

THE RECORDER



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September 15, 2022

Volume 53, No. 46

75 cents

Serving Ponte Vedra, St. Augustine, The Beaches and Greater St. Johns County

PonteVedraRecorder.com



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INSIDE: CHECK IT OUT!
The Recorder's Entertainment EXTRA featuring TV listings, streaming information, puzzles and more!



Photo by Anthony Richards

Nease High School hosted its annual college fair for students throughout the northern end of the county Sept 8. *Read the full story on page 8.*



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INSIDE

One of Us

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



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PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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BRIEFS

Construction zone alert near Mickler's Landing

Starting Wednesday, Sept. 14, heavy construction equipment will be working on the beach north of the public beach access point at Mickler's Landing Beachfront Park as part of the ongoing FEMA Dune Enhancement Project. Caution is urged when on the beach and beach access point.

The contractor has set up traffic cones, beach patrol officers and flaggers to help pedestrians safely traverse the area adjacent to the construction activity. Work is expected to continue near the public beach access point until Wednesday, Sept. 21.

For more information on the FEMA Dune Enhancement Project, go to the Coastal Projects webpage at www.sjcfll.us/coastalprojects.

Mini writers' workshop is Saturday, Sept. 17

Northeast Florida Sisters in Crime, a local writers' group, will conduct a mini workshop during its Saturday, Sept. 17, meeting in the FOL Room of the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library.

The topic is "Streaming consciousness: a tool for helping the development of your writing skills." The workshop host is President Janet Kuchler, author of historical romances and contemporary mysteries, and UNF OLLI writing instructor.

Doors open at 10 a.m. The library is located at 101 Library Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach.

Ripley's celebrates Educator Appreciation Days

Through Oct. 16, Ripley's Believe It or Not! St. Augustine on San Marco Avenue is offering free admission for all educators and school employees, kindergarten through college, to Ripley's Believe It or Not! Odditorium, Ripley's Red Train Tours and Bayfront Mini Golf.

All school employees are eligible, and up to four additional guests will receive 50% off. To receive the discount, provide a current pay stub from an educational institution along with a photo ID. Homeschool families are included in this promotion. They must provide a letter of intent, attendance record or homeschool ID card upon admission to receive this discount.

Teens invited to discover creative uses for duct tape

The Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library is planning a special program for teens 5:30 to 7 p.m. Sept. 27. "Creating With Duct Tape" is for students in grades six through 12.

Participants will use funky duct tape to cover common objects, such as cups, boxes and frames. Supplies will be provided. Teens are asked to RSVP on the library's website.

For more information about teen programming at the library, contact Joan Meyers at 904-827-6979 or jmeyers@sjcfll.us. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library.

For any further details or a full calendar of events, go to sjcfll.org/branches/ponte-vedra-beach-branch.

Networking is topic for job hunter meeting

Savvy job hunters are invited to an in-person workshop, "Networking for Job Leads," to be presented by Chad V. Sorenson, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, president of Adaptive HR Solutions.

You may have heard the old saying — it is not what you know, but who you know. Studies show that in some industries half of the



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Briefs

Continued from 2

positions are filled before the job is even posted.

This presentation will explore the right and wrong ways to network to get ahead of the competition. Alternate ways to network using social media will also be explored. The goal is to learn how to transform passive network connections into active promoters.

The program will be held from 10 a.m. to noon Sept. 29 at Christ Episcopal Church, 400 San Juan Drive, Room 204,

Formation + Arts Building. Sign-in and networking begin at 9:45 a.m.

Email Pam Ottesen at pottesen66@gmail.com to reserve a seat.

Golf Classic to benefit Epic-Cure

Epic-Cure, Inc. is bringing back The Golf Classic II, which will be held Oct. 17 at Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, on the Ocean Course and Oceanfront Surf Club.

The Golf Classic consists of a four-person, best two-ball net tournament where each participant will get an allowance equal to 90% of their handicap. Golf will be followed by premier cocktails and a buffet dinner, along with silent auctions

and plenty of raffle prizes under the stars at the Oceanfront Surf Club.

For further information, call Epic-Cure at 904-458-7145.

Epic-Cure's mission is to eliminate food waste through food rescue and distribution. In three years, a 100% volunteer force have rescued and re-distributed more than 10 million pounds of food. For more information about Epic-Cure, go to epic-cure.org.

Program to address essential tremor

Have you been diagnosed with, or suspect you have, essential tremor? A program to address the condition will be

held from 10:30 a.m. to noon Oct. 25 at the Council of Aging Center at Flagler Health+ Village at Nocatee, 351 Town Plaza Ave., Suite 205 in Ponte Vedra.

Alaine Keebaugh, Ph.D., will discuss treatment options for people living with essential tremor. Keebaugh has an extensive background studying movement disorders. She will share resources available through JaxHope and the latest options for controlling "ET." A Q&A session will follow the presentation.

Register by email at pbrunell@stjohn-scoa.com or by calling 904-819-3234.

— Compiled by Shaun Ryan

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Final MSD budget hearing set for Sept. 20

By Anthony Richards

The Ponte Vedra Municipal Service District continues to tweak things in next year's budget during its meetings.

The latest approved changes include approving a 0.27 millage rate, as well as, \$34,000 for speed limit signs and \$10,000 set aside for street light maintenance in the

coming fiscal year.

Although the adjustments to the proposed budget were approved, trustee Gary Jurenovich was the lone opposition on the board for all three.

The adjusted contingency is now \$189,175. However, everything in the proposed budget remains tentative prior to the final budget hearing scheduled for Sept. 20

in the small conference room at the Ponte Vedra Beach Public Library beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Drainage issues after rainstorms was an issue raised to the board by a couple of different residents during the public comments section of the meeting, as well as the parking of construction trucks during the day, especially along San Juan Drive.

According to Chairman Al Hollon, he had received the initial complaint and on the day he went out to check the situation there were 12 cars and trucks lined up along the road in one part.

Residents raised concerns that the parked vehicles presented a safety issue, especially on curves in the road, where sight lines of oncoming drivers could be blocked and raise the potential for accidents.

Hollon said he spoke with Sheriff's Office patrol in the area, and they have reported it to their supervisors and are monitoring it to make sure the vehicles do not obstruct the roadway.

"The county has been notified," Hollon said.

Another concern of residents is the increased amount of flooding and drainage issues that seems to be happening after rainstorms.

The board agreed that it is becoming

more of an issue.

"Every time it rains, you can barely see the yellow lines when driving down the boulevard," Hollon said.

He assured them that the MSD will look into it and work with the county to see what has to be done to improve the draining situation.

Sidewalks were another talking point, as trustee Brad Wester, who was tasked with bringing back a bid for a sidewalk cost to the board, estimated that it would cost \$31,790 to put a five-foot wide sidewalk from the Jacksonville Beach line down Ponte Vedra Boulevard that meets with the new beach access point and curves around to Ponte Vedra Circle.

However, Wester made it clear that the estimate was one that he gathered based off a previous study they had done, but that the estimate still must be validated by a proper source.

"I'd prefer it be six feet (wide), but the standard is five feet," Wester said.

Wester hopes that Jacksonville Beach will want to connect their sidewalk to the new sidewalk project to make it a proper transition for pedestrians.

"So many people are using the new beach access point, and I think everyone should have a safe way to get there," Wester said.

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Episcopal School of Jacksonville expands Beaches Campus

Episcopal School of Jacksonville, Beaches Campus, officially opened its new gym and performing arts center, and state-of-the-art library and learning center, at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday, Sept. 9.

The ceremony was led by The Rev. Adam Greene, head of school at Episcopal School of Jacksonville, and Jennifer Ketchum, head of Beaches Campus. Episcopal broke ground on the project on Nov. 12, 2021.

The Episcopal drumline, Talon the Eagle mascot, varsity cheerleaders and the Upper School and Lower School basketball teams all welcomed guests to the event in the gym.

Jacksonville Beach Mayor Christine Hoffman, Beaches Campus students in grades pre-K 3 through fifth grade, Episcopal faculty and staff, parents and friends of the school attended the ceremony.

“This new gym and performing arts facility, and the new Cordell Library and Innovation Center, will allow our students to fully participate in and benefit from our Four Pillars — academics, fine arts and athletics, and spiritual life,” said Greene. “The campus also now has a larger,

whole-school meeting space and facility for gathering, important to building our community and strengthening our Episcopal family. Many donors gave generously to this campaign, and I especially thank the Petway family for sharing our vision for this facility from the very beginning. I also give special thanks to Jennifer Ketchum for her leadership and thanks to our construction partners, Summit Construction, for the hard work in bringing this vision into reality.”

The new gym and performing arts center feature a varsity-sized court and two half courts, retractable basketball goals and bleachers, a performance stage and dressing rooms, curtains and chairs and theater lighting system.

As part of the expansion, the school created a new library and media and innovation center named for the Cordell family in thanks for their generosity. The campus’s playground was moved to the site of the current outdoor basketball court and a school-owned building on an adjacent lot was razed to provide additional parking.

“We know the children sitting here today and the children who are not yet enrolled will benefit from this space for years and years,” said Greene. “It is not often a community is involved in an intergenerational project, but this new gym and performing arts facility and library and innovation center will be a part of our school for generations to come. We are so grateful to so many in our Episcopal community who have made these new facilities possible.”

Episcopal School of Jacksonville provides a college-preparatory education within an academically challenging and caring environment focused on a balanced experience. Episcopal’s portrait of a graduate is an individual who seeks understanding, develops a sense of self, lives with honor and purpose and pursues a life of faith.

Episcopal is built on Four Pillars — academics, spiritual life, fine arts and athletics — which encourage personal development in every aspect of students’ lives, helping each child reach his or her unique potential.



Photos by Laura Evans Photography

The Rev. Adam Greene, head of school at Episcopal School of Jacksonville, and Jennifer Ketchum, head of Beaches Campus, Episcopal, cut the ribbon to officially open the new gym.

Episcopal enrolls approximately 1,400 students from age one to grade 12. The Beaches Campus enrolls students in

grades pre-K 3 through fifth grade. The school’s Munnerlyn Campus enrolls students in grades six through 12.



