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PONTE VEDRA Recorder

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9/11

NEVER FORGET

PATRIOT DAY

SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

Volume 51, No. 97

75 cents

PonteVedraRecorder.com

HOME SWEET HOME



The Nease Panthers break through a banner and storm the field prior to the school's football home opener against Creekside on Sept. 3. Read this week's football preview on page 21.

Photo by Anthony Richards



INSIDE: CHECK IT OUT!

The Recorder's Entertainment EXTRA featuring TV listings, streaming information, puzzles and more!



Legal Eagles

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9/11 Memorial

INSIDE



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INSIDE

One of Us

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Never Forget

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Sports

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Send us your news

We welcome submissions of photos, stories, columns and letters to the editor. Let us know what's happening. Email submissions to **pvrrecorder@opcfla.com** or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach**. Submissions may be published in the paper, on our website or on our social media platforms.

Visit our website at **www.pontevedrarecorder.com**



Find the Recorder on Facebook at **www.facebook.com/ThePVRecorder** and on Twitter at **@PVR_sports**

ADOPT A PET

DOG OF THE WEEK

Hi! My name is Pixie. I am a loving, sweet soul looking for the perfect family to call my own. I am a 2-year-old female terrier mix.

I am heartworm-positive, but because I am so young, the treatment will be easy breezy! And good news, the Friends of the Pet Center will not only sponsor my adoption, they will give my new owner a \$250 voucher towards my treatment! Stop by and meet me. I am just what you are looking for!



CAT OF THE WEEK



Hi, I'm Trinity. I am a 2-year-old female domestic shorthair. I'm a small cat, but very nimble. I'm active and interactive. I love to reach my paws out to you. It's my way of saying, "Hey, let's play!" I like to move and explore. You can pick

me up, but I won't stay long, because there's so much to see and do. And if you're holding me, I can't play with you as well! I like toys once I am familiar with the environment. I really like being near people and being active with them. Can you come out and play?

NOTE: Any new pet being introduced to a new home will need time to adjust to its new environment. Please reinforce house training and behavioral training, and be mindful of interacting with other pets.

More about: St. Johns County Pet Center

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

BRIEFS

Fort Matanzas Beach vehicle ramp, parking lot closed

The Fort Matanzas vehicle beach access ramp and associated parking lot was closed on Tuesday, Sept. 7, to allow the mobilization and setup of equipment for sand placement activities. While the project is under way, there will be no access to the beach from the lot.

The ramp and lot will remain closed throughout the duration of the project and are expected to re-open by November, weather permitting.

For further information, call 904-209-0260 or go to sjcfl.us/coastalprojects/femadunes.aspx.

Jacksonville Beach to kick off season of Moonlight Movies

The City of Jacksonville Beach, PRI Productions, Sneakers, Reese's Roofing, 99.9 Gator Country Radio and 96.1 WEJZ will kick off the 19th season of Moonlight Movies on Friday, Sept. 10.

The movie will be "Adventures of Rufus the Fantastic Pet." It will begin at 8 p.m. at the Jacksonville Beach Seawalk Pavilion. Moonlight Movies is a free, outdoor movie series.

Arrive early for the best seats. Bring a lawn

chair or blanket to sit on. Vendors will sell non-alcoholic beverages and food.

Restrictions include alcohol, skateboards, bicycles, glass and animals, except qualified service animals.

Workshop to offer job search insights

Savvy Job Hunters Ministry of Christ Episcopal Church is planning a Zoom workshop titled "Taking the Plunge: Faith to Override Fear" on Sept. 24.

J. Dianne Tribble, certified professional life coach, motivational speaker, author and business start-up consultant will present it. She will show participants innovative ways to approach a job search.

Sign-in begins at 9:30 a.m. and the workshop is from 10 a.m. to noon. All are welcome.

Pre-registration is required. To register, contact Nancy White, director of communications, at nwhite@christ-episcopalchurch.org.

St. Augustine to re-open the doors of historic Waterworks Building

On Tuesday, Sept. 14, the City of St. Augustine will reopen the historic Waterworks Building

BRIEFS continues on **Page 3**



PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

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22-31



Briefs

Continued from 2

to the public with an open house and appreciation program. From 3 to 5 p.m., the public is invited to visit the Waterworks Building, 184 San Marco Ave., and walk through the facility in a self-guided style tour. Historic photos and a video presentation will be on display exhibiting the structure's transformative journey from a near-crumbling building to the restored historic resource that it is today.

Members of the public may also register to attend a limited-capacity program that starts at 5:30 p.m., recognizing the significance of the project and its contributors. A light picnic box snack will be provided to registered attendees. To register for the limited-capacity program, go to <https://waterworkspicnic.eventbrite.com>. Seating is limited, so advance registration is required.

Due to limited parking at Davenport Park and the adjacent parking at the public library, those who plan to attend may

choose to carpool or be prepared to walk a short distance to Davenport Park.

The building was constructed in 1898 as the first city waterworks pumping station. Later, it became the Davenport Park Clubhouse and home to multiple community groups.

County adds location for free yard waste disposal

Residents in St. Johns County may be experiencing a delay in yard waste collection due to a workforce shortage. Republic Services and Advanced Disposal have encountered difficulties completing yard waste routes on scheduled service days.

In an effort to provide additional options to the community, residents may bring yard waste to the following locations free of charge:

■ Tillman Ridge Transfer Station, 3005 Allen Nease Road, Elkton. Drop-off hours are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Friday, and 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. This is a new site.

■ Republic Services Facility, 445A Republic Drive, St. Augustine. Drop-off hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday-Friday.

The drop-off service is for St. Johns County residential customers only. No commercial trucks or vehicles will be allowed. In addition, all garbage and recycling routes will remain on schedule.

For further information, call the county's Solid Waste Division at 904-827-6980 or go to www.recyclestjohns.com for updates.

County library system encourages residents to get a library card

September is Library Card Sign-up Month, a time when the St. Johns County Public Library System joins the American Library Association and libraries nationwide to remind parents, caregivers and

students that signing up for a library card is the first step on the path to academic achievement and lifelong learning.

"A library card is your ticket to free educational resources and activities that bring families and friends together," said Debra Rhodes Gibson, St. Johns County library director. "Libraries not only provide resources to parents and children that support early literacy and lifelong learning, but they truly transform how families spend time together."

The St. Johns County Public Library System continues to adapt and expand services to meet the evolving needs of the community.

To sign up for a library card or to learn more about the library's resources and programs, go to www.sjcpls.org.



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Oceanfront Estate in Ponte Vedra Beach

Enter this gated ocean front estate and be blown away. Everything a buyer could wish for is here in Ponte Vedra Beach. Lightly lived-in with the ocean views from every room on the 1st and 2nd floors. All furnishings are available for purchase separately. **6 Bedrooms, 6 Bathrooms, 1 Half Bathroom. \$9,750,000**



Stunning Riverfront Estate

Riverfront/SanMarco. Instantly makes you feel you've been swept away to a chateau in France. Exquisitely designed with extensive custom finishes, this 10,204-sq.-ft. home is a masterpiece in design and built for entertaining. **5 Bedroom, 6 Bathrooms, 5 Half Bathrooms \$6,200,000**



Luxury Marabella Condo

Don't miss the rare opportunity to live in the most exclusive luxury condominium in NE Florida. This 9th Floor oceanfront condo is unrivaled with its breathtaking water, sunrise, AND sunset views. \$1,460 sq. ft. of terraces on 3 sides, open floor plan, and too many upgrades to list. These don't come on the market very often and this one won't last long. **4 Bedrooms, 4 Full Baths, 1 Half Bath. \$3,300,000.**



Ultimate Atlantic Beach Lifestyle

Live the ultimate beach lifestyle in this midcentury modern on double corner lot just one block from the ocean and only 6 blocks from Atlantic Beach Town Center. Large open great room and kitchen with barn door pantry looks onto private backyard with pool and outdoor kitchen. Spacious master, 3 additional bedrooms & bathrooms plus laundry upstairs. **4 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms, 1 Half Bathroom. \$3,600,000**



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Why adults over 60 need regular eye exams

By McGregor N. Lott M.D., Florida Eye Specialists



McGregor N. Lott M.D.

