 3.

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# Send us your news

We welcome submissions of photos, stories, columns and letters to the editor. Let us know what's happening. If you have hard copies of photos you want us to feature, feel free to bring them to our office — we'll scan them and hand them right back. E-mail submissions to [pvrecorder@opcfla.com](mailto:pvrecorder@opcfla.com) or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach.**



Visit our new website at [www.pontevedrarecorder.com](http://www.pontevedrarecorder.com)

Plus, find the Recorder on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ThePVRecorder](http://www.facebook.com/ThePVRecorder)

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

C	L	A	S	P	U	S	E	S	L	O	B	
P	U	P	I	L	N	A	M	S	T	O	V	E
A	M	E	B	A	T	W	O	H	I	K	E	R
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5	8	1	3	2	9	7	6	4			
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7	2	6	8	5	4	3	1	9			
9	7	5	6	8	1	2	4	3			
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1	6	3	7	4	2	8	9	5			
6	9	4	2	7	5	1	3	8			
3	5	7	4	1	8	9	2	6			
2	1	8	9	3	6	4	5	7			

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

## WHAT'S THIS?



### Do you know what this is?

Email your answer to [jennifer@opcfla.com](mailto:jennifer@opcfla.com) by Tuesday at 5 p.m.

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

Several readers correctly identified last week's photo as the Bolles Bulldog on The Bolles School sign. The winner of the random drawing is **Eric Magennis** – congratulations, Eric! You may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during regular business hours.



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

## ADOPT A PET

### CAT OF THE WEEK

Hi! My name is Zelda and I am a 5-month-old female kitten who is looking for a new home. I was brought to the pet center as a stray. As this animal was a stray there may be some traits that are unknown at this time.



Come visit us today here at the pet center! #34433

### DOG OF THE WEEK

Hi there! I'm Stitch, a 2-year-old lab mix who is looking for a new home. I was brought to the pet center as a stray. As this animal was a stray there may be some traits that are



unknown at this time. Come visit us today here at the pet center! #34310

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.

## St. Johns County Pet Center

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



**Susan Griffin**  
Publisher  
[susan@opcfla.com](mailto:susan@opcfla.com)  
(904) 686-3938

**Jennifer Logue**  
Managing Editor  
[jennifer@opcfla.com](mailto:jennifer@opcfla.com)  
(904) 686-3943

**Carrie Resch**  
Reporter/Sales Coordinator  
[carrie@opcfla.com](mailto:carrie@opcfla.com)  
(904) 686-3939

**Rob Conwell**  
Circulation Manager  
[rob@opcfla.com](mailto:rob@opcfla.com)  
(904) 686-3936

**Ed Johnson**  
Senior Account Executive  
[ed@opcfla.com](mailto:ed@opcfla.com)  
(904) 686-3940

**Kristin Flanagan**  
Account Executive  
(904) 285-8831

**April Snyder**  
Sales Assistant  
[aprils@opcfla.com](mailto:aprils@opcfla.com)  
(904) 686-3937

**Jasmine Marshall**  
Reporter/Office Assistant  
[jasmine@opcfla.com](mailto:jasmine@opcfla.com)  
(904) 686-3945

**Cary J. Howard**  
Ad Designer  
[cjohnson@theitem.com](mailto:cjohnson@theitem.com)

**Alex Burrows**  
Ad Designer  
[alex@theitem.com](mailto:alex@theitem.com)

**Jessica Stephens**  
**Rhonda Barrick**  
**Melanie Smith**  
**Stacey Neal**  
Page Designers  
[pagedesign@theitem.com](mailto:pagedesign@theitem.com)

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[jacksonvillezoo.org](http://jacksonvillezoo.org)

# School board to interview superintendent finalists Oct. 10

## By Jennifer Logue

The St. Johns County School Board is scheduled to hold public interviews Oct. 10 with the four finalists being considered to replace outgoing superintendent Dr. Joseph Joyner.

Finalists Dr. Elizabeth Alves, Dr. Vickie Cartwright, Mr. Tim Forson and Mr. Mark Porter are to be interviewed in the auditorium of the SJCSJ Administrative Building, located at 40 Orange St., St. Augustine. Interviews are scheduled to occur between 8:15 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., with a break for lunch. The candidate interview schedule is available online at <http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/supt-search/wp-content/uploads/sites/109/2016/09/Candidate-Interview-Schedule.pdf>.

Following the interviews, a community reception for the finalists will be held at 6 p.m. at First Coast Technical College, Building C, located at 2890 Collins Ave., St. Augustine. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from and meet each of the finalists as well as provide input to the school board for consideration.

## Superintendent finalists

Several of the finalists have been top contenders for superintendent positions in other communities. Finalist Mark



ALVES



PORTER



FORSON



CARTWRIGHT

Porter, for example, is also currently one of four finalists being considered for Sarasota County superintendent – a position for which Cartwright had been a semifinalist. Cartwright is currently senior executive director for exceptional student education for the Orange County Public Schools.

Porter, who is currently superintendent of the Monroe County School District in Key West, has been the subject of controversy during the past year. In February, he suspended himself and three other school district employees for five days regarding nearly \$22,000 that disappeared from a school daycare program. According to local news reports, Porter waited a year before informing the school board and state attorney's office about the missing funds. No charges were filed in the case.

Porter has also been criticized by some Monroe County School Board

members for seeking other superintendent positions without notifying them first as required by his contract.

Alves – the assistant superintendent and chief academic officer for the Knox County Schools in Tennessee – was one of two finalists earlier this year for the position of director of schools in Cleveland City, Tennessee. The other finalist received the position.

Forson – the lone local candidate under consideration – has served as deputy superintendent for operations for the St. Johns County School District since 2011.

Prior to that position, he served in the school district for 26 years as a teacher, coach, assistant principal and principal before serving four years as executive director for facilities and operations.

The St. Johns County School District is offering a three-year contract with a salary range of \$165,000 to \$195,000 plus benefits.

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# County approves revised construction plans for proposed Ponte Vedra Boulevard development

By Jennifer Logue

St. Johns County has approved revised construction plans for a proposed 22-lot subdivision on Ponte Vedra Boulevard, clearing the way for the developer to begin construction.

The county announced Sept. 29 that it had approved GreenPointe Communities LLC's revised construction plans for Ponte Vedra Beach Preserve, a proposed subdivision to be built on a 17.3-acre parcel located at 1044 Ponte Vedra Boulevard. GreenPointe had revised the plans after more than 18 months of debate and discussion as to whether the development required a variance related to the amount of fill dirt that would be used in the proposed project's elevation.

GreenPointe's revised plans call for using stem walls rather than fill dirt to establish building pads for the 22 homes planned for the project. While the new construction plans may be appealed through Oct. 31, GreenPointe spokesperson Susie Wiles said the company plans to begin construction "right away."

"We're gratified at the county's action," she said. "We've been open and transparent each step of the way. We are planning to proceed right away and look forward

to building a new community in Ponte Vedra."

Wiles said GreenPointe plans to withdraw its application for a fill variance, the approval of which had been appealed by a neighboring resident. Attorney Jane West, who represents neighbor Nancy Condron in her appeal, told the Ponte Vedra Recorder that her client has not decided whether to appeal the revised construction plans.

"We are certainly exploring all options," West said.

## To fill or not to fill

The controversy surrounding the proposed Ponte Vedra Beach Preserve follows a previous legal dispute regarding an easement that granted the property beach access via a path on Condron's property. In that case, the easement was found to be valid and applicable to future residents of the Ponte Vedra Beach Preserve.

The issue became further complicated by the amount of fill required by the St. Johns County Land Development Code to facilitate drainage – an amount that exceeds the fill limitations established by the Ponte Vedra Zoning District. After receiving confirmation from the county that a variance would be required, GreenPointe

applied for the variance in March 2015.

In May 2015, the Ponte Vedra Zoning and Adjustment Board considered the matter. Due to a board member's absence, however, the matter ended with a 3-3 tie vote, which legally constituted a denial. The developers appealed the denial to the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners, who in June 2016 remanded the decision back to the PVZAB. The following month, the PVZAB approved the variance on a 4-3 vote – an approval that was appealed by Condron.

During the remainder of 2015, the BOCC continued the appeal of the variance twice. At the same time, GreenPointe contended that a variance wasn't needed because language in county ordinances contained an exception that would allow the additional fill in order to meet county codes.

In April 2016, the county issued an administrative interpretation stating the exception language did not apply to GreenPointe's current application and would only apply if the developer could prove that no alternative methods of construction were available.

## New plans

It was that legal opinion, county offi-

cials said, that prompted the developers to re-engineer the project and submit revised construction plans.

But while GreenPointe has received approval for the revised plans and could begin construction at any time, West maintains that her client's appeal is still on the table.

"It is my client's opinion that her pending appeal still must be heard by the BOCC," West told the Recorder. "If the BOCC agrees with the determination that the re-engineered construction plans negate the need for a variance, then they may determine that the appeal is no longer ripe for their review. However, that determination should be made by BOCC, not county staff or the county attorney's office."

West also argued that the environmental concerns included in her client's appeal have yet to be addressed.

"From what I understand, there is nothing in the re-engineered plans that change the run-off of nutrients and pesticides into the Guana River, which was one of the primary issues that prompted my client to appeal to begin with."

## Monique Burr Foundation for Children introduces new program

### MBF Teen Safety Matters to address safety, wellbeing among middle schoolers

The Monique Burr Foundation for Children (MBF) recently launched a new program to prevent child abuse and bullying among teenagers, complementing the MBF Child Safety Matters curriculum for elementary students.

MBF Teen Safety Matters was formally introduced Wednesday, Sept. 28 at the University of North Florida. The program is intended for students in grades six through eight and addresses the emotional, physical and digital well-being of children in addition to teaching them how to prevent, recognize and respond to bullying and abuse.

The standardized curriculum will consist of three, 45-minute lessons addressing issues such as competent self-care, cyberbullying, human trafficking and digital citizenship.

"We are thrilled and grateful that funding and support have combined to launch this needed program," MBF Founder and Chairman Ed Burr said. "Due to the generous funding from the attorney general's office, state of Florida, the Mazda Foun-

dation and the Community First Cares Foundation, we are able to begin offering this program in our middle schools in some areas of Northeast Florida."

Burr noted the pertinence of the program, recognizing the need for comprehensive lessons on personal safety throughout adolescence.

"Our current program, MBF Child Safety Matters, is implemented in elementary schools throughout Florida," he continued. "We know that expanding the proven principles of this program through the middle school years will help our youth. These programs are research-based and evidence-informed prevention education."

Craig Comfort, Mazda southeast region marketing manager, expressed gratitude at that need being addressed, as did Missy Peters, executive director of Community First Cares Foundation.

"Through our support of the Monique Burr Foundation, we are making strides to stop bullying, promote internet safety and working to stop all types of abuse," Comfort said.



Courtesy of Monique Burr Foundation

**The MBF Teen Safety Matters™ program, designed to prevent child abuse and bullying for middle-schoolers soon will be piloted in Northeast Florida. Funders gathered recently to celebrate the launch. From left: Ed Burr, chairman of the board, Monique Burr Foundation; Erin Meryn, author and advocate for child safety and keynote speaker at the MBF Champions for Child Safety Awards Luncheon; WJXT news anchor Mary Baer, emcee for the luncheon; Missy Peters, executive director, Community First Cares Foundation; and Craig Comfort, southeast region marketing manager, Mazda.**

Peters agreed.

"The Community First Cares Foundation is proud to provide this grant to help begin the MBF Teen Safety Matters

program," she said. "Our funders – employees, partners and vendors – trust us to choose meaningful community programs that align with our mission."

# K9s for Warriors unveils second kennel at dedication ceremony

## New kennel will allow organization to serve more warriors, faster

By Carrie Resch

K9s for Warriors held a dedication ceremony for a second kennel that will allow the nonprofit organization to shorten its waiting list of at-risk military service men and women in need of service dogs.

Held Sept. 29 at its “Camp K9” headquarters in Nocatee, the dedication coincided with National Service Dog Month and National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month – two key facets of the K9s for Warriors program which aims to reduce or eliminate the number of service men and women who take their lives out of hopelessness or desperation from post-9/11 military-related trauma.

“We’re losing 22 veterans a day national-

ly to suicide – that’s unacceptable,” K9s for Warriors President and Founder Shari Duval said. “We don’t do that in America; it can’t happen. K9s for Warriors is changing that.”

Every veteran counts, she said.

To date, K9s for Warriors has graduated 256 warriors through its program that pairs service men and women suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury and/or military sexual trauma with service dogs. There is currently a two-year waiting list, however, to enter the program. The new kennel will mean a shortened waiting list.

Representatives from the Hall-Halliburton

K9s continues on Page 13



Photo by Carrie Resch

K9s For Warriors and Hall-Halliburton Foundation representatives cut the ribbon at the second kennel dedication ceremony Sept. 29.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Florida Statutes allow a judge discretion in deciding to let an admitted child pornographer out on bond. The purpose of a bail determination in criminal proceedings is to ensure that the accused appears for trial but also “to protect the community against unreasonable danger from the criminal defendant.” An accused does not have an unbridled right to roam free until he is convicted.

Neal Buckles admitted to the arresting officer post-Miranda that he had obtained and emailed out photos of boys aged 5-10 in sex acts. Further, he admitted to the arresting officer, post-Miranda, to several “indecent liberties” with a 4-year-old. He has not yet been charged for the 4-year-old activities even though he admitted to it almost a week ago.

When determining whether to release a defendant on bail or other conditions, and what that bail or conditions may be, the court is required by law to consider a number of things. First, the nature and circumstances of the offense charged. The charge involves electronic images of boys engaged in sex acts – one being forcibly restrained. This is a strict liability statute, meaning there is no intent requirement. You have these photos, you are guilty.

Other than murder, what is a less dire nature than sexual abuse of pre-pubescent boys? Each time an email containing abuse is sent to another viewer, the boys are victimized again. Second, the judge considers the weight of the evidence against the defendant. The IP address transmitting the abuse images was linked to his home. The photos were transmitted via his email addresses. One email address even contained his full name. And he admitted to the arresting officer, post-Miranda, to having and emailing these photographs.

The weight of the evidence couldn’t be greater. Finally, the nature and probability of danger which the defendant’s release poses to the community must be

### WRITE TO US

The Ponte Vedra Recorder welcomes letters to the editor on topics of concern to the local community. Letters must include the name and address of the author and be limited to no more than 400 words. The Recorder reserves the right to edit all letters for content, length and clarity. Letters may be submitted to [jennifer@opcfla.com](mailto:jennifer@opcfla.com).

considered. This man actively solicited babysitting situations in which he could be alone with children. He advertised a babysitting service and worked as a sitter in a church. He lives in a neighborhood surrounded by children, yards from a school bus stop. Neighborhood mothers sent the investigator photos of their sons to confirm that they were not the boys in the photo. The threat is obvious.

Ann Bittinger

Mother, attorney and neighbor of the accused

•••

Let’s stick to the facts, Gate Petroleum! SaveGuanaNow.org was misrepresented by Gate’s VP Ken Wilson Sept. 22. Nowhere on our website or other communications have we stated that the Outpost is “rife with endangered wildlife.” We have, however, stated that 17 species sighted in Guana are among those designated Threatened or Species of Special Concern, listing only those that have a possibility of being in or near the Outpost. We’ve received reports and photographs of some of these species existing close enough to the Outpost to contradict claims made in Gate’s Habitat and Species Assessment survey.

When referring to Gary Coulliette’s and my homes on Neck Road, Mr. Wilson said, “It seems as though they got theirs and they don’t want anyone else to.” The

fact is, the houses on Neck Road were built on residential land, not conservation property. Another important distinction is that the Outpost is surrounded almost entirely by nature preserve, unlike Neck Road properties. If the Outpost’s 70 upland acres are no longer conservation, then “conservation” is nothing more than a pre-development tax shelter; the 99-acre property with its mile of waterfront views is assessed at about the same value as just three non-lakefront acres on Neck Road.