Varsity Cheer members attended the ceremony from the school’s Munnerlyn Campus (sixth through 12th grades).

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Edwards & Ragatz, P.A.

Mark Bennett now calls Ponte Vedra home and has made a name for himself by posting his local nature photography on various community public Facebook groups. His love for photography began in high school and it has since blossomed into a creative avenue that he enjoys sharing with his fellow residents. The beauty of all the various animals he captures is what he enjoys most, and his goal is to share that beauty with the rest of the community.

Mark Bennett

As told to Anthony Richards

Tell us a little about yourself and your background.

My son went to college here at Flagler and works now at TPC Sawgrass. We were living in Minnesota and came down when our first grandchild was to be born.

We had already been coming here for years with him being at Flagler and we just loved everything about the area and what it has to offer. It's all about the atmosphere.

Where did your passion for photography come from?

I've been doing it since my teenage days. It really got started in high school, as a friend and I did a lot of camping trips and that's where the fascination with nature began.

Times have really changed over the years. Back then, we'd go through 25 rolls of film and know if you got one good shot in the whole bunch. The move to digital has really changed that.

What are some of your favorite things to shoot?

I take mostly nature shots, and the majority of them are taken from my back porch at my house. That's the beauty of living in a place like Florida.

Being in Florida, I get a lot of opportunities to shoot birds of all kinds, but wolves and bears are definitely my favorites.

For years, I've been going to Yellowstone with a group of fellow photographers, and we try capture all the nature around us.

However, I have really gained a fascination with birds. We see a lot of wading birds, such as egrets and cranes. Birds in flight, such as eagles or ospreys are also very fascinating.

I actually even got some shots of two birds fighting the other day, which is very rare.

Is there a better time than others to take photos?

Morning is the best time. It's where the lighting is at it's best. Of course, on a cloudy day, it's good all day.

In the spring there is a migration that happens with the birds, so you see different birds at different times.

So much of it comes down to when and where you are shooting.

Where can people find your photos?

I post some of my photos on Facebook as part of community public groups.

People really like to be reminded that there are all these beautiful things out there and all around them.

I've had people even ask me to do family portraits and weddings, which I can do.

What do you enjoy most about living in the North Florida area?

Well, my favorite subject of all is my granddaughter and I probably take the most photos of her.

I also enjoy playing golf, and there's not a much better place to do that.



Photo courtesy of Mark Bennett

Nature photography is what Ponte Vedra's own Mark Bennett specializes in.

Mineral City donations

Members of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach join with club Foundation Chair Billy Wagner (front left) and club President Ronald “Doc” Renuart (front right) to celebrate the success of the club’s annual Mineral City Celebration charity gala. As a result of the gala’s success, the Ponte Vedra Beach Rotary Club Foundation recently distributed \$95,000 to Beaches-area charities to support their missions and strengthen our communities.

Contributed photo



9/11 remembered

On Sunday, Sept. 11, the City of St. Augustine continued its annual tradition of holding a Ceremony of Remembrance in honor of those who died in the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

The ceremony was held at the St. Augustine Fire Department’s main station and was broadcast live online on the fire department’s Facebook page. The 15-minute program included a presentation of the colors, a musical presentation, remarks by St. Augustine Fire Chief Carlos Aviles and remarks by guest speaker Erin Durkin.

Photo by David Jackson, ActionImages Photography



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Photos by Anthony Richards



The University of South Carolina was just one of more than 80 colleges and universities that took part in the 15th Annual Nease High college fair Sept. 8.



The Nease High School gym was packed with students and parents from several schools across the north end of St. Johns County during the recent college fair.

More than 80 schools take part in Nease college fair

Nease tradition continues after two-year absence

By Anthony Richards

It is never too early for a high schooler to be researching and beginning the process of looking into the various colleges out there and what they have to offer, if that is the path they choose.

Nease High School hosted a college fair Sept. 8 with that thinking in mind. According to Missy Kennedy, IB (International Baccalaureate) coordinator and registrar at Nease High, the fair is traditionally an annual event hosted by the school, but it had been two years

since they were allowed to hold one due to regulations in place in conjunction with the pandemic. The college fair is held each fall, while Nease also holds a career fair each spring around April. “We’ve done this for 15 years now,” Kennedy said. More than 80 colleges and universities

were on hand for the event and were set up at tables that filled Nease’s gym. “I’ve got a great group of IB boosters, who are mainly in charge of it,” Kennedy said. “We start planning and getting all the colleges lined up back in May. It is a truly IB event that we hold for the school.”

Because the event was open to St. Johns County students at schools in the north end of the county, a huge crowd filtered through throughout the two-hour showcase.

“It’s nice as an advisor here at the school to be able to actually give my students a face of a college advisor to go with their name,” Kennedy said. “There’s so much communication that goes on over the phone or through email, it’s just nice to meet in-person. A lot of it is all about making an impression, because most of these recruiters are the same ones that will be reviewing their applications.”

More than 1,000 people had already entered the event within the first hour, which according to Kennedy was on pace to be the largest attendance in the event’s history.

“We invited the entire north district, and we are just the ones that host at this point,” Kennedy said. “It’s nice to have the entire community really get involved.”

The major state schools, such as the University of Florida and Florida State University were placed down the middle of the gym to accompany the long lines that they tend to garner.

“The schools, especially in Florida are really good about putting out a matrix of stats so that the kids and their parents can see what they accepted last year,” Kennedy said. “That’s important to see, so that they can start comparing their scores now while in high school.”

Tickets on sale now! Call 904.202.2886 or visit thefloridaforum.com

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Flagler Hospital nurse recognized with DAISY Award

Tatyana Frunker RN has been honored as the most recent DAISY Award recipient at Flagler Hospital. She was honored for providing excellent and compassionate care to a patient during a recent trying time.

The DAISY Award is an international program that rewards and celebrates the extraordinary compassion and skill nurses give daily. Frunker, a nurse in Flagler Health+’s Outpatient Surgery unit, was nominated by a patient diagnosed with atypical hyperplasia (ADH), a precancerous condition that affects cells in the breast, who needed to have a double mastectomy.

“(Frunker) shared her personal story with me about her twin daughters that had mammograms at age 40,” wrote the patient in her nomination letter. “I am around the same age and she shared with me how one daughter’s results were fine and the younger daughter’s results were the exact same thing I had —atypical hyperplasia. She said she was shocked and shared a bit of her daughter’s journey through this and also related how her daughter is doing great now and is young and beautiful. She assured me that I was in good hands with Dr. Routhier and Dr. Vu and that I too am young and will come out of this OK. I was having surgery for a double mastectomy and suffer from anxiety.”

Their shared experience provided hope and comfort to the patient, who continued, “I was in an anxious state of mind and this story was very encouraging to me. It is nice to know that someone else has gone through the same trials and they came out on the other side healthy.”

“Tatyana represents so well what it means to be a caring nurse in the treatment of this patient,” said Carlton



Tatyana Frunker RN

DeVooght, president and CEO of Flagler Health+. “She is a fitting and well-deserved recipient of the DAISY Award. Her level of care and her willingness to share her

own personal experience made a tremendous difference in this patient’s life, and we are sincerely grateful.”

“I have always felt like I wanted to help people and it is definitely something that makes me happy,” said Frunker, who came to the United States from Ukraine 26 years ago and has been a nurse at Flagler Health+ for 22 years. “There were lots of worthy candidates, so this is an honor for me.”

In recognition of this honor, Frunker received a stone-carved “Healers Touch” trophy, a DAISY winner’s pin, a gift basket and a \$200 bonus.

“I would like to donate my winnings to the Ukrainian people in my homeland. There is still a lot of help that is needed there,” she added.

Frunker’s nomination was among 53 recognitions that were submitted by patients, their families and Flagler Health+ team members.

The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses is part of The DAISY (D)iseases Attacking the Immune System Foundation’s program to recognize the super-human efforts nurses make every day.

The not-for-profit DAISY Foundation, based in Glen Ellen, Calif., was established by J. Mark Barnes and his family in memory of his son J. Patrick Barnes. J. Patrick Barnes died at the age of 33 in 1999 from complications of idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP), a little-known autoimmune disease.

The nursing care Patrick and his family received while he was ill inspired this unique means of thanking nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their patients and families.



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Jerk and Curry Music Festival set for Sept. 24

Enjoy live musical performances at the 5th Annual Jerk and Curry Music Festival on Saturday, Sept. 24, at the Francis Field. The family-friendly outdoor event for all ages will showcase reggae artists including Inner Circle, Anthony B, Pato Banton, Everton Blender and more. Attendees will enjoy jerk and curry cuisine and a taste of the islands. Doors open and performances will start at 2 p.m. and go until 10 p.m. Francis Field is located at 25 West Castillo Drive in St. Augustine.

The event is organized by One Caribbean Inc.

“Our mission is to build alliances that will promote collaborative endeavors within the Caribbean culture focusing on commerce, food, music and family enrichment, which will empower and motivate the growth of our Caribbean community in North Florida socially, culturally and economically. We look forward to a great turnout for the family games, food, fun and live music,” according to One Caribbean.

Artists scheduled to appear at the 5th Annual Jerk and Curry Music Festival include:

- Inner Circle, the Grammy Award-winning reggae band is world renowned for the “Bad Boys” movie theme song “Bad Boys and Sweat.” South Florida residents and brothers Ian Lewis and Roger Lewis founded Inner Circle. The band is celebrating more than 50 years of playing reggae music together and is a token of love and longevity within the industry.
- Anthony B brings a high energy, engaging performance style to fans who relate to his lyrics and song writing, both revolutionary and entertaining.
- Pato Banton is a Grammy-nominated reggae legend who has recorded and toured the world with The English Beat, Steel Pulse, UB40 and Sting (just to name a few).



Contributed photo

Grammy-winning reggae Band Inner Circle will be among the performers at the 5th Annual Jerk and Curry Music Festival.

• Everton Blender is a Jamaican reggae singer known for his smooth, crooning, tenor vocals, up-tempo arrangements and spiritually uplifting themes, successfully bridging the gap between roots reggae and dance hall.

