

the register

FIRST ON THE FIRST COAST

At Home

FEATURING
THE PREMIER CUSTOM
BUILDER IN NORTHEAST
FLORIDA, TOM TROUT, INC.



WINE & DINE ON
THE FIRST COAST

GIVING BACK: LOCAL
NON-PROFITS

FACES OF THE FIRST COAST

AND MUCH MORE!

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2022

staff

Hugh Osteen
COO/VP

Susan Griffin
Publisher

Amber Anderson
Page/Graphic Designer

Lisa Murphy
Ad Designer

Shaun Ryan
Editor

Anthony Richards
Staff Writer

April Snyder
Sales Assistant

Kristin Flanagan
Account Executive

Adele McGraw
Account Executive

Debbie Apple
Account Executive

Joe Wilhelm
Circulation Manager

Contributor:
Leigh Cort

about the cover



The cover features a beautiful luxury home located at 101 Bristol Place, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL.

PHOTO BY THE FLOYD GROUP WITH ONE SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY.

[table of contents]

4 ONE OF US: Courtney Lewis

8 Breast cancer survivors compete as dragon boat team

15 Shiny cars and future stars

16 Giving Back: Caring Chefs



Puffy conch fritters are popular with diners at Taberna Del Caballo. - Page 18

Wine & Dine

18 TABLE TALK
Dine behind the walls of history at the Colonial Quarter

18 Variety of vendors showcased during festival

20 A chance to meet the winemaker

22 A visit to The Club Continental

24 The Cookie Baker: Unique cookies with a personal touch

At Home

25 Family business, family approach key to 60 years of success

27 Creating the morning mist bedroom

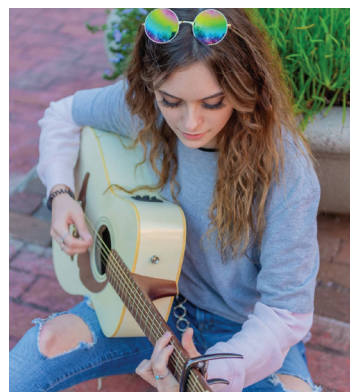
29 Make your home more appealing to modern buyers

30 2022 Realtor and Builder Tradeshow has space opera theme

33 A tranquil retreat in an island setting



Interior designer Laura West shows off the finished morning mist bedroom. - Page 27



A variety of music from the 1960s to early 2000s is what Delfs performs. - Page 42

In the Arts

35 Timucuan parks Foundation, nature Photographer Featured in exhibit

36 Go inside the painting

39 Amelia Island Jazz Festival hits all the right notes

41 Jacksonville Symphony kicks off 2022-23 season

42 Sharing love of music with a community

34 Boselli awarded key to the city

44 Halloween Roundup: Ghosts, goblins and good times on the First Coast

47 Tebow among ownership group bringing men's, women's soccer

ADVERTISING (904) 285-8831 | DISTRIBUTION (904) 285-8831

PUBLISHED BY OSTEEN MEDIA GROUP INC - LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED
PONTE VEDRA RECORDER, 1102 A1A North, Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
www.pontevedrarecorder.com

The Register is published bimonthly.

Ortega Riverfront Estate



A rare opportunity to own one of the most recognizable and elegant estate homes in Ortega. With 100 feet of river frontage and high elevation. The 2-story main house is 6112sqft with formal living and dining rooms, a library, Sunroom, kitchen and separate riverfront breakfast room along with 2 half baths on the 1st floor. All 4 bedrooms are on the 2nd floor with 4 full baths. The 3-car garage has a 920sqft garage apartment above fully equipped with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, a living/dining combo room and kitchen. An additional half bath is located on 1st floor in garage. Meticulously maintained and cared for, this special property on the St. Johns River won't last long.

4 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms, 2 Half Baths \$3,600,000

Luxury Intracoastal Estate



Leave the world behind! Drive down the beautifully landscaped drive to the private 4+ acre waterfront estate you get to call home. Custom-built with privacy, security and sustainability, this 10,956sq. ft. home is truly a work of art. Stunning and expansive eastern views of the Intracoastal Waterway with 160 ft. of water frontage and fully equipped for year-round outdoor living with a 25,000-gallon salt chlorinated pool, hot tub, dock, and boat lift. Come enjoy unrivaled privacy just minutes away from the world renowned Mayo Clinic and Atlantic Ocean.

5 Bedrooms, 5 Bathrooms, 4 Half Baths, \$7,995,000



**SARAH
ALEXANDER**

Sarah Alexander, REALTOR®

904-334-3104 cell

Sarah@SarahAlexander.net

www.beachshomes.com



**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY**
HomeServices

Florida Network Realty

'From Cottages
to Castles'



**ELIZABETH
HUDGINS**

Elizabeth Hudgins, REALTOR®

904-553-2032 cell

Elizabeth@ElizabethHudgins.com

www.beachshomes.com

ONE OF US

Courtney Lewis

story and photo by **SHAUN RYAN**

Jacksonville Symphony's music director, Courtney Lewis, has made a name for himself as one of the most dynamic orchestral conductors of his generation. His approach to symphonic programming reaches across all socio-economic groups, making great music accessible to all. He has a commitment to new music and has worked with and commissioned many of the leading composers of today. He has been called "a passionate opera conductor" and will demonstrate it when he conducts his favorite Mozart opera, "The Magic Flute," in 2023. He has appeared with many high-profile orchestras, including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Vancouver Symphony and the RTE National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland. From 2008 to 2014, he served as the music director of Boston's Discovery Ensemble.

What does a music director do?

I conduct most of the classical concerts. I choose the repertoire that we play, with the staff. I'm in charge of hiring new musicians. And I'm in charge of basically being the artistic leadership of the symphony.

You're a musician yourself. What do you play?

I play the piano and the clarinet, but not clarinet so much anymore. Just piano these days.

Tell me a little about your career path. How did you get to where you are today?

I was an Episcopal chorister growing up, so lots of music. When I was in high school, I played in bands and orchestras and all the rest of it. And then I continued in university and started to conduct at that time. Went to grad school for conducting.

And then I got a job in Boston when I was 23 with the Boston Philharmonic – right out of college – and moved to the States. Then, I went kind of job to job after that.

Where are you from originally?

I'm from Belfast, which is in Northern Ireland.

How long have you lived in the Jacksonville area?

Six years now.

What do you like best about living here on the First Coast?

I love how much people support the orchestra. I love the weather. I like the ease of living every day. I love the neighborhood I live in. I live in Avondale, and I'm very fond



Courtney Lewis, music director for the Jacksonville Symphony.

of it. So, yeah, quality of life and the orchestra and the weather. And I have great friends here, as well.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Cook, read, travel, weightlift – that's pretty much it. Music all the time, obviously. Music, music, music, music.

I know COVID had an impact on performances during the past couple of seasons. With this coming season, what are you looking forward to?

Well, I think COVID's pretty much gone now in terms of how we think about concerts. And we're back to normal, full-scale programming. So that is great.

I'm really looking forward to this opening weekend [performed Sept. 30 and Oct. 1], with "Petrouchka" by Stravinsky, one of his famous ballets from 1911. And the opera. That's always a massive thing. So, when we do "The Magic Flute" in April. That's going to be great.

DISCOVER YOUR DREAM HOME



A big *Thank You* to all of my clients who help support me over the years!
Whether you were buying, selling or referring me - I appreciate YOU!



- OVER \$64,000,000 SOLD IN 2021
- SOLD 2 OF THE TOP 10 MOST EXPENSIVE HOMES IN JACKSONVILLE 2021
- RANKED #7 JACKSONVILLE BUSINESS JOURNAL 2020 & 2021
- AMERICA'S TOP 1.5% AGENTS NATIONWIDE FOR 2021 & 2022
- RE/MAX DIAMOND CLUB 2021
- RE/MAX CHAIRMANS CLUB 2020
- RE/MAX HALL OF FAME



Jennifer White
REALTOR

904.446.0495

JenniferWhiteSellsPVB@yahoo.com
jenniferwhiterealestate.com



RE/MAX
SPECIALISTS PV



EACH OFFICE IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED.

PAVING A WAY FOR FAMILIES

50% OFF
ON SEALER OF
NEW PROJECTS

PATIO • DRIVEWAY • PAVER WORKS • PAVER PATIO • PAVER SEALER
BACK SPLASH • GRANITE COUNTER TOP • SCREEN ENCLOSURES • PERGOLAS



RIVER STONEWORK

Licensed and Insured



904-830-6682

WWW.RIVERSTONEWORK.COM

LICENSED • INSURED • BONDED • LIC# RR282812174

Breast cancer survivors

COMPETE AS DRAGON BOAT TEAM

story by **SHAUN RYAN**
photo provided by **JERI MILLARD**

Breast cancer survivors understand the importance of having support from those who have been — or still are — in their shoes. The healing process is aided by sharing that tough journey with someone who's been there. And one way to surround oneself with such people is to join a team made up of other survivors.

That's where the Mammoglam come in. The local dragon boat racing team is composed of "loud, fun, classy, sassy breast cancer survivors" who celebrate their accomplishments together, support one another in all of life's many challenges and never say never.

The team is part of the Jacksonville Dragon Boat Club and trains at Beach Marine, 2315 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville Beach. Their motto is: "We've 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. At the bow is a drummer who provides the cadence for the paddlers. At the stern is the steerer.

The first dragon boat races were held more than 2,000 years ago in China. Today, there are more than 50 million participants worldwide. Teams are often comprised of groups with a certain identity. There may be all-male teams, all-female teams, teams for certain age ranges for those over 40, 50, 60 or 70. And, of course, teams like the Mammoglam for breast cancer survivors.

The origin of the group goes back a dozen years. Jeri Millard, a breast cancer survivor herself who runs the In The Pink nonprofit, was at a speaking engagement for the American Cancer Society, and a married couple approached her, pitching the idea for a dragon boat team.

This was the fourth time someone



The Mammoglam are breast cancer survivors who paddle a dragon boat in competition.

had spoken to her about it. She filed it away for later, but eventually thought it might be worth looking into.

So, she held some fundraisers and put down payments on two dragon boats, which cost \$15,000 apiece. Team member dues would pay off the loans Millard had taken out to fund the purchase.

The team was a success, and for several years Millard and her husband — who competes with Team USA — presented the Jacksonville Dragon Boat festival. The first year, the event attracted 50 teams.

"It was a great festival," Millard said. "Everybody loved it."

It was also the biggest fundraiser for Millard's In The Pink nonprofit, held first at The Landing, then Metro Park. Now, however, the festival is in hiatus until Millard can find a new place to hold it.

In the meantime, the Mammoglam continue to train and compete across the state and the nation.

But winning a race is only a part of the Mammoglam's value. More importantly, the members act as a support group.

"We have lots of fun together, and we all travel together," Millard said. "We've become a family to each other."

They share their experiences with treatment, advice, personal struggles and major challenges along the road of life's journey.

"There's so much support there," said Millard. "It's amazing."

It helps that paddling a dragon boat is something most people of any age can do, even if they have medical issues.

In fact, a study found that paddling actually improved circulation for breast cancer survivors. But it benefits survivors in other ways, as well.

"It improves their overall outlook on life, because when you start exercising and your endorphins kick in, you feel better," Millard said. "You feel better about yourself. And you're meeting other people who are in a situation just like you."

To learn more about the Jacksonville Dragon Boat Club, go to jacksonvilledragonboatclub.com. The club can also be found on meetup.com.

To connect with Millard and learn about the Mammoglam, call her at 904-534-3266 or at In The Pink, 904-372-0029.

"There's so much support there. It's amazing."

- JERI MILLARD

Medical, Surgical & Cosmetic
Dermatology

Skin Exams
Skin Care
Skin Cancer
Skin Surgery
Skin Rash
Laser Treatments
Chemical Peels
Injectables

DERMAGNIFY uses the latest medical advances to improve skin health, function, and beauty.



DERMAGNIFY

100 Executive Way, Suite 114
PONTE VEDRA BEACH



MARK CAPPEL, M.D.

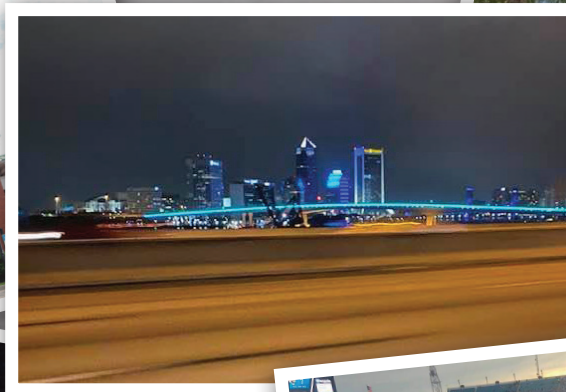
Founder
Board-Certified
Dermatologist & Dermatopathologist

Schedule your appointment online at
dermagnify.com or by texting or calling: 904.842.3632

Please check our website for accepted insurance.



FACES OF *The First Coast*



Faces Of The First Coast is an exclusive feature for First Coast Register readers to get to know prominent business leaders in Northeast Florida's coastal communities.