Mr. Wilson cries NIMBY to try to discredit those on Neck Road who are fighting to save conservation land. But Guana is all of our back yard. That’s why Audubon and Sierra oppose development at the Outpost, and the Associated Press gave the story national coverage. High schoolers across Jacksonville are mobilizing to help. Equestrians and birders are planning fundraisers. Kayakers are distraught about the potential impact on Guana Lake. In a recent letter to the editor, a non-Neck Road citizen was so impassioned about saving the Outpost that he offered to chain himself to construction equipment.

Two years ago, Mr. Wilson told residents in a meeting with county officials that he’d be open to placing the property on the Florida Forever list if Amend-

ment 1 passed. Well, it passed! And the North Florida Land Trust (with access to multiple funding sources) will take immediate steps to try to conserve it if given the green light. We hope the Gate Corporation will do what’s right by the land it sold for \$49 million to the state, and allow purchase of the Outpost for permanent preservation – protecting not only those 99 acres, but the surrounding preserve.

Nicole Crosby  
Ponte Vedra Beach

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*As founder and chairman of Legacy Trust Family Wealth Offices, Kristin McLauchlan focuses on helping families build and secure their financial futures through trust and estate tax strategies, family foundations and overall family wealth planning.*

## Kristin McLauchlan

By Jennifer Logue

### What type of services does Legacy Trust provide?

Our clients will tell you that the biggest service we provide is peace of mind and simplification. In very simple terms, we provide personal financial management for families, covering the landscape of services and advice that otherwise would be handled by multiple companies or people. So we integrate tax strategies, estate planning, wealth management, trustee services and investment management, and we provide consolidated performance monitoring and reporting. We're structured to provide sophisticated investment management services. Legacy clients have access to carefully screened top-tier money managers that were previously only available through boutique investment firms. We take our fiduciary responsibility to our families very seriously. But we also handle the soft side of our client's financial lives. For example, we hold family meetings to ensure the next generation understands the family plans and their responsibilities. We pay our clients' bills if asked. We'll find them tickets to hard-to-get events. We'll negotiate their plane lease or insurance. There really isn't anything we don't do for our clients. We're very much a financial concierge in that respect.

### What prompted you to found Legacy Trust?

I had been at several larger banks and in all honesty, I wasn't really happy with the services we provided. My parents were also clients of a bank that was trying to handle family wealth, and they weren't happy. Big institutions really don't do what, by definition, a Family Office does. So I pulled together some partners in 2002 with the goal of starting a client-friendly firm that would provide comprehensive oversight for each client's financial situation, aligned with their unique needs. Services would be delivered objectively and transparently, and the needs of the client would be paramount. It's a different way of looking at the financial world than a bank or big institution can provide.

### What is a "family office?"

Sometimes it's almost easier to say what we're not than it is to describe what we are. We are not a bank or an investment company or a brokerage. We are in our simplest terms the quarterbacks of a family's financial game plan. We oversee and manage all the parts to make sure everyone is rowing in the right direction and at the same time. Family wealth is a complex landscape. We're looking out not only for today's short-term strategy, but also for the protection and growth of assets for generations to come. Regardless of the source of assets or the unique circumstances that characterize every family, most wealthy families do share a common desire: to ensure that their wealth has a positive impact on the lives of family members today and in future generations.

### What are the benefits of working with a company such as Legacy Trust?

A family office has to deliver value and to our clients that transcends investment performance. A family office is typically employed to manage the many moving parts of its clients' financial life. In our case, where we deliver is by working with the team our clients probably already have in place: the banker, the broker, the lawyer, the insurance agent, the CPA. Our job is to keep the machine



running smoothly. Do we get graded on the recommendations we make on investments and allocation? Of course, but our clients take a long-term approach and realize we don't create the ups and downs in the market. We help navigate them, we help grow the portfolio, we help guide the vision and we manage the day to day.

### Legacy Trust is very active in the community. What are some of the charitable activities your company sponsors and supports?

At the heart of what we do is our sense of community. We try to take a leadership role and be active in the non-profit side of the North Florida market because it's who we are, to a degree it's what we expect of our clients, and mostly because it's important. Many things we do go under the radar, but the ones people notice are events like the Web.com Tour Championship, which we've supported at a high level since it was the Winn-Dixie Open

five years ago, and the Ponte Vedra Cultural Center's Home & Art Show Tour, which we've underwritten for five years as well.

This year with the Web.com event moving to Atlantic Beach, we probably could have opted out, but we wanted to continue supporting it. In fact, we even grew our support by adding events within the event like the NFJG Junior Shootout, Fashion on the Fairway – an event we created to support Ronald McDonald House – and sponsoring a hole-in-one contest over the weekend where a player can win \$25,000. We support and take a leadership role with organizations like Ronald McDonald House, Gabriel House of Care and K9s for Warriors. You can even see us at the local high school level by making a 10-year commitment to the Ponte Vedra High School sports facilities improvement campaign. If part of our client DNA is being philanthropic, then we want to be the first to set the example.

# A sample of our listings



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**24571 HARBOUR VIEW DR.**  
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**MARINA SAN PABLO #901**  
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**25005 MARSH LANDING PKWY.**  
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**349 1ST STREET, JAX BEACH**  
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**618 & 616 IBIS**  
\$1,100,000 & \$950,000 - Marsh Landing Lots



**132 CLEARLAKE DR.**  
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**MARINA SAN PABLO #401**  
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**109 LAMPLIGHTER ISLAND CT.**  
\$979,000



**101 ANTLER POINT CT.**  
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**24412 HARBOUR VIEW DR.**  
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**MARINA SAN PABLO #201**  
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**145 KINGFISHER DR.**  
\$699,000 - Marsh Landing Lot



**108 PALM FOREST PLACE**  
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**210 DEER COLONY LOT #4**  
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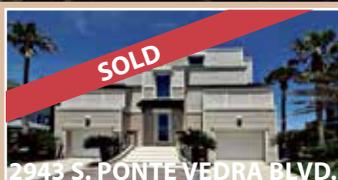
**2615 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD.**  
\$1,695,000



**3141 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD.**  
\$1,625,000



**2885 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD.**  
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**2945 S. PONTE VEDRA BLVD.**  
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## Cub Scouts participate in International Coastal Cleanup Day



Courtesy of Wolf Den of Cub Scout Pack 277

The Wolf Den of Cub Scout Pack 277 of Ponte Vedra Beach participated in the 30th annual Ocean Conservancy International Coastal Clean Up Day Saturday, Sept. 17. The boys picked up trash from Jacksonville Beach on the north side of the pier as part of an organized cleanup and learned about the impact trash has on sea turtles. More than 18 million pounds of trash was collected by nearly 800,000 volunteers during the 2015 ICC. The annual event draws worldwide participation.

## Palmer students conduct food drive for Catholic Charities' Weekend Hunger Backpack Program



Photo courtesy of Catholic Charities

Students at Palmer Catholic Academy recently conducted a food drive to benefit Catholic Charities' Weekend Hunger Backpack Program. Palmer students collected and donated 1,000 pounds of food to the program, which provides 200 backpacks full of food to children in St. Johns and Putnam counties each week during the school year. Mrs. Susan DeAcutis and students from Palmer Catholic Academy: Ella, Eva, Tommy, India, Ashley, Alexandra and Maria.

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**November 8th  
Registration Deadline  
October 11th**

Extended Office Hours for Voter Registration

**Saturday, Oct. 8th  
9AM - 3PM**

**Monday, Oct. 10th &  
Tuesday, Oct. 11th  
8:30 AM - 7:00 PM**

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St. Johns County Supervisor of Elections

## Sunset Rotary Club presents donation to Project Storybook Foundation



Courtesy of the Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset Rotary Club

Rotary District Governor Marshall Butler presents a \$2,250 donation to Ponte Vedra High School senior and Service Above Self scholarship winner Tess Reiman for Project Storybook Foundation, which she founded at the age of 14. Project Storybook provides books to children upon moving into their new Habitat for Humanity homes in the area. Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset Rotary Club President Janeene Hart spearheaded the fundraising effort, leading to donations from 12 District 6970 Rotary Clubs.

## Eagle Scout project benefits local schools



Photo courtesy of Ted Manly

**Ponte Vedra High School junior Victor Manly recently completed his Eagle Scout project to benefit the Exceptional Student Education (ESE) classrooms at PVPV Rawlings Elementary, Landrum Middle and Ponte Vedra High schools. Manly led a team of 24 Troop 288 scouts, parents and friends to build three sets of Jenga Blocks with stands and Corn Hole Toss games with each school's logo stenciled on them. The crowning achievement after years of participation in Boy Scouts, the Eagle Scout service project is conducted by a scout to demonstrate planning, organization, leadership and management of a project that benefits his community.**

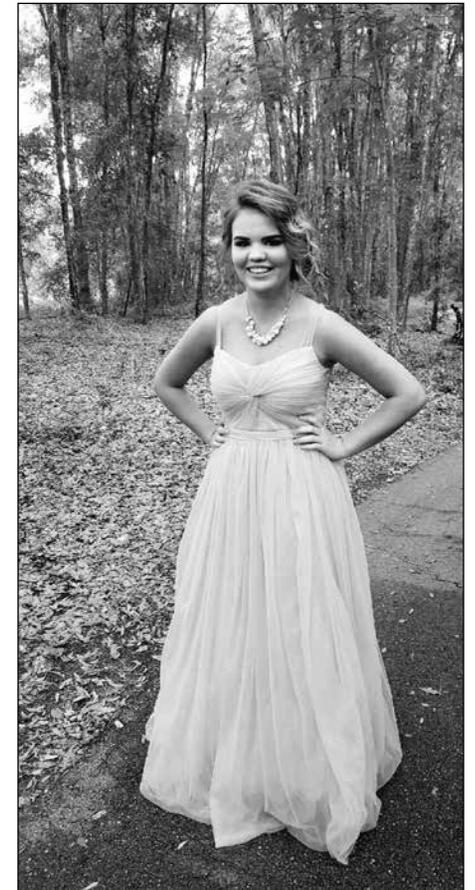
## Local graduate receives Haven Hospice Academic Scholarship

Nease High School graduate Christian Hull was recently awarded a \$500 Haven Hospice Academic Scholarship. Hull will apply the scholarship toward her studies at St. Johns River State College.

"I'm so grateful for this scholarship," Hull said. "This is just another stepping stone toward my future, and I can't wait to pursue a career in the medical field. My dreams are slowly becoming reality, and I'm ready to take whatever new adventure life throws at me. Anything is possible with hard work and a positive mindset."

The Haven Hospice Academic Scholarship is awarded to one deserving student who is enrolled in the ASSIST, or Aid and Support for Students in Sudden Transition, program in the St. Johns County School District and has been accepted into St. Johns River State College.

The ASSIST program, through the St. Johns County School District, is a response to the requirements of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Haven Hospice is a not-for-profit community hospice care organization located in North Florida.



Courtesy of Haven Hospice

Christian Hull

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Enchanted Christmas Village tickets on sale now

Halloween is just around the corner, which means Christmas is not far behind.

This year, there's a new option for making Christmas memories - the Enchanted Christmas Village to be located on The Keeler Property grounds at 17255 Normandy Blvd. in Jacksonville. The countdown is on for Santa's arrival Nov. 25 at 5 p.m. for the opening of the village.

The Enchanted Christmas Village will feature carolers, cookie decorat-

ing, ornament making, refreshments, ice sculptures, pictures with Santa and a New Year's Eve celebration. More than one million Christmas lights will adorn the village, which will feature live mainstage entertainment.

The Enchanted Christmas Village, presented by Jacksonville Holiday Extravaganza, opens Nov. 25 and will run through Dec. 31. Visit [www.jacksonvillechristmans.com](http://www.jacksonvillechristmans.com) for more information.

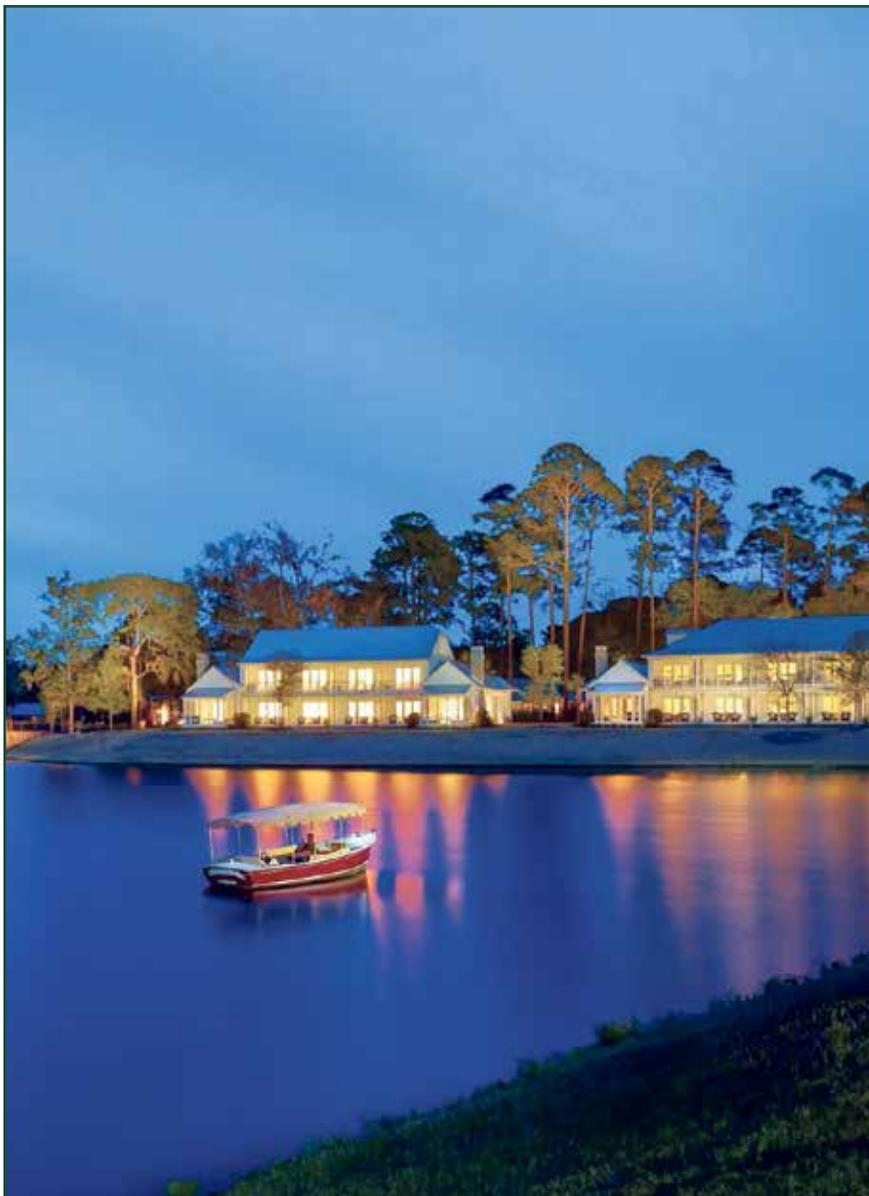
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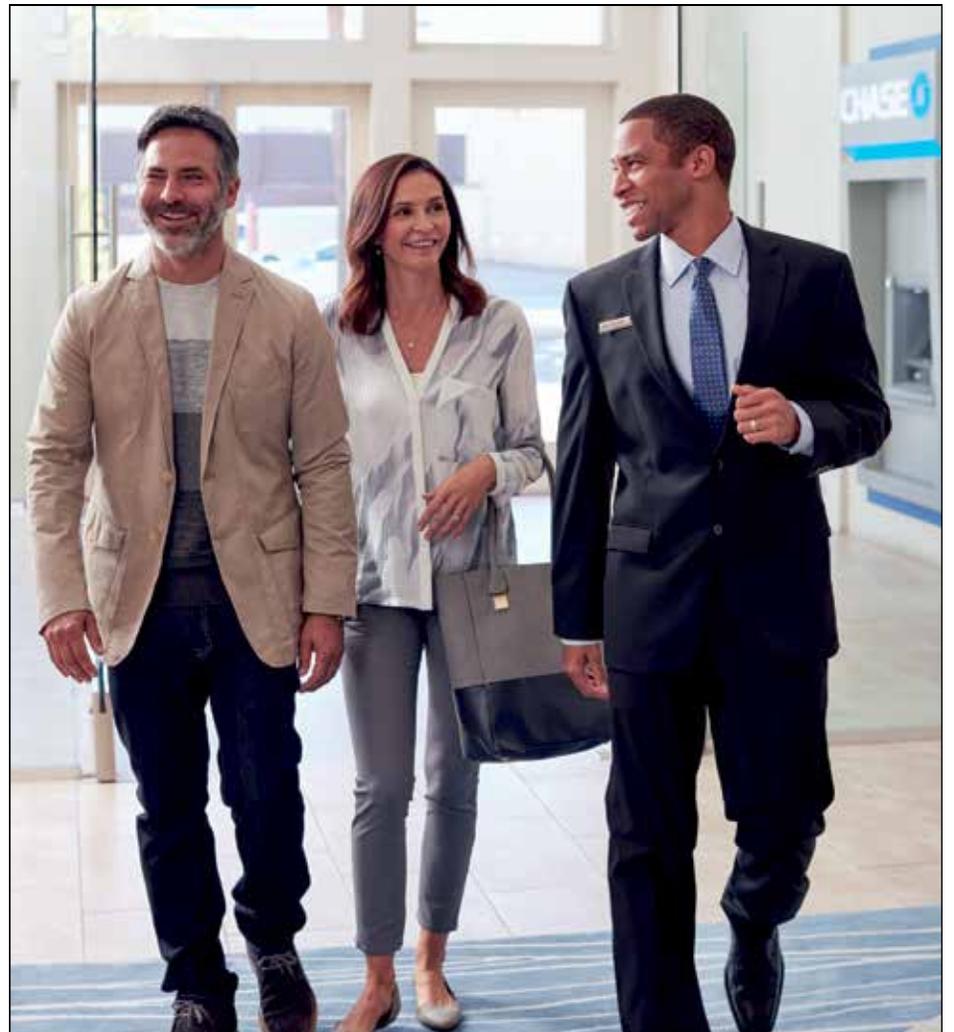
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# The eighth annual Right Whale Festival makes waves in Jacksonville Beach