Age-related eye conditions like age-related macular degeneration, glaucoma and cataracts can cause severe vision loss and even blindness. Unfortunately, patients often don't notice the signs before vision loss occurs. For some, once vision is lost, it cannot be restored. That's why annual eye exams are crucial

for all patients over age 60, to diagnose conditions early and preserve vision. A recent survey from the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) found that almost two thirds of American adults don't realize how quickly vision loss can occur. Given this research, it's important to raise awareness for the host of eye diseases that can impact us as we age. This Healthy Aging Month, read on to review the common age-related eye conditions and what you can do to protect your sight.

Signs and Treatment for Age-Related Macular Degeneration

According to the AAO, the population of Americans with age-related macular degeneration (AMD) will double to 4.4 million by 2050. This is the most common cause of age-related vision loss in the country, and it occurs when the center of the retina begins to deteriorate. Symptoms include blurred or distorted vision, blind spots, reduced central vision and difficulty adapting to low-light levels. If untreated, this condition can lead to blindness.

There are two different versions of AMD: "dry" and "wet." Wet macular degeneration is less common but more severe and can steal sight quickly when fluid leaks into the retina. Treatments are available that can

help relieve symptoms and stall its progression — if the condition is caught soon enough. These include ocular injections that inhibit new blood vessels or special eye vitamins. It's important to know that patients with wet macular degeneration often need to receive monthly eye treatments to prevent vision loss. Studies confirm that maintaining a regular schedule of eye injections is important in retaining the vision you have and missing even one appointment can have a negative effect.

Protecting Sight From Glaucoma

Glaucoma is a disease that damages the eye's optic nerve, and it's a leading cause of blindness in the country. Unfortunately, an estimated 50 percent of glaucoma patients don't realize they have it. That's because glaucoma develops slowly and painlessly with hardly any symptoms in the early stages. When left untreated, glaucoma can lead to blindness. That's why early detection and diagnosis are crucial for effective treatment.

Glaucoma is a chronic disease that needs constant management and care. For a majority of cases, prescription eye drops can help lower eye pressure. Most patients respond well to this treatment, delaying or preventing the progression of the disease. For those whose glaucoma is more aggressive, treatment options include laser treatments or eye surgery to relieve the pressure inside the eye. With glaucoma, every day counts toward saving your sight, and you should never skip an appointment.

Treating Cataracts With New Technology

Cataracts are a clouding of the normally clear lens of the eye, and they can begin to develop in your 40s and 50s. As a person ages, cataracts can get in the way of living an active, independent life. You may begin to notice

symptoms such as a painless blurring of vision, sensitivity to light and glare, poor night vision and a fading or yellowing of colors.

Thankfully, cataract surgery is available to restore sight. The latest technology uses a laser to help remove the cataract. This results in a gentler procedure with effective results. In addition, there have been many advances in intraocular lens (IOL) technology. An intraocular lens is the artificial lens that is implanted in the eye during cataract surgery after the eye's cloudy natural lens has been removed. While surgeons have been using these lenses for decades, today's versions offer crisper, higher quality vision and more function than ever before.

Don't Skip Your Annual Eye Exam

Prevention and treatment of age-related eye conditions starts with a single eye exam. Many patients may be concerned about making appointments during the COVID-19 pandemic; however, it is crucial to maintain preventative care in order to preserve vision. Before making your appointment, call your eye care provider to discuss his or her safety procedures. Your clinic should be taking precautions to ensure your health and safety. While each office will have its own protocols, there are some general guidelines that should be followed. Those include social distancing, frequent hand washing, the use of face masks and gloves and regularly disinfecting surfaces and exam equipment.

Dr. McGregor N. Lott, M.D., is an ophthalmologist at Florida Eye Specialists. For more information on Dr. Lott, visit FloridaEyeSpecialists.com or call (904) 564-2020.

Archaeologists to excavate shipwreck site 141 years after



Photos Courtesy of the Penobscot Marine Museum

Painting of the Caroline Eddy entering the port of Palermo, Sicily, by Joseph Monasteri

Maritime archaeologists from the St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum's research arm, Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime Program (LAMP), began further excavation of a shipwreck site near Crescent Beach on Monday, Aug. 30.

In November 2020, LAMP was notified of a previously unknown shipwreck that had become exposed on the southern end of Crescent Beach. Local beachgoers noticed

the wooden wreckage and posted pictures on social media. One person called the museum, stating the wreckage first became exposed after a week of heavy erosion from nor'easters. LAMP Director Chuck Meide visited the site that day, confirming wooden hull remains.

The archaeologists had four days to assess the site and carried out limited test excavation by hand to expose portions of the buried hull to better understand its construction, cultural affiliation, function, and age.

No historic artifacts unrelated to the hull were observed, and a number of samples were collected for analysis and wood species identification.

After a closer look, various features, including iron bolts, one or more wooden treenails, and at least two copper alloy planking spikes, suggested the hull most likely represents a 19th-century merchant sailing vessel.

The timbers were cut to the inch, suggesting the vessel was built in America, Canada or Britain. The hull appears to have been constructed robustly with numer-

ous heavy stringers and thick planking, indicating it may have been intended for the lumber trade or a similar bulky cargo.

Historical research revealed a likely identification for this wrecked vessel, the Caroline Eddy.

The Caroline Eddy was a merchant brig or brigantine built in Brewer, Maine, in 1862, as a Union supply ship during the Civil War. A variety of shipping papers, charter notices, registration papers, insurance documents, passenger manifest declarations, letters, a lighthouse keeper log entry and a diplomatic note related to the history of this vessel have been found. Among these items were a series of newspaper articles from across the Eastern Seaboard that recount the wrecking of this ship in great detail.

In 1880, the Caroline Eddy departed from Fernandina Beach with lumber cargo, heading towards Philadelphia. Unbeknownst to the crew, the vessel was sailing directly into a hurricane.

As the weather worsened, a monstrous wave struck the ship shortly after midnight on the morning of Aug. 30. The devastating

wave damaged the vessel, and it wrecked. Stranded offshore, the ship likely broke apart at some point, and pieces of the hull would most likely have come ashore a short distance to the north of the Matanzas Inlet, where the Crescent Beach Wreck is located.

"There's no way to be certain, but we believe it to be remnants of the Caroline Eddy," says Meide.

Since the initial excavation, the wreck appears to remain buried, though there have been a few occasions where part of the wreckage became exposed again. This periodic exposure should cease soon, however.

On Monday, August 30, LAMP archaeologists visited the shipwreck site 141 years after the ship sank to begin further excavation before a private contractor, overseen by St. Johns County, replenishes beach sand in the area during early September 2021.

Approximately 150 truckloads of sand will be deposited every day for the duration of the project. This includes the site of the Crescent Beach wreck and should help preserve the hull remains.

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

KATHY’S GARDENING GUIDE

“Your mind is a garden, your thoughts are the seeds, you can grow flowers, or you can grow weeds!””



Kathy Esfahani
Columnist

Container Gardening

Container gardening is growing plants in containers instead of in the ground. These planters can contain a mixture of annuals, perennials, herbs, citrus, tropicals and more! They have much versatility as you can choose any type of planter and location. The most popular areas to have container planters are by the front door, in garden beds, on back patios and near pools. You can get creative with unique planters such as planting in old bird baths, wood crates, pallet gardens boxes, etc.

- Once you decide on a planter area, determine the sun exposure in this location to be able to choose appropriate plants.
- You want to have a variety of heights and colors to catch the eye.
- Use rich potting soil for the success of your flowers.
- Pebbles on the bottom of the pot create good and easy drainage.
- Start with the largest or tallest plant in the center to the back of the pot. Then, continue with a burst of color filling around the middle. Lastly, add cascading flowers or succulents to create an

Flower
of the Week:
Snapdragon



“overflow” look to finish your beautiful planter.

Flower of the Week: Snapdragon

Snapdragons are a beautiful annual that blooms bright, saturated color throughout our cool weather season. Their botanical name, antirrhinum, means “like a snout,” and their other common name is “dog’s mouth.” Snapdragons prefer partial shade to full sun, and they are a stunning addition to your annual beds. They come in yellow, pink, burgundy, white, orange and many more!



Photos provided by Kathy Esfahani
Planters are a versatile alternative to planting in the ground.

Email Kathy at kathys.creative.gardens@gmail.com for any questions or gardening tips you would like to see in the future.

Kathy’s Creative Gardens & Nursery is located at 196 N. Roscoe Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach. (904) 655-7373.

Local Rotary Clubs feeding the front line

Below are some photos from the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra delivering meals to 135 frontline workers at Baptist Medical Center Beaches Sept. 7. The club was joined in the effort by its sister clubs the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach and the Rotary Club of Palm Valley. It was the fourth such meal delivery the club has made as part of its “Feed the Frontline” initiative.

Photos Courtesy of the Bob Wiltfong
Rotary Club brings 135 essential hospital workers a balanced meal.



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Local bank executive Jenny McKeithen will demonstrate her dancing skills on September 18th at First Coast Dancing with the Star benefiting Beaches Fine Art Series. Help McKeithen win the Mirror Ball Trophy by going to firstcoastdwts.org to vote and purchase tickets to the 2021 Gala Event.

Jenny McKeithen

Tell us a little about yourself and your background.

I was born in and raised in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, a small town in Southeast Arkansas. Graduated from Boyce College in Louisville, Kentucky with a bachelor of science in missions, evangelism, and church growth. Once I graduated, I started my banking career in Louisville in 2007. I transferred with my career to Jacksonville in December of 2009, moved to Ponte Vedra Beach in 2011, where I am presently raising my two beautiful daughters (6 and 3). I am still a banker by trade and work for First Citizens Bank in Ponte Vedra as a vice president, and a small business banker and branch manager. There are many things I have learned in my 14-year career as a banker; however, one of the most valuable lessons is that I have to get to know my community and its needs in order for me to know how to help the business owners I work with on a daily basis. I know that this is the community God has put me to serve, and I believe that if I continue to seek the best for my community, it will succeed. And it is amazing to live, work, and play in a community that is succeeding. My community involvement includes the following roles: Chair for the Beaches Division of the Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce where I also serve on the Community Involvement Committee and Membership Committee. Board member for the Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce and on the Jacksonville Chamber Ribbon Cutting Committee; ambassador for the Ponte Vedra Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce; and board member for the Jacksonville Beach Deck the Chairs.

How did you get involved with The First Coast Dancing with the Stars & The Beaches Fine Arts Series organization and how long have you been a part of it?

This is my first year to be involved with this organization and event. I got involved in the First Coast Dancing with the Stars for the benefit of The Beaches Fine Arts Organization because a previous “Star” Susan Johnson (also in Ponte Vedra) asked me. Many years ago, Susan and I were in the same networking group. We reconnected several months ago, and she said she had been waiting for the right person to ask. When we reconnected, she knew it was supposed to be me. When she asked me, I took a few days to pray about it and do my research on the Beaches Fine Arts organization because I did not know anything about them. I did my research on the organization, and I was really impressed with their mission and what they do for our Beaches Community, and didn’t even know about them.

What do you enjoy most about it? Or what is the most fulfilling part of working with these organizations?

What I enjoy the most is this process has made me face my fear of failure. My best friend challenged me by asking why I wouldn’t do it. The only reason that I wouldn’t do this event for BFAS was my fear of failure. What if I didn’t raise enough money? What if I can’t learn to dance with a dancing partner? Once I realized that the only reason I was not going to agree to participate was because I was scared to fail, I said yes to the event, because I am so tired of fear ruling my life instead my faith in God and the purpose He gave me. And it has been amazing ever since I said yes. I have an amazing support system with family and friends and my community, that I didn’t even know I had. My dancing “pro,” Allan Alday with Dance Alday Studio, has been so patient with me, and we have laughed a lot...we say it is therapy for me too! And the most fulfilling part, because actually facing my fears and beating them is that I am still helping my local community organization serve my community! It creates such a win, win, win!

What are the primary goals of the organization?

Beaches Fine Arts Series Mission Statement

To enrich our communities by sharing the transforming power of music and art, *free to all.*

How has it been going since on the campaign to win the “Mirror Ball Trophy”?

Overall it has been really fun! Fun to dance and fun to have my community and support system rally around me for a good cause! I forgot how much I missed dancing. I started when I was 5, and my year of college I was a dance major, and I haven’t danced since. So I love dancing again! As Alan continues to remind me, ballroom dancing is different than group tap, jazz and ballet, and he is so right. And for my community, it has been fun telling them what I am doing, and they are so proud of me, and so many of them had no idea about BFAS and now their eyes are open like mine. The biggest challenge is raising the money, I don’t like asking people for money, so I challenged myself. It is not about asking for money but about supporting a really great local organization! Which, anyone can still help BFAS by voting for me!



Tell us a little more about your role as the VP of First Citizens Bank and what makes you want to hold this position in the company.

My role as VP of First Citizens Bank is to help business owners navigate their business through the banking system and use it to their advantage. I like to say there is a huge difference between “banking sense” and “common sense.” I see myself as a liaison between those two concepts. I want to hold this position because I love seeing business owners come to me with a dilemma or goal and they can’t figure out how to make it work. We come up with a plan together, and watch it come to fruition. Usually this plan involves growing their business, which means hiring more people, which puts more people to work in our community! Making our community grow and succeed is so rewarding! I never thought I would be in banking, I started in banking because I love working with people face to face, and I really wanted “regular” hours. Before I started a banking career, I called my “bonus” dad and asked him, “How do you work for a company you don’t believe in?” His answer was very simple, “You don’t.” So I had to figure out what I valued the most, which is serving people face to face daily, and make sure I have time with my family. Banking fit both of those, I valued working with people and helping them, and banking has regular hours and paid time off for all the federal banking holidays. I was hooked on banking my first day when I started as a teller. I had no idea that you could make someone’s day or even week, by smiling at them, and being kind to them just in a two-minute interaction. My teller career grew very quickly into a branch manager role and business banker. In banking, every day is different, whether it is federal regulation changes, the clients we interact with daily, and the team members I have the privilege of coaching every day. Every day is like opening a Christmas present, we never know what we are getting that day until we unwrap the presents/open the doors every day!

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

The Beach! Growing up in Arkansas, my dream was to live at a beach! I am living my dream by living at the beach in North Florida!

What do you like to do in your free time?

Beach time, stand up Paddleboarding with my daughters and friends, riding my beach cruiser, and lifting weights and running!

OBITUARIES

Lawrence Arthur Litchfield



Lawrence Arthur Litchfield

Lawrence Arthur Litchfield, 84, went home to be with his Lord and Savior Tuesday August 24th, 2021 at Mass General in Boston. He died of a sudden undiagnosed illness.

Larry was born in Lowell Massachusetts, May 26th, 1937. He was the son Lawrence Litchfield Sr. and Evelyn Mae Irons Litchfield.

He grew up in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, and went on to graduate from Tilton Academy and Denver University. He was a veteran and served our country in the Army.

He married Patricia Kelly Beckman in 1990. Together they built Beckman Mortgage in Ponte Vedra Beach Florida. The couple moved to Gilford NH spring of 2002. In 2007 they acquired Sawyer's Dairy Bar from the Sawyer family. Sawyer's was the pinnacle of Larry's many achievements. Larry loved food, but more importantly, he loved people!

He is survived by his beloved wife Pati, sister Deborah Reineke, three daughters, Maryke Gillis (Vermont),

Erika Glaster (Ipswich MA) and Katja Becker (Portsmouth NH)

Grandchildren, J.T. Glaster, Nate Glaster, Jake Becker, Veronika Becker and Alec Peterson. And Great Grandson, Carter Glaster Niece, Gretchen Eidelbus and Nephew, Grant Reineke.

In lieu of flowers, Donations are being received at: Jamison's Gift.com

A Celebration of Life will be scheduled at a later date.

Arrangements are in the care of the Carrier Family Funeral Home, 38 Range Road, Windham, NH 03087. To leave a message of condolence, please visit www.carrierfuneralhome.com.

Sheila Anne Todd



Sheila Anne Todd

Sheila Anne Todd passed away surrounded by family and love on August 20, 2021 in her Vicars Landing home in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. She was 87.

Sheila embodied what it means to live life to its fullest. Her Scottish father captured her spirit perfectly in his childhood nickname for her, "Spunky". Sheila left an impression on everyone she met, with her lively stories and her bold colored fashion. It was not uncommon for her to make a new friend on an airplane ride or with a store clerk. She was abundantly curious and loved learning about people's lives. As friends and family have shared their stories, it is clear that Sheila touched many lives in

meaningful ways, often providing subtle support - sometimes just by listening, sometimes through inspiration, often accompanied by a small and meaningful gift.

She was enormously generous sharing meals, books, and being incredibly open about her own life story. You often knew exactly how she felt about anything. Sheila was fiercely determined and strong willed. She usually did exactly what she wanted, and by her own standards, she "did, traveled, and saw everything that she wanted to." Sheila loved her family unconditionally, always showing up for her grandchildren's events, large and small. She made every occasion feel worthy of a celebration. Sheila loved to travel, visiting most of the continents. Among her favorite locations were Nantucket, Maine, the Grand Canyon, Sequoia and Acadia National Parks.

Sheila had many interests, including current events, book club, music, calligraphy, theater, needlepoint, Japanese flower arranging, bridge, history and French. Sheila had a beautiful voice, was an excellent cook and loved animals, especially her beloved cats.

Sheila was a lifelong learner and deeply valued education. She went to school at Branksome Hall in Canada and Hathaway Brown in Ohio. She attended numerous colleges including Bryn Mawr, William and Mary/Old Dominion, Goucher and the University of Maryland, where she received a second undergraduate and a Masters degree. Sheila was a certified Clinical Nurse Specialist in both Gerontological and Psychiatric Nursing and worked at Sheppard Pratt and Levindale in Baltimore. In 1991, Sheila received the Outstanding Advanced Clinical Award from the Maryland Nurses Association.

Sheila is survived by her son, John (Ginger) Eliasberg, and grandchildren Claire Eliasberg (Andrew Moir) and Jake Eliasberg and cousins Susan Bright Nguyen and Margy Bright Schone. She will be buried in Butler, KY, in a cemetery near what was once her grandfather's orchard, overlooking the Licking River, alongside her mother (Genevieve Holmes Todd), father (William Todd), brother (John William Todd) and daughter (Carol Diane Eliasberg-Martin).

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute - <https://give.unf.edu/continuing-education>) c/o Kathleen M. Leone, M.Ed., CFRE; Senior Director of Development for Academic Affairs; P: 904.620.1838 Email address: k.leone@unf.edu; UNF Foundation, Inc, 1 UNF Drive, Alumni Hall, Jacksonville, FL 32224.

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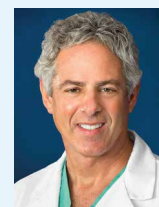
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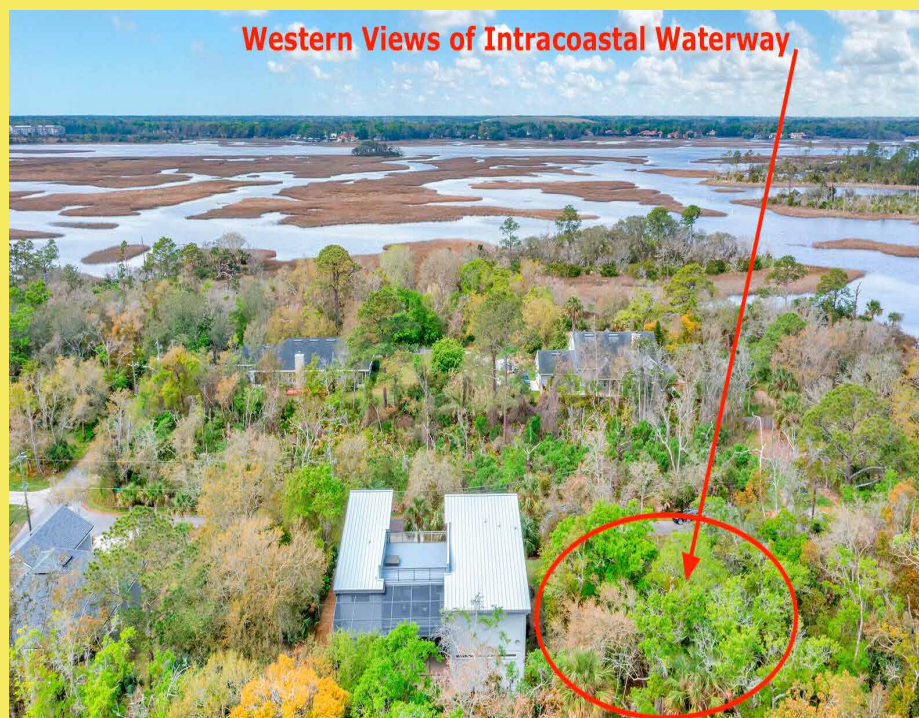
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20th Anniversary

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SEPTEMBER 11th 20th ANNIVERSARY

Never Forget

UPCOMING EVENTS: 9/11 20th Anniversary

9/11 interfaith service for unity and remembrance planned

St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Parish, 465 11th Ave., Jacksonville Beach, will host a communitywide prayer service commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks. The interfaith service will take place at 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 11.

Shepherding the commemoration is the rector, the Rev. Louanne Loch. Participants will include leaders of local religious communities and their congregants.

The mayors of Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach and Jacksonville Beach, as well as Kyle Reese, executive director of One Jax, are expected to attend.

Those attending are asked to wear a mask.

For further information, go to www.episcopal-newsservice.org/events/9-11-interfaith-service-for-unity-and-remembrance.

20th annual 9/11 Peace Concert is Saturday, Sept. 11

Jacksonville Sister Cities Association (JSCA) in partnership with St. John's Cathedral, United States Navy Band, Jacksonville Area Schools, community musicians and JFRD Honor Guard invite the public to the 20th annual 9/11 Peace Concert.

The concert commemorates the survivors, victims and families of the 9/11 tragedy. It will take place on Saturday, Sept. 11, at St. John's Cathedral, 256 E. Church St., Jacksonville. A reception will follow.

For further information, go to <https://downtownjacksonville.org/events/the-20th-annual->

9-11-peace-concert.

One-man show reveals human side of 9/11

On Saturday, Sept. 11, drama teacher Jason Nettle will present his one-man show, "9/11: We Will Forget" at the Ponte Vedra High School auditorium. The title refers to how time clouds our memories even of monumental events such as the terror attacks on that day 20 years ago.

During the performance, Nettle portrays 18 different characters – one of them himself.

Showtime is 5 p.m. No tickets will be sold in advance. A \$10 donation is suggested, though that is up to the individual donor. The show is a fundraiser for the Dramatic Arts Boosters.

Memorial Stair Climb scheduled Sept. 11

There are many unique ways people choose to remember those who lost their lives during the events of 9/11, and climbing stairs is one of those.

The 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb will be held at Bailey's Health & Fitness from noon to 5 p.m. at 1940 U.S. 1 South in St. Augustine.

Participants will be broken up into three age groups that will include 18-35, 36-55 and 55-plus.

Prizes will be awarded to whoever finishes with the top time in each group.

The event is open to the public and is free to take part. Individuals can reserve their designated time on the stairs at www.picktime.com/MemorialStairClimb, and further event information can be found at ClimbMemorial-StairClimb@gmail.com.



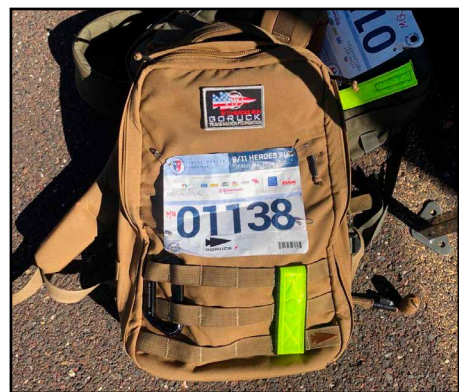


Photos provided by Kit Klein

ABOVE: A group of “ruckers” at a previous Heroes Run. This year’s Heroes Run will take place on Sept. 11 for the first time.

BELOW: Rucking is when people carry weighted backpacks as they take part in the Heroes Run. It is a popular option for veterans, who don’t want to run but can still add an element of challenge to the event.

Heroes Run at Jacksonville Beach set to remember 9/11



By Anthony Richards

For over the past decade a Heroes Run has been held at Jacksonville Beach to honor those who lost their lives during the events of 9/11, but this year will be different than others.

The main difference is that the event is scheduled to take place on Sept. 11 for the first time, which also happens to be the 20th anniversary of that tragic day. The start time is 6 p.m.

The date lining up, plus the fact that last year’s run was very limited and casual due to the COVID-19 pandemic, has director Kit Klein excited for what’s in store this year.

“Last year was more of a social meetup instead of a real race,” Klein said. “We’re excited to be getting back to normal.”

According to Klein, other than the circumstances that surrounded last year, the run is typically well attended with a mixture of both former military members and the public.

Although it is called a “run,” Klein said that people can also walk or even ruck. The main thing is that the com-

“It’s all about bridging that gap between military service and civilian life.” -Kit Klein

munity comes together to support the cause. Rucking is people carrying weighted backpacks as the walk, which according to Klein, is a popular option for veterans, who don’t want to run, but can still add an element of challenge to it.

The run will begin at the Jacksonville Beach pavilion and continue on the beach for one and a half miles south before the route will turn and head back to the pavilion.

The ROAR of the Jaguars and Jaxson de Ville will be on hand for participants to meet.

Event proceeds will go towards the Travis Manion Foundation, which began after Manion died serving overseas in 2007, and his parents wanted to do something to honor their son while also helping other Gold Star families.

“It’s all about bridging that gap between military service and civilian life,” Klein said.

Event registration will remain open until the start of the race, but participants are encouraged to register online by going to travismanionfoundation.org and searching for the designated race.

Volunteers are also still needed for the event. Those looking to get involved are also directed to the website.

Veterans unite to support soldiers who served in Afghanistan

As 9/11 anniversary nears, withdrawal leads to concerns for emotional, mental well-being of veterans

By Don Coble

As the turmoil continues in Afghanistan and the 20-year anniversary of 9/11 approaches, veterans’ groups are banding together throughout Northeast Florida to work with soldiers who served in the Middle East.

With more than 1.5 million veterans living in Florida, including nearly 20,000 in St. Johns County, there is a push to reach out to check on the welfare of the men and women who served in Afghanistan following the United States’ pullout that left thousands scrambling to escape the Taliban-controlled country.

Leading the way is Jacksonville-based Wounded Warrior Project (WWP). According to CEO retired U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Michael Linnington, the organization’s call center will reach out to its 40,000 registered veterans to “provide comprehensive support through our many programs and services, including free services in mental health, career counseling and long-term rehabilitative care for the post-9/11 generation.”

WWP serves veterans who’ve served since the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. That means the overwhelming majority of its members have spent

time in the Middle East, and it makes the disjointed pullout difficult to understand – especially for those who suffered physical, emotional and mental injuries in the line of duty.

“It’s greatly appreciated. We have an all-volunteer force, one of the few countries in the world that has an all-volunteer force, and it continues to be the strength of our nation and represents all of the values we aspired to be an American.”

-Gen. Michael Linnington

“The last week has really elicited a range of emotions among veterans that have served in Afghanistan,” Linnington said. “Top of the list is concern – concern for the brothers and sisters in arms who served with them, concern for the

Veterans continues on Page 15



Photos provided by Wounded Warrior Project

ABOVE: Wounded Warrior Project reaches out to veterans with its call center.

BELOW: U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Michael Linnington, CEO of Wounded Warrior Project, talks about the impact on veterans who have been following the recent military pullout from Afghanistan.

For more news, updates, event reviews, and 9/11 Anniversary Coverage, go to our website at www.pontevedrarecorder.com or our Facebook at www.facebook.com/ThePVRecorder/

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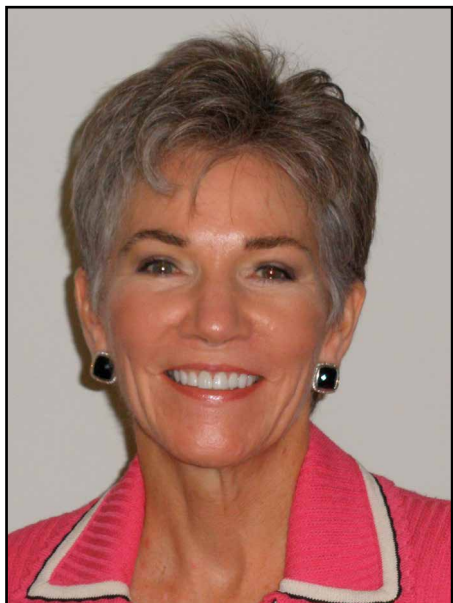
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"Although the decision to execute the first unplanned shutdown of the United States airspace was unprecedented, we make real-time decisions daily and sometimes under very trying conditions."

-Linda Schuessler, pictured at left

Local woman managed FAA facility that stopped flights on 9/11

Key decision-maker to speak about experience

Many people can tell you where they were on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001. But few have memories as unique as those of one local resident, Linda Schuessler.

On that day, Schuessler was manager of the FAA's Air Traffic Control Command Center just outside Washington, D.C. It was there that the decision had to be made to stop air traffic across the nation.

"Although the decision to execute the first unplanned shutdown of the United States airspace was unprecedented, we make real-time decisions daily and sometimes under very trying conditions," said Schuessler. "We, at the Command Center, coordinated these unprecedented efforts on a national level with the FAA facilities, all aviation companies, other countries and more."

That morning, al-Qaeda conducted four coordinated terrorist attacks in the United States using civilian airplanes. These attacks brought down the north and south towers of the World Trade Center, hit the Pentagon and resulted in a plane crash in western Pennsylvania.

In all, 2,977 people were killed.

In the years following the attacks, Schuessler became the FAA Operational Focal Point for Security working with the DOD, NORAD, the Secret Service, the CIA and the White House.

This Saturday, Sept. 11, Schuessler will give a half-hour presentation about that unforgettable day two decades ago during a special service titled "20 Years Later: We remember 9/11" at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 276 Roscoe Blvd. North, Ponte Vedra Beach. The service begins at 10 a.m.

Schuessler's presentation will be preceded and followed with prayers from Pastor Kerry Hinkley for those who perished that day as well as those who aided the rescue and recovery efforts. The church will hand out U.S. flag pins to those attending.

There will be a question-and-answer period, and refreshments served afterwards. The church seats up to 70 people. Attendees are asked to consider wearing a mask.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA), one of the largest Christian organizations in the United States with more than 3.3 million members.

For further information about the church, go to www.lordoflifepvb.org, or find it on Facebook @lordoflifepontevedra or on Instagram @lordoflifepvb.

St. Augustine ceremony to mark 20th anniversary of 9/11 attacks

By Shaun Ryan

Two days after terrorists attacked the United States on Sept. 11, 2001, killing 2,977 people, St. Augustine conducted its first Ceremony of Remembrance. Since then, it has faithfully held the observance each year on the anniversary of the attacks.

This year, the 20th since that tragic day, the local community will gather once again to remember those who died in the attacks. And the St. Augustine Fire Department will honor the day with two special dedications.

Many will never forget that morning, when they were shocked to turn on their televisions to see that a commercial airliner had crashed into the North Tower of the World Trade Center in New York City. The confusion that followed. People asking: "How is that possible?"

In horror, they watched as a second plane struck the South Tower. It was broadcast live in real time. And Americans now knew this was no accident.

A third flight crashed into the Pentagon shortly thereafter. Then, news arrived that a fourth aircraft had crashed in rural Pennsylvania after the passengers attempted to take back control of the plane.

At this year's ceremony, the City of St. Augustine will dedicate a "Survivor Tree" sapling planted in front of the St. Augustine Fire Department's main station, 101 Malaga St.

The sapling is a direct descendant of the one single surviving Callery pear tree, known as the "Survivor Tree," that was discovered at Ground Zero in October 2001. The tree was severely damaged, with snapped roots and burned and broken branches, but was rehabilitated by the New York City Department of Parks and given a chance at new life.

In addition, a piece of steel recovered from the World Trade Center site will be dedicated alongside the sapling.

The ceremony will be held at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 11, at the fire station. It will be broadcast live online on the Fire Department's Facebook page, www.Facebook.com/CityStAugFire.

The 15-minute program will include a presentation of the colors; an invocation by the Rev. Matt Marino, rector of Trinity Parish; a musical presentation; remarks by St. Augustine Fire Chief Carlos Aviles; and guest speaker Lt. Robert Aponte, retired FDNY, Engine Company 320, Queens, N.Y.

The ceremony will conclude with a minute of silence at 8:45 a.m., timed to coincide with the time the first plane hit the first tower of the World Trade Center.

Following that, Prevention Chief and Fire Marshal Bob Growick will conduct "Striking the Four 5's" by ringing the department's historic 1900 fire bell in four intervals of five rings each. This is a time-honored tradition signifying the last alarm of a firefighter and will be performed in honor of the firefighters, law enforcement officers, military personnel and civilians who died in the attacks.

For additional information, contact the Fire Department at 904-825-1098 or send an email to cityfire@citystaug.com.

To learn more about the St. Augustine Fire Department, go to www.CityStAugFire.com.



Photos by Shaun Ryan

ABOVE: A large U.S. flag flies over the 2020 Ceremony of Remembrance at the St. Augustine Fire Department main station.

K9s For Warriors commends Biden for signing law that will help fight veteran suicide

A new law will help organizations like K9s For Warriors combat veteran suicide.

On Aug. 25, President Joe Biden signed into law the Puppies Assisting Wounded Servicemembers for Veterans Therapy Act (HR 1448). The U.S. Senate had unanimously passed the bill earlier after initially being passed by the House in March.

As the nation's largest provider of trained service dogs to military veterans, K9s For Warriors acknowledged the law as an encouraging step in the fight against veteran suicide.

"We commend the White House for supporting this bill as a critical step in combatting veteran suicide, and we're confident in the path ahead for service dogs ultimately becoming a covered VA benefit to veterans with PTSD," said Rory Diamond, CEO of K9s For Warriors. "In communicating with veterans and their

health care providers, it's more imperative than ever to embrace the lifesaving impact of a service dog and to raise awareness for this treatment option as a proven method for mitigating debilitating symptoms of PTSD and suicidal ideations."

The law will require the Department of Veterans Affairs to enact a five-year pilot program to provide dog training to eligible veterans diagnosed with PTSD.

The law additionally will:

- Designate eligible veterans to receive dog training instruction from nongovernmental accredited 501(c)(3) nonprofit service dog training organizations (such as K9s For Warriors).

- Allow eligible veterans to learn positive reinforcement training in skills that are unique to their own needs to help address or alleviate their PTSD symptoms.

- Provide veterans participating in the

program the opportunity to adopt dogs that they actively assisted in training, provided that the veterans and their health providers determine it to be in the veterans' best interest.

"It's incredibly heartening that the PAWS for Veterans Therapy Act has been signed into law after so much overwhelming bipartisan support from Congress," said Rep. Michael Waltz, R-Fla.. "Many

Photos provided by K9s for Warriors

BELOW RIGHT: K9 being trained by a veteran in the K9s for warriors program.

BOTTOM LEFT: K9s For Warriors dedicated its Warrior Resource Center in October 2020.

K9s continues on Page 15



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K9s

Continued from 14

of our veterans who have put their lives on the line often come home with trauma that demands a menu of options for treatment.

I'm pleased that service dogs will now provide therapy to our veterans."

A 2021 VA study found that veterans with post-traumatic stress who were paired with service dogs showed less suicidal ideation and more symptom improvement compared to veterans paired with an emotional-support dog. Given that roughly 20 veterans die by suicide each day, the finding underscores the notion that properly trained service dogs can be instrumental in battling this public health crisis.

K9s For Warriors has long advocated for veterans experiencing PTSD symptoms to be eligible to receive a service dog under their VA benefits. While the implementation of this new law fails to establish that universal benefit, the pilot program is an integral first step in this becoming reality.

The law also will mark a critical step forward in connecting veterans with nonprofit organizations equipped to train service dogs in performing specific tasks that mitigate symptoms of military-related trauma.

Additionally, the law will support organizations such as K9s For Warriors that primarily receive their service dogs from high-kill shelters.

Veterans

Continued from 11

Afghan partners they served with ... and really concerned for the future of Afghanistan. I think there's also a sadness and disappointment in the different things that have occurred in the last week. The uncertainty of the future for the Afghan people is something that makes our veterans sad.

"I think the announced withdrawal and the activities we've seen on TV in the past week certainly have exasperated some of our nation's veterans. We are concerned about their well-being. We're actively reaching out to all of them. We're connecting with them on social media posts for Resource Center or mental health programs to help meet their needs."

Local veterans, many of whom asked not to be identified, said they were more upset with the manner in which armed forces retreated from the region. The soldiers left first, leaving behind more than \$80 billion in equipment and weapons and thousands of Afghan citizens who worked with American forces to bring stability. Although President Joe Biden said U.S. residents were wary of war – and polls show an overwhelming number of Americans were

– the pullout didn't seem to account for the fact there hasn't been any fighting in the country for more than a year. In fact, no U.S. soldiers had been killed in Afghanistan in more than 18 months.

While WWP remains a nonpolitical organization, it's clear it won't allow the sacrifices made by its members to be taken lightly – or be forgotten.

Linnington said it's never been more important to connect with soldiers.

"Support veterans right now by connecting with them and just telling them how much their service mattered – not just in Afghanistan, but, you know, over the past 246 years of our nation's history," he said. "We have a saying at Wounded Warrior Project: the greatest casualty is being forgotten. I think right now, our veterans need to know that the communities from which they came, when they raised their hands and said 'take me,' are there for them when they return. Reach out, check in, make sure they're doing."

Many St. Johns veterans served in Vietnam. Like Afghanistan, the withdrawal was complicated and disorganized. The withdrawal there was announced two years in advance, and yet soldiers, U.S. citizens and allies were forced to flee from the rooftop of the American Embassy as the Viet Cong seized Saigon.

Linnington said WWP won't leave its veterans behind. They won't be left to fend for themselves, to fight through terrorist roadblocks or worse yet, be forgotten.

"Our nation needed them then, as we need them today, and the service and sacrifice of the last 20 years ... is not forgotten," he said. "It's greatly appreciated. We have an all-volunteer force, one of the few countries in the world that has an all-volunteer force, and it continues to be the strength of our nation and represents all of the values we aspired to be an American."

WWP is increasing support available in its Resource Center and its mental-health triage team.

The Resource Center is available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Friday.

To contact the organization, call (888) WWP-ALUM (888-997-2586).



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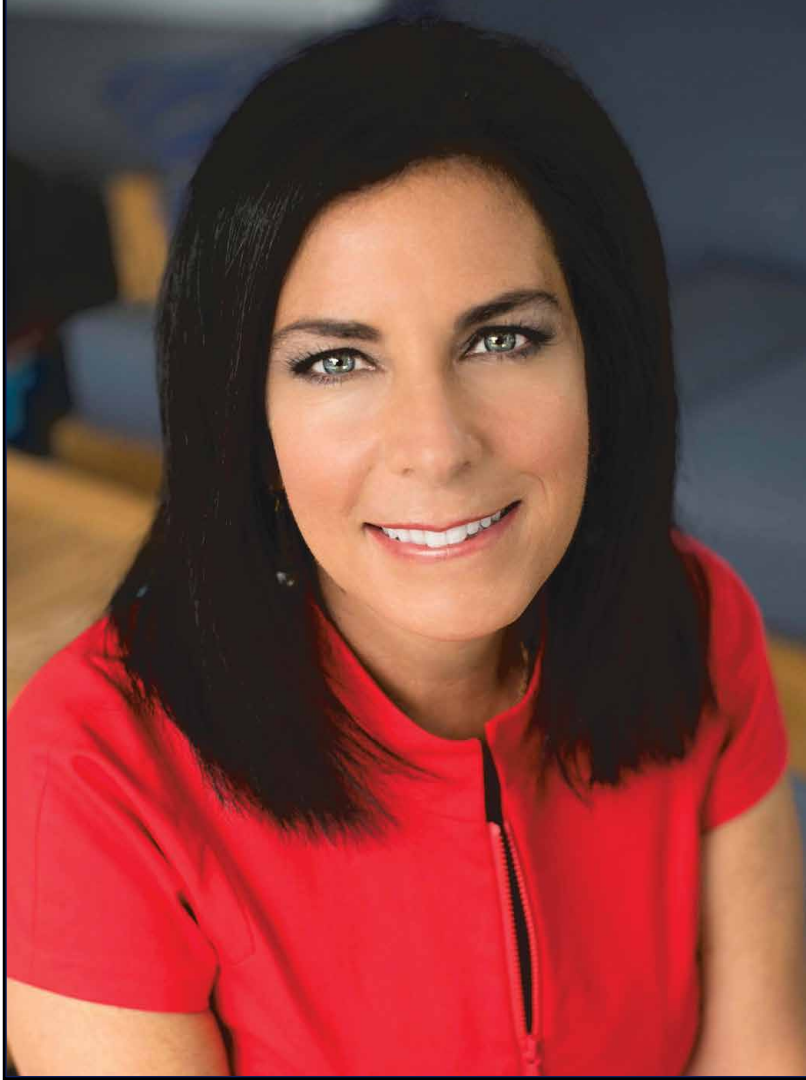
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Janet Johnson is committed to aggressively defending people accused in all criminal matters in state and federal court. In practice since 1994, she is a member of the Florida Bar, The Federal Bar, Colorado Bar, as well as the Florida Association of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

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THURSDAY, September 9, 2021

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SPECIAL THIS WEEK:
Local "Legal Eagles" to assist
you and your family with
all your legal needs.

Pages 16 - 19

Divorce Over 50

Florida Women's Law Group shares
tips on navigating divorce



Betsy Corbet
Marketing Coordinator
Florida Women's Law Group

As we go through life we plan for our children, our health, our retirement, and other life events. What we never plan for is a divorce, especially a divorce after twenty, thirty or more years of marriage. Divorce is difficult for everyone but even harder after a lifetime of being with someone. You can get through it, and you can be happy and fulfilled in the next chapter of your life. Here we offer some advice to save you some unneeded stress and get you to the other side

Use Your Head Not Your Heart

It is so easy to be consumed with emotions when divorcing, especially when you were together for decades. You may be angry, bitter or sad, but you cannot let those emotions cloud your judgment. If you fight over little things or demand something that in the end you really do not want

all you are doing is wasting time, energy and money. Look at the big picture and make sure that you account for not only right now but the next five, ten and twenty years. You need to be logical and have a game plan to help plan for your future and unexpected circumstances.

Know Your Complete Financial Situation

One of the more complicated aspects of divorce in a longer marriage is dividing finances and assets. It is vital to know your financial portfolio when heading into divorce, so you are fully aware of your financial situation. This includes all bank accounts, retirement plans, 401Ks, investments, property, and other assets.

You must also consider the cost of health insurance. You may be covered under your spouse's plan through their employer but after the divorce this will no longer apply. Health insurance on your own can be very expensive and Medicare does not apply until you are 65 or older.

Think Twice About Keeping the House

You may want to keep the family home because it brings you comfort and you think it will be less disruptive to your children. However, houses are expensive. You must factor in the cost of upkeep, mortgage payments, property taxes and emergency repairs. Consider these costs and if you will have the budget to maintain them post-divorce. It may be hard to sell the house that holds so many memories, but it may make the most financial sense.

A divorce after a long-term marriage can turn your life upside down and the emotional and financial implications are much more complex than in other divorces.

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Observations on laws that affect living at the Beaches



Judge John Miller
Guest Columnist

Judge John has now served in his Neptune Beach position for so long that he is currently the longest sitting Special Magistrate at the Beaches. To the best of my knowledge, all members of the judiciary wear a robe. I had not put much thought into that when I agreed to be nominated/apply for this position. The Mayor and City Council had voted me into the position, and I needed a robe.

Through many generations, my family has specialized in two careers: soldiers and preachers. Sometimes the same person was both. We attorneys are few and far between. My brother, Reverend Francis Pickens Miller II, is 10th generation Presbyterian minister, as our father before him. Dad had one robe that he wore often. He had left it behind when he passed in 2016, and we all assumed it would become my brother's. As it turned out, Fran was well into his career and already had many robes.

I shopped a little online, and then I asked mom about the robe which was in her/their home. She said to call my brother, and he was only too happy to offer it to me. I told him I didn't know how long I'd need it (I serve at the pleasure of the Mayor), so I'd take it on a "long-term loan". What a lucky break, right; a robe right there in the family.

I thought it was a lucky break, too. But talk about gravity. Imagine wearing your father's robe. You see, Robert Day Miller was a southerner born, and he chose to risk his life and family to begin his ministry in the early 1960s in the Black Belt region of Alabama, fighting for justice and equality, for equal rights, and for the right to vote, in a region still heavily dominated by Jim Crow laws. In fact, many of the issues he worked so hard for during the Civil Rights movement era, are the very issues our country is struggling with today. Dad's very life was threatened by the KKK in Alabama in those days, and by 1965, our family had moved to Florida, in large part because of those threats and the ostracization that our family experienced because of Dad's (and Mom's) belief that all men (and women) are created equal.

Thankfully Dad lived into his eighties, but until his retirement, he continued to press for justice and equality for all people. Not that I thought about it before I asked to use his robe, but in honor of his commitment, I feel that weight of him being with me, when I sit in judgment of my fellow citizens and weigh the equities of a particular situation.

Isn't it interesting the weight that black cloth carries? It was often said that Reverend Robert D. Miller was a couple of decades ahead of his time on most issues. In my own small way, I feel proud every time that I wear his robe to carry on the tradition of making the United States of America truly a place where we practice the belief that all people are created and treated equally. May his robe help me to administer justice equally to all who come before me. Thanks, Dad for allowing me to carry that weight.

Miller continues on Page 19

Miller

Continued from 18

Do you have any questions of law or custom that are of particular interest to those living the Sand Life on our beautiful island?
Please submit them to Judge John for consideration for a future article: john@rocksolidlaw.com

John Miller is the Special Magistrate for the City of Neptune Beach. His law firm, Rock Solid Law & Title, provides expert guidance in all areas of Estate Planning, Trust & Wills, Real Estate, Closings, Title & Escrow, and Small Business Representation.
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In the Arts

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Sing Out Loud Fest commences

By Shaun Ryan

The Sing Out Loud Festival is back. Between Friday, Sept. 10, and Sept. 26, St. Johns County will host several days of music and more at a variety of venues. Many of the concerts and other events are free to attend.

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

For its fifth year, the festival lineup includes heavy hitters like TLC & Bone Thugs-n-Harmony and Mayday Parade at The Amp. Local venues like Planet Sarbez!, Colonial Oak Music Park, Dog Rose Brewing and Prohibition Kitchen will host resident musicians.

The Venues

- Art Studio of St. Augustine Beach
370A A1A, St. Augustine
- Colonial Oak Music Park
21 St. George St., St. Augustine
- Dog Rose Brewing Co
77 Bridge St., St. Augustine
- Jenna Alexander x SunDay Backyard
73 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine
- Planet Sarbez!
115 Anastasia Blvd, St. Augustine
- Prohibition Kitchen
119 St. George St., St. Augustine
- Shanghai Nobby's
10 Anastasia Blvd., St. Augustine
- St. Augustine Amphitheatre

Sept. 10

Dylan LeBlanc: 6-10 p.m., Colonial Oak Music Park. With This Frontier Needs Heroes and John Dickie & The Collapsible B. Free

Dog Rose Showcase: 7-11 p.m., Dog Rose Brewing Co. Featuring Dominic Delaney, Danny Attack, Stillfire Bellows and more artists to be announced. Free

Mental Boy Showcase: 7:15-11:59 p.m., Shanghai Nobby's. Featuring 86 Hope, Canine Denim, Theo Butts and Moses Falcon. Free

Kevin Morby: 8 p.m., Backyard Stage at The St. Augustine Amphitheatre. Free

Sept. 11

Planet Sarbez! Showcase: 2:30-10 p.m. Planet Sarbez! Featuring The Dog Apollo, Pauses, The Drain Outs, and more to be announced. Free

Dan Tyminski: 2:30-10 p.m. Colonial Oak Music Park. Special guests Davis Loose, Remedy Tree, Lu Rubino and Joe Mark. Free

Mayday Parade: 6:30 p.m. The St. Augustine Amphitheatre. With special guests Inspection 12 and Flag On Fire. Tickets: \$20-\$25



Photos provided by Sing Out Loud
Mayday Parade set to preform on Sept. 11, 2021

Ancient City Poets Showcase & Poetry Open Mic

7-9 p.m. Art Studio of St. Augustine Beach. Doors open at 6 p.m. Featuring emcee Ben Atkinson and nine Ancient City Poets.

Surfer Blood: 7-10:15 p.m. Jenna Alexander x SunDay Backyard. With special guests The Dewars and Teal Peel. Doors open at 6 p.m.

Dog Rose Showcase: 7-11 p.m., Dog Rose Brewing Co. Kirk Whalen, Brent McGuffin, Ashley Reda, and Jesse Harman. Free

Mental Boy Showcase: 7:15-11:45 p.m. Shanghai Nobby's. Featuring The Dismissives, Rutterkin, Secret World and Mental Boy. Free

Sept. 12

Sing Out Loud Festival Showcase: 3-10 p.m. Colonial Oak Music Park.

Live music from Davis Loose & The Loose Cannons, Billy Buchanan, Jackie Stranger, Stephen Pigman and Bridge Street Vibe. Free

The Cactus Blossoms: 5:30-10 p.m. The St. Augustine Amphitheatre. With special guests Dustin Monk & The Hustle, Howdy and Christian Powers. Gates open at 4:30 p.m.

Big Sam's Funky Nation: 7-10 p.m. Prohibition Kitchen. With special guest Ramona and the Riot. Free

Okey Dokey: 7-10:15 p.m. Jenna Alexander x SunDay Backyard. With special guests Spirit and the Cosmic Heart and The Mystic Harbor. Gates open at 6 p.m. Free

Young hospital patients exhibit work at Museum of Contemporary Art

Art With a Heart in Healthcare continues its partnership with the Museum of Contemporary Art for the 11th year with an exhibition titled "Behind the Mask."

Young hospital patients from Northeast Florida communicated their thoughts through highly personalized artwork during a time when they all had to learn to communicate differently.

While collaborating with Art With a Heart artists-in-residence, the patients created digital self-portraits behind a unique mask, allowing them to express themselves and process the events of the past year.

Patients used Procreate, a graphics app on tablets to create the self-portraits. Once completed, patients added dot patterns and quote bubbles to enhance their art in a style inspired by the artist Roy Lichtenstein. Quote bubbles show what the patient is saying or thinking.

Each patient and artist-in-residence worked together to bring out their natural talents and expand their artistic expression while encouraging self-confidence and self-awareness during their hospital experience.

A virtual opening reception and event for the exhibition is open to the public and will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 12. Guests will hear from patients, artists-in-residence and program sponsors, with an opportunity to participate in a virtual tour of the exhibition.

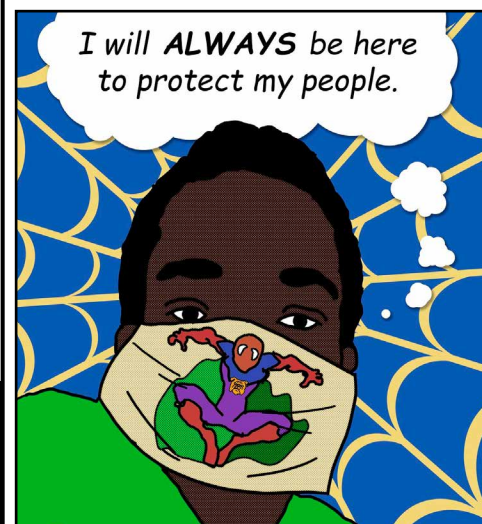
To register, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/art-with-a-heart-in-healthcare-behind-the-mask-public-reception-tickets-168769639535>.

For a private tour and to visit the exhibit in person, contact Gary Monahan, the museum's assistant director of development, at gary.monahan@unf.edu. The exhibition is sponsored by Florida Blue Foundation.

Art With a Heart in Healthcare is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing fine art experiences in a hospital setting to enhance the healing process for patients and their families.

Photos provided by K9s for Warriors

Hospital patient Ethan, 14, created this self-portrait for the "Behind the Mask" exhibit.



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Sports

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Howard, Tronti open college season on opposite sidelines

A pair of Ponte Vedra alums patrolled the sidelines as the college football season got underway and Florida hosted Florida Atlantic in Gainesville on Sept. 4.

Chris Howard was named one of two starters at kicker for the Gators to begin his redshirt senior season, along with Mississippi State graduate transfer Jace Christmann.

However, redshirt junior Nick Tronti was unable to earn the



Photo courtesy of Zach Goodall/Sports Illustrated
Nick Tronti and Chris Howard both played football at Ponte Vedra High and got the chance to share the field once again when Florida hosted Florida Atlantic to open the 2021 college football season Sept. 4.

starting quarterback job for the Owls entering the season after battling Miami graduate transfer N'Kosi Perry throughout fall practice.

Howard handled the place-kicking duties for the Gators during much of the game, while Christmann was listed as a starter as well but focused on kickoffs.

Although there were no field goals attempted during the contest by either team, he kicked the extra point after four of the five Gators' touchdowns.

It looked for a moment as if he was going to get the opportunity to cap the night with a fifth extra point as he lined up on the field following a 73-yard touchdown run by Anthony Richardson with 3:43 left in the game.

There wound up being a delay-of-game penalty called on the play, as the Gators dealt with some confusion on which players should be out there on special teams.

The penalty gave Florida head coach Dan Mullen some time to think about it, and he

switched out Howard for Christmann, who ended up converting the extra point.

Just as Christmann was given his shot at place-kicking, Howard attempted two kickoffs that averaged 64 yards, one of which resulted in a touchback.

Unfortunately, for the Ponte Vedra faithful watching the game Tronti did not see action on the field other than taking snaps in warmups.

Perry finished the game completing 19 of 33 passes for 261 yards and a touchdown. He also gained 18 yards on 10 carries and was sacked six times by a relentless Gators defense that looked much improved from a year ago.

Tronti will look to show patience and wait for his opportunity to shine behind Perry, while Howard will look to build upon his excellent start to the 2021 season.

The Gators travel to Tampa to take on South Florida at 1 p.m. on Sept. 11, while the Owls will host Georgia Southern in their home opener down in Boca Raton at 3:30 p.m.

CLIMBING TO THE TOP Sharks volleyball makes statement with Nike tournament victory

It looks like the Ponte Vedra High volleyball team has re-loaded and will be on the hunt for a second-straight state title this season.

If there was any doubt about how this year's team would respond to last year's success, the Sharks emphatically answered that by winning the 2021 Nike Tournament of Champions Platinum Division Sept. 3-4 in Orlando.

Running through the weekend undefeated improves the Sharks overall record to 9-0 on the season and sends a statement to the rest of the state that they will be a force to be reckoned with once again.

The squad also jumped to the No. 1 spot in the most recent MaxPreps national rankings following the triumphant tournament.

It is quite the jump for the Sharks after entering the event ranked No. 116 in the nation by MaxPreps.

Improving 116 spots was the largest movement among the top 200 teams in the ranking, and no other team in the top 10 moved more than five spots up or down in the order.

Some of the best high school volleyball programs in the country competed in the two-day tournament over Labor Day weekend.

The Sharks handled every challenge that stood in front of them along the path to going 7-0 during the two days en route to defeating St. Pius X out of Georgia in two tight sets, 25-23, 25-23, to win the title.

On the first day of competition, the Sharks defeated Jackson Academy (Mississippi), 25-17, 25-16; Fort Myers Bishop Verot, 25-17, 25-10; and Tallahassee Florida High, 25-11, 25-19.

The Sharks carried the momentum they had built up into day two by going the distance against Lutz Steinbrenner, Tampa Plant and Alachua Santa Fe, but coming out on top in each outing to set up the title bout with St. Pius X.



Photo for Anthony Richards

The Ponte Vedra volleyball team won all seven of its games to win the platinum division of the 2021 Nike Tournament of Champions Sept. 3-4.

GAME HIGHLIGHTS:

- Junior Zeta Washington helped lead the Sharks on offense and defense with 63 kills and 18 blocks registered during the tournament.
- Seniors Rachel Johnson and Kendall Mignerey finished with 45 and 32 kills, respectively.
- Sophomore Chelsea Sutton was active around the net and tallied 13 blocks as a result.

Week 3 football preview Team identities continue to take shape



Photo for Anthony Richards
Ben Bogle (No. 4), Cameron Helt (No. 62) and rest of the Nease defense will be tested when they go up against Orange Park's offense and running back JoJo Restall Sept. 10.

Both Ponte Vedra and Nease are at home this week with the Sharks hosting Baker County and the Panthers welcoming in Orange Park at 7 p.m. Sept. 10.

Despite both games being against non-district opponents, it is getting to the point in the season, three weeks in, that teams begin to find out their identity.

For the Sharks, that identity starts with the play on the defensive side of the ball, where they have allowed just 13 points in the first two games.

Head coach Steve

Price said going into the season that he wanted to instill a sense of physicality, and it appears that it has not taken long for the defense to reflect that.

This week will be another stiff test, as the Sharks face a Baker County squad that has averaged nearly 30 points per game early on.

Junior Cam Smith is one of the Wildcats' playmakers and is the team's leading rusher and receiver, including coming off a performance against Viera where

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Health Services:

Health services will continue to be a major focus of the 1990s. The American Medical Association, the American Heart Association, the American Cancer Society, and the American Lung Association all have issued guidelines for health services. The American Medical Association recommends that adults engage in at least 30 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity on most days of the week. The American Heart Association recommends that adults engage in at least 30 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity on most days of the week. The American Cancer Society recommends that adults engage in at least 30 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity on most days of the week. The American Lung Association recommends that adults engage in at least 30 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity on most days of the week.

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