If you would like to be featured in Faces of the First Coast, please contact us at (904) 285-8831.

**Paid advertisement*



Clareberryrealestate.com

I have been fortunate to work as a Realtor in Northeast Florida for over 30 years. We like to think Northeast Florida is undiscovered. But word is out that our neighborhoods, and the people who live here, are special.

I grew up in Jacksonville and moved to the beach in my 20s. I studied architecture and interior design in college and followed that with a stint in the media. In those years, I learned the art of listening and of asking questions.

My real estate career began in 1985 with Watson Realty, where I learned my craft. I then moved to the original Marsh Landing Realty firm, which marketed the Marsh Landing development in stages, including the opening of unique Harbour Island.

In 1993, I opened my own brokerage, Berry & Co. Real Estate. Our first listing was The Ponte Vedra Carlyle, 48 new condominiums on Ponte Vedra Boulevard. That was an exciting time – new residences in a premier location, with Lodge membership included for every purchaser! We have a robust general brokerage business, having helped hundreds of buyers and sellers with their residential real estate needs. We take pride in our market knowledge - it is the foundation for the extra level of service we provide our customers.

My customers describe me as “one of our most trusted advisors”... “responsive, kind and honest”... “always felt we were in good hands” ... “stands out from the rest regarding professionalism, true customer satisfaction and a real passion to do things the right way.” I am proud to share my knowledge and insights to help make the real estate buying and selling process efficient, enjoyable and rewarding.

At our boutique brokerage, we are committed to identifying each customer’s needs, wants and desires. We match this customized perspective with our market knowledge and years of experience to help our customers make their best decisions. It is such a pleasure, as a native of this area, to guide newcomers to learn about what makes Northeast Florida special, from the wildlife to the beaches to the residents and business owners who call the area home. Equally exciting to me is marketing homes and land, securing that best new owner through customized communications that tell the special story of each property.

While homebase for our office is Ponte Vedra Beach, we also are active in neighboring Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Atlantic Beach and Nocatee as well as greater Jacksonville. Our real estate market is ever-changing and always intriguing, keeping me excited about the challenges and opportunities each new day brings.



FACES OF THE
FIRST COAST

THE FACE OF
**LUXURY REAL
ESTATE**

Clare Berry

**BERRY & CO.
REAL ESTATE**

(904) 382-5875
330 A1A North, Suite 305
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
www.clareberryrealestate.com





FACES OF THE
FIRST COAST

THE FACE OF FAMILY LAW

*Heather
Brooke Quick*

**FLORIDA
WOMEN'S LAW
GROUP**

(904) 241-0012

8771 Perimeter Park Ct., Suite 101
Jacksonville, FL 32216

Web: FloridaWomensLawGroup.com

Podcast: WomenWinningDivorce.com

Heather Brooke Quick is the founder and CEO of the only divorce and family law firm for women in Northeast Florida. Divorce is often looked at in a negative way but staying in an unhappy and unhealthy marriage is not positive for anyone, especially if there are children involved. It takes strength and courage to walk away from something that is toxic and head into the unknown to look for a better future. At Florida Women's Law Group we want to support and empower women that feel trapped in hopeless situations. We are committed to providing women with the information and tools necessary to make educated decisions about their future and goals.

It has been amazing to watch women transform as we help them navigate their divorce. We have supported women breadwinners protecting what they have worked so hard to earn and accomplish in their careers as well as safeguarding their custody and time with their children. We are here to give strength to the supportive stay-at-home mother who has been in the background propelling her husband's success while putting her own career goals to the side. As a firm of all women, we understand women and what it feels like to be second guessed and under-valued. With Florida Women's Law Group you are always first and you are always valued.

In February 2022, we launched our podcast, "Women Winning Divorce." Each week we focus on different aspects of family law to help guide women through the difficult and emotional legal challenges they are facing. Heather brings over 20 years of law experience that advocates and empowers women to achieve happier and healthier lives. Join Heather as she discusses family law issues including divorce, custody, alimony, paternity, narcissism, mediation and more.

We are committed to guiding women with compassion and empathy through matters of alimony, child support, domestic violence, relocation, and other family law matters. Our team continually looks for innovative ways to solve problems for our clients, working together with them to move their lives forward in a better, more comprehensive manner than the traditional legal approach allows. We are women empowering women through personal, financial, and legal difficulties in family courts. If it is time for you to make a change, let us help you achieve a more stable, healthy and happy future.

Listen to our podcast at
WomenWinningDivorce.com/podcast
or on all major podcast outlets.





**FACES OF THE
FIRST COAST**

**THE FACES OF
FINE JEWELRY**

**Building Trust for 40 Years as a
Family Owned and Operated Jewelry Store**

Miriam’s is a family owned and operated business for over 40 years. Miriam had a vision and passion for fine jewelry and she put that dream to work. Now, years later, along with her two daughters, she has one of the most successful businesses in the Jacksonville area. Miriam’s has earned a flawless reputation and the trust of people nationwide.

We at Miriam’s have standards unsurpassed by any other jewelry store. We educate our clients on diamonds, gems, and each piece of jewelry so they feel confident and knowledgeable about their purchase.

You can walk into the store and speak directly to Miriam and her two daughters, Benji and Leah, whom have followed in her footsteps and love of jewelry. It is because of this legacy that upon the purchase of a Miriam’s piece you inherit history. Each piece from Miriam’s is infused with our special history, quality and style.

**MIRIAM’S
JEWELRY**

**JACKSONVILLE BEACH
(904) 339-0309**

**2400 South 3rd St, Suite #105
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250**

**PONTE VEDRA BEACH
(904) 373-0702**

**Sawgrass Village Shopping Center
260 Front Street, Suite #610
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082**

**SAN MARCO
(904) 398-7393**

**1966 San Marco Blvd
Jacksonville, FL 32207**



Website: www.miriamsjewelry.com
Instagram: [@miriamsjewelry](https://www.instagram.com/miriamsjewelry)
Facebook: [Miriamsjewelry](https://www.facebook.com/Miriamsjewelry)



**TOP PRODUCING AGENT –
BEACHES AREA**



**FACES OF THE
FIRST COAST**

**THE FACE OF
INTERNATIONAL
REAL ESTATE**

Maria Wilkes

**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY
HOMESERVICES**

(904) 327-0702

Email: Maria.Wilkes@BHHSFNR.com



From Army Jumpseat to corporate hotseat, I've passionately sought to provide excellence in everything I do, while creating a motivated, positive experience for those I serve and those I've led; always focused on leaving an environment better than when I first arrived. As I've focused on the real estate industry for the past 17 years, I'm passionate about working with my clients providing them unmatched service; as a fiduciary with integrity & honesty; so they can make the best, informed real estate decisions.

Curated Luxury Collection was born of this passion to uncover and deliver exclusive concierge services benefiting affluent clients and those seeking lifestyle investments.... Carefully selected residences that create lasting memories for your family and friends, for you to connect with what is most important: Spending time with those you love. We discover and market luxury residences that focus on wellness, outdoor adventure, connectedness and sustainable living. Each property is unique and enticing as it embodies the essence of its locale.

Seeking exquisite properties in which to invest can be expensive and time consuming. Our personal relationships with resort developers and brokers allow us to provide a unique service experience and access that is unmatched; that's what clients expect with one-of-a-kind destinations.

We are partnering with some of the best luxury resort properties across the globe to bring to you destinations that define life, well imagined. Visit www.CuratedLuxuryCollection.com to see some of our recent additions, with new properties and investments added regularly.

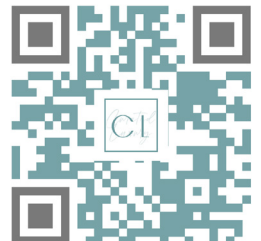
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices represents the most prestigious independent brokerages in the United States, with top franchises throughout the Americas, Europe & Asia, we are the preferred choice to connect the most desirable destinations in the world to the world's most elite consumers seeking lifestyle investment.

www.CuratedLuxuryCollection.com



**BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
HomeServices**

**RESORT
PROPERTIES INTERNATIONAL**



SHINY CARS AND *future stars*

photos by **ANTHONY RICHARDS**

The following photos are from the PXG Women's Match Play Championship VIP reception Sept. 22 at Murgado Automotive Group's Bentley of Jacksonville. The event served as the official kickoff for the second annual golf tournament which will be played Nov. 1-6 on the Slammer & Squire Golf Course at World Golf Village.

A panther statue made by Ocean Sole Africa entirely out of recycled flip flops was on display at the event.



Donna Lueders, T.J. Samhuri and Nicole Samhuri.



Tournament sponsor PXG had golf clubs and a driving simulator on hand for attendees to try.



Cheryl and Micaa Thomas.



There was an assortment of food for attendees at the VIP reception to enjoy.



Jennifer and David Louge.

CARING CHEFS

Good food and beverages for a good cause

Caring Chefs has been called Northeast Florida's biggest and best food and beverage tasting event, and it is back this year at a new location — The Glass Factory.

Children's Home Society of Florida says it is thrilled to continue the Caring Chefs legacy of introducing patrons to new restaurants, dishes, breweries and trends, all while listening to live music.

The area's finest chefs, sommeliers and brewers are once again coming together, along with patrons, to raise much-needed funds and help Northeast Florida's most vulnerable children and families.



The public is invited to this unique event, which will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 23, at the Glass Factory, 601 Myrtle Ave. North, Jacksonville.

Children's Home Society of Florida is currently celebrating 120 years of serving the community. When children and families face hard situations, Children's Home Society of Florida empowers them to find — and pursue — opportunities for success and happiness.

Those attending Caring Chefs get to be part of the good work, as the society provides the best services for Children's Home Society families and children.

For further information, go to chsfl.org/events/38th-annual-caring-chefs.

To purchase tickets, go to chsfl.org/chefs.

TIME TO TAKE IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL

WOMEN'S PROFESSIONAL GOLF IS BACK!

NOVEMBER 1-6
WORLD GOLF VILLAGE



A WOMEN'S INITIATIVES COLLABORATION
WITH GENERATION *W*

SCAN FOR
ADMISSION &
VOLUNTEERING



AN OFFICIAL
ECWPGT EVENT

@PXGWMPC • @ECWPGT • #AINTNOMINITOUR • #MAKEGOLFYOURTHING
PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS @ PXGWMPC.COM

PROCEEDS GO TO
INK!
INVESTING IN KIDS

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!

THE
RECORDER

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



THE POWER OF TWO, STARTS WITH YOU

Make Double the Impact for Daniel Kids in November

Thanks to the Jessie Ball duPont Fund, ONLINE donations made to Daniel during November will be matched.

YOUR DOUBLED DOLLARS WILL HELP:

- supply counseling for abused children
- connect neglected children with foster families
- provide homeless teens with shelter and support
- strengthen and reunify high-risk families

Please Donate **ONLINE** in November
danielkids.org | 904.296.1055

daniel
Improving the odds for kids
SINCE 1984



Caring★ Chefs

Sample cuisine and beverages from Northeast Florida's finest chefs, sommeliers and brewers.

Sunday, October 23, 2022

6-9pm • The Glass Factory • Tickets \$80

The Food-Tasting Event of the Year

Caring Chefs raises much-needed funds to help Northeast Florida's most vulnerable children and families.



Tickets available NOW!

For more info and tickets, call **904.806.5811**
or visit: **chsfl.org/chefs**

TABLE TALK

DINE BEHIND THE WALLS OF HISTORY *at the Colonial Quarter*

story and photos by LEIGH CORT



As you stroll along famed St. George Street in St. Augustine, passing shops, restaurants, museums, pubs, hidden paths and familiar landmarks,

take notice of the largest tract of history, The Colonial Quarter. If you listen carefully, you might hear whispers from centuries past. You have to look behind the walls of history to explore their 2.5-acre self-contained Colonial Experience Living History Tour. Here you will be welcomed into the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries with notable sights, authentic demonstrations and fabulous casual dining.

Walking through times past beneath the colorful flags that have flown over St. Augustine for more than 450 years, you can imagine the thrill that sailors on Ponce de Leon's ship felt as they reached Florida's northeastern coast. The Colonial Experience allows guests to understand the success of the oldest permanent European settlement in North America. The entire property of history and dining is like a living museum that represents our country's mosaic of cultures.

Prominently positioned on St. George Street, three signs welcome you into the Taberna del Caballo, Bull & Crown Publick House and The St. Augustine Seafood Company. Deliciously authentic, what is awaiting you today as you wander into any of the restaurants? They are realistically

designed eateries that feel as if you've stepped back in time to experience the old-world charm of our nation's oldest city.

Two of St. Augustine's cherished landmark homes — No. 37 is the De Mesa-Sanchez House (circa 1740) and the reconstructed Pellicer-DeGurgo House is No. 53 — are marvelously preserved in The Colonial Quarter for dining and relaxing and may well be two of the country's oldest restaurants. In the 18th century, they were occupied by British and Hessian troops during the Revolutionary War. Even if you dine here time and again, you might never sit in the same century in either the restaurants or colonial park setting!

