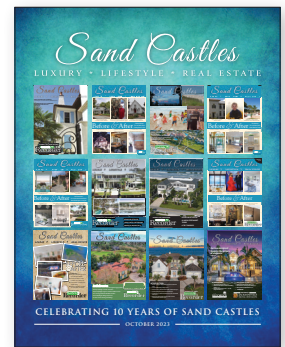


# THE RECORDER



**Sand Castles**  
INSIDE

PLUS

**Here's to Health Care**  
Page 19

**Howl-O-Ween Pet Special**  
Page 31

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

Thursday, October 26, 2023

PonteVedraRecorder.com

VOLUME 54, NO. 52 \$1.00

## Vilano project ground broken

By Shaun Ryan

St. Johns County broke ground Tuesday morning, Oct. 24, on a Vilano Beach Oceanfront Park renovation project, located on 1.7 acres at 2750 Anahma Drive.

The park will offer outdoor space for recreation and building community. It will include the following amenities:

- Improvements to the northern walkover to bring it into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This will make the beach accessible to visitors who must use wheelchairs or other mobility aids. A Mobi-mat will be installed to make

PROJECT continues on Page 13

## WEEK 10 FOOTBALL PREVIEW

# High stakes make for intense rivalry showdown

By Anthony Richards

When Nease travels to take on rival Ponte Vedra in the “shark tank” this Friday, it will be the type of game that so many players taking the field dreamt of growing up while they were tossing the ball around in their front yard.

From the atmosphere to the postseason spot up for grabs, this year’s football matchup between the Sharks and Panthers has it all.

And based off of recent years, that should be no surprise, as it seems like every time these two teams square off, it comes down to a one possession game with a big drive or late stop in the fourth quarter to secure a victory.

No matter how it gets sliced, this year’s contest pits strength



Photo by Anthony Richards

SHOWDOWN continues on Page 45 The Ponte Vedra Sharks and Nease Panthers square off in their annual football rivalry on Oct. 27.



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

### NOW OFFERING LIPO LASER

We are now offering invisa-RED™, FDA Approved and Clinically Proven for Non-invasive Weight Loss, Cellulite Removal, Body Contouring and Aesthetics.

Special Introductory Offer for New Patients!

**\$49** includes:  
• Body Composition Analysis  
• 1 Lipo-Laser Session  
• Vibration Therapy Session (to increase blood flow and circulation)

We also offer award-winning Chiropractic Care - looking forward to seeing you soon!

invisa-RED™

**WEIGHT LOSS**



Let's Conquer This!

**LIMITED TIME OFFER - CALL TODAY!**

NEW PATIENTS ONLY. THE PATIENT AND ANY OTHER PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT HAS THE RIGHT TO REFUSE TO PAY, CANCEL PAYMENT OR BE REIMBURSED FOR PAYMENT FOR ANY SERVICE, EXAMINATION OR TREATMENT WHICH IS PERFORMED AS A RESULT OF AND WITHIN 72 HOURS OF RESPONDING TO THE ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE FREE, DISCOUNTED FEE, OR REDUCED FEE SERVICE, EXAMINATION OR TREATMENT. CAN NOT BE COMBINED. MAY NOT BE VALID FOR FEDERAL PROGRAMS INCLUDING MEDICARE. WITH THIS AD AND ONETIME USE ONLY.



Ponte Vedra

**Wellness Center**

Beaches • Nocatee

We keep your spine in align!

**(904) 273-2691**

615 A1A North, Suite #102

Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

(on the corner of A1A and Corona Rd)

pontevedrawellnesscenter.com

**2024 Lotus Emira NOW ORDERING**

904.998.9992 **EMIRA** lotusofjacksonville.com

Serving Ponte Vedra and the Beaches since 1969



7 31544 60200 8

**2024 Lotus Eletre NOW ORDERING**

904.998.9992 **ELETRE** lotusofjacksonville.com



# INSIDE

One of Us

Page 6

Business Weekly

Pages 38-42

In the Arts

Page 43

Sports

Pages 44-45

# Send us your news

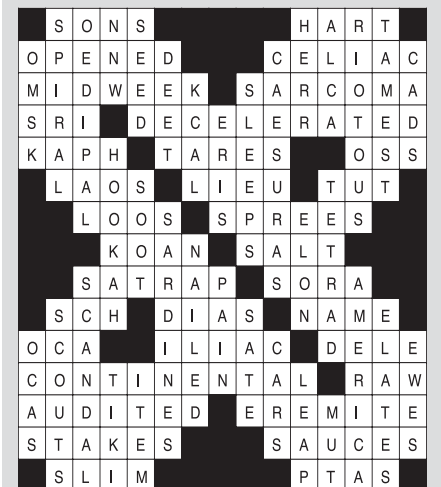
We welcome submissions of photos, stories, columns and letters to the editor. Let us know what's happening. If you have hard copies of photos you want us to feature, feel free to bring them to our office — we'll scan them and hand them right back. E-mail submissions to [news@pontevedrarecorder.com](mailto:news@pontevedrarecorder.com)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



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

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

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



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

— Compiled by Shaun Ryan

## BRIEFS

### All Soul's Day Service planned

An All Soul's Day Service will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 1, at Christ Church Episcopal, 400 San Juan Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach. The remembrance for those who have died will be open to the public and free of charge, with optional good-will offerings donated to Community Hospice and Palliative Care of Northeast Florida.

To celebrate the lives of those who have passed, the Christ Church Chancel Choir will join with several guest singers and an instrumental ensemble to present the Requiem, composed by Heather Sorenson. Attendees will have an opportunity to light a candle for loved ones lost.

honey, tea, seasonal treats, soap, jewelry, plants and more.

### Beach cleanup is Oct. 28

The Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve (GTM) will conduct a beach cleanup on Saturday, Oct. 28. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the GTM Research Reserve Visitor Center, 505 Guana River Road, Ponte Vedra Beach, where gloves and trash bags will be provided. Participants will be directed to a specific beach for cleanup. Hat, insect repellent, water and sunscreen are recommended. Email [Candace.Killian@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:Candace.Killian@FloridaDEP.gov) to participate.

### Republican Executive Committee to meet

The St. Johns County Republican Executive Committee will hold its business meeting on Thursday, Nov. 2, at the Palm Valley Community Center, 148 Canal Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach. For further information, go to [StJohns.GOP](http://StJohns.GOP).

### Beach parking lot to close temporarily

On Thursday, Oct. 26, St. Johns County will temporarily close the 2700 S. Ponte Vedra Blvd. public beach parking lot for public safety as crews begin work on the next phase of the FEMA Dune Enhancement Project. The lot closure is anticipated to last about three weeks, weather permitting.

For this phase of the project, the county selected construction company Phillips and Jordan Inc. as the lowest, most responsive, and most responsible bidder at a not-to-exceed bid price of \$7,435,168.81 with an additional \$800,000 for project delivery cost. St. Johns County will receive a FEMA grant reimbursement of \$6,176,376.61 and a state Department of Emergency Management grant reimbursement of \$2,058,792.20 after all project phases are complete.

For updates on the project, go to [sjcfl.us/CoastalProjects](http://sjcfl.us/CoastalProjects) or contact the Coastal Management team at 904-209-0260 or [coastalprojects@sjcfl.us](mailto:coastalprojects@sjcfl.us). The public can also follow St. Johns County Beach Services on Facebook or X (@SJCBeaches) or download the free Reach the Beach mobile app at [m.appbuild.io/stjohnsc6](http://m.appbuild.io/stjohnsc6).

### Palm Valley Market every Tuesday

The Palm Valley Market is held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Tuesday inside the Palm Valley Community Center, 148 Canal Road. The market offers fresh produce, baked goods, local



**Hugh Osteen**

COO/VP

[hugh@osteenmediagroup.com](mailto:hugh@osteenmediagroup.com)  
(904) 285-8831

**Susan Griffin**

Publisher

[susan@pontevedrarecorder.com](mailto:susan@pontevedrarecorder.com)  
(904) 686-3938

**Shaun Ryan**

Editor

[shaun@pontevedrarecorder.com](mailto:shaun@pontevedrarecorder.com)  
(904) 285-8831, ext. 1202

**Anthony Richards**

Reporter

[anthony@pontevedrarecorder.com](mailto:anthony@pontevedrarecorder.com)  
(904) 285-8831, ext. 1207

**Don Coble**

Contributor

[don@claytodayonline.com](mailto:don@claytodayonline.com)

**Amber Anderson**

Page/Graphic Designer

[amber@pontevedrarecorder.com](mailto:amber@pontevedrarecorder.com)

**April Snyder**

Sales Assistant

[april@pontevedrarecorder.com](mailto:april@pontevedrarecorder.com)  
(904) 285-8831, ext. 1204

**Kristin Flanagan**

Account Executive

[kristin@pontevedrarecorder.com](mailto:kristin@pontevedrarecorder.com)  
(904) 285-8831, ext. 1206

**Adele McGraw**

Account Executive

[adele@pontevedrarecorder.com](mailto:adele@pontevedrarecorder.com)  
(904) 285-8831, ext. 1208

**Chris Ratliff**

Multimedia Specialist

[chris@osteenmediagroup.com](mailto:chris@osteenmediagroup.com)  
(704) 640-8408

**Joe Wilhelm**

Circulation Manager

[joe@osteenmediagroup.com](mailto:joe@osteenmediagroup.com)  
(904) 300-5374

**Subscription Rates, Bulk Mail:**

One year, \$40; six months, \$20. Rates not applicable in Canada or overseas. To subscribe, call (904) 285-8831.

SUPPER CLUB

space that inspires

IMMERSIVE DINING EXPERIENCE

NEW ORLEANS CREOLE CUISINE BY CHEF AZHAR MOHAMMAD

OCTOBER 29 6-8:30 P.M.

Get a taste of New Orleans with the Esteemed Chef Azhar Mohammad

Scan to see the menu & get tickets

JACKSONVILLE

ZOO

AND GARDENS

SPOOKTACULAR

It's as

WICKED

as You Wish!

OCT

13-15

19-22

25-31



# Surprise! PLAYERS volunteer leaders pay unexpected visits to local nonprofits

THE PLAYERS Championship is just around the corner and its volunteer leadership team was busy last week awarding grants as part of their annual tradition of “Red Coat Rideouts.”

The Red Coats paid in-person visits to The North Florida School of Special Education and Heart 4 Minds to surprise them with donations in addition to the more than 60 grants they awarded to local nonprofits in the five-county area this year.

## The North Florida School of Special Education (NFSSE)

Who's ready for some treats? The Red Coats teamed up with the NFSSE's Barkin' Biscuit program to hold a dog biscuit making pawty. Barkin' Biscuits is a dog treat baking operation that provides post-graduates with vocational training. The program is offered three days a week and attracts chefs ranging from 18 to 40 years of age. The Red Coats

surprised them with a \$15,000 grant to fund a pilot vocational training program for their younger students.

## Hearts 4 Minds

The Red Coats also paid a visit to San Marco Square to surprise Sheryl Johnson, founder of Hearts 4 Minds, with \$15,000 to fund their with Murals with Meaning program. Through this program, murals are placed throughout

Northeast Florida, each with a QR code that can be scanned to provide mental health resources. Hearts 4 Minds currently has 11 murals throughout the First Coast and the \$15,000 grant from the Red Coats will enable the organization to design and implement three more.

To learn more about THE PLAYERS' impact on the First Coast, go to [THE-PLAYERS.com/community](http://THE-PLAYERS.com/community).



**Tree Removal Experts**

**Aerial Lift Trimming**

- Workers Compensation
- Bonded
- Fully Equipped
- 30 Years Experience

**TREE MASTERS**

**285-4625**

**FREE CONSULTATIONS AND ESTIMATES**

**CUSTOM BUILDING & REMODELING**  
SINCE 1962  
RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL



**TOM TROUT, inc.**  
GENERAL CONTRACTOR

CBC026189

**(904) 737-5412 • [tomtroutinc.com](http://tomtroutinc.com)**  
*Contact us for a FREE consultation!*

## From Cottages to Castles



### Oceanfront Gem Built for Entertaining

Discover the comfort of oceanfront living in Ponte Vedra Beach. This 2-story coastal gem with 100 ft. of ocean frontage offers a private elevator for ease in access to each story, large media/game room, living/dining/kitchen/great room and a tri-level deck with summer kitchen, seating around fireplace, sun deck and play fort. There truly is something for everyone. Host unforgettable gatherings for family and friends and make memories for life!

**5 Bedrooms, 5 Bathrooms. \$3,595,000**



### Luxury Intracoastal Estate

Private 4+ acre waterfront estate, custom-built with the utmost quality and security. 10,956 ft.<sup>2</sup> of expansive eastern views of the Intracoastal Waterway, 160 feet of water frontage, designed for year-round outdoor living complete with a 25,000-gallon salt chlorinated pool, hot tub, dock and boatlift. Come enjoy unrivaled privacy just minutes away from the world-renowned Mayo Clinic and Atlantic Ocean.

**5 Bedrooms, 5 Bathrooms, 4 Half Baths, \$6,950,000**



### Contemporary Oceanfront Oasis

Welcome to your contemporary oceanfront haven, a three-story masterpiece of design where privacy meets impeccable craftsmanship by the renowned local architect, Frank Shumer. This stunning property serves as a breathtaking backdrop for art enthusiasts and accommodates up to eight guests, making it perfect for family vacations or group getaways. Whether you're seeking a peaceful getaway or an artist's retreat, this beachside oasis offers the ideal setting for relaxing and entertaining.

**2 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, \$4,500,000**

elizabeth hudgetts  
904.553.2032

sarah alexander  
904.334.3104

**BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY**  
HOMESERVICES

FLORIDA NETWORK  
REALTY



**beachshomes.com**





# STEM2 Hub helps students prepare for the jobs of the future

By Shaun Ryan

In 2015, Jacksonville business leaders, seeing a disconnect between what future employees were learning in school today and the skills they would need in tomorrow’s workplace, got together to do something about it. The result is a nonprofit tasked with helping

to bridge those gaps.

Northeast Florida Regional STEM2 Hub seeks to assure that all students in the seven-county region have the opportunity to engage in high quality experiences that will open doors to those careers. The key to success resides in partnerships. STEM2 Hub brings together schools, colleges, nonprofits,

businesses and industries, each supplying its own piece of the puzzle to meet this demand.

“We believe that every child needs these opportunities,” said Executive Director Kathleen Schofield, “and we work to help them get access.”

It’s an ambitious effort, but data shows that it is beginning to pay off.

STEM2 Hub has tracked the success of its efforts, and the result is encouraging. There has been a near-exponential growth in the numbers of students taking advanced placement computer science classes and scoring well on related assessments. At the same time, math and reading scores are improving, and behavior referrals are down because students are engaged in the curriculum.

Increased enrollment in a computer science program of study has been reported by local colleges.

### How it works

STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics — shorthand for curricula that prepares students for employment in an increas-

ingly technological workplace. STEM2 Hub added a second M — thus, the 2 in its name — to stand for Medicine, a big part of the Northeast Florida employment landscape.

STEM2 Hub looks at the cutting-edge jobs that will be in high demand and reverse-engineers the preparation process. It asks: What needs to be done, beginning with the youngest students, to grow their knowledge and interest in these fields?

The nonprofit addresses the need in a number of ways. It advocates for future teachers’ preparation so they might incorporate more STEM into their own classrooms, and it conducts a lot of teacher professional development in STEM fields. It provides robots, programs and registration fees, not just to the schools, but also to the various organizations that conduct afterschool, and extra-school, programs. It hosts STEM conferences, an annual computer science festival and student competitions.

STEM2 HUB continues on Page 11

## Let’s get social!

Stay up to date on contests, advertising specials, and real-time news in Ponte Vedra.

Our fans get access to exclusive content you can’t find anywhere else!

[www.facebook.com/ThePVRecorder](http://www.facebook.com/ThePVRecorder)



“LIKE” US ON facebook

SAPNA FOUNDATION PRESENTS

## PREMIER BUSINESS SHOWCASE AND AWARDS NIGHT



**5:00 - 8:00 PM**  
November 15, 2023



**the link**  
425 Town Plaza Ave.  
Ponte Vedra, FL 32081




Join us for a night of connection, collaboration, and charity where attendees can be inspired by the stories of local entrepreneurs, STEM2 Hub, and inspirational business leaders. Featuring keynote speakers from St Johns County and Northeast Florida Regional STEM2 Hub.




### What to Expect

➤ **Business Expo - \$150 - \$250**  
Includes networking ticket \$75 value. Woman exhibitors Receive Free admission to Women’s Day Program on November 17.

➤ **Awards Night and Cocktails - \$75**  
Access to exclusive charity networking night and presentation of awards to top business leaders



[www.entercircle.zone](http://www.entercircle.zone)



Scan this code to register





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

Photos provided by Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery

## KATHY'S GARDENING GUIDE

# Decorating for Fall

"Colors are the smiles of nature."  
— Leigh Hunt

By Kathy Esfahani



As fall arrives, we see seasonal decorations popping up throughout our neighborhoods. Fall is the season where harvest celebrates the hard work put in during the summer months and the prosperity that results from this diligence. We use natural flowers and fruits to add festive accents around our homes and landscapes. These decorations can be arranged in centerpieces, incorporated in planters or sporadically added throughout your yard to accentuate fall colors, pumpkins or other seasonal decorations.

Popular decorations during fall are corn, gourds, hay bales, mums and pumpkins.

Although they may seem to be just a part of the season, each of these items is representative of the festivities we celebrate during fall:

- Corn symbolizes bounty through the many kernels on each cob and the fields that seem never-ending as they stretch toward the horizon.
- Gourds are believed to bring blessings, encourage good health and protect against evil.
- Hay bales remind us of the harvest and bring out fall feelings in our seasonal displays.
- Mums (chrysanthemums) are especially symbolic during this time of year! They represent optimism,



Fall Decorating



health and joy. Mums come in bright yellow, orange and red. Yellow flowers symbolize intellect and wealth; orange flowers highlight energy, creativity and warmth; and red flowers represent

success.

• Pumpkins are the earth's gold! Native Americans valued pumpkins because they could be stored long into winter. With their bulging shapes, they are a symbol for bounty, luck and success.

Many flowers feature seasonal colors and look wonderful in gardens and containers. Popular fall annuals include celosia, dianthus, dusty miller, marigolds, pansies, petunias, snapdragons, supertunias and violas. If you prefer perennials, look for crotons, firespike, geraniums, mums, pentas and salvia.

Stop by the nursery to gather your fall flowers, hay bales and more. Happy decorating!



Chrysanthemum

Flower of the Week: Chrysanthemum ("Mum")

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



**Serving all of North Florida & The Beaches**  
Full Service Pest & Termite Control

Wood Destroying Organism Inspections

Next Day Appointments

Same Day Reports



**844-55DEPOT**  
**(844-553-3768)**  
**Info1@termitedepot.com**  
**termiteDEPOT.com**

**Edwards & Ragatz, P.A.**

Unmatched Compassion.  
Record-Setting Results.

One of the largest injury judgments in Florida's history: \$228 million.

 (904) 399-1609







Personal Injury and Medical Malpractice Specialists



*Dale Ann Viger joined The Friends of GTM Reserve as its executive director in September. She has been praised for her work in the nonprofit sector, particularly in the areas of conservation and land management.*

## Dale Ann Viger

As told to Shaun Ryan

### As the new executive director for the Friends of the GTM Reserve, what are some of your responsibilities?

My responsibilities include fundraising, grant writing, organization of programs and resources to support the mission of the Guana Tolomato Matanzas Estuarine Research Reserve.

### Tell me about your interest in environmental conservation.

I'm originally from Upstate New York. Everyone there is just kind of born with a love of the outdoors and the woods. Then, when I moved to Florida, I just brought it with me.

I started writing grants and doing some board recruitment and organization for the Allen Broussard Conservancy. The more I got into it, the more I just loved it and decided that that was my path.

### Tell me about your background.

I started my career in the Air Force as a contract buyer. From there, I worked in academia at Rensselaer Polytechnic institute.

I didn't go to college after high school. I went into the Air Force, so I got my degrees as an adult. I have a bachelor's degree in economics and management from SUNY Empire State, and I got my MBA from Rensselaer while I was employed there.

Even as I worked at the Allen Broussard Conservancy, I had my own consulting business where I helped smaller nonprofits to market and brand themselves and taught people how to write grants and how to set up their boards and to recruit board members.

### When did you start that?

I actually set that up in 2010 or '11. It was right after I moved to Florida. I was in Brevard County. I worked with a number of different nonprofits in Brevard.

### Are you still running your consulting business?

I closed it out in 2020.

### How did you find your way to Northeast Florida?

As a northerner, we always went to Daytona every year for spring break as a family. And then, my older sister moved to Cocoa Beach in 1980.

So, I was a frequent visitor to Brevard. Then, after the downturn in 2008 and '09 and probably some pretty severe ice storms, I was like, "I'm done with New York." So, I moved to Brevard. After the pandemic, I came to Jacksonville. I have a son who lives here in Jacksonville and a daughter who lives in Melbourne.

### How did you get the GTM Friends job?

I found the GTM through an Indeed ad, and when I saw it, there was just so much overlap from what I had done (at the conservancy), I knew they were going to call me. Sure enough, I got the call, and it's really amazing here.

### Do you get to go out into the reserve and explore?

Yes, I can go out and hike and get involved, and it helps so that I understand the programs that we're supporting.



Photo by Shaun Ryan

Dale Viger at the visitors center for the Guana Tolomato Matanzas Estuarine Research Reserve.

### I know they have pretty regular hikes and other programs.

Every weekend. There's either seining or a trail hike or a beach hike or a beach cleanup. Every weekend. And those are free for the public.

### What do you like best about living here?

The winter! And of course, the beach and the water and my family. It's not the traffic; that has definitely

picked up. But I'm perfectly content in Jacksonville. I'm super happy.

### How do you like to spend your free time?

I love to spend my free time exercising, riding my bike, hiking with my Labradoodle, with my family. I spend quite a bit of time with my family. Nothing exciting. Just the regular stuff.





TICKETS INCLUDE  
UNLIMITED TASTING  
BITES, WINE, BEER & SPIRITS  
SAMPLES WITH A SOUVENIR CUP!

Whiskey  
WINE &  
WILDLIFE  
BENEFITING VILANO BEACH MAIN STREET  
PRESENTED BY

**A CULINARY WEEKEND LIKE NO OTHER**

**NOVEMBER 2 - 5, 2023**



Whiskey, Wine & Wildlife Schedule includes: Thursday, 11/2, W3 Wine Dinner at Pesca by Michael's, Friday, 11/3, Master Classes and Vilano AIA Soirée, Saturday, 11/4, GTM Research Reserve Guided Tour and Wine & Cheese Reception and the W3 Grand Tasting in downtown Vilano Beach and Sunday 11/5 finale, all-inclusive Jazz Brunch.

**NEW 2023 EVENTS ON SALE NOW!**

*Tickets include unlimited tasting bites and wine, beer and spirits samples with a souvenir glass!*

**VILANO BEACH, ST. AUGUSTINE, FL | [WHISKEYWINEANDWILDLIFE.COM](http://WHISKEYWINEANDWILDLIFE.COM)**



**SPONSORED BY**



**JACKSONVILLE MAGAZINE**



**LINCOLN**  
Official Automotive Sponsor







# Robot adds to the fun at Boo Bash



Ascension St. Vincent's St. Johns hosted a free Trunk or Treat Boo Bash for the community on Sunday, Oct. 22, at the 205 Trinity Way hospital.

The first surgical robot in St. Johns County, "Optimus," also joined in the fun by handing out candy. Adults and kids had the chance to test their hand-eye coordination on the DaVinci robot by picking items out of sand.

There were free candy, prizes, food trucks, face painting and more.

Contributed photos



**UNDERWOOD'S**  
Since 1928 Florida's Finest Jeweler

**LIVE YOUR LIFE IN LAGOS EVENT**

SAN MARCO: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> | 10 AM - 5:30 PM  
PONTE VEDRA: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> - FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> | 10 AM - 6 PM  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> | 10 AM - 5 PM

10% of Sale Proceeds Donated to Ayla's Acres No Kill Animal Shelter



# American Legion auxiliary plans craft fair

American Legion Post 129 Auxiliary will host its annual Christmas Craft Fair & Open House event for the public from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4, at Ocean's Beaches Post 129, located at 1151 South 4th St. in Jacksonville Beach.

In addition to the artist's booths and exhibits, a bake sale and silent auction will take place, along with food truck vendors from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

More than 20 local artisans, many American Legion members, are taking part in the event.

Other artists interested in taking part in the event can contact event coordinator Linda Zepp at 215-435-9224 by phone or text for more information.

For more information, go to [post129.org/christmas-craft-show.html](http://post129.org/christmas-craft-show.html).

Also, the American Legion Post 129, the Post 129 Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion will have booths at the event where people can find out more about the Legion's activities and membership opportunities.

Legion membership is open to all veterans, while men and women with past or current active members in their immediate families may join the Sons of the American Legion or the American Legion Auxiliary.

# Sea and Air Show dazzles community



The 2023 Sea and Sky Air Show was held Saturday, Oct. 21, and Sunday, Oct. 22, in Jacksonville Beach and featured the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, the Navy Band Southeast, the U.S. Navy Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Fleet Replacement Squadron, Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron TEN, the U.S. Coast Guard Helicopter Interdiction Squadron and the "Fat Albert" C-130J Super Hercules.

Photos by Susan Griffin



## PONTE VEDRA AUTO SHOW

Sunday, November 12th

10:00am - 3:00pm

Nocatee Event Field

FREE TO SPECTATORS!

[www.pvautoshow.com](http://www.pvautoshow.com)



POKER ROOM & Aces Sports Bar & Grill!



bestbet St. Augustine | 904.646.0001 | 800 Marketplace Dr., St. Augustine, FL | I-95 exit 311



# Mobility Week events planned in St. Johns County

The state of Florida will observe its annual Mobility Week from Friday, Oct. 27, to Monday, Nov. 4.

Mobility Week is a statewide cooperative effort with the Florida Department of Transportation and its partner agencies to promote awareness of safe, multimodal transportation choices. During Mobility Week, counties, cities and transportation agencies host events and offer special promotions to encourage Floridians to try new transportation options.

St. Johns County Council on Aging (COA) will offer the following events during Mobility Week:

- The Sunshine Bus Company Giveaway Days, all week (Oct. 27 through Nov. 4). The Sunshine Bus Company will offer multiple giveaways during Mobility Week, including: one adult bicycle, one children's scooter, one annual pass and one monthly pass.
- COA Paratransit No Co-pay Days, all week (Oct. 27 through Nov. 4). COA Paratransit, the paratransit option in St. Johns County, is offering free fare, no co-payments for all paratransit trips during Mobility Week. To view St. Johns County mobility options, go to [coajc.org/transportation](https://coajc.org/transportation).
- Giveaway that includes two portable grocery carts with seating.

For questions regarding transportation in St. Johns County, contact customer service/reservations at 904-209-3710 or go to [coajc.org/transportation](https://coajc.org/transportation).

To view Sunshine Bus schedules, go to [sunshine-bus.net](https://sunshine-bus.net) or ask your driver. Questions? call customer service at 904-209-3716.

For more information on Mobility Week, go to [MobilityWeekFL.com](https://MobilityWeekFL.com).



Contributed photo

COA Paratransit will feature no co-pay days during Mobility Week.

## The Rotary Club of Palm Valley Presents a Fundraising Event

**BENEFITTING:**

- Peace of Heart - A residential group home for young people with autism.
- Blessings in a Backpack - Whose mission is to provide food on weekends for school aged children.
- The Charities of The Foundation of the Rotary Club of Palm Valley Inc.

### Grand Prize

Dinner for 6 on Friday, January 19, 2024, at 7:00pm in The Wine Room at the Lodge with Executive Chef Cameron Walton. Entertainment provided by the St. Augustine Symphony's Bella Costa String Quartet.

### Raffle Information

**Raffle Ticket Donation:** \$100  
**Maximum Number of Tickets:** 250  
**Last Date to Purchase Tickets:** Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2023  
**Live Drawing:** Wed, Nov, 15, 2023, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom  
**Zoom Meeting Name:** Caring for Kids Raffle Drawing  
**Zoom ID:** 82901390021

### Additional Prizes

*(None worth less than the cost of your raffle ticket)*

- Marsh Landing Country Club Golf for 4 \$\$\$\$
- TPC Valley Course Golf for 4 \$\$\$
- Youthful Medical Spa Gift Certificates \$\$
- 3 Peace of Heart Garden Certificates (\$350@) \$\$\$
- 2 Alhambra Tickets for the Christmas Show \$\$
- 4 Jacksonville Zoo Tickets \$\$
- 2 Jacksonville Symphony Tickets \$\$
- \$300 Ruth's Chris Steak House Gift Certificate \$\$
- \$100 Valley Smoke of PV Fish Camp Gift Cert. \$
- \$100 Costco Gift Card \$
- \$100 Restaurant Medure Gift Certificate \$
- Ponte Vedra Beach Restaurant Variety Pack \$

**Order Tickets Here:**

<https://PalmValleyRotaryClub.org/page/CaringFor-KidsRaffle/>

**AND CASH PRIZES:**

- 2 ticket holders will win **\$250 cash!**
- 1 ticket holder will win **\$200 cash!**
- 3 ticket holders will win **\$100 cash!**

**AND MORE!**

# Music For All

Single tickets and subscription packages are still available for the 2023/24 season!

## UPCOMING CONCERTS

**Florida Blue Classical Series**  
**OCT 20/21**  
 Beethoven, Brahms & Dinnerstein

**PNC Symphony in 60 Series**  
**OCT 26**  
 Classical Mix Tape

**Paysafe Pops Series**  
**NOV 3/4**  
 Star Wars & More:  
 The Music of John Williams

**Florida Blue Classical Series**  
**NOV 10/11**  
 Mahler's Symphony for Alma

**Symphonic Night at the Movies Series**  
**NOV 17/18**  
 Home Alone

**Courtney Lewis**  
 Music Director  
 Haskell Endowed Chair

For more information and tickets call  
**904.354.5547** or visit [Jaxsymphony.org](https://Jaxsymphony.org)

**JACKSONVILLE SYMPHONY**  
COURTNEY LEWIS, MUSIC DIRECTOR



# STEM2 Hub

Continued from 4

One area of special concern is what STEM2 Hub calls the “digital divide.”

“There are still a lot of children who don’t have a computer,” Schofield said. “Many of the districts have gotten to where they have access in school, or maybe they even take them home, but then when summer comes, their learning has to stop.”

To address this, STEM2 Hub partners with businesses that are planning to replace their computers. They donate the ones they no longer need and then Auditmacs, a telecommunications service provider in Jacksonville, cleans the data and refurbishes the computers, which are then provided to the students. In 2020, the PGA Tour donated 500 computers in this way.

Partnerships are critical to STEM2 Hub’s mission, and one of the key collaborators is industry. Corporations like

CSX bring in industry professionals to talk to students about careers, and not just the ones everyone knows about, but also those that are often “hidden.”

This is especially critical for students whose parents don’t work in high-tech jobs and therefore have no one to set that example.

“It comes down to: If they don’t see themselves in the careers, they’ll never pick them, because they just don’t know about them,” said Schofield.

Among STEM2 Hub’s many partners are LEGO Education, Woz ED and Code.org, the sources for many necessary tools and processes. The local nonprofit takes what is available and adapts it for use with the school systems’ pre-existing standards.

STEM2 Hub supports a program in Duval County Schools called Spacegate Station, a live streaming video-based platform in which students solve problems using embedded math and science skills. It also offers the Chief Science Officer program, in which one student

in many of the local middle and high schools serves as the STEM advocate.

“We just bring everybody together and bring in our particular lens and then help bring in resources, including that training, which is huge,” said Schofield.

## Getting the word out

Northeast Florida’s success in addressing this need has made it a kind of model for other states and other nations. In December, the Heritage Foundation is bringing people from several NATO embassies to see firsthand how all of this works.

In addition, STEM2 Hub will be the nonprofit for this year’s EnterCircle Summit, a three-day event at the link in Nocatee that inspires, connects, educates and cultivates entrepreneurship in the region. STEM2 Hub’s program director, Celeste Sciandra, will conduct a workshop for students and its director of partnerships, Melissa Wright, will talk to summit attendees about what the organization does and how it taps into



**ENTERCIRCLE  
SUMMIT 2023**

resources.

For those wanting to get involved in STEM2 Hub’s mission, there is a need for mentors, speakers and robotics team coaches. In addition, the nonprofit accepts financial support so as to carry out its mission. Companies looking to replace their computers may also donate them to be refurbished and supplied to students in need.

For further information, go to [stem2hub.org](http://stem2hub.org).

For information about EnterCircle, go to [entercircle.zone](http://entercircle.zone).

# LEARN TO DANCE TODAY

CONTACT US NOW  
TO GET STARTED!

*No partner or experience needed!*

Phone: 904.789.1211  
Email: [dance@arthurmurraypvb.com](mailto:dance@arthurmurraypvb.com)  
Website: [arthurmurraypvb.com](http://arthurmurraypvb.com)

Arthur Murray Dance Center  
1108 Highway A1A, Unit 104  
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Thinking of Advertising  
in the Recorder?

For more information call (904) 285-8831  
to speak with a Sales Rep. today!

## GALLEGO DESPORTES

Trunk Show

November 2, 3, 4

11 - 4

(or by appointment)

The Sawgrass Room

Hilton Garden Inn

Sawgrass Village

Marcia's Place 904-280-9212





Contributed photo

Kelland, left, and Connor Franco are seen with donations from the previous Peanut Butter Drive, held over the summer.

# Teens' Peanut Butter Drive meets critical need

Connor and Kelland Franco of Ponte Vedra Beach have organized their ninth Peanut Butter Drive and are collecting until Nov. 8.

The Peanut Butter Drive started when the boys were in fourth and second grades. Peanut Butter has always been the boys' favorite food, so when they approached the local food bank to ask how they could help with food insecurity and the food bank suggested collecting peanut butter, it was a perfect match.

When Connor was a freshman in high school, they partnered with SAYS (St.

Augustine Youth Services) and later Epic-Cure, both organizations in St. Augustine.

Connor is now a sophomore in college and Kelland a senior in high school so this will be their final drive. All donations will go to SAYS and Epic-Cure. All nut and non-nut butters are welcome. Donations can be dropped off at the Franco home, 3072 Cypress Creek Drive North. Contact Noelle 904-386-6531 for drop-off information or any questions.

Cash donations are also being accepted; Venmo Kelland @Kelland-Franco.

# PLAYERS donates \$5K to Tools 4 Schools

The St. Johns County Education Foundation Inc. which operates as Investing in Kids (INK!), has received a donation of \$5,000 from THE PLAYERS Championship to benefit the nonprofit's Tools 4 Schools program.

"It is all thanks to the support of partners and fans that THE PLAYERS is able to respond to the needs of our community by providing teachers with the supplies needed to ensure academic success for tomorrow's future leaders and professionals," said Emily Bellock, senior director of community outreach, THE PLAYERS.

According to a 2023 national survey conducted by AdoptAClassroom.org, on average, teachers across the country spend \$860 of their own money purchasing school supplies for students and classrooms. The purpose of the Tools 4 Schools program is to minimize expenses for educators and provide the academic supplies necessary for success with a goal of serving approximately 3,200 teachers and 51,000 students countywide.

"INK!'s Tools 4 Schools is a program launched 14 years ago to provide public school teachers in St. Johns County access to free school supplies for their students," said Cathy Newman, INK!'s executive director. "While school is in session between September and April, teachers can order needed supplies

through an online system every month. Once an order is received, INK! staff and volunteers fill each order and deliver items to teachers at their schools."

"During the 2022 to 2023 school year, Tools 4 Schools filled more than 1,950 supply orders for public school classrooms in St. Johns County, saving teachers approximately \$130,000 in out-of-pocket purchases to provide materials for their students," said Newman. "Over the last two school years, teacher orders have increased 40% each year. We estimate the savings to teachers will be approximately \$150,000 during the 2023 to 2024 school year."

THE PLAYERS donation will help INK! replenish inventory for high-demand items, including notebooks, glue sticks, pencils, erasers and markers, as well as more expensive items such as scientific calculators, USB storage drives and binders.

INK! promotes success for all St. Johns County public school students and teachers by providing innovative programs, teacher support and classroom resources. INK! is a 501(c)3 education foundation with offices located at 1 Christopher St. in St. Augustine.

For more information, contact Newman at catherine.newman@stjohns.k12.fl.us or 904-547-7120 or go to ink-stjohns.org.



- All Style Homes
- Drive Ways
- Roofs
- Sidewalks
- Gutters
- Lanais

Front of home soft washed with every driveway for FREE!

Contact William Shi:

**(850) 974-3369**

DirtyDucksPW@gmail.com

Carpet Concepts

The Beaches Best Selection of

- Professionally installed wall-to-wall carpet
- Large assortment of in-stock area rugs including Dash & Albert, Karastan, Nourison
- Sisal, Seagrass, Jute
- Custom sized carpets and rug pads

1421 3rd St. South  
Jacksonville Beach  
**247-0438**

www.carpetconceptsjaxsonville.com



Since 1966



PV3-LV45888



# Project

Continued from 1

this possible.

- Renovation of existing restrooms.
- Construction of a covered performance stage with terraced seating. This will allow for various entertainment programs, including musical groups, at the site.
- Construction of new outdoor showers.
- Construction of changing stations.
- Installation of a new climbing play structure and recreation features.
- Renovation of the existing south walkover.
- Addition of ADA parking in the existing parking lot.

The cost of the project is \$1,814,400. It will be funded through park impact fees and the Tree Bank Fund. The project is expected to be completed in February, weather permitting.

The oceanfront location was previously the site of Fiddler's Green, a popular local restaurant, which in turn had been built on the site of the Vilano Beach Casino, a community club and dance hall. After Fiddler's Green closed, the county purchased the property in 2007 with a \$5.5 million Florida Communities Trust Grant and help from local residents.

The purchase occurred just as the nation was going into a major recession,

and funding for renovation suffered.

The restaurant building, which had fallen into disrepair, was demolished in 2013.

Then, in 2019, the county provided about \$1.1 million to Parks and Recreation to begin design and construction of the park. Then, in 2020, the county added an additional \$700,000.

"This project has been an amazing opportunity for Parks and Recreation to kind of give a re-vision and a re-look to this park and help benefit the community, especially the Vilano team that has been so active for many years in trying to bring back the community and the residents and the tourists to this local area," said Jamie Baccari, assistant director of St. Johns County Parks and Recreation.