By Jasmine Marshall

The annual Right Whale Festival (RWF) returned to Jacksonville Beach Saturday, Oct. 1 with a day of activities and education to raise awareness for the return of the endangered North Atlantic right whale.

From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., guests were beckoned to the Seawalk Pavilion to learn about the right whales' annual migration to the warm coastal waters of Northeast Florida and Georgia, where they give birth and nurse their young. Today, fewer than 500 right whales remain – and the festival's tradition of bringing a day of family fun to the area imparts both awareness of the threats the whales face and the ways residents can aid in their recovery.

"This is the eighth year we've held the Right Whale Festival and each year we come to raise awareness to more and more people," founder Cheryl Munday said. "I'm always amazed by how many people don't know about their plight...."

The event included all the trappings for which Jax Beach festivals are known, with live music by Jacksonville musicians The Crazy Daysies, The George Aspinall Band, De Lions of Jah and returning RWF favorite Kalani Rose. Exhibitors displayed an array of goods running the gamut from presentations to gifts. Educational materials about marine conservation and water recreation, food trucks, fine art and photography dotted the pavilion as visitors perused the offerings of the festival.

The 2016 festival also marked the debut of a bus renovated by the Sea to Shore Alliance Healthy Habits and Oceans pro-

gram (H2O) to be used as a mobile debris classroom where visitors were given a "tour" of entanglement, ingestion and rafting.

Those efforts to improve the quality of life of sea animals didn't start and end with the festivities. The festival began with an early morning beach cleanup alongside Keep Jacksonville Beautiful as part of the organization's support for International Coastal Cleanup Day, and the festival was hosted with the help of co-founders Sea to Shore Alliance (S2S) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in addition to several community sponsors. Festivities continued well into the night with an after party hosted by local microbrewery Green Room, where a hand-crafted "Save the Whale" Imperial Stout was served and 20 percent of the brew's proceeds were donated to RWF from noon to 2 a.m.

"Beach festivals are always a fun way to bring issues to the forefront because there's a level of immersion and fun and that's one of the best ways to teach," said returning visitor Darrius Johnson.

With the event attracting more than 5,000 people, Jones is hopeful that the work to bring awareness to the issue won't go unnoticed.

"Jax Beach has always been an area that's big on sea life and conservation ... keeping the ocean and the shore clean and beautiful," he said. "I have faith that everyone here will leave a little more enlightened because that's just the type of community that this is. And I hope they feel inspired to continue to create change."



Photos by Jasmine Marshall

Nathan Souder (center) with sons Ethan (left) and Elais



Event volunteers Callen Kelley, Cindy Hewett, Theresa O'Donnell and Sandie Brunson



Event volunteers (back row, left to right) Troy Winn-Hutchinson and Parker Quillen (front row, left to right) with Sue Bonnes and Cyn-die Thomson

Booths line the green at the Seawalk Pavilion



# K9s

Continued from 5

Foundation, which donated a large portion of the funds to build the new kennel, were in attendance for the dedication ceremony. The new kennel is named in memory of Hall-Halliburton Foundation President Randy Mahoney's 115-pound black Labrador Retriever, Luca. A dedication plaque was unveiled at the dedication ceremony.

The "Luca Kennel" is a two-story building that includes 34 kennels on the ground floor and office space for staff upstairs. The upstairs area can also be used as a space to train dogs in the event of inclement weather.

"There's really no more noble cause than helping our veterans who suffered injury in the defense of our country," Mahoney said. "Many of those injuries are physical, many are emotional and spiritual, and a lot are both."

"They put themselves in harm's way because they volunteered and they knew it was their duty," he continued. "It's now our duty to help them when they need it."

Mahoney said his group, which has been involved with the K9s for Warriors organization since its inception, was impressed with the organization's professionalism and dedication to its mission.

"We knew they were making a difference for these warriors and we knew that they were making a difference for the dogs as well," he said.

To match the donation of the Hall-Halliburton Foundation, First Coast News sponsored a telethon to raise money for the new kennel and raised \$200,000 in one day.

Also on hand for the ceremony was FCN Anchor Jeanie Blaylock, who has been dedicated to helping the organization.

The organization is so grateful to Blaylock for her continued support that they named a service dog after her. "Jeanie" was paired with warrior Scott, an Iraq

veteran who lives in Mississippi. Blaylock will be highlighting their story as well as other graduates' stories in several upcoming specials that will air on FCN leading up to a Veterans Day telethon to raise additional funds for the organization.

"In the last five years, K9s for Warriors has grown to be the nation's largest provider of service dogs for veterans of PTSD," Executive Director Rory Diamond said. "That's happened because Jacksonville has rallied around us."



Puppies in training: Five-month-old Bravo (left) and 8-week-old Edie (right) are two of the current puppies in the K9s For Warriors puppy training program.



Photos by Carrie Resch

K9s for Warriors' new kennel is housed in a two-story building that has upstairs office space that can also be used as to train dogs in the event of inclement weather.

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Thursday, Oct. 6	Friday, Oct. 7	Saturday, Oct. 8	Sunday, Oct. 9
<p><b>PVWC Luncheon</b> The Ponte Vedra Woman's Club will hold a luncheon for prospective and new members Thursday, Oct. 6 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Attendees can learn more about the PVWC; new members are always welcome to join. RSVP to Ann Marie Hubbard at pinkhubb@gmail.com.</p> <p><b>Habitat for Humanity volunteers</b> Habitat for Humanity of St. Augustine/St. Johns County is currently seeking qualified homeowners. Habitat does not give away homes for free. Instead, homeowners pay an affordable monthly mortgage payment and Habitat helps build them a simple, decent place to live. For more information on volunteering, donating or qualifying for a Habitat home, visit habitatst-johns.org.</p> <p><b>Cultural Center's 'Friends for the Arts'</b> Become a "Friend." The Cultural Center recently recreated a volunteer organization dedicated to supporting the arts. Get involved in the arts by joining a team of fellow art supporters in Ponte Vedra Beach. Help develop and support fundraising projects and help initiate special projects to benefit and promote The Cultural Center and the arts in the community. More than 50 volunteer art supporters have already joined. Make a difference in our community. For more information visit <a href="http://www.ccpvb.org/friends-for-the-arts">www.ccpvb.org/friends-for-the-arts</a>.</p> <p><b>First Coast Classic</b> The First Coast Classic, three days of championship dancing, will take place Oct 6-8 at the World Golf Village Renaissance Resort. Spectator tickets are \$25 for afternoon performances, \$40 for evening performances and \$55 for front row evening performances. For more information, call (904) 338-9219 or visit <a href="http://www.firstcoast-classic.com">www.firstcoast-classic.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Free Bridge Lessons</b> Free beginning bridge lessons are available at the Jacksonville School of Bridge, 3353 Washburn Road., Jacksonville Beach on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Lessons start 9:30 a.m. and end at 10:15 a.m. This is followed by an actual game at 10:30 a.m. and ends by 2:15 p.m. Contact Burt O'Dell at (352) 428-1075 for more information.</p>	<p><b>PV Professionals Networking Group</b> The Ponte Vedra Professionals Networking Group meets Fridays at 9 a.m. at Watson Realty Corp., 615 Highway A1A S., Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, call Gloria at (904) 635-6103, visit <a href="http://www.pvpng.com">www.pvpng.com</a> or email <a href="mailto:pontevedrapng@gmail.com">pontevedrapng@gmail.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Friday Wine Tasting</b> Coastal Wine Market will host a Friday wine tasting Oct. 7 from 6 to 8 p.m. at 641 Crosswater Parkway, Suite B, Ponte Vedra Beach. Taste six wines for \$10. For more information, call (904) 395-3520.</p> <p><b>2nd annual Women United Luncheon</b> The 2nd annual Women United Luncheon will be held Friday, Oct. 7 at the Casa Monica Hotel, 95 Cordova St., St. Augustine with keynote speaker Cathy Parker, former St. Johns County resident and inspiration for the movie "Touchdown on the Tundra." The luncheon begins at 12:30 p.m. followed by a private reception from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Proceeds from this event will benefit Good Samaritan Health Clinic/ Wildflower Women's programs and The Children's Home Society. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Jenny Harvey at (904) 829-9721 or visit <a href="mailto:jenny.harvey@unitedway-sjc.org">jenny.harvey@unitedway-sjc.org</a>.</p> <p><b>Fiesta de Aviles</b> The annual St. Augustine street party, Fiesta de Aviles – Revisiting the Days of Spain, will take place Oct. 7-9 on Aviles Street. The three-day festival, a celebration of St. Augustine's Spanish heritage, will include live music, art exhibitions, dancing, costumes, and a special "Running of the Bulls." For more information on the Fiesta, visit <a href="http://www.facebook.com/avilesstreet">www.facebook.com/avilesstreet</a>.</p> <p><b>'13 Hours' screening and book signing</b> The Fraternal Order of Police will host John "Tig" Tiegen, co-author of "13 Hours: The Inside Account of What Really Happened in Benghazi" Oct. 7 at 1:30 p.m. at the FOP Lodge, 5530 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville. Tiegen will sign books and autographs. The movie based on the book, "13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi" will also be shown. The cost is \$50 per seat. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (904) 398-7010.</p>	<p><b>Cypress Village Art League Show</b> The Cypress Village Art League will present "Beach and Beyond" featuring the water color paintings of resident Arlene Cox. An opening reception will be held in Egret Hall on the campus of Cypress Village on Saturday, Oct. 8 from 2 to 4 p.m. Light refreshments, cocktails and wine will be available. In addition, a silent auction will be held for a print signed by the artist. Admission is free and open to the public.</p> <p><b>Blessing of Animals</b> A Blessing of Animals will be held at Pet Supermarket in Ponte Vedra Beach on Saturday, Oct. 8 from 10 a.m. to noon. Pastors Donna Bowen and David Moening from Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church will pray individually with each pet and pet owner. Pet Supermarket is located at 880 A1A N.</p> <p><b>SJC Pokémon GO Challenge</b> St. Johns County Parks and Recreation will host a Pokémon GO Challenge Saturday, Oct. 8 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. on at Alpine Groves Park, 2060 State Road 13, Fruit Cove. Registration is \$10 for adults and \$5 for youth 17 and under, and will remain open until 8:30 a.m. on Oct. 8. Event parking will be at Switzerland Point Middle School, 777 Greenbriar Road, and transportation to and from the event will be provided. For more information or to register, visit <a href="http://www.sjcf.us/pokemon">www.sjcf.us/pokemon</a>, email <a href="mailto:ehallback@sjcf.us">ehallback@sjcf.us</a>, or call (904) 209-0377.</p> <p><b>Mobile Mammogram</b> On Saturday, Oct. 8, Precision Imaging Mobile Mammogram will be at the Ponte Vedra Wellness Center's Nocatee office from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call (904) 834-2717 for more details or to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome. The office is located at 205 Markside Ave., Suite 200 in Ponte Vedra.</p> <p><b>Beaches League of Storytellers</b> The next meeting of the Beaches League of Storytellers will be Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. in the Community Hall of Pablo Towers, 115 Third St. S., Jacksonville Beach. The program will deal with "Learning classical stories to tell". For more information, call (904) 280-2976 or visit <a href="http://www.beachesstorytellers.com">www.beachesstorytellers.com</a>.</p>	<p><b>Henry Rollins (Spoken Word)</b> Henry Rollins will perform at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall Sunday, Oct. 9. Doors open at 7 p.m.; show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$43 for the first 11 rows, \$33 for all remaining rows. Tickets are available at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall and St. Augustine Amphitheatre box offices, <a href="http://ticketmaster.com">ticketmaster.com</a> and all Ticketmaster outlets or by phone at (800) 745-3000.</p> <p><b>Practice with Purpose at Big Fish Yoga</b> Practice with Purpose is an all-level yoga class offered on Sundays from 4 to 5 p.m. at Big Fish Power Yoga. The fee for the class is a \$5 cash donation that goes to the charity that Big Fish Power Yoga has selected for the quarter. Big Fish Yoga is located in the South Beach Regional Shopping Center in Jacksonville Beach at 3852 South Third St. For more info, call (904) 372-0601.</p> <p><b>Collection Tour</b> Join the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens on Sundays for a guided tour of its permanent collection. The tour is free with the cost of admission. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville.</p> <p><b>'Arboreal' exhibit</b> The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach's new exhibit "Arboreal" featuring two Florida artists, Seth Satterfield and Linda Richichi, will be on display at the Cultural Center through Oct. 15. The Cultural Center is located at 50 Executive Way. For more information, call 904-280-0614 ext. 204 or <a href="http://www.ccpvb.org">www.ccpvb.org</a>.</p> <p><b>Sound: An Exhibition of Sound Art</b> Sound: An Exhibition of Sound Art featuring 17 artists will be on display at the Crisp-Ellert Art Museum through Nov. 22. The museum is located at 48 Sevilla St., St. Augustine. For more information, call (904) 826-8530.</p> <p><b>'Oklahoma!'</b> Limelight Theatre's production of "Oklahoma!" will be on stage through Oct. 23. Tickets are \$26. The theatre is located at 11 Old Mission Ave., St. Augustine. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (904) 825-1164 or visit <a href="http://www.limelight-theatre.org">www.limelight-theatre.org</a>.</p>

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October 2016

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**Sunday, October 16th**  
 Fall Festival 3:00 - 7:00 PM  
 Sunday Supper 4:00 - 9:00 PM  
 \$25.00++ Adults | \$6.00 ++ Kids 6-12

## Best Buddies Thirsty Thursday

Try our bartender's most creative concoctions at our Craft Cocktail Bar. Proceeds go to Best Buddies Jacksonville.

**Thursday, October 20th**  
 4:30 - 8:00 PM

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.