During the day, the tempo on St. George Street is lively with families, lovers, diners and shoppers. Step into the inviting Taberna and treat yourself to an oyster shooter (datil pepper infused vodka, a jumbo sweet fresh oyster and cocktail sauce). Order the puffy conch fritters dipped in JohnJohn sauce. If you have an appetite for



The Bull & Crown Publick House's chicken mushroom pie is this season's star attraction.



This huge sandwich of locally caught fried fish is available at the St. Augustine Seafood House.

a huge sandwich of locally caught fried fish piled high with cilantro cole slaw on a yummy toasted bun, you might want to share it along with the scrumptious fried shrimp basket. Their bar menu is unique; the Sir Francis Drake cocktail is a refreshing all-weather favorite (vodka, peach schnapps, pineapple juice and raspberries).

At night, the Colonial Quarter and its restaurants come alive with candlelight. Perhaps you'll find a comfy table on St. George Street's largest open-air patio at the Bull & Crown Publick House. This is where the buzz of downtown is delightfully unforgettable. Their menu offers a variety of English staples from fish &

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19 ■

COLONIAL QUARTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

chips and patty melt to kedgeree. The culinary team wows guests with their spin on every dish, especially the truffle parmesan artichoke dip, a perfect shareable that demands your attention!

The menu's authentic house-smoked Scottish salmon finds its showcase on the salmon bruschetta with herbed cream cheese, red onion, capers and dill. This season's star for hearty appetites is the chicken and mushroom pie — with a velvety light tarragon cream sauce and flaky crust.

One can't overlook the newest of the three restaurants, St. Augustine Seafood Company, which is a fast casual dining option. Guests order at the counter and then seat themselves inside or out — at picnic tables in the backyard or under the giant oaks in the Colonial Oak Music Park. Fall and winter weather in St. Augustine couldn't be better for dining outdoors, especially in the Colonial Quarter's



Smoked salmon bruschetta is a big hit at The Bull & Crown Publick House.

very own live music venue under the shady limbs of a 300-year-old oak tree. This multi-faceted attraction and destination is a hidden gem that offers concerts from Thursday through Sunday — and almost always free. It's family and doggie friendly with seating for 250-plus visitors. The Colonial Oak is a surprising, gorgeous and unique setting for music and cultural festivals throughout the year and a popular venue for weddings, too.

The Colonial Quarter's Executive Director Cindy Stavelly has been at the helm of her unrivaled destination

for many years. She understands that guests want to have a unique, customized dining “experience” and still have time to explore the historic district day and night. Attentive and timely service, delicious food that's great value for each budget plus genuine hospitality are the principles that keep fans and friends returning to explore and dine.

As you contemplate the history of America's oldest city, it's easy at The Colonial Quarter to imagine the 16th century and St. Augustine's first days as a trading port and the first European waterfront community. Take a moment to climb the watchtower and gaze on the unshakable vista of the bayfront and aerial view of the Castillo de San Marcos.

Restaurants are based on people — so I'll be waiting for you in the Taberna to enjoy a Sir Francis Drake on the rocks.

The Colonial Quarter, at 14 S. Castillo Drive, St. Augustine, is open seven days a week. For further information, go to colonialquarter.com.



LIVE YOUR LIFE DELICIOUSLY

Fresh Greek dishes loaded with flavor.



(904) 531-9279

50 Shoppes Blvd Suite 50,
St. Johns, FL 32259

MON-SUN: 11:00AM - 8:00PM

thegreatgreekgrill.com

ORDER PICKUP & DELIVERY ONLINE



JOIN CLUB GYRO & EARN REWARDS ON EVERY ORDER!

metro

-diner-

TRY OUR
Award Winning
CHICKEN & WAFFLES
TODAY!

A TOURNAMENT TRADITION FOR OVER 20 YEARS!

★

PLEASE JOIN US AT EITHER OF OUR BEACHES LOCATIONS

PONTE VEDRA	JAX BEACH
Sawgrass Village	1534 Third Street N

Catering Available | Easy Online Ordering | metro.diner.com

A CHANCE TO MEET THE *winemaker*

photos by **SUSAN GRIFFIN**

Coastal Wine Market & Tasting Room held its Meet the Winemaker event on Aug. 23. The event featured the owners of Eagle Eye Wines, Bill and Roxanne Wolf, pictured below with Steve Laurie, owner of Coastal Wine Market & Tasting Room.



Farm To Table
Southern Inspired
Locally Sourced
Daily Brunch
Full Bar

Wednesday-Friday 11am to 3pm/ 5pm to 9pm
Saturday 9am to 3 pm/ 5pm to 9pm
Sunday 9am to 3pm





On A1A between St. Augustine and Ponte Vedra Beach on the Intracoastal 2 blocks south of the castle in North Beach



FRESH LOCAL SEAFOOD



Come By Car or Boat!

(904) 829-1105

We offer outstanding family dining, whether you're looking for steamed oysters, peel 'n eat shrimp, fresh salad, great soups, a terrific steak or blackened chicken, we have something for everyone and every appetite!

Lunch & Dinner - 7 Days a Week
Full Bar • Live Music • Beautiful Sunsets
Happy Hour 3-7 pm in the bar

Ask Us About Private Parties In Our Covered Party Pavilion On The Water!

www.aunt-kates.com • 612 Euclid Avenue

A VISIT TO THE CLUB CONTINENTAL

story and photos by LEIGH CORT

Once Upon a Time in 1923 ...



Oh, the glistening swells of the St. Johns River from my River Suite at The Club Continental! Quickly settling my luggage

in the closet and opening the doors to the balcony, the soft breezes and expansive two-mile-wide river invited me to sit down and let the cares of the day vanish. It was easy to imagine this extraordinary spot being a place where once Indians fished, leaving behind arrowheads and treasures that might still be discovered on the shore today.

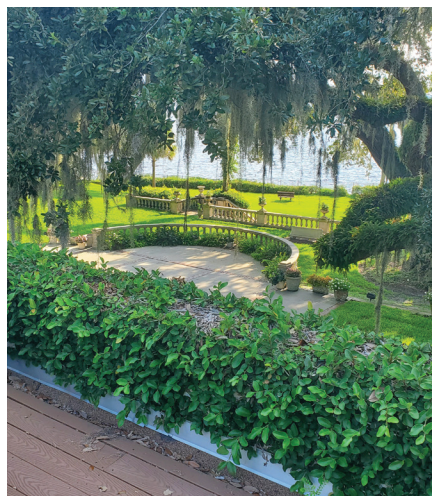
There is a century of family stories hiding in the stone and stucco walls, buried in the lush courtyard, scattered through rose gardens and towering live oak trees, some forgotten through generations of ownership of Mira Rio, which eventually was named the The Club Continental in 1966.

On its sprawling property, Winterbourne and other elegant family homes were handed down and cherished by generations of Johnsons, Fergusons and ultimately Maseeses. Great-grandparents, sisters and brothers, cousins, parents and a rich tapestry of prominent people followed in the footsteps of each generation before them.

When Mr. B.J. Johnson, who owned The Palmolive Soap Company at the turn of the 20th century, looked for a vacation spot to nurture his family away from the cold Wisconsin weather, Orange Park was where they wintered each year. It became their permanent

residence since Palm Beach and Miami had not yet become popular resorts. How significant that the railroad coming south along the East Coast had a spur directly to Orange Park and its soon-to-be bustling future.

The intricate family trees flourished for half a century until Jon and Frica Masee purchased Mira Rio — a waterfront showplace — and incorporated it as a private social club in 1966. Today, their daughter Ms. Karrie Masee proudly owns and manages The Club Continental as a lovely historic Inn — seven suites in the mansion itself and 15 accommodations of River Suites built more recently in 1992. Its Mediterranean style reflects the original home — and together they offer guests an authentic glimpse into the charming past with luxury accommodations. For club members and inn guests, private dining paired with The Club Continental’s amenities are the best kept secret in Northeast Florida!



The grounds of The Club Continental inspire visitors to drop out of the buzz of traffic and the commonplace.

At The Club Continental, a romantic and intimate destination unlike other hotels or resorts, there is a feeling of privacy and relaxation for travelers today. Whether journeying far or just searching for a very special nearby getaway, its spot on the St. Johns River under the grand live oak trees invites you to walk slower, stroll the manicured lawns, find a chaise lounge near the beautiful pools, listen to the wind in the trees, play tennis, sip a lemonade, read a book or simply drop out of the buzz of traffic and the commonplace!

Breakfast is served daily to inn guests and club members with a riverfront view, beginning the day with a choice of chef entrée and a help-yourself selection of breads and pastries, fresh fruit, cereal and beverages. The Club Continental’s Executive Chef Sheldon Harris has been at the helm of the kitchen for more than 30 years. Culinary tastes and trends shared by members and guests continue to influence his creative dinner menus that are served Tuesday through Friday evenings only to inn guests and club members. He cherishes his career that has become his life. If a guest loves a particular dish, he will do his best to make it happen with a respectable advance request. Chef’s culinary team has been an integral part of the Club Continental “family” of staff — many with decades of dedicated service to the Masee family since they began in the hospitality industry.

Most evenings at the alluring little bar, guests enjoy conversation with Fred, a bartender whose stories often trace some of Orange Park’s history

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23 ■

CLUB CONTINENTAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

and people. And if you're selecting Wednesday to visit, Roger Wood's extensive musical repertoire at the piano is reason enough to stay overnight and perhaps linger a little bit longer after dinner.

I never tire of discovering the charm of The Club Continental and the collections of family photos and memorabilia that trace the story of its heritage throughout the inn. Grand and formal family portraits, images of happy times past, all transport you to a century of unforgettable family members who held dear to the legacy of their lives in Orange Park.

Delving into Orange Park history (once called Laurel Grove Plantation), is a pastime to research fascinating stories while vacationing at Club Continental. The little town lured people with its healthy climate and therapeutic springs while playing host to the rich and famous as well as the poor and humble. Steamboats brought notables like President Ulysses S. Grant, William Astor and Harriet Beecher Stowe. In addition, the area had one of the early integrated schools in the South!

Imagine "old Florida" and the rise of wealthy families building enormous manor homes, winter homes and family compounds; many successful visionaries modeled their homes after grand European mansions. They borrowed lavish architectural details drawn from a variety of styles of America's Gilded Age from Beaux Arts to



Bartender Fred's stories harken back to the history and people of Orange Park.

Renaissance Revival. The Club Continental reflects the range of grand style similar to others throughout the country that are only open for tours. How fortunate that Karrie Massee keeps her home opened to guests today plus hosting corporate, social and wedding parties. It seems like a fairy tale, but when you arrive it is truly "Once Upon a Time in 1923"!

For further information, go to ClubContinental.com.



This ornate pool can be seen on the grounds of The Club Continental.

THE CLUB CONTINENTAL IS A LUXURY HOTEL, EVENT VENUE AND PRIVATE CLUB LOCATED AT 2143 ASTOR ST., ORANGE PARK.



BARBARA Jean's

ON THE WATER



Coastal Casual AT ITS BEST



(904) 280-7522 | BarbaraJeansOnTheWater.com

15 South Roscoe Boulevard
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida 32082

The Cookie Baker

UNIQUE COOKIES WITH A PERSONAL TOUCH

story and photos by LEIGH CORT



Some bakers are born to be in the kitchen and others learn their trade from studying with experts. Many find their passion later in life when they didn't even

think they had talent! There's no doubt that Sandy Nicolette, owner of Sassy Sweets by Sandy, began baking "tiny things" at a very early age. Didn't we all have a children's Easy Bake Oven when we were 8 years old?

Inspired by her mother Dorothy's baking and her grandmother Josephine's pies, Sandy did finally study her craft with Grammy Pammy (Pamela Eleanor) learning the art of custom cookie design and baking. For the past

three years, she has brought marvelous finishing touches to many gatherings throughout Northeast Florida with her innovative, delicious and keepsake cookies. From children's parties and bridal showers to holiday gift-giving, sports themes and even special events in barns with ponies and boots, her Sassy Sweets bring smiles and laughter to all of her clients and friends.

Emanating from her cottage food kitchen, the "Cookie Baker" loves the challenge of creating memories first — and establishing clients, too! Although Sandy's most popular sugar cookie flavor is vanilla almond, it's a very delicate taste along with other requested flavors of lemon, orange, lime and chocolate. Gluten-free is also an option for the cookie and her colorful



ABOVE: The Cookie Baker created a garden of sweet blossoms. RIGHT: This pineapple cookie is sure to set mouths watering.

royal icing!

As each cookie pops out of the oven, it's hand-decorated and individually wrapped in an air-sealed clear cellophane bag to maintain its freshness for many weeks. Sassy Sweets requests a minimum of two dozen cookies per themed design order, beginning at \$4 per cookie. Since they are custom-created, Sandy personally delivers them throughout St. Johns, Duval, Flagler and Clay counties to ensure that their arrival is guaranteed "in one piece." No cookie crumbs here in her Sassy Sweets!