General admission tickets for the festival are \$20 in advance or \$35 at the door. Tickets are now on available on Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-jerk-and-curry-music-festival-2022-tickets-384033563727?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=escb>

For more information about The Jerk and Curry Music Festival, follow it on Instagram @jerkandcurrymusic-festival or Facebook @jerkandcurrymusicfestival or call 904-713-5111.

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OUT WITH THE OLD IN WITH THE NEW

OBITUARIES



Susan Thomas Sontag

Susan Thomas Sontag, 79, a wonderful mother and wife, departed this earth on September 10, 2022, the day of her 57th wedding anniversary, at her home in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL in the company of her husband.

Susan was born April 10, 1943, in Alameda, CA, to Jack and Barbara Thomas. She graduated from Pomona College, Claremont, CA. At Pomona she met up with an old friend, Frederick (Rick) Sontag whom she had known since the 8th grade who also was attending college in Claremont. They fell in love and married after college. Susan supported Rick through graduate school.

As Rick went on to a business career Susan stayed home to bear and raise three children. She was the mainstay of her children's development and key influencer in their education.

In 1994 Susan was diagnosed with termi-

nal brain cancer and given three years to live. She survived the disease but had substantial deficiencies. She slowly continued to deteriorate over the next 28 years up until her death. She faced her continuing loss of competence with courage and determination and became a role model for people facing serious medical issues. She was greatly loved by her family and all the medical professionals she met over the course of the 28 years. Now her suffering is over.

She is survived by her loving husband Frederick (Rick) B. Sontag, son Frederick (Fred) T. Sontag, of Ft. Lauderdale, FL; daughters Cindy Hudgins (husband Jeffrey) of Glenview, IL and Julie Sontag of Santa Monica, CA; grandson Ward Sontag of Ft. Worth, TX as well as grandsons Ben Hudgins, Alex Hudgins and Tyler Hudgins all of Glenview, IL. She is preceded in death by her parents.

A celebration of her life is being planned. Donations in lieu of flowers should be made to Brain Tumor Network (www.braintumor-network.org) 816 A1A North, Suite 201, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082. Please visit her online Tribute at www.quinn-shalz.com.

Arrangements by



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DEATH NOTICES

Elfriede Anderson

Elfriede Anderson, 81, of Atlantic Beach, Florida, died Sept. 3, 2022. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com. 904-249-1100

Sarunyu "Guy" Boonsanong

Sarunyu "Guy" Boonsanong, 41, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Aug. 31, 2022. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Mark M. Brown, Jr.

Mark M. Brown, Jr., 52, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Sept. 6, 2022. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com. 904-249-1100

Jill Dyer

Jill Dyer, 84, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Sept. 4, 2022. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Edward Earl Hastey

Edward Earl Hastey, 94, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Sept. 6,

2022. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com. 904-249-1100

Sue S. Jarecki

Sue S. Jarecki, 78, of Atlantic Beach, Florida, died Sept. 4, 2022. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com. 904-249-1100

Paul Meuse

Paul Meuse, 67, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Sept. 4, 2022. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Donald Eugene Roller

Donald Eugene Roller, 85, of Ponte Vedra Beach, died Sept. 2, 2022. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com. 904-249-1100

Stephanie Anne Snow

Stephanie Anne Snow, 22, of Jacksonville Beach, Florida, died July 9, 2022. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

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OBITUARIES



Mark M. Brown, Jr.

Mark MacLellan Brown Jr., 52, a loving husband and father, passed away unexpectedly on September 6, 2022, at his home in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL.

Mark was born March 16, 1970, in Potsdam, NY, to Mark and Nancy Brown. After graduating from Canton Central School in 1989, he went on to study at Utica College of Syracuse University, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Technology and Economic Crime Investigation with a minor in Computer Science in 1992. He was employed in cyber security by AT&T, then Platinum Technology, followed by E-Trade. Most recently, he worked for the Wounded Warrior Project as the Informa-

tion Technology Operations Director. Mark was an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed hunting and camping. He was a member of the NRA. He loved spending time working on cars, starting with his first Camaro when he was a teenager to his son Ian's car most recently. Mark seemed to have endless knowledge of everything and could fix just about anything. Those who knew and loved him were always grateful for the help he would provide. He also enjoyed reading, gardening, and trying out different recipes. He will be forever missed but not forgotten.

He is survived by his wife, Tracy and son, Ian of Ponte Vedra Beach, FL; his parents, Mark Sr. and Nancy Brown of Canton, NY; brother, Robert Brown of Hermitage, PA; sister, Jessica Stumper (Brian) of Corning, NY; brother-in-law, Todd Nelson (Michelle) and sister-in-law, Tammy Taft (Gene).

Donations in lieu of flowers may be sent to the Wounded Warrior Project via their online form at: <https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org/Default.aspx?tsid=10043>.

Please visit his Tribute online at www.quinn-shalz.com.

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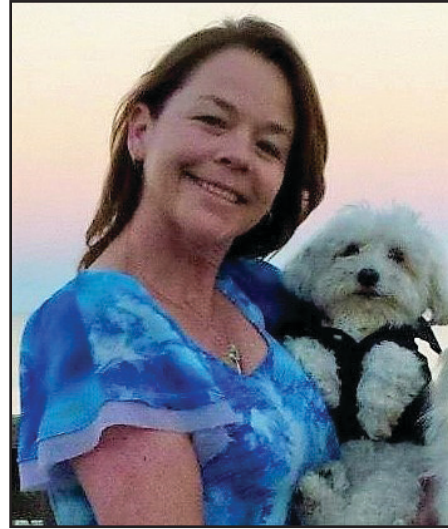


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Aimie Jean DeBroux-Lawrence

We are saddened to share that Aimie Jean DeBroux-Lawrence, 54, of Ponte Vedra Beach, FL passed away on August 20, 2022, after a courageous and hard-fought battle with cancer. Aimie was born on February 9, 1968, to Teri and Ron DeBroux, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Aimie grew up in Waukesha, Wisconsin, where she still has many beloved friends and family. She moved to Florida in her late teens and has since called Ponte Vedra Beach her home. In 2013 Aimie married her long-time sweetheart Bruce Lawrence.

Aimie was an extremely loving, kind, and generous person to all around her. She was known for helping those in need, she loved sunsets, had a soft spot in her heart for animals, and had a keen eye to find the even the smallest shark tooth while walking on the beach. In her free-time Aimie enjoyed spending time with family and friends, photographing and sharing the sunsets from her back porch, hanging out with her dogs, traveling, painting rocks, and supporting her local leukemia and lymphoma support group. Aimie worked

in the hospitality industry for many years, she brought a special energy and commitment to her work, her colleagues, and many local customers over the years also became dear friends to her.

Aimie is survived by her husband, Bruce Lawrence; her daughter, Jenifer Lawrence; and granddaughter, Avaleigh; father, Ron DeBroux; brothers, Scott Heenie (Susan), Kevin Heenie (Kimberly), John Heenie (Jamie), Michael DeBroux (Jeanette); sister-in-law, Tina Schulten (Scott); as well as many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and extended family who she loved dearly. She is preceded in passing by her loving mother, Teri DeBroux; sister, Donna Richmond; and her bonus-mom, Carol DeBroux.

Our family would like to extend a heart-felt thank you for all of the wonderful people in Aimie's life who have offered support and love for Aimie and the entire family during this time. To honor Aimie's memory, we are holding a celebration of her life on October 3, 2022 from 4-8pm at The Cabana Beach Club located at 619 Ponte Vedra Blvd, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL, 32082. Attendees are requested to confirm on Facebook or via email to her cousin Bridget at bridge023@aol.com. Aimie insisted that attendees are to wear bright colors. In lieu of flowers Aimie requested for donations to be made in her memory to either the Humane Society <http://secured.humanesociety.org/> or the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society <http://givenow.lls.org> Please sign the online guestbook at www.pontevedravally.com



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Fall HOME IMPROVEMENT

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THE
RECORDER
SEPTEMBER 15, 2022



File photo

The Jacksonville Home + Patio Show is a tradition for do-it-yourselfers and anyone seeking to upgrade their homes.

Jacksonville Home + Patio Show begins Sept. 30

By Shaun Ryan

It's time once again for the fall Jacksonville Home + Patio Show, a major event for anyone looking to complete a project around the house or just seeking

inspiration.

The show will be held Sept. 30 through Oct. 2 at the Prime Osborn Convention Center, 1000 Water St., Jacksonville. Hours are: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, and 10 a.m. to

6 p.m. Oct. 2.

Single-day admission at the box office is \$12 for adults age 13 and older, \$5 for seniors age 60 and older (on Friday only, with ID), \$5 for children ages 6-12 (only via the box office) and free to children age 5 and younger. There is a \$2 savings on adult tickets purchased online at jacksonvillefallhomeandpatioshow.mpetickets.com.

The show is a huge marketplace, with more than 300 booths. It's a great place to meet with industry professionals, see informative presentations and purchase products and services. Organizers suggest wearing comfortable shoes, bringing a pen and paper to take notes and having some cash on hand, though most vendors will accept plastic.

Many attendees like having everything under one roof for the convenience of one-stop shopping. In addition, attendees may find special "show deals" on products and services that might otherwise be unavailable. In addition, the show features high quality

exhibitors so that attendees can trust the offerings.

But the vendor booths are only part of the fun.

Two special guests will be on hand: Joe Mazza, host of HGTV's "Home Inspector Joe," and Virginia Chamlee, author of the best-selling book, "Big Thrift Energy."

Mazza is an expert home inspector with 20 years in the construction industry. On TV, he helps house hunters realize their dream home designs and repair any safety issues that need addressed. His online videos are popular for the valuable advice he shares. He will be at the Fresh Ideas Stage at 2 p.m. Sept. 30 and noon and 2 p.m. Oct. 1.

Chamlee's book is a manual for finding attractive design pieces at great prices. The lifelong collector shares some of her best finds, including a Goyard trunk worth about \$10,000 that she got for \$90 and a floor-length vintage Christian Dior cape, which she acquired at Goodwill for \$10.

She will be at the Fresh Ideas Stage at 3 p.m. Oct. 1.

In addition, Sept. 30 is "Hero Day," when active military personnel, veterans, police, fire and first responders will be admitted free with a valid ID. Oct. 2 is "Teacher Appreciation Day," when teachers and school employees will be admitted free with a valid ID.

A Home Depot Kids' DIY Workshop is planned for 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Oct. 1 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 2.

Throughout the show, there will be a professionally curated picnic display, and food trucks will be onsite from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sept. 30 and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 2.

For further information, go to jacksonvillefallhomeshow.com.

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Fall trends reflect holidays and cooler weather on the horizon

By Anthony Richards

Tom Trout, Inc. in Jacksonville has seen a lot of home improvement trends over the 60 years it has been offering custom home and large-scale remodeling and commercial projects.

“We see a wide spectrum of what is trending,” company president Tom Trout III said.

As we approach this fall season, it is no different, and there are several trends currently taking place in the home improvement world.

According to Trout, one of those includes removing interior walls, usually between a home’s kitchen and living areas to create larger open spaces.

Tying into this is an overall focus on updating kitchens in general with new cabinets, stone counter tops and updated appliances.

“Shaker style cabinets are the most popular,” Trout said.

These changes to the kitchen and living rooms are done with the goal of opening up the space and creating more opportunities for free-flowing socialization, especially with the holidays coming

up right around the corner meaning houses will soon be packed with relatives and friends.

Another trend Trout is seeing is adding stacking glass doors on exterior walls that lead to outdoor living spaces, and to create screened and covered outdoor living spaces to include a summer kitchen, fire feature or additions to outdoor furniture and pool areas.

That is one way Florida differs from other states. Even though it is fall, the focus of improving the outside areas and their amenities is never forgotten.

This especially holds true in the fall, as the weather finally begins to get a little cooler and provide some much-needed relief from seemingly endless heat of the summer.

Of course, updating interior finishes, such as baths, floor covering, trim, as well as lighting and paint are always on the minds of homeowners.

Creating a detached cottage on the property continues to be a developing trend as well and is usually done with accommodating aging parents or older children in mind.

However, trends do not just include a person’s taste when it comes to remodeling their home but can also relate to the current real estate market.

“After evaluating the buying of a new home, building a custom home or taking on a major renovation of an existing home, many of our clients choose to embark on major renovations,” Trout said. “This decision is often influenced by the comparison of lot sizes, geographic location, maturity of landscape, quality of construction, traffic congestion, relationships with neighbors, area schools and other amenities. We are also seeing many families moving to the area from other parts of the country to take advantage of our warm climate and tax structure.”

With this current market approach, comes a certain demand on home improvement projects.

“The demand for construction services is near an all-time high,” Trout said. “We currently receive around 15 requests for



home renovations each week and have not observed any signs of a slowdown.”

Having a demand is one thing, but it makes it even more challenging on access to materials and labor to continually match that demand.

“Material availability has been improving in recent months, but we are still experiencing longer lead times on a few items such as roof trusses, kitchen appliances and windows and doors,” Trout said. “Finding qualified labor continues to be a challenge for the construction industry. This affects the material supply chain and all of the trades.”

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Local business can transform cabinetry to look new again

By Shaun Ryan

Over time, kitchen cabinets may begin to show their age. They get scratched, dinged up, even seriously damaged. Those that are still in good shape can begin to look tired and out of style. But installing new cabinets can be an expensive proposition.

Fortunately, there's another option.

Kitchen Tune-Up can make those cabinets look new again. The business, located at 125 Douglas Park Drive, St. Augustine, offers different tiers of service, depending on the homeowner's goals.

The most basic tier involves a deep cleaning and application of a reconditioning product and a new finish. At the next level, the professionals at Kitchen Tune-Up can paint the cabinetry and put on new hardware.

"It makes your kitchen look brand new," said business owner Shelly Kozlowski.

Beyond that, Kitchen Tune-Up offers redoing, in which the cabinet is painted and new doors are put on. The result is a new, current style in a fresh new color. The cost difference between this work and installing new cabinets is significant.

"It's a very affordable way to update your kitchen," Kozlowski said.

At level four, the craftspeople at Kitchen Tune-Up can do a refacing, which involves new doors and drawer fronts and then covering the existing cabinet boxes with a matching veneer.

Such work is only possible because the Kitchen Tune-up professionals have extensive experience — between 12 and 20 years. And, while the business offers a modified do-it-yourself package for those comfortable with some — though not all — aspects of the work, inexperienced homeowners will want to turn over the entire project to the professionals.

When attempting to do the work themselves, people might encounter elements of the project that don't always behave as expected. The cost of having a pro undo that damage and then do it correctly is greater than simply hiring the pro to start with.

There's another reason to seek out the professionals: Protecting your investment.

"Considering that the kitchen is one of the places

that has the highest impact as far as resale value on your biggest investment — your home — it just makes sense to have any work in that room be done professionally," said Kozlowski.

Beyond cabinets, Kitchen Tune-Up offers work on

the backsplash, countertop and anything else in the cabinet area.

To learn more, go to kitchentuneup.com.

Photos provided by Kitchen Tune-Up



A kitchen is seen before changes were made to the cabinets.



The same kitchen after Kitchen Tune-Up transformed it.



Kitchen cabinets prior to changes.



Work by Kitchen Tune-Up results in a completely new look.



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The Recorder's garden columnist Kathy Esfahani of Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery shares her tips for growing gorgeous gardens in Northeast Florida.

KATHY'S GARDENING GUIDE

Deer: Friend or Foe?

"From all kinds of flowers, seek teachings everywhere; like a deer that finds a quiet place to graze, seek seclusion to digest all you have gathered..." — Namkhai Norbu

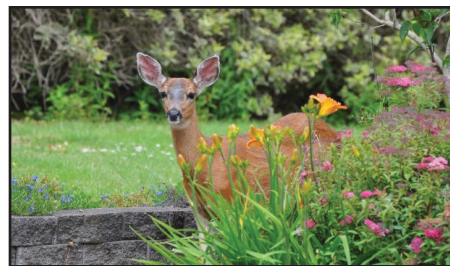


By Kathy Esfahani

Observing nature in action is part of the wonder of gardening! Although deer can be as beautiful as butterflies, hummingbirds and other visitors, they can also cause significant damage to the plants in a landscape. Leaves and stems with jagged edges are a sign that a deer has been feasting on your plants, particularly if the damage is high off the ground.

So, how can you protect your landscape?

The most effective strategy is a combination of multiple methods.



Deer

Physical barriers — such as fences and motion-activated lights — can be a good starting point. Also, chemical repellents can be found in lawn and garden stores.

While many of these commercial formulas may be effective, the cost of repellents can become significant. Homemade deer repellents range from sprays made of 1 cup milk, 1 egg, 1 tablespoon cooking oil, 1 tablespoon liquid dish soap and 4 cups water in a 1 gallon jug (allow to ferment in the sun before spraying) to others using 1 gallon water, 3 tablespoons red pepper flakes and 2 teaspoons liquid Castile soap. (Boil the water and red pepper flakes before

adding soap; allow solution to sit for 24 hours before straining into a spray bottle).

You can also try sprinkling flakes of Irish Spring soap or handfuls of human hair around your yard. The key for any deterrent is to mask the smell of the plants that the deer want. They will avoid areas that smell like humans or less desirable scents (in their opinion!). Try to be patient as you experiment with various deterrents to determine an effective strategy for your deer.

Ultimately, it is most helpful to fill your landscape with plants and flowers that deer do not enjoy. Consider planting spiny or smelly shrubs and ornamental grasses around the perimeter of your yard. When planning your landscape, look for deer-resistant trees, shrubs and flowers.

Tree options include bottlebrush, crepe myrtle, live oak, magnolia, queen palm and royal palm. Select deer-resistant shrubs such as bird of paradise, camellia, carissa, Chinese holly, croton, gardenia,

Photos provided by Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery

Flower of the Week



Mona Lavender

juniper, lantana, plumbago and viburnum. Finally, there are annuals and perennials that deer will avoid.

Deer do not enjoy the flowers of African iris, black-eyed susan, blue daze, canna lily, coneflower, gaura, marigolds, mona lavender, penta, snap dragons and verbena.

Happy planting!

Flower of the Week: Mona Lavender

Please email Kathy at kcg.pvr@gmail.com for any questions or gardening tips you would like to see in the future. For more information & ideas, visit Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery, 196 N. Roscoe Blvd. The phone number is 904-655-7373.

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Fireplace trends help create attractive, comfortable rooms

Fireplaces are useful features in a home. Fireplaces are sources of ambient heat and add style to indoor spaces. Fireplaces can complement just about any interior style. Fireplaces can be traditional and burn wood or connect to a home's natural gas supply for on-demand ambiance. What's more, fireplaces may come in vented or ventless varieties, depending on homeowners' preferences and what is allowed by community building codes. That means a chimney or flue may not be needed — expanding the list of rooms where a fireplace can be installed. Certain trends have emerged among fireplace fans in recent years. Here's a look at what's getting consumers fired up about these home decor elements.

- **Minimalist style:** Many fireplaces are designed in neutral colors with minimal trim that directs focus on the fire and not the appliance. When the fireplace is not in use, it blends in with surroundings and will not compete for attention with other design elements.

- **Convertible fireplaces:** Homeowners can choose between open or sealed fireplaces. A convertible fireplace enables homeowners to have the best features of these options. A convertible fireplace can be converted to wood from gas, or the opposite, in as little as 30 minutes.

- **Nature-inspired materials:** Natural



stone continues to be a material of choice in fireplace surrounds. Light colors work well for a fireplace, and fit with today's lighter color interior design preferences. Natural stone also works perfectly with both contemporary and rustic decor.

- **Vintage fireplaces:** Vintage continues to be a buzzword in 2022, and the

choice to go vintage also applies to fireplace styles. A room decorated in vintage elements can be complemented with a vintage fireplace or one designed to look vintage.

- **Integrate into wall decor:** Fireplaces that are built right into a wall save space. One can have a television and a fireplace

on the same wall. These types of fireplaces work well in modern home designs. Other fireplaces may be built into bookshelves or other wall features.

Fireplaces can improve the appeal of a home. Various trends are popular this year, making fireplaces highly coveted features.

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How to maintain hardwood floors

Hardwood floors have long been sought after by home buyers. In its 2019 “Remodeling Impact Report,” the National Association of Realtors revealed that new wood flooring was the fourth most popular project to attract buyers. Of course, hardwood floors aren’t just for buyers. Homeowners who already have hardwood floors know just how impressive these floors can be, especially when they’re well maintained. Maintaining wood floors is not necessarily as straightforward as it may seem, and homeowners may benefit from a tutorial on how to keep the floors under their feet looking good.

To polish or not to polish?

Polishing floors is an inexpensive way to keep them looking good. But the home improvement experts at BobVila.com note that not all floors can be polished and determining which ones can depends on the finish. Floors with waterproof barriers such as urethane will benefit from routine polishing. However, floors with penetrating finishes like tung oil will need to be waxed rather than polished.

What finish is on the floor?

The Hardwood Distributor’s Association recommends a simple way for homeowners to determine which type of finish is on their hardwood floors. Homeowners are advised to rub a finger across the floor. If no smudge appears, then the floor is surface sealed. If a smudge is created, then the floor has been treated with a penetrating seal. The HDA also notes that recently installed wood floors are likely surface sealed.

How often should floors be polished or waxed?

Wood flooring professionals recommend polishing floors that can be polished once every few months. Waxing wood floors does not need to be done as frequently, and most can benefit from a fresh coat of wax every 12 to 18 months.

What can I do on a daily basis?

Some simple tricks and daily maintenance can help wood floors maintain their impressive look.

- **Utilize floor mats.** The HDA notes that floor mats near entryways can reduce the time it takes to clean hardwood floors



and reduce the wear and tear they endure. For example, tiny particles like dirt can scratch the floor and contribute to the kind of minor damage that adds up to significant scarring over time. Floor mats near entryways ensures that most of that dirt never makes it to the wood floors.

- **Vacuum without a beater bar.** Some vacuums contain beater bars, which are designed to pick up human hair, dog hair and other things that conventional vacuums may not be able to pick up. The HDA advises vacuuming without the beater bar, as it can contribute to small scratches in the floor. Sweeping with a high-quality broom or microfiber cloth is another way to pick up dirt without

damaging floors.

- **Use manufacturer-recommended cleaning products.** Local home improvement stores sell a host of hardwood floor cleaning products, but the HDA notes that many flooring manufacturers now sell their own hardwood floor cleaners designed specifically for their floors. These products are likely homeowners’ best bets. Homeowners who cannot find them can seek recommendations from a local flooring retailer.

Hardwood floors are attractive for many reasons. And they look even more stunning, and last much longer, when homeowners try to maintain them.

C. HARB’S RUG GALLERY STOCK LIQUIDATION

A VARIETY OF SIZES AND SHAPES IN TRADITIONAL, CONTEMPORARY AND TRANSITIONAL RUGS

After 33 years in the Oriental rug business in Jacksonville, Charlie Harb, owner of C. Harb’s Rug Gallery in the Southside area, will be retiring. Charlie is of the third generation of the Harb family in the Oriental rug business. He is now liquidating the thousands of rugs stocked at his Philips Highway showroom.

To thank the community for more than three decades of patronage, helping to make his business a success, Charlie is currently offering the public a “**BUY 1 RUG, GET 2 RUGS FREE**” deal. Don’t need 3 rugs? Don’t worry, let Charlie make you a deal of a lifetime on the rugs of your choice!

His great-uncle, who was the brother of his paternal grandfather, began the legacy a century ago in Knoxville, Tennessee. Charlie’s father, after being trained by his uncle, then moved to Wilmington, Delaware to set up his



branch of the business there. There’s where Charlie was born and learned the trade. His first job was at 11, working with his dad and earning 25 cents per day, enough to buy himself a couple of comic books from the drugstore across the street from the family shop.

Harb’s welcomes individuals and

wholesalers. All price points are included in the special offer. All of this is to celebrate his upcoming retirement and to say, “Thank you, Jacksonville.”

Included in the sale are items from Charlie’s personal collection of rugs, which contains several unique and interesting pieces not seen before by his clientele.

Rectangular rugs in inventory range in size from 12 x 18 inches to 12 x 18 feet. Harb’s stock includes a variety of shapes as well: circular, square, ovals, runners, and octagonal. There are traditional styles, contemporary designs, and transitional rugs available.

Charlie can even get certain select rugs in any custom size up to 10’ x 18’, including rounds, in three weeks. Bring your impossibly unusual size needs to him soon and he will get a rug to you before he retires.

C. Harb’s Rug Gallery carries a mix of both

hand-knotted, authentic Oriental rugs and machine-made reproductions. That means Harb’s can accommodate any budget. The staff works with clients directly and with interior designers, as requested.

Among the authentic pieces, Charlie has ones that have been woven in a variety of Asian countries. He also has rare finds: new and used antique and semi-antique Persian rugs that he had obtained prior to the embargo on imports from modern-day Iran.

Having spent his entire life in the industry, Charlie is not only knowledgeable about Oriental rug sales, but he is also passionate about the history behind the products he sells.

In addition to Oriental rug sales, cleaning, and repairs at his gallery, Charlie Harb does rug appraisals and consultations. All will continue until his retirement later this year.

As a thank you to the community, Charlie Harb is currently offering

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Entertaining is a great way to show good will and friendship to others and to celebrate special occasions. Many people can successfully throw parties, but hosting a great party takes a little extra effort. By following some tips, hosts can ensure their next party is one to remember.

- **Stick to a theme.** Many party hosts find that themes help in the planning. Themes make it easy to coordinate invitations, decor, food, and music. Guests also may enjoy dressing up according to the theme.

- **Start making lists.** Make lists regarding which foods you plan to cook, what you need to buy, who you plan to invite, and any other details that are floating around in your head. Getting things on paper and checking off the list can help keep things moving.

- **Do as much you can in advance.** When hosting at home, spend the day prior to the party getting the house in order and making any food if the party will not be catered. If it will be catered, confirm with the catering company the delivery time and firm up any other details. You'll be far less frazzled if you space out your tasks than trying to squeeze them in a few hours before guests arrive.

- **Expect early/late arrivals.** Some people just aren't punctual. Some may leave home too early and arrive well before the party starts, while others think "fashionably late" is showing up long after the party starts. Have some easy-to-grab snacks so that early and late guests can munch while you finish your tasks.

- **Stick to what you know.** A dinner party or other event may not be the best

time to get creative. Lean on recipes you've made before and can guarantee correct timing and flavor.

- **Have a seating plan.** Have ample seating available and consider assigning seats at formal affairs so guests can sit next to friends or like-minded fellow invitees.

- **Spread out foods and beverages.** Guests tend to bottleneck around the goodies. Ensure mingling and avoid traffic jams by having drinks and snacks in different locations.

These are just a handful of ways hosts can throw memorable parties where everyone has a good time.

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First Coast Foam Party raises level of excitement

By Anthony Richards

There is just fun about foam and people seem to be drawn to it whether they are a child or an adult.

In fact, it was that fun and fascination that led Tim Ellis of Nocatee to be the owner of First Coast Foam Party.

“A neighbor friend of mine had just gone to a foam party, and while I was at his house that night, he was just so excited about it and kept showing me pictures,” Ellis said.

It did not take long for that excitement to rub off on Ellis, and after doing research about it for more than a year, he decided to start the business he has now.

He has three children, and his 15-year-old son Cooper is very involved in the business.

“If we’ve got an appointment on the schedule, he’ll go out the night before and load up the truck and get everything ready,” Ellis said.

Not only is it special to see how the business has become a bond between father and son, but he also knows that it is providing great lessons for his son and helping instill a level of work ethic.

According to Ellis, when it comes to throwing a proper foam party, it all comes down to the quality of the foam and there are several factors that play a role.

“Wind, kids and rain can all affect the foam,” Ellis said.

The foam is bio-degradable and non-toxic, which means that it will not irritate skin, eyes or grass. It is sent out into a party by using cannon that spit out the foam.

“My foam solution is through a major corporation called Foam Daddy, and it’s made from sodium lauryl sulfate and water, so it’s basically like children’s shampoo,” Ellis said. “In fact, I can even do the reserve here in Nocatee, because they have a zero-entry pool and a pergola, and the kids go back and forth.”

According to Ellis, the foam he uses has also been classified as a certified autism resource.

Although most of the business consists of children’s parties and other school events around the area, adults also find creative ways to have fun with it, such as gender reveal parties and glow foam parties.

If an event is held at a person’s residence, Ellis said that they are more than willing to work closely with the homeowner’s association to make sure the party follows the regulations in place.

He also has a bubble machine in the



Photo courtesy of Tim Ellis

FOAM continues on Page 23

First Coast Foam Party is a family affair, with owner Tim Ellis and his 15-year-old son Cooper.



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Bubbles & Brews JAX owner joins Women's Food Alliance

Holly Wilson, owner of Bubbles & Brews JAX was recently named the newest member of the Women's Food Alliance.

The concept behind Bubbles & Brews was to create a vintage mobile bar that can be transported much like a food truck can.

In the case of Bubbles & Brews JAX, Wilson's truck travels within a two-hour radius of Jacksonville, which means it can be just about anywhere and at any event in Northeast Florida.

Locations these brew trucks can be found are popping up across the country and it was Wilson's mission to bring the idea to Jacksonville and its surrounding area.

She has a background in marketing, but she has also always had a deep-down love of the hospitality industry and starting her own business, and this venture provided her with that perfect opportunity.



Photo courtesy of Women's Food Alliance

Bubble & Brews JAX uses a Piaggio Ape, which is a tiny truck that is small enough to fit through double doors.

BUBBLES continues on Page 24

Foam

Continued from 22

back of his truck, which only adds to the atmosphere.

One of the most valuable tools he has is a leaf blower, which can allow him to continue shaping the foam at certain times throughout an event.

"I've told my son that 'if nothing else, you have to learn problem-solving,'" Ellis said. "If you're not learning, what are you doing?"

Helping provide First Coast Foam Party with the flexibility they have is the fact that they are not associated with a vehicle

"We just bring our own tent and music, and go from there," Ellis said.



Photos courtesy of Tim Ellis

Glow foam parties are a unique way to take a foam party to the next level.



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Bubbles

Continued from 23

She transformed a Piaggio Ape, which is a truck common in Italy that has one wheel in the front and space behind the driver to carry something, but still small enough to fit through double doors.

Wilson initially saw Piaggio Apes being used as mobile coffee or flower bars while her and husband visited Italy.

Her passion for traveling was another reason that made owning a business that is not bogged down by one location very appealing and a perfect fit for who she is as a person.

Bubbles & Brews JAX's mobile bar has seven taps that serve a variety of drinks both alcoholic and non-alcoholic.

From beer and wine to lemonade and cold-brew coffee, just like in the way the business approaches locations, it takes that same mindset into what is actually served.

Their truck has been affectionately named "Blossom" and fits the name as it is decorated with balloons and other floral décor.

Wilson believes that being mobile makes it the perfect addition to parties of any kind, and it can even fit in the majority of indoor spaces as well, once again showcasing its versatility.

According to Wilson, she is delighted



Photo courtesy of Women's Food Alliance

Holly Wilson brought the Bubbles & Brews concept to the local area with Bubbles & Brews JAX.

to join the Women's Food Alliance to connect with other like-minded women in the industry.

She knows it takes a lot of hard work and determination to start and own a business and she is inspired by the dreams that they have brought fruition to members of the Alliance.

To learn more about the concept and Bubbles & Brews JAX go to getcozy-bars.com.

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PAGE 25 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2022

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DLP Capital named to Inc. 5000 'Fastest Growing Private Companies'

DLP Capital, a private real estate investment and financial services firm, has announced its selection as one of the Inc. 5000 "Fastest Growing Private Companies in America" for 2022.

This marks the 10th consecutive year that DLP Capital has been on the list, placing the firm among the most elite of private companies to have exceptional and consistent revenue growth. DLP Capital's revenues over three years grew 256%, placing it in the top 10 among all companies and number 2 for all real estate firms that have made the list 10 years in a row.

"By nearly every metric of revenue growth, DLP Capital continues to lead, achieving exponential growth while making a very measurable impact on the affordable housing crisis in America," said Don Wenner, founder and CEO of DLP Capital. "We're impacting the lives of working Americans — and we're impacting investors who stand

alongside us to reap consistent, above-average returns. Our success shows that you can do well while doing good."

DLP Capital offers real estate investment funds to accredited investors and deploys the capital across the country through the acquisition, development and construction of rental housing as well as by providing debt to real estate operators that invest in related housing.

The firm fills voids in workforce housing at a time when demand for such housing is far exceeding the supply. Almost half of renters in America spend more than 30% of their income on housing, and the problem grows worse every year as supply fails to keep up with demand.

According to the National Multifamily Housing Council, the U.S. needs to build 4.3 million more apartments by 2035 to meet the demand for rental housing. Such market dynamics lead the way for continued strong demand for apartment rentals, with DLP Capital having surpassed \$3

billion of assets managed.

"Our initiatives have so far impacted over 700,000 lives, and our 'Big Hairy Audacious Goal' is to become a Fortune 500 organization that impacts over 10 million lives in the near future," added CEO Don Wenner. "We believe that residing in reasonably priced housing is directly tied to the productivity and contentment of families."

Among the ways that DLP Capital leverages its growth is by partnering and lending to strong real estate sponsors, many of whom join DLP's "Elite Impact Housing Membership" program that provides blueprints to help operators build exponentially stronger businesses. Through this elite business model, DLP Capital shares its formula for success with its partners/borrowers for collaborative growth.

Complete results of the Inc. 5000 list can be found at inc.com/inc5000.

Benchmarks of Success

A look at major career changes in the area.



Flagler Technologies adds Beckham as client executive

Flagler Technologies, an innovative IT solutions provider, has announced the addition of Jason

Beckham to the team. Beckham, who brings with him decades of experience, will serve as a client executive working with the company's largest customer and expanding the footprint in North Florida.

Prior to joining Flagler Technologies, Beckham worked with companies such as Prudential, NetApp, BellSouth and PaySpan, where he built a 24/7 infrastructure ASP that was responsible for billions of payment settlements for health care insurance providers. His transition to a sales role took place when he joined Dell EMC, where he quickly rose to global client executive. Among his career highlights are the recognitions of both President's and Chairman's Club at EMC and being globally responsible for a Dell Technologies Select customer, the largest designation for Dell customers.

His new role will include working with North Florida businesses and organizations to identify solutions for their IT challenges.

Beckham is based out of Ponte Vedra, where he resides with his wife Nikki and sons, Jacob and Jamison. The native Floridian graduated from Florida State University with a degree in both social science and economics.

LeMaire named new United Way of St. Johns County president/CEO

Mark D. LeMaire has been named president and chief executive officer of United Way of St. Johns County, serving St. Johns and Putnam counties.

LeMaire joined the Community Foundation of Northeast Florida in 2013. During his time there, he directed a \$5 million annual donor portfolio based on international relief, housing, education and environment, designed and implemented an annual competitive grant process exclusively for Putnam County and managed St. Johns County donor and grant investments.

Among many other achievements, while serving at United Way, LeMaire led the organization's planned giving effort, secured new planned giving commitments, stewarded the organization's annual community investments and volunteer center, built a neighborhood-focused funding initiative, oversaw a \$6 million annual budget and developed and implemented an online grant application process.

LeMaire has an M.A. degree in sociology from the University of South Florida, a B.A. degree from Southeast-

ern University and more than 20 years of nonprofit experience. He is a licensed foster parent for the State of Florida and a 2020 graduate of Leadership St. Johns.

LeMaire will replace former United Way-SJC President/CEO Melissa Nelson, who assumed the role of President/CEO for United Way of Florida in June 2022.

Pettegrew named Florida Chamber Music Project administrative director

Sally Pettegrew, former vice president of administration and human resources for the Jacksonville Symphony, has been named administrative director of the Florida Chamber Music Project.

Pettegrew most recently served as executive assistant to the president of The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida. She has more than 30 years of experience in the classical music world through her work with the Jacksonville Symphony. She established the symphony's human resources department, counseled 10 executive directors/presidents on leadership transitions and oversaw the Jacksonville Symphony Starry Nights concerts at Metropolitan Park.

Matthews appointed to Cathedral Arts Project position

The Cathedral Arts Project (CAP) has hired Meredith Matthews as its newly established Petway Teaching Artist Fellow in Visual Arts. Matthews began her position on Aug. 22.



Meredith Matthews

will support this teaching artist fellowship position for three years.

Matthews comes to CAP from Arbus Magazine, where she served as assistant publisher for 11 years. She holds a Bachelor of fine arts in painting and a Master of arts in art education from the University of Florida. Prior to, and in tandem with, her work at Arbus, Matthews worked as an art educator with museums and schools, as an arts writer and as a designer for several publications. She serves on the board for Art with A Heart in Healthcare and on the exhibitions committee for Beaches Museum.

In her new role with CAP, Matthews will provide visual arts instruction at multiple schools and community sites throughout Duval County, including afterschool, in-school arts integration and summer programs. Currently, she is slated to provide these programs at Beaches Boys & Girls Club, IDEA Basset and River Bluff campuses, and Parkwood Heights, S.A. Hull and Twin Lakes elementary schools.

— Compiled by Shaun Ryan

The Yards hosts Chamber joint council social

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division and the Tourism and Hospitality Council held a social gathering for its members at The Yards. The night was full of networking, drinks and socializing by all who attended.



Photo courtesy of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce

Bill McBroom, Chair of the Tourism Hospitality Council, listens as Anna Washington with The Yards shares a few words with attendees during the Chamber social event hosted by The Yards.



Photo by Susan Griffin

The Yards hosted a Chamber networking and social event at its facility.



Photo by Susan Griffin

Randi Guthard, Trudy Toche, and Ricki Taylor.

Businesses invited to sponsor, participate in JA Inspire

Junior Achievement of North Florida is looking for businesses to join them for this year's JA Inspire program, which will be taught to all eighth-grade students in Duval County Public Schools. Businesses can sign up to sponsor and participate in the virtual career exploration program, which introduces students to career opportunities through classroom lessons followed by a virtual career fair.

JA Inspire is the first step in Duval County Public Schools' new Duval Ready program. JA Inspire was launched as a pilot program in January of 2021 and expanded to include all eighth-grade students in Duval County Public Schools in the fall of last year. The program for this school year has been enhanced to meet a state mandate that requires schools to provide career exploration and work readiness programs to middle school students.

"Our community partners will be helping to educate these eighth-grade students about the different career paths available that align with each student's interests and skills while helping teachers meet the mandate requirements that help prepare these youth for the future," said Shannon Italia, president of JA of North Florida. "Last year, we had more than 55 companies that participated in the program and helped connect students to the opportunities available to them. Our program allows these young people to interact with adults and companies so they can explore a variety of potential careers. It also helps to put them on the education path to their goals before they begin their high school coursework."

JA Inspire's curriculum has been revised to lead the students to specific lessons that fulfill the state's mandate to

provide a way for students to find a career that will suit their talents and values.

The students will be exposed to careers in categories including arts and creative; business administration, finance and marketing; education and student resources; health and biomedical; human services, hospitality, tourism and sports; law, government, public safety, corrections and security; STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics); and transportation, logistics, construction and manufacturing.

The students will participate in five in-class JA Inspire lessons followed by a virtual career expo. The virtual career fair experience has also been improved with updated visuals to provide a more modern feel, and gamification and a scavenger hunt have been added to drive students to important content. Students will enter

the virtual convention center into a virtual lobby where there will be an information center and an auditorium where they can participate in webinars along with other students. They will also be able to visit company booths with pamphlets, videos and other resources developed by the industry leaders.

Companies interested in sponsoring and participating in JA Inspire can contact Tiffany Guthrie at 904-398-9944 ext.230 or tiffany@janfl.org. More information can be found at secure.qgiv.com/for/jinsp2/event/851028.

Mercedes Benz USA will be this year's impact sponsor, and CSX will be one of the auditorium sponsors. Opportunities are still available for additional auditorium sponsors, as well as at the exhibit hall, premier booth, career starter and basic booth levels.

Ponte Vedra Plastic Surgery opens newest location on Country Road 210

Ponte Vedra Plastic Surgery opened a new location along County Road 210 with a ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremony in partnership with the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce. It is the fourth location for Ponte Vedra Plastic Surgery, with others in Ponte Vedra, Nocatee and off Gate Parkway.

Photos by Susan Griffin



The latest Ponte Vedra Plastic Surgery location is also one of the newest Chamber members.



Ponte Vedra plastic surgery cuts the ribbon during the grand opening ceremony of its new location on County Road 210.

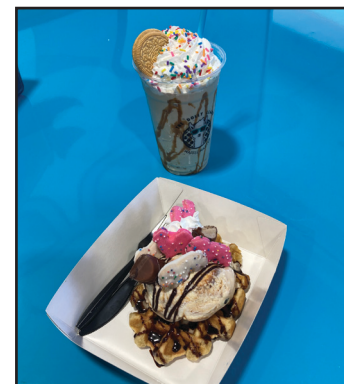


The cake at the ceremony celebrated Ponte Vedra Plastic Surgery's four locations in the area.

Dolly Llama creates sweet partnership with Chamber

The Dolly Llama Waffle Master has opened a location at 830 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach and made it official with a ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremony. The business combines ice cream and waffles to give customers a unique experience.

Photos by Susan Griffin



Ice cream and waffles are combined as the mainstay of the Dolly Llama Waffle Master menu.



The Dolly Llama's new franchisees are Josh and Wendy Popkin of Ponte Vedra.



The first 100 attendees at the ceremony received a Dolly Llama shirt and other items.

In the Arts

Send your arts news to
news@pontevedrarecorder.com

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www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

ON STAGE

A roundup of musical acts appearing before Oct. 16 at local venues

PONTE VEDRA CONCERT HALL

1050 A1A North, Ponte Vedra Beach

Purchase tickets at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre box office or ticketmaster.com.

For further information about each act, go to pvconcerthall.com/events.

- **The Fixx** — 7:30 p.m. Sept. 17
- **Andy McKee** — With special guest Calum Graham. 7:30 p.m. Sept. 20
- **Molly Hatchet** — With special guest Strayin' Anchors. 8 p.m. Sept. 30
- **Todd Barry** — 8 p.m. Oct. 1
- **Ainsley Earhardt** — With Sean Hannity. 2 p.m. Oct. 2
- **Victor Wooten, Steve Bailey & Derico Watson** — 8 p.m. Oct. 5
- **Jen Fulwiler** — 7 p.m. Oct. 8

- **Acoustic Alchemy** — 8 p.m. Oct. 9
- **Bob Mould** — 8 p.m. Oct. 14

ST. AUGUSTINE AMPHITHEATRE

1340C A1A South, St. Augustine

Box office hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturdays. Tickets sold at the box office are available via credit- and debit-card only. A valid ID is required for all box office transactions and ticket purchases must be made in person.

Tickets may also be purchased at ticketmaster.com.

For further information about each act, go to theamp.com/events.

- **Ringo Starr and His All Starr Band** — 7:30 p.m. Sept. 15

- **Snail Mail** — Sing Out Loud free event. 7 p.m. Sept. 16
- **Conan Gray** — 7 p.m. Sept. 18
- **Jack White, The Supply Chain Issues Tour** — With special guest Cat Power. 8 p.m. Sept. 19
- **Sing Out Loud: St. Augustine Record Fair** — Free event. 11 a.m. Sept. 25
- **Sing Out Loud: Shovels & Rope** — Free event. 6 p.m. Sept. 25
- **Earth, Wind & Fire** — 7:30 p.m. Sept. 27
- **Sing Out Loud: Lucius** — Free event. 7 p.m. Sept. 30. Sold out.
- **The War on Drugs** — 7 p.m. Oct. 6
- **The Head And The Heart** — With special guest Shakey Graves. 6:30 p.m. Oct. 13
- **Gov't Mule & Old Crow Medicine Show** — 7 p.m. Oct. 14
- **Trace Adkins** — 7 p.m. Oct. 15

— Compiled by Shaun Ryan

Sing Out Loud Festival offers variety of free music

By Shaun Ryan

The Sing Out Loud Festival is in full swing. The annual music festival kicked off Friday, Sept. 9, and will run through Saturday, Sept. 24.

Throughout the week, St. Johns County will host several days of music and more at a variety of venues. Many of the concerts and other events are free to attend and the range of talent is impressive. This year's audiences will have their pick of R&B, bluegrass, country, hip-hop and indie rock.

The festival is a major attraction that draws attendees from around Florida and nearby states. Since 2016, it has brought hundreds of local, regional and nationally recognized musicians to local stages and parks.

For complete information, go to sing-outloudflorida.com.

Here's a look at this week's schedule:

Sept. 16

Snail Mail with SNooPER & The Pauses: 7-10:30 p.m., Backyard Stage at The St. Augustine Amphitheatre. Free



Photo credit: The St. Augustine Amphitheatre

Snail Mail will perform at The St. Augustine Amphitheatre's Backyard Stage on Friday, Sept. 16.

Showcase at The Oak: 7-10 p.m., Colonial Oak Music Park. Free

The Beacon Showcase: 7:30-10 p.m., The Beacon. Free

Mental Showcase at Nobby's: 8:30-11:59 p.m., Shanghai Nobby's. Free

Sept. 17

Aaron Lee Tasjan: 6-10 p.m., Colonial Oak Music Park. With DL is OK and Alexis Peramas. Free

Dog Rose Showcase: 7-11 p.m., Dog Rose Brewing Co.

The Beacon Showcase: 7:30-10 p.m., The Beacon. Free

Sarbez Showcase: 8-11:59 p.m., Sarbez! Free

Mental Showcase at Nobby's: 8:30-11:59 p.m., Shanghai Nobby's. Free

Sept. 18

Gamble Rogers Showcase at The Oak: 3-10 p.m., Colonial Oak Music Park. Free

The Beacon Showcase: 6:45-10 p.m., The Beacon. Free

Sept. 21

Music Business Panel: 4-7 p.m., Odd Birds. Free, but RSVP is required.

The Venues

- Colonial Oak Music Park, 21 St. George St., St. Augustine
- Dog Rose Brewing Co., 77 Bridge St., St. Augustine
- Odd Birds, 200 Anastasia Blvd., St. Augustine
- Sarbez! 115 Anastasia Blvd., St. Augustine
- Shanghai Nobby's, 10 Anastasia Blvd., St. Augustine
- St. Augustine Amphitheatre, 1340C A1A South, St. Augustine
- The Beacon, 830 Anastasia Blvd., St. Augustine.

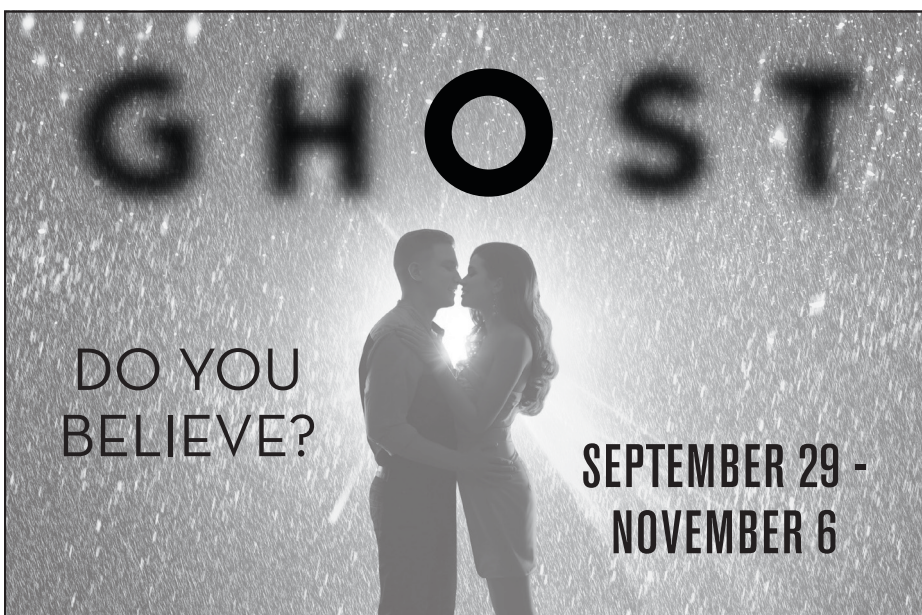


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Sports

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WEEK 4 FOOTBALL PREVIEW

All phases working together key to finding first victory

By Anthony Richards

The Nease Panthers are getting oh so close to that first win of the season, and their next opportunity at it will be this Friday at 7 p.m. when they host Fletcher.

The two teams have a history against each other, including a matchup last season, where Fletcher defeated Nease in a narrow 14-13 contest that also decided the district championship.

Things are different this time around, as the schools are no longer in the same district. However, bragging rights remain up for grabs and the Panthers would like nothing more than to return the favor and defend their home field with a victory.

The big plays have been there in the last couple of games for the Panthers, but it is the consistency and mistakes throughout a game that continue to hurt their efforts.

The fact that it has taken three games into the season should not be a surprise, after the Panthers lost so much production and leadership from a season ago.

It is just natural that it will take a little longer than spring and fall practice

for each of the units on the team to gel together.

Last week's five-point loss to Fleming Island demonstrated how dangerous Nease can be once all the pieces start finding success at the same time.

Despite leaving that game with still some things to clean up, the Panthers remained in position to win and had a legitimate shot at the end zone and the win as time expired.

For the Ponte Vedra Sharks (0-2), they are fresh off their bye week and the hope is that they were able to hit the reset button physically and mentally during that time.

They return to action with a road contest against Middleburg (0-3) over in Clay County Friday at 7 p.m.

One thing for sure from the contest is that one of the teams will get their first win of the 2022 season.

Brian Case and Griffin Owen continue to share time in the backfield for the Sharks, who could use an established running game early on against the Broncos to help take some of the pressure off of starting quarterback Ben Burk and the passing attack.

On the other side of the ball, the Sharks will look to continue their stellar defensive performances so far this year.

The pass rush was key in their last game against FSU High, but the run defense will be put to the test against the Broncos, who are led by senior running back T.J. Lane, who is averaging more than 100 yards per game.

Grabbing the early lead could go a long way in forcing the Broncos to play from behind and in turn adapt their gameplan and get away from what they do best.



Photos by Anthony Richards

Nease quarterback Marcus Stokes rolls out and looks downfield against Fleming Island.



Samuel Milton of Nease avoids Fleming Island tacklers. He had a strong performance against the Golden Eagles.



The Ponte Vedra Sharks return from their bye week with a road contest against Middleburg.

Florida Senior Games registration open

Athletes age 50 and older are now able to register for the 2022 Florida Senior Games, presented by Humana, to be held Dec. 3-11 in Florida's Sports Coast/Pasco County.

Competition, registration and hotel information is available on each of the 24 sports pages at floridaseniorgames.com. Entry fees vary by sport and the

registration deadline is Nov. 14.

Certain sports of the 2022 Florida Senior Games require a qualifying performance at one of the state's 21 local Senior Games qualifiers. Go to floridaseniorgames.com to see which sports require a qualifying performance.

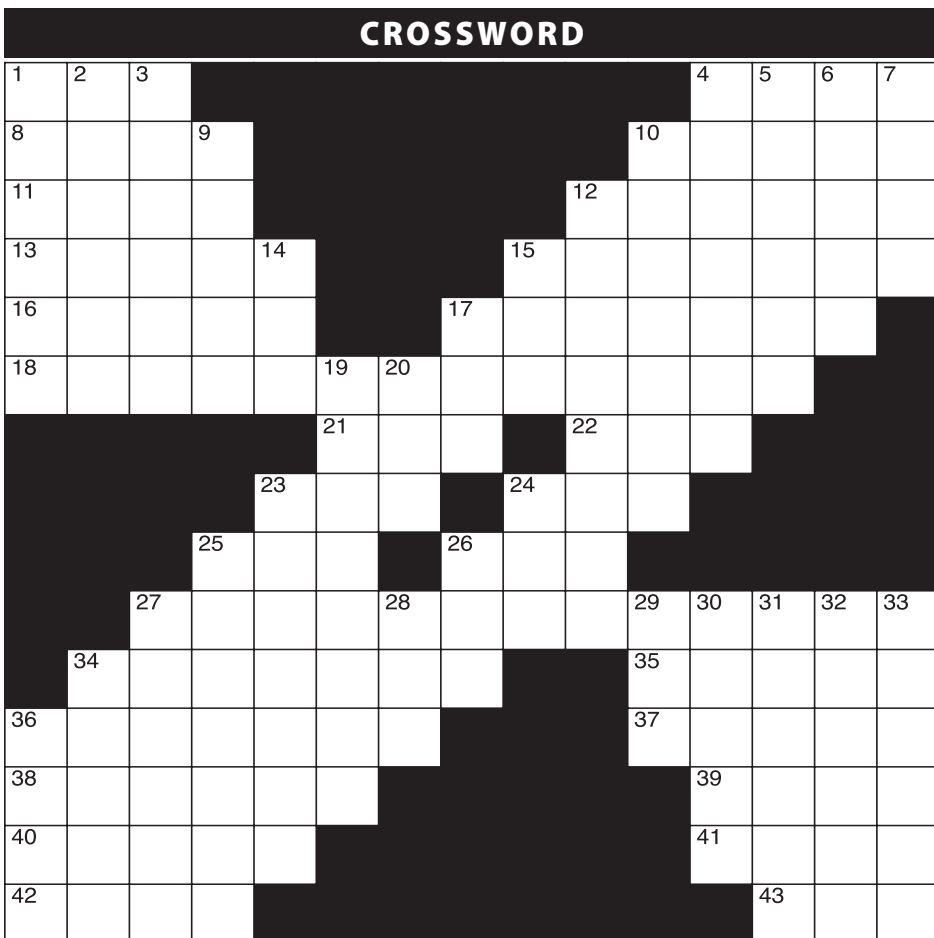
For athletes needing a qualifying performance at a local Senior Games

qualifier, a listing of 14 qualifiers can be found at floridaseniorgames.com/all-sports-schedule.

The 31st Annual Florida Senior Games is a qualifier for the 2023 National Senior Games to be held July 7-18 in Pittsburgh. The 2022 Games is the first of a three-year commitment in Pasco County through the 2024 Florida

Senior Games.

The 2022 Florida Senior Games, presented by Humana, is an annual program of the Florida Sports Foundation, the official sports promotion and development organization of the State of Florida, and held in conjunction with Florida's Sports Coast.



ACROSS

- 1. Autonomic nervous system
- 4. Kids love it in summer
- 8. Dashes
- 10. Polynesian sarong
- 11. Chapter of the Koran
- 12. Evildoer
- 13. Japanese commercial city
- 15. A way of binding
- 16. Early Christianity French historian
- 17. Kids' term for bugs
- 18. Beloved family holiday activity
- 21. Work unit
- 22. Bundle
- 23. A number or amount not specified
- 24. Military official (abbr.)
- 25. Queens ballplayer
- 26. Type of gibbon
- 27. Norma Jean's stage name
- 34. Places
- 35. Bluish greens
- 36. Argued publicly
- 37. Having the shape of a cube
- 38. They star at weddings
- 39. Indian god associated with reproduction
- 40. Ocean sunfishes
- 41. Slowly leak through
- 42. Plant part
- 43. Midway between south and southeast

DOWN

- 1. Accumulate on the surface of

- 2. Not a good feeling
- 3. Got smaller
- 4. Helped a golfer get around
- 5. Military forces
- 6. Partner to ways
- 7. Low, one-horse sleigh
- 9. Japanese seaport
- 10. Inclined to favor
- 12. Avid reader
- 14. Lead singer of Heart
- 15. Pigeon sound
- 17. Vital part
- 19. People who are not Jewish
- 20. Shed tears
- 23. Pokes holes in the ground
- 24. Beverage receptacle
- 25. Stone used to surface roads
- 26. French-Belgian river
- 27. Type of phone
- 28. Long-lasting light bulb
- 29. Type of medication (abbr.)
- 30. German city
- 31. Animal disease
- 32. They're in martinis
- 33. Get away from
- 34. Dormouse
- 36. Database management system

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



Len Mattiace



Matt Every



Brittany Lincicome

First players announced for the Women's Care Pro-Am Tournament

Nine PGA TOUR golfers have been the first to commit to play in the Women's Care Peace at Home Pro-Am Golf Tournament scheduled for Oct. 23-24 at The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach — the first pro-am golf tournament to raise money for the Betty Griffin Center.

Players include Len Mattiace, Brittany Lincicome, Matt Every, Brett Drewitt, Bill Kratezert, Deane Beman, Luke Guthrie, Mark Blakefield and Justin Hueber — with more expected to join the Women's Care Pro-Am over the next month to round out the field of PGA TOUR golfers.

After turning pro in 1990, Mattiace has enjoyed a successful career highlighted by two PGA TOUR wins and a dramatic, runner-up finish at the Masters. Meanwhile, Lincicome is an American professional golfer who plays on the LPGA Tour and is one of the longest drivers in women's golf, leading the LPGA in driving distance during her 2005 rookie year with an average of 270.3 yards. Every has been playing professional golf since 2006 and currently competes in the PGA TOUR and played Nationwide Tour beforehand. Every has won three professional tours to date, including two PGA TOURs and a Korn Ferry Tour.

"We're thrilled that our first group of pros has joined us for this major fundraiser," said event co-chairs and Betty Griffin Center board members Dr. Tim Baird and Jayne Evans. "Having players of this caliber participate in the tournament raises the visibility of the Betty Griffin Center and will deliver a terrific player experience."

For the best golf experience, the field is limited to 80 players, not including the 20 professionals. The cost is \$1,200 per player, which includes dinner, breakfast, a golfer's clinic, the tournament and the Champion's Reception. Players can find out more information at bettygriffincenter.org/2022golfproam or register directly at app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/BettyG-

riffinHouse/PlayerRegistration.html.

"Our goal for the tournament is to establish a first-tier pro-am that will help fund the critical ongoing work of the Betty Griffin Center," Evans said. "Also, we're excited that all the major sponsorship opportunities have been filled, with only a few hole sponsors remaining."

Major sponsors include "Healing & Hope" sponsor Brittany & Bill Horschel, "Gold Sponsor" Jaguars Foundation and "Silver Sponsors" Douglas Elliman — The Kim Martin-Fisher-Jennifer Martin Faulker Group. Other new sponsors include VyStar, Beaches Dermatology, Pearlmid Properties, Ansbacher Law, Maserati Jacksonville, Lazzara Orthodontics and the Preddy Law Firm.

The tournament kicks off at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 23, with a welcome cocktail reception, dinner, a live auction and the announcement of pairings of the four-somes with the professionals.

On Monday, Oct. 24, Tournament Day will include registration and a light breakfast at 8 a.m., followed by a clinic conducted by professional players. Tee-off is 10:15 a.m. The tournament will be followed by a Champion's Reception from 3 to 5 p.m. All events occur at The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach, located at 101 Plantation Drive.

The Betty Griffin Center was founded in 1990 by concerned citizens and incorporated as the Safety Shelter of St. Johns County to develop plans to provide shelter for local victims of domestic violence and their children. Today, Betty Griffin Center serves more than 1,000 victims of domestic and sexual abuse annually, operates a 24-hour help line, emergency shelter, provides professional counseling for victims of domestic and sexual abuse, provides age-appropriate violence prevention training and operates two thrift stores at Julington Square and Anastasia Square to assist in funding the agency's ongoing operations.

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