PV2-LV22004

Monday, Oct. 10	Tuesday, Oct. 11	Wednesday, Oct. 12	Thursday, Oct. 13
<p><b>Democratic Club Monthly Meeting</b> The monthly meeting of the Ponte Vedra Democratic Club will be Monday, Oct. 10, 6:30 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library, 101 Library Blvd. All are welcome and encouraged to come out to meet with other local Democrats. For more information about upcoming activities, visit <a href="https://facebook.com/pontevedrademocrats/">facebook.com/pontevedrademocrats/</a> events or email: <a href="mailto:PVDEMOCRATICCLUB@aol.com">PVDEMOCRATICCLUB@aol.com</a></p> <p><b>Caregiver Support Group</b> The Players Caregiver Support Group meets every Monday from noon to 1 p.m. at The Players Senior Center, 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach. Kimberly Weir of Heartland Hospice facilitates a weekly discussion of current concerns and issues of caregivers. For more information, call (904) 280-3233.</p> <p><b>For the Love of Driving</b> Volunteer drivers are needed to assist seniors in achieving their mobility goals in St. Johns County. Transportation needs range from trips to the grocery store and classes to spousal hospital visits or social activities. Contact the mobility manager at the Council on Aging, (904) 315-6505, or email <a href="mailto:katie.arnold@stjohnscoa.com">Katie Arnold</a> at <a href="mailto:karnold@stjohnscoa.com">karnold@stjohnscoa.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Annual Activity Member</b> Become an annual activity member at The Players Community Senior Center. Membership includes discounts on fee-based classes, designated events and Coastal Travel along with complimentary participation in a wide variety of scheduled activities. Call Darlene Mahany at (904) 280-3233 for more information.</p> <p><b>Life Enrichment Group</b> The Life Enrichment Group is a program designed for those with memory changes who like to stay active mentally, physically and socially while allowing caregivers and loved ones some free time for themselves. This program is offered weekdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Ashford Court, 1700 The Greens Way in Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 568-8174, or email <a href="mailto:life_enrichment_group@yahoo.com">life_enrichment_group@yahoo.com</a>.</p>	<p><b>Civil War Discussion Group</b> The monthly meeting of the "Understanding The Civil War" Discussion Group will be Tuesday, Oct. 11 at 1 p.m. at the Anastasia Island Branch Library, 124 Seagrove Main St. in St. Augustine. The meeting is open to the public. For more information, email Charlie Smith at <a href="mailto:smithc32@bellsouth.net">smithc32@bellsouth.net</a>.</p> <p><b>Symphonic Salutations</b> Symphonic Salutations with Jacksonville Symphony Music Director Courtney Lewis will take place Oct. 11 from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library. The evening will begin with a wine and food reception for Friends of the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library members from 6 to 6:30 p.m. Lewis will share what he has in store for the Jacksonville Symphony's 2016-2017 season from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m., followed by a meet and greet with him from 7:15 to 7:30 p.m. The talk and meet and greet will be open to the public. The library is located at 101 Library Blvd. For more information, call (904) 827-6950 or visit <a href="http://www.sjcpls.org">www.sjcpls.org</a>.</p> <p><b>2016-17 Palms Fine Arts Series kickoff</b> The 2016-17 Palms Fine Arts Series kickoff concert featuring Church People will be Tuesday, Oct. 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary at Palms Presbyterian Church, 3410 Third St. S., Jacksonville Beach. The concert is free and open to the public. Nursery will be provided. For more information about Palms, visit <a href="http://www.palmschurch.org">www.palmschurch.org</a> or call (904) 246-6427.</p> <p><b>Sunset Rotary Club Meeting</b> The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset meets Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn. Community leaders are welcome to attend. For more information, call club President Janeene Hart at (904) 412-5409 or email <a href="mailto:jwhart1208@gmail.com">jwhart1208@gmail.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Tapas Tuesday</b> The Cummer Museum of Art &amp; Gardens presents Tapas Tuesday at the Cummer Café. Every Tuesday from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on the Cummer Café patio. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.cummuseum.org">www.cummuseum.org</a>.</p>	<p><b>Newcomers Monthly Meeting</b> Newcomers of the Beaches monthly luncheon is Wednesday, Oct. 12 at 11 a.m. at the Sawgrass Country Club Golf Clubhouse in Ponte Vedra Beach. The cost is \$24. Reservations are required. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.newcomersofthebeaches.com">www.newcomersofthebeaches.com</a>. Newcomers of the Beaches is a social club open to women who have recently moved into the area, or who have recently been divorced, widowed or retired.</p> <p><b>Learn the 'Thriller' dance</b> Everyone ages 13 and up can join Dance Alday Oct. 12 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. to learn Michael Jackson's "Thriller" dance at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library. Zombie, monster attire or Halloween costumes are recommended but not required. The library is located at 101 Library Blvd. For more information, call (904) 827-6950 or visit <a href="http://www.sjcpls.org">www.sjcpls.org</a>.</p> <p><b>Ponte Vedra Toastmasters</b> The Ponte Vedra Toastmasters Club offers opportunities for developing your leadership and communication skills. The group meets Wednesdays at The Players Community Senior Center, located at 175 Landrum Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach. The meeting starts promptly at 7:30 a.m. Contact Carmen J. Sardiñas at (904) 382-3303 or <a href="mailto:contact-5199@toastmastersclubs.org">contact-5199@toastmastersclubs.org</a> for more information.</p> <p><b>Chamber Before Hours</b> The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Chamber Before Hours will take place Oct. 12 from 8 to 9 a.m. at Wise Women, 486 Town Plaza Ave., Suite 440, Ponte Vedra. Enjoy breakfast while networking among members and guests. There is no cost to attend for preregistered members and guests; the cost will be \$5 at the door. Continental breakfast will be included. For more information or to register, visit <a href="http://www.stjohnscountychamber.com">www.stjohnscountychamber.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Live Music at Table 1</b> Table 1 at 330 A1A N will host White Hot Champagne live starting at 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Adventures in the Arts</b> Diana Huston, art history lecturer at the University of North Florida, will present a lecture on "The Art of the Inferno," a free program presented by FOCUS Cummer and the Friends of the Library Oct. 13 from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library, 101 Library Blvd. Huston's talk will feature art references in Dan Brown's book "Inferno." The lecture is open to the public. For more information, call (904) 827-6950.</p> <p><b>Endless Summer Beach Bash</b> On Thursday, Oct. 13 from 5 to 8 p.m., join the JAX Chamber Beaches Division for the 11th annual Endless Summer Beach Bash at Hampton Inn Oceanfront, 1515 First St. N., Jacksonville Beach. The event will feature food and beverage tastings from area restaurants, a silent auction, chair massages from Ponte Vedra Wellness Center and an interactive photo booth courtesy of iPhotoBooth. The cost is \$25 with advance online registration; \$30 at the door. Visit <a href="http://www.myjaxchamber.com">www.myjaxchamber.com</a> for more information or to register for the event.</p> <p><b>Arbor Terrace Life Enrichment Group</b> The Life Enrichment Group Day Program takes place every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra, 5125 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra Beach. The group is designed for those with memory changes who would like to stay active mentally, physically and socially. For more information, call (904) 497-4346 or visit <a href="http://www.at-pontevedra.com">www.at-pontevedra.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Earth, Sea &amp; Sky Exhibition</b> Through Oct. 25, view multimedia artist Joyce Gabiou's works at the Earth, Sea &amp; Sky exhibition at First Street Gallery, 216-b First St., Neptune Beach. For more information, call (904) 241-6928 or visit <a href="http://www.firststreetgalleryart.com">www.firststreetgalleryart.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Free calendar listings for community groups and nonprofit organizations are published at our discretion on a space-available basis. Send your event at least 10 days before publication. Submit events to <a href="mailto:carrie@opcfla.com">carrie@opcfla.com</a>, post online at <a href="http://www.pontevedrarecorder.com">www.pontevedrarecorder.com</a> using the automated form or call (904) 686-3939.</b></p>



**Ponte Vedra Inn & Club**

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**OCTOBER  
ACTIVITIES  
FOR MEMBERS**

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<p><b>Sunday Brunch Buffet</b> Every Sunday</p> <p><b>Bridge</b> Monday's at 12:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Lobster Night</b> Every Wednesday</p> <p><b>Prime Rib Buffet</b> Every Friday</p> <p><b>Junior Golf Clinics</b> Every Tuesday at 4 p.m.</p> <p><b>Meditation Workshop</b> October 2, 9, 16</p> <p><b>Costume PJ Party</b> Saturday, October 8</p> <p><b>Italian Night</b> Monday, October 10</p> <p><b>Trivia Night</b> Tuesday, October 11</p>	<p><b>GHG Fall Festival at The Outpost</b> Sunday, October 16</p> <p><b>Obagi Spa Event</b> Friday, October 21</p> <p><b>Just Add Science for Kids</b> Saturday, October 22</p> <p><b>"Boyz" Night Tennis Mixer</b> Wednesday, October 26</p> <p><b>Tennis Annual Fight Night</b> Thursday, October 27</p> <p><b>GM Collin Spa Event</b> Friday, October 28</p> <p><b>Family Pumpkin Carving</b> Friday, October 28</p> <p><b>Halloween Tennis Mixer</b> Saturday, October 29</p> <p><b>GA/FL at the Tavern</b> Saturday, October 29</p>	<p><b>Member Monday</b> Every Monday Evening</p> <p><b>Taco Tuesday</b> Every Tuesday</p> <p><b>Wing Wednesday</b> Every Wednesday Evening</p> <p><b>Party Bridge</b> Every Thursday Noon</p> <p><b>Thirsty Thursday</b> Every Thursday Evening</p> <p><b>Low Country Boil</b> Every Friday Evening</p> <p><b>Meditation Workshop</b> October 2, 9, 16</p> <p><b>Kids Pirate Party</b> Saturday, October 8</p> <p><b>Trivia Night</b> Monday, October 10</p>	<p><b>Ladies Night Out</b> Thursday, October 13</p> <p><b>Kids Movie Night</b> Friday, October 14</p> <p><b>GHG Fall Festival at The Outpost</b> Sunday, October 16</p> <p><b>Book Club</b> Tuesday, October 18</p> <p><b>Kids Costume Party</b> Saturday, October 22</p> <p><b>GA/FL Happy Hour</b> Friday, October 28</p> <p><b>Halloween Brunch</b> Sunday, October 30</p>
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PV2-LV31999



**The Lodge & Club**

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**October  
Activities  
for Members**

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Call 273-9500 for more information

<p><b>Member Monday</b> Every Monday Evening</p> <p><b>Taco Tuesday</b> Every Tuesday</p> <p><b>Wing Wednesday</b> Every Wednesday Evening</p> <p><b>Party Bridge</b> Every Thursday Noon</p> <p><b>Thirsty Thursday</b> Every Thursday Evening</p> <p><b>Low Country Boil</b> Every Friday Evening</p> <p><b>Meditation Workshop</b> October 2, 9, 16</p> <p><b>Kids Pirate Party</b> Saturday, October 8</p> <p><b>Trivia Night</b> Monday, October 10</p>	<p><b>Ladies Night Out</b> Thursday, October 13</p> <p><b>Kids Movie Night</b> Friday, October 14</p> <p><b>GHG Fall Festival at The Outpost</b> Sunday, October 16</p> <p><b>Book Club</b> Tuesday, October 18</p> <p><b>Kids Costume Party</b> Saturday, October 22</p> <p><b>GA/FL Happy Hour</b> Friday, October 28</p> <p><b>Halloween Brunch</b> Sunday, October 30</p>
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St. Johns Cultural Council seeks Junior ROWITA Fellowship applications

The St. Johns Cultural Council is seeking applications for the 2017 Junior ROWITA (Recognizing Outstanding Women In The Arts) Fellowships.

The monetary awards of up to \$1,000 are available to all graduating St. Johns County high school women who are entering higher education arts programs. In order to be eligible, candidates must have a 3.0 GPA and have been accepted into a college-level arts program or summer

institute. Applications are available online at [www.stjohnsculture.com](http://www.stjohnsculture.com). The deadline for applications is the last day of February of each year. Applications must be emailed to [sjcc@historiccoastculture.com](mailto:sjcc@historiccoastculture.com), or mailed to the St. Johns Cultural Council Office located at 15 Old Mission Ave., St. Augustine. For more information, contact the St. Johns Cultural Council at [sjcc@historiccoastculture.com](mailto:sjcc@historiccoastculture.com) or call (904) 808-7330.

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# In The Arts



OCTOBER 6, 2016 • SPECIAL SECTION TO

**Ponte Vedra**  
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Arjola Miruku, daughter of the late artist Ali Miruku, stands in front of "Freedom," one of the 25 oil on canvas works on display as part of the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra's "Freedom: Works by Ali Miruku" exhibition.

# Cultural Center 'Freedom' exhibition highlights artist's escape from communist regime

By Carrie Resch

An exhibit at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach features the paintings of an artist and Ponte Vedra resident who witnessed the upheaval in Eastern Europe when the Iron Curtain fell and nations struggled to adopt a democratic system.

Titled "Freedom," the exhibit on display through Oct. 14 displays the works of the late Ali Miruku, who escaped the communist regime of his native Albania and immigrated to the United States. In 1994, he moved to Ponte Vedra Beach, where he was later joined by his wife, son and daughter, Arjola Miruku, a classical pianist and instructor at the cultural center.

"We were really excited to get this exhibition," said Leigh Rodante, director of programs and exhibitions. "(Miruku) was one of only 10 artists commissioned to paint under the communist regime, so it's important to us to showcase to work."

As one of the few painters who was allowed to paint during the communist regime, Rodante said, Miruku had to depict what the regime wanted him to paint, in the only style of painting that was allowed — realism. After he escaped to America, however, he was free to paint what he desired and express the turmoil he had experienced under communist oppression.

Of the 25 paintings on display, "The Bride of Kosovo," painted in 1987, still depicts the realist style, but includes slight transition to a new, more impressionist style. The rest of the paintings on display range from 1989 to 1993 and represent Miruku's post-communism impressionistic work.

Originally to be titled "Retrospective," the exhibition's name was changed after it was decided that "Freedom" would be a more apt name, since the paintings represent the first time that Miruku was free to paint whatever and however he desired. Two recent works, for example,

are titled "United We Stand" and "American Compassion." His daughter, Arjola Miruku, noted that only two of her father's works, "April 2nd, 1991" and "United We Stand," have words on the painting and both were created in response to tragedies. April 2, 1991 marks a tragic moment in Albanian history when four young students were killed in demonstrations to promote democracy. The second painting marks the September 11 attack.

Arjola Miruku noted that the turmoil in Albania parallels the current Syrian conflict.

"This why it's important to preserve and promote these stories because they're relevant, they're parallel to what's happening now," Miruku said. "I can't even listen to Syria and what's happening in the news. I have to turn NPR off because I cry and it all comes back — the gunshots, the drownings, the people. It's always happening somewhere and an artist is creating something there too, that's the way they experience the world."

Another painting, "The Sea and I," portrays a feeling of chaos, but it also includes imagery that represents hope.

"That's when he tried to leave the country to immigrate to find a better life for his family and so that's the ocean and the turmoil and the chaos that's happening," she said. "The green light, he would always tell me, that's the hope. He would say, 'I have hope that something is out there somewhere.'"

"Freedom" is on display in the Scene Gallery through Oct. 14. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday from 3 to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 2 to 4 p.m. The gallery is closed daily from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for open studio. After hours appointments are available.

The Cultural Center is located at 50 Executive Way. For more information, call (904) 280-0614 or visit [www.ccpvb.org](http://www.ccpvb.org).



Photo by Carrie Resch

The "Freedom" exhibition includes 25 of post-communist regime impressionist paintings depicting both the tumultuous aftermath of the country's upheaval, but also tranquil paintings of nature, a subject that Ali Miruku also enjoyed painting.



Photo by Agnes Lopez

"United We Stand," one of two post 9/11 paintings Ali Miruku created in response to the September 11 terrorist attacks, is on display as part of the exhibition.