St. Augustine! The Ocean! The Reef!



Enjoy ocean views from every table.

Expanded Outdoor Seating

Serving Lunch & Dinner

Live Music Friday & Saturday

Fresh Fish, Seafood, Steaks & So Much More

Voted BEST HAPPY HOUR and BEST BRUNCH in St. Augustine

The Atlantic Ocean! A constant view that never looks the same! The Reef is one of the few remaining truly oceanfront restaurants in Northeast Florida. Unrivaled views, Great food and wine. Just 20 minutes South of Ponte Vedra on A1A.

4100 Coastal Highway A1A North • (904) 824-8008



www.thereefstaugustine.com

Family business, family approach KEY TO 60 YEARS OF SUCCESS

story by **ANTHONY RICHARDS**
photos courtesy of **TOM TROUT, INC.**

Tom Trout focuses on past and future by celebrating 'trifecta'

The Tom Trout name has become synonymous with custom home building in the Jacksonville area and has developed a reputation over the past 60 years since they have been in business.

Sixty years is a long time to be around and successful for any business, and there are certain factors that Tom Trout III believes have played a large role in their longevity.

First and foremost is the fact that it has remained a family business throughout the six-plus decades, and it is not something they plan to change any time soon.

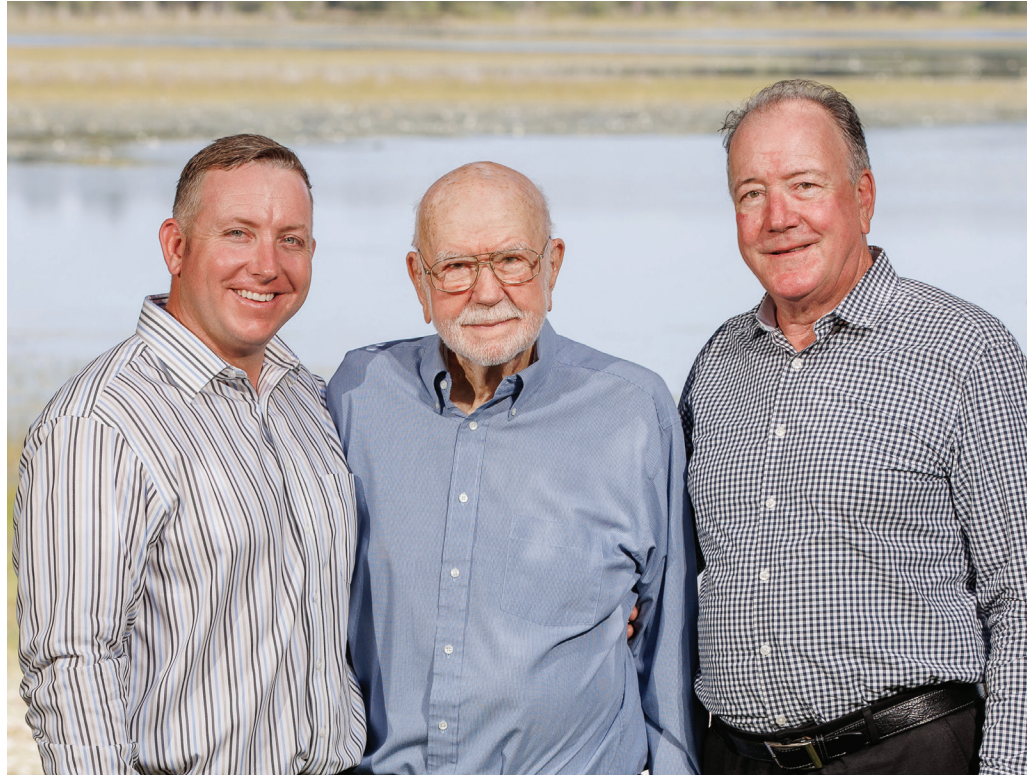
In fact, most recently Trout III's son Tommy, or T4 as he is also known, decided to take a more expanded role within the business after serving in the U.S. Navy the past 12 years, where he had earned the rank of chief.

He is just the latest in a long line of Trouts dating back to his grandfather Tom Trout Jr., who founded the business in 1962.

This year not only marked a "trifecta" as Trout III calls it, because not only are they celebrating 60 years of being in business and a growing role for Trout IV, but Trout Jr. also recently celebrated his 95th birthday.

According to Trout III, having his dad around to continue to experience the continued growth of the business firsthand has been exciting to see.

"We did a lot of talking and a lot of



praying and he made the decision that this is what he wanted to do," Trout III said. "He loves to build stuff and he's been around it his whole life, so I think it's going to be a great fit."

Although it has only been a little more than a month since rejoining the family business and transitioning to working in the private sector again, it has been a smooth change so far.

"I worked in a few different trades before my military service, such as electrical and did some concrete as well as various other things," said Trout IV.

Even though Trout IV was not always hands-on in the business in recent years, the conversations still managed to eventually find their way to the family's venture in some way or another.



"Every day we would talk on the phone about personal stuff, but we would always end up talking about business as well," said Trout IV. "I've always had an interest in construction, so I was always interested to hear how it was going. You want nothing more

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26 ■

“They say that passion is something you would do even if you weren’t getting paid for it, and I feel like that’s the kind of passion we have here.”

- TOM TROUT IV



TOM TROUT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

than to help family, and that has always been there.”

That family aspect is something they pride themselves in and in many ways is evident in how they approach their day-to-day business.

Seeing his son be more involved in the family business brings back memories for Trout III of the time when he was first starting out in 1980 and getting to be more of an entrenched member of the company.

“I remember we had an unexpected management change at the time and my dad was leaving for three months to go on his boat,” Trout III chuckled. “He told me to basically be the eyes and ears of the client and it worked out because we finished up a big custom home. I learned that in our business project management means more than just managing projects, because you’ve also got to sell the jobs and design the projects. Pretty much be involved in all aspects of procuring business.”

“They say that passion is something you would do even if you weren’t getting paid for it, and I feel like that’s the kind of passion we have here,”

Trout IV said.

That passion is something he believes is evident when they interact with clients, because they seek to treat each project they take on as if they were doing it for a member of their family.

The approach with their clients is nothing new for the business and has been there from the very beginning thanks to Tom Trout Jr., who was a people person at heart.

“One of my grandfather’s greatest attributes was just pure integrity and sincerity,” Trout IV said. “I remember times when it would just be granddad and I, and we would pull into the gas station and he said he’d be back in five minutes, but 45 minutes later, here he comes and he’d be like ‘T4, I just met the greatest guy who works in the gas station,’ and would then continue to tell the whole life story about this guy. He just cares about people more than anybody I have met in my entire life.”

One of the ways the business has become part of the Jacksonville culture over the years is with its billboard, which stands behind its main office located at 5569 Bowden Road, Suite 1 in Jacksonville and can be viewed by travelers going both directions on Interstate 95.

Various inspirational and thought-provoking messages are placed on the board with a new one put up every week the sign was first put up in the mid to late 1980s.

Trout IV has experienced firsthand the impression the billboards can make on people, as he even met people when he was stationed in Virginia that mentioned the billboards and how they used to love reading them when they lived in Jacksonville.

“It’s just another way to connect with the community and hopefully brighten people’s day,” Trout IV said.

One thing that has never gotten old after all these years in the business, and that is seeing the facial expressions and waves of excitement that hit a client and their family when they see a project in all its finished glory.

“It’s a wonderful thing to see the clients that you work closely with get all excited when they start to really see the project come together,” Trout III said. “When you’re doing framing and concrete or windows and doors that’s all nice, but once you start putting cabinets and flooring in, that’s the stuff that really pops and their enthusiasm starts to go up and up from there.”

CREATING THE MORNING MIST BEDROOM

story by LAURA WEST Contributed photos



Interior designer Laura West shows off the finished morning mist bedroom.

How do interior designers make those perfect choices when there are so many options and alternatives in transforming a space? Where do they start? What are their secrets?

Laura West, owner of Mineral City Inc., recently provided some insight, describing the process she used in designing a bedroom to the owners' specifications.

The space: The room is 882 square feet in the main bedroom and closet, plus a large bathroom and screened-in porch with sliding glass doors to enjoy the breeze and view of the marsh.

The goal: The homeowners requested a bedroom that would serve as a calm and

peaceful way to begin and end their day. This room, the master bedroom retreat, was the final room to be redecorated in their home after we had completed a series of projects together pre-COVID.

At the start: The bedroom project began as a follow-up to the renovation of the master bathroom, for which we chose marble with pronounced gray veining as a dramatic yet tranquil focal point. After completing the bathroom renovation, the homeowners and I decided that the master bedroom needed a refresh to blend the two rooms together and create a cohesive retreat from their busy lifestyle with grown children, grandchildren and a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28 ■

Home Sweet Home

More than a place to **live**, The Atwater at Nocatee is a place to **thrive**.



THE

ATWATER

AT NOCATEE

CONTACT US TODAY TO LEARN MORE

(877) 859-2648

TheAtwateratNocatee.TheRecorder.WoodPartners@aptleasing.info

50 Pine Shadow Pkwy, Ponte Vedra, FL 32081

www.atwateratnocatee.com



MORNING MIST

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

new puppy.

We first selected the Stark Antilocarpa carpet, which serves as the glue that binds the bathroom (more cool gray) and the bedroom (more warm beige) together. The centerpiece of the bedroom is the wrought-iron bed, which the homeowners wanted to keep, and I needed to integrate it into the design — it ended up serving as the grounding force in the room and then I added the gold starburst mirror to soften the hard geometric angles of the bedframe.

Special elements, materials, colors and other features:

The melding of warm and cool color palettes was further facilitated by my fabric and wallpaper selections: We reupholstered the wicker chair cushion with an ivory boucle fabric, used a vinyl grass-cloth in the bathroom to add some subtle color variation, and we repurposed the existing valance by adding a Kate Spade trim to refresh and add a bit of glamour to it, and then added new sheers in a Kravet fabric called Elevated in the Pewter color to accent the warm beige valance with cool gray, diaphanous, sheer fabric.

We actually used a lined version of the sheer fabric on the bed skirt because the client loved it so much.

We further mixed textures (wrought iron bed, textured raffia nightstands, hand-painted traditional botanical prints brought to the next level with metallic accents in warm and cool colors) to give the serene, monochromatic color pallet some depth. This home has a long view of the marsh to the Intracoastal where the morning mist rolls in at sunrise, creating a soft gentle awakening to begin the day, and ending calmly and peacefully too. The room is intended to mirror that calm and natural beauty.

Designer tip: From a more concrete design standpoint, I would say that when working with a monochromatic palette, it's important to realize that texture plays a large role in giving the room personality and warmth where variation in color is less present: velvets mixed with raffia and ephemeral



The gold starburst mirror softens the hard geometric angles of the bedframe.

embroidered fabrics provide visual interest, as does mixing metals — gold and brass add warmth to gray/chrome color palettes.

Decorating advice: For a recommendation to other homeowners, I would say don't compromise. Go big or go home! If you find something you love, be it an incredible fabric or showstopping piece of furniture, build the room around that item. The homeowners loved this large, eye-catching chandelier for the bathroom, and it succeeded in creating a “wow” welcome moment when you enter the room. The rest of the room came together around this piece.

That inevitable “uh-oh” moment, and its solution: The Currey chandelier mentioned above as the focal point of the bathroom, the inspiration for the whole suite and the first piece we selected also ended up being the source of our “uh-oh” moment. As I said above, the chandelier was chosen as the centerpiece of the room — the client and I were smitten the moment we laid eyes on it and knew it would be perfect to fill the curved barrel ceiling. One slight issue — we couldn't fit it through the doorway! We knew this before ordering it, but also knew that a compromise for a smaller light fixture would have been disappointing, and we weren't willing to accept that. I work with a great team of contractors and knew they would have a solution to our “uh-oh” moment. And of course, they did! My

contractor's team cut the chandelier in half, brought it through the doorway, and then welded it back together to help us achieve our “wow” moment.

Did you use Houzz?

Yes! My client used Houzz to show me their initial inspiration for their master bathroom. From our initial discussions based on the Houzz photos, we made adjustments to better align with their specific needs/tastes, like switching from real grass cloth in a dark geometric pattern to a vinyl grass cloth (real grass cloth is not particularly durable in a high moisture environment like a Florida bathroom) in a softer palette.

[Editor's note: Houzz.com is a website, online community and software for architecture, interior design and decorating, landscape design and home improvement.]

Current trends: Clients are tired of safe cream and white interiors with the absence of color and personality and are requesting bright, colorful happy joyful interiors. I attribute this shift from safe to daring and filled with more personality to the pandemic.

Now that we have survived the pandemic people are feeling more adventurous, optimistic and are willing to “take a chance and go for it” in their interiors after being holed up in their homes for almost two years. They discovered they weren't happy being surrounded by bland 24/7. It looked great in magazines and was acceptable when they were using their homes almost as hotels — merely sleeping, showering and eating at home. However, during the pandemic, people were suddenly forced to spend all of their time in interiors, which they discovered lacked a uniqueness that reflected them as homeowners and people. Their renewed interest in their “nests” and dissatisfaction with the decor has led to a huge demand to re-invent their homes at a feverish pace.

