

first coast Register

April - May 2018

Ponte Vedra • Nocatee • Jacksonville
The Beaches • St. Augustine & Amelia Island



Spring
HOME &
GARDEN

**KIDS'
SUMMER FUN**

**THE FLORIDA
FORUM**

Sidney says,

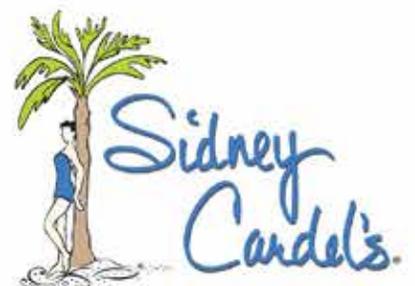
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Sophisticated Coastal Living at its Best!

This 5-bedroom, 4+ bath, home is the epitome of southern charm with over 8,400 sq. ft. that showcase spectacular ocean views. The open living areas, including large formal dining room with grand fireplace, lend themselves to entertaining everything from large celebrations or simply enjoying intimate moments near a roaring fireplace. **\$6,375,000**



Exemplary Oceanfront Living on Ponte Vedra Blvd.

This oceanfront estate is built like a fortress with 2-story masonry construction. Set on 1.45 acres this home is designed with to capture expansive ocean views from almost every room. This is an exceptional opportunity for your most discerning buyer. **\$6,150,000**



A Once in a Lifetime Opportunity!

Build your custom dream home in the heart of Ponte Vedra Beach with ocean access across the street. This enclave of 23 estate-sized home sites on Ponte Vedra Boulevard is surrounded by majestic Live Oaks with pristine preserve and lake views. Starting in the **\$600,000s**



Beach Living at its Best!

The WaterMark is a luxury, 11-story 25-unit oceanfront condominium in Jacksonville Beach. The WaterMark offers spacious oceanfront terraces, secured lobby, two parking levels and private storage units. Completed in March 2005, this gated property includes private beach access, an ocean-side pool with a heated spa and secured, covered, ground-floor parking. **\$679,000**



Steps from Ponte Vedra Beaches

Do you enjoy listening to the ocean waves while you relax with a glass of wine? This first-floor unit is steps away from Ponte Vedra beaches as well as The Lodge & Club, an exceptional resort with dining, fitness, and several pools. **\$650,000**



Exceptional Oceanfront Location on Ponte Vedra Blvd.

Situated in the middle of the most desired oceanfront location in NE Florida. This first floor unit was totally renovated with the finest finishes and craftsmanship, 2br, 2bapplus powder room, plus office have saturnia floors mahogany doors and built in custom cabinetry. **\$1,775,000**



Rare Opportunity Providing Multiple Panoramic Views!

Built on one of the few waterfront corner lots with over 300ft of waterfront in the exclusive Harbour Island. This private Mediterranean home was designed with the intracoastal waterway as the defining element. Avid navigators welcome as there is an existing 40' boat slip adjoining the property. **\$1,800,000**



Sophisticated European Inspired Marsh Landing Home

This 4 bedroom / 4.5 bathroom home offers a light filled open plan for gracious and expansive entertaining. The centerpiece of this unique home is a lush garden courtyard providing a private sanctuary including pond, fountains, and fireplace. This custom home is the perfect setting for everything from casual dinners to large celebrations or simply unwinding with a book at the end of the day. **\$925,000**



Build Your Dream Home!

One of the largest and prettiest estate lots in Pablo Creek Reserve. Near end of the street for added privacy. One of the most sought-after communities in the area. Convenient to Beaches, Airport, and Downtown. **\$402,500**



Extraordinary Views in Epping Forest

The only home that sits atop the bluff next to the exquisite DuPont Mansion, this home shares the same breathtaking views of the formal gardens, the marina, & the St. Johns river. Wonderful & livable floorplan takes advantage of the home's premier location & offers river and garden views from almost every room. In addition to the 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths and 2 fireplaces, this home has an extra-large bonus room that is plumbed for an additional bath & could be configured into 2 more bedrooms & a bath or game room, + a bedroom and a bath. **\$1,395,000**



Magnificent Mediterranean Style Home

Boasts elegant features and upgrades throughout. Once you reach the custom made front door, you and your guests will be greeted by the splendor of this exquisite home. **\$1,399,999**



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about this magazine

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on the cover

The cover of this First Coast Register features a Ponte Vedra Beach home located in Marsh Landing. The home will serve as the location of the benefactor event for the 2018 Legacy Trust Family Wealth Offices Home & Art Tour, which is produced by the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. The home is currently on the market and represented by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, listed by Lisa Barton and offered at \$1,999,999... Photo by Ryan Keller.



UNIQUE BEACHES PROPERTIES



OCEANFRONT

Ponte Vedra Beach estate on a magnificent 200-foot estate lot, fronting the ocean with decks. This home's stunning kitchen/family room/bar features incredible storage and fine appliances. Beautiful recently updated master suite and garages for six cars!

\$6,900,000 furnished
(\$6,800,000 unfurnished)



PONTE VEDRA CARLYLE

Very desirable 3-bedroom, south corner location with views of the headwaters of the Guana River and the "back yard" of The Carlyle. Very light and bright! This plan offers two owners' suites and a kitchen with room for dining.

Garage parking for 2 cars!
\$748,000



THE LANDMARK

Jacksonville Beach has one very exclusive condominium with the best views, private oceanfront pool and secured parking, The Landmark. This offering is the best of the best: the southeast penthouse. Filled with light, finished with the highest quality, with the feeling of a private home.

\$1,795,000



MARSH LANDING

Magnificent location between #17 green and the 18th hole of Marsh Landing Country Club. These original owners custom-designed this home for their children and mother-in-law to each have their own spaces. It's also a fantastic entertaining home!

\$1,045,000



HARBOUR ISLAND

The architect thought of everything when he designed this unique showplace: a stunning built-out office, outside/inside living through pocketing sliders that disappear, a variety of bedroom suites, family rooms up and down, and a very cool pool!

\$2,195,000



WATERSEdge

Nothing like this exists in Northeast Florida except on peaceful Harbortown Marina in the Atlantic Beach area... your own 4-story townhome (with elevator, of course) commands the harbor and Intracoastal Waterway views. Top quality finishes inside.

\$885,000 with 50' slip



OLD PONTE VEDRA

What a find, on one of the community's quietest lanes; this waterfront one-story 4 br home is light and bright, designed for entertaining. Most components are new in past 5 years or less! Enjoy refreshing breezes off the easterly lagoon.

\$1,249,000



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One of Us!

edited by JON BLAUVELT

photo by AGNES LOPEZ/POSE WELL IMAGES

KEN BABBY

Ken Babby, 38, is the owner of the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp and Akron RubberDucks minor league baseball teams. A Baltimore native, Babby previously worked at the Washington Post, where he became the youngest officer in the company's history. He ultimately retired from the newspaper at the age of 32, after Amazon founder and chief executive officer Jeff Bezos purchased the Post in 2013.

Can you please briefly tell us about your background?

I was very fortunate to grow up in and around the sports industry. My father worked for the Baltimore Orioles as general counsel. Getting to see a sports team through that lens was a really exciting and meaningful part of my childhood. Although I always wanted to work in sports, my family from a young age gave me the good advice — although it was against what I wanted to hear — to go out and get a real job before getting into sports. My first job was with the Washington Post, working in the IT department and doing nightside support from 6 p.m. until 3 a.m. supporting the systems that got the newspapers out on a daily basis. I had planned to stay at the Post for a year, maybe two. But I really fell in love with the media business and working for my hometown paper. I ended up staying there for 13 years and running our digital business and becoming the company's chief revenue officer.

What do you attribute to your accelerated rise at the Washington Post?

I don't know if there was necessarily any sort of secret sauce to it, beyond just relentless hard work and focus on building a great business by building great teams. I've always loved solving problems: I've always loved being challenged with aspects of whatever it took to build a business. I will say: I worked for a great family. The Graham family who owned the newspaper for over 130 years was a wonderful place to learn leadership.

What is it about minor league baseball that is so special to you?

Minor league baseball is a unique, front row seat to communities around the country. There are 160 minor league baseball teams, some in cities as large as Jacksonville and some in small communities where the minor league baseball team remains the only form of community entertainment. We see ourselves as providers of great, affordable, family entertainment. You're also seeing great baseball and some players who are quite likely to



be on the field for major league teams in the next couple years. Case in point, the team that I own in Akron, the RubberDucks, 15 out of the 25 players who played for the Cleveland Indians just a season ago, came through Akron the last three years on the way to the major leagues. The idea that you can come into a ballpark like the Baseball Grounds for \$5, have a \$2 hot dog every single game, great promotions, great fireworks and on top of that be able to see the next cut of talent in Major League Baseball, is a pretty rich value proposition.

What was the process of renaming the Suns the Jumbo Shrimp?

When we moved to Jacksonville, there was a very strong brand identity in terms of the Suns and what that team meant in the community. When I spoke with people and talked to leaders and folks throughout the Northeast Florida community, many people hadn't been to games in years. People would come up to me and say how much they loved the team but would also say they hadn't been to a game in two years or more. There was something quite opportunistic about rejuvenating some life and some energy into the franchise.

We started a process of really exploring what Northeast Florida stood for: led first by the military, which led to the red, white and blue color scheme; an incredibly strong affinity toward the water; and we wanted to really understand and unpack this notion that Jacksonville is a huge city but operates in a lot of ways like a small community. This notion of Jumbo Shrimp, this "bit little" city seemed to really play true to who we are. Finally, it was corky and fun. You would never name a major league baseball team the Jumbo Shrimp, or the RubberDucks or the Flying Squirrels. This is a dynamic where we don't want people to take us too seriously. We're a minor league baseball team; we're about fun, and that's what we're setting out to do.