Photo by Agnes Lopez

"Girls and Doves," Ali Miruku



Photo courtesy of Saint Augustine Ballet

## Tickets for Saint Augustine Ballet's 'Nutcracker' now on sale

Tickets for the Saint Augustine Ballet's annual production of "The Nutcracker" are now on sale.

The ballet returns to Flagler College's Lewis Auditorium on Saturday, Dec. 17 and Sunday, Dec. 18 at 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25 to \$30, with a \$5 discount for ages 65 and over, and 12 years and under. Tickets are available for purchase at [www.saintaugustineballet.com](http://www.saintaugustineballet.com) or by calling 855-222-2849.

This year's production of the beloved holiday classic features local dancer Eléa Woodward in the role of Clara. A 13-year-old student at Fruit Cove Middle School, Woodward is the daughter of John and Virginie Woodward.

Special guest artists Jennifer Carlynn Kronenberg and Carlos Miguel Guerra, meanwhile, will dance the roles of the Sugar Plum Fairy and the Cavalier.

"I'm excited for our student dancers to work with Carlos and Jennifer and for our audiences to see such accomplished dancers on stage in St. Augustine," Artistic Director Luis Abella said. "We're very lucky to have been able to book such high caliber dancers for our production this year."

Kronenberg trained at the School of American Ballet before joining Miami City Ballet in 1994 as an apprentice. She rose to the rank of principal dancer, a position she held from 2001 to 2016.

Guerra is a native of Cuba, where he began his training at the Professional School of Ballet and Plastic Arts in Camaguey, Cuba. He was a principal dancer with Miami City Ballet from 2003 until 2016, performing most of the lead male roles in their repertoire.

Returning to the role of Herr Drosselmeyer is Orlando Molina, associate school director of the Georgia Ballet. He has extensive international dance education, stage performance, and teaching experience. Molina received his diploma as a dancer/teacher from the Cuban School of Ballet and performed around the world as a principal dancer before settling in the United States to teach and perform.

**"Stacked Totem" glass sculpture by Jon Slade**



**Potter by Mina Heuslein**



**Debbie Stillman brought her artisan jewelry to the Beaches Art Fest for the first time.**

# 3rd annual Beaches Art Fest takes art from the walls to the street

**By Jasmine Marshall**

The 2016 Beaches Art Fest brought visitors by the dozen to a sun-drenched strip of Pablo Avenue in Jacksonville Beach, where artists and patrons alike gathered Oct. 1-2 for the weekend-long juried art event.

Organized by the Beaches Museum and History Park and Driftwood Jacksonville Beach, the festival presented both local and national artists who displayed their works to a steadily growing crowd. Fine jewelry, oil paintings, ceramic dishes and glass sculpture made up just a small selection of works lining the street – a selection that visitors said continues to expand each year.

"We just love this festival," said Margaret McLaughlin, who returned to the festival with her twin sister, Elizabeth Hellrung. "It's so exciting to see how it's gotten so much bigger over time."

Artists echoed that sentiment, citing Jacksonville Beach's unwavering support for the arts and a community of equally enthusiastic individuals as distinctive features of the festival. Exhibitor Debbie Stillman brought her artisan jewelry to the festival for the first time to showcase her precious metal clay designs to a crowd she said showed true appreciation to all of the creators at the event.

"It's just such a neat area," she said. "It's not always easy finding festivals where there's a mutual understanding and appreciation of art ... it's nice to be at (a festival) where people understand and respect the work of the artists."

Beaches Museum and History Park Executive Director Christine Hoffman was also in attendance, praising the efforts of an artistic community that never fails to show support for one another.

"We're so excited to have our third year here, having taken the steps toward making this festival a two-day event," she said. "We listened to the artists and to the visitors and we're glad we were able to make this happen for them."

"This event is something that represents the heart of Jacksonville Beach," she continued. "And we want to see it continue to grow."



**Designer Erika Lynn McKelvey**



**Artist Gary Pope of Pope Fine Art**



**Artist Daryl Harwood of Creative Intentions**



**Porcelain artist Mina Heuslein**



**Jewelry Designer Debbie Stillman of Unique Treasures by Debbie**



**Beaches Museum and History Park Executive Director Christine Hoffman**

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# Nease High School Marching Band to host regional competition

A record 18 marching bands comprised of a total of 1,700 students will participate in the Nease High School Marching Band's 6th annual First Coast Marching Invitational.

To be held at noon Saturday, Oct. 15 at the Nease High School stadium on Ray Road, the event is the only regional competition held in St. Johns County.

"We are so excited to host the event for the biggest numbers ever," said event

coordinator Paula Hallock, noting that the competition is an FMCB sanctioned event. "It gives our school a chance to promote all the pageantry of marching band and showcase all of the positive aspects that this activity offers students."

The Nease High School Panther Pride Band is one of the most active high school music programs in Northeast Florida. The school has 150 members in the marching

band program and more than 280 students in the music program, which includes marching band, concert band, indoor percussion, color guard and winter guard. All music programs are under the direction of Nease music educator Michael Johnson.

Last year, the marching band received the highest score at two regional competitions and placed 6th at the state competition in Tampa. This year, the Nease Marching Band

**BAND** continues on **Page 23**



Photo courtesy of Nease Marching Band

## PONTE VEDRA

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<p><b>THE MINNEAPOLIS SOUND</b> THE ULTIMATE PRINCE TRIBUTE BAND OCTOBER 7</p> <p><b>HENRY ROLLINS</b> (SPOKEN WORD) OCTOBER 9</p> <p><b>JOHN MAYALL</b> OCTOBER 15</p> <p><b>THE PSYCHEDELIC FURS</b> W/SPECIAL GUEST MY JERUSALEM OCTOBER 18</p> <p><b>JOSH RITTER</b> W/SPECIAL GUEST MARK ERELLI OCTOBER 20</p> <p><b>RUSTED ROOT &amp; DEVON ALLMAN BAND</b> OCTOBER 22</p> <p><b>TODD SNIDER</b> WITH ROREY CARROLL OCTOBER 29</p> <p><b>NF</b> W/SPECIAL GUEST FLEURIE NOVEMBER 3</p> <p><b>WAR</b> NOVEMBER 13</p> <p><b>ERIC JOHNSON</b> AN EVENING OF ACOUSTIC GUITAR &amp; PIANO NOVEMBER 16</p>	<p><b>GALACTIC</b> W/ THE HIP ABDUCTION NOVEMBER 17</p> <p>AN EVENING WITH <b>NELLIE MCKAY</b> NOVEMBER 19</p> <p>FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT PRESENTS <b>HAYDN &amp; SHOSTAKOVICH</b> NOVEMBER 20</p> <p>AN EVENING WITH <b>DAVID CROSBY &amp; FRIENDS</b> NOVEMBER 21</p> <p><b>CALIFORNIA GUITAR TRIO HOLIDAY SHOW</b> DECEMBER 1</p> <p><b>THE STANLEY CLARKE BAND</b> DECEMBER 2</p> <p><b>TONY JOE WHITE</b> WITH MERE WOODARD DECEMBER 3</p> <p><b>TAYLOR HICKS</b> DECEMBER 7</p> <p><b>DONNA THE BUFFALO</b> WITH BUTCH TRUCKS &amp; THE FREIGHT TRAIN BAND DECEMBER 29</p>	<p><b>LOS LOBOS</b> JANUARY 15</p> <p>AN EVENING WITH <b>LEON RUSSELL</b> JANUARY 28</p> <p>FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT PRESENTS <b>SCHUBERT</b> JANUARY 29</p> <p><b>TOM RUSH</b> FEBRUARY 3</p> <p><b>SARA WATKINS</b> FEBRUARY 4</p> <p><b>GAELIC STORM</b> FEBRUARY 8</p> <p><b>TAJ MAHAL</b> FEBRUARY 10</p> <p>THE BABES PRESENT <b>HORMONAL IMBALANCE</b> A MOOD SWINGING MUSICAL REVUE FEBRUARY 11</p> <p><b>UNDER THE STREETLAMP</b> TWO PERFORMANCES! FEBRUARY 12</p> <p><b>ANDY MCKEE</b> FEBRUARY 15</p> <p><b>THE PAUL THORN BAND</b> FEBRUARY 17</p>	<p><b>WELLRED COMEDY TOUR</b> W/ "LIBERAL REDNECK" TRAE CROWDER, DREW MORGAN &amp; COREY RYAN FORRESTER FEBRUARY 18</p> <p><b>COLIN HAY</b> FEBRUARY 22</p> <p><b>ELIZABETH COOK &amp; DALE WATSON</b> FEBRUARY 24</p> <p><b>OLD 97'S</b> WITH BOTTLE ROCKETS FEBRUARY 25</p> <p>FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT PRESENTS <b>SCHUMANN</b> FEBRUARY 26</p> <p>AN EVENING WITH <b>MARC COHN</b> MARCH 1</p> <p><b>THE WEIGHT</b> FEATURING MEMBERS OF THE BAND, THE LEVON HELM BAND &amp; THE RICK DANCO GROUP MARCH 3</p> <p>ILLUSIONIST <b>RICK THOMAS</b> APRIL 1</p> <p><b>ANA POPOVIC</b> APRIL 5</p> <p>FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT PRESENTS <b>MOZART &amp; DEBUSSY</b> APRIL 23</p>
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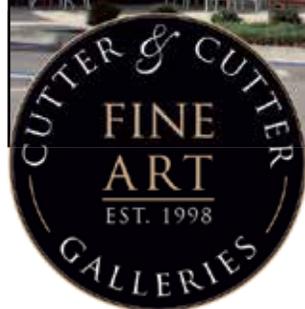
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For more information about these works, the artists, or other works, contact Bob Nickerson at First Coast Artists at 904.280.8187.



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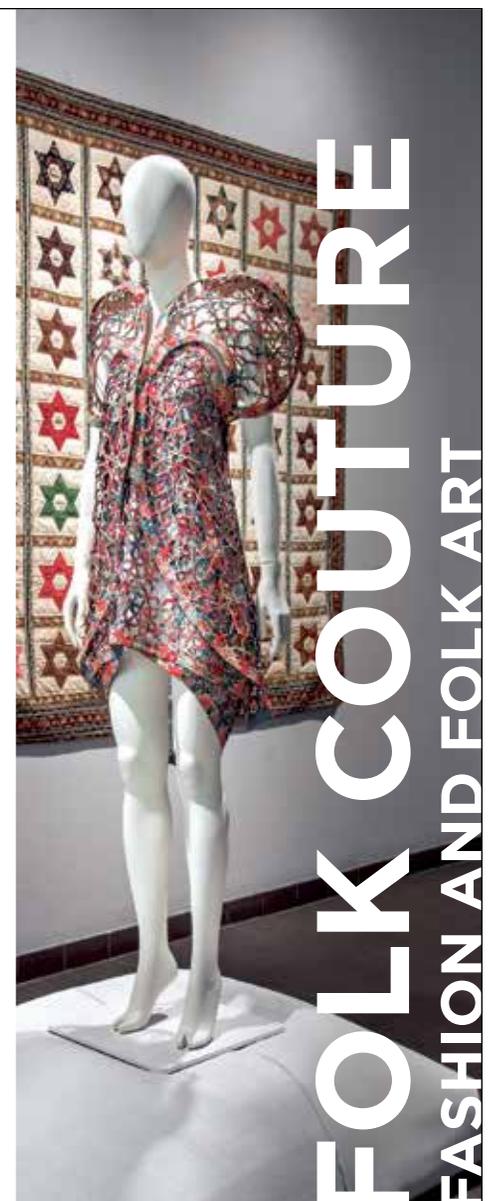
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For more information visit [cummuseum.org](http://cummuseum.org).

Organized by the American Folk Art Museum, New York, and circulated by the Huntsville Museum of Art, Alabama. The tour of this exhibition is supported in part by the Leir Charitable Foundations in memory of Henry J. and Erna D. Leir, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, and with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.

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FOLK COUTURE  
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# Nease production of 'Kiss Me, Kate' to highlight battle of the sexes

Cole Porter's take on Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew" will be brought to life this month, when Nease High School presents its production of the Tony Award-winning musical "Kiss Me, Kate."

To be performed Thursday, Oct. 27 through Saturday, Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 30 at 3 p.m., "Kiss Me, Kate" features a play-within-a-play format, as divorced Broadway stars Fred Graham (portrayed by Sebastian Conte) and Lilli Vanessi (Abby Watson) reunite on stage to star in Shakespeare's classic play about a battle of the sexes. Art soon imitates life, however, as the egotistical actors' on-stage battle spills

over into backstage rivalries, romances and run ins with the mob.

Tickets for "Kiss Me, Kate" are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under, and may be purchased at the door (cash or check).

All shows will be performed in the Performing Arts Center located on the campus of Nease High School, 10550 Ray Road in Ponte Vedra. To place an advance ticket order to be placed under "will call" at the door, email Neaseshows@gmail.com.

Sponsorships are also available to help offset the costs of the production. For more information, visit [www.neaseshows.wix.com/shows](http://www.neaseshows.wix.com/shows).

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# Local woman publishes children's book about being yourself

By Carrie Resch

Accepting who you are and not trying to be anyone but yourself is the focus of "Mackie-Who?" – a new self-published children's book by Jacksonville Beach resident Ashley Davis.

An avid reader herself, Davis said she wanted to impart her love for reading to her daughter and reads to her daily. Drawing on her lifelong passion for writing, she would jot down ideas for stories she had that she thought would make good children's books. But it was her desire to give a copy of "Mackie-Who?" to her daughter for her first birthday that really drove the timetable of getting her first book published.

"I wanted to create a unique gift for Ruth for her first birthday that would last forever," Davis said.

The book centers around the characters of Ruthie and her puppy, Mackie. One day, Mackie decides he no longer wants to be a puppy; he wants to be something different. He spends the day parading about dressed in different costumes that he enthusiastically shows off to Ruthie – Mackie-Moo the cow, Mackie-Roo the kangaroo, Mackie-Doo the rooster and so on. At the end of the book, Ruthie patiently explains to Mackie, "You

are you and that is better than anything else you could try to be or do!"

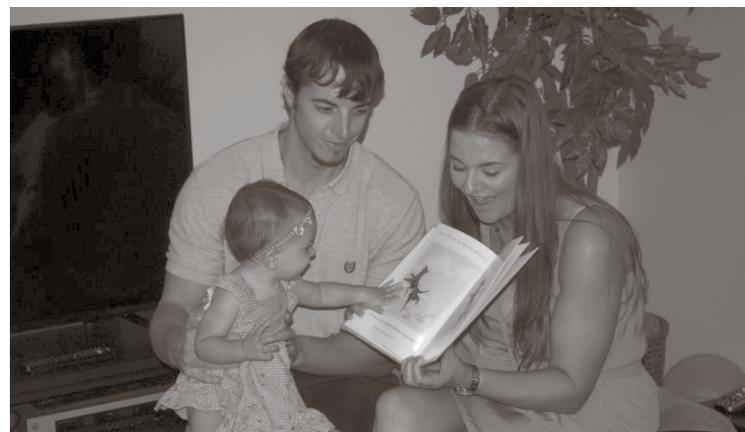
"The idea of the book is that we should all just be ourselves," Davis said. "I think that is as important for little ones as it is for the adults reading this book to their children and grandchildren. We need to love ourselves and embrace the way that God made us."

Real-life Ruth, who is just over a year old, and real-life Mack, a six-year-old Labrador Retriever mix rescue dog are the best of friends. Davis said she and her husband couldn't have imagined a more "gentle giant" than Mack to be Ruth's best bud.

## "¿Quién es Mackie?"

Davis and her husband Andrew belong to Beach Church in Jacksonville Beach and have made more than a dozen missionary trips to Costa Rica, even living there for a year and half, returning to the United States in 2013 to start their family.

The missionary trips and interaction with the children of Costa Rica inspired Davis to create a Spanish version of the



Ashley Davis reads "Mackie-Who?," the children's book she wrote and published for her daughter's first birthday, to her daughter, Ruth, while her husband, Andrew, looks on.

Courtesy of Ashley Davis

book "¿Quién es Mackie?" and dedicate it to the children of Bajo Tejares, Costa Rica.