I'm working on two new design jobs both for repeat clients, one in Florida and one in California, and interestingly both clients gravitated towards Missoni fabrics distributed by Kravet and Missoni for Stark carpets. The Missoni fabrics use all the colors in the rainbow, yet both clients have chosen to pull

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32 ■

[at home]

MAKE YOUR HOME MORE APPEALING TO MODERN BUYERS

Home trends come and go. Today's must-have items tend to become tomorrow's outdated features in the blink of an eye.

Homeowners who plan to stay in their current homes for years to come needn't prioritize modern trends over personal preferences. However, homeowners looking to sell their homes can consider adding or updating these favored features to increase their properties' appeal to modern buyers.

- Separate laundry room
- Exterior lighting



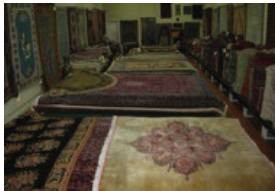
- Energy-efficient upgrades
- Patio
- Side-by-side sink

Modern buyers want a lot out of their homes, and sellers can do their best to meet those desires while getting the most money for their properties.

Celebrating 45 years in business and proud to be the longest running shop in Historic Avondale!



Handmade rugs from the finest weaving centers in the world.



Come see why we are sought after locally and globally.
Professional Cleaning & Repair

(904) 384-7111 | email: hooshang.rugs@gmail.com
3571 St. Johns Ave. – Avondale

 Find us on [Facebook.com/Hooshangrugs](https://www.facebook.com/Hooshangrugs)
www.hooshang-rugs.com

TURNING OLD FURNITURE

New Again



25% OFF

SPECIALLY MARKED FABRICS

FABRIC, LEATHER, UPHOLSTERY & SUPPLIES

Valid only for in-stock fabric. Not valid for special order fabrics. Must present coupon. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 11/22/22

\$100 OFF

MINIMUM PURCHASE OF \$500

FABRIC, LEATHER, UPHOLSTERY & SUPPLIES

Specially marked fabrics not included. Must present coupon. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 11/22/22

High End
FABRICS, DRAPES,
PILLOWS & MORE



FLUS

Fabric Leather Upholstery Supplies

904-425-9171

540 Commerce Center Drive, Unit 100
Jacksonville, FL

www.FLUSjax.com

  FLUS904

WE MOVED!
COME SEE US AT OUR
NEW LOCATION!



[at home]

2022 REALTOR AND BUILDER TRADESHOW HAS SPACE OPERA THEME



The Mastercraft staff welcomes visitors to learn more at their table.

Contributed photos

Attendees turned out in Force for the 41st annual Realtor and Builder Tradeshow, held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7, at Adam W. Herbert University Center at UNF, 12000 Alumni Drive, Jacksonville.

The theme was “Home Wars,” and characters from a certain series of movies added to the fun.

The tradeshow was presented by the Northeast Florida Association of Realtors. There were 54 tables.



Lisa Sawyer stands in front of a scene from the Millennium Falcon.



Stormtroopers stand watch at the Mattamy Homes table.

SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 31



STOREWIDE SHOWROOM



Th. OCT. 6 – Sat. NOV. 12
SAVINGS UP TO 50% & MORE



HUGO'S
INTERIORS

904.396.2233 | HugosInteriors.com
3139 Philips Hwy, N, Jacksonville, FL 32207
East San Marco f i

Mon-Fri 10a-5p ■ Ext. Sale Hours | Sat 11 a-4 p

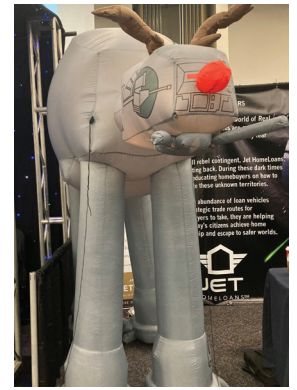
[at home]



This stormtrooper was seen floating about at the tradeshow.



The Attorney Title Services table was out of this world.



Rudolph the Red-Nosed Imperial Walker



Jennifer Puff stands ready to answer questions about E Town.



Katrina Watkins, left, and Heather Douglas get into the spirit of the event at the Nocatee table.

HAVE YOUR HOME READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

moreSPACEplace®



Designed to meet your needs and exceed your expectations.

LAUNDRY ROOMS • MURPHY BEDS
HOME OFFICES • PANTRIES • CLOSETS
GARAGES • WALL UNITS

CALL US
(904) 645-5222
www.morespaceplace.com

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM
11744 BEACH BLVD, SUITE 102
JACKSONVILLE

MORNING MIST

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

out the lavender, lilac, purple colors to be used as accent colors, which I am thrilled about as that is my favorite color palette.

Of course, performance fabrics and performance area rugs by the luxury brands are very much in demand for maintenance ease and the casual lifestyle we live today. However, clients have been selecting rich, multi-color velvets, silks and saturated, brightly colored linens to be used as accents on window treatments, the exterior of chairs and as pillows.

The surging demand for homewares has placed a strain on all parts of the value chain — designers, home builders, craftspeople, contractors, textile companies, furniture and lighting manufacturers have been overwhelmed; however, this has also led to another adjacent design trend. The resulting supply chain issues have forced designers and homeowners to be

more creative: The choice became either “settle” for anything new and available (or wait months), or re-cycle/re-purpose/re-upholster the furniture they already had. Therefore, used furniture has seen a resurgence and new life has been breathed into “brown furniture/antiques,” which had gone out of style and had lost all their value as they were seen as too traditional.

During this time, we all discovered that “all new, all white” interiors felt frigid, and customers began craving pieces with rich patina, quirky details, history and personality! The combination of craving more colorful and adventurous interiors and the supply chain issues that have brought old pieces into a new light has resulted in interiors that have more history, more depth, more personality and more visual interest. We appear to be (hopefully!) coming out on the other side of the pandemic with a love of refined maximalism by way of bold choices and unique furnishings.



The Currey chandelier posed a special challenge, but the contractor found a way to resolve the issue.

Mineral City is located at 2107 Sawgrass Village Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach. It is open from noon to 5 p.m. weekdays. The phone number is 904-285-4784. For more information, go to mcpvb.com.

Selling Ponte Vedra Beach - 32082 Florida's Best Kept Secret



2375 Ponte Vedra Blvd. - This oceanfront beauty could grace the cover of Coastal Living magazine! Perfectly located along the shores of the Atlantic Ocean, this 4 BR/3.5 BA coastal contemporary features two sweeping oceanfront porches, private beach walkover and a 21' x 21' rooftop deck with panoramic water and preserve views. Sold for \$3,600,000.



719 Spinnakers Reach - Spectacular 1st floor condo has the only elevator in Spinnakers 1 from the garage to the first floor! Completely renovated with stunning details & designer finishes. Oceanfront views from every room. 2523sf, 3 BR, 3BA with the upstairs master & ocean views! Spectacular kitchen overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. Offered for \$2,699,000.



826 Ponte Vedra Blvd. - French colonial beauty in PVB on the Boulevard! Designed to capture the ocean breezes with French doors in every room that open to the ocean in the front & Guana preserve & Sawgrass Golf course in the back. 4260sf, the kitchen, living areas & master suite upstairs all open to verandas. Sold for \$2,935,000.



2021 President's Circle

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



BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
HomeServices
Florida Network Realty



©2020 BHH Affiliates, LLC. An independently owned and operated franchisee of BHH Affiliates, LLC. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices and the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices symbol are registered service marks of HomeServices of America, Inc.* Equal Housing Opportunity.

A TRANQUIL RETREAT *in an island setting*

Contributed photos

Some houses are investments. And some homes, like the one at 101 Bristol Place, Ponte Vedra, are an investment in lifestyle.

Located in the exclusive, one-of-a-kind, Harbour Island in Marsh Landing Country Club, this magnificent island setting overlooks the private yacht basin. The five-bedroom, eight-bath home comes with a lanai, pool and 50-foot yacht slip.

The 5,152-square-foot home has a generous and soaring ceiling with a wall of glass looking out over the marina. The architecture is timeless with a high level of craftsmanship.



The home at 101 Bristol Place suggests tranquility in this view from the yacht slip as darkness falls.



The lanai is the place to enjoy refreshments or just relax.



The home's pool looks inviting at twilight.

An open floor plan includes both a beautifully scaled living and family room plus a game room and home theater. The master suite and study are down with the other bedrooms and suites up.

This is a tranquil retreat with unobstructed panoramic views of the harbor. And it's just a short golf cart ride to golf, tennis and club activities.

The home is being offered by ONE Sotheby's International Realty for \$3.98 million.

For information, contact either Michelle Floyd at 904-343-5067 (mfloyd@onesothebysrealty.com) or Jack Floyd at 904-343-5196 (jfloyd@onesothebysrealty.com).



The home's exquisite design is evident in this view of the spiral stairway.



The water behind 101 Bristol Place provides a peaceful scene.

BOSELLI AWARDED KEY TO THE CITY

story and photos by ANTHONY RICHARDS

Tony Boselli has been on a whirlwind ride since he found out he was a member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame's 2022 class in late January.

The latest of his celebratory tour took part as he received the "key to the city" from Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry during a ceremony at Jacksonville city hall Oct. 6.

"Tony has been there since day one," Curry said. "The team and the city's first love is Tony Boselli. We wanted to honor him with

the key to the city, and I think that also honors our citizens."

The presentation led up to Boselli being presented his Hall of Fame ring by Jaguars owner Shahid Khan on the field during halftime of the Jaguars' game against the Houston Texans Oct. 9.

According to Curry, being awarded the "key to the city" is a prestigious honor and one that is not handed out lightly.

"I haven't done a lot of them, and most of the keys given out in my seven



Tony Boselli was awarded the "key to the city" by Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry during a special ceremony at city hall Oct. 6.

years in office were delivered to the person with only a few being done in person," Curry said.

He knew that this one deserved to be one of those few that needed to be handed out in person.

"It is an honor that is absolutely earned," Curry said.

Boselli is the first Jaguar to be awarded the "key to the city."

Since being inducted, he has had plenty of opportunities to look back on both his football career and his life in general dating back to when he was growing up in Southern California.

"Looking back, as a kid I just wanted to play football," Boselli said. "I didn't even know that keys to the city came with that. I've had a great life and have been very blessed both on the football field and with a great family."

As he did in his Hall of Fame acceptance speech, Boselli was quick to thank the continued support he has received from his family throughout the years, and they continue to be at the forefront of his mind with every honor he receives.

Parents are always striving to be role models

for their children, and according to Boselli, sharing the past year with his wife and children is what he will remember most.

"The biggest thing about being in the Hall of Fame is for them to be able to experience it, because they were either not born yet or were super young when I was playing," Boselli said. "For them to be a part of this portion of my life is probably more important than anything."

While his induction ceremony in Canton, Ohio in August was more for his family, accepting his Hall of Fame ring on the field was all about the fans, who were there cheering him on during his playing career.

"I think my favorite part is being able to celebrate with all the fans," Boselli said.

The Boselli family is rooted in the local community in a variety of ways from being involved in charitable organizations to helping coach youth sports over the years. His wife Angie is currently head cheer coach at Ponte Vedra High School.

"We don't view ourselves any different, and one of the things people do when a part of a community is to try to give back," Boselli said.



THE ST. JOHNS REALTY GROUP
"We're The Difference"

DONNA WENDLER,
BROKER OWNER
(904) 669-3081
Wendler22@yahoo.com



CORTEZ
on the water

23 Comares Ave.
St Augustine, FL 32080
(904) 669-3081

Time to pick your colors and dock slip!

CALL NOW...They're Going Fast!

St. Augustine's Newest Luxury Condominiums

**FREE 40 FT. BOAT SLIP WITH EACH UNIT!
65' AND WIDER SLIPS AVAILABLE**

- Private Two Car Garage
- Private Elevator
- Private Waterview Roof Deck
- Townhouse Style Condominiums

Walk, Bike or Boat to All. A Waterfront Lifestyle Opportunity!

23 Comares Ave. • St. Augustine, FL 32080
cortezonthewater.com



Will Dickey is known for his nature photography.

TIMUCUAN PARKS FOUNDATION, NATURE PHOTOGRAPHER FEATURED IN EXHIBIT

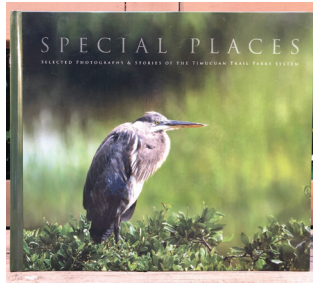
Contributed photos

Timucuan Parks Foundation and photographer Will Dickey are being featured in a joint exhibit at Story and Song Bookstore in Fernandina Beach.

The exhibit titled “Celebrating Northeast Florida’s Special Places: Nature Photography in the Timucuan Preserve” is currently open and features Dickey’s nature photography in the Timucuan Preserve and is supported by parts of the foundation’s “Celebrate & Explore Our Wilderness Parks” anniversary exhibit.