District 5 County Commissioner Henry Dean gave credit to former Commissioner James Bryant for his involvement in the project early on. Dean also recognized Vivian Browning and Sacha Martin for their contributions to the community, as well as others.

Baccari, too, praised members of the Vilano Community Redevelopment Area and Vilano Beach Main Street.

The project is one of 29 underway in St. Johns County, with a total Parks and Recreation capital projects budget of \$42.3 million. For general information about the park, go to [sjcfl.us/LAMP/Projects/FLct\\_vilano.aspx](http://sjcfl.us/LAMP/Projects/FLct_vilano.aspx).



Photos by Shaun Ryan

A large sign at the site shows highlights of the forthcoming park.



Participants in the ceremonial ground breaking for the Vilano Beach Oceanfront Park Renovation Project are, from left: Capital Improvement Project Program Manager Jason McKay, Project Manager Phillis Thorpe, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director Jamie Baccari, District 5 County Commissioner Henry Dean, Vilano Beach Main Street Inc. President Linda LaCerva, Parks and Recreation Director Ryan Kane, Assistant County Administrator Sarah Taylor and Public Works Director Greg Caldwell.



## 14TH ANNUAL McKenzie's RUN

fearfully & wonderfully made 139:14  
BENEFITTING BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA

5K & 1-MILE FUN RUN  
**SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 18**

THE PLAYERS STADIUM COURSE  
8:30 AM FUN RUN | 9:00 AM 5K



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA**  
REGISTER TODAY AT  
**MCKENZIESRUN.ORG**



# Mammoglam dragon boat team 13th in world

By Shaun Ryan

A person would be hard pressed to find a support group for breast cancer survivors quite like the Mammoglam.

While these 35 women support each other by sharing experiences, advice, struggles and challenges — just as with any such group — they also make up a highly successful dragon boat racing team. In fact, at the conclusion in April of the International Breast Cancer Festival race in New Zealand, they were ranked 13th in the world.

“We call ourselves a floating support group,” said founder Jeri Millard. “And our motto is: We won the battle, now let’s paddle.”

A dragon boat is a type of rowboat, 42 feet in length, that seats 20 synchronized paddlers in two rows of 10. In some of these national and international competitions, however, there are only 10 paddlers per boat. At the bow is a drummer who provides the cadence for the paddlers. At the stern is the person steering.

The team performed so well at this year’s Club Crew National Championships that they won a berth to compete next year at the 14th Club Crew World Championships in Ravenna, Italy.

“We’re very excited about that,” said Millard.

The secret to their success is simple: hard work.

“We practice hard!” said Millard. “The racing is easy in comparison to our practices.”

With Millard’s husband as the coach, the team practices for about an hour and a half at a time, but they also eat better and work out. In fact, studies have shown that paddling a boat is good for breast cancer survivors because it reduces the risk of lymphedema, the build-up of fluid in soft body tissues when lymph nodes have been removed or are otherwise not effective.

It also helps elevate the survivor’s mood after having endured the surgery.

“When you’re in a boat, when you’re exercising like that, and your endorphins kick in and everything, you feel so much better,” said Millard. “And breast cancer survivors really need to feel better about themselves.”

The team practices at Windward Beach Marine, formerly Beach Marine, 2315 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville Beach.

The Mammoglam grew out of a breast cancer support group Millard conducted at her nonprofit, In The Pink. Providing an activity with goals proved to be an



Contributed photo

The Mammoglam gather for a photo.

effective vehicle for survivors wanting to support one another. The team continues to grow and has attracted survivors from all walks of life.

“We meet people from all over,” said Millard. “It’s really cool.”

In fact, not all members compete, which Millard said is OK.

Anyone interested in learning more about the Mammoglam can email the team captain at [bescaptain@gmail.com](mailto:bescaptain@gmail.com) or call In The Pink at 904-372-0029.

# ‘Pink Drink’ raises funds for DONNA Foundation

By Shaun Ryan

TendedBar, an automated bar that dispenses mixed drinks at sports and entertainment events across the nation, debuted a special “Pink Drink” recently in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the NFL’s Crucial Catch initiative, which is aimed at fighting cancer.

The special beverage first appeared at EverBank Stadium on Sunday, Oct. 15, during the game between the defending AFC South Champion Jacksonville Jaguars and the Indianapolis Colts.

Jacksonville-based TendedBar has six vending locations at the stadium.

Also, through TendedBar’s TendedTips program, fans had an opportunity to donate a gratuity to the DONNA Foundation, which provides financial assistance and support to those living with breast cancer and funds groundbreaking breast cancer research.

On Sunday, 490 of the drinks were sold and \$750 was raised in donations.

“Partnering with the DONNA Foundation is a natural fit for us at TendedBar,” said TendedBar CEO Justin Honeysuckle. “We are proud to call Jacksonville our home, and we’re committed to supporting the causes that hit close to home. Mayor Donna Deagan’s longstanding dedication to giving

back to our community is truly inspiring, and we couldn’t be prouder to stand alongside her and support her incredible foundation.”

He called the money generated through tips “a testament to the generosity and spirit” of the community.

“Together, we’re making a real impact, one drink and one tip at a time,” he said. “Here’s to many more successful partnerships with the DONNA Foundation and a brighter future for our beloved city.”

The “Pink Drink” cocktail is comprised of Brackish Vodka, lemonade and cranberry.



Contributed photo

TendedBar’s “Pink Drink” was a hit at its recent debut at EverBank Stadium. It also raised money for the DONNA Foundation.

**DIVORCE?**

Considering or Going Through Divorce?

↓

Are You “Attorney-Ready?”

↓

Register For Our Class,  
“DIVORCE QUESTIONS ANSWERED”



**NEXT CLASS**  
**November 4, 2023**

Register at  
[www.SecondSaturdayJax.org](http://www.SecondSaturdayJax.org)  
or call 904-638-2091



Presented by  
**ROBERT FRANSKOUSKY,**  
Certified Divorce Financial Analyst®,  
and other local divorce specialists.

Securities and Advisory services offered through LPL Financial, a registered investment advisor. Member FINRA/SIPC. Second Saturday, Private Wealth, and LPL Financial are separate entities. Second Saturday, Private Wealth, and LPL Financial do not offer tax or legal advice or services.



# Braiding class raises money to fight breast cancer

By Anthony Richards

There have been many unique ways to raise money for breast cancer research and awareness, and that will now also include a braiding class at Zinke Hair Studio in Ponte Vedra Beach.

The salon is located at the Sawgrass Village Shopping Center at 333 Village Main Street, Suite 640, and the proceeds from the event will be donated to The DONNA Foundation, which is a nonprofit organization focusing on breast cancer awareness.

According to Megan Robertson, who owns a pair of studios with her mother, one they opened 12 years ago in Boulder, Colorado, while they moved to Florida and opened the studio's Ponte Vedra Beach location in February, and they were looking for a way to give back and get more involved in their new community.

It did not take long for Robertson to think of braids, which she is fully aware can be such a bonding experience, having daughters of her own.

"We had a lot of moms coming in and asking if we were going to do any braid-

ing classes, so the interest was definitely there," Robertson said.

The fundraising event will consist of two time slots with one at 2 p.m. and the other at 3 p.m. on Oct. 28 at the studio.

"The 2 p.m. slot is already full, but we still have spots available for 3 p.m.," Robertson said. "And it does not necessarily have to be a mom and daughter taking part in the class, it could be a dad and daughter or a group of friends. Any-

one looking to learn more about braiding techniques."

The minimum donation required to take part is \$10 per person, but larger donations are always accepted to help further the cause.

"I had a good friend who dealt with cancer and was a big promoter of the work The DONNA Foundation does, so that led me to wanting to donate our proceeds to them," Robertson said.

According to Robertson, not knowing what experience levels will be involved in the class, she plans to start with the basics, but is willing to get a feel of everyone's comfort level as she goes.

"Just as the idea for the class got its start, I'm letting it happen organically," Robertson said.

The best way to reserve a spot at the event is to call the Ponte Vedra Beach studio at 904-686-1279.

## Does breast cancer run in families?

No woman is immune to breast cancer. However, some women with extensive family histories of the disease may wonder if they're more vulnerable to breast cancer than those without such a link. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, roughly 3 percent of breast cancers result from inherited mutations in the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes that are passed on in families. Inherited mutations in other genes also can cause breast cancer (as well as ovarian cancer), but BRCA1 and BRCA2 are the most commonly affected genes. And it's not just women who can inherit these mutations. Though men account for only a small percentage of breast cancer patients, they can get the disease, and those who inherit mutations in BRCA1 and BRCA2 are more likely to develop breast cancer than other men. The CDC notes that not everyone who inherits a BRCA1, BRCA2 or other mutation will develop breast cancer, and women with such mutations can take steps to help lower their risk for the disease. Doctors can discuss those steps with women, but they may include genetic counseling and testing. The CDC also notes that, even in instances when counseling and testing is not ultimately recommended by a physician, women should consider talking to their doctors about starting mammography screening in their 40s. That's earlier than some organizations recommend, though physicians may feel it's worth it depending on the individual.

## TRUNK SHOW 3 DAYS ONLY

TO HONOR AYL A'S ACRES NO KILL ANIMAL RESCUE

featuring jewelry by

# LAGOS

Representatives will be on hand with the  
FALL 2023 COLLECTION

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup>

SHOW HOURS 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

SHOW HOURS 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**THE SHOPPES OF PONTE VEDRA**

*10% of Show Proceeds will be donated to*



ALSO, DON'T MISS AYL A'S ACRES  
NO-KILL ANIMAL RESCUE ADOPTION DAY  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

# UNDERWOOD'S

Serving Excellence Since 1928  
Member American Gem Society

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

www.underwoodjewelers.com



# Seiko watches featured during trunk show

Below are photos from the Seiko watches trunk show at Underwood Jewelers in Ponte Veda Beach on Oct. 12.

Photos by Susan Griffin



Ryan Burgeind and Michael Palumbo



Mike Lockett (left) and Dave Wieczorek (right) of Seiko with John Rutkowski of Underwood Jewelers (center).



Kris Budhram and Nick Rudd.

# Underwood's event highlights Erica Courtney designs

Below are photos from the Erica Courtney roundtable event at the Underwood Jewelers Ponte Veda Beach location on Oct. 19.

Photos by Susan Griffin



Jewelry designer Erica Courtney with John Rutkowski of Underwood Jewelers.



Erica Courtney's jewelry designs were featured during an event Oct. 19.



Erica Courtney talks with those in attendance during the event.





Contributed photos

# GRASP Academy recognized as School of Excellence

October is Dyslexia Awareness Month, an opportunity to examine a learning condition that affects as many as 250,000 people in Jacksonville and 25,000 students in the Duval County Public School system.

GRASP Academy has taught children with dyslexia, dyscalculia and dysgraphia in grades one through eight since 2015 with a successful record of moving the students into mainstream high schools.

This year, GRASP Academy has been recognized as a 2022-2024 School of Excellence by the National PTA and is one of only 386 PTAs and schools nationwide to be so designated as hav-

ing mastered tenets of welcoming all families, communicating effectively, supporting student success, speaking for every child, sharing power and collaborating with the community.

The GRASP Academy community and local elected officials celebrated the school's success on Friday, Oct. 20, prior to its annual Dyslexia Dash at the school, which is located at 3101 Justina Road.

Children who struggle with reading, writing and math are often incorrectly labeled as less intelligent. They may very well be very intelligent students who learn differently and can thrive and succeed if taught differently than

mainstream students. Dyslexia (reading), dyscalculia (math) and dysgraphia (writing) are learning conditions that impact the ability of children to learn conventionally.

GRASP Academy is a Duval County Public Schools option that incorporates Florida State Standards that address children with dyslexia, dyscalculia and dysgraphia. Teachers are specially trained, and the administration is nationally recognized as experts in addressing the special needs of smart children who learn differently.

More information about GRASP Academy can be found at [dcps.duvalschools.org/GRASP](https://dcps.duvalschools.org/GRASP).



## A Portrait of Potential

The Episcopal experience means learning extends far beyond the classroom. Our graduates *Seek Understanding* as lifelong learners; *Develop a Sense of Self* earned through challenge; *Live with Honor and Purpose*, choosing to lead, do good, and serve others; and *Pursue a Life of Faith*, in a way meaningful to them while respecting the dignity of every human being. Across our Four Pillars — Academics, Athletics, Fine Arts, and Spiritual Life — Episcopal students find their passions while shaping who, not what, they will become.

Visit [ESJ.org](https://ESJ.org) To *Explore Your Future*



EPISCOPAL  
SCHOOL of JACKSONVILLE

### MUNNERLYN

GRADES 6 – 12  
4455 ATLANTIC BLVD.  
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32207  
904.396.7104

### ST. MARK'S

AGE 1 – GRADE 5  
4114 OXFORD AVE.  
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32210  
904.388.2632

### BEACHES

PRE-K 3 – GRADE 5  
450 11th AVE. NORTH  
JACKSONVILLE BEACH, FL 32250  
904.246.2466



## GUEST COLUMN

# Football, kayaks, motorboats: All part of the area's fun

By Amber Bullington Tipton

When one hears the names Georgia and Florida in the same sentence, the first thing that comes to mind is the Georgia-Florida Game or Florida-Georgia Game, depending on the fan's point of view!

In addition to this well-known phrase, there is a guided kayak trip that Amelia Island Kayak Excursions (AIKE) offers in which paddlers cross the Florida-Georgia line via kayak. So, for a few moments while paddling in a tandem



kayak, the person in the back is in Florida while the person sitting in the front is in Georgia! Caution — don't let your tandem kayak be divided!

Discover Cumberland Island National Seashore — a wonderful mix of maritime forests, miles of sand dunes and rich in history. This barrier island north of Amelia Island is a rich jewel with undeveloped beaches adding to its allure. Paddling options include a waterfront view of Amelia Island's historic Fort Clinch, and depending on the season, there are opportunities to see dolphins, sea turtle, manatee and shore birds. Then, on to Cumberland Island National Seashore, where guests can experience the beautiful coastal atmosphere that this island has to offer. Upon arrival, depending upon the tide, stop off on the shore and enjoy shelling, and see marine life in tidal pools, or paddle into an interior creek that flows behind the beach. AIKE also offers an extended

five-hour excursion in which kayaking guests can explore not only the beautiful coastline and interior waterways and marshes but will also spend time on the island getting a close-up experience of the grounds of the historic Dungeness ruins, the Icehouse Museum and the maritime forest. On each visit to Cumberland Island, don't forget to be on the lookout for the wild horses!

Want more of Cumberland Island? AIKE offers a motorboat/hiking experience. On this tour, travel to Cumberland Island National Seashore and cross the state line in a private motorboat while watching for the area's wildlife. Upon arrival, guests will disembark on Cumberland Island National Seashore to enjoy a Master Naturalist-led walking/hiking tour. This tour is customizable, based on the guide's recommendations and guests' interest. AIKE's guides have routes that encompass a variety of natural and historical sites from the

maritime forests to the Dungeness ruins (Carnegie mansion) and Icehouse Museum. This is an exclusive excursion for all experience levels.

All these tours give a "touchdown" experience on Florida and Georgia. For a more relaxed experience, AIKE offers a variety of other tour options — where the Gators and Dawgs are not so competitive!

I don't necessarily have immense football knowledge, but I can guide you on a water adventure crossing the Florida-Georgia Line!

We live in such a special place with so many waterways and trails to explore. Want to cross the state line in a kayak or boat to embark on a memory-making journey? AIKE is just a phone call away at 904-557-5307, or visit online at [www.AmeliaIslandKayak.com](http://www.AmeliaIslandKayak.com). Whether you are a Florida fan or a Georgia fan, being on the water with AIKE is a win-win.

## REFRESH FOR FALL SPA SPECIALS

SAWGRASS SIGNATURE MASSAGE 50 MINUTES

SAWGRASS SIGNATURE FACIAL 50 MINUTES

FIG AND COCOA ANTI-AGING BODY WRAP 50 MINUTES

SAWGRASS *Spa*

AT MARRIOTT

**YOUR CHOICE OF SERVICE \$139  
(INCLUDES SERVICE FEE)**

CALL 904-674-4772 TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT.

\*OFFER VALID THROUGH NOVEMBER 20, 2023  
AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME ON WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS  
- 9:00AM TO 5:00PM



 **MARRIOTT RESORT**  
SAWGRASS





THE  
RECORDER

# HERE'S TO HEALTH CARE

**FEATURING**

**PVHS biotech student  
earns presidential scholar  
award recognition** PAGE 20

**New medical practice puts  
focus back into developing  
relationships** PAGE 21

**Gulani restores sight to  
Kenyan man** PAGE 22

**PLUS...**

**Honorary chairs, presenting sponsor named for Jacksonville's Party with a Purpose** PAGE 23

**Piccioni receives DAISY Award at UF Health Flagler Hospital** PAGE 26

**Baptist Health honored for use of technology** PAGE 27

**Ascension St. Vincent's Southside expands maternal care** PAGE 28

**Cypress Village expands wellness services** PAGE 29







Photo by Anthony Richards

Ponte Vedra High School senior Mira Bhutani was chosen as the Career and Technical Education U.S. Presidential Scholar representing St. Johns County for her work in the school's biotech academy.

# PVHS biotech student earns presidential scholar award recognition

By Anthony Richards

Ponte Vedra High School's biotechnology program continues to produce

some of the brightest minds not just in the county but in the country, and the latest example of that is Mira Bhutani, a senior who was chosen as this year's

Career and Technical Education U.S. Presidential Scholar representing St. Johns County.

According to PVHS biotechnology teacher Kathryn Kehoe, it is Bhutani's unique combination of character and endless pursuit of knowledge that allows her to achieve so much.

"Mira is one of the top academic students in our program and has been for all years of study," Kehoe said. "Mira is a student who is always looking for ways to learn new material and to attend enriching experiences."

As the nominee from St. Johns County, the next step in the process is that Bhutani will have the chance to go even further and represent the Ponte Vedra High at the national level.

"I have no doubt that Mira's going to fare very well, and we are so incredibly proud of you and all that you've accomplished," said Marisa Leonard, career academy program specialist at Ponte Vedra High.

Being chosen to receive the award was a complete surprise for Bhutani, but to be recognized for all her hard work is something she takes a deep amount of pride in.

"I was surprised to see my parents standing here when I walked in and I just had a physics test, so my mind is also kind of all over the place after that," Bhutani chuckled. "Knowing all the support I've had and how much everything everyone has done for me along the way, I'm just so grateful."

Although she has put in a lot of work throughout her four years of high school, so much of it has been driven by her curiosity to learn more and the ability of the biotech program to present seem-

ingly endless new challenges for its students.

Being part of the biotech program at PVHS has been such a major part for her the past four years that she cannot imagine her high school experience without it and her fellow classmates.

"I want to be doctor or a physician one day, and I did my research this summer at Mayo, which really just furthered my passion for the field," Bhutani said. "Being part of the biotech academy has definitely opened up the window to research, and it's definitely a path I want to take in accordance with being a physician."

By the time Bhutani graduates high school in 2024, she will have taken 11 AP classes.

Last year, she also passed the industry certification exam that accompanies the biotech career program, which is awarded by the University of Florida.

The Biotechnician Assistant Credentialing Exam is an industry recognized credential earned by passing both portions of the written and lab-based practical exams.

According to Kehoe, many students do not take this exam until their senior year, but Bhutani was prepared and passed the exam at the conclusion of her junior year.

"This class is so different than anything I've done before, because there is so much hands-on learning, which I think is amazing, as well as the fact that even though we're in high school, we're getting a taste of what life is like outside of it once we graduate," Bhutani said. "I love how biotech is such a new way to help patients and you're using what already exists in nature to help find a cure."

*A Holistic Approach to Wellness*

**LaCURA**  
salt spa

BREATHE • RELAX • STA WELL

LaCURA, "the cure," offers a space where customers come to relax and heal. We provide a nurturing, calm, and comfortable atmosphere for all who are serviced at LaCURA. When clients enter our salt therapy room or our infrared sauna, the stress reducing effects emitted by the negative ions in the Himalayan salt environment may be felt almost immediately, enhancing the mind-body-spirit connection.



New owner of LaCURA Salt Spa

- Halotherapy
- Infrared Sauna Therapy
- Therapeutic Massage
- Facials
- Therapeutic Tea Foot Soak
- Restorative Yoga in Salt Room

*Ask about our specials!*

Salt therapy, also known as Halotherapy, is a drug-free, non-invasive treatment that improves health problems you may be experiencing such as asthma, allergies, and some respiratory illnesses.

804-A Anastasia Blvd - St. Augustine, FL  
904.217.7341 | [lacurasaltspa.com](http://lacurasaltspa.com)





# New medical practice puts focus back into developing relationships

By Anthony Richards

With all the advancements in modern medicine, there is still a vital part of doctor-patient care that Dr. Dina Bacon that must remain a fixture, and that is the doctor-patient relationship.

However, Bacon believes and has seen firsthand that the strength and emphasis on building these relationships has become less of a priority for many in the medical field and it is an approach she is looking to change with the opening of her new practice PURE DPC Medicine + Aesthetics located near Palencia at 442 Paseo Reyes Drive in St. Augustine.

She opened earlier this month after moving from Arizona, where she first began her journey and focused on the direct primary care option.

“My husband and I knew we wanted to end up here because we love the beach and the weather,” Bacon said.

She was a nurse for 25 years in Yuma, Arizona, including spending 18 years working in an emergency room.

However, although she only recently divided fully into the world of direct patient care, she always knew that she wanted to

search for an alternative approach after her son died of brain cancer at eight years old.

“You realize that life is short,” Bacon said.

She then got into hospice, which proved to be an eye-opening experience for her.

“It was really appalling to me how the patients weren’t being taken care of the way they should have been,” Bacon said. “So, I went into medical school in my 40s and finished my residency in June at 51 years old.”

She had initially planned on hospital work once she finished and won the 2023 Family Medicine Resident Physician of the Year award by the Arizona Academy of Family Physicians.

However, she had heard about direct patient care and after doing further research into it, discovered that it seemed the perfect fit for her and her health care mission.

“It just seemed to fit me,” Bacon said.

One of the interesting things about it is that the concept itself is not a new approach at all, and she has found that it is the way doctors and patients used to approach things, when relationships were the center of everything.



Contributed photo

**Dr. Dina Bacon looks to put the focus back on doctor-patient relationship with her new practice, PURE DPC in the Palencia area.**

An example is that in the direct patient care model, consultations last between 30 to 90 minutes, depending on the patient and their concerns, instead of the roughly 10 minutes Bacon said a consultation has become in most medical practices.

“It’s just gotten to where everything feels so rushed, and it becomes difficult to get an accurate diagnosis,” Bacon said. “If I want to help my patient, I need to know my patient.”

The consultations and procedures are paid for by monthly membership dues

instead of through the traditional insurance methods.

“Our medical system is broken,” Bacon said. “This is a model of health care that goes back to the patients. It’s just me, I’m the nurse, the doctor and the secretary, but not paying for employees allows me to keep the price low.”

A monthly due is \$100 for adults, and the price varies for children, because Bacon accepts the entire family from infants to grandparents.

She believes 500 patients is the “sweet spot” in the number she wishes her practice to eventually max out at, because any more than that and she fears the quality of the care would begin to suffer.

Every new patient gets the “meet and greet” opportunity before becoming a member.

“This is probably the most important part in the process, because it is the chance to see if you like me and for me to trust you,” Bacon said. “It is the start of that potential relationship.”

Some of the many services offered at PURE DPC include annual preventative exams, sports physicals, annual lab tests, and procedures, such as skin biopsies.



## Your carefree oasis of luxury awaits!

Feel right at home at one of our Starling communities. Live in unparalleled environments that feature resort-style amenities and comfortable residences. Select from luxurious independent living, assisted living or memory care lifestyles.

Whether you’re sampling the delectable dining options, enjoying the full-service salon or pursuing a new hobby, Starling is all about embracing life with friends, family, and community.

Learn more at [www.StarlingLiving.com](http://www.StarlingLiving.com).



**STARLING**  
AT NOCATEE

ASSISTED LIVING and MEMORY CARE

904-834-4355  
ALF#13109

**STARLING**  
AT NOCATEE

INDEPENDENT LIVING

904-834-4397

WELLNESS • ENGAGEMENT • CULINARY • SERVICE

Call today to learn about current specials!



# Gulani restores sight to Kenyan man

By Shaun Ryan

Recently, a man from Nairobi — we'll call him Erick — made the journey from Kenya to Jacksonville with one goal in mind: restoration of his eyesight.

For years, Erick suffered from a severe Lasik complication in both his eyes that resulted in a very complex and advanced keratoconus, where the cornea bulges outward into a cone shape. In addition, he developed a very complex and advanced white cataract.

In a word, Erick was blind.

He had heard about the work done by Dr. Arun Gulani, founding director and chief surgeon of Gulani Vision Institute, and decided the solution to his infirmity was here.

After months of preparation, fundraising, and support and prayers of his community, Erick made the journey at the end of September. Gulani put together a unique plan for Erick using AI and performed a groundbreaking surgical procedure on the first of his patient's eyes.

Restoration of sight in that eye occurred on Erick's birthday, giving him extra cause to celebrate. In fact, the patient refused to leave Florida until Gulani agreed to treat his other eye.

So, on Oct. 12 — World Sight Day,

by chance, an observance on the second Thursday of October that promotes eye health and emphasizes the need for quality vision care — Gulani successfully performed surgery on Erick's second eye.

The man's vision had been fully restored.

The procedure was subsidized through the Gulani Vision Global Foundation.

"It's moments like these that reaffirm our commitment to making a difference in people's lives," said Gulani. "Erick's courage and determination inspired our team, and we are thrilled to have played a role in this remarkable journey."

At a gathering of patients from about 20 different destinations, Gulani brought out a birthday cake for Erick and for another patient, a professional golfer from Seattle, who was also celebrating his birthday.

Gulani had an opportunity to speak by phone and by FaceTime with Erick's parents in Kenya and everyone present was moved to tears.

Gulani was recently recognized for his record-breaking impact on medical tourism in the First Coast and Ponte Vedra. Erick is just one of many patients who have come, sometimes from great distances, to the area to avail themselves of Gulani's expertise.



Dr. Arun Gulani, left, with Erick, whose vision he had restored through his groundbreaking procedures.

Contributed photos



Dr. Arun Gulani, center, with several of his most recent patients who come from all around the nation and the world. Erick stands behind Gulani.



Erick had severe trouble with both eyes before Dr. Arun Gulani operated on them.



His sight restored, Erick celebrates.

**PONTE VEDRA/NOCATEE REPRESENTATIVE WANTED**



BEACHES HOME CARE  
**Do you like helping others?**  
**Do you support "Aging in Place"?**  
**Do you like creating your own schedule?**  
 If you said "Yes" to all 3, then email  
[info@beacheshomecare.com](mailto:info@beacheshomecare.com) for more info.



#30212177



PONTE VEDRA PREMIER DENTAL  
 FAMILY - COSMETICS - IMPLANTS



DR. KEVIN NEAL | DR. MICHAEL WINTER  
 DR. ANDY MAPLES | DR. BRIAN MAPLES

*Experience the good a simple smile can do.*

100 PROFESSIONAL DR. | PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FL 32082  
 (904) 285-8407 | WWW.PVPDENTAL.COM



# Honorary chairs, presenting sponsor named for Jacksonville's Party with a Purpose

JDRF Northern Florida (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation) has announced its partnership with Chris and Dawn Shee for this year's Jacksonville Party with a Purpose: Into the Blue. The Shees will serve as both the honorary chairs and presenting sponsors this year.

Their connection to JDRF stems from Chris Shee's oldest son being diagnosed with type 1 diabetes (T1D) just three weeks before turning 15 years old. Now 23 years old, he has been a true champion managing his diabetes.

Chris Shee is the founder and CEO of MasterCraft Builder Group, which was started in 2012. In addition to building high-quality homes, MasterCraft is known for its generosity — the pillars of the company are called "The 4 C's," which stand for Craftsmanship, Customer Service, Choice (semi-customization) and Community.

"Community is what I'm most proud of as it's about giving back, and we do this radically," said Chris Shee. "Aside from the various donations we make throughout the year, MasterCraft has raised more than \$1.1 million dollars for local charities by hosting a sporting clay tournament

(Clays For A Cause) the last 10 years."

When asked what it means to have his dad supporting him in this way, Chris Shee's son said, "Amidst the challenges of diabetes, my family's unwavering support has been the backbone of my journey. Their encouragement and support have propelled me to successfully manage my health and strive to help others similarly."

Through serving as the honorary chairs for Jacksonville's Party with a Purpose, Chris and Dawn Shee hope they can convey the message that money is needed so that scientific advancements can continue for this cause.

"I often speak to folks about money and the true wealth that comes along with giving," said Chris Shee. "I speak of the difference between being rich and being wealthy. Rich has everything to do with money, but not necessarily happiness — for money doesn't create happiness like most folks think. Wealth can involve money, but it doesn't necessarily need to. Wealth comes from love, joy and giving."

Chris and Dawn Shee said they are excited to see the community come together for JDRF's worthy cause on Nov. 9.

For more information about Into the

Blue, go to [jaxjdrfparty.com](http://jaxjdrfparty.com).

JDRF's mission is to accelerate life-changing breakthroughs to cure, prevent and treat T1D and its complications. To accomplish this, JDRF has invested more than \$2.5 billion in research funding since its inception.

The organization is built on a grassroots model of people connecting in their local communities, collaborating regionally

and globally for efficiency and broader fundraising impact and uniting on a global stage to pool resources, passion, and energy.

It collaborates with academic institutions, policymakers and corporate and industry partners to develop and deliver a pipeline of innovative therapies to people living with T1D.

For more information, go to [jdrf.org](http://jdrf.org).

## Let's get social!

Stay up to date on contests, advertising specials, and real-time news in Ponte Vedra.

Our fans get access to exclusive content you can't find anywhere else!  
[www.facebook.com/ThePVRecorder](http://www.facebook.com/ThePVRecorder)



"LIKE" US ON  facebook



**pure**<sup>DPC</sup>  
MEDICINE + AESTHETICS

*by Dr. Bacon*

We believe in treating the *whole person*, not just their *symptoms*.

PURE DPC Medicine+Aesthetics offers an innovative healthcare model that features a monthly membership fee instead of insurance. You will be able to get most prescriptions, procedures, labs, and imaging at deeply discounted prices.

We believe in turning back the clock to a time when medicine was personal, compassionate, affordable, and truly patient-centered. You will have direct access to your doctor for appointments, calls, texts, or tele-health visits.

**No waiting weeks or even months to see the doctor who knows you best.**

### Our services and benefits included in your monthly membership fee:

- Annual Preventative Examinations • Annual Well-Woman Exams • Sports Physicals
- Unlimited Medical Appointments • After Hours Urgent Needs (24/7) by phone
- Extended Office Visits • Limited Home Visits • Chronic Medical Condition Management
- Acute Injury/Illness Management • Basic Annual Labs\* • In-Office Procedures\*

(\*ADDITIONAL FEES MAY APPLY AND WILL BE COMMUNICATED PRIOR TO SERVICE)



**(904) 325-9707 | [www.puredpc.com](http://www.puredpc.com)**  
442 Paseo Reyes Drive, Saint Augustine, FL 32095  
[DrBacon@puredpc.com](mailto:DrBacon@puredpc.com)



SPECTACULAR NEW GATED WATERFRONT COMMUNITY NEAR FLAGLER BEACH

# GRAND OPENING EVENT

## NEW Phase Lot Release – Larger Estate-Style Lots – From Only \$169,880

# OCTOBER 28-29

### PLANNED WATER ACCESS FOR ALL LOTS



**ALL NEW  
LOT RELEASE –  
NEVER OFFERED  
BEFORE!**



## THE ESTATES AT VERANDA BAY

#### PRIME LOCATION

- Private, gated access on John Anderson Highway
- Just across the nearby bridge from Flagler Beach, one of the area's most beautiful beaches
- Less than 30 minutes to Daytona Beach and St. Augustine; approx. one hour from Jacksonville and Orlando

#### PLANNED AMENITIES

- Clubhouse • Resort-Style Pool • Fitness Center • Pickleball
- Tennis • Dog Park...and more!

#### BUY NOW, TAKE UP TO 5 YEARS TO BUILD

- Choose from some of the area's best custom builders



#### ASK HOW TO BUY PROPERTY WITH YOUR IRA!

**Excellent Financing Available**

## WALK-INS WELCOME!

CALL 386-999-3316 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

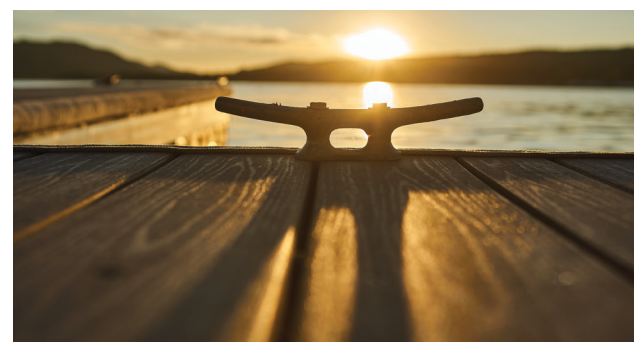
Learn More at [VerandaBayFla.com](http://VerandaBayFla.com)



Scan to visit us online.



Veranda Bay is easily accessible on John Anderson Hwy. When traveling I-95 North or South, exit 284 toward Flagler Beach. Drive East on Highway 100 for approximately 2.3 miles until you reach the John Anderson intersection (on the right-hand corner: CVS - 2301 Moody Blvd, Flagler Beach). Turn right and drive approximately one mile south until you see our signs on the left.



All renderings, site plans, digital images, etc. are used to depict current development concepts, which are subject to change without notice. \*Marina facilities are subject to approval of relevant governmental agencies.



# Piccioni receives DAISY Award at UF Health Flagler Hospital

Jessica Piccioni, LPN, has been honored as the UF Health St. Johns DAISY Award recipient for the third quarter of 2023. Piccioni was honored for providing superb care to a patient who was struggling after undergoing emergency surgery.

The DAISY Award is an international program that rewards and celebrates the extraordinary compassion and skill nurses give daily. Piccioni, a licensed practical nurse on the eighth floor at UF Health Flagler Hospital, was nominated by a retired nurse who credits her with saving her life.

"I want to thank my lifesaver, Jessica, for what she did for me," wrote Linda Menard in her nomination letter. "I underwent surgery in January and ended up with a colostomy and nephrostomy. I was devastated. Being an R.N. for 45 years, I knew my outcome, which wasn't good. I came home determined to beat this. Then I woke up with pain and knew I needed to go to the hospital. I was admitted and was

here for five days, then the hospital sent me home."

Menard had to return to the ER two hours later for emergency surgery. Petrified, she was admitted to the eighth floor, where she met Piccioni. Their bond was immediate, and Menard says she felt like she was meeting an angel. They spent time talking and she is certain that if it wasn't for Piccioni, she would not have made it through her ordeal.

"Even when Jessica wasn't my nurse, she would come into my room and sit with me. We would have tea together. I love tea, and she knew it," Menard wrote. "She made sure I was as pain-free as I could be. There are not enough thank-you's to give her. If it weren't for her, I would have given up, but she would not let me. I owe my life and my sanity to Jessica. Because of her, I could go home with a new outlook on life. The love she showed me as a nurse, you can't learn



Contributed photo

Jessica Piccioni recently received a DAISY Award.

DAISY continues on Page 27

THE CARE, THE PEOPLE,

# The Palms

AT PONTE VEDRA

Assisted Living and Memory Care

## Be a Healthier You!

### Nutrition

- Fresh! Never frozen!
- Healthy menu selections!
- We grow our own herbs!

### Exercise

- On-Site Physical Therapy
- Daily Exercise Classes
- Fitness Center
- Water Therapy, Aqua Fit Classes

### Emotional Wellness

- Caring, Attentive Staff
- One-on-One Activities
- Monthly Support Meetings
- Personalized Care Plans

Call Today! 904.686.3700



# DAISY

Continued from 26

that. It comes naturally. Please acknowledge her dedication to her patient's well-being."

Menard surprised Piccioni by attending the ceremony.

"It was really a pleasure taking care of you," Piccioni told Menard as she accepted the award. "It brings tears to my eyes to see you. I love helping people. You just have to have care and sympathy for your patients. That's what it is all about."

Carlton DeVooght, president and CEO of UF Health St. Johns, said that the bond between Piccioni and Menard represents the standard of care the health care system aspires to.

"The bond that Jessica nurtured with her patient is truly inspiring and is everything that UF Health Flagler Hospital represents," said DeVooght. "She gave her all for her patient even when she wasn't on duty. She represents our core values and made a tremendous difference in the life of her patient."

In recognition of this honor, Piccioni received a stone-carved "Healers Touch" trophy, a DAISY winner's pin, a gift basket and a \$200 bonus.

Piccioni's nomination was among 56 recognitions submitted in the third quarter of 2023 by patients, their families and UF Health St. Johns team members.

# Baptist Health honored for use of technology

Baptist Health of Northeast Florida received the highest level in the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME) 2023 Digital Health Most Wired Survey. The Certified Level 10 achievement was awarded to Baptist Health in both the ambulatory and acute survey categories, distinguishing the health system as one of only three in the state of Florida and 16 in the nation to do so out of 55,000 organizations represented.

This is the second consecutive year Baptist Health has appeared on the Digital Health Most Wired list. The survey assesses the adoption, integration and impact of technologies in health care organizations at all stages of development, from early development to industry leading.

"What a testament this is to the hard work and collaboration of our clinicians, operational and IT teams," said Aaron Miri, senior vice president and chief digital and information officer at Baptist Health. "We are so fortunate that our board members and leadership share a commitment to investing in digital innovation to help us provide the best outcomes, efficiencies and experiences to every



person, in every setting."

This year, Baptist Health ranked above peers in analytics and data management, population health, infrastructure and patient engagement, among other categories.

Among the items that elevated Baptist Health this year were the organization's focus on partnerships with clinical staff to optimize the use of the new electronic health record and the use of artificial intelligence tools, like voice-driven AI, to eliminate wasted time. In addition, the focus on allowing clinicians to work at top-of-license by reducing clicks and time spent

on administrative items is a continued concentration for the IT team.

"As we navigate today's health care landscape, technology is a fundamental key to enhancing efficiencies and driving innovation to best serve our patients and improve the experience for our clinicians," said Michael A. Mayo, president and CEO of Baptist Health. "Our teams across disciplines, from clinicians to IT professionals, will continue these incredible partnerships to deliver on high-performance care."

## Convenient, Comprehensive Cardiology Care. Close to Home.

First Coast Heart & Vascular Center's top-rated cardiologists offer a full range of cardiac services – from preventive care and routine screenings to advanced diagnostics and interventions.

- ▶ General cardiology
- ▶ Structural heart disease management
- ▶ Peripheral vascular/vein disease services
- ▶ Complex heart rhythm management
- ▶ Heart failure management
- ▶ Comprehensive cardiovascular screenings
- ▶ Stress tests, echocardiograms
- ▶ Pacemaker/defibrillator checkups

To make an appointment with a cardiologist, call one of nine First Coast Heart and Vascular Center locations.

MEET OUR BILINGUAL CARDIOLOGISTS

Se habla Español



Edilberto Benitez, MD



Sebastian Carrasquillo, MD



Carlos Henriquez-Felipe, MD

FIRST COAST Heart & Vascular CENTER

Our cardiologists are seeing patients at nine offices in Northeast Florida

Duval County – Jacksonville – University Blvd  
3901 University Blvd., Ste. 221, Jacksonville, FL 32216  
Phone: (904) 423-0010

Duval County – Jacksonville – Arlington  
6500 Ft. Caroline Rd., Ste. 4, Jacksonville, FL 32277  
Phone: (904) 423-0010

Duval County – Jacksonville – Cath Lab Only  
14810 Old St Augustine Rd., Ste. 210, Jacksonville, FL 32258  
Phone: (904) 312-9810

St. Johns County – St. Augustine  
100 Whetstone Place, Ste. 102, St. Augustine, FL 32086  
Phone: (904) 342-8300

St. Johns County – St. Augustine  
Electrophysiology & Interventional  
100 Whetstone Place, Ste. 310, St. Augustine, FL 32086  
Phone: (904) 342-8300

St. Johns County  
St. Augustine – Murabella – World Golf Village  
70 Turin Terrace, Ste. 210, St. Augustine, FL 32092  
Phone: (904) 342-8300

Clay County – Fleming Island  
4565 Hwy. 17, Ste. 106, Fleming Island, FL 32003  
Phone: (904) 375-8100

Flagler County – Palm Coast  
14 Office Park Drive, Ste. 1, Palm Coast, FL 32137  
Phone: (386) 446-9966

St. Johns County-Nocatee  
351 Town Plaza Avenue Suite 203  
Ponte Vedra, Florida 32081

[firstcoastheart.com](http://firstcoastheart.com)  
(904) 342-8300



# Ascension St. Vincent's Southside expands maternal care

Ascension St. Vincent's Southside is expanding its maternal care services by adding six new labor, delivery, recovery and postpartum (LDRP) rooms. These units will supplement the 17 already on campus.

This growth project has been made possible by a \$5 million gift to the Ascension St. Vincent's Foundation from Mary Virginia Terry. In honor of the donation, the new unit will be named the C. Herman & Mary Virginia Terry Labor and Delivery Suites.

By adding these LDRP rooms, St. Vincent's Southside is providing greater access to care to children and families in the community. These rooms improve the birthing experience by allowing moms, babies and families to experience the entire labor, delivery, recovery and postpartum phases in the comfort of one space.

Other improvements involved with the project include smaller renovations to the units and equipment improvements.

"Our care teams are committed to supporting mothers during their unique birthing experience," said St. Vincent's Southside President James Machado. "We are excited to expand our capacity to meet the growing needs of our community and provide excellent care for women in Northeast Florida."

St. Vincent's Southside delivers nearly



Contributed photo

The entire labor and delivery department was honored with the hospital's first team DAISY award.

260 babies per month, offering resources like lactation consultants every day of the week and providing wireless fetal monitoring in the LDRP rooms. Other maternal health resources offered at St. Vincent's care sites include:

- 24/7 OB emergency care
- Breastfeeding support
- Childbirth classes
- Labor, delivery and postpartum care
- Midwifery services
- Neonatal intensive care
- Maternal-fetal medicine specialty care

If you have questions about maternal health at St. Vincent's, go to ascension.

org.

In addition, the entire labor and delivery department was honored with the hospital's first team DAISY award — a national recognition program to celebrate and recognize nurses by collecting nominations from patients, families and co-workers.

This award was earned due to Dr. Meena Demetrios and the labor-and-delivery care team's actions in saving Alex Mosiello's life during pregnancy complications.

Ascension Florida and Gulf Coast includes Ascension Sacred Heart based in

Pensacola, Ascension St. Vincent's based in Jacksonville, and Ascension Providence in Mobile, Alabama. Ascension Florida and Gulf Coast operates 10 hospitals and more than 200 other sites of care, employing more than 13,000 associates.

Across the region, Ascension Providence, Ascension Sacred Heart and Ascension St. Vincent's have served North Florida and South Alabama communities for more than 165 years. In fiscal year 2022, Ascension Florida and Gulf Coast provided more than \$265 million in com-

ASCENSION continues on Page 29

## YOUR SMILE SAYS IT ALL PROVIDING TRUSTED SPECIALIZED CARE TO PATIENTS

No Insurance? We've got you covered! \$500 A YEAR

### SEDATION DENTISTRY

Imagine going to the dentist and having complex treatments done without any pain, discomfort, or anxiety! Sedation Dentistry, also known as sleep dentistry, is the practice of creating a calm and relaxing state to allow for safe and comfortable dental care. There are numerous benefits to sedation dentistry, including the following:

- Minimal recollection of the dental procedure
- No pain or discomfort
- No sense of sound, smell, or time
- No fear, stress, or anxiety during treatment
- Treatment is easier for both the patient and dentist
- More dental work completed in fewer appointments

Schedule Your Appointment Today!

**GUIDED SMILES**  
PROSTHODONTICS | IMPLANT CENTER  
153 Fort Wade Rd., Ste 100, Ponte Vedra



CARLOS BLACKMON,  
DDS, MS  
PROSTHODONTIST

904-395-5501 • GUIDEDSMILESJAX.COM



# Cypress Village expands wellness services

The renovation of Cypress Village's Wellness Clinic has been completed, and the clinic has opened its doors this month.

Dr. Luis Anez and the dedicated health care providers began seeing residents in this modern and comfortable facility on Oct. 18. The newly renovated clinic is designed with well-being in mind.

Cypress Village Wellness Clinic has taken great care to create a welcoming and healing environment to ensure that residents feel at ease during their visit. From the moment a person steps through the doors, they will notice a significant transformation.



**Cypress Village**

With state-of-the-art medical equipment, spacious and cozy waiting areas and soothing color schemes, the experience at the clinic is about to get even better.

Cypress Village is a retirement care community that offers residents an outstanding standard of living with all the services and amenities. Located adjacent to the Mayo Clinic, Cypress Village has beautifully appointed homes and apartments on a 120-acre campus.

For more information on this unmatched lifestyle of comfort and convenience, call 904-223-6100.



Contributed photo

The new unit has been named the C. Herman & Mary Virginia Terry Labor and Delivery Suites.

## Ascension

Continued from 28

community benefit and care of persons living in poverty.

Ascension is a faith-based health care organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As one of the leading nonprofit and Catholic health systems in the U.S., Ascension is committed to delivering compassion-

ate, personalized care to all, with special attention to people living in poverty and those most vulnerable.

Ascension operates more than 2,600 sites of care – including 138 hospitals in 19 states – while providing a variety of services, including clinical operations, venture capital investing, investment management, biomedical engineering, facilities management, risk management, and contracting through Ascension's own group purchasing organization.



**Cypress Village**

*Explore. Discover. Celebrate.  
Life at Cypress Village!*

*Independent Living  
Assisted Living  
Alzheimer's & Dementia Care  
Skilled Nursing  
On-Site Rehab*

**904-807-6190**

**4600 Middleton Park Circle East • Jacksonville FL 32224 • [cypressvillageretirement.com](http://cypressvillageretirement.com)**



# Neuropathy

TIRED OF LIVING WITH THE PAIN?



## SYMPTOMS OF PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY

- Burning
- Electrical shock
- Loss of hot and cold sensation
- Disrupted sleep
- Sensitive skin
- Balance problems
- Cramping in legs and feet
- Tingling
- Feeling of pebble in your shoe
- Feeling of walking on pins and needles
- Pain can be worse at night
- Muscle weakness
- Becoming harder and harder to walk

**MAYBE IT'S TIME YOU START THINKING ABOUT REGENERATIVE MEDICINE  
MILLIONS SUFFER FROM PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY**

You don't have to suffer from the debilitating effects of Peripheral Neuropathy anymore. We invite you to our **FREE EDUCATIONAL NEUROPATHY EVENT** to learn if it will help. This chronic progressive condition affects

everything that you do, whether it be work or leisure. Ultimately it's affecting your quality of life. We want you to be pain free! We may be able to help you get your life back! Come to our no cost no obligation seminar! **The only thing you have to lose is your pain!**

## FREE EDUCATIONAL NEUROPATHY EVENT



**ONE DAY ONLY! CALL CENTER OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**  
**SPACE IS LIMITED** CALL NOW TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT

### SEMINAR LOCATION

**Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Joes Crab Shack**

6 Beach Blvd, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

**11:30am**

(904) 822-0721

**4:30pm**

(904) 977-2401



# HOWL-O-WEEN PET SPECIAL



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023 · PAGE 31

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

## 13th Annual Pin Up Paws Party is Nov. 3

The St. Augustine Humane Society Pin Up Paws Party is the largest fundraising effort the nonprofit hosts each year. The annual event to be held at 6 p.m. Nov. 3 at Embassy Suites by Hilton St Augustine Beach Oceanfront Resort, 300 A1A Beach Blvd. in St. Augustine.

All of the money raised at the event will directly benefit the Humane Society's programs and resources, which provide lifesaving care to pets and help pet owners with a variety of services.

The fundraiser includes dinner, complimentary wine, cash bar, music by the House Cats jazz quartet, silent auction, photo booth, wine pull and a free copy of the 2024 "Best Buds" calendar. Ticket prices are \$125 per person and \$1,250 for each table of 10 attendees. This year's tickets may be purchased at PUPParty.org or in person at St. Augustine Humane Society, 1665 Old Moultrie Road, in St. Augustine.

Free limited parking for the event is available at the adjacent St. Augustine Beach parking lot. Valet parking at the hotel is an additional \$15 per vehicle.

A silent auction with an online component is going on now until Nov. 11. View regularly updated auction items, including gift baskets, jewelry, restaurant certificates, Caribbean resort stays, a South African photo safari and many locally sourced items at PUPauction.org.

The calendar's flower garden theme includes photo contest winning pets in the 2024 "Best Buds" calendar. Calendars may be purchased after the fundraiser at the Humane Society location for \$12 each. For more information, call 904-829-2737 or email development@



St. Augustine Humane Society attendees in 2022 included Chelsea Fisher, Brittany Jones and Tori Christensen from Swamp Haven Rescue.

staughumane.org.

The St. Augustine Humane Society is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. Open Saturday by appointment. Closed Sunday. The Humane Society's resource center includes a wellness and preventative care clinic, low-cost spay and neuter clinic, grooming facility and a pet food pantry. These and other services enable local pets to live healthfully in their homes for life.



Contributed photos

Herman Munster is among the pets featured this year.

St. Augustine Humane Society promotes healthy responsible lifelong pet ownership by serving the medical and rehabilitative needs of companion animals in our community. The programs are designed to strengthen human-pet relationships and reduce the need for pets to enter shelters with a goal is to ensure all pets have access to quality veterinary care, prevent overpopulation and prevent animal suffering.

## KEEP YOUR PETS SAFE THIS HALLOWEEN

9 to 5 Pets recently shared these "Top 5 Halloween Pet Tips" to help ensure your furry friends have a safe and enjoyable holiday without any spooky surprises:

### ID Tags and Microchips

Ensure your pet has proper identification, including a collar with an updated ID tag and a registered microchip. In case your pet gets scared and escapes during Halloween festivities, it will be easier to



reunite with them.

### Candy Safety and Wrapper Cleanup

Keep Halloween candy out of your pet's reach. Chocolate, xylitol (found in sugar-free gum and candies) and some other ingredients can be toxic to animals. Even wrappers can pose a choking hazard. After Halloween, make sure to clean up candy wrappers and other debris. Pets may be attracted to the smells, and ingesting wrappers can lead to digestive issues.

### Glow Sticks and Jewelry

Be cautious with glow sticks and jewelry. Pets may be attracted to the glowing objects, but the chemicals inside can be toxic. Keep them out of your pet's reach.

### Trick-or-Treaters

Some pets may get anxious or agitated with a constant stream of visitors at the

door. If your pet is nervous, consider keeping them in a quiet and comfortable room away from the front door.

### Keep Pets Indoors

On Halloween night, it's a good idea to keep pets indoors, even if they usually spend time outside. This helps prevent them from escaping or getting scared by noisy celebrations.

STAY WITH US IN A COVERED WAGON!

If you are interested, please contact us at [Elaine@Rooterville.org](mailto:Elaine@Rooterville.org)

Covered wagon glamping in our beautiful PlainsCraft 1880's style covered wagons is an experience you will treasure. YES, it has central heat/air and a full bathroom!

ALL proceeds help us care for the animals you'll fall in love with too!

Rooterville

Animal Sanctuary Inc.

1208 County Rd 315, Melrose, FL 32666 • (352) 262-7313

FOLLOW US ON

WWW.ROOTERVILLE.ORG



## GUEST COLUMN

# Unleashing potential: The importance of training your dog

Dog ownership isn't just a privilege; it is a comprehensive responsibility. Dogs are not mere accessories to our lives; they are sentient beings that require and indeed deserve our attention, care and training.

Underscoring the importance of dog training, we must focus on two predominant aspects: safety and the overall quality of life that affects both the pet and the owner.

Safety is paramount. It's the cornerstone of a harmonious cohabitation between the dogs and their human companions. Proper training can prevent accidents and dangerous confrontations, and it's not just about the dog's safety, but also about yours, your family's and the public's. An untrained dog can inadvertently cause accidents, from minor household mishaps, like knocking over objects, to serious incidents, like biting or attacking someone.

Training your dog with simple commands like "sit," "stay," "come" and "leave it" can make a significant difference. For instance, a dog that doesn't

come back when called can wander off and potentially end up in a dangerous situation. A dog that doesn't understand the command "leave it" may ingest harmful substances. Furthermore, leash training is essential for safe walks, preventing dogs from bolting into traffic or approaching other animals aggressively.

Then, there's the crucial aspect of socialization, a significant part of dog training.

Properly socialized dogs are less likely to react fearfully or aggressively to new people, animals or environments. They're more comfortable in different situations, reducing the likelihood of a high-stress reaction leading to biting or other aggressive behaviors.

But safety is not the only reason why training your dog is so crucial. It also significantly enhances the quality of life for both you and your four-legged friend. Engaging in training sessions deepens the bond between dogs and their owners. It's a form of communication, a dialogue that fosters a mutual understanding and respect.

Training also provides dogs with mental stimulation, which is as important as physical exercise in maintaining their overall health. It keeps their minds sharp and alert, preventing boredom and subsequent destructive behaviors. An actively engaged dog is a happy dog, and a happy dog makes for a more harmonious home.

Moreover, a well-trained dog is easier to manage, which makes life more enjoyable. You can confidently take them to dog-friendly public spaces, knowing they'll behave appropriately. You can have guests over without worrying about your dog jumping up on them or barking incessantly.

Importantly, training your dog also enhances their quality of life. Dogs, like humans, need structure and routine. They need to know their place in the world and what's expected of them. Training gives them this structure, and with it, a sense of security.

Dogs thrive on pleasing their owners, and training gives them the opportunity to do so, resulting in a more content, confident and well-adjusted pet.

However, it's essential to remember that dog training should always be an exercise in challenging the dog and using a well-balanced training approach. Punishing a dog for not understanding a command is counterproductive and can lead to fear and anxiety.

Instead, encourage and reward desired behaviors. This approach not only makes training more effective but also reinforces the bond between you and your dog.

In conclusion, training your dog is an investment of time and effort that yields significant returns. It's a critical component of responsible dog ownership, contributing to safety and enhancing the quality of life for both you and your dog.

For more information on training your dog, contact The K9 Encounter at 904-689-2057 or CustomerSupport@TheK9Encounter.com

Column provided by The K9 Encounter.



**In this busy  
9 to 5 world,  
we can all use  
a helping hand!**

**MAKING YOUR LIFE EASIER  
ONE PAW AT A TIME**

- Dog Walk & Off Leash Pack Adventures
- Pet Sitting & Overnight Services
- Concierge Services

**YOUR PEACE OF MIND AND PETS' WELL BEING IS OUR TOP PRIORITY**

- Bonded, Insured & Background Checked
- Certified in Pet CPR, First Aid & Care

**CONVENIENCE AND TRANSPARENCY WITH OUR MOBILE APP**

- Quickly and Easily Schedule & Pay For Our Services
- View Notes, Pictures, GPS & Time Tracking Data From Each Visit
- Message Our Team Anytime & From Anywhere

*It is our privilege and pleasure to care for your pets and our promise is to love them like we love our own!*

**Enjoy \$25 off your first service.**

Use promo code 9T05WELCOME when you register with us as a new client.

Call us or fill out our online contact form to get started today!

904.655.4700 | 9to5pets.com

## Subaru partners with humane society for free adoption month

By Anthony Richards

The Jacksonville Humane Society and Subaru of Jacksonville are teaming up to offer an all-star opportunity, as the humane society is offering free adoptions until October 31.

The partnership is all part of the Subaru Loves Pets Month initiative.

Subaru of Jacksonville is donating \$100 for every dog adopted from the humane society through the end of October, up to 31 adoptions.

"There are so many animals at JHS patiently waiting for their loving home," said Jacksonville Humane Society CEO, Denise Deisler. "We are grateful to everyone who chooses to adopt a shelter

pet, and to Subaru of Jacksonville and the Subaru Loves Pets grant program for making these free adoptions possible. We can't wait to see these pets join their new families!"

There are several organizations that also have a hand behind the scenes to make the adoption event a reality, including Subaru of America, Inc., the Subaru Loves Pets grant program, and the ASPCA.

Anyone interested in adopting from the Jacksonville Humane Society during the month to take advantage of the event, can learn more by going to [jaxhumane.org/adopt](http://jaxhumane.org/adopt).

All pets are altered, vaccinated and microchipped at the time of adoption, and additional fees may apply.



# Dog left paralyzed after hit and run rescued

Contributed photos

Before being rescued by Florida Urgent Rescue (FUR), Buster was living as a stray. His luck took a turn for the worse when he was a victim of a hit-and-run accident and left paralyzed on the streets for weeks. Searching for help, Buster dragged himself out of the road. When he was found, his kneecaps were raw from dragging on the pavement, and his underside was infected.

“In rescue, we see the worst in people and the best,” according to FUR. “Despite all the people who passed him by on the streets, some amazing people jumped into action to save his life.”

“We want to thank those who found him and brought him to the Bahamas Humane Society, as well as Lissa McComb, Steph Hickman and the BAARK! Team — who once again jumped into action to save an animal in distress. They reached out to us at FUR, and we knew we had to help. We all agreed to do whatever we could to help him.”

Dr. Valentino Grant and his vet tech, Sam, brought Buster to the vet clinic, where x-rays revealed a spinal injury, causing his rear-end paralysis.

Seeing his zest for life and eagerness to walk again, FUR got Buster a Walkin’ Wheels dog wheelchair, to give him a second chance at life and the gift



Buster is happy to be on the move again

of mobility.

“Even if he can’t use his back legs, it doesn’t mean he can’t have a wonderful life,” according to FUR. “Buster is starting to show some reflexive movements which is encouraging, as it gives us hope that spinal walking may still be a possibility down the road. His personality and confidence have taken off. He’s a completely different dog than when he first arrived, and his wheels are a huge part of that. They’ve given



Buster being rescued.

him the confidence boost that he needed and he loves being in them.”

Buster is now settling in with his foster parents, Kelly and Ameen, getting comfortable and doing well in his new wheelchair. However, his journey is not over yet — he now needs a forever home. His fosters mention that despite his terrible injuries, this is probably the best life Buster has ever had.

“With his wheelchair, he is a happy, confident dog with a pep in his step,”

according to FUR. “Given his injuries, he’ll always need a little extra help, but we’ll do everything we can to give him an amazing life. A huge thank you to Kelly, Ameen, Diane and everyone in Buster’s Dream Team for all you’re doing to help him.”

Those who want to help Buster and other dogs in need may make a tax-deductible donation to Florida Urgent Rescue at [floridaurgentrescue.org/donate](http://floridaurgentrescue.org/donate).

## Premier Veterinary Specialty & Emergency Services at the Beaches

Experience and compassion you can trust.



**We Are Located At**  
301 Jacksonville Drive,  
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

Emergency service available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week including holidays

[FirstCoastVetER.com](http://FirstCoastVetER.com)

Specialty Services: M-F, 7:30a.m. to 6:00p.m. | ER Services Available 24/7 | 904-853-6310 | [FCVets.com](http://FCVets.com)



# Pet Partners of North Florida raises funds for animal therapy programs

The sixth annual Pet Partners' World's Largest Pet Walk with local chapter Pet Partners of North Florida featured fundraising activities on Sept. 23 at St. Johns County Equestrian Center, 8200 Smith Road in Hastings.

The walk, a horse and dog tack and equipment sale, horse and rider schooling event, along with vendors raised much needed funds and attracted approximately 500 total participants and attendees who supported North Florida work with animal interventions.

Sponsors and vendors included Country Caterers BBQ Inc., Knowell's Lock & Safe, Samikel Customs, Suddenly Sudak's Succulents, Grace Under the Oaks, Sumo CBD, HAALT Animal Assisted Therapy, Lexi Ray Pet Portraits, 2nd Chance Feed Bags, BEMER by Marilyn Samuelson, Boss Mare Equine Therapy Massage, and Blade Sharpening by DeWitt and Steve DeWitt Rodrigue.

Pet Partners is the nation's leading nonprofit organization specializing in partnerships with therapeutic professionals, educational resources and research-based programming. Individuals trained as animal

therapy educators and handlers by the organization and chapters work with nine species of therapy animals for animal-assisted therapies and interventions, including dogs, cats, equines, rabbits, guinea pigs, domestic rats, birds, mini pigs and alpacas. The local chapter focuses on bringing visiting pet therapy teams to any facility, school or business that can use a positive diversion through the human-animal bond.

According to Chris Dunn, board member of Pet Partners of North Florida, and resident and owner of Ravenwood Farms in Keystone Heights, attendees gathered with friends and families for a casual stroll around the equestrian center, along with training and schooling horses at the Equestrian Center riding areas.

"We appreciate everyone who raised money for Pet Partners while doing something they already enjoy, such as walking with their pets," said Lorri M. Reynolds, board member with Pet Partners of North Florida, resident of Green Cove Springs



Lorri M. Reynolds



Sharpening by DeWitt owner Steven DeWitt Rodrigue of Putnam County and vendor participant at the Pet Partners of North Florida event.



Contributed photos  
Lorri Reynolds and Chris Dunn were the Pet Partners of North Florida event coordinators.

and a real estate broker with Watson Realty Corp. in Jacksonville. "We will use the funds raised for increasing our awareness with a new local website and to help continue training for handlers and pets. The World's Largest Pet Walk initiative provides a positive space for anyone to spend time with their pet while also benefiting the community by raising vital funds to help share the love of a therapy animal with children and adults in need of emotional and mental health support."

There was no registration fee to walk at the local World's Largest Pet Walk, but attendees were encouraged to raise funds if possible. Vendors registered to

participate and purchased display space locations.

"Many participants raised money in honor of their own pets and as an opportunity for employee engagement and corporate support," said Dunn.

Raffle winners included a first prize with a large security safe for Carla Willis of Grandin, second prize with a customized gift basket to Monica Mortensen of Nocatee and third prize with a container of succulent plants for Kelly Minor of the Mandarin area in Jacksonville.

For more information, contact Dunn at 904-626-1990 or email ravenwoodfarm@icloud.com.



Pet Partners of North Florida registered pony Buc and handler Chris Dunn.



Mary Baer Fiorentino and staff with volunteers with Grace Under the Oaks at Pet Partners of North Florida.



## THE K9 ENCOUNTER Dog Training For The Real World

At The K9 Encounter, we instill confidence, stability, and a sense of purpose in your dog through our training program. Whether it's a simple walk through the park, a car ride, or enjoying time with family and friends, we're here to help your dog become a stable companion you can enjoy daily life with.

*No tricks, no gimmicks, only you and your dog working together to achieve your goals.*

SPECIALIZING IN:  
Obedience  
Personal Protection  
Behavior Modification  
Trained Protection Dogs

Rob Martin  
Owner/Head Trainer  
(904) 689-2057

THEK9ENCOUNTER.COM

@thek9encounter @ The K9 Encounter

## 'Howling Halloween' dog adoption Saturday

A "Howling Halloween" dog adoption event will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 28, at Pet Supermarket, 880 A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach.

There will also be a bake sale hosted by S.A.F.E. Pet Rescue Club at Ponte

Vedra High School, and a Best Costume Contest, which starts at 1 p.m. All proceeds benefit S.A.F.E. Pet Rescue.

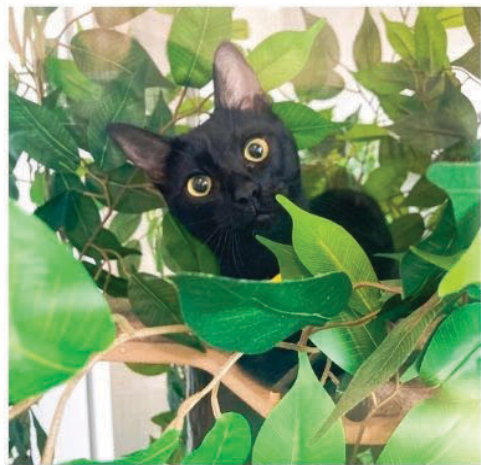
Donations of dog food, dog treats, cleaning supplies, etc., will be gratefully accepted.





# FOREVERVETS

*Connecting hearts* ♥♥♥



- Preventive Care
- Surgery
- Diagnostic Tests
- Emergency Procedures
- Dentistry
- Microchipping
- Wellness Plans
- Grooming
- Boarding
- Daycare
- Spaying/ Neutering
- Pet Resorts
- Monthly Promotions
- Birthday Pawties
- Themed Daycare Events
- Various Locations
- Urgent Care

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO ENTERED OUR PET HOWL-O-WEEN COSTUME CONTEST!



RESULTS POSTED ON OCTOBER 30TH 2023

COUPON FOR FUREVER VETS CENTRAL ONLY

**Urgent & Emergency Care**  
 OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK UNTIL MIDNIGHT  
**\$25.00 OFF**  
 VALID AT FUREVER VETS CENTRAL ONLY  
 11030 BAYMEADOWS RD  
 JACKSONVILLE FLORIDA, 32256  
 904-375-3995  
 WWW.FOREVERVETS.COM  
 NEW CLIENTS ONLY

WWW.FOREVERVETS.COM

**EXTENDED HOURS • OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK • NO EMERGENCY WALK IN FEES**

**FIRST FREE EXAM**  
 New clients only  
 HOSPITAL LOCATIONS ONLY  
 Must present coupon. Offers cannot be combined

**FREE DAY OF PLAY**  
 New clients only  
 PET RESORTS ONLY  
 Must present coupon. Offers cannot be combined

**SCAN ME!**





# Kozlowski publishes book to improve understanding of dementia

Council on Aging (COA) has announced that COA's Paulette Kozlowski has published a new book, "Guidance Through the Caregiving Journey — Into the World of Dementia." The book invites readers to step into the extraordinary world of dementia in order to both improve their understanding of the experience of those in their care and improve their caregiving journey.

The book is available for purchase at Amazon, Amazon Kindle and Barnes & Noble retailers.

"I wrote the book to help caregivers realize and feel a part of the adventure they are on — one in which they have the power to make the most of a very challenging journey," Kozlowski explained. "The book emphasizes that they can retrain their brain to turn any negative thoughts into positive feelings and actions in an effort to regain peace and harmony in their lives. It also emphasizes the importance of building a good, strong support system."

Kozlowski is the founder and manager of COA's adult day care center, the Sunshine Center, located in St. Augustine.



Paulette Kozlowski

For more than 20 years, the center has provided therapeutic care for individuals with brain injuries and diseases, including Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.

Kozlowski also directs COA's Commu-

nity Care-Giving program, which provides education and support to caregivers throughout St. Johns County. She has been a leading voice for over 1,000 individuals who selflessly care for their loved ones, teaching caregivers how to "retrain the brain" to see the world through the eyes of one with dementia. Every day, she and her Community Care-Giving team empower caregivers to navigate their life-changing experiences with newfound pride, strength and clarity.

"Since there are so many things to learn, and so many changes that occur, I wanted to write a guidebook that complemented the classes I give and the videos I have made and shared with caregivers," she explained. "I also wrote this book for paid caregivers, volunteers, as well as the family and friends of caregivers who may want to help, but aren't sure if they know how, or are hesitant to try."

A registered nurse, Kozlowski received her undergraduate degree in biology and psychology from Bowling Green State University, her nursing degree from Cleveland Metropolitan General Hospital

School of Nursing, and advanced nursing education at Ursuline College in Ohio.

For more information on COA's extensive programs and services for adults and caregivers in St. Johns County, go to coajc.org or call 904-209-3700.

Let's get social!

"LIKE" US ON facebook

Stay up to date on contests, advertising specials, and real-time news in Ponte Vedra. Our fans get access to exclusive content you can't find anywhere else!



## AN ALL-ACCESS PASS TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS YOU LOVE

Visit [pontevedrarecorder.com](http://pontevedrarecorder.com) today to see what's going on in Ponte Vedra, St. Augustine, The Beaches and Greater St. Johns County



THE RECORDER CLAY TODAY THE LAS CRUCES Bulletin

VISIT OUR FAMILY OF AWARD-WINNING PUBLICATIONS  
[PonteVedraRecorder.com](http://PonteVedraRecorder.com) | [ClayTodayOnline.com](http://ClayTodayOnline.com) | [LasCrucesBulletin.com](http://LasCrucesBulletin.com)





Contributed photo

# Nease student wins first place in Water Works Contest

Quinn Erskine, a senior at Allen D. Nease High School, took first place and the grand prize at the Florida Region II American Water Works Association (AWWA) competition on Monday, Oct. 23, at the University of North Florida.

Erskine, representing Nease, competed against students across Nassau, Duval, Clay, St. Johns and Putnam counties in the 11th Annual Model Water Tower Competition. The competition requires students to use engineering and science skills to design and

build an efficient, yet artistic and unique, water tower. The models are judged on four categories including cost efficiency, hydraulic efficiency, structural efficiency and design ingenuity. Grand prizes were awarded to the top overall models based on the lowest accumulated score in each division.

In addition to winning the overall grand prize, Erskine claimed the Design Ingenuity Award for craftsmanship and artistic merit. His tower had a “Lord of the Rings” theme.

# Goddard School coming to Nocatee

The Goddard School, a nationally acclaimed early childhood education franchise, is set to open its second location in Ponte Vedra in late 2024. It will serve the South Ponte Vedra and Nocatee communities. It will be the fourth location in the Jacksonville area for owner Liz Scott, who presently owns The Goddard School of Ponte Vedra Beach, The Goddard School of Julington Creek and The Goddard School of Baymeadows/Gate Parkway.

The new 15,000-square-foot, early-childhood education center will feature 12 classrooms to care for and educate approximately 240 students. The school will add about 40 teaching jobs to the community.

“We are thrilled to bring The Goddard School to the Nocatee Community, where the demand for high-quality childcare continues to grow,” said Scott. “We look forward to fostering a lifelong love for learning in our students, and we are dedicated to providing a safe and nurturing environment where our little learners will thrive.”

The new school will feature an indoor gymnasium, a STEAM room, an outdoor sports court, an outdoor learning classroom, an outdoor amphitheater and a turf

athletic field alongside multiple playground structures. Additionally, the school will be equipped with hospital-grade sanitization equipment to ensure a healthy environment.

With a focus on exploration, learning and social-emotional growth, The Goddard School uses a play- and inquiry-based approach grounded in the most current, academically endorsed methods in early childhood education.

Children can explore and discover music and art, learn to communicate using sign language and secondary languages and develop problem-solving skills through play. Moreover, Goddard Schools across the country offer Life Lesson Library, Goddard’s proprietary program that features a collection of award-winning best sellers and long-time favorite books designed to help children develop self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision-making skills.

For families interested in learning more about The Goddard School and how to enroll in the new Ponte Vedra (South) location serving the Nocatee community, call 904-643-3312.



## NOMINATIONS BEGIN OCTOBER 6TH

The Recorder presents the *first ever* **Best of the Beaches**, featuring your favorite businesses in Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Atlantic Beach and Ponte Vedra Beach! This includes businesses in zip codes 32250, 32266, 32233, and 32082.

Readers will have the chance to nominate their favorite businesses in various categories online, such as auto & transportation, home & finance, food & drink and more! Online voting will begin once nominations are complete.

Give your favorite business the recognition they deserve, and nominate them as the Best of the Best in their category!

**NOMINATIONS START:**  
October 6th - November 6th

**VOTING STARTS:**  
November 7th - December 7th

**WINNERS ANNOUNCED/  
WINNER'S CIRCE PUBLISHES:**  
December 28th



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

[www.pontevedrarecorder.com/bestofthebeaches](http://www.pontevedrarecorder.com/bestofthebeaches)



# Business Weekly

For MORE business news, go to [facebook.com/ThePVRecorder](https://www.facebook.com/ThePVRecorder)

PAGE 38

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023

FEATURING  
**Real Estate Spotlight**



[www.PonteVedraRecorder.com](http://www.PonteVedraRecorder.com)

GUEST COLUMN

## Tax season surprise? Take steps to reshape your strategies

If tax season resulted in you owing more to the IRS than you expected, you may want to revisit your investment-related tax strategies. Doing so can help put you in a better position and avoid having to face unexpected surprises. These steps can help.

### Review your investment portfolio for tax efficiency

1. Review the location of your investments.

- Do you have investments in taxable accounts that distribute nonqualified dividends or taxable interest?
- Do you have actively managed funds that are generating significant capital gains?
- Could these investments be held in tax-advantaged accounts instead?

2. Evaluate the tax impact of the types of investments you select for your taxable accounts.

- Compare taxable bonds or bond funds with tax-exempt bonds or bond funds. Determine which are better for your situation.
- Work with a financial adviser to identify investments that will distribute



primarily qualified dividends. Qualified dividends are taxed at a lower rate than nonqualified dividends.

- Mutual funds can distribute capital gains at year-end, delivering income that may be difficult to predict. If this is a concern, review other investment options that could offer more control over the recognition of capital gains.

3. Identify any unexpected taxable events that occurred. Determine if they are going to reoccur and think about actions you may want to take to help mitigate that impact.

### Formulate your plan

Your advisers have resources to assist you with your tax strategies. Work with both your tax adviser and your financial adviser to build your overall plan.

First, schedule an appointment with your tax professional to discuss your situation and review your tax projection.

Then, follow up with your financial adviser to evaluate your portfolio strategies and any investment changes that may help reduce your tax bill. If you're nearing retirement, a financial adviser can also make income projections to help you understand the potential tax

implications of your retirement income strategy.

**Wells Fargo & Company and its affiliates do not provide tax or legal advice. This communication cannot be relied upon to avoid tax penalties. Please consult your tax and legal advisors to determine how this information may apply to your own situation. Whether any planned tax result is realized by you depends on the specific facts of your own situation at the time your tax return is filed.**

**This article was written by/for Wells Fargo Advisors and provided courtesy of Jamie Seim, CFP, Senior Vice President – Investment Officer in Ponte Vedra Beach at 904-273-7917.**

### Investment and Insurance Products are:

- **Not Insured by the FDIC or Any Federal Government Agency**
- **Not a Deposit or Other Obligation of, or Guaranteed by, the Bank or Any Bank Affiliate**
- **Subject to Investment Risks, Including Possible Loss of the Principal Amount Invested**

**Wells Fargo Advisors is a trade name used by Wells Fargo Clearing Services, LLC, Member SIPC, a registered broker-dealer and non-bank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company. CAR-0922-04341**



# Patio Furniture

Family Owned & Operated • Immediate Delivery • Wholesale Prices



Choose from **300** Fabrics 1 week delivery

Wicker Aluminum Cast up to 40% off sugg. retail

Lifetime Service!



**Money Back Guarantee**  
If you can find a better value in patio furniture or for any other reason wish to return your furniture, you may do so within 30 days for a full refund.

[www.palmcasual.com](http://www.palmcasual.com) • The #1 manufacturer of patio furniture in Florida since 1979



Contributed photos



An aerial view of 502 Ponte Vedra Blvd.



An exterior view of the back of the property at night.

# Home a seaside sanctuary in Ponte Vedra Beach

By Kelly Whittaker and Megan Hullig

Nestled along the picturesque shores of Ponte Vedra Beach, 502 Ponte Vedra Blvd., stands as a testament to coastal luxury and elegance. This property offers a unique blend of stunning natural beauty, timeless design and an unparalleled lifestyle that's sure to captivate anyone seeking the perfect coastal retreat.

## Location, Location, Location

One of the standout features of 502 Ponte Vedra Blvd. is its prime location. Ponte Vedra Beach, located in Northeast

Florida, is renowned for its upscale, seaside community. It's home to some of the most prestigious golf courses in the nation, including TPC Sawgrass, which hosts THE PLAYERS Championship. The community boasts top-rated schools, a vibrant arts scene and a rich cultural heritage, making it a sought-after destination for those seeking the perfect blend of relaxation and recreation.

## Coastal Elegance

Approaching 502 Ponte Vedra Blvd., you're greeted by a facade that seamlessly melds modern architectural design with the natural splendor of the ocean. Inside, the residence showcases more

than 6,000 square feet of meticulously designed living space. The open-concept living area is adorned with high ceilings, designer lighting and floor-to-ceiling windows that bathe the space in natural light. The gourmet kitchen features top-of-the-line appliances, custom cabinetry and an expansive island — a dream for any culinary enthusiast.

## An Oasis of Amenities

Step outside, and you'll discover an oasis of amenities. An infinity pool blends seamlessly with the horizon, offering a serene spot to bask in the Florida sun. Lush landscaping surrounds the pool area, creating a private and tranquil atmosphere. Immediately across

the street, direct beach access beckons for water sports and leisurely strolls along the shore.

## The Ultimate Coastal Retreat

In summary, 502 Ponte Vedra Blvd. isn't just a residence; it's a lifestyle. This beachside masterpiece offers luxurious living spaces, resort-inspired amenities and an unbeatable location. Whether you're looking for a full-time residence or a vacation escape, this property embodies the essence of Florida's coastal living.

To experience 502 Ponte Vedra Blvd. firsthand, schedule a private viewing by contacting Kelly Whittaker (904) 233-1991 or Megan Hullig (813) 712-9530.

# Ability Housing outlines plan to support affordability in rental market

Ability Housing, a nonprofit developer of affordable housing in communities across Florida, has announced the completion of a three-year strategic plan.

The plan was approved by Ability Housing's Board of Directors on July 18. It is currently in effect and will guide the organization's work through December 2026. The plan identifies two overarching goals:

- Ensure sustainable resources and community engagement for the fulfillment of Ability Housing's mission (to build flourishing communities where everyone has a home)
- Elevate workforce and operational capacity for optimal performance

The completion of this plan coincides with a housing crisis across Florida, in which families earning at, or below, the Area Median Income (AMI) must shoulder rising rent costs alongside other cost-of-living increases.

According to data from the National Low Income Housing Coalition, Florida's rental market can adequately serve only one-third of households earning 50% or less of the AMI, with 33 afford-

able and available units available for every 100 households. That number drops below one-in-four households earning 30% AMI or lower, with 23 affordable and available rental units for every 100 households.

"Housing is the foundation of a fulfilled life, but for too many Floridians, housing comes at a steep cost," said Shannon Nazworth, president and CEO of Ability Housing. "This strategic plan is centered around the conviction that everyone should have a safe, affordable home in a thriving community, and that investing in our organizational capacity will sustain our work at the highest level."

The strategic plan's goals are supported by four objectives:

- Manageable housing and services growth: Ability Housing will continue to increase its portfolio through the creation of safe, affordable housing and the provision of resident-focused services that empower tenants to improve their physical, financial, mental and social health. The organization will execute on a service delivery model that prioritizes

evidence-based and best practices.

- Cause advocacy and impact communication: Ability Housing will expand

its commitment to policy and systems

HOUSING continues on Page 40

## SOLD IN SAWGRASS



3253 Old Barn Rd.



656 Summer Place



Janet Westling,  
REALTOR®  
904.813.1913 Cell  
www.janetwestling.com



"As a recent 2022 Chairmans Circle Gold Award recipient, representing the top 2%, I am committed to providing cutting edge marketing strategies, savvy negotiations and uncompromising integrity as the hallmark of my service."  
- Janet Westling



©2023 BHH Affiliates, LLC. An independently operated subsidiary of HomeServices of America, Inc., a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate, and a franchisee of BHH Affiliates, LLC. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices and the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices symbol are registered service marks of Columbia Insurance Company, a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate. Equal Housing Opportunity. Information not verified or guaranteed. If your home is currently listed with a Broker, this is not intended as a solicitation.





# Realtor Builder Tradeshow goes wild with circus theme

The 2023 Realtor Builder Tradeshow had a circus theme to this year's event, featuring "The Greatest Homes on Earth," which was held at the University of North Florida's Adam Herbert University Center on Oct. 6. The event was presented by NEFAR and NEFBA.

Photos by Susan Griffin



## Housing

Continued from 39

change by implementing a "champions strategy," aimed at strengthening advocacy and impact communication to a variety of stakeholders — including

residents, donors, community partners, government officials and the growing population of concerned Floridians eager to address the state's housing shortage. Through this program, Ability Housing will engage a network of advocates to join conversations about housing policies at the local, state and federal levels.

- Revenue and resource optimization: In order to build or renovate additional housing, Ability Housing must grow assets while maintaining financial stability through a multi-tiered approach. The plan focuses on diversifying and expanding capital funding, increasing operating revenue through fundraising and earned revenue and expanding services that contribute to the organization's financial health.

- Workforce and operations investment: Behind every effective organization is a team of professionals with the skills, experience and drive to fulfill its mission. In order to attract and retain talent in a competitive labor market, Ability Housing plans to invest in the organization's capability and operational sustainability. This process will include assessments of current staffing and compensation models; recruitment, hiring and onboarding processes; staff training and development opportunities; succession planning for critical agency positions; and an annual board performance evaluation.

"The way we address Florida's housing crisis signifies who and what our society values most," said Michael Griffin, chair of the board of Ability Housing and senior vice president of Advocacy and Public Policy for AdventHealth. "Ability Housing is committed to easing the burden faced by too many Florida families who are struggling to find a home they can afford. Together with our full board of directors, I am proud to share this strategic plan. The goals we have set are ambitious, but achievable."

Ability Housing is a Florida nonprofit organization that develops housing, setting a standard of excellence in the field of affordable and supportive housing. It focuses on meeting the needs of people experiencing or at risk of homelessness and adults with a disability. Its housing is linked with wrap-around services so all residents have a network of support.

For more information, go to AbilityHousing.org, like the organization on Facebook (facebook.com/AbilityHousing) and follow on Twitter (@AbilityHousing).

Looking For A First Coast Specialist?

## MEET DENA KLEINER

- 2022 TOP PRODUCER FOR TRANSACTION VOLUME
- THE SIGNATURE REAL ESTATE COMPANIES
- TEAM LEADER FOR NORTHEAST FLORIDA
- SPECIALIZING IN THE FIRST COAST AREA

**DENA KLEINER**  
CO-BROKER  
908-872-8224  
DENA@SIGNATUREFIRSTCOAST.COM  
WWW.DENASIGNATUREFIRSTCOAST.COM

**CERTIFIED NOCATEE**  
PONTE VEDRA • FLORIDA  
2023 AGENT

**Signature FIRST COAST REALTY**

JACKSONVILLE • PONTE VEDRA • NOCATEE • ST AUGUSTINE

SIGNATURE FIRST COAST REALTY, 11100 PONTA VEDRA BLVD., SUITE 100 • PONTE VEDRA, FL 32081





Contributed photos

The Moonlight Market will return Nov. 11 to uptown St. Augustine.

# Moonlight Market returns Nov. 11 to uptown St. Augustine

The Moonlight Market is returning for its third year with the most sought-after local makers selling one-of-a-kind handcrafted wares.

Presented by Jenna Alexander Studio and Sunday, Moonlight Market will be held from 5 to 9 p.m. Nov. 11 at 73 San Marco Ave.

The evening market celebrates local artists by providing a atmosphere where they can connect with shoppers looking for a unique and curated experience. Artisan

products include small-batch honey, candles, silver jewelry with precious minerals and rocks, retro décor and up-cycled goods, to name a few. Twinkle lights and paper lanterns will sparkle above while DJ Zach Engh spins mood music, patrons nosh on food and drink offerings from Sunday and Alexander releases her new 2024 calendar.

“I love the energy of this market,” said Alexander. “The weather has just turned a bit crisp, we’ve got amazing food and music, the courtyard is buzzing with activity

— it’s the perfect place for makers to find the people who appreciate what they create. As an artist myself, it can be hard to battle the big-box mentality, where everyone has the same everything. This is a space where the community can find unique, curated pieces they won’t see anywhere else.”

The market will feature more than 30 local vendors, including NouNou Moderne, Tintype, Wild Bloom Candle Company, Bluebird Growers, Bee Hill Farms & Blooms and more. Sunday’s homemade

larger staples like sourdough loaves, preserves and pickles will be available for purchase.

“We’re so proud of how this event has grown each year,” said Misty Lake, owner of Sunday. “We’ve gone from 24 vendors last year to over 30 this year, which is just fantastic! The more we can share these amazing small businesses with our community, the better. It’s so great to see them come out and support our local artists and creators.”

PONTE VEDRA CLUB REALTY

## FEATURED PROPERTIES

832 SPINNAKERS REACH DR. | PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FL  
\$1,895,000 | LISTED BY STEVE MARTINEZ

625 PONTE VEDRA BLVD. #625A | PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FL  
\$2,250,000 | LISTED BY SHERRI DAWSON

### OCEANFRONT CONDOS

3 BEDROOMS | 3.5 BATHS | 2,945 SQ. FT.

3 BEDROOMS | 3.5 BATHS | 2,207 SQ. FT.

Preferred Membership Initiation fee pricing for the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, The Lodge & Club, Epping Forest Yacht & Country Club and The River Club is available exclusively through Ponte Vedra Club Realty. Call us today to see how to take advantage of this offer.

280 PONTE VEDRA BOULEVARD | 904.285.6927 | RSALES@PVRESORTS.COM | PVCLUBREALTY.COM







Georgia Pinner of the Jacksonville Women's Business Center speaks to an attendee.



A panel discussion provided lots of useful information. Pictured from left: Scott Maynard, Natalie Hall, Marge Cirillo, Georgia Pinner and Dereck Smith.



Dereck Smith tells an attendee about SCORE. Photos by Shaun Ryan

# Event offers prospective small business owners useful information

By Shaun Ryan

The St. Johns County Public Library System hosted a Small Business Development Day Resource Fair on Monday, Oct. 23, at the Ponte Vedra library. The event included a panel discussion with business leaders and an informational fair that supported small businesses and entrepreneurs and helped attendees find answers about the process of launching their own businesses.

The event represented a partnership between St. Johns County Economic Development, the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, the Small Business Development Center at the University of North

Florida, CareerSource Northeast Florida, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), SCORE and the Jacksonville Women's Business Center.

It was made possible with the support of the Friends of the Library Ponte Vedra Beach Branch.

Marge Cirillo, consultant with the Small Business Development Center, said she wanted attendees to know about all the resources available to them. Anyone with questions can reach her at 904-209-1295.

Natalie Hall, economic development specialist and veteran business representative for SBA, explained that the organization offers a loan program, contracting

opportunities, disaster assistance and counseling and acts as an advocate for small business owners. She can be reached at 904-443-1902.

Derrick Smith, chapter chairperson for SCORE, said his organization serves people thinking about going into business to those already operating a business. Interested people can learn more at [score.org/Jacksonville](http://score.org/Jacksonville) or by calling 904-443-1911.

Georgia Pinner, programs manager at the Jacksonville Women's Business Center, was present to raise awareness about how her organization helps small business owners and entrepreneurs. Learn more at [jaxwbc.com](http://jaxwbc.com).

Scott Maynard, vice president economic development for the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, said 80% of the Chamber's members are small businesses.

"They are really the backbone of St. Johns County," he said.

The Chamber has a resource guide useful for anyone looking to start a business. Learn more at: [sjcchamber.com](http://sjcchamber.com).

In addition, the library system offers a diverse database suite that can assist in developing skills in business ownership and leadership, strategic planning and management, finance and taxes, market research and data and more. Go to [sjcpls.org/econtent/small-business-resources](http://sjcpls.org/econtent/small-business-resources).

# Recruiting specialist offers job market insights

By Shaun Ryan

In its latest jobs report, released Oct. 6, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics found that total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 336,000 in September, and the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.8%, bucking predictions of a slowdown.

In fact, this is above the average monthly gain of 267,000 over the prior 12 months.

In Jacksonville, the unemployment rate stands at 3%, a change of 0.2% from a year ago, in what continues to be an employee's market.

That said, Q3 has been uncharacteristically slower than usual for hiring at supervisory levels, at least in the local market.

"The third quarter has been a little slower than the past 20 years that I've been recruiting," said Sonia Postema, owner of the Patrice & Associates franchise for this region. The firm handles recruitment for positions considered to be supervisory and above, rather than hourly jobs.

Typically, Q4 and Q1 are slower for recruitment. The former falls during onset of the holidays when potential hires are busy and employers are solidifying their

budgets for the coming year. At the same time, Q1 occurs at a time when businesses are assessing the previous year and potential hires are waiting for bonuses to be paid out before making a change.

So, Q2 and Q3 tend to be busier hiring seasons, though for the individual worker, that could depend on the sector in which he or she is working. That's why slower recruitment for the past quarter has been a bit of a surprise.

Postema, who previously worked in human resources, shared some valuable tips for both job applicants and employers.

For those seeking to move up one day, she suggested getting to know the desired position and honing one's skillset to qualify for that position.

"One of the mistakes that many people make, no matter where they are in their career, is they apply for jobs that they're not really qualified for," she said.

Whether it's an internal promotion or an external move, Postema said, "Educate yourself."

"You know how they always say, 'Dress for the job you want?'" she said. "Well, I would say, 'Learn for the job that you want.'"

Likewise, it's important to do some research before going into an interview.

"(Interviewees) need to know about the company enough to speak intelligently about it," Postema said. "They need to look at the job description and write out bullet points that reflect the job description."

These points should address whatever the employer says it expects of the employee.

"That way, when you're in the interview, you don't have to draw a blank," Postema said. "You're not trying to figure out these answers while you're interviewing."

And she said it's perfectly OK to bring a pen and pad to the interview.

She also recommends applicants have at least three or four questions they can ask the company.

For employers, Postema has some suggestions, as well.

"The employers that I like to work with are those who are transparent about their company and their interviewing process," she said. "If you know that the process is going to take four weeks and involves six interviews and two assessments, tell

people that up front."

Make sure applicants understand what they are committing to and what the culture is like at the company.

These interviews are just as much an opportunity for applicants to judge their fit as it is the company's.

Patrice & Associates began as a hospitality recruiting company but has grown to about 125 franchisees working in a variety of different fields. Postema said she works predominantly with construction, manufacturing, technology, education and hospitality, but she can work with other franchisees with strengths in other fields.

"We really search high and low for A-plus candidates," she said. "And we have stringent requirements with our candidates to make sure that we're presenting the highest quality to our employers."

All of her fees are paid by her clients, some who contact her and others she seeks out herself. Thus, she doesn't charge job candidates who are seeking help with their resumes or the hiring process, though she doesn't actually place them.

For more information about Patrice & Associates, go to [patriceandassociates.com](http://patriceandassociates.com).



# In the Arts



Send your arts news to [news@pontevedrarecorder.com](mailto:news@pontevedrarecorder.com)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023 · PAGE 43

[www.PonteVedraRecorder.com](http://www.PonteVedraRecorder.com)

## Photographer's exhibit focuses on Lincolnville

Flagler College and the Crisp-Ellert Art Museum have announced St. Augustine-based photographer Lenny Foster's upcoming exhibition, "In the Spirit of Lincolnville," which will include a selection of the artist's photographs that celebrate the history and culture of St. Augustine's Historic Black neighborhood, Lincolnville.

Foster will give a walkthrough of the exhibition at 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 3, in the Crisp-Ellert Art Museum, 48 Sevilla St. in downtown St. Augustine, followed by an opening reception until 8 p.m., in conjunction with First Friday Art Walk. This event is free and open to the public.

The exhibition will be on display Oct. 30

to Dec. 2.

Over the last several years, Foster's engagement with Black historical sites in St. Augustine, as well as members of the Black community, have formed the basis for several growing bodies of work.

His research is evident in the series "Where We Stand," "Porch Portraits" and "Where Dreams Became Memories," the content of which touches on topics from Spain's colonization of the area in the 16th century to the establishment of Fort Mose in 1738, the first legally sanctioned free Black town in the present-day United States, to more common sites that mark significance in the long history of Lincolnville.

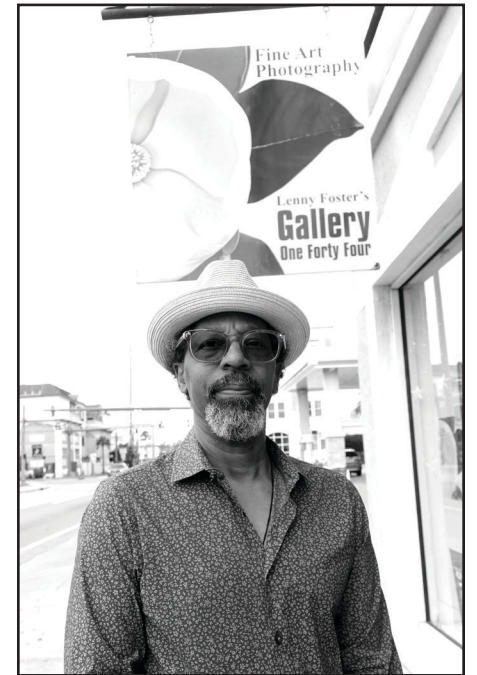
The bodies of work he has produced have not only informed an understanding of his own African-American heritage but have expanded his understanding of the resilience and vibrancy of St. Augustine's longstanding Black community, from the colonial period through Jim Crow and Civil Rights up until the present day.

Paying homage to this community, the artist calls attention to the people, architecture and notable events that transpired along the streets of Lincolnville. Founded in 1866 by formerly enslaved people, the township has long been a prominent historically Black neighborhood. "Where Dreams Became Memories" features structures of architectural importance to the area, and "Where We Stand" marks sites where significant events have occurred. While "Porch Portraits" include photographs of

long time Black residents of Lincolnville, each of whom have experienced our rapidly changing city over the past half-century. The works included in this exhibition are part legacy and part preservation and reflect Foster's vested interest in preserving the lives and legacy of Lincolnville.

Foster is a photographer who has owned and operated a gallery in both Taos, New Mexico, and St. Augustine since 1998. The artist has exhibited at venues throughout the U.S., including The Harwood Museum of Art, Taos Art Museum, Albuquerque Museum and the Hubbard Museum of the American West. His work is a part of the permanent collections of The Harwood Museum, The Millicent Rogers Museum, The Muhammed Ali Center in Louisville, Kentucky, and The Ross Museum at Ohio Wesleyan University, The Snite Museum at The University of Notre Dame and most recently at The Lincolnville Museum and Cultural center in St. Augustine.

He lives and works in St. Augustine.



Courtesy of Florida Humanities and photo by Matthew Bane

Photographer Lenny Foster



Photos by Lenny Foster

Miss Barbara 2023. Pigment print on rag paper



Nighttime Church 2017. Pigment print on rag paper



**REGISTER FOR ART PROGRAMS WITH  
FIRST COAST CULTURAL CENTER!**

**The Land and The Sea: Acrylic  
Painting 11/17 - 11/18**

Artwork by  
Charlotte Chastain





*Big, Bold, Blonde!*  
SEPT. 28 - NOV. 5



**COMING SOON**

**Miracle On 34th Street**  
NOV. 16 - DEC. 24



**ALHAMBRA**  
THEATRE & DINING

**BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW**  
904-641-1212 | [alhambrajax.com](http://alhambrajax.com)



# Sports



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023 · PAGE 44

Send your sports news to  
news@pontevedrarecorder.com

For LIVE Sports and updates,  
follow our Twitter, @PVR\_sports

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com



The Ponte Vedra Sharks defeated Fleming Island to win their 13th consecutive district title on Oct. 19.



Haydin Froehlich (No. 10) and Chelsea Sutton (No. 14) play defense at the net.

Photos by Anthony Richards

## A baker's dozen of district titles for Sharks volleyball

By Anthony Richards

Make it 13 straight years that the Ponte Vedra Sharks have won a district title, but it was not won without a fight as they defeated the Fleming Island Golden Eagles in four sets, 25-21, 25-19, 23-25, 28-26.

"It's just crazy and exciting that I get to be here and part of a program that has been doing it for so long," Ponte Vedra senior outside hitter Ava Grall said. "I'm grateful for that opportunity."

Every one of the four sets saw both teams going back and forth trading momentum, as it turned out to be a very evenly matched contest between the two squads.

"There was a lot of energy by both teams and great full stands of support all night," Ponte Vedra head coach John Goings said. "It was one fun night."

The largest lead of the district 3-6A championship for either team was six points, after the Sharks (13-13) jumped out to an 8-2 lead early in the third set.

That came after the Sharks were able to string together some points late to pull away in the first two sets to take a 2-0 lead.

And it looked as if the Sharks were poised to take complete control when they quickly formed a lead in the third set, but the Golden Eagles (19-7) were having none of it and chipped away at the deficit and eventually grabbed the lead before seemingly trading points before securing the set victory in the end.

The win pumped life into the Golden Eagles, who received key offensive play by senior middle Rauly Eason and junior outside hitter Kaylee Kirkland during their comeback bid.

However, just as the Golden Eagles showed the mental toughness to narrow the gap, the Sharks responded nicely from the adversity they faced as well and did not let the third set loss rattle them.

Instead, the Sharks regrouped and were able to fend off the Golden Eagles in a relentless fourth set by both

teams.

It was obvious at times that a district title was on the line with the way both teams were hitting the floor diving for balls in order to keep rallies going and keep hope alive for every possible point, and in the end, those points added up and the result was yet another title for the Sharks trophy case.

It has been a year of continued development for the Sharks, as they have a very young team with several players who are just beginning to make their mark at the varsity level.

"This year it was more about making sure that they grew as a team," Goings said. "They've really been holding each other accountable the whole time, and they really support each other. I don't even have to say that much during timeouts because they already know."

Helping create that culture of accountability has been the leadership of the team's three seniors.

"I looked up to our seniors so much last year, and this year I've realized that I could be that for others,"

Grall said. "I've really tried to step into that leadership role to help the team."

Every Sharks' player got into the game at some point on the night, including some that had been called up to the varsity squad from junior varsity during the season.

According to Goings, the development of the young players throughout the regular season is something that is really showing up and making a difference in the postseason.

"They know that they can come in and battle for every spot at practice, and that's what pushes them to be better," Goings said.

The veteran leaders provided big production as Grall finished with a team-high 22 kills in the game, while fellow senior Chelsea Sutton led the way with five blocks and her sister Morgan Sutton was right behind her with four blocks on the night.

Sophomore libero Avery Webb led the way with 24 digs in the title bout.



Ava Grall finished with 22 kills in the game.



Avery Webb had a team-high 24 digs.



Photos by Anthony Richards



The bye week came at an ideal time as the Panthers look to have several key defensive players back from injury.



Ben Burk has orchestrated an explosive offensive attack this season for the Sharks.

## Showdown

Continued from 1

versus strength in so many areas and matchups.

Ponte Vedra's defense has been making waves this season and are coming off of their third shutout on the year, following a 35-0 route of Orange Park last week.

It is their combination of athleticism and discipline that makes them so unique and frustrating to go up against and they have playmakers at every level, from Robbie Grieco and Cortez Juarbe providing pressure along the defensive line to the Babin brothers of Maddux and Talan flying to the ball in the linebacking corps and Joe Mahoney and Zac Martus roaming in the secondary.

However, the Panthers appear up to the test of solving the Sharks' defense that looks nearly impenetrable at times, as they have found their own rhythm in recent weeks and the confidence of

Bryce Frick continues to grow with each week since he took over as the team's starting quarterback.

Frick is also surrounded by a bevy of playmakers, including a one-two threat in the backfield with Cam Smith and K.J. Perry, who has seen his role increase drastically the past couple of weeks.

These two backs along with a talented group of receivers, led by Maddox Spencer, who recently passed 1,000 yards receiving on the season present an interesting test for both sides.

One of the key matchups when the Panthers have the ball will be when two of the state's best in Spencer and Mahoney get matched up with each other.

Mahoney has locked down elite receiving prospects on several occasions this year, but Spencer has a knack for finding the holes in a defense and is almost guaranteed to get his share of yards each contest.

A difference heading into this matchup compared to the last couple of years is the play of the Sharks' offense, which

has taken the next step forward this year and has been a high-flying unit, scoring more than 30 points in their past six games during their seven-game winning streak.

And the points have come in a variety of ways, which makes defending them even more complicated.

There have been games where the Sharks have won by pounding the ball with Brian Case, who is averaging just shy of 100 yards per game, but the biggest change this season has been the passing game and the play of senior quarterback Ben Burk.

Burk has thrown for 1,336 yards and 16 touchdowns this season, many of those coming on deep shots down the field, as the Sharks like to take advantage of speedy receivers Cole Madson, Ryan Smith and Griffin Owen.

The development of Burk has allowed the entire offense to shine, and it is not just his throwing, but also Burk's ability to scan the field and find the open man, which has led to the involvement of so many receiving threats,

including a career year for junior tight end Landon Okla, who leads the team with five touchdown catches.

However, the Panthers can counter with an excellent defense of their own and one that has seen vast and continued development from one season ago.

Creating turnovers is the name of the game for the Panthers, whose ball-hawking style could prove the difference against the Sharks.

As is the case in so many contests, the team that wins the turnover battle usually has the best shot of winning the game.

The Panthers had a bye prior to the rivalry meeting, which could not have come at a better time because the Panthers have been dealing with several injuries, especially on the defensive side of the ball.

Turnovers are a realistic possibility on any drive with Careal Carter and Cade Papineau lurking in the secondary and Jacob Curry flying around popping pads left and right.

we make it easy!

(904) 370-1300

OUT WITH THE OLD  
IN WITH THE NEW

Honda OF THE AVENUES HondaOfTheAvenues.com HONDA



# Ponte Veda CLASSIFIEDS

## CLASSIFIED RATES 2023

All Line Ads are 4 lines,  
20 to 25 Characters Per Line.

\*Additional Lines Can be Purchased  
\*All Rates Are NET

Message to Advertisers:  
All ads are non-refundable. Please check your ad copy for the first week of publication. We will only apply credit for the first run and credits are subject to approval by the Publisher. If ad is cancelled prior to first insertion, cancellation must be made by the classified deadline of Wednesday by 3pm. Ads must comply with Federal, State or local laws. We are not responsible for ad content. Ads are subject to approval by the Publisher.

**Private Party Line Rates**

- \$14.00 1 week • \$23.00 2 weeks
- \$31.00 3 weeks • \$37.50 4 weeks

Add lines \$2.15 each  
(Couches, TV's, Beds, Household Items, Etc.)

**Commercial Line Rates**

- \$22.50 1 week • \$39.00 2 weeks
- \$55.50 3 weeks • \$70.00 4 weeks

Add lines \$2.15 each  
(Animals, Cars, Renting or Selling a Home or to Advertise Your Business or Services)

**Employment Spotlight/Real Estate**

- 1x2 (2"x2") \$40.50/1 wk • \$70.00/2 wks. • \$100/3 wks.
- 1x3 (2"x3") \$61.50/1 wk. • \$112.00/2 wks. • \$150.00/3 wks.
- 2x2 (4"x2") \$82.00/1 wk. • \$153.00/2 wks. • \$200.00/3 wks.
- 2x3 (4"x3") \$123.00/1 wk. • \$225/2 wks. • \$300/3 wks.

**Business & Worship Directory**

- 1.5 x 2 \$55.00/month
- 1.5 x 4 \$96.52/month
- 1.5 x 6 \$149.52/month

Rate Guide for: The Recorder



www.pontevedrarecorder.com

CLASSIFIED LINER DEADLINE  
**MONDAY NOON**

CALL APRIL SNYDER  
**904-285-8831 ext. 1204**

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY DEADLINE  
**FRIDAY 5PM**

RECORDER FAX #  
**904-285-7232**

# Worship

## DIRECTORY

To advertise in the Worship Directory  
call April at **904-285-8831**



**Lord of Life  
Lutheran Church**

Offering PVB's largest pumpkin patch  
starting October 8th - 31st.  
Now in its 24th year!

And join us for service any Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

276 N. Roscoe Blvd., Ponte Veda Beach  
(904) 285-5347 | www.LordofLifePVB.org

Travel	Other
<p><b>DISCOUNT AIR TRAVEL.</b> Call Flight Services for best pricing on domestic &amp; international flights inside and from the US. Serving United, Delta, American &amp; Southwest and many more airlines. Call for free quote now! Have travel dates ready! 866-245-7709</p>	<p><b>DONATE YOUR VEHICLE</b> to fund the <b>SEARCH FOR MISSING CHILDREN.</b> FAST FREE PICKUP. 24 hour response. Running or not. Maximum Tax Deduction and No Emission Test Required! Call 24/7: 866-471-2576</p>

**Thinking of Advertising in the Recorder?**  
For more information call (904) 285-8831 to speak with a Sales Rep. today!

## Christmas Special \$125!



**Book now!**

**Includes  
photo session &  
10 digital photos**


**904-400-2547**

**PoochiePoandYou.com  
Christopher Stone Photography**

## PROTECT

WHAT MATTERS MOST

Whether you are home or away, protect what matters most from unexpected power outages with a Generac Home Standby Generator.




FREE

7-Year Extended Warranty\*  
A \$735 Value!

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE  
CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE  
(866) 643-0438



Jacuzzi BATH REMODEL

YOUR BATHROOM.  
YOUR WAY.  
IN AS LITTLE AS

## ONE DAY

CALL NOW  
866.753.9521

SPECIAL OFFER

Waiving All  
Installation  
Costs\*

\*Add'l terms apply. Offer subject to change and vary by dealer. Ends 12/31/23.



# LOUD, CLEAR, FREE!



XLCGo Amplifies up to 50 dB

Bluetooth

Amplify cell phone calls, at home & on the go!

Clarity XLC8 Cordless 50 dB Amplified Phone with Slow Talk, Caller ID, and Answering Machine

**Easy to Qualify:**

- Florida Resident
- Over the age of 3
- Have a Hearing Loss or Speech Disorder

Apply Online:  
[www.ftri.org/free](http://www.ftri.org/free)

Or Call:  
**888-497-1410**

"Really? After years of paying Medicare taxes, I'm supposed to figure this out myself?"



Get in-person help you earned.

## FREE In-Person Medicare Advantage Help

Call Now (850) 332-7794 (TTY 711)

Monday thru Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. EST | Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. EST

100Insure is not endorsed by the government of the United States, the government of any state, the federal Medicare program, or the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Medicare has neither reviewed nor endorsed the information available on this site or information otherwise provided to you by 100Insure. The purpose of this communication is the solicitation of insurance. Your information will be provided to a licensed agent for future contact. Complete this form to file a complaint about your Medicare health or drug plan: <https://www.medicare.gov/my/medicare-complaint>



Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc.

888-497-1410

[www.ftri.org](http://www.ftri.org)



**Medical**

**ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS!** Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. **Call 844-958-2473.**

**Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS!** A cheaper alternative to high drug store prices! 50 Pill Special-Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. **CALL NOW: 866-259-6816**

**Home Improvements**

**BATH & SHOWER UPDATES** in as little as **ONE DAY!** Affordable prices - **No payments for 18 months!** Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. **Call: 888-460-2264**

**PROTECT YOUR HOME** from pests safely and affordably. Pest, rodent, termite and mosquito control. Call for a quote or inspection today **888-498-0446**

Leading smart home provider **Vivint Smart Home** has an offer just for you. Call **833-303-0851** to get a professionally installed home security system with \$0 activation.

**NEED NEW FLOORING? Call Empire Today®** to schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. **Call Today! 855-919-2509**



**Home Improvements**

**ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS!** If you have water damage to your home and need cleanup services, call us! We'll get in and work with your insurance agency to get your home repaired and your life back to normal **ASAP! Call 877-712-2609**

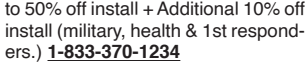
**Ageing Roof? New Homeowner? Got Storm Damage?** You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. **Call 1-888-878-9091**

**Water damage cleanup & restoration:** A small amount of water can lead to major damage and mold growth in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! **Call 24/7: 1-888-872-2809**

**UPDATE YOUR HOME** with Beautiful New Blinds & Shades. FREE in-home estimates make it convenient to shop from home. Professional installation. Top quality - Made in the USA. **Call for free consultation: 866-636-1910.** Ask about our specials!

**Miscellaneous**

Replace your roof w/the best looking & longest lasting material steel from **Erie Metal Roofs!** 3 styles & multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off install + Additional 10% off install (military, health & 1st responders.) **1-833-370-1234**



**Miscellaneous**

**Are you a pet owner?** Do you want to get up to 100% back on vet bills? Physicians Mutual Insurance Company has pet coverage that can help! Call **1-844-774-0206** to get a free quote or visit [insurebarkmeow.com/ads](http://insurebarkmeow.com/ads)

**Diagnosed with lung cancer & 65+?** You may qualify for a substantial cash award. No obligation! We've recovered millions. Let us help! Call 24/7 **1-877-707-5707**

**Jacuzzi Bath Remodel** can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. Limited time, we're waiving all installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 12/31/23 **Call 1-844-501-3208**

**Wesley Financial Group, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts** Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt & fees cancelled in 2019. Get free info package & learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. **833-308-1971**

**DIRECTV Stream - Carries the most local MLB Games!** Choice Package \$89.99/mo for 12 mos Stream on 20 devices at once. HBO Max included for 3 mos (w/Choice Package or higher.) No contract or hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. **Call IVS 1-866-859-0405**



**CROSSWORD**

	1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	
9					10		11			12
13					14		15			
16				17			18			
19			20		21				22	
	23			24		25			26	
		27			28		29		30	
			31			32		33		
		34				35		36		37
	38				39		40		41	
43					44			45		46
48			49	50				51		52
53						54			55	
56							57			
	58							59		

- ACROSS**
- Male children
  - Midway between north and northwest
  - Robert Wagner series "Hart to ..."
  - It becomes something bigger
  - German courtesy title
  - Genus of birds
  - Marked by public disorder
  - Least aggressive
  - Russian city
  - Insect repellent
  - Interruptions
  - Scoundrels
  - 1,000 calories
  - What one does overnight
  - Dwarf planet
  - Pipe
  - Black powdery substance
  - Set of four
  - Canned fishes
  - North Carolina college
  - Secured
  - A disgraceful event
  - Physical suffering
  - The home of the free
  - Some are boys
  - Satisfy
  - Makes very happy
  - South American plants
  - Modes of transportation
  - Female sheep
  - Type of torch
  - Piece of merchandise
  - Jump over
  - Wife of Amun

**SUDOKU**

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

Level: Intermediate

**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!

- DOWN**
- Ringlet
  - Type of complex

**To inquire about placing an ad in this section, call 579-2154**

**Home Improvement**

- Aging Roof? New Homeowner? Got Storm Damage? You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-888-878-9091
- Water damage cleanup & restoration: A small amount of water can lead to major damage and mold growth in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-888-872-2809

**Health & Fitness**

- VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! 50 Generic Pills SPECIAL \$99.00. 100% guaranteed. 24/7 CALL NOW! 888-445-5928 Hablamos Español
- Dental Insurance- Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Covers 350 procedures. Real insurance- not a discount plan. Get your free dental info kit! 1-855-526-1060 [#6258](http://www.dental50plus.com/ads)
- Attention oxygen therapy users! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. Free info kit. Call 877-929-9587

**Miscellaneous**

- Prepare for power outages today with a GENERAC home standby generator \$0 Down + Low Monthly Pmt Request a free Quote. Call before the next power outage: 1-855-948-6176
- Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule free LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-833-610-1936
- BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices- No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 855-761-1725
- Donate Your Car to Veterans Today! Help and Support our Veterans. Fast- FREE pick up. 100% tax deductible. Call 1-800-245-0398
- HughesNet- Finally, super-fast internet no matter where you live. 25 Mbps just \$59.99/mo! Unlimited Data is Here. Stream Video. Bundle TV & Internet. Free Installation. Call 866-499-0141
- Become a published author. We want to read your book! Dorrance Publishing trusted since 1920. Consultation, production, promotion & distribution. Call for free author's guide 1-877-729-4998 or visit [dorranceinfo.com/ads](http://dorranceinfo.com/ads)

- DISH TV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Promo Expires 1/31/24. 1-866-479-1516
- Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-in tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our free shower package & \$1600 off- limited time! Financing available. 1-855-417-1306
- MobileHelp, America's premier mobile medical alert system. Whether you're home or away. For safety & peace of mind. No long term contracts! Free brochure! 1-888-489-3936
- Free high speed internet if qualified. Govt. pgm for recipients of select pgms incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet. Android tablet free w/ one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping. Call Maxsip Telecom! 1-833-758-3892
- Wesley Financial Group, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt & fees cancelled in 2019. Get free info package & learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. 833-308-1971
- Stream- Carries the most local MLB Games! Choice Package \$89.99/mo for 12 mos Stream on 20 devices at once. HBO Max included for 3 mos (w/Choice Package or higher.) No contract or hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. Call IVS 1-866-859-0405
- Are you a pet owner? Do you want to get up to 100% back on vet bills? Physicians Mutual Insurance Company has pet coverage that can help! Call 1-844-774-0206 to get a free quote or visit [insurebarkmeow.com/ads](http://insurebarkmeow.com/ads)
- Diagnosed with lung cancer & 65+? You may qualify for a substantial cash award. No obligation! We've recovered millions. Let us help! Call 24/7 1-877-707-5707
- Replace your roof w/the best looking & longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! 3 styles & multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off install + Additional 10% off install (military, health & 1st responders.) 1-833-370-1234
- Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. Limited time, we're waiving all installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 12/31/23 Call 1-844-501-3208

**REACH 20 MILLION HOMES NATIONWIDE WITH ONE BUY!**



**RANDY MARION**

**DRIVE HOME IN THE CADILLAC OF YOUR DREAMS TODAY**

**2024 LYRIQ**  
3 IN-STOCK | 6 IN-TRANSIT

**2023 ESCALADE & ESV**  
3 IN-STOCK | 8 IN-TRANSIT  
INCLUDING AN ESCALADE V

**PRE-OWNED INVENTORY - READY TO DRIVE OFF THE LOT!**

VIEW MORE PRE-OWNED INVENTORY AT [RANDYMARIONCADILLACOFJACKSONVILLE.COM](http://RANDYMARIONCADILLACOFJACKSONVILLE.COM)

<p>2013 LEXUS ES 350</p> <p>SALE PRICE <b>\$13,988</b> 143,474 MILES   STOCK# D2037906</p>	<p>2017 CADILLAC XT5</p> <p>SALE PRICE <b>\$22,488</b> 61,665 MILES   STOCK# HZ247112</p>	<p>2017 CADILLAC XT5</p> <p>SALE PRICE <b>\$16,988</b> 117,883 MILES   STOCK# HZ104694</p>	<p>2021 CADILLAC XT4</p> <p>SALE PRICE <b>\$34,180</b> 4,431 MILES   STOCK# MF012429</p>	<p>2022 CHEVROLET CORVETTE STINGRAY</p> <p>SALE PRICE <b>\$80,220</b> 8,815 MILES   STOCK# N5119235</p>
<p>2020 CADILLAC XT4</p> <p>SALE PRICE <b>\$31,680</b> 26,679 MILES   STOCK# LF143599</p>	<p>2013 MAZDA CX-9</p> <p>SALE PRICE <b>\$11,890</b> 101,760 MILES   STOCK# D0407928</p>	<p>2023 CADILLAC XT6</p> <p>SALE PRICE <b>\$55,860</b> 9,558 MILES   STOCK# PZ196375</p>	<p>2020 BUICK ENCLAVE</p> <p>SALE PRICE <b>\$31,380</b> 20,675 MILES   STOCK# LK321696</p>	<p>2019 MERCEDES-BENZ A-CLASS</p> <p>SALE PRICE <b>\$26,380</b> 15,073 MILES   STOCK# KW024128</p>



**(904) 479-3389**

4700 Southside Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32216 | [www.randymarioncadillacofjacksonville.com](http://www.randymarioncadillacofjacksonville.com)