What are your goals for the Jumbo Shrimp?

To be the leader in affordable family fun in Northeast Florida. This past season, more



Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp owner Ken Bobby responds to fans during a game. Photo by HANNAH SHAFER

than 350,000 people came down to the Baseball Grounds to see a game. We want to continue to see that grow. We want to differentiate ourselves in the amusement, entertainment and sports area. Ironically, our competition is not the Jacksonville Jaguars or any of the great sports teams in town. Our competition is people going to the movies,

construction everywhere. You really can't go a mile in any direction without seeing a crane, a new bridge, overpass or housing project. Construction is an early indicator of growth in a community, and I would say by the looks of ours, it's looking pretty good. I'm pretty darn bullish on what's happening in the community.

sitting on the beach or a Sunday afternoon barbecue. We believe there's a tremendous amount of room for growth as long as we continue to deliver a great experience, keep our prices affordable and deliver great value.

What do you think the future holds for Jacksonville?

I could not be more optimistic about the rebirth of Downtown and the great works that Mayor Curry is doing. You don't have to look more than a couple hundred yards to the right and see the promise of what Shad Khan has brought to our community. As you travel throughout the community, there's construction everywhere. You really can't go a mile in any direction without seeing a crane, a new bridge, overpass or housing project. Construction is an early indicator of growth in a community, and I would say by the looks of ours, it's looking pretty good. I'm pretty darn bullish on what's happening in the community.

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AN ANNUAL TRADITION: *Furyk & Friends*

Concert & Celebrity Golf Classic

by JON BLAUVELT
& BENJAMIN NAIM

For the eighth consecutive year, a star-studded group of athletes and entertainers joined PGA Tour player Jim Furyk and his wife Tabitha, as well as select residents, for the Furyk & Friends Concert and Celebrity Golf Classic in Ponte Vedra Beach. Raising just over half a million dollars, the event benefited children and families in need across the First Coast community.

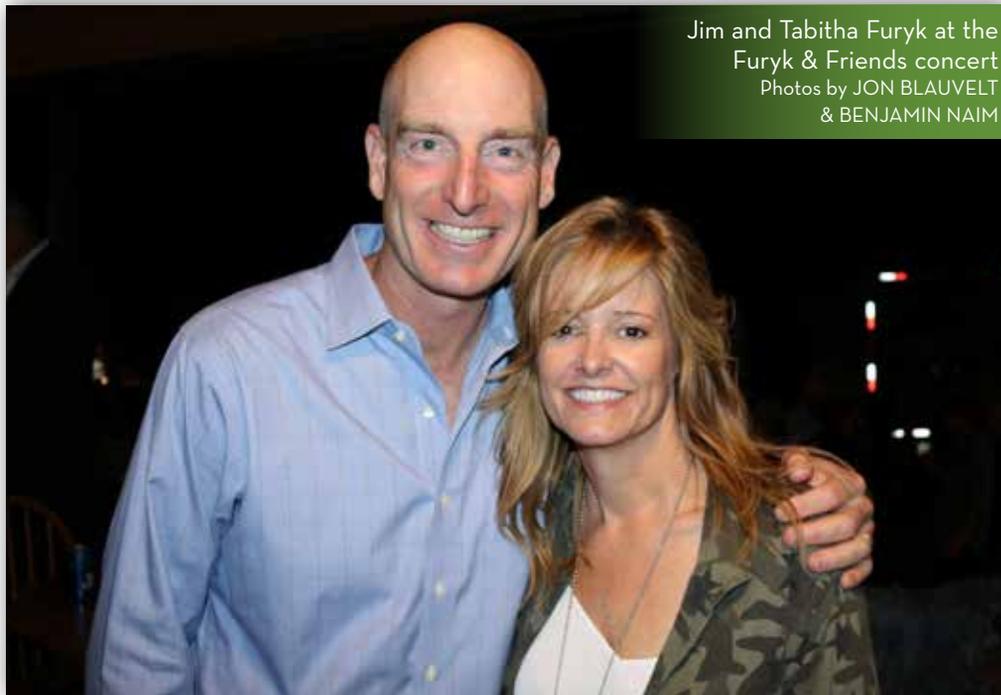
The two-day fundraiser held March 11-12 kicked off with a get-together and concert at The Outpost, which is located adjacent to the GTM Research Reserve. Before the entertainment ensued, attendees enjoyed small plates from some of the First Coast's top restaurants, including Rue Saint Marc, Ruth's Chris Steak House and Moxie Kitchen + Cocktails. The concert ultimately featured performances and appearances by Charles Kelley of Lady Antebellum, Drew & Ellie Holcomb, Colt Ford, Patrick Davis, Jordan Davis, Javier Colon and Drew Copeland of Sister Hazel.

Other celebrities in attendance of the event included Anthony Anderson, Johnny Damon, John Starks, Danny Kanell and several PGA Tour players, among others.

In addition to the food and music, guests at the event also enjoyed a silent auction that included items such as an Alabama football helmet signed by coach Nick Saban, an opportunity to golf with NFL legend and former Steeler Jerome Bettis, several pieces of Ryder Cup memorabilia and more.

The fun continued the following day with a golf tournament at Sawgrass Country Club. The festivities began with registration and a breakfast session, followed by an outdoor rules meeting near the golf carts. After the tournament, participants enjoyed a cocktail awards reception.

In addition to the concert and golf classic, the Jim and Tabitha Furyk Foundation each year organizes a holiday food drive for children in need called Hope for the Holidays as well as a baby shower for



Jim and Tabitha Furyk at the Furyk & Friends concert
Photos by JON BLAUVELT
& BENJAMIN NAIM



Musician Drew Copeland performs at the concert.



Janelle and Josh Zenner with Jaguars coach Doug Marrone before the concert



Jim Furyk addresses the attendees of the concert with the Ryder Cup trophy in hand.

expecting military families named Operation Shower. The foundation also invites children from Community PedsCare to one day of THE PLAYERS Championship every year for an event called These Kids Can Play.

To learn more about the foundation, visit jimandtabithafurykfoundation.com.



Golf tournament participants take a few practice shots at Sawgrass Country Club before the action begins.



Tabitha Furyk gathers with musicians Patrick Davis, Charles Kelley and Jordan Davis.



Mike Hasenbalg, former NBA star John Starks, Scott Hasenbalg and Quang Pham gather at the concert.



Mike Grebe, Susan Monahan, Willow Logue and PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan before the concert

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30 YEARS



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PROJECT SOS *surpasses \$200,000 fundraising goal at annual*

Grand Anchor Gala

by BENJAMIN NAIM

Project SOS, now a Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida program, raised \$260,000 at the New Orleans-themed Grand Anchor Gala held at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club on Feb. 24.

The annual fundraiser celebrated 25 years of serving First Coast teens and raised money for Project SOS programs and new Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida facilities designed to assist the community. The two organizations merged in the summer of 2017.

Guests at the event enjoyed a three-course meal, a live and silent auction, dancing, speeches and more. After the live auction, Project SOS founder Pam Mullarkey Robbins delivered a speech on the importance of protecting and investing in youth. She ultimately said charitable organizations such as Project SOS are fighting to keep young people away from drugs by helping them deal with stress, anxiety and temptation.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida President and CEO Paul Martinez also spoke about ending the cycle of teen violence and gang-related activity through prevention rather than new law enforcement programs. He said his organization plans to open four to six state-of-the-art teen centers in the toughest parts of Northeast Florida to help alleviate the problem.

The event ended with entertainment from the Chris Thomas Band and the Monarch Dancers, followed by closing remarks from Ben Weurffel, Project SOS' chairman of the board of directors.



Kelly Vergnolle and Pamela Javins, with Pooky True
Photos by BENJAMIN NAIM



Faith Doski



Marianne Hughes and Dr. Marcy



Live music at the Annual Grand Anchor Gala



Kristy Cook and Jordan Kays



Bruce Robbins and Jim Hawkes



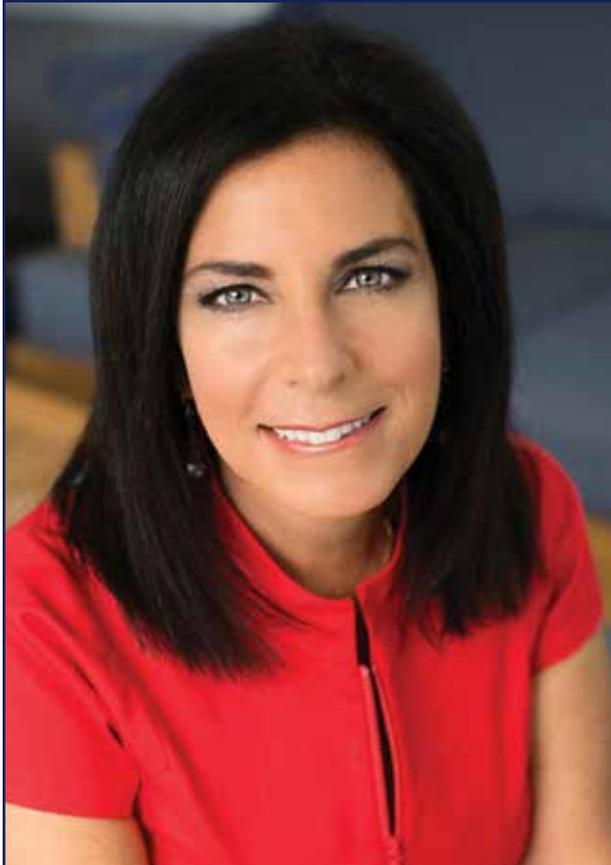
Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida President and CEO Paul Martinez speaks to event attendees with Project SOS founder Pam Mullarkey Robbins



Event organizers provide an update on the fundraising goal throughout the evening.

Janet E. Johnson, P.A.

Criminal Defense Attorney



Janet Johnson is committed to aggressively defending people accused in all criminal matters in state and federal court. In practice since 1994, she is a member of the Florida Bar, The Federal Bar, Colorado Bar, as well as the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. She has been on the faculty of FACDL "Blood, Breath & Tears" annual DUI seminar. Ms. Johnson appears as a legal commentator on CNN, HLN, GMA, and Fox News. She has been awarded the very highest possible rating, the AV preeminent rating™, from Martindale-Hubbell® and was named a fellow to the prestigious Litigation Counsel of America™, as well as one of the ten best criminal defense attorneys nationally for client satisfaction by the American Institute of Criminal Law Attorneys.

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2018 Kids Summer Fun Guide

by SAMANTHA LOGUE

Photo courtesy of GIRL SCOUTS OF GATEWAY COUNCIL

With the school year winding down, parents are preparing for the summer, seeking out answers to the perennial question of how to keep the kids entertained. Luckily, there's always something to do on the First Coast! From the academic to the adventurous, a variety of summer camps will be offered this year by local businesses, helping kids to be kids and moms and dads to stay sane until school starts again.

SPORTS AND ADVENTURE

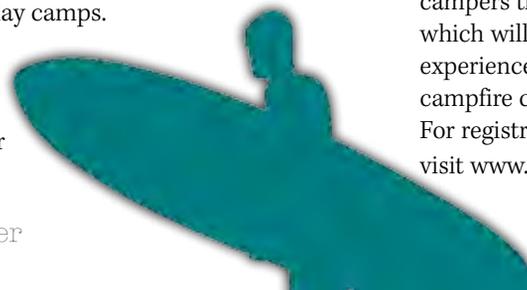
JACKSONVILLE BASKETBALL ACADEMY

Led by Providence High School Basketball head coach Jim Martin, Jacksonville Basketball Academy summer camps focus on teaching boys the fundamentals of basketball, including ballhandling, shooting, passing and defense and helping to bring their game to the next level. Offering various camps for boys in grades three through 12, the camps cover a range of skill levels, from beginner to elite. For more details, visit www.jacksonvillebasketballacademy.com.



JAX SURF CAMP

Jax Surf Camp, hosted by Jax Surf & Paddle in Atlantic Beach, will host surf and paddleboard camps to kids ages 6 through 16 throughout the spring and summer months. The camps will include surf fundamentals and instruction, as well as paddleboarding, yoga, beach sports, races and more. A pizza party will also be held on the last day of camp, and all surf camp graduates will receive goody bags. Kids have the option of attending half-day, full-day or single-day camps. Snacks and refreshments will be provided at all camps, and lunch will be included with full-day camps. Registrants must already know how to swim. Visit www.jacksonvillesurfandpaddle.com for more details.



GIRL SCOUTS OF GATEWAY COUNCIL

This summer, Girl Scouts of Gateway Council will offer two different summer camp experiences to girls in Northeast Florida. From Camp Kateri near Gainesville to North Fork Leadership Center in Middleburg, campers will have a range of day and overnight camp offerings to choose from. At Camp Kateri's resident camps, girls will participate in activities such as swimming, kayaking, outdoor skills, arts and crafts, canoeing and archery. At the North Fork campsite, day camps will also offer campers the chance to enjoy canoeing and archery, with the added option to explore STEM-centric activities like robotics, photography, astronomy and more. North Fork also offers campers the option of a two- to three-night stay, which will include traditional camp activities and experiences such as swimming, boating, shooting, campfire cooking and sleeping in a log cabin. For registration and additional information, visit www.girlscouts-gateway.org.



Episcopal Summer



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Programs for Grades K - 12

May - August 2018

For more information, go to esj.org/summer

CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

SUMMER MUSICAL THEATRE CAMP



Elementary, middle and high school students from across the country make their way to St. Augustine each summer to participate in this musical theater camp. Now in its 24th season, the camp offers kids ages 5 to 18 the opportunity to take part in a full-scale musical production. Starting in June, this summer's lineup will include productions of "Les Misérables" for high school students, "The Pinocchio Show" for ages 5 to 11 and "Seussical" for middle and high school students. For registration and additional information, visit www.summermusicaltheatrecamp.com.

CAMP CUMMER

Kids entering first through ninth grade with a passion for the arts can now register for Camp Cummer 2018 at the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens in Jacksonville. Participants will learn about various methods and mediums for creating art in a hands-on environment. For grades one through six, there are three weeks of camp to choose from in June and three in July. There will be one week available – July 30 through Aug. 3 – for kids entering grades six through nine. To learn more, visit www.cummERMuseum.org.



JAX COOKING STUDIO

For budding young culinary chefs, Jax Cooking Studio will offer two weeks of cooking camps this June. A total of four camps will be offered — two for kids ages 7 through 12, and two for teens ages 13 to 18 — and students will choose between the themes of "International Street Food" and "Food in the Movies." Throughout this week-long camp, kids will learn basic cooking skills while working in a team-oriented environment. At the end of each day, kids will be able to eat their creations, and at the end of the week, they will also have the opportunity to take part in a cooking competition, preparing meals using their newly acquired knowledge and skills. For more information about Jax Cooking Studio's two summer camps, visit www.jaxcookingstudio.com.



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Directed By: Dwayne Hultquist, Head Men's Tennis Coach at Florida State University

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SUMMER FUN Guide

LEARNING & Life Skills

MOSH DISCOVERY CAMPS

Throughout summer 2018, Jacksonville's Museum of Science and History (MOSH) will host Discovery Camps to encourage K-8 students' curiosity through exploration of the museum. Kids will learn about the ocean and its inhabitants, experiment with their senses, explore the inner workings of the human body and become architects, engineers, astronauts and more. Camps will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and all camps will offer before and after care. For registration and additional information, visit www.themosh.org/educate/discoverycamps.



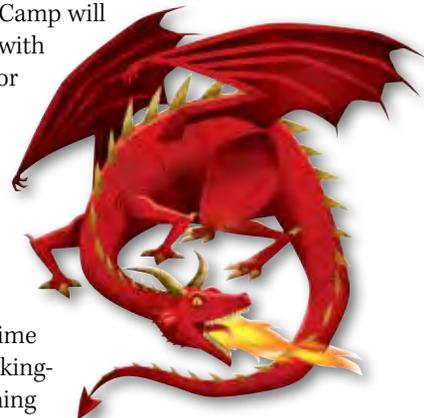
WINSHAPE CAMP

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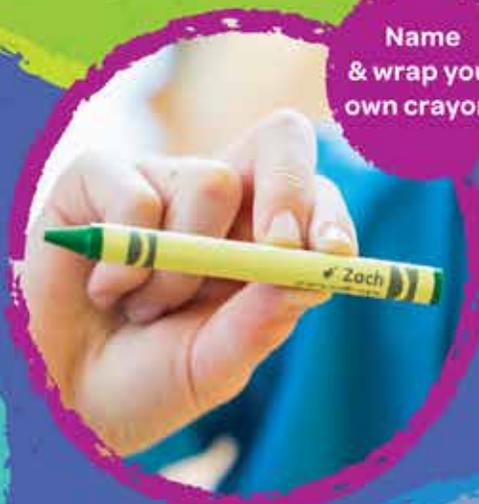
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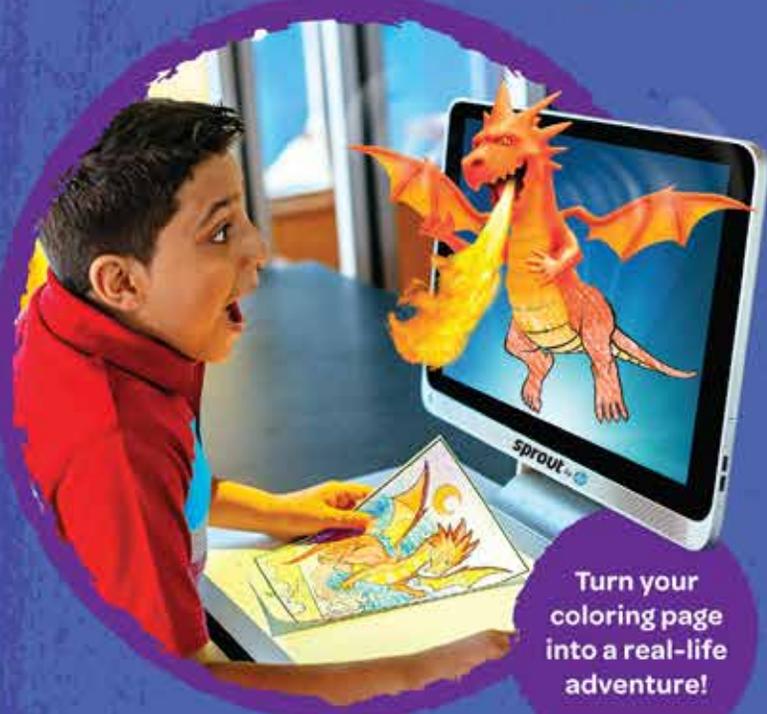
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Volunteers in Medicine honors 2018

Women With Heart

by SAMANTHA LOGUE

Volunteers in Medicine of Jacksonville held its second annual Women With Heart Luncheon presented by Florida Blue Wednesday, Feb. 7, celebrating 11 local women for their leadership, advocacy and generosity, as well as their dedication to the nonprofit's philanthropic cause.

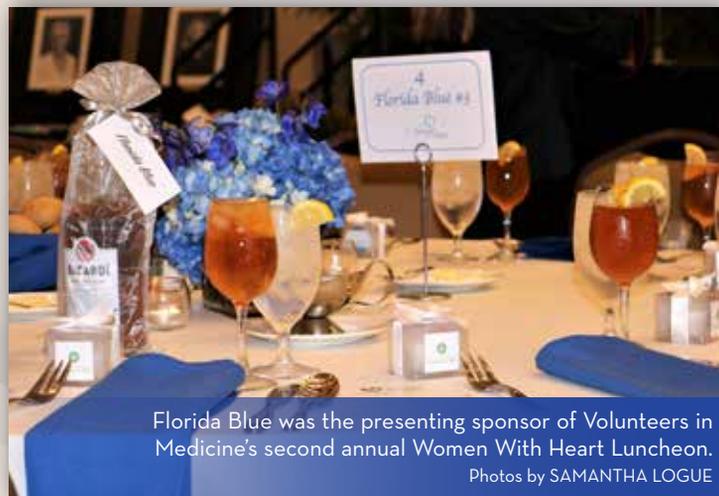
Held at the Florida Blue Conference Center in Jacksonville, the luncheon was attended by Volunteers in Medicine staff, sponsors and past and present Women With Heart honorees. Hosted by actress Jayne Atkinson-Gill of the Netflix original series "House of Cards," the program kicked off the 2018 honorees' year-long campaign to raise awareness for the nonprofit's mission to provide free outpatient medical services to Northeast Florida's low-income and uninsured families and individuals.

"In light of the uncertainty surrounding healthcare, Volunteers in Medicine has never been more important than right now, which is why I am so thrilled and honored to be here today to join Volunteers in Medicine and you in celebrating these 11 Women With Heart," said Atkinson-Gill, who is also the sister of Dany Atkinson, one of this year's honorees.

Other 2018 honorees include Cheryl Barnett, Dr. Pam Chally,



This year's Women With Heart honorees with host Jayne Atkinson-Gill and Volunteers in Medicine of Jacksonville founders Dr. Jim Burt and Dottie Dorion. Pictured from bottom left: Silvia Pulido, Dr. Elana Schrader, Dr. Estrellita H. Redmon, Dr. Jim Burt, Dottie Dorion, Cheryl Barnett, Dr. Pam Chally, Melissa Ross (from top left), Dr. Diane Raines, Leslie Gordon, Jayne Atkinson-Gill, Dany Atkinson and Shelley Morgan.



Florida Blue was the presenting sponsor of Volunteers in Medicine's second annual Women With Heart Luncheon.
Photos by SAMANTHA LOGUE

State Sen. Aubrey Gibson, Leslie Gordon, Shelley Morgan, Silvia Pulido, Dr. Diane Raines, Dr. Estrellita H. Redmon, Melissa Ross and Dr. Elana Schrader. Through December, each woman will

spend one month serving as an ambassador for Volunteers in Medicine, raising funds and awareness throughout their local communities. Each honoree will also have the unique opportunity to wear

"The Heart of Jacksonville," a heart-shaped diamond necklace designed by Beard's Jewelry specifically for the Women With Heart, which will be raffled off at the 2019 luncheon next February. Tickets to win the \$7,000 necklace can be purchased at www.vim-jax.org.

"We thank our community's partners, our sponsors today," Volunteers in Medicine CEO Mary-Pat Corrigan said. "I don't think we can adequately express our gratitude to the companies, foundation, donors and individuals, many of whom are with us today and share our passion for Volunteers in Medicine's mission."

TACKLING CANCER

by JON BLAUVELT

one glass at a time

The Tom Coughlin Jay Fund raised over \$300,000 for local families battling childhood cancer at its annual wine tasting gala on March 16.

“The generosity of our community speaks to its heart,” said Keli Coughlin, executive director of the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund Foundation, “and I’m grateful for the continued support for both the foundation and the families we serve.”

Held at the Wells Fargo Center in Jacksonville, the gala drew over 900 celebrities, wine enthusiasts, culinary artists, philanthropists and friends. Event attendees strolled the first and second floors of the downtown venue to taste over 250 world-class wines and delicious bites from dozens of First Coast restaurants, such as Ruth’s Chris Steak House and MOJO BBQ. Attendees also enjoyed perusing the various silent auction items on display, including signed Michael Strahan and Calais Campbell jerseys.

Celebrity guests included Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry, Jaguars coach Doug Marrone, Jaguars general manager David Caldwell, NFL coach Mike Mularkey, several current and former NFL players, PGA Tour executive Matt Rapp and a handful of local media personalities.

The Jay Fund helps families tackle childhood cancer by providing financial, emotional and practical support. The non-profit organization formed in 1996 in memory of Jay McGillis. He was a former college football player who developed leukemia while a member of Tom Coughlin’s team at Boston College, where Coughlin coached prior to taking the helm of the Jaguars. According to the Jay Fund, Coughlin witnessed the financial and emotional struggles that McGillis’ family suffered, and he vowed to help people in the same situation if he ever had the opportunity.

Visit tcjayfund.org for more information.



Tom Coughlin gathers with the evening’s VIP hosts, who are Jay Fund families whose children have tackled or are tackling cancer. Photos by JON BLAUVELT



Lanzce Francis and Darius Kilgore



Kristina and Neil Powell



A signed Calais Campbell jersey was among the items included in the silent auction.



Amber Moorman with husband and former NFL punter and current realtor Brian Moorman



VIP hosts Cassandra Larramore, Melanie and Casey Sembach, Ira and Naw-am Daniels and Christie Smith



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Chad Morrow, Ryan Norton and Luigi Chiaia of Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits



A signed Michael Strahan jersey was included in the silent auction.



Elizabeth "Betsy" Conant Mularkey with husband and NFL coach Mike Mularkey

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TURNING POINTS IN AMERICA

HOLDS BREAKFAST TO HONOR BENGHAZI VICTIMS, VETERANS

by BENJAMIN NAIM

Turning Points in America held a complimentary breakfast on Saturday, March 10 at Applebee's in Jacksonville's St. Johns Town Center to raise funds, honor Benghazi victims and salute veterans in the community.

The event featured live music from the "Let Freedom Sing Chorus" along with a raffle and silent auction. Veterans, military and first responders from the Veterans Enforcers Military Association attended the breakfast, along with representatives from the Clara White Mission.

Beth Heath, the president of Turning Points in America, said she was "very pleased" with the event.

"People have come to me and said, 'This was so much fun,'" she said. "It was different and different is fun ... It was a novel event."

Heath was happy with the turnout and grateful for the local donors who funded the breakfast. The Turning Points in America president said the breakfast was a way to honor veterans and pay tribute to Benghazi victims who were "abandoned" by their country.

Additionally, Heath noted the event helped fund the printing and advertising of a veterans small business directory, which provides support to veteran business owners and offers various incentives.

"We work with veteran organizations throughout the community that provide direct assistance to veterans," she said. "We've told them, 'When you have a need, let us know, because we will do a canvas to address that need.'"

Turning Points in America also hosts an annual Benghazi memorial, and Heath said the organization is committed to defending equal rights.

Steve Reynolds, a volunteer for Turning Points of America, said the primary focus of the organization is exposing government corruption and getting people to participate in the political process.



Mike Latimer, Gar Pilgrim and John Edwards
Photos by BENJAMIN NAIM



Steve Reynolds poses for a photo at the event.



Benghazi ball caps and "Stand up for America" bumper stickers on sale at the veterans luncheon



Jon Ford (bottom left), Albert G. Cherry (left), Thelma Lee and Bill Lee



The "Let Freedom Ring Chorus" sings patriotic songs at the event.



Ken Wood and Harvey Hudgins



T-shirts on display at the event

"Most of us got together because of our individual views on the Benghazi incident," he said. "[Benghazi] was a horrible, horrible corrupted mess that took place and the government, instead of telling the truth and allowing the people to accept the truth, they lied to us."

Reynolds said volunteering with Turning Points and taking part in local events – such as the March 10 veterans breakfast – is his way of getting involved instead of complaining at home.

"You can't change the world in just one day," he said. "Being involved in the organization we touch a few people at a time and it spreads. As we learn to focus and get the organization working better, we focus on bringing more people in. People need to get involved."

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SIDNEY CARDEL'S

blends

old and new
for a style that's
uniquely you

by SAMANTHA LOGUE



Photos by SAMANTHA LOGUE

It's not difficult to find coastal décor on the First Coast. With miles and miles of beach to enjoy, it's no surprise that residents here eat, sleep and breathe the "salt life." But while the coastal vibe itself may not be a novel concept in Florida, when just the right touch of personality, style and flair is added to the mix, what was once old can again become new—or so says Cathy Thomasson, owner of Sidney Cardel's in Jacksonville Beach.

"I'm real passionate about vintage finds that can be incorporated into any setting, whether it's contemporary, coastal, traditional, it doesn't matter," Thomasson says. "I think to have a piece of history in your house is super cool. It starts conversation."

Known locally for its colorful outdoor displays and stylishly-staged interior, the Sidney Cardel's shopping experience offers customers a breath of fresh ocean air. The shop, which opened its doors in 2011, offers an eclectic mix of home and garden décor, gifts, accessories and, as of recently, apparel. Many of the items in-store are also custom-made and exclusive to Sidney Cardel's.

"I think when people think of Sidney Cardel's, they think of things that they can't find other places, and that's what we hear a lot," Thomasson says. "I carry a lot of one-of-a-kind pieces."

An interior designer with an eye for detail, Thomasson has worked on high-profile design projects in the past, including as a designer liaison for HGTV's Dream Home and Green Home projects. Through Sidney Cardel's, she offers custom design services for clients looking to furnish their homes with the same panache she uses to decorate her store.

And what are Thomasson's favorite pieces to work with?

"Just something that is old and vintage that you can put into a contemporary setting and make it all work together in a way that looks like it was supposed to happen like that," she says.





That love for combining old and new is evident as one wanders through Sidney Cardel's, and is just one of the sources of the store's charm. But while Sidney Cardel's the store is charming, according to Thomasson, its namesake was even more so.

"Sidney Cardel's is named after my mother," she says. "She was an amazing woman and an educator way ahead of her time—a pioneer."

Having fulfilled the promise she made to her mother that she would one day name a store after her, Thomasson says she is just grateful to have received so much support from the community.

"Our customers become our friends, and I think that's what's kept us in business for so long," she says. "I appreciate them so much."

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Update your home

ONE STEP AT A TIME

by JANET WESTLING

Realtor, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
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COMMENTARY

The best advice I can offer any friend or client who is presenting their home for sale to the marketplace now or in the future is this: Update your home!

And I also add, it doesn't have to be done all at once. Each year, take on a new project.

That is exactly what I have done in my home. Our original master bathroom was the first to go, followed by three upstairs bathrooms. In 2010, we refinished our hardwood floors, installed custom cabinetry in our second-floor family room and then we completed our kitchen makeover.

Now that I work with buyers and sellers, I can honestly say that what my husband and I did has helped us keep pace with rising real estate prices and the buyer expectations that go with an updated home.

Recently, I undertook a renovation for a client who was getting ready to list her home. The options were to put up a fresh coat of paint and list it in its current condition, or do some major updates that would have an impact on the design, the condition of the home and the price.

Here is a list of what we did to 34 Valencia St., a coastal traditional home in the heart of Ponte Vedra beach.

- **Rethink your flooring:** The buyer today wants clean, sophisticated flooring that is the same throughout the home. Our choice for the home at Valencia Street was a beautiful European Oak floor named Nottingham.

- **Paint your home inside and if needed outside:** Today's colors are cool and light. White is the new gray. After putting several samples on the walls on Valencia Street, the winner was Sherwin Williams Pure White. It brings so much life to a room, and other colors can be added with accessories.

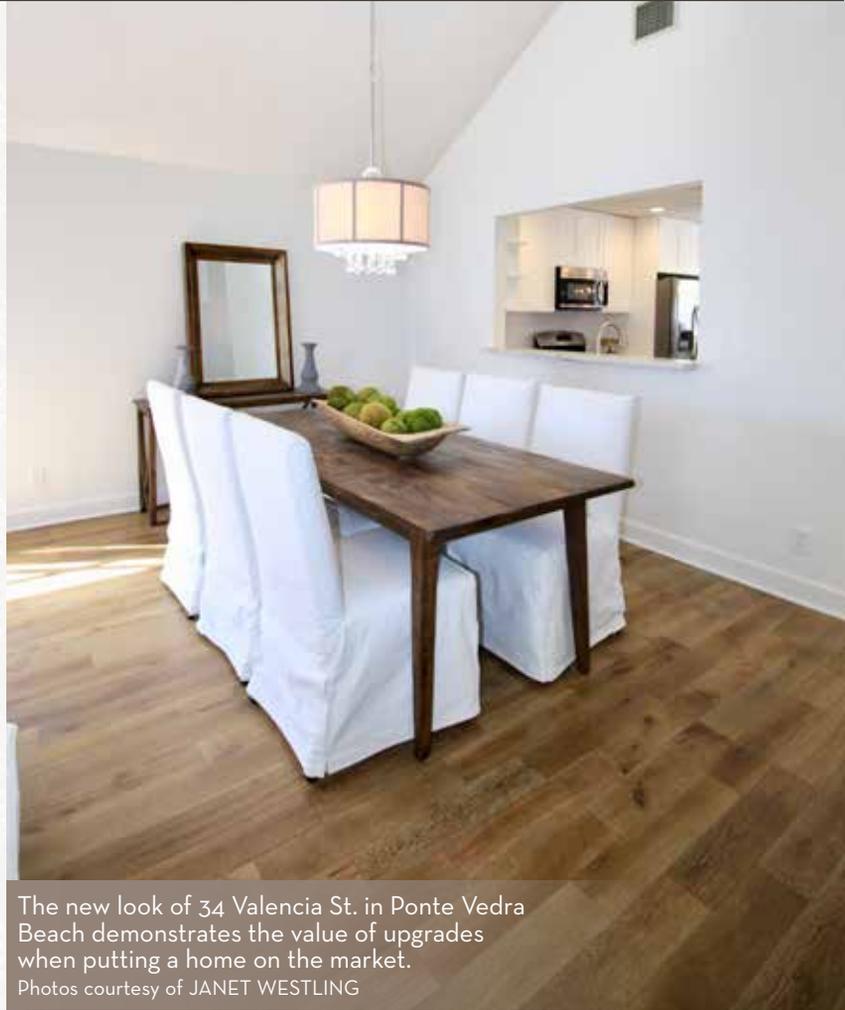
- **Update kitchens and bathrooms**

The kitchen: The kitchen is the heart of the home. Whether you are cooking, entertaining or doing homework, the kitchen is the center of activity. Create a kitchen that is unique but one that will also stand the test of time. White cabinets are timeless and the most popular color for buyers.

The bathroom: Increase and elevate your home's look and its value. According to HGTV.com., the No. 1 re-model is a minor bathroom remodel, which the site says will cost about \$10,500 to replace the tile surround, tub, floor, toilet, sink, vanity and fixtures. The site also says you will get back an average of \$10,700 at re-sale and a recoup of 102 percent.

- **Countertops, appliances and backsplashes:** Whether you choose granite, quartz or marble, this design upgrade will stand out when you are selling your home. Don't forget the backsplash. This simple and relatively inexpensive upgrade will complete the kitchen along with updated appliances. Stainless steel is still a buyer favorite.

After you complete your renovations, sit back and enjoy the new look of your home for many years.



The new look of 34 Valencia St. in Ponte Vedra Beach demonstrates the value of upgrades when putting a home on the market.
Photos courtesy of JANET WESTLING



Kitchen Before Kitchen After





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Award-winning interior designer

SET TO OPEN NEW RETAIL LOCATION THIS SUMMER

by BENJAMIN NAIM

Jacksonville-native Constance Riik, an award-winning interior designer and owner of CSR Interiors, will be offering home accessories and furnishings at her new retail location set to open in Ponte Vedra Beach in mid-July.

Riik offers residential design, full-service and hourly consultations for individual rooms or an entire home through CSR Interiors, Inc. The company's website states that services "are tailored to suit each client's specific needs."

This summer, Riik plans to expand her horizons by opening her first retail location called Boxwood & Birch at CSR Interiors, which will offer a variety of home accessories, furnishings and more.

"I have found that great accessories are often hard to get your hands on around here," she says. "That is a void I intend to fill with Boxwood & Birch."

Riik says she got her start in the interior design field after completing a two-year program at Florida State College at Jacksonville. Following her graduation, Riik worked for Ward Lariscy for nearly a year before incorporating CSR Interiors, Inc. in 2010.

"Going to school qualified me for membership in the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID), as well as enabled me to meet local designers and be part of the local design community," she says. "Through that, I have a network of close friends and mentors like Ward, in the industry. I have served on the ASID Florida North Board, including two terms as president, and that was a great experience."

At Boxwood & Birch, the CSR Interiors owner plans to offer the same things she incorporates into her design projects, such as home accessories, lighting, furniture, fabric and wallpaper. Riik notes that her retail location will be perfect for customers who may not need a full-service designer (which Riik will continue to offer) but still need accessories for the home.

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“We’re in the process now of the planning stages, and then getting through permitting in St. Johns County takes time,” she says. “Once we do that, we’ll start to build out.”

CSR Interiors is unique, Riik says, because it offers services that are tailored to suit the needs of individual clients. She notes that a lot of her customers are busy business people, doctors or lawyers with full schedules who “want a nice home” but don’t have time to worry about interior design.

“I create spaces and homes that really reflect their individual style and how [clients] live,” she says. “Often that involves helping the clients discover their style. I don’t have a specific ‘look’ that I stick with or repeat. Some designers stay in a specific lane like that. I love to use color and typically incorporate it into all of my projects.”

Riik says she can work with full-service clients and on single rooms or a whole house.

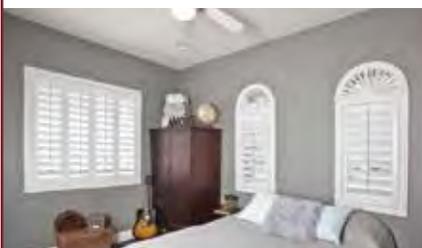
“Full-service clients are those that really cannot, or do not want to, do it themselves or simply do not have the time,” she explains. “These clients include those in existing homes and those that are building new homes or remodeling. There are so many decisions to make when you are building or remodeling and I help my clients through that process, which starts with the planning stage and working closely with the architect and builder to insure all of the client’s needs are met.

“Then it goes into furnishing the home, doing window treatments and furnishing to complete the whole concept,” Riik adds.

Visit www.csrinteriorsinc.com for more information on CSR Interiors, Inc.

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UF/IFAS: A LIBRARY OF Landscaping Knowledge

by JON BLAUVELT

Across Florida, the UF/IFAS (University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Services) Extension offices are home to several tools and resources for residents seeking to learn more about landscaping and gardening.

The Florida Friendly Landscaping program is one such resource that is available and taught by Extension employees. According to Terra Freeman, an urban and commercial extension agent for UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns County, the program was developed to educate Floridians about environmentally friendly landscaping practices that conserve and protect water, while also promoting an attractive landscape.

“Anyone can have a Florida friendly landscape,” said Freeman. “It can have a very formal, maintained look or a more natural look. It’s just about the practices you choose with your irrigation, fertilizing and plant selection choices.”

Freeman teaches the Florida Friendly program every year from about January or February

to early April in St. Johns County; however, she also teaches the landscaping practices to homeowner associations or other organizations throughout the year.

In addition to Florida Friendly, Freeman manages St. Johns County’s Master Gardener program, an intensive training program that instructs volunteers about botany, plant propagation, soil science, plant pathology, landscape design and more. Typically taking place August through October in St. Johns County, participants complete the training and then must attain a certain number of volunteer hours and complete continuing education units to remain in good standing as a master gardener. The application for the program is now available.

For those in St. Johns County interested in learning more, contact Freeman at (904) 209-0430. For those in another county, Freeman suggests contacting your local horticulture extension agent. Visit ifas.ufl.edu for more information.

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Home & Art Tour

The 2018 Legacy Trust Family Wealth Offices Home & Art Tour, produced by the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach (CCPVB), will be held April 21.

The annual CCPVB event offers patrons an opportunity to see some of Ponte Vedra Beach's most beautiful homes, while also raising funds for the nonprofit organization and CCPVB programs like Sound Connections, which provides music therapy for children with special needs.

"This year's tour features four exquisite homes that promise to lend new inspiration to our patrons," said Jennifer Sartiano, director of development for the Cultural Center. "We are incredibly grateful to generous home owners that open their homes to foster awareness and support of the center's art education and music therapy programs."

The Home & Art Tour will start at the Cultural Center with a breakfast provided by KC's Kitchen from 9-10 a.m. in the Scene Gallery. Lasting from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., this year's tour features homes within Marsh

Landing, The Plantation at Ponte Vedra and one oceanfront home.

"We are hopeful that by starting the tour with breakfast at the Cultural Center that it will elevate the awareness of our program offerings and our event rental space and artistic studios," said Sartiano. "Annually, nearly 1,000 community members turn out for this extraordinary event that showcases how vital collective efforts are in building a vibrant community."

Refreshments will be available at each of the four houses. Two will have non-alcoholic drinks including lemonade and water. The other two houses will feature a new drink tasting compliment of Carrera Wine Cellar and St. Augustine Distillery.

The tour will also include a VIP option, which kicks off with mimosas and allows certain guests to begin touring an hour before patrons with general admissions tickets.

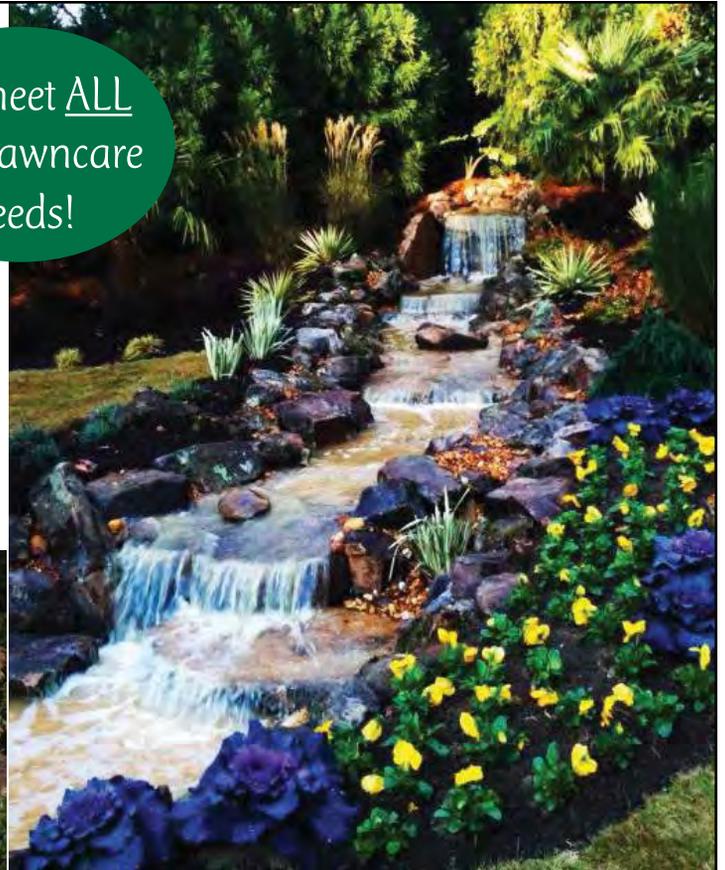
Tickets and VIP Passes are available online at ccpvb.org.



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CASINO NIGHT

on the Greens

by BENJAMIN NAIM

Ayla's Acres No-Kill Animal Rescue held its third annual Casino Night on the Greens gala — featuring event host and M*A*S*H actress Loretta Swit — on Saturday, March 10, at the TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Casino Night attendees enjoyed the slot machines and played Texas Hold 'Em poker, blackjack, roulette and craps throughout the evening. The event also featured quick-fire raffles, hors d'oeuvres, dancing, desserts, a full bar and live music provided by Little Jake & The Soul Searchers. "Funny Money" winnings went toward raffle tickets to win prize items donated by local businesses. In addition to hosting the event, Swit signed copies of her new book "SwitHeart: The Watercolour Artistry & Animal Activism of Loretta Swit."

A "Betty White Award" winner for commendable humanitarian efforts, Swit is an actress, artist and animal activist best known for her character roles on stage and television. She is an honorary board member of Ayla's Acres, a St. Augustine-based nonprofit supporting adoption, spay and neuter and the responsible care of animals. The organization maintains a 45-acre sanctuary for "unadoptable" animals to live out their lives in peace.

For more information on Ayla's Acres, visit www.aylasacres.org.



Ayla's Acres Executive Director Fran Charlson (left) poses for a photo with M*A*S*H star Loretta Swit at Casino Night on the Greens. Photos by BENJAMIN NAIM



Vanessa Fleming runs the blackjack table.



Joe and Lori Peza



Darrell Barnhart and Heather Hettrick



Guests enjoy the blackjack table.



Little Jake & The Soul Searchers provide Casino Night on the Greens attendees with live music and entertainment.

World famous dress

COMES TO ST. AUGUSTINE

First Coast residents and vacationers visiting St. Augustine's Ripley's Believe It or Not! in February and March had the opportunity to view one of the world's most expensive dresses once worn by Marilyn Monroe.

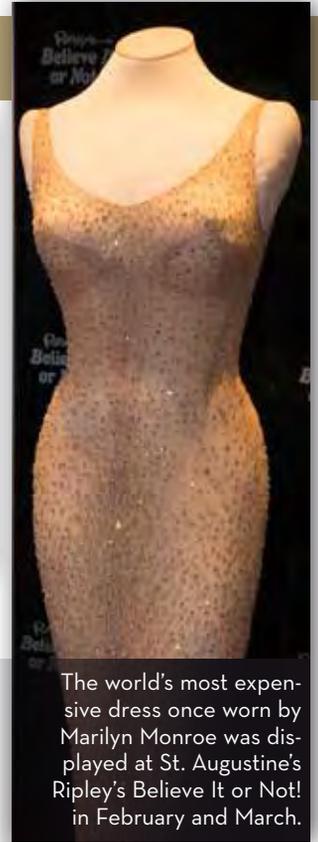
The fashion icon flaunted the dress when she famously sang "Happy Birthday, Mr. President" to John F. Kennedy on May 19, 1962, for his 45th birthday gala at Madison Square Garden. Ripley's Believe It or Not! set a new Guinness World Record for the most expensive dress sold at auction when the company acquired the dress from Julien's Auctions for \$4.8 million. Add in auction fees, and the dress cost over \$5 million.

"This is the most famous item of clothing in twentieth-century culture," says Edward Meyer, vice president of exhibits & archives for Ripley's Believe It or Not! "It has the significance of Marilyn, of JFK and of American politics."

Ripley's unveiled the dress at a special event in February that was attended by over 180 people, many of whom were dressed in 1950s attire. A Marilyn Monroe impersonator attended and interacted with guests, posed for meet-and-greet photos and sang the infamous "Happy Birthday, Mr. President" song. The event also featured a Marilyn Monroe scavenger hunt, a screening of "Some Like It Hot," wine and hors d'oeuvres and a birthday cake with a presidential seal on it.



Ripley's guests enjoy the unveiling of the dress in February. Photos by ROBERT GOFORTH/RIPLEY ENTERTAINMENT INC.



The world's most expensive dress once worn by Marilyn Monroe was displayed at St. Augustine's Ripley's Believe It or Not! in February and March.

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ATLANTIC BEACH



Caroline Kennedy chats with WJCT News host Melissa Ross at her Florida Forum address on March 5. Photo by ZACH THOMAS/MONARCH STUDIO

CAROLINE KENNEDY delivers Florida Forum address

by JON BLAUVELT

International relations, poetry and family were among the topics discussed by Caroline Kennedy in her Florida Forum address on March 5.

Produced by the Women’s Board of Wolfson Children’s Hospital to support the efforts of the hospital, the event drew over 1,300 people to the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts. The daughter of President John F. Kennedy and First Lady “Jackie” Kennedy Onassis engaged in a 30-minute discussion with WJCT News host Melissa Ross, answered questions from the audience and later posed for photos with guests at a post-event reception.

The United States ambassador to Japan from late 2013 to early 2017, Kennedy prominently discussed that diplomatic experience, which she called “a great and unexpected privilege.”

“What I really came to the realization of was how little most Americans know about Japan and how important it is,” Kennedy said to Ross and the audience.

She noted that Japan is the third largest economy in the world and a key trade partner and strategic ally in the region, which is also home to countries like North Korea and China that present the U.S. with short- and long-term challenges.

Kennedy said Japan is very pro-American and dependent on the U.S. for security. As of now, however, she said there’s uncertainty there regarding whether or not the U.S. will be a reliable partner, considering the current American political climate.



ABOVE: Elizabeth Rodriguez, Darlene Deo, Jane Rollinson, Eileen Grebe, Shreena Patel, Jaqueline Deo and Tracie Wolford



LEFT: Alexandria Murray and Kadance Schmidt-Alpers
Photos by JON BLAUVELT



Kortney Wesley, Terrye Mosley and Darnell Smith
Photo by JON BLAUVELT



Over 1,300 guests attended Kennedy's Florida Forum address.
Photo by ZACH THOMAS/
MONARCH STUDIO

Kennedy addressed the importance of ambassadors and diplomacy when an event attendee asked about the shrinking role of the U.S. State Department across the globe.

"Certainly for (some) countries, their governments will only deal with an ambassador," she said. "To the extent that the state department looks unimportant to the president, they don't want to deal with the state department either. ... We can work through it in the future, but it's not a good situation."

In addition, Kennedy discussed the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award, which was created in 1989 by the Kennedy family to honor those who show political courage and to keep President Kennedy's values alive. Since the award was created, she explained that the notion of courage has changed, noting that compromise may not have been seen as courage before, but now it certainly exemplifies that value.

She also talked in length about her family, both her parents and uncles, as well as her own kids and what it means for them to grow up with such family history.

"They are very proud of their heritage," Kennedy said. "They have actually become interested as they grow up in their grandfather and grandmother. ... My uncle Teddy took a real interest in them. They had a close relationship with him."

Ross asked Kennedy about her passion for poetry, which was inspired by her mother. Kennedy explained that her mother encouraged the family to explore and not be afraid of poetry, prompting them to give poems as gifts for birthdays and holidays. The Florida

Forum speaker said her mother saved the family's poems in a scrapbook, which she said is like "looking at a photograph."

"It really was at the heart of who she was," said Kennedy. "It's something I've been really excited to share with my kids."

Other topics of discussion that evening included patriotism, 9/11 and education, as Kennedy worked as the director of the office of strategic partnerships for the New York City Department of Education in the early 2000s.

For more information on the Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital and the Florida Forum Speaker Series, visit womensboardwolfsonchildrenshospital.com/2017-2018-florida-forum-speakers.



Prakash Patel, Anitha Patel,
Sadia Chughtai and Leah MacClellan
Photo by JON BLAUVELT

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Stars align to support children in need for

Tim Tebow Foundation



Tim Tebow talks to the media on the red carpet before the Tim Tebow Foundation Celebrity Gala on March 2.
Photos by PARIS MOULDEN

by PARIS MOULDEN

The stars once again aligned in Ponte Vedra Beach to help raise awareness and funds for children in need across the world through the Tim Tebow Foundation Celebrity Gala and Golf Classic.

Television personalities, musicians and sports stars walked the red carpet at the gala at TPC Sawgrass on Friday, March 2, the night before of the 8th annual Celebrity Golf Classic.

Kevin Sorbo of “Hercules” fame, “Duck Dynasty” stars Jase and Missy Robertson and singer and Jacksonville native Rion Paige of “The X Factor” were a few of the television stars in attendance,

Among some of the sports celebrities were PGA Tour golfer and Ponte Vedra Beach resident Billy Horschel, former Florida Gators star Danny Wuerrfel, NFL star running back Adrian Peterson, former Red Sox star and two-time World Series champion Johnny Damon, NFL legend Marcus Allen and New York Giants wide receiver Brandon Marshall.

Tebow’s former coach at Florida and current Ohio State coach Urban Meyer was in attendance, as was the Gators’ new coach, Dan Mullen, Former Jaguars veterans — cornerback Rashean Mathis and kicker Josh Scobee — also came out to support the cause.

The Tim Tebow Foundation was created by the former Nease and Florida Gators quarterback in 2010 “with a mission to bring faith, hope and love to those needing a brighter day in their darkest hour of need.”

One hundred percent of the proceeds raised at the annual gala and golf tournament go to the Tebow Foundation’s mission to help children around the world.



NFL Hall of Famer
Marcus Allen



Ohio State coach Urban Meyer walks the red carpet with his daughters.



“Duck Dynasty” stars
Jase and Missy Robertson



Former Jaguars cornerback
Rashean Mathis



NFL star running back
Adrian Peterson



Tim Tebow talks to family members during his
foundation's celebrity gala March 2.

"He has a genuine wish to make the world better and he does," event attendee and ESPN "SportsCenter" host Scott Van Pelt said of Tebow and his charitable efforts. "He's as good as he seems. I appreciate somebody that good exists in the world."

Visit www.timtebowfoundation.org for more information on the Tim Tebow Foundation in its efforts.



"Hercules" star and actor
Kevin Sorbo



Singer and Jacksonville
native Rion Paige

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Bistro Aix, which reopened in February, now features a lighter and more refreshed design, as seen in the floors, curtains, chairs and tables. Photos courtesy of BISTRO AIX

BISTRO AIX

UPGRADES AFTER IRMA

by JON BLAUVELT

Seven months ago, Bistro Aix in San Marco was submerged in 3 feet of flood water from Hurricane Irma and forced to close temporarily. Today, the popular, French-inspired restaurant is fully restored, featuring a lighter and more refreshed look and feel.

“Ever since Hurricane Irma passed, we have been working hard to get Bistro Aix ready for service again,” said owner Jacques Klempf, whose restaurant reopened in early February. “We kept all the things of a bistro but upgraded it.”

The restaurant’s upgrades include a lighter color palette, as seen in the floors, curtains and tile in the open kitchen. The bistro’s recovered chairs and tables were also sanded and now feature a lighter finish. In addition, the private dining room is now a modern and sleek white room with dark oak furniture, after previously featuring a dark color palette of red and black. Another upgrade includes the replacement of the marketplace counter with a 10-seat farm table. Danis led the four-month restoration, and Design Cooperative was the designer.

Despite the changes, the excellent service and quality of Bistro Aix has stayed constant. Returning guests will see many familiar dishes on Executive Chef Shaun Trachtenburg’s menu, including French onion soup, brie en croute, blue cheese chips, steak frites and wood-fired pizzas.



Bistro Aix sustained substantial damage from Hurricane Irma in September 2017 and was forced to close temporarily.



Bistro Aix's homemade ice cream includes flavors such as bourbon honey pecan, black cocoa mint chip and vanilla caramel brownie. Photos by JON BLAUVELT



The San Marco area of Jacksonville where Bistro Aix is located flooded significantly during Hurricane Irma. Photo courtesy of BISTRO AIX



Bistro Aix's seared diver scallops



Bistro Aix's seared duck breast

New entrée options include seared duck breast, whole trout and pan-seared U-10 diver scallops served with Anson Mills grits. Executive Pastry Chef Michael Bump's dessert menu includes classic French desserts with a creative twist, such as chai crème brûlée, banana crepes and house-made ice cream, including original flavors such as bourbon honey pecan, black cocoa mint chip and vanilla caramel brownie.

"The support we have received from the Jacksonville community over the past several months has been nothing short of incredible," said owner Fraser Burns. "We extend our deepest gratitude to our design team, construction partners and Bistro Aix team members for their dedication."

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The 1963 Ferrari 250/275P and 1929 Duesenberg J/SJ Convertible won the Best In Show honors on March 10 at the 23rd annual Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance. Photo courtesy of AMELIA ISLAND CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE



2018 AMELIA ISLAND

The 23rd annual Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance drew more than 300 cars and motorcycles into 35 classes on the 10th and 18th fairways of the Golf Club of Amelia Island on March 10.

The Best in Show Concours d'Elegance Trophy was presented to a 1929 Duesenberg J/SJ Convertible owned by Harry Yeaggy from Cincinnati. A 1963 Ferrari 250/275P from The JSL Motorsports Collection in Redwood City, California, took home the prestigious Best in Show Concours de Sport Trophy.

"I could not be more pleased with the judges' decisions for the 2018 Amelia Island Concours winners," said Bill Warner, chairman and founder of the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance. "We are overjoyed to present the Duesenberg and Ferrari with these honors. These cars are prime examples of automotive prestige, and we are proud to recognize them."

This year's Amelia Concours honored not only astounding vehicles but also Emerson Fittipaldi. Fittipaldi's race cars were among the 300-plus cars on display. The double Formula 1 World Champion and two-time Indy 500 winner displayed a number of the vehicles he raced, including a 1970 Lotus 72/5, 1974 McLaren M23/5, 1974 Porsche 911 RSR IROC and 1977 Chevrolet IROC Camaro Z28.

Concours d'Elegance



Photos by LARRY WEISMAN





Making its international debut at this year's Concours was the sole Shelby Lonestar, created a half-century ago as a replacement for the 427 Shelby Cobra. Additional highlights on the field included a full class of the outrageous customs of "Big Daddy" Ed Roth.

Advancing in the power-driven age, a special class of electric horseless carriages also highlighted the renewed enthusiasm for the 120-year-old technology. To complement the 2018 electric car class, The Concours featured, as well, the newest electric and hybrid powered cars from the world's leading manufacturers.

In addition, IMSA GTP celebrated its GTP — Grand Touring Prototype — racers from the 1981 through the 1993 IMSA Championships, and the recently-discovered Ford Mustang Fastback from the 1968 movie "Bullitt" was featured in the Hagerty booth.

"With every passing year, the Amelia Island Concours continues to grow," Warner said. "It is magical to see the wide variety of vehicles that appear on the green each year. Their stories and history truly allow us to celebrate the automobile industry in a number of ways."

The 24th annual Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance will be held March 8-10, 2019, on the fairways of The Golf Club of Amelia Island at The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island. The show's Foundation has donated over \$3.2 million to Community Hospice of Northeast Florida, Inc. and other charities on Florida's First Coast since its inception in 1996.

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AIFBY CHAMBER

unveils collaborative, new office space

The Amelia Island-Fernandina Beach-Yulee Chamber of Commerce completed the renovation of its new office space located in the Gateway of Amelia Complex in late 2017.

Once a traditional office, the Chamber's space was ultimately transformed into a collaborative environment, with a vision of being "open, bright and high-tech." The new office provides collective and individual work spaces, state-of-the-art secure technology, expanded meeting space, video-conferencing and an array of services and programs that are open to area businesses, entrepreneurs and industry professionals.

"The updated facility will send the message, 'Nassau County is a regional leader in technology, business services and a vital conduit for collaborations,'" says Chamber President Regina Duncan. "This is as much about the Chamber's 'front door' image as it is about modernizing the facility."

At the heart of the office transformation is the addition of the Chamber's Business Resource and Innovation Center (BRIC), a space where small business owners, freelancers or home-based professionals can come to work or conduct meetings. Chamber representatives said BRIC is unique because it combines a fully operational office set-



ting and state-of-the-art technology for modern day conferencing capabilities, with Chamber resources such as mentoring, educational programming, data and research, referrals and networking. The center is open to anyone in the community, as well as visitors to the island.

Use of BRIC's lounge and co-working space is included with Chamber membership, and the use of reserved meeting and private office space is minimal. Tools such as copying services, scanning, faxing, charging stations and office supplies, as well as coffee, tea and snacks, are also available.

For more information, call (904) 261-3248 or visit islandchamber.com. The Amelia Island-Fernandina Beach-Yulee Chamber of Commerce is located at 961687 Gateway Blvd. #101G in Fernandina Beach.

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Chinese dancers entertain the crowd.
Photos by JON BLAUVELT

26TH ANNUAL WORLD of nations

by JON BLAUVELT

The City of Jacksonville and local multicultural friends hosted over 40,000 people March 2-4 at Metropolitan Park for the 26th annual World of Nations.

Representatives of over 30 countries — including Cambodia, Colombia, Ethiopia and India, among others — attended the event, offering their native foods and displaying pieces of their respective cultures for guests to enjoy.

Several performances and shows took place throughout the weekend that kept event attendees entertained in every corner of the park. From Spain's Flamenco dancers to Nan Nkama — a Pan African drum and dance ensemble — the event featured a little bit of everything.

Once again, World of Nations put the world in Jacksonville's reach.



A band at the African Village performs for the crowd.



A Cambodian teenager booth plays the xylophone.

PRESERVING FIRST COAST

HISTORY

by JON BLAUVELT

The University of North Florida (UNF) hosted an appreciation reception on March 20 in recognition of Richard Mette, a lifelong Jacksonville resident who donated various relics of First Coast history to UNF Library's Special Collections & University Archives.

Comprised of over 600 items, the Richard Mette Collection is comprised of photographs, postcards, stereograph cards, documents and other memorabilia that represent the heritage of Northeast Florida. According to Mette, whose family ties back to the First Coast for several generations, the collection was appraised at over \$50,000. Part of the collection is currently displayed at a special UNF exhibit at Jacksonville International Airport.

"This collection will indeed help educate and give a glance of our past," says Mette. "It is my honor to donate these important artifacts to UNF for others to view for generations to come."

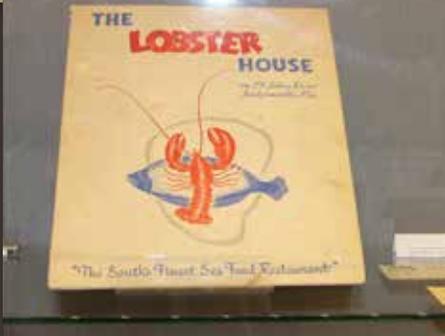


Richard Mette addresses a reception on March 20 in recognition of his donation of First Coast historical items to University of North Florida. a Photos by SUSAN GRIFFIN



Ken Amaro and Richard Mette

The Richard Mette Collection is comprised of photographs, postcards, stereograph cards, documents and other memorabilia that represent the heritage of Northeast Florida.



Bobby and Jim Stockton



Former Secretary of State of Florida Bruce Smathers addresses the reception.



Angela Corey, Janice and Chuck Maida



Angelia Savage, Richard Mette and Judi Zitiello



Emily Lisska, Dr. Kabir Mody and Tommy Hazouri

The appreciation reception held at Thomas G. Carpenter Library was hosted by UNF President John A. Delaney and Library Dean Dr. Elizabeth Curry and attended by over 100 people. Those in attendance included former Secretary of State of Florida Bruce Smathers, former Jacksonville Mayor Tommy Hazouri, former City Councilman Matt Carlucci, former Florida State Attorney Angela Corey and FirstCoastNews anchor Ken Amaro, among others.

For more information about the collection, visit digitalcommons.unf.edu/mette.

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MEET THE Winemaker

A group of First Coast residents recently had the opportunity to taste wines from California's beautiful Santa Barbara County with one of the region's winemakers at a special event held at Coastal Wine Market & Tasting Room in Nocatee.

Known as "Meet The Winemaker," the March 22 event featured a visit from winemaker Ryan Pace of Nielson Wines, which is known for its cool-climate varieties like pinot noir and chardonnay. In addition to offering tastings, Pace signed bottles of his wine at the event.

Visit www.nielsonwines.com for more information on Nielson Wines and coastalwinemarket.com for more information on Coastal Wine Market.



Dennis Mahoney, Steve Lourie, Ryan Pace and Allen Horne gather at the "Meet The Winemaker event" at Coastal Wine Market & Tasting Room on March 22.
Photos by SUSAN GRIFFIN



Jan Requarth and Sue Burkett



Danielle Ogilby and Rachel Ogilby

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MLS#899110 / \$1,390,000

366 ROYAL TERN RD. S



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This beautiful North Island pool home offers 5 BD, 5.2 BA and 6,556 SF of living space. Enjoy the spacious gourmet kitchen or step outback and take in the unobstructed views of the Intracoastal and marsh. **MLS# TBA/\$1,999,999**

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This elegant custom-built home featuring 6 BD, 5 BA and 5,241 SF sits on one of the prettiest waterfront lots available! **MLS# 885197 / \$889,000**

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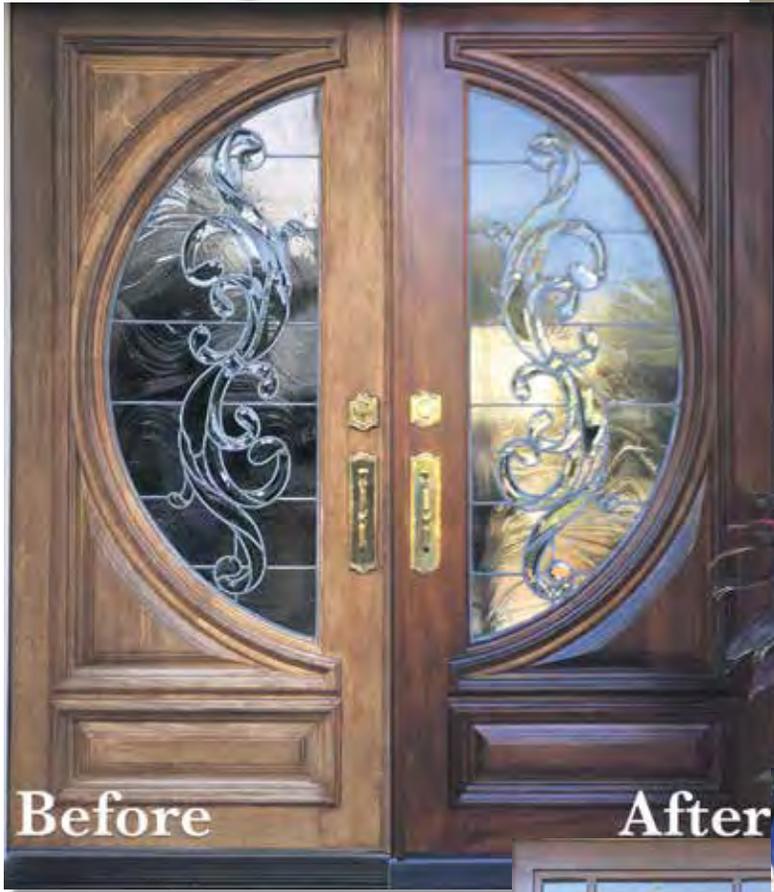


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