The exhibit at the Story and Song Bookstore at 1430 Park Ave. in Fernandina Beach features Dickey’s captivating nature photography, which showcases the beauty within the Timucuan Preserve. Dickey has a passion for capturing images of the landscapes, seascapes and wildlife found throughout the region and has won regional and national awards for his photographs.

Portions of the foundation’s anniversary exhibit, which has been circulating through various gallery spaces since 2019, are also showcased at the exhibit. Visitors can view a map of North Florida’s Wilderness Parks created by local artist Kathy Stark and read about how the area’s wilderness parks and preserves



“Special Places” features Will Dickey’s images from the Timucuan Trail Parks System.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 38 ■



TRANSFORMING LIVES, ONE ARTIST AT TIME.

For 35 years, the DA Foundation is proud to play a part in the changing face of Jacksonville and beyond through its support of Jacksonville’s public arts high school. DA graduates are making a difference everywhere – opening community theaters, galleries and arts-based organizations and providing leadership in all fields. They are teachers, sharing the depth of arts experience and knowledge to enrich the education of others. But first, they were students.

WHY CHOOSE DOUGLAS ANDERSON?

- Ranked consistently in the top 1% of Best High Schools in the nation by US News & World Report, the College Board, the Washington Post and the US & Florida Departments of Education
- Provides best well-rounded College Preparation
- 96-99% of Graduates accepted into top colleges, conservatories and universities
- Students SAT scores consistently 67+ points above the national average
- Over \$21 million in arts and academic college scholarships offered graduates annually
- Named an 11-time National Grammy Winner
- Consistently has National Merit Finalists in the Arts and Academics



For more information about DA and auditions visit DA-arts.org
2445 San Diego Rd., Jacksonville, FL 32207
Where Arts and Academics Meet Excellence

Audition Dates for 2022-23: JAN 15 & JAN 21, 2023
EXTRAVAGANZA: FEB 10, 2023
Please visit the www.da-arts.org for more information and audition requirements



GO INSIDE THE PAINTING

story and photos by ANTHONY RICHARDS



Beyond Van Gogh exhibit brings art to the next level

Beyond Van Gogh: The Immersive Experience takes art to an entirely new level and it is currently stopped in Jacksonville for residents on the First Coast to enjoy.

According to Fanny Curtat, art historian and consultant to the creative team of Beyond Van Gogh: The Immersive Experience, what makes the exhibit so unique and mind-blowing for attendees is the sheer scale of the project.

“It is a very enormous project, and it’s on a scale where we need at least 30,000 square feet or something around that for it to even happen,” Curtat said. “It is all about bringing these works to another scale. It takes a lot of people to make happen.”

The creation of the exhibit began in October 2020 and since spring 2021 the exhibit has been touring around North and South America with expansion to Europe and Asia in the works.

“It (Beyond Van Gogh) is really just growing and growing and we’re at 4 million tickets sold,” Curtat said. “We knew we had something great at the beginning, but nobody expected for it to just snowball into this incredible phenomenon that’s really bringing people and communities together.”

Cutting-edge technology includes a state-of-the-art projection system that allows various works of art to be shown throughout the space, allowing attendees to essentially walk through the painting.

“Through the help of some amazing people, we are able to blend cutting-edge technology with Vincent’s work,”

“Through the help of some amazing people, we are able to blend cutting-edge technology with Vincent’s work.”

- FANNY CURTAT



Curtat said. “When we come a city it takes about a little more than a week for them to set everything up.”

The exhibit is the first to be shown at the new Immersive Art Space located at 712 N. Hogan St. in downtown Jacksonville, which hopes to bring other immersive experiences to the area.

It has gained so much interest since its arrival on the First Coast that the exhibit has extended its stay in the area until through Nov. 27. It had originally been slated to stay up to Nov. 6.

The reason for such interest goes back to the immersive aspect that it entails, which separates it from a typical art exhibit.

“There’s just something that you can’t replicate about being inside of a painting,” Curtat said. “There’s a certain energy about it.”

According to Curtat, art naturally brings out various unique emotions for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 37 ■

VAN GOGH

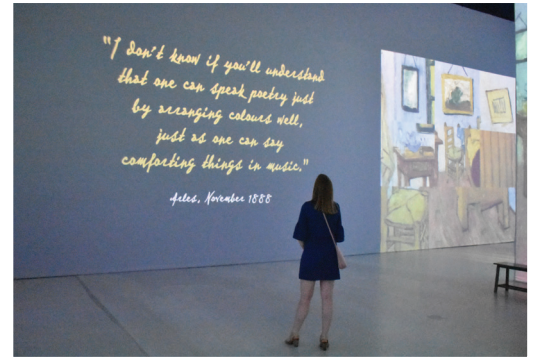
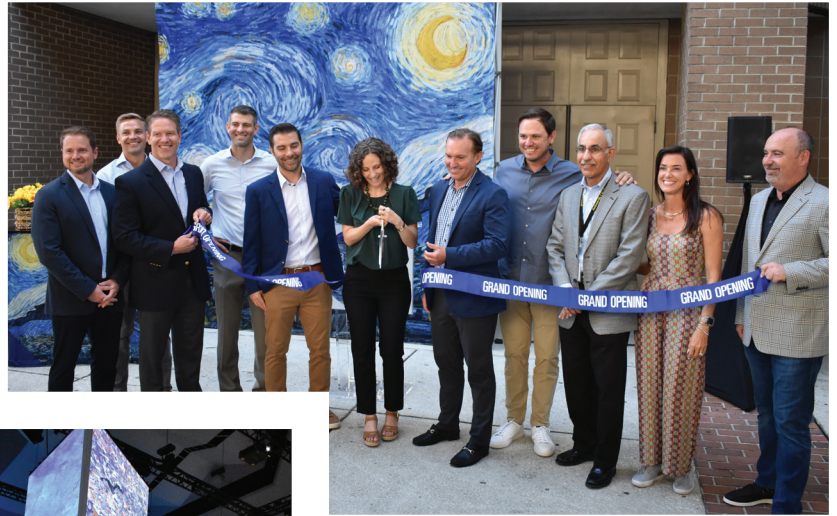
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 36

people, so making it immersive only makes those emotions even more real.

“Everybody comes to this exhibit with their own expectations, so you have very different reactions to what they witness,” Curtat said. Some people are even moved to tears because they feel such an emotional connection with this artist that is so personable and that we know so much about. Vincent was such a charismatic figure on top of being a great artist, and all of those elements really come together.”

Capturing those raw emotions and making people feel passionate about the artwork their viewing was one of the goals behind creating such an immersive experience.

“What’s important is that whatever interpretation they give to his work is valid, because it is what they will have projected and seen within it,” Curtat said. “For some people museums can be intimidating, so this can serve as a bridge for that.”



JOHANN STRAUSS

Die Fledermaus (The Bat)

*Fully-staged with orchestra and chorus at Lewis Auditorium
Downtown Historic St. Augustine*



CURTIS TUCKER, GENERAL AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Tickets and Information
FirstCoastOpera.com
904-417-5555



December 31, 7:00 PM
January 1, 3:00 PM

CHAMPAGNE WILL BE SERVED AT INTERMISSION



ST. JOHNS
CULTURAL COUNCIL

CULTURE AROUND EVERY CORNER.



Plan now!
**OPÉRA
MYSTIQUE**
opens Feb 4, 2023
at The Waterworks
St. Augustine

Village Arts Framing and Gallery

155 Tourside Dr. #1520 Sawgrass Village
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
"Between Hilton Garden Inn and Chico's"
904.273.4925



www.villageartspvb.com

M - Sat 10 to 5

Over 150 Original Works
of Art on Exhibit



EXHIBIT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35

provide a sense of place and a sense of well-being for all to enjoy.

People can also read about the volunteer and outreach programs supported by the Timucuan Parks Foundation.

The exhibit is open to all during the Story and Song Bookstore's business hours, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. The exhibit is at the bookstore through December.

Timucuan Parks Foundation is a nonprofit organization that preserves, promotes and enhances Jacksonville's natural areas through community engagement, education and enjoyment.

The foundation originated in 1999 with the Preservation Project Jacksonville Inc. to identify and assist in acquiring the most vulnerable and environmentally sensitive lands in Duval County. The acquisition of lands created the largest urban park system in the United States.

The foundation works with its park partners, including the National Park Service, Florida State Parks and the City of Jacksonville, and other community partners to promote environmental stewardship, the health benefits of the parks and preserves, and an appreciation for Jacksonville's special outdoor spaces. For more information, go to timucuanparks.org or follow @timucuanparks.

The 14th Annual
Nutcracker

ST. AUGUSTINE
BALLET

December 17-18

Lewis Auditorium at Flagler College, St. Augustine, Florida

A holiday tradition during Nights of Lights!

TICKETS



saintaugustineballet.org

AMELIA ISLAND JAZZ FESTIVAL

hits all the right notes

story and photos by LEIGH CORT

Closing night featured John Pizzarelli Trio

For 19 years, Les DeMerle and Bonnie Eisele have been providing a rich, diverse cultural musical event on Amelia Island by exposing thousands of people of all ages and backgrounds to the sounds, excitement and vitality of great jazz at The Amelia Island Jazz Festival. This year, fans enjoyed sold out concerts during an entire week of musical headliners, jazz students from University of North Florida and the final evening with legendary singer/guitarist John Pizzarelli and trio.

Founded in 2001, the festival is fairly



The John Pizzarelli Trio with Isaiah J. Thompson and Mike Karn.

young in comparison with other nationally acclaimed festivals. But it is known as a world-renowned musical event – following in the footsteps of Newport and Monterey. Jazz is comprised of many styles, including swing, bebop, Dixieland, big band, Latin and contemporary. DeMerle selects the best and brings them to our area to help preserve the American art form of jazz through October’s eagerly anticipated dates.

A few of the festival’s weeklong events included Latin Jazz Evening with Trio Caliente, the 21-piece UNF Jazz Ensemble 2, Jump Jive and Wail Swing Dance, Longineu Parsons in Concert, Dixie to Swing Jazz Brunch and two late-night Jazz Jams. For nearly 20 years, Les and Bonnie have been

CONTINUED ON PAGE 40 ■

ELLIE BING

A LIFESTYLE BOUTIQUE

clothing — jewelry — gifts — accessories



Ponte Vedra Beach
215 Tourside Dr, Suite #1760
904-232-8866

Jacksonville Beach
Off Beach Blvd., 21 12th St. South
904-249-6444

www.elliebing.com •  @elliebing

FESTIVAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 39

proud of the legions of volunteers who work hard throughout the year to bring the festival to the Island, along with 60-plus sponsors and individuals who generously contribute their time and expertise.

The closing night audience cheered at every song during the three hour performance opening with Les DeMerle's trio featuring bassist Dennis Marks (who has played with Arturo Sandoval on many recordings, including the Grammy Award-winning "Hot-House") and pianist Doug Matthews (performed with Dizzy Gillespie, Branford Marsalis and DeMerle's Big Band for many years). The exhilarating set was highlighted by Bonnie

Eisele's distinctive soulful vocals that she has been performing with DeMerle during decades of musical collaboration around the globe and their marriage!

When John Pizzarelli took the stage, the audience belonged to him alone as he thrilled with two solid hours of music from his repertoire that included the Great American Songbook, tributes to his collaboration with Sir Paul McCartney, Antonio Carlos Jobim and the Nat King Cole Family (stating "Nat King Cole is the reason I do what I do"). Hailed by music critics around the world, Pizzarelli's trio of Isaiah J. Thompson on piano and Mike Karn on bass truly kept everyone on the edge of their seats with world-class jazz interpretations. Sitting comfortably centerstage,



MC Rance Adams

he set up each song with fascinating and fun stories interspersed with his own musical style as "a rare entertainer of the old school" (Seattle Times) and "the genial genius of the guitar" (Toronto Star). It was a rare night for jazz fans to remember.

The Amelia Island Jazz



Jazz legends John Pizzarelli and Les DeMerle



Les DeMerle and Bonnie Eisele

Festival's 20th anniversary will be observed in 2023. Go to AmeliaIslandJazzFestival.com.

From the publishers of the award-winning Ponte Vedra Recorder and First Coast Register

Living HERE

ON THE FIRST COAST

A resource for visitors and newcomers and long-time residents alike, LIVING HERE is a guide to the best neighborhoods of Ponte Vedra Beach, Nocatee, Jacksonville's Beaches, St. Augustine, Jacksonville, Orange Park, Green Cove Springs, Fleming Island, Amelia Island and Fernandina Beach.

Publishing Date:
December 29, 2022

Advertising Deadline:
December 9, 2022

Don't miss your chance to get connected to everyone LIVING HERE on the First Coast!