They visit the mission in Costa Rica twice a year now and Ruth joins them. While they were living in Costa Rica, Mack made the trip with them as well, so the children at the mission are very familiar with him and always ask after him.

Davis plans on reading her children's book to the children of the mission when she visits them in December.

"I am thrilled to have the opportunity to share this story with the children because the community there needs to hear this message and know that they are perfect the way they are," Davis said. "The community of Bajo Tejares doesn't always feel hopeful, valuable and loved. Laura Mendez Campos (the translator) and I dedicated this book to the

children there because we believe in them, and we believe in their capacity to change the world."

Davis said she had such a fun time creating her first book that she's already working on a second children's book. She plans on translating all of her future books into Spanish – not just for the children in Costa Rica, but for Spanish-speaking children in the United States as well.

"We have a huge Spanish speaking population," she said, "and a very small selection of Spanish children's literature for people to read."

The 24-page paperback books are available on Amazon and iTunes for \$9.99. A portion of the sales from the Spanish version will go to fund education programs for Faithful Servant Missions in San Roman, Costa Rica.

## Stellers Gallery to feature renowned Florida-based artists Oct. 14

Stellers Gallery at Ponte Vedra Beach will exhibit the work of nationally recognized artists Henry Von Genk III, Thomas Hager and Jim Draper Friday, Oct. 14 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

According to Stellers Gallery Owner Hillary Whitaker, the show titled "In the Terrain of Water" will feature existing collections and new themes by the three artists and their landscapes and environmentally themed canvases. The pieces were designed to enlighten the viewer with vignettes about the old and new Florida as well as the southeast.

Jacksonville native Henry Von Genk III lives with his family in Atlantic Beach. An accomplished self-taught artist, he works in oils using the "old master" glazing and shadowing technique to bring richness and depth to his art. He has had several one-man art shows and has donated paintings for select charity fundraisers.

Thomas Hager has been producing art for more than 20 years. Hager's recent works celebrate the Florida coastal landscape by simplifying it to its "least common denominator." He presents his landscapes in formal compositions of simple elegance that play on abstraction, and his use of subtle color (light blues, grays, and turquoise) create a



calming, therapeutic visual experience.

Using overlays of textures to create illusions of etching-like surfaces, the artwork pays homage to Hager's love of art history and historic photographic processes.

Mississippi native Jim Draper's work includes drawings, paintings, photography, videos, and writings inspired by journeys into the wilds of Florida and Georgia. Draper attended the University of Mississippi, where he earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in 1974. He received a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Georgia at Athens in 1978. Based in Jacksonville, he is currently the coordinator for the University of North Florida's (UNF) art galleries.



Members of the St. Augustine Chamber Singers gather outside Carnegie Hall where they performed in January in the premiere of a new composition, 'Mortals & Angels: A Bluegrass Te Deum.'

Courtesy of the St. Augustine Chamber Singers

## First Friday Concert to feature St. Augustine Chamber Singers and St. Augustine Youth Chorus

The St. Augustine Chamber Singers and St. Augustine Youth Chorus will be the featured performers for the October First Friday Concert at the Cathedral Basilica Oct. 7 at 6 p.m.

Titled "This Pretty Planet," the concert will include songs extolling the beauty of the earth as well as those concerning stewardship of the earth and its resources. Poetry by Langston Hughes, Edna St. Vincent Millay and Archibald Lampman will be sung in settings by contemporary composers.

"Eatnemen Vuelie (Song of the Earth)," which was featured in the movie, "Frozen," will be performed featuring the Scandinavian musical expression, yoiking. A concert highlight will be the

klezmer favorite "Gonna Get Through This World" by Woody Guthrie featuring klezmer-style clarinet and a refrain for everyone to sing.

The concert will be performed by more than 60 singers and accompanied by Barbara Mattingly and Henry Keating with instrumentalists, Joe Yorio on clarinet and percussionist Jack Miller. The St. Augustine Chamber Singers is directed by Kathleen Vande Berg and the St. Augustine Youth Chorus is directed by Kerry Fradley

The concert is free and open to the public. An offering will be received to help defray concert expenses. Cathedral Basilica is located at 38 Cathedral Place, St. Augustine.

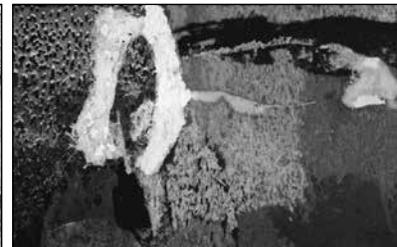
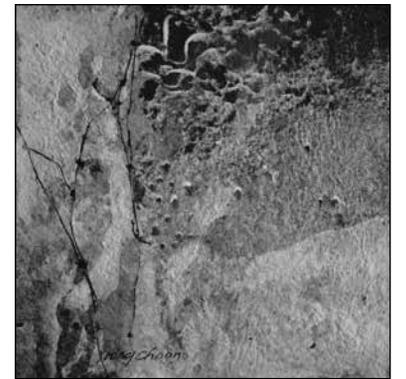
# South Korean artists to appear at Cutter & Cutter exhibition

South Korean artists Jeong and Choon Yun will be on hand for an exhibition of their work at Cutter & Cutter Fine Art's new gallery in Ponte Vedra Beach next week.

Considered to be leaders of the contemporary abstract expressionist movement, the Yuns will be at the Sawgrass Village gallery from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14 and Sat., Oct. 15. Guests will have an opportunity to view the artists' handmade paper tapestries, as more than 50 new works are unveiled and offered in sizes ranges from 16 inches by 16 inches to 72 inches by 72 inches. Prices range from \$1,500 to \$24,000.

"This is one of the largest shows of its kind anywhere in the U.S.," gallery founder Len Cutter said. "The creativity and appeal of the Yuns' highly textured abstract work is profound."

Cutter & Cutter Fine Art is located at 333 Village Main St. #640 in Sawgrass Village, Ponte Vedra Beach.



## Alhambra After Dark to present 'Hank and My Honky Tonk Heroes'

The life and musical legacy of country music superstar Hank Williams will be remembered Oct. 12-16, when Alhambra Theatre & Dining presents "Hank and My Honky Tonk Heroes."

Presented as part of the Alhambra After Dark series, the show features Jason Petty performing his acclaimed portrayal of the legendary country singer/songwriter who wrote "Your Cheatin' Heart," "I Saw the Light," "I Can't Help it if I'm Still in Love with You" and hundreds of other songs before his death in 1953 at the age of 29. Petty is the only actor to portray Williams in the off-Broadway musical, "Lost Highway," for which he won an Obie Award and multiple other nominations for his performance.

"I played with Hank for many years and I was his best friend," said Don Helms, a member of Williams' band, The Drifting Cowboys. "No one in my time has come closer to Hank's look, sound and natural

charisma than Jason. He's the best, hands down!"

As with all Alhambra productions, Executive Chef DeJuan Roy has created a menu designed to complement "Hank and My Honky Tonk Heroes." The first course offers the option of warm potato corn chowder, or a summer mixed green salad with strawberries, oranges, sweet and spicy pecans and a walnut vinaigrette. The second course features a choice of prime rib, leeks and heirloom tomatoes, herbs, rice, stewed okra, twice baked potatoes and carrot flan; Aunt Mae's fried chicken with buttermilk whipped mashed potatoes and lima beans; fettucine Bolognese with broccolini and a cheese crostini; or vegetable stromboli with a homemade marinara sauce. The dessert options include fall-spiced pumpkin pie or Southern-style carrot cake.

For tickets or more information, visit [www.alhambrajax.com](http://www.alhambrajax.com).

## Swamp Radio to host popular 'Early Thanks' dinner, live radio show

Southern-style turkey with all the fixins' and live entertainment will return to the St. Augustine Amphitheatre Nov. 19, when Swamp Radio presents its popular "Early Thanks" Thanksgiving dinner and live entertainment event.

The live radio show will feature an "untraditional" three-course Southern Thanksgiving dinner prepared by St. Augustine chefs Stephen Dimare of the Hyppo Café, Terri Gamble of The Blue Hen Café, Ned Pollack of Ned's Southside Kitchen; and Mariah Salvat of Jacksonville's Southern Roots Filling Station. This year's Early Thanks menu includes an appetizer course featuring chicken and dumpling arancini and main courses of slow-smoked turkey with roasted garlic and sage, hand-crafted sausage with venison and a vegan-friendly option of Shepherd's Pie with mashed potatoes, veggie lentil filling and mushroom gravy. Sides include scalloped pineapple casserole, inverted sweet potato mash, tortellini salad, grilled pumpkin, grits with

Gouda, cheddar and white chocolate and cranberry cupcakes.

Dinner will be followed by an 80-minute Swamp Radio show which will celebrate the Ancient City. Special musical guests include Duffy Bishop and the Unnamed Trio, singer Katherine Archer and percussionist Charlotte Mabrey. The show will also feature Irish storyteller Derek Coghlan, writer Kate Norton – who will profile St. Augustine bed and breakfast owner Louisa Fatio – and co-host Tiffany Melanson, who will discuss what makes a good bourbon with St. Augustine Distillery owner Phil McDaniel.

General admission tickets, which include both dinner and live entertainment, are \$88 per person. Specially discounted Early Bird tickets are available for \$70 per person now through Nov. 11 at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre and Ponte Vedra Concert Hall box offices. Tickets are also available online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com), all TicketMaster outlets, or by phone at (800) 745-3000.

## Band

Continued from 20

will compete in three regional competitions as well as in the state competition.

Proceeds from the Marching Invitational go toward competition expenses as well as toward the purchase of new instruments, instrument repairs and student scholarships. The band's fundraising

initiative this year is to "Keep the Music Growing," with a goal of raising \$30,000.

Gates open for the invitational at 10 a.m. Semi-finals will be held from noon to 5 p.m., with the finals slated to begin at 7 p.m. The Nease Marching Band will have an exhibition of its show at approximately 9:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$10. For tickets or to make a donation, contact: [femineaseband@gmail.com](mailto:femineaseband@gmail.com). Monetary and instrument donations are welcomed.

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## BUSINESS BRIEFS



### Jax Beach Native Sun wins 'Best New Store of the Year Award'

Native Sun Natural Foods Market's Jacksonville Beach store has been named the Best New Store of the Year by New Hope Network, the

leading media company in the natural products industry.

Announced recently at the National Products Expo East in Baltimore, the award was presented to Aaron and Erica Gottlieb, who opened the first Native Sun location in Mandarin 20 years ago. The Jacksonville Beach store – located at 1585 Third St. North – recently celebrated its first anniversary.

"Native Sun's creativity and curation stands out as a model for new natural foods stores across the nation," said Christine Kapperman of New Hope Network.

The Gottliebs thanked the Jacksonville Beach neighborhood for embracing the Native Sun market.

"We continue to strive to create an inviting environment that becomes the center of food and community," Aaron Gottlieb said. "We are truly blessed to be a part of their lives."

### Legacy Trust expands sponsorship of Web.com Tour Championship

Legacy Trust has expanded its sponsorship of the Web.com Tour Championship, adding a number of new events to its support of the tournament that benefits Wolfson Children's Hospital.

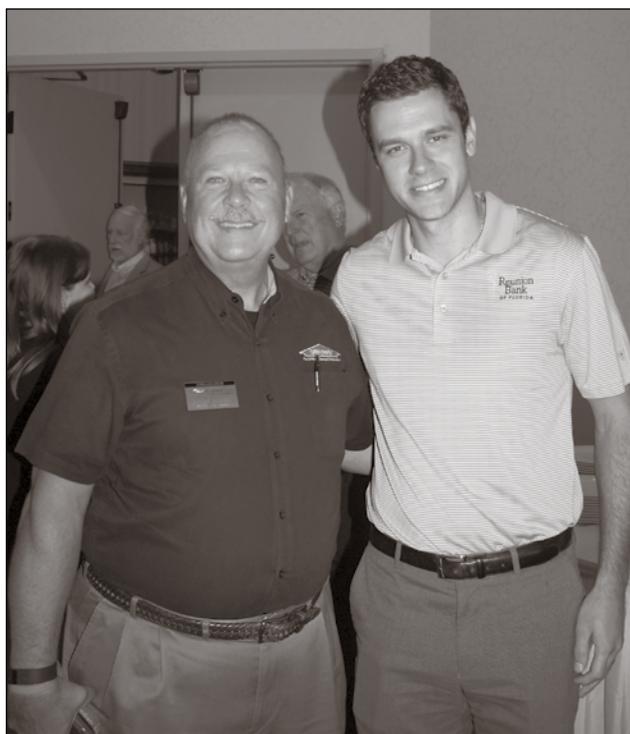
Legacy Trust was the presenting sponsor of the Oct. 2 North Florida Junior Golf Shootout, a new event pairing several local juniors with a Web.com player and members of the media for a six-hole tournament.

On Oct. 6, the company will host "Fashion on the Fairway" at One Ocean Resort & Spa, showcasing fashions by local designer the Katherine Way Collection.

The event will feature a breakfast for players' wives and girlfriends, and will benefit the Ronald McDonald House of Jacksonville, which provides a home away from home for families of children battling illnesses at Wolfson's Children's Hospital.

And during competition on Saturday, Oct. 8 and Sunday, Oct. 9, Legacy Trust will sponsor a

BUSINESS BRIEFS continues on Page 27



Photos by Jennifer Logue

Michael Mitchell of SERVPRO of St. Augustine and Maksim Levonovich of Reunion Bank



Terri Zioerjen and Renee Lincoln of First Citizens Bank



Maggie Goller-Cornelison of Doubletree by Hilton and Sandra Goode of Haven Hospice

# Small Business Council receives election update

By Jennifer Logue

The current election cycle will be the most expensive in Florida's history, the government relations manager for the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce said last week.

At a Sept. 27 meeting of the chamber's Small Business Council, Government Relations Manager Bob Porter provided attendees with an update on the election races at the local, state and national level.

"Tip O'Neill famously said 'All politics is local' and this year we're really seeing that's true," Porter said. "The presidential race is more about personalities than public policy."

This election is unusual, Porter said, because not only is Florida a presidential swing state but every state representative and state senator is up for re-election, making it the most expensive election cycle in state history.

Porter noted that local state Rep.

Paul Renner has already begun campaigning to become Speaker of the House in 2022.

"Northeast Florida lost a lot of experience and seniority when we lost (former speaker and senator) John Thrasher to FSU," Porter said.

In the race for U.S. Senate, he added, incumbent Marco Rubio is running neck and neck with Democratic challenger Patrick Murphy while a third-party candidate is polling in the double digits.

"(Third party candidates) don't poll that high unless the voters are sending a message that they're unhappy with the major party candidates," he said.

### Local politics

For the first time, St. Johns County will have two U.S. representatives in congress following the redistricting that moved the northern party of the county from District 6 to District 4. Unlike many locals, however, Porter thinks that's a good thing.

"The only thing better than having one member of Congress is having two you can go to to ask for stuff," Porter said. "I look at it as a great opportunity to continue the county's influence when it comes to bringing the bacon back home."

Porter encouraged residents to pay attention to what goes on at the local level, including the Board of County Commissioners and St. Augustine City Commission.

"Attend some meetings and campaign events between now and Election Day and start asking some tough questions of the candidates."

He noted that the chamber had advocated against significant increases in city service fees, and plans to get more involved in "pocketbook issues," particularly after the distraction of the election season is over.

"I plan on raising a glass November 9 when this whole thing is over," he said, "and getting back to business."

**BUSINESS BRIEFS**

hole-in-one contest for the Web.com Tour players, who will be vying for a \$25,000 cash prize. The contest will be held all weekend on the par-3 third hole.

“Our hope is that someone wins and maybe shares it with Wolfson, but we wanted to do something that added an additional element of excitement to the tournament,” CEO Kristin McLauchlan said. “I envision a good crowd at the third hole helping to build some drama out there.”

**Chamber seeks silent auction items for ‘Business Boogie’ celebration**

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce is seeking silent auction item donations for its upcoming annual celebration.

Ponte Vedra Recorder Publisher and incoming chamber Vice Chair Susan Griffin is coordinating the event’s silent auction.

“By donating an item to the silent auction, local businesses can promote their products and services to a large audience of local business and community leaders,” Griffin said.

To donate a silent auction item, email Griffin at [susan@opcfla.com](mailto:susan@opcfla.com).

To be held Oct. 19 at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, this year’s chamber celebration will have a 1970s theme of “Business Boogie.”

In addition to food, drinks and the silent auction, the event will feature entertainment provided by the popular band Boogie Freaks presented by SERVPRO of St. Augustine and SERVPRO of Ponte Vedra Beach, and 1970s attire is encouraged.

An early bird ticket rate of \$95 per person is available to chamber members.

Tickets for non-members are \$125 per person. To register, visit [www.sjcchamber.com](http://www.sjcchamber.com). For information on available sponsorships, contact Events Manager Debra Bulak at [debra.bulak@sjcchamber.com](mailto:debra.bulak@sjcchamber.com).

# Medicare in a nutshell



**Ric Schilling**  
Columnist

In today’s ever-changing health care environment, understanding Medicare and its complexities is becoming more and more difficult. It’s more important than ever to fully understand how it truly works. If you are nearing retirement,

you most likely have questions regarding enrollment and coverage. Below are common questions and answers about Medicare that will hopefully help you understand your options and avoid costly errors or gaps in coverage.

1) What does Medicare cover? Medicare is a national health insurance program that helps with the cost of health care but does not cover all medical expenses or long-term care. Medicare may cover many of your health-related expenses in retirement but it is still very important to think ahead about whether you need to buy a Medicare supplement policy and/or long-term care policy to help cover additional costs. Medicare consists of four parts:

Part A - hospital insurance that helps pay for inpatient care in a hospital or skilled nursing facility, certain home health care and hospice care.

Part B - medical insurance that helps pay for visits to doctors and other health care providers, outpatient care, some home health care, durable medical equipment and some preventive services.

Part C Medicare Advantage (MA) – approved third-party health plans that combine Part A and Part B coverage and may include prescription drug coverage as well. Premiums and benefits vary greatly, so it’s a good idea to compare plans and networks in your area.

Part D – helps pay for the cost of prescription drugs. Under current regulations, Medicare Part A and Part B do NOT pay for:

- Long-term care
- Most dental care
- Dentures
- Cosmetic Surgery
- Eye exams for prescription lenses

- Routine foot care
- Hearing aids and fitting exams
- Acupuncture

2) Do I have to enroll in Medicare if I am still working? Not necessarily. If your employer has 20 or more employees eligible for health insurance coverage and the coverage is similar to Medicare, you can delay enrolling in Medicare Part B without penalty, even if you’re over the age of 65.

3) Is Medicare enrollment automatic? Not always. If you’re already 65 or older, you are automatically enrolled in Medicare Part A and Part B if you claim Social Security benefits, even if you later suspend your benefits. Medicare rules require you to sign up for Medicare during the three months before your 65th birthday and the three months after, even if you are not retired (unless your employer plan qualifies).

Failing to enroll during that initial enrollment period can be costly, because your Medicare premium may go up. If you missed your window, you can sign up during the general enrollment period between January 1 and March 31 each year.

If you were eligible for coverage under a group health insurance plan, you are entitled to an eight-month special enrollment period starting the month after you stop working. COBRA and retiree health plans are not considered eligible coverage; you will not qualify for a special enrollment period once

that coverage stops.

4) How much will I pay in Medicare premiums? Most do not have to pay premiums for Part A if they or their spouse worked and paid Medicare taxes. You’ll have to pay a premium for Part B; if your annual income is above a certain level, you may have to pay additional monthly charges. Premiums for Part C and Part D vary by plan.

5) Can I make contributions to an employer-sponsored Health Savings Account if I am on Medicare? No. The IRS prohibits contributions to an HSA once you’re enrolled in Medicare. You can draw down money that you’ve contributed to the account but you can’t make any additional contributions. You may be able to use HSA distributions to pay certain premiums and out-of-pocket expenses related to Medicare, although you should certainly check with a qualified tax advisor first.

Medicare is complex and can be very daunting. This article by no means covers all of the ins and outs of Medicare; it simply touches on several common questions related to the subject.

*Frederic “Ric” Schilling is a Florida native, born in Jacksonville. Ric is president of Senior Guardians of America, a local North Florida firm specializing in tax reduction, long-term illness planning, asset protection, probate avoidance and life income planning. Ric is a national speaker and advocate on senior issues and has been featured by the Florida Times Union and WJXT, TV-4 in Jacksonville as an authority on estate planning and retirement issues. Senior Guardians has an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau and is a member in excellent standing with the National Ethics Association. Contact Frederic: 904-371-3302 or 888-891-3381 Please visit: [www.seniorguardian.com](http://www.seniorguardian.com) This article is not intended to give tax or legal advice. Securities offered through Center Street Securities, Inc. (CSS), a registered Broker-Dealer and Member of FINRA & SIPC. Senior Guardians is independent of CSS.*

## PET HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST

Does your pet have a spooky or silly costume for Halloween?

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All photos received will be published in the October 20th edition of The Ponte Vedra Recorder. **When sending the photo, be sure to include:** Pet’s name and breed, Pet’s parent(s) name(s), & Contact phone number

Email your photo to [april@opcfla.com](mailto:april@opcfla.com) or mail it to the

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Photos by Jennifer Logue  
Dennis Berkholtz, Anna Washington and Kimberly Graham



Diane Motes, Sandy Ford and Ray Washington



Brittany Detweiler and Jean Kohn of the PGA Tour



Peterbrooke Chocolatiers offered a chocolate dipping station.



Kaela McGregor of Nona Blue serves up chips, salsa and carrot cake



Pete and Brenda Ruffing



Gail Beckley and Jennifer Belisario

# Hilton Garden Inn spotlights upgrades at 'Chamber After Hours'

Local business and community leaders had an opportunity to view the recent renovations and upgrades to Ponte Vedra's Hilton Garden Inn Sept. 28, when the hotel hosted a "Chamber After Hours" reception for the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce.

Guests toured some of the newly upgraded guest rooms, suites and function areas while enjoying cocktails and hors d'oeuvres from Mulligan's Pub. Also on

hand offering refreshments were some of Sawgrass Village's most popular shops and restaurants, including Aqua Grill, Trasca, Metro Diner, Peterbrooke Chocolatiers and the newly opened Nona Blue, which offered attendees samplings of its chips, fresh made salsa and carrot cake.

Located in Sawgrass Village near the entrance to TPC Sawgrass, the Hilton Garden Inn offers a variety of rooms and suites along with a pool, on-site restaurant and 24-hour business center.



Robin Jones and Carol Maurer



Ken and Karen Butler



**By Michael Hannon**  
Special to the Recorder

With beautiful beaches, wonderful weather and the top-rated school system in the state, Ponte Vedra is a popular place to call home – a fact that keeps the real estate market active. Here is a “snapshot” that offers a sense of what properties in various price ranges are selling for in the current real estate market.

**RECENT SALES**

**Single Family – Ponte Vedra, 32081**

68 Magnolia Creek	\$283,450
537 Cobbler Trail	\$389,178
161 Whisper Rock Dr.	\$488,225
607 Casper Lane	\$557,713

**Condominiums - Ponte Vedra Beach, 32082**

100 Fairway Park Blvd.	\$104,000
325 Quail Point Drive	\$235,000
Fisherman's Cove	\$400,000

**Single Family Homes - Ponte Vedra Beach, 32082**

198 La Pasada Circle S	\$225,000
108 Spanish Moss Lane	\$465,000
1126 Salt Creek Drive	\$637,500
229 Garnled Oaks Drive	\$770,000
247 Deer Haven Drive	\$1,495,000

MLS reported +/- 20 sold real estate transactions this week. The list above illustrates representative sampling of reported sold transactions. Property information is not guaranteed. © 2016 MLS and FBS

**Have real estate questions? Email them to have your question answered in a future column. Submit questions to [mh@michael2020.com](mailto:mh@michael2020.com).**

**MOVERS & SHAKERS**



**Budnick attends CEO conference in Minneapolis**

**Christy Budnick** of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty recently attended the 2016 Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices CEO Conference in Minneapolis.

Hosted by parent company HSF Affiliates LLC, the CEO conference provided opportunities to connect with the companies’ top leaders, including HomeServices’ Chairman and CEO Ronald Peltier and Robert Moline, CEO of HomeServices’ brokerage division.

Budnick attended sessions focused on best practices and strategies for growth and success for the remainder of 2016 and 2017. Peltier’s opening remarks focused on integrity. Additional sessions discussed cyber security, recruiting and tracking and responding to online leads.

“Integrity is the foundation of our business and our word means everything,” Budnick said. “It is incumbent upon us to take good care and be mindful of our people (both employees and Realtors) because they serve our clients and are the ones we are counting on to always do the right thing.”



**Meares launches Audibelle Clothing line**

**Teresa Meares** recently launched the Audibelle Clothing line for girls and young women.

A former patrol sergeant with the St. Johns County Sheriff’s Office, Meares founded DGG Tactical & Uniform Supply and is the author of the children’s safety series, “Think Safe

2 Be Safe.” She credits her 13-year-old daughter with helping to inspire the Audibelle line, which is beginning with a line of hoodies, tanks, tops, t-shirts, loungewear and accessories such as soft backpacks. The company’s mission, Meares said, is to inspire girls through the power of fashion, to have fun, be themselves, stay positive, and be confident in their ability to do anything they wish.

Meares is the current chair of the National Association of Women Business Owners.



**Pulignano joins Nelson Mullins**

**N. Vincent Pulignano III** has joined Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP in the Jacksonville office, where he will focus his practice in the areas of

business and corporate law, securities law and real estate capital markets.

Pulignano received his Juris Doctor, cum laude, from the University of Florida Levin College of Law in May. He attended the University of Georgia, graduating magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Management. He worked as a summer associate for the firm in 2015.

While in school, he worked for the PGA Tour, Augusta National Golf Club, FIS Global, EverBank and on Capitol Hill.



**Haley named dean of UF College of Medicine-Jacksonville**

**Leon L. Haley Jr., M.D.**, has been named dean of the University of Florida College of Medicine – Jackson-

ville. He will officially assume his new role Jan. 1, 2017.

“Dr. Haley brings a wealth of experience to his position as dean,” said David S. Guzick, M.D., Ph.D., president of UF Health and senior vice president for health affairs at the University of Florida.

“Rising up the academic ranks to become professor of emergency medicine at Emory University, he has excelled as a clinician, scholar and administrator. He will serve as an exemplary academic and clinical leader for our faculty in Jacksonville and will work closely with Dr. Mike Good, dean of the UF College of Medicine, and hospital administrators at UF Health Jacksonville, to deliver exceptional and cost-effective patient care while building on the exciting momentum occurring at UF Health North.”

In addition to his roles as professor of emergency medicine and executive associate dean at Emory, Haley serves as chief medical officer of the Emory Medical Care Foundation in Atlanta.

He formerly served as deputy senior vice president of medical affairs, chief of emergency medicine for Grady Health System and vice chair of emergency medicine at Emory University.

Prior to his positions at Grady and Emory, Haley was a senior staff physician at the Henry Ford Health System in Detroit.

Haley completed his undergraduate degree from Brown University. He earned his medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh and his master’s degree in health services administration from the University of Michigan. Haley completed his residency in emergency medicine at the Henry Ford Health System, serving a year as chief resident. Haley is board-certified in emergency medicine and a Fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians.

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## OBITUARIES



### John Loring Threshie

John "Jack" Loring Threshie, 86, of North Branford and Old Greenwich died Sept. 23, 2016 at Connecticut Hospice. He died smiling alongside

his bride.

He was born Dec. 15, 1929 in New Bedford, MA and lived in South Dartmouth/Padanaram, MA. Jack played four sports and

was class vice president at New Hampton School in 1947 and then attended the University of Virginia and served in the National Guard. He married Elizabeth Archer "Barcher" (Gee) of Fall River, MA in 1951 and began his textile career at Wamsutta Mills in New Bedford. Burlington Industries hired him in 1955 to restructure the development of several manufacturing plants in various cities throughout the south including Virginia, West Virginia and North Carolina. He was promoted to executive vice president of Burlington Industries and moved his family in 1965 from High Point, NC to Old Greenwich, CT where

he commuted to New York City to head up Burlington's corporate office. In 1967 he was hired away by Berkshire Hathaway and moved his family to Rochester, MA before moving back to Old Greenwich in 1969. Jack founded and co-owned a startup woven piece goods facility, Tasco, Inc., in Greenwood, SC and then finished his career at Marion Mills in New York City. Jack and Barcher retired to Ponte Vedra from 1989-2003 before moving back to Connecticut and ultimately shared his last years at Evergreen Woods with Barcher. Jack was an exceptional athlete and loved competing in golf and tennis at Innis Arden Golf Club in Old Greenwich and the Ponte Vedra Golf and Tennis Club in Ponte Vedra. Jack had a strong, honest work ethic and was popular and adored by his friends and loved by his family.

Survivors include his wife Barcher, in Connecticut Hospice North Branford, CT.; his daughters, Caren T. Camp (John) in Alexandria, VA; Betsy Krobot (Dave) in Black Rock, CT; Kate Jasko (Paul) in Madison, CT; his sons, John L. Threshie Jr. in Westport; Richard Threshie in Wilton, CT; and Chuck Threshie in Black Rock, CT. Jack and Barcher have seven grandchildren and he was preceded in death by his brother Philip Threshie.

Services will be held at First Congregational Church of Greenwich, 108 Sound Beach Ave., Old Greenwich, CT at a future date. Services are in the care of Clancy-Palumbo Funeral Home, East Haven, CT.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association Connecticut Chapter, 200 Executive Blvd., Suite 4B, Southington, CT 06489 in memory of John L. Threshie.

[www.Clancy-PalumboFuneralHome.com](http://www.Clancy-PalumboFuneralHome.com)



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### Karen Cecilia Adams

Karen Cecilia Adams, 55, was released from the mortal pain of cancer on Saturday, Sept. 24. Her legacy endures in the lives of her children: her son,

Christopher Ketchledge and her daughter, Ashley Zydzik (Tyler). She is also survived by her mother, Miriam Rock (Jerry); stepmother Delores Adams; sisters Kimberly Hogle and Robin Lucas; nephews Brendan Hogle and Jack Lucas; and niece Katie Lucas. At the end of Karen's days on this earth, she was surrounded by her loving family, including Vanessa Hertz, Chris' fiancée; and Karen Bessemer, her best friend for the past 40 years. Karen is predeceased by her father, Larry Adams; grandparents, Lauri and Viena Rautio (maternal); and Mabel and Ben Adams (paternal).

Karen was born in Jacksonville on Feb. 20, 1961, and graduated from Wolfson High School in 1978. She attended Santa Fe College, George Mason University and the University of North Florida. As a lover of the arts she was a docent at the Cummer Art Museum and founded an interior design business. She took great pride in helping others, volunteering with several community organizations. Karen was also an accomplished equestrian in

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**OBITUARIES**



**Richard A. Maxwell**

Richard A. Maxwell, 88, died Sept. 28, 2016, at his home in St. Augustine. He was born on Oct. 7, 1927, in Hastings on the Hudson, NY, to Richard Meade and Frances

Maxwell. He grew up with his sister, Jean, in Hicksville, Long Island. He was a Navy veteran of World War II and the Korean conflict.

Dick graduated from Seton Hall University with a BS degree and later received his MBA from New York University. He

also completed the Harvard University program for management development.

A 39-year veteran of the insurance brokerage industry, Dick began his career with C. R. Black Jr. Corporation, now the Willis Corporation, the third-largest insurance brokerage firm in the United States. He retired from Willis as senior vice president and director of marketing.

After retiring, Dick moved to Ponte Vedra Beach and joined the Sawgrass Country Club, where he had been a member ever since. Dick was a faithful member of Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church and he volunteered at the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office for many years.

Dick was a loving husband and family man. He is survived by his beloved wife

of more than 65 years, Mary Maxwell; seven children, Mary Jo (Steve) Johnson of Dover, MA; Richard B. (Kathy) Maxwell of Naples, FL; Robert Maxwell of Saint Augustine, FL; Kevin (Ellen) Maxwell of Cohasset, MA; Terry (Jim) Heard of Roswell, GA; Carol (John Blough) Harrison of Washington Crossing, PA; and Diane (Steve) Wetzel of Freehold, NJ; 14 grandchildren, Eric (Jessica) Johnson, Brian and Colleen Maxwell, Ethan and Eamon Maxwell, Kelsey, Megan, Paige and Matthew Heard, Kelly and Billy Harrison and Sean, Ryan and Scott Wetzel; and two great-grandchildren, Maxwell and Ace Johnson.

All who knew Dick couldn't help but be impressed by his love for his family as

well as his wisdom and integrity. He also had an uncanny ability to draw people in through his stories about the Navy, the insurance industry and everyday family life.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 14 at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Ponte Vedra Beach. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Community Hospice of Northeast Florida. Please sign the online guestbook at [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com).



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ABOVE: Ponte Vedra's Zach King dives into the end zone for a Shark touchdown.

RIGHT: #13 John Santillo and #22 JB Shepard collide trying to intercept a Westside pass. The Wolverine receiver ultimately made the catch and turned it into a Westside touchdown.



# Sharks dispatch Westside 53-16



Photos by Chris and Jerry Norton  
Sophomore quarterback Jack Murrah, #10, completes a pass for the Sharks in relief of starter Nick Tronti.

By Jerry Norton

The Ponte Vedra Sharks improved their conference record Sept. 30 with a lopsided 53-16 win over Westside in a game that will be remembered more for the inordinate number of penalties called than for exciting plays made – and there were plenty of exciting plays, most by Ponte Vedra.

In an unusual turn of events, the Sharks found themselves briefly on the short end of the score. The Wolverines took the opening kickoff and benefited from a bizarre defensive play by Ponte Vedra to score the game's first touchdown. The score came when two Shark defenders collided while attempting to intercept a Westside pass. During the collision, the ball popped up right into the hands of the Wolverine receiver who took it to the house for an 80-yard TD. The PAT was no good and Westside led 6-0.

Their lead didn't last any longer than the time it took the Sharks' Jarrett Stepp to run 90 yards to the end zone with the ensuing kickoff. This time the Sharks missed the extra point.

The remainder of the first quarter belonged to the Sharks. They scored three more touchdowns, made a two-point conversion then missed another PAT. The first of the three touchdowns came on a 31-yard pass and run from Nick Tronti to Hal Swan. Tronti's quarterback keeper earned the point after and Ponte Vedra led 14-6.

Six plays later, Tronti connected with Marshall Few for a 52-yard pass and run but the Sharks' extra point again sailed low and wide of the mark. Another long completion to Few put the Sharks in business at the Westside 8-yard line. A pass to JD Pirus finished the drive with less than 2 minutes left in the first quarter.

Moments later, it looked like Tronti had worked his magic again when he floated a per-



Zach Summers #40 goes high in an attempt to knock down a Wolverine pass.

fect screen pass to Swan, who raced 70 yards for an apparent touchdown. The officials saw otherwise, calling the Sharks for an ineligible receiver downfield. It mattered little as Tronti came back several plays later to find Few wide open for a 15-yard score and a 34-6 lead.

The Wolverines offense continued to struggle, giving the ball right back to Ponte Vedra. Tronti connected with Stepp for 10 yards then hit Pirus for three and the Sharks sixth touchdown.

Westside was able to drive for a field goal in the closing moments of the first half, but could not stop the Sharks from scoring again, this on Zach Walton's six-yard run.

Jack Murrah came on in relief of Tronti in the third quarter and engineered the final TD drive. On the drive he hit Rani Toma for 10 yards then handed off to Zach King, who busted 8-yards into the end zone to push Ponte Vedra's lead to 53-9. The Wolverines scored with three minutes left to complete the scoring.

Ponte Vedra travels to Bartram Trail on Friday, Oct. 7 for a non-conference game against the Bears.

## PVHS cross country team holds annual Craig Speziale Meet

The Ponte Vedra Cross Country team held its annual Craig Speziale Meet, Oct. 1, with more than 16 teams from surrounding schools participating.

Head Coach Kerry Mowlam was impressed with his team.

"We went beast mode and did a clean sweep on all team awards," he said. "The team performed wonderfully and there were plenty of personal bests for the season."

In the first meet of the season on Aug. 27, the Ridgeview XC Invitational, the team started strong with three team victories in Girls Varsity, Girls JV and Boys JV; and a hard-fought third place for the Boys Varsity squad. Overall individual victories were won by Claire Moritz in Varsity Girls and Justin Knight in JV Boys.

The following week, PV lined up with some of the best teams in Florida and Georgia at the Sept. 5 Bale 'n' Trail meet, where the Girls' JV took home second place.

The following Saturday, the Ocala Horse Park Invitational drew teams from across the state. Both Boys' JV and Girls' Varsity came away with third place. Boys' Varsity ran its way into the top 10, while the ladies' JV team produced five of the top 12 finishers.

The meet at Embry Riddle is considered to be one of the toughest courses in Florida, but Claire Moritz once again took victory and the ladies' Varsity team won overall for the second year in a row. Not to be outdone, the ladies' JV not only won the race with Riley Mayer taking top honors but the first seven finishers were all wearing the PV emblem. The last race of the day was the boys' JV and PV again took to the podium, both as an individual athlete (Jackson Noye) and as a team.

On Sept. 24, the Varsity team was rewarded for its efforts and got to travel to the University of Florida to participate in a meet that had more than 100 team entries. Despite the hot, humid conditions, the ladies team took fourth place overall while the boys captured 18th place. Later that evening, the JV teams ran at the Katie Caples meet at Bishop Kenny. The top 20 teams were invited to race in an elite division, and despite the absence of seven top runners participating at UF, the PV JV girls finished tenth and the boys JV took third place.

Teams are currently now training for the district championships.

# Jaguars stave off Colts in London 30-27

By Mike Bonts

Following last week's home loss to the Baltimore Ravens, Jaguars Head Coach Gus Bradley stated the team had problems and that he was a problem fixer.

Facing a fourth straight loss to open the NFL season, the Jaguars' playing the reeling Indianapolis Colts went a long way toward fixing the problem.

Bradley's coaching hot seat can now be passed to Colts Head Coach Chuck Pagano. After reaching the AFC Championship Game two years ago, the Colts missed the playoffs last season, have now lost two straight to division rival Jacksonville and have not been good in this season's 1-3 start.

"Too little, too late," Pagano said

after the game. "You can't spot a team 17 points, 20 points, and expect to come back and win those type of games."

Jacksonville QB quarterback Blake Bortles threw two scores and rushed for another in the 30-27 victory on Sunday at Wembley Stadium in London. Bortles finished 19 of 33 for 207 yards with TD passes to Allen Hurns and Allen Robinson.

"We're excited about it, we'll celebrate it," Bortles said. "And it feels good to go a week through a preparation, come over here...and to handle some adversity."

An early turnover, late-half penalties and dropped passes added up to the Jaguars getting out to a 17-6 lead at halftime on Sunday and they never trailed.

"Obviously a big win for us," Bradley said following the win in front of 86,734. "I like that we came back. You can't win the game in the first quarter. You can't win it in the second quarter. You can't win it in the third quarter. You have to win it in the fourth quarter. That's what we did."

Indy QB Andrew Luck threw two TD passes in the fourth quarter to spark a rally. But defensive back Josh Johnson broke a fourth-down pass to end Indianapolis' hopes of a comeback. Indianapolis running back Frank Gore also scored on a three-run. Luck, who was sacked six times, completed 27 of 42 passes for 234 yards and an interception.

"Probably everybody feels like they played better in that second half," Luck

said. "But again it's not enough."

Indianapolis kicker Adam Vinatieri booted a pair of field goals in the first half and has made 33 straight kicks, the longest active streak in the NFL. Jason Myers added a field goal for the Jaguars.

"Must win," added Jaguars' left tackle Kelvin Beachum said. "We had to have it. You can't go into the bye week with a record like that. It was a division game with a lot on the line."

Jacksonville is now 1-0 in the AFC South Division and has a bye this week.

"It was huge," said Jacksonville defensive tackle Malik Jackson. "To be able to win this game for Gus and this team and silence all the critics is awesome. We just have to keep the ball rolling."



The Ponte Vedra Sharks Mitey Mites football team played Jacksonville Beach at EverBank Field during halftime at the Jaguars/Ravens game.

Photo by Jacque Lynn Grzebin

## PV Sharks Mitey Mites play during Jaguars halftime

The Ponte Vedra Sharks Mitey Mites football team had the opportunity to play against Jacksonville Beach at EverBank Field during halftime at the recent Jaguars v. Ravens game, playing before the largest crowd they have ever seen.

"It was a great experience for these 8- and 9-year-olds and their families," parent Neil Gornto said.

Coaches and players met at Cornerstone Park in Ponte Vedra and rode a chartered bus to the stadium.

The Sharks this season are 4-1 with three games remaining on their schedule.

"We as coaches, parents, and friends could not be more proud of these boys," Gornto said.

"All these players bring something

important, and have a great impact on this team. We are one unit, one team built on sportsmanship, dedication, and most importantly the love of the game."

Players include Austin Agatep, Trevor Alexander, Talan Babin, Bennett Baumgartner, Chase Bogle, Nehemiah "Buz" Bunkosky, Brian Case, James Cowan, Marco Cucci, Sean Doyle,

Corbyn Fordham, Ryan Gornto, Emmett Grzebin, Sean Grzebin Jr., Mason Hauseman, Dawson Hill, Jordan Jarvis, Nicholas Nuualiitia, Wyatt Perry, Grant Sheppard and Jackson Soud.

Coaches include Head Coach Todd Fordham and assistant coaches Steve Baumgartner, Alai Nuualiitia, Scott Bunkosky, Chad Hauseman and John Bogle. Team Mom is Ryan Sheppard.

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## OBITUARIES

the world of hunters and jumpers, competing throughout the east and ultimately qualifying to show in the prestigious National Horse Show held Madison Square Garden. Her love of horses and abilities were inspirations to many who knew her.

She will be greatly missed, but fondly remembered for her giving heart, witty sense of humor, joyful laugh, her faith in Christ and the unconditional love for her children, family

and friends. A Celebration of Karen's Life was held at Ponte Vedra Presbyterian Church on Saturday, Oct. 1.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital and Mission House. Please sign the online guestbook at [www.pontevedravalle.com](http://www.pontevedravalle.com).



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# Ponte Vedra YMCA Flyers swim team celebrates successful year

Members of the Ponte Vedra Family YMCA's Flyers swim team recently gathered to celebrate a successful 2015-2016 year of swim with an award ceremony and Olympic-themed party.

More than 40 swimmers were treated to food and fun with their team, one that has grown significantly under the coaching of Jennifer Salles-Cunha. The group has grown so much, in fact, that an intermediate division was added in the fall of 2015 under new coach Monique Salles-Cunha.

Both coaches presented their swimmers with bronze, silver and gold medals during the ceremony; bronze medalists were swimmers who

participated in USA Swimming Competitions, silver medals were given to those who competed in individual events at a championship meet, and those awarded gold medals were the top two swimmers in each age group. Tristan Lewers and Ryland Zuniga of the 10 and under category took home gold alongside Jason Hepfer and Reilly McCabe of the 11 to 14 group and Jesse Hagy and Lilly McCabe of the 15 and up group.

The coaches also welcomed several new swimmers to the team and took a moment to acknowledge the accomplishments and potential of the athletes before them, recognizing highlights of the season.



The Ponte Vedra Family YMCA Flyers swim team

Photo courtesy of Ponte Vedra Family YMCA

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## Marsh Landing Women's Golf winners

The winners of the Marsh Landing Women's Golf Association opening day on Sept. 20: First Flight with a score of 60, Karen Wehle, Marty Evans, Pat Hickerson and Amy Wallman (blind draw); second place with a score of 60 were Sach Price, Pat Tancredi, Mary Lee Golitz and Amy Wallman; third flight, also with a score of 60, were Jan McManus, Elana Dietz, Joanne Ghiloni and Dottie Hall.



Photo courtesy of Marsh Landing Women's Golf Association

## Umpires needed for adult slow-pitch softball league in St. Johns County

St. Johns County Parks and Recreation is accepting applications for adult slow-pitch softball umpires. Umpires are responsible for officiating games, maintaining game control and handling rule violations. Games are held at Treaty Park, 1595 Wildwood Drive, and Mills Field, 1805 Race Track Road. Applicants must be at least 21 years of age and

must be available to work at least one to three nights per week from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Experience is preferred but not necessary, and on-field instruction and training sessions are provided. Umpires receive \$19 per worked game. For more information or to obtain an application, call (904) 945-0696 or email [jimedii@comcast.net](mailto:jimedii@comcast.net).

## St. Johns County Parks and Recreation to host adult beach volleyball leagues

St. Johns County Parks and Recreation will host 10-week men's, women's and co-ed beach volleyball leagues beginning Oct. 10 at the St. Johns County Ocean and Fishing Pier volleyball courts on 350 A1A Beach Boulevard. Open courts will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Oct. 3 and 6.

Registration is \$50 per person, \$100 for a two-person team, or \$200 for a four-person

team. The men's league will play each Monday beginning Oct. 10; the women's league will play each Tuesday beginning Oct. 11, and co-ed doubles and four-player leagues will play each Thursday beginning Oct. 13. Games are held at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. For more information or to register, email [alipnick11@gmail.com](mailto:alipnick11@gmail.com) or call (904) 209-0344.

### THEME: THE 1950S

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### ACROSS

- Rn, a health hazard
- One noble or inert
- Multitude
- Port city in Japan
- Pie \_\_\_\_\_ mode
- Inflict a blow
- \*Prime Minister of India in the 1950s
- Under the weather
- Line in London
- \*49th state
- \*Space Race starter
- \*"\_\_\_\_\_ Hunt" with Lloyd Bridges
- First one on a ship
- PC brain
- Diva's solo
- Frustration, in print
- RIP pots
- Ben Affleck's 2012 Oscar winner
- Flax fabric
- This and the other
- Polynesian kingdom
- Man Ray's art movement
- The inner self
- Indian Lilac
- Units of work
- Scale model of Earth
- \*It was on Little Anthony's pillow in 1958
- Grazing field
- Spiritedness
- African tam-\_\_\_\_
- \*Jackie Robinson's and Duke Snider's team
- \*\_\_\_\_\_ Khrushchev
- Goodbye in Spanish
- Commotion
- Not active
- Haunted house sounds
- American cuckoo
- Rocks at mountain base
- Gaelic
- \*Thunderbird
- Macho guy

### DOWN

- Actor/director Howard
- Between ports
- Willy Wonka creator
- Ladies' fingers
- Post-roller coaster ride condition
- Mother Earth, to Ancient Greeks
- \*"\_\_\_\_\_ About Eve" starring Bette Davis
- Pico de gallo, e.g.
- Obscenity
- Property right
- Tiny purse or case
- 168 hours
- High-pitched cry
- One of 24 in pure gold
- "Every child. One voice." org.
- Ian McKellen in "X-Men" films
- \*Fulgencio Batista's home
- Fork tooth
- "\_\_\_\_\_ death do us part"
- \*Like imaginary curtain
- "Park and \_\_\_\_\_"
- Twist and distort
- Neighbor separator?
- Idiot, in Yiddish
- Type of molding
- \*Aeronautics and aerospace research org.
- Stradivari competitor
- Mother \_\_\_\_\_, "The Sound of Music"
- Go wrong
- Debonair
- \*"Lucky Starr" series author Asimov
- Kind of pie
- Female equivalent of "sir"
- O in B.O.
- Buenos \_\_\_\_\_
- 2014 movie "\_\_\_\_\_ Girl"
- Dark, as in movie
- \*One of Ike's two
- Carpet layer's calculation
- \*Crick/Watson/Franklin discovery
- X

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