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

GIVE US A CALL TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE! (904) 285-8831

Churchill & Lacroix, Antiquaire

◆ Quality Antiques ◆ Estate Jewelry ◆ Fine Art

Located in the Lightner Museum Courtyard

Over 400 Gold, Silver & Platinum Estate Jewelry Pieces Plus Names like:

Rolex • Cartier • Omega • Baume Mercier
Tiffany Studios • Baccarat • Lalique • Loetz
Steuben • Hawkes • Roycroft • Meissen
Wedgwood • Minton • Limoges
Quimper • Moorcroft

Shop Hours Thursday - Monday 10 am - 5 pm
ALWAYS BUYING ESTATE JEWELRY

904.827.9009 75 KING STREET SUITE 121, ST. AUGUSTINE, FL 32084
www.churchill-lacroix.com candlantiqes@comcast.net

JACKSONVILLE SYMPHONY

KICKS OFF 2022-23 SEASON

story by **SHAUN RYAN**

Schedule includes great works and many surprises

The 2022-23 Jacksonville Symphony season is underway, and the variety of concerts scheduled will guarantee audiences from across the spectrum of music lovers. Add to this the symphony's well-earned reputation for high-quality performances, and its easy to understand the level of excitement this season inspires.

During a recent presentation and private reception at Jacoby Symphony Hall, attendees had an opportunity to hear from music director Courtney Lewis, as well as the symphony's new concertmaster, Adelya Nartadjieva, and new associate conductor, Kevin Fitzgerald.

Nartadjieva described her role as a kind of link between the conductor and the musicians.

"Jacksonville Symphony has a great sound," she said. "My goal is to enhance that sound and bring more unity between players ... It's really exciting to build upon what's there."

Fitzgerald noted that, while a lot of orchestras are cutting back and getting smaller, Jacksonville Symphony is growing.

In fact, the orchestra's reputation was enhanced by how it responded to the pandemic. It was one of very few orchestras that, with the implementation of necessary safety protocols, continued to offer performances over the past two seasons.

Lewis recognized President and

CEO Steven B. Libman for making that decision when the state of Florida allowed it to remain open.

In addition, Lewis credited the community and the board of directors with the symphony's continued success and growth.

"There's such an enormous enthusiasm and love for the orchestra among the community in Jacksonville," he said.

Now, Lewis wants the orchestra's reputation to increase nationally.

Beyond that, he said he wants it to be the best symphony it can for everyone in the area. And this means attracting not only the traditional symphony audiences who love classical music, but people from all backgrounds.

"We still have a lot of people in town who feel the symphony isn't for them, and we have a lot of work to do to challenge that," he said. "That we are an orchestra for every socio-economic group in the city, and that we really belong to everybody in the city."

That's certainly possible, given what Nartadjieva called the universal language of music. The schedule for this season will appeal to those who enjoy great classical works, ballet and opera, but also pop music, rock and roll, disco and compositions for Hollywood productions.

In addition, audiences for select performances now have the option of sitting in the choir loft high and behind the orchestra, which will offer them a unique perspective.

To learn more or purchase tickets, go to jaxsymphony.org.

Jacoby Symphony Hall is located at 300 Water St., Suite 200, Jacksonville.

THE JACKSONVILLE SYMPHONY'S 2022-23 SEASON

The Jacksonville Symphony's 2022-23 season is divided into several categories. For a look at the concerts, how to purchase tickets or further information, go to jaxsymphony.org. Here's a look at the basics.

FLORIDA BLUE CLASSICAL SERIES

Performances at 7:30 p.m.

- **Bach, Beethoven & Brahms:** Oct. 21, 22
- **Brahms' German Requiem:** Nov. 11, 12
- **Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto:** Dec. 2, 3
- **Copland's Rodeo:** Jan. 6, 7
- **Rachmaninoff's Rhapsody:** Jan. 27, 28
- **1,001 Nights: Scheherazade:** Feb. 17, 18
- **Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1:** March 10, 11
- **Bruckner's Brilliance:** March 17, 18
- **Beethoven's Fifth:** March 31, April 1
- **Mozart, Brahms & Shepherd:** May 19, 20
- **Conrad Tao Plays Prokofiev:** June 9, 10

SYMPHONIC STAGED OPERA

"The Magic Flute" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart:
7:30 p.m. April 28, 3 p.m. April 30.

THE POPS SERIES

Performances at 7:30 p.m.

- **The Paul Simon Songbook:** Nov. 4, 5
- **Duke Ellington & Billy Strayhorn:** Jan. 13, 14
- **Country Legends: Dolly, Kenny & More!** Feb. 3, 4
- **The Queens of Rock & Soul: Tina Turner & Aretha Franklin:** Feb. 24, 25
- **Sondheim, Webber & Friends: Songs of the Great White Way:** March 24, 25
- **Disco Inferno:** April 14, 15
- **The Wild, Wild West: Classics from the Silver Screen:** May 5, 6
- **Revolution: Music of the Beatles "A Symphonic Experience"** June 2, 3

FIS SYMPHONIC NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

Performances at 7 p.m.

- **"Rocky" In Concert:** Nov. 18, 19
- **"Jurassic Park" In Concert:** Jan. 20, 21
- **"Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix" In Concert:** May 12, 13

SYMPHONY IN 60 SERIES

Cocktail hour: 5:30 p.m. Performances: 6:30 p.m.

- **At The Ballet:** Oct. 27
- **Visions of Spain:** Feb. 9
- **Sounds of Spring:** Feb. 23
- **Picturesque Postcards:** April 13
- **Myths & Legends:** May 25

THE CONCERT ORGAN SERIES

- **Brass, Organ & Percussion:** Feb. 11
- **Solo Organ Recital:** May 27

THE COFFEE SERIES

Performances at 11 a.m.

- **The Paul Simon Songbook:** Nov. 4
- **Holiday Pops:** Dec. 9
- **Duke Ellington & Billy Strayhorn:** Jan. 13
- **Visions of Spain:** Feb. 10
- **Sounds of Spring:** March 10
- **Sondheim, Webber & Friends:** March 24
- **The Wild, Wild West:** May 5
- **Myths & Legends:** May 26

HOLIDAY SPECIALS

- **Holiday Pops:** 7:30 p.m. Dec. 8, 9; 3 and 7:30 p.m. Dec. 10; 3 p.m. Dec. 11
- **First Coast Nutcracker (Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky):** 8 p.m. Dec. 16; 2 and 8 p.m. Dec. 17; 2 p.m. Dec. 18
- **Handel's Messiah (George Frideric Handel):** 7:30 p.m. Dec. 17; 3 p.m. Dec. 18

SHARING LOVE OF MUSIC WITH A COMMUNITY

story by **ANTHONY RICHARDS**

photos courtesy of **ALIX DELFS**

Delfs has become a regular in Fernandina music scene

For Fernandina Beach musician Alix Delfs, nothing beats the feeling of performing in front of a crowd.

Her mom was part of a band in her 20s, so that passion for music was easily passed along and she always had a lot of various instruments to choose from around the house growing up.

The high school senior played the clarinet throughout middle school, and she credits that experience for being the start of the musical journey she has

been on since.

“That was my learning curve for how to read music,” Delfs said.

The first time she began playing guitar was as a 14-year-old freshman in high school, and four years later it continues to be her favorite instrument.

One of the things she takes pride in is the fact that she is self-taught when it comes to playing the guitar and singing.

She even played the ukulele for a while to help build up her finger strength to make her a better guitarist.

“Riptide” by Vance Joy was the first song she learned how to play on the guitar.

“I thought three chords wouldn’t be too hard,” Delfs chuckled. “Once

you get the first few songs, then you start trying different chords and really experimenting with things.”

According to Delfs, playing for herself or her family is much different than playing in public.

“You really just have to tune out everyone else and all the opinions,” Delfs said. “At the end of the day, if you believe in your talent, that’s all that matters. It’s important to stay true to yourself.”

She used to work at Tasty’s Fresh Burgers in Fernandina Beach, and she got her start performing live on the restaurant’s outdoor patio on Saturdays.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 43 ■

Celebrating the 44th season of world class music in St. Augustine, Florida!



EMMA
CONCERT ASSOCIATION

FIVE CONCERTS
Lewis Auditorium
at Flagler College



Hollywood Concert Orchestra
October 30



Gainesville Symphony Orchestra
December 14

Tickets include free parking and a shuttle to and from the venue!



Jax Symphony Orchestra - Jan. 22



Ocala Symphony Orchestra - Feb. 4



Dance Alive Ballet - March 18

TICKETS: EMMACONCERTS.COM OR 904-797-2800

MUSIC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 42

“You definitely begin to open up the more you’re on stage,” Delfs said. “I remember being pretty nervous the first time I performed for others.”

She had done some musical theater in the past at school, and although she believed that experience of performing in front of others helped, it was also very different.

“I’ve played a character before, but it’s a more vulnerable feeling when you’re putting yourself out there to essentially be judged,” Delfs said.

Three years ago, she got her musical performers permit, which has allowed her to perform for tips in downtown Fernandina Beach.

“The first year I didn’t use it as much, but it has been great to have and has really helped me get my name out there,” Delfs said.

She prides herself in enjoying and being able to play a variety of music



Delfs moved to Fernandina Beach with her family six years ago.

from the 1960s to early 2000s.

“You’ve got to be able to play to your audience,” Delfs said.

Delfs is not sure what her future in music looks like, but she is embracing

the journey and is enjoying every chance she gets to perform and do what she loves in the area of the First Coast she calls home since her family moved to Fernandina Beach six years ago from the state of New York.

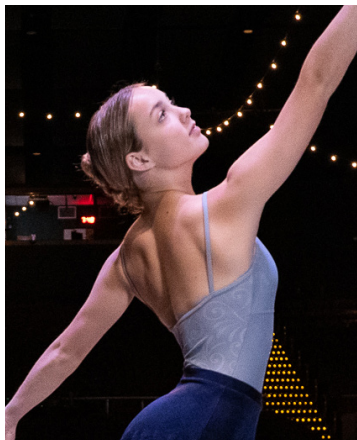
“The root of Fernandina for so long has been its live music culture,” Delfs said. “The Fernandina musician community has been so welcoming.”

She is a regular performer at Fernandina Beach Market Place and other festivals, as well as providing live music at weddings and other private events.

All the opportunities she has received through music she credits to the support of her parents who have always been by her side throughout.

While her mom uses her experience in the music world to help with the day-to-day operations and scheduling, her dad is her “personal roadie” and helps with getting equipment setup on site.

“They are definitely my biggest fans in the world,” Delfs said.



Excellence Across Four Pillars

The Episcopal experience means learning extends far beyond the classroom. Episcopal prepares students for success in college and beyond through a balanced program built on 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 To Explore Your Future

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

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

ST. MARK’S AGE 1 – GRADE 5
4114 OXFORD AVE., JACKSONVILLE, FL 32210
904.388.2632



EPISCOPAL
SCHOOL of JACKSONVILLE

halloween roundup

GHOSTS, GOBLINS AND GOOD TIMES ON THE FIRST COAST

Halloween is upon us and much of the spooky fun has already begun. But there's plenty more to enjoy before the holiday is done. Here's a look at some of the hair-raising events planned throughout the First Coast.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

18th century house offers frightfully fun events

The Ximenez-Fatio House Museum, 20 Aviles St., St. Augustine, is conducting candlelight tours on select dates through Oct. 30. "Mourning and Mortality — A Century of Death" tours will be held at the circa 1798 house every Friday and Saturday at 5:30, 6:30 and 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 per person and are available in advance. RSVP at ximenezfatiohouse.org/mortality-mourning. A combo ticket that includes "Everyday Life" daytime museum tours and the "Mourning and Mortality" tour can be purchased for \$20 per person. Details at ximenezfatiohouse.org.

In addition, several spooky events are planned at the museum.

- A Night Among Ghosts will welcome members of the public to experience overnight paranormal investigations from 9 p.m. to 9 a.m. on select dates throughout October. For tickets and details, go to theoddmacabre.com/category-halloween.

- A Night Among Ghosts will host a Victorian Parlor Night on Oct. 22. For details, go to theoddmacabre.com/category-halloween.

- Trick-or-Treating for children will be available from 1 to 4 p.m. Oct. 29 and



The Ximenez-Fatio House Museum is planning lots of fun Halloween-themed events throughout October.

includes a courtyard Harvest Festival with crafts, games and a candy-apple bowl bar. Children can wear costumes and go trick-or-treating at every door of this three-story house. Admission is free. For more details, go to XimenezFatioHouseMuseum.org or call 904-829-3575.

Spectral tours in the Nation's Oldest City

If you're looking for ghostly tours, St. Augustine is the place to be. Here's a look at some of the ways you and your friends can haunt the city that was founded more than 450 years ago.

- Ghost Tours of St. Augustine storytellers and guides will take you through the city's historic district in search of ghostly experiences as you uncover haunting tales of the town's dark history. Tours last about 75 minutes and depart nightly at 8 p.m. from the office at 4 Granada St. Price is \$25 (free to children younger than 6). Space is limited and advance reservations are required. For more information, go to ghostsofstaugustine.net.

- 'Ghost with the Most' Cocktail Tour departs from 24 Cathedral Place, Suite 401. The 2.5-hour crawl visits four local venues and is fully guided by an otherworldly presence. Available on select weekends in October. Participants must be at least 21. Cost is \$85. To reserve a place in the group, go to <https://fareharbor.com/embeds/book/thetastingtours/items/323618/calendar/2022/09/?flow=19280&full-items=yes>.

- Ancient City Tours offers a couple of spooky 90-minute walking tours in the Nation's Oldest City. Professionally licensed guides tell guests about the city's strange and difficult past, discussing the Castillo de San Marcos, the City Gate, the Tolomato and Huguenot cemeteries and more during "A Ghostly Encounter." Recommended for all ages. The tour departs nightly from 12 St. George St. For ticket information, go to staugustineghosttours.net. Also, "Paranormal Investigations" are offered at the Oldest Wooden School House on St. George Street. The price of the 60-minute tour is \$45. For information, go to ancientcitytours.net/a-paranormal-encounter.

- The Old Jail After Dark is a chilling, 2.5-hour experience that allows visitors to participate in an actual paranormal

investigation of what has been called "the city's most haunted building." The guided tours are offered nightly from midnight to 2:30 a.m. at the Old Jail, 167 San Marco Ave. Participants must be at least 13 years old. Tickets are \$95.84 and reservations must be made in advance. For more information, go to <https://www.trolleytours.com/st-augustine/old-jail-after-dark-tour>

- Genteel & Bard's St. Augustine Dark History & Ghost Tour is called the city's "only luxury ghost touring experience." Participants experience a highly curated, classic storytelling performance. Tours are about 2 hours long and cover about a mile of historic St. Augustine. They depart from 62 Hypolita St. Tickets are \$30 per adult and \$15 per child (ages 7-12), and reservations are required. Children age 6 and younger are admitted free. For information or to purchase tickets, go to <https://genteelandbard.com/st-augustine-ghost-tour>.

- Aboard the Ghosts & Gravestones Tours "Trolley of the Doomed" passengers will hear stories of spirits encountered, murder and mayhem, ghostly apparitions, hauntings and hilarious legends. Also, face your fears in a nighttime experience at Potter's Wax Museum's Chamber of Horrors. Tickets are \$36.59 for adults, age 13 and older, \$32.59 for children ages 4-12. Children younger than 4 are admitted free. For more information, go to ghostsandgravestones.com/st-augustine#about.

- In St. Augustine Lighthouse Dark of the Moon Tours, guests can tour the top of the tower and explore the eerie Keeper's House. Tours begin at 8:30 p.m. on select dates. Tickets are \$25, and reservations are required. The lighthouse is located at 100 Red Cox Drive. For information, go to staugustinelighthouse.org.

- GhoSt Augustine offers multiple types of ghost tours, haunted pub crawls and paranormal investigations. For more information, go to ghostaugustine.com.

Sykes Family Farms Crop Maze

This family-friendly tradition offers a 9-acre corn maze, a hayride, playground, farm animals to see, live music on select dates and much more. Hours are 6-10 p.m. Fridays, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays through Oct. 30. Admission is \$19, \$17 for military and seniors age 65 or older, free to children

age 2 and younger. The Sykes Family Farm is located at 5995 Brough Road, Elkton. For more information, go to www.sycofarms.com.

Creatures of the Night at the Alligator Farm

The St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zoological Park is offering three nights of treats, costumes and fun, 5:30-8 p.m. Oct. 21-23. Meet eerie bugs and beasts in this hands-on experience while collecting Creatures of the Night cards around the park. Bring your own bag for trick-or-treating. Admission is \$13 for adults (\$12 for members) and \$11 for children ages 2-11 (\$10 for members). Advance registration is required. To learn more or purchase tickets and sign up for a time slot, go to alligatorfarm.com/creatures-of-the-night. The St. Augustine Alligator Farm is located at 999 Anastasia Blvd., St. Augustine.

Pirate Halloween Party at St. Johns Golf Club

This swashbuckling evening includes a dinner buffet, a costume parade and other fun surprises from 6 to 8 p.m. Oct. 26. Admission for adults is \$27, children (ages 5-12) \$15.95, and free to children 4 and younger at St. Johns Golf Club, 205 St. Johns Golf Drive, St. Augustine. To learn more or register, go to stjohnsgolf.com/events/st-johns-golf-country-club-pirate-halloween-party.

Halloween Spooktacular at Colonial Quarter

The Halloween Spooktacular, presented by the St. Augustine Swashbucklers, will be held at 6:30 p.m. nightly, Oct. 28-30, at the Colonial Quarter. Explore the haunted grounds, walk past the skeleton ghost-ship and beware of the spider lair! Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. The Colonial Quarter is located at 43 St. George St., St. Augustine.

Ghosts of St. Augustine's Past

St. Augustine welcomes all to celebrate with music, costumed events and spine-chilling storytelling. At various venues from Oct. 27 through 30. Come dressed in your favorite fashions of past centuries in St. Augustine, from the Gilded Age of Henry Flagler to Rococo style and, of course, pirates! Costumes are encouraged at all events. Here's a look at all the fun:

- **A Night at the Castle:** Costumes and formal attire are required for this event at Ripley's Believe it or Not! Guests will enjoy cocktails, music, small bites and dessert from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Oct. 27. Hosted by Jorge Rivera of "The St. Augustine Tonight Show." Tickets are \$85, and guests must be

21 years or older. For more information or to purchase tickets, go to ticketstripe.com/Ghosts-St-Augustine. Ripley's Believe it or Not! Museum is located at 19 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine.

- **Music and Moonlight:** A free outdoor concert series at the gazebo in St. Augustine's Plaza de la Constitucion. The Kilted Creature with Capn' D Lucas and The Keeper will perform 6-8 p.m. Oct. 28; Let's Dance! With Caribe Groove, 6-8 p.m. Oct. 29; and Ramona + The Riot, 5-7 p.m. Oct. 30.

- **Steampunk St. Augustine Celebrating the Industrial Age:** Enjoy live music, beer and wine at the Willie Galimore Recreation Center, 399 Riberia St., St. Augustine, on Oct. 30. Times for the event to be announced.

- **Frightful Family Fun Fest:** There will be scary storytelling by the Tale Tellers of St. Augustine and open mic performances (family friendly) hosted by Ancient City Poets, 2-5 p.m. Oct. 30, at the Waterworks, 184 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine. Admission is free.

- **Tales of Pirates Past – Revolutionary Rogues:** This free event presented by The Ghosts of St. Augustine will explore the Spanish-American pirates and privateers who tried to conquer Florida. It will be held at 11 a.m. Oct. 29 at Colonial Oak Music Park, 21 St. George St., St. Augustine.

Boos & Brews 5K at Ancient City Brewery

Join the Ancient City Brewing Boos and Brews 5K Race and Halloween Party from 5 to 8 p.m. Oct. 29. The 5K begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Ancient City Brewery, 3420 Agricultural Center Drive. This is a chip-timed race and includes a race shirt, finishers medal and after party music! For details, go to visitstaugustine.com/event/ancient-city-brewing-boos-and-brews-5k-race1-mile-fun-run.

DUVAL COUNTY

'Ghost The Musical'

This musical, based on the hit-movie, follows Sam and Molly, a young couple with their whole life ahead of them. When Sam dies suddenly, he finds himself trapped between the land of the living and the dead, not willing to let Molly go. The show will be presented on select dates through Nov. 6 at Alhambra Theatre & Dining, 12000 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville. For tickets and information, go to alhambrajax.com.

Historic Springfield Bike-A-Boo

Meet at the Main Street Food Park, 1352 N. Main St., Jacksonville, at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 28 and ride your bicycle through the spooky streets of Springfield. For information, contact Springfield

Preservation and Revitalization at 904-353-7727 or by email at Meghan.waters@sparcouncil.org.

35th Annual Spooktacular at the Zoo

Presented by Aquafina from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. on select dates throughout October at Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens, 370 Zoo Parkway, Jacksonville. Tickets are \$30 (\$25 for members) and must be purchased at shop.jacksonvillezoo.org/webstore/shop/viewItems.aspx?cg=EV&c=spkr. Admission is free for children age 2 and younger. For more information, go to jacksonvillezoo.org/spooktacular.

Casa Marina's Annual Haunted Halloween Party

Tickets include a free drink voucher, live DJ EL, drink specials and a costume contest with prizes. The party will be held from 7 to 11 p.m. Oct. 27 at Casa Marina, 691 1st St. North, Jacksonville Beach. Must be at least 21 to attend. Tickets are \$24.56. Go to eventbrite.com/e/casa-marinas-haunted-hotel-party-tickets-427387185577?aff=ebdssbdestsearch

2nd Annual Haunted 904 Pop Up

This free and pet-friendly event will be held from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 30 at Seawalk Pavilion, 75 1st St. North, Jacksonville Beach. It will feature 200 local creatives and a food truck village. There will be trick-or-treating, a costume contest and more.



13th Floor Haunted House

There are several attractions at this scary venue at 9230 Arlington Expressway, Jacksonville: the "Chop House" featuring a maniac in a meat processing plant,

"All Hallows Eve" with a cursed group of undead trick-or-treaters, "Legends of The Deep" starring a capsized steamship's infected crew in a cosmic horror milieu, plus mini escape games and axe throwing. Caution: The event may be too intense for children 12 and younger. The 13th Floor Haunted House is open on select dates throughout October. For tickets, go to tickets.13thfloorjacksonville.com. For information, go to 13thfloorjacksonville.com.

5th Annual Halloween Bar Crawl

This event starts at Sneakers Sports Grille, 111 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville Beach. It begins at 4 p.m. Oct. 29 and ends at midnight. Tickets are \$10-\$15. For information or to purchase tickets, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-5th-annual-halloween-bar-crawl-jacksonville-tickets-345674310167?aff=ebdssbddeste> ar.ch.

Halloween Bar Crawl

This event starts at 1 2nd Ave. North, Jacksonville Beach. It begins at 4 p.m. Oct. 29 and ends at 1 p.m. Oct. 30. Ticket prices vary. For tickets, go to <https://www>.



eventbrite.com/e/halloween-bar-crawl-jacksonville-tickets-264661498667?aff=ebd soporgprofile.

Jacksonville Halloween Community Event

This free event features candy, music, a bounce house, food and treats, vendors and a charity raffle. Costumes are encouraged. It will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 30 at Riverwalk Art Square, 725 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville.

Halloween Party at the Bunker

The fun gets started at 6 p.m. Oct. 22. The theme of this year's party is "Horror

Films of the 1980s." There will be prizes – including costume prizes, an axe throw, music, games and more. Entry fee is \$5. The Bunker is located at 432 Cynthia St., Jacksonville.

NASSAU COUNTY

2nd Annual Halloween Festival

The biggest Halloween party in Yulee will be held from 5-8 p.m. Oct. 28 at the Yulee Athletic Complex, 86142 Goodbread Road, Yulee. Trick or Treat Alley is 5-7 p.m., costume contests will be held from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Except for concessions, everything is free. For more information, call 904-530-6010 or email insider@nassaucountyfl.co

Downtown Trick or Treat

Fernandina Beach Main Street will once again hold a Downtown Trick or Treat event for Halloween. This year, it will be held from 10 a.m. to noon Oct. 28. Learn more at fernandinamainstreet.com/event-calendar/downtown-trick-or-treat

— Compiled by Shaun Ryan



The Recorder, Your Source for Community News!

THE
RECORDER

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

SERVING PONTE VEDRA & THE BEACHES SINCE 1969

To subscribe or advertise, call



(904) 285-8831



www.pontevedrarecorder.com



TEBOW AMONG OWNERSHIP GROUP BRINGING MEN'S, WOMEN'S SOCCER

photos by ANTHONY RICHARDS



Local sports legend Tim Tebow (with ball) is one of the founding owners of JAXUSL.

Professional soccer is coming to the First Coast in 2025 after an announcement made during a press conference by the United Soccer League at TPC Sawgrass on Aug. 30. Tim Tebow is part of the ownership group that will introduce both men's and women's soccer teams as part of the initiative.



Founding owner Ricky Caplin and USL CEO Alec Papadakis hold up a JAXUSL scarf.



Members of the youth soccer organization Florida Elite were on hand during the announcement.

Don't miss our next issue!

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Publication Date: November 23rd
Advertising Deadline: November 4th

the **register**
FIRST ON THE FIRST COAST

For more information,
call us at (904) 285-8831



Photo credit, Nikki Brubaker

NOVEMBER 4 - 6, 2022



Don't Miss the "Best Taste Awards" on Saturday at W3!



BEST TASTE Awards!
 Presented by JACKSONVILLE MAGAZINE
 BEST OVERALL | BEST SAVORY
 BEST SWEET | BEST SEAFOOD



PEOPLE'S CHOICE Awards!
 Presented by 
 BEST OVERALL | BEST SAVORY
 BEST SWEET | BEST SEAFOOD
 BEST SPIRIT | BEST WINE | BEST BEER

WHISKEYWINEANDWILDLIFE.COM

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:



THANKS TO OUR MEDIA SPONSORS:

