

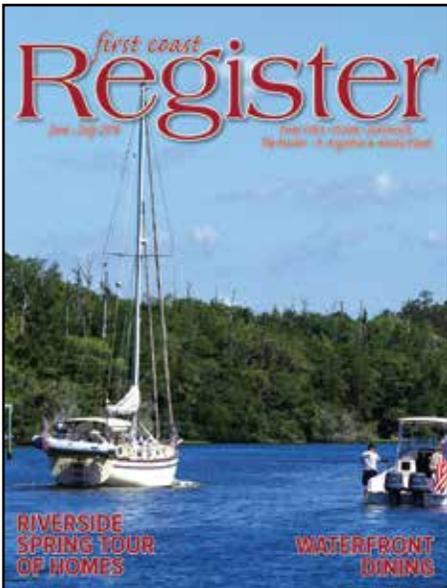
Ponte Vedra Recorder



June 9, 2016
Volume 46, No. 23
75 cents

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PonteVedraRecorder.com



First Coast Register
Summer on the First Coast



In the Arts
Dance, theater and more
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Oak Bridge Club
New restaurant, tennis courts to open this summer
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Lifeguards return to beaches

Photo by Jennifer Logue

St. Johns County Fire Rescue officially began full-scale guarded beaches May 28. A team of certified beach lifeguards staffed by SJCFR will be on daily assignments from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on St. Johns County beaches through Labor Day weekend. Read more on page 7.

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Send us your news

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



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PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

N	A	B	O	B	I	T	S	T	U	P	I				
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7	3	6	2	1	8	5	4	9
8	4	2	9	5	3	6	1	7
5	1	9	7	6	4	2	3	8

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

Email your answer to jennifer@opcfla.com by Tuesday at 5 p.m.

All correct entries will be entered into a random drawing to win tickets for two adults and two children to the Jacksonville Zoo. In order to allow as many families as possible to win, participants are only eligible to win a ticket prize pack once every four months.

No one correctly identified last week's photo as Zeta Brewing Company in Jacksonville Beach. Better luck this week, readers!

Don't forget — incorrect but entertaining guesses might also be rewarded with a trip to the zoo.



ADOPT A PET

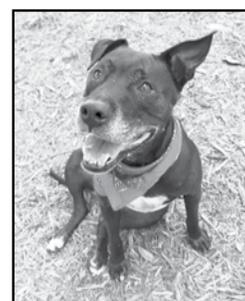
CAT OF THE WEEK

Hi there! My name is Whiskers and I am a 2-year-old male kitty who is looking for a new home. I was brought to the pet center by my owners because they did not want to care for me anymore. I am a super sweet and loving cat who just wants to find a family that will show me the love and attention I need. I'm very good at climbing up onto your lap while you're sitting down and warming you up with my soft fur. So come visit me here at the pet center! #31872



DOG OF THE WEEK

Hi there! My name is Archie and I'm a 6-year-old male dog who is looking for a new home. I was given up by my parents because they did not want me anymore. I'm a fan of the outdoors and nothing makes



me happier than walkies. My little ears perk up and tail wiggles something fierce when I'm told its time to go outside and see the great outdoors. Come visit me today and become my forever family, here at the pet center. #32211

Any pet being introduced to a new home will need time to adjust to a new environment. Please reinforce house training and behavioral training and be mindful of interacting with other pets. Come visit us today here at the pet center.

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



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Fletcher, Kaufman join race for 4th congressional seat

By Jennifer Logue

Add two more candidates to the growing list of Republicans vying to replace retiring Rep. Ander Crenshaw in the U.S. Congress.

Julia Fletcher and Steve Kaufman both recently announced their candidacy to represent Northeast Florida's newly reconfigured 4th congressional district, which includes Jacksonville and the Beaches as well as Baker, Nassau and a portion of St. Johns counties. They join a growing Republican field that already includes St. Johns County Commissioner Bill McClure, State Rep. Lake Ray, former Jacksonville Sheriff John Rutherford and attorney Hans Tanzler III. Currently, no Democratic candidates have officially declared their candidacy for the seat.

Fletcher, an Atlantic Beach resident, is a 13-year U.S. Navy veteran who is making her first bid for elective office. An intelligence officer, she was deployed in support of American efforts in Afghanistan and Iraq.

"I volunteered after the terrorist attacks on 9/11 to be on America's Away Team, and now I want to continue my service to this country and this community here on the Home Team," Fletcher said. "Thanks to Congressman Crenshaw's leadership, the First Coast has continued to grow as a strategic hub that is critical to our nation's security. His legacy requires a veteran of two wars with strong ties to the defense community, and the stamina to fight every day on



Photo courtesy of Kaufman campaign Steve Kaufman

Capitol Hill. I am ready on day one to ensure the First Coast continues and grows its military power."

While stationed at

Jacksonville NAS, Fletcher deployed for counter-narcotics and security operations in Colombia and Honduras on joint missions with DEA, FBI and other agencies. After active duty service, she remains a commissioned officer on reserve.

The wife of an active duty service member, Fletcher is the mother of one son. She holds a bachelor's degree in international affairs from George Washington University and earned her MBA at Georgetown University.

Kaufman is a retired 27-year Navy Reservist and owner of SJK•PR, a Riverside marketing firm. He said he is entering the race "to represent those First Coast workers, businesses and families struggling to get ahead in the Obama economy."

"No one running brings my kind of background to this race," Kaufman said. "Small businessman, business survivalist — during and after a 15-month Navy Reserve recall — and international experience at some of the highest levels of decisionmaking in Operation Enduring Freedom."

In a statement announcing his candidacy, Kaufman acknowledged that he lacks the funding or name recognition of career politicians, but said his run is aimed at representing Northeast Florida voters seeking a change from the political status quo.

"I'm running a very different campaign than the others," he said. "I'll be accept-

ing no special-interest Super PAC, or PAC money — strictly individual contributions: I'll answer to no one but the voters."

An advocate for term limits — Kaufman pledged to limit his congressional service to four terms if elected — said his priorities would include helping to jumpstart the economy and protect Northeast Florida's military infrastructure to strengthen its strategic position.

"With no money, organization or name recognition, I fully realize this is a 'David and Goliath' battle — and clearly, I'm David," Kaufman said. "But I kind of like how that story ends."

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Arbor Terrace resident celebrates 100th birthday

By Jasmine Marshall

Arbor Terrace of Ponte Vedra celebrated a new centenarian last week, when the dedicated memory care community marked resident Bea Borrelli's 100th birthday.

The New York native commemorated her birthday with a party thrown by her nieces, Sandra Steiner of Ponte Vedra and MaryAles Welbaum of North Carolina, who celebrated with their aunt and thanked Arbor Terrace for their care.

"It's nice to be able to express thanks to everyone who has been good to Bea," Steiner said. "And of course we're glad to spend some time with her."

Borrelli and her nieces attribute many things to reaching the milestone, includ-

ing her faith.

"(Because of) God," Borrelli said. "He's been excellent to me. And (because I) live a clean life."

Steiner and Welbaum said their aunt's enthusiasm for gardening, participating in communion each Sunday and eating well also played a big part in her longevity.

The significance of her 100th birthday wasn't lost on Borrelli, though she still feels younger at heart.

"(People) just don't know how important it is," she said. "I'm enjoying every bit of it ... people say 'You're 100,' but I don't feel 100."

According to Steiner, Borrelli was one of four children in her family. Though she never married or had children, Steiner

said, Borrelli cared for her and her sister as if they were her own. Growing up in Brooklyn, the two remember subway rides and trips to the World's Fair with "Aunt Bea," who worked her entire life at Citibank in Manhattan before retiring. Steiner said she wanted her aunt close by, and Borrelli became a resident in September 2015, shortly after the assisted living facility opened.

Borrelli's nieces said they were not only grateful for their aunt's long life, but for the opportunity to celebrate the life of the woman who has given them so much.

"She's always taken care of us and looked after us," said Steiner. "So we're glad we get to do this for her."



Photo courtesy of Arbor Terrace
Arbor Terrace of Ponte Vedra Executive Director John Schaum congratulates resident Bea Borrelli on her 100th birthday.

Joyner selects Van Housen as PVPV Rawlings principal

St. Johns County School District Superintendent Joseph Joyner has selected Catherine Van Housen as the new principal of PVPV/Rawlings Elementary School. The St. Johns County School Board will consider her nomination next week at its June 15 meeting.

Currently the assistant principal at Patriot Oaks Academy, Van Housen will succeed Kathleen Furness, who is retiring after 17 years with the school district. Furness served as principal of PVPV Elementary from 1999 to 2006, at which time she was named principal of Rawlings Elementary as well, combining the two adjacent schools under her leadership.

"After carefully reviewing the principal profile, including the skills



Photo courtesy of St. Johns County School District
Catherine Van Housen

and attributes outlined by parents

and staff, it was clear that Ms. Van Housen would be the perfect match for PVPV/RES," Joyner said. "She is a leader of great character and integrity who will continue the excellence created and maintained by Ms. Furness."

Van Housen joined the St. Johns County School District in 2008 as an English Language Arts and Journalism teacher at Alice B. Landrum Middle School.

She then became that school's instructional literacy coach before joining PVPV/RES as assistant principal in 2014. In 2015, she joined Patriot Oaks Academy as the assistant principal.

Van Housen also spent more than 16 years as a staff and freelance newspaper reporter, copy editor and

web manager at publications including the San Diego Union-Tribune, Los Angeles Times, Dog Fancy Magazine, Hollywood Reporter and for the Business Journal in San Diego, St. Louis and Jacksonville.

"It has been my absolute pleasure to be an educator in Ponte Vedra for eight years," said Van Housen. "I'm honored to have the opportunity to continue serving the families in this wonderful community, to carry on the legacy of Kathleen Furness, and to steer the PVPV/RES ship into the future."

Van Housen holds a bachelor's degree from the University of California, an Educator Preparation Institute Certification from St. Johns River State College, and a master's degree from the University of North Florida.

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COA upcoming life-long learning classes and activities

THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center will host a number of upcoming learning classes and activities this month.

Located at 175 Landrum Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach, the center will offer the following programs:

- AARP Driver Safety Class – Friday, June 17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Seating is limited. Call (904) 472-0947

to register.

- Petunia Patch Fashion Event – Wednesday, June 29 from 4 to 6 p.m. Fashion show with refreshments. For more information, call (904) 280-3233.
- Local author Judith K. White returns to discuss "The Late-Life Writer: Challenged, Triumphs, and New Directions" Thursday, June 23 at 11 a.m.
- Medicare information with Serving Health Insurance Needs for the Elderly (SHINE) Tuesday, June 28 at 11 a.m.

For more information, contact Darlene Mahany or Marian Ashton at 280-3233 or visit www.coasjc.com.

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Menu items at 3 Palms Grille will include pan seared local flounder with quinoa tabouleh, roasted pepper hummus, lemon oil and pickled grapes.

Photo courtesy of John Nagy



New restaurant to open at The Oak Bridge Club

Creative teams behind Cap's on the Water, Eleven South join forces to open 3 Palms Grille

By Jennifer Logue

The creative teams behind Cap's on the Water and Eleven South are joining forces to launch 3 Palms Grille — a new casual dining destination at The Oak Bridge Club.

Currently slated to open late this summer, the open-to-the-public restaurant located within the former Ponte Vedra Golf & Country Club will feature approximately 3,000 square feet of indoor and canopied outdoor seating for 175. With initial plans to be open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. — with dinner service to be added in the future — 3 Palms will offer a lunch and weekend brunch menu the partners said will lean toward Eleven South's menu, augmented by the fresh local seafood for which Cap's is known.

"The focus will be on healthy, clean, fresh locally grown food," said Eleven South Managing Partner John Nagy, who along with wife/partner Karen Thomas and Bernard and Vivian Derrad of Cap's, is developing the new restaurant. "At the same time, we want the menu to make a degree

of sense for locals stopping in for lunch or to play golf."

To that end, Nagy said, 3 Palms plans to offer a variety of lunch-type salads and entrees as well as boxed lunches for golfers to take with them.

While the menu is still being developed, Nagy said one planned dish is seared local flounder on a bed of fresh quinoa tabouleh, roasted red pepper hummus and pickled grapes.

Nagy said the partnership among the two restaurants and the Oak Bridge Club grew out of plans already underway to develop yet another new restaurant to be known as Roscoe's. Anticipated to open sometime next spring, Roscoe's will be located underneath the Palm Valley bridge on the Intra-coastal Waterway.

"(Oak Bridge Owner) Dave Miller owns the property on which Roscoe's is being built, so we decided to join together (with Cap's) for both Roscoe's and 3 Palms," he said. "We're very excited about the 3 Palms Grille and are looking forward to helping to reintroduce Oak Bridge to the community."

Oak Bridge undergoes renovations as residents mull proposal to develop part of golf course

By Jennifer Logue

The new 3 Palms Grille is just one component of the multimillion-dollar renovations currently underway at the Oak Bridge Club, located on Alta Mar Drive in the Sawgrass Players Club. In addition to the new restaurant, Oak Bridge is in the process of completing a \$500,000 installation of 10 Har-Tru tennis courts expected to be ready by mid-July. The club has also recently spent \$65,000 on newly completed upgrades to the driving range, and more improvements are in the works.

"This redo is sorely needed and long past due for this community asset," new owner Dave Miller said during a recent interview at the clubhouse, as workers tore up the old carpeting beneath his feet and gutted the nearby men's and women's locker rooms. "The big question mark now is the golf course."

Under a proposal presented to Sawgrass Players Club residents in April, Miller has proposed selling and developing 40 acres of the current golf course for use by a continuing care retirement community (CCRC) and the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach in order to generate the capital needed to make several million dollars in upgrades to the golf course. To do so, however, requires the removal of a deed restriction that specifies the property must be used solely as a golf course until 2023. Removing that restriction requires the approval of Sawgrass Players Club residents, who belong to nine separate homeowners' associations.

Since first presenting the proposal in April, Miller said he has met with an ad hoc committee comprised of representatives from each of the HOAs. Last weekend, he concluded a series of community meetings with each HOA; attendance at the two-hour meetings, he said, ranged from 20 to more than 200, as residents asked questions about everything from previous pesticide use on the golf course to the proposed development of the land near A1A.

"I was actually very surprised by how much positive feedback we received from residents," said Miller, who noted many residents thanked him for upgrading the facilities. "I think we allayed everyone's concerns, particularly with regard to the height of the buildings (proposed for) A1A."

Following the meetings, Miller said he expects the ad hoc committee to report back to the master association, which will then arrange a vote by residents. Should the residents vote to remove the deed restriction, Miller said, the next step would be to gain county approval for the proposal and begin marketing the A1A portion of the property marked for development.



Photo courtesy of The Oak Bridge Club
The new patio at The Oak Bridge Club

Kristy Richland of property manager Marsh Landing Management said a vote has not yet been scheduled.

For his part, Miller hopes a decision is reached soon. "The course has needed a revamp for a long time," he said, noting that nearby Sawgrass Village, Vicar's Landing and TPC Sawgrass have all undergone extensive renovations in recent months. "This has the potential to be another Atlantic Beach Country Club, and we all know what a home run that (upgrade) was for the community."

State of the Club gatherings

In an effort to keep residents informed and answer any remaining questions, Miller said, the Oak Bridge Club will host two residents-only "State of the Club" gatherings from 5 to 7 p.m. June 10 and June 24, with beer, wine, appetizers and a chance to learn more about the proposed golf course modifications. The club has also launched a website — www.rediscoveroakbridge.com — with background on the project.

Miller also hopes people will drive by the Oak Bridge Club to witness the improvements underway.

"Very few people know we're back here, but if they take a drive by, they're going to see progress," he said. "They're going to see commitment."

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Ponte Vedra resident John “Jack” Schmidt likes to be involved in the community. In addition to serving on the board of trustees for the Winston Family YMCA and the Beaches Museum & History Park, Schmidt was recently appointed to the board of trustees of the Episcopal School of Jacksonville, of which he is an alumnus. He particularly enjoys helping organizations with fundraising – something, Schmidt admits, not everyone is fond of, but it’s a niche area where he seems to excel. — By Carrie Resch

Jack Schmidt

You have a long history with the Episcopal School of Jacksonville.

I was in the first graduating class in 1970. The school had just started; my dad worked with the founding group of people. We only had 52 in our class. Over the years, as Episcopal grew, I stayed involved. I helped start the alumni association and we started doing a lot of fundraising and reunion planning — things that all schools have already, but we had to start everything from scratch. Last year was our 45th reunion, so we decided to set a goal of 45 percent of our classmates giving to Episcopal’s annual fund. We had a competition with the other classes whereby a flag with the winning class year gets flown over the courtyard for a year. We got to 44.6 percent; we were very close to 45 percent. It was a school record — they’d never had above 29 percent.

What are you looking forward to doing as a member of Episcopal’s board of trustees?

I like development, and I enjoy doing campaigns for specific-type projects. I enjoy having a project, raising money for it and seeing it through. That is actually how I recently became more involved at Episcopal. We had the fundraising for my class but Episcopal is also having a capital campaign to make improvement to the athletic facilities and other campus improvements, so I’ve been helping with that also.

What other organizations are you involved with?

I’m involved with the YMCA; I was the first chairman of the Ponte Vedra YMCA. Ever since high school, I’ve been involved in the YMCA, so that’s always been a fun group to be associated with. In the past, I have been involved with the United Way of St. Johns County and the Rotary Club of Jacksonville. Right now, I’m mostly involved with the Beaches Museum & History Park, the Ponte Vedra YMCA and Episcopal.

Tell me about your involvement with the Beaches Museum & History Park.

I’ve been on the Beaches Museum & History Park Board of Directors for three years, but I’ve really been active with the museum for about 10 years. I think what I like the most about the Beaches Museum board is it’s an active board — meaning that Executive Director Chris Hoffman calls on the board all the time for ideas, fundraising and hands-on type of projects. I headed up the 10th anniversary party for the museum. We called through all of our lists and we got former board members, officers, supporters and executive directors back — I think we had about 150 people in attendance. It wasn’t a fundraiser, it was just a chance to get everyone together again, thank them and show them how well we’ve done.

I also co-chaired the fundraising campaign to relocate the 1873 cabin to the Beaches Museum property along with Suzanne McCormick Taylor. The fun thing about the cabin is we were able to raise the money but also help with the decision making on the refurbishment.

Were you originally from the Beaches area?

More and more, I’ve become a beach person. I grew up in town. Lori and I met at the University of Georgia — she was from the beach, I was from town. We were married in 1974. When she said that she would marry me, she said that we’d have to live at the beach. That was not a bad proposition, and we’ve been out here ever since.

The fun thing about the beach and being involved with the museum is it’s such a unique community. If you start in Mayport and you go beach by beach, everybody is cohesive



Photo by Carrie Resch

but also proud of where they are. Now that we have the Beaches Museum, we can pull all that in and it’s interesting to see how historical the area really is.

Tell me about your family.

My wife, Lori, and I have three grown children — Kathryn, Lauren and Andrew — and five granddaughters. Kathryn and Lauren live in Portland, Oregon, along with four of our granddaughters. We visit frequently. Andrew and his wife live in town. He’s an ER doctor at UF Health.

I understand you also owned a travel agency?

I owned and operated Carlson Wagonlit

Travel, a retail travel agency franchise with offices in Jacksonville and Orlando. I sold it 10 years ago, but I had it for about 30 years. The great thing about owning the travel agency is my family loved to travel, so we had the opportunity to take our kids overseas several times. In 1983, we went to Czechoslovakia and into East Germany — when the wall was still there — which was a fascinating trip. Two years ago, we decided to repeat the same trip. We went back and it was amazing to see the contrast. We also like taking adventure-type trips. We’ve done some hiking in Ireland, and we did a bike ride in New York City a couple of years ago.

Lifeguards return to St. Johns County beaches

By Carrie Resch

St. Johns County Fire Rescue (SJCFR) officially began full-scale guarded beaches May 28. A team of U.S. Lifesaving Association (USLA) certified beach lifeguards staffed by SJCFR will be on daily assignments from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on St. Johns County beaches until Labor Day weekend, the traditional conclusion of beach season.

Lifeguards will staff an average of 18 lifeguard towers. In addition, multiple supervisors patrol the coastline in various response vehicles. Fire personnel housed at coastal stations have been certified as ocean rescue responders and will help supplement the daily beach staffing and emergency response 24 hours a day, according to SJCFR.

The season was off to a busy start over Memorial Day weekend. SJCFR Public Information Officer Capt. Jeremy Robshaw said SJCFR always anticipates that Memorial Day weekend — when the county traditionally kicks off full-scale beach guarding — is going to be a busy weekend, but this Memorial Day weekend's intensity was compounded by an increase in surf and rip current activity as a result of the tropical system that was passing the coastline.

On Sunday, May 29 alone, SJCFR lifeguards responded to 18 swimmers in distress, eight medical emergencies, two missing persons and one disabled vehicle — a jet ski.

"The biggest thing is swim near a lifeguard and be informed," Robshaw said. "When you visit the beaches, pay attention to the flag conditions. If you have questions, please talk to our staff; they are more than happy to provide details as far as the current conditions or any precautions you might need to take as a beachgoer."



Know the Flags

Beach flags and signage are posted at beach access points and lifeguard towers located throughout St. Johns County. Flags and signage provide daily condition updates to beachgoers. Do you know what the color of each flag represents?

Red – high hazard

High surf and/or strong currents

Yellow – medium hazard

Moderate surf and/or currents

Green – low hazard

Calm conditions, exercise caution

Purple – dangerous marine life

And with the beaches more crowded than ever, he added, it's important for people to pay attention to the flags and stay safe.

"We're a growing community, so we have a lot of people coming to this area," Robshaw said. "The population increase alone is going to create more activity for us from an emergency response standpoint."

SJCFR beach safety tips

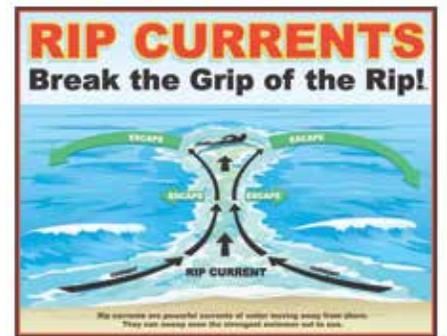
Learn to swim — Learning to swim is the best defense against drowning. Teach children to swim at an early age. Children who are not taught when they are very young

tend to avoid swim instruction as they age, probably due to embarrassment. Swimming instruction is a crucial step to protecting children from injury or death.

Swim near a lifeguard — Statistics show that the chance of drowning at a beach without lifeguard protection is nearly five times as great as drowning at a beach with lifeguards.

Never swim alone — Many drownings involve solo swimmers. Swimming with a buddy enables a friend to assist or summon help if one swimmer has a problem. If a swim buddy isn't available, have someone onshore watching while you swim.

Don't fight the current — It is estimated that 80 percent of rescues by lifeguards at ocean beaches are caused by rip currents. These currents formed by surf and gravity, because once surf pushes water up the slope of the beach, gravity pulls it back. This can create concentrated rivers of water moving offshore. Some people mistakenly call this an undertow, but there is no undercurrent, just an offshore current. If caught in a rip current, don't fight it by trying to swim directly to shore. Instead, swim parallel to shore until you feel the current relax, then swim to shore. Most rip currents are narrow



and a short swim parallel to shore will bring you to safety.

Swim sober — Alcohol is a major factor in drowning. In fact, it accounts for nearly 60 percent of drowning incidents involving adults. Alcohol can reduce body temperature, impair swimming ability and impair judgment, which may cause people to take risks they would not otherwise take.

For detailed information on rip currents and beach safety, visit www.sjcfr.us/MarineRescue/Safety.aspx or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/sjcfrfirerescue.

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Auto buying concierge service takes the hassle out of buying cars

By Carrie Resch

Haggling over car prices or spending countless hours searching for a new vehicle can be a real hassle, but a new auto buying concierge service in town can alleviate those struggles by hiring someone to do the legwork for you.

Auto Buyers' Consultations was launched in December 2015 by Ponte Vedra resident and business owner Brian Mazur, who said the benefit of using his services is three-fold: save time, save money and save aggravation.

"Number one, someone is going to save money because I'm going to work all parts of their car deal," Mazur said. "I'm going to shop their trade-in car and get maximum value for that, then I'm going to work both sides of that process. Number two is save time: I do all of the legwork. Thirdly, I'm saving aggravation or hassle: Instead of (the buyer) going into the dealership and haggling with a professional negotiator, I'm doing it."

The idea for this type of business stemmed from a business of the same name in Mazur's hometown of Pittsburgh, Penn. Mazur's family used that business for around 20 years, he said, and Mazur adopted its model for his new Ponte Vedra business.

"I was familiar with his business and loved the model," Mazur said. "I love

automobiles, but specifically, even more so, I enjoy helping people."

Helping people is how Mazur described his prior careers as a college president and finance executive. After 20 years in higher education, Mazur was looking for something new to do.

"It happens to be in the car-buying business, but it's helping people," he said. "I look at this as consumer advocacy really — educating people about buying a car," said Mazur, who noted he loves the negotiation process and working with numbers.

Mazur believes his business can help a wide-range of people, including first-time car buyers, parents buying their son or daughter their first car, senior citizens, busy executives who may not have the time to go through the car buying process or anyone who is intimidated by the car-buying process.

A no-obligation consultation is offered, and Mazur charges a flat fee for his service, with 50 percent of that fee required to be paid up front and the remainder paid after the customer is completely satisfied. Mazur will meet the customer at the dealership to finalize the transaction and ensure everything runs smoothly.

Because he is not a traditional auto broker or in the automobile industry, Mazur said he has no conflict of interest.

"I'm solely on the side of the buyer."

Savvy Job Hunters Ministry Workshop: 'Advanced Networking Strategies'

The Savvy Job Hunters Ministry Workshop: "Advanced Networking Strategies" will be held Aug. 25 from 9 a.m. to noon in the Christ Episcopal Church Parish Center Conference Room, 400 San Juan Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach.

The workshop will feature life coach, motivational speaker and author Brad Raney, who will teach participants how to use tools such as LinkedIn and other networking strategies.

Email Cindy Corritore at ccorritore@christepiscopalchurch.org or

call the Pastoral Care Office at (900) 285-7390 ext. 231 to sign up for the workshop. For more information, email Pam Ottesen at pottesen66@gmail.com.

The Christ Episcopal Church's Savvy Job Hunters Ministry offers free monthly workshops that include local guest speakers, job search presentations, featured employers, networking opportunities, and spiritual support to those who are unemployed, underemployed, or less-than-happily employed. The workshop is open to the general public.



Mainstream Boutique owners Carla and Kurt Miles cut the ribbon on their new store, Mainstream Boutique May 31.



Kurt and Carla Miles

Photos by Susan Griffin

Mainstream Boutique holds ribbon cutting

Ponte Vedra Beach officially welcomed a new retail establishment to its growing business community, as Mainstream Boutique held a ribbon cutting at its new location at 880 A1A N., Ste. 4, next to the Beach Diner.

Representatives from the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce joined owners Kurt and Carla Miles May 31 for the ribbon cutting at the boutique, which features a diverse assortment of

women's clothing — everything from tops and jeans to little black dresses and ankle pants. The boutique also features an exclusive line known as Mac and Me.

Part of a franchise founded 25 years ago in Minnesota, the Ponte Vedra location is the second Mainstream Boutique to open in Florida, following the opening of a store in Tampa. The boutique was listed in the Franchise 500 list of fastest growing companies in 2015.

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Jacksonville man competes on ABC's 'The Bachelorette'

By Jasmine Marshall

Local viewers of ABC's long-running reality show "The Bachelorette" may already be familiar with the Season 20 contestants competing for JoJo Fletcher's affections.

But what they may not know is that one contestant, Robby Hayes, hails from Jacksonville — and until receiving a call from the show in January, the suitor himself didn't know, either.

According to Hayes' mother, Holly Hayes, his youngest sister submitted him for consideration.

"She nominated him over the holidays," said Holly Hayes, a Realtor with Berkshire Hathaway Home Services/Florida Network Realty in Ponte Vedra. "They reached out to him at the begin-

ning of the year and he was freaking out, wondering what he should do because he hadn't even known she'd done it."

Ultimately, he accepted the offer.

The eldest of three sons and two daughters, Robby is a 27-year-old former competitive swimmer whom his mother describes as "the most driven" and a "complete romantic." He and his siblings were born in Jacksonville, where they attended elementary school before the family moved to Atlanta, where Robby graduated high school. After they returned in 2008, he attended Florida State University, where he was a scholarship athlete on the school's swim team.

Hayes said she and her son share

the same excitement about "The Bachelorette."

"I'm most excited for the opportunity for him to find someone that makes him happy, who enjoys being around him and who hopefully would like to share their life with him," she said. "And I know he's excited about the exact same thing, and the experience of trying something he's never done."

With the premiere of "The Bachelorette's" 20th season, Robby joined the cast alongside 25 other contestants vying for Fletcher's heart. His mother offers a ringing endorsement of her son as marriage material.

"He is bright, determined and competitive, with strong family values," she said. "And he's funny and a good guy."



Robby Hayes

Photo courtesy of Holly Hayes



Photo courtesy of Ocean Palms

Students host British tea party fundraiser at Ocean Palms Elementary

Two Ponte Vedra students born and raised in England treated their American classmates to a traditional British tea recently.

Held May 18 at Ocean Palms Elementary School, the event was hosted by OPE 5th grader Ysabel Jack, Landrum Middle School student Cerys Jack and OPE staff member Kerry Fodor — all of whom were raised in England. The three hostesses provided guests with information on English customs and cuisine, offering cheese straw appetizers, watercress and mini-cucumber sandwiches and desserts prepared by Chef Stephanie

Marciani. Sweets included traditional English favorites such as scones with clotted cream, fruit tarts, shortbreads and other traditional British treats.

Guests also enjoyed sweet tea and lemonade served in Royal Doulton-patterned teacups, which each took home as mementos.

Proceeds from the tea benefited the school's PTO.

An adult British Tea Party fundraiser is planned for Sunday, Aug. 28 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Coastal Oaks Clubhouse in Nocatee. For more information, contact louisemontgomery@yahoo.co.uk.

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Community First Night Owl Cinema

Community First Credit Union and the St. Augustine Amphitheatre present Community First Night Owl Cinema, a free summer movie series of family-friendly films in June and July.

Parking will be free during movie nights and concessions will be available for purchase. Gates open at 7 p.m.; the movie will begin around 8 p.m.

The St. Augustine Amphitheatre is located at 1340C A1A S., St. Augustine. For more information, call the St. Augustine Amphitheatre Box Office at (904) 209-0367 or visit www.staugamphitheatre.com.

On July 15, there will be a David Bowie Tribute Night with a screening of the movie "Labyrinth" and a Davie Bowie Plaza Dance Party hosted by DJ Hoggle, a David Bowie costume contest and face painting. The best Bowie costume will win a pair of tickets to a concert of the winner's choice. The Community First Night Owl Cinema schedule is as follows:

- June 17 "Star Wars: The Force Awakens"
- June 24 "Minions"
- July 15 "Labyrinth" with David Bowie Tribute Night
- July 22 "Inside Out"



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Bolles Pre-K students 'bug out' for end-of-year stage show

Pre-K students of the Bolles Lower School Ponte Vedra Beach Campus "bugged out" on stage recently, when the students presented two performances of "The Bug Story" in the

final grade-level stage show of the school year May 19. Led by music teacher Stacey Posick, the students sang and played instruments in the productions staged in Ponte Vedra Hall.

Photo courtesy of The Bolles School

Bolles students named Youth Leadership Jacksonville delegates

Four Bolles students have been selected to participate in Youth Leadership Jacksonville, an initiative that connects high school juniors who demonstrate leadership ability. Delegates Ann Maris Walton, Matthew Johnson and Gabriela Landolfo were chosen for the yearlong program, while Amelia Still was selected as an alternate.

The students will learn to understand community government, criminal justice, human services, diversity and business through the program, which prepares students for ethical leadership and community involvement.

Youth Leadership Jacksonville was created in 1989. Roughly 54 students each year are selected for the program based on proven leadership ability. During the program, students participate in hands-on activities, interact with community leaders and attend "Program Days" and retreats.

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Advanced Disposal launches annual American flag retirement program

As Flag Day approaches, Advanced Disposal is once again collecting worn, torn or faded American flags in order to dispose of them properly.

Now through Sept. 11, all 226 Advanced Disposal locations will collect old American flags and have them recycled into new American flags or properly retired in accordance with the U.S. Flag Code, which governs the proper handling and display of the Stars and Stripes.

“While the freedom, justice and sacrifice our flag represents will live forever, all flags eventually reach the end of their useful lives,” Advanced Disposal CEO Richard Burke said. “We are proud to be an American company and it is our honor to offer

this free service to our customers and neighbors.”

Locally, residents may drop off their flags at the following locations:

- Ponte Vedra: Advanced Disposal corporate headquarters (first floor), 90 Fort Wade Road
- Jacksonville: 7580 Philips Highway
- St. Augustine: 3515 Agricultural Center Drive

Residents who are retiring more than one flag are asked to separate nylon flags from cotton flags to ensure they are sent to the proper location for recycling or disposal.

Advanced Disposal first initiated its flag retirement program in 2015, when the Nocatee-based disposal company



collected more than 2,500 flags of all sizes — including one that measured more than 600 square feet. For more

information on the flag retirement program, visit www.AdvancedDisposal.com/RetireYourFlag.

‘Budget turkeys,’ pensions discussed at Ponte Vedra Republican Club meeting

By Jennifer Logue

If you’ve never heard of Bailey’s Mill, you’re not alone.

Neither had anyone else.

The mysterious parcel of land somehow found its way into a state budget, with a \$2.7 million appropriation for the state to purchase the property. There was just one problem: Nobody in state government seemed to know where it was, why the state wanted to buy it, what the state would do with it upon purchase or how much it would cost to maintain.

“You don’t want to spend \$2.7 million to buy a piece of property that nobody even knows where it is,” Florida TaxWatch’s Robert Weissert told members of the Ponte Vedra Republican Club last week.

Bailey’s Mill was but one example of what Florida TaxWatch calls a “budget turkey” that Weissert shared with club members at the group’s June luncheon, held June 2 at the Sawgrass Golf Club. Weissert stressed that budget turkeys aren’t simply budget items that the nonpartisan think tank and government watchdog group doesn’t like. Rather, he said, the designation is applied to appropriations that are added to the budget without following the proper procedures or being subjected to proper legislative scrutiny.

“These are items in the state budget that circumvent the traditional budget process,” said Weissert, noting that Bailey’s Mill was vetoed following its designation as a budget turkey. But the turkeys, he added, are really a by-product of Florida TaxWatch’s ongoing efforts to research and analyze the state budget.

“Taxes are important — budgets are important,” Weissert told attendees. “Florida state government spends about \$10 million an hour — and by the time we go to bed tonight, Floridians will spend an average of \$40 on taxes today. Some will pay a lot more.”

Among the reports the group publishes is an annual booklet detailing how Florida compares to other states in terms of taxes. The organization also analyzes and makes recommendations regarding funding issues such as pensions, an issue about which Republican Club members were keenly interested. Responding to questions on the topic from the audience, Weissert acknowledged that virtually the only employees today still receiving pensions are public employees — just one indication, he said, that government operates under a different set of rules than the private sector.

“In business, you figure out what your revenues are and then you bud-



Photo by Jennifer Logue

Luncheon guests included County Commissioner and candidate for Congress Bill McClure, wife Kim McClure and St. Johns County Sheriff David Shoar.

get to expend that revenue,” he said. “In government, you figure out what you want to spend and then raise taxes to cover the expenditures.”

Weissert noted that the Florida Retirement System is one of the best-funded pensions systems in the country, at 86 percent funded. That leaves an unfunded liability of \$20 billion.

“If this were a private company, someone would go to prison, because that is a very large unfunded liability for a company to be carrying,” Weissert said. “But instead, Florida’s

lauded as one of the best pension funds in the country.

“It’s a very well-run plan, but the system is set up to fail,” he continued. “It’s unsustainable.”

Ultimately, Weissert said, the group views its role as providing independent analysis and oversight on behalf of Florida residents who don’t have time to pore through the 4,000 line items in the state budget.

“Keeping an eye on spending,” he said, “is really the only way we can control government.”

Sterling's Summer Pier Dance to benefit BEAM

The inaugural Sterling's Summer Pier Dance will be held June 14 at 7 p.m. at the Casa Marina Hotel.

Hosted by Rock Solid Business Law, LLC and Casa Marina Hotel maître d' and philanthropist Sterling Joyce, the event will benefit Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry (BEAM) to help feed underprivileged children over the summer break.

Rock Solid Business Law also supported a December BEAM benefit held at the Casa Marina Hotel. The Jacksonville Beach Pier Dance has been held annually in December for the past 18 years to help provide needy families with toys and food for Christmas.

"Knowing that school children would not have their lunch program during summer, we wanted to do another event to raise money to feed them," Attorney John Miller said. "Rock Solid Business Law is proud to sponsor these kinds of events for our community. Casa Marina was a natural partner, and Sterling Joyce was the obvious choice as the host of the event."

Miller said the Beaches have been supportive of efforts to aid those less

fortunate.

"I have found that if we give Beaches residents an opportunity to support a good cause while having a good time," he said, "we usually turn out enthusiastically."

Admission to Sterling's Summer Pier Dance is \$20 and includes one drink ticket. The event will feature live music by BayStreet, with Miller on lead vocals and bass guitar. Tickets will be available for purchase at the door. Beach attire such as sun hats and sundresses is recommended but not required.

The Casa Marina Hotel is located at 691 First St N., Jacksonville Beach.

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Thursday, June 9	Friday, June 10	Saturday, June 11	Sunday, June 12
<p>Beaches Luncheon The JAX Chamber Beaches Luncheon will be held Thursday, June 9, from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Casa Marina Hotel and Restaurant, 691 First St. N., Jacksonville Beach. The speaker will be Daniel Davis, president and CEO of JAX Chamber. The cost is \$20 with advance online registration; \$25 at the door. For more information or to register for the luncheon, visit www.myjaxchamber.com.</p> <p>Concerts in the Plaza The 2016 Concerts in the Plaza summer music series continues June 9 with a performance by Florida Brass Quintet live at 7 p.m. at Plaza de la Constitución, 22 Cathedral Place, St. Augustine. The concerts continue every Thursday through Sept. 1. All concerts are free and attendees should bring lounge chairs for seating. Picnic dinners are popular, but alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the plaza. For more information, call (904) 825-1004 during weekday office hours or visit www.concertsintheplaza.com.</p> <p>Mental Health Recovery Support Free mental health support is available to the public facilitated by Georgia/Florida Certified Peer Specialist Whitney Bolin. Sessions are by appointment only Monday through Friday; call (770) 403-4991 or email whitneybat76@gmail.com. Bolin also facilitates a mental health recovery group at Flagler Hospital from 2 to 4 p.m. every Tuesday.</p> <p>Arbor Terrace Life Enrichment Group The Life Enrichment Group Day Program takes place every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra, 5125 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra Beach. The group is designed for those with memory changes who would like to stay active mentally, physically and socially. For more information, call (904) 497-4346 or visit www.at-pontevedra.com.</p>	<p>'Birds and Bees' exhibition The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach presents "Birds and Bees," an exhibition featuring the sculptural work of Donald Martin and the abstract work of Jo Sinclair through July 16. The Cultural Center is located at 50 Executive Way, Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, call (904) 280-0614 or visit www.ccpvb.org.</p> <p>'Shipwrecked! An Entertainment' Players by the Sea Theatre presents: "Shipwrecked! An Entertainment: The Amazing Adventure of Louis De Rougemont (As Told By Himself)" on the Studio Stage June 3-18. General admission is \$23; admission for seniors, students or military is \$20. Tickets for children under 12 are \$10. Players by the Sea is located at 106 Sixth St. N., Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 249-0289 or visit www.playersbythesea.org.</p> <p>'Laundry & Bourbon' Limelight Theatre presents "Laundry & Bourbon," two one-act comedies June 3-26. Act one will be on the Matusa Main Stage and act two will be on the Koger-Gamache Studio Stage. Tickets are \$26 for adults, \$24 for seniors, and \$20 for military and students. The theatre is located at 11 Old Mission Ave., St. Augustine. For more information, call (904) 825-1164 or visit www.limelight-theatre.org.</p> <p>MOSH \$5 Fridays Every Friday MOSH offers \$5 admission and extended hours until 8 p.m. Additional discounts or coupons are not permitted.</p> <p>Travel Training Program The Council on Aging's Travel Training program is designed to assist seniors in learning to ride the Sunshine Bus. Residents interested in expanding their transportation options or who would like to increase their confidence as a bus rider can receive assistance from trained volunteers in navigating routes, reading time tables and making transfers. Contact the mobility manager at the Council on Aging at (904) 315-6505 or email Katie.Arnold@karnold@stjohnscoa.com.</p>	<p>Bocce Ball Tournament Atlantic Beach's inaugural Bocce Ball Tournament will be held Saturday, June 11, on the beach between 18th and 19th Streets. Individuals and teams will compete in the City of Atlantic Beach's first ever Bocce Ball Tournament. Teams will be placed in brackets of four and play by elimination. Each team is guaranteed a minimum of two games. The cost is \$50 per person or \$175 for a team of four. Register online at https://coab.sportngin.com/register/form/996221656. For more information, call the recreation department at (904) 247-5828.</p> <p>Tai Chi For Health workshop A Tai Chi for Health workshop hosted by Sheri Nicholson will be held Saturday, June 11, from 10 a.m. to noon at Balanced Physician Care, 115 Professional Drive, Suite 104, Ponte Vedra Beach. The cost is \$20 for the two-hour workshop; limited space is available. Call (904) 930-4774 to RSVP. Visit www.sherinicholson.com for more details.</p> <p>12th annual Putt N' Crawl The 12th annual Putt N' Crawl will be held Saturday, June 11, from 1 to 7 p.m. Official participants will play miniature golf, enjoy drink specials, win prizes and support local businesses and charities. The 18-hole course is made of hand-built putting greens hosted at several local restaurants and bars on First Street at Jacksonville Beach. Play as a team of four or sign up individually. Official players are also invited to the after party and to compete in the costume contest. Tickets are available at www.puttcrawl.com or can be purchased the day of the event for \$25 at selected participating venues. Putt N' Crawl is an exclusive event; participants must be 21 years of age or older to purchase a ticket and take part.</p> <p>Darwin & Dinosaurs The Museum of Science and History (MOSH) presents Darwin & Dinosaurs now through Sept. 5 at MOSH located at 1025 Museum Circle, Jacksonville. The exhibition features full-size dinosaur skeletons, scientific instruments, original letters and first editions of Darwin's main works, including "On the Origin of Species." For more information, call (904) 396-MOSH or visit www.themosh.org.</p>	<p>A Celebration of Music in Worship Palms Presbyterian Church will host Music Sunday, June 12, at both morning services – held at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. – in the sanctuary. Music Sunday will feature The Chancel Choir, The CAMP Choir, organist Cathy Fortson, violinist Matthew Hakkarainen, 26 members of The Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra and conductor Dr. Ronn Cummings. Music Sunday is open to the public; nursery care is provided. Palms Presbyterian is located at 3410 Third St. S., Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 246-6427 or visit www.palmschurch.org.</p> <p>15th annual Summer Jazz Series The 15th annual Summer Jazz Series will be held from 5 to 9 p.m. June 12 at the Seawalk Pavilion in Jacksonville Beach. Presented by the City of Jacksonville Beach in partnership with local media, the two-concert event is free and open to the public. Concert-goers may wish to bring blankets or lawn chairs. Refreshments will be available for purchase from local vendors. The concert lineup is as follows: Opening act: The Groov at 5 p.m. Second act: J.J. Sansaverino at 6:15 p.m. Headliner: Brian Simpson, Marion Meadows & Elan Trotman as The Jazz All Stars at 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Practice with Purpose at Big Fish Yoga Practice with Purpose is an all-level yoga class offered on Sundays from 4 to 5 p.m. at Big Fish Power Yoga. The fee for the class is a \$5 cash donation that goes to the charity that Big Fish Power Yoga has selected for the quarter. Big Fish Yoga is located in the South Beach Regional Shopping Center in Jacksonville Beach at 3852 South Third St. For more info, call (904) 372-0601.</p> <p>Collection Tour Join the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens on Sundays for a guided tour of its permanent collection. The tour is free with the cost of admission. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville.</p>

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Monday, June 13	Tuesday, June 14	Wednesday, June 15	Thursday, June 16
<p>Caregiver Support Group The Players Caregiver Support Group meets every Monday from noon to 1 p.m. at The Players Senior Center, 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach. Kimberly Weir of Heartland Hospice facilitates a weekly discussion of current concerns and issues of caregivers. For more information, call (904) 280-3233.</p> <p>Life Enrichment Group The Life Enrichment Group is a program designed for those with memory changes who like to stay active mentally, physically and socially while allowing caregivers and loved ones some free time for themselves. This program is offered weekdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Ashford Court, 1700 The Greens Way in Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 568-8174, or email life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com.</p> <p>Annual Activity Member Become an Annual Activity Member at The Players Community Senior Center. Membership includes discounts on fee-based classes, designated events and Coastal Travel along with complimentary participation in a wide variety of scheduled activities. Call Darlene Mahany at (904) 280-3233 for more information.</p> <p>Habitat for Humanity volunteers Habitat for Humanity of St. Augustine/St. Johns County is currently seeking qualified homeowners. Habitat does not give away homes for free. Instead, homeowners pay an affordable monthly mortgage payment and Habitat helps build them a simple, decent place to live. For more information on volunteering, donating or qualifying for a Habitat home, visit habitatstjohns.org.</p> <p>For The Love of Driving Volunteer drivers are needed to assist seniors in achieving their mobility goals in St. Johns County. Transportation needs range from trips to the grocery store and classes to spousal hospital visits or social activities. Contact the mobility manager at the Council on Aging, (904) 315-6505, or email Katie Arnold at kar-nold@stjohnscoa.com.</p>	<p>Sterling's Summer Pier Dance Sterling's Summer Pier Dance, a fundraiser for the Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry (BEAM) will be held June 14 at 7 p.m. at the Casa Marina Hotel, 691 First St. N., Jacksonville Beach. Tickets are \$20 per person and include one free beer, wine or well drink. Live musical entertainment will be provided by BayStreet. Tickets will be available at the door.</p> <p>Sunset Rotary Club Meet & Greet The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset invites civic-minded business and community leaders to a Meet & Greet event from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 14, on the back deck and lawn of The Oak Bridge Club at Sawgrass, 254 Alta Mar Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach. Come see what Rotary is all about. The event will be catered by TacoLu and a cash bar will be available. The cost to attend is \$25. RSVP to maurer3966@aol.com or call or text (904) 226-2696.</p> <p>Palm Valley Farmers Market The Palm Valley Farmers Market takes place every Tuesday from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Palm Valley Community Center, 148 Canal Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>SPLASH at PVPC Tuesday evenings, 7 to 8:30 p.m. the Singles Ministry SPLASH (Single People Loving and Serving Him) gathers at Ponte Vedra Presbyterian Church, 4510 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra: All single adults in the community are welcome for fellowship and discussions on applying the Bible in everyday life along with a light dinner provided by KC's Kitchen. Mission and social opportunities are also available. For more information, email julie@pvpc.com or call (904) 285-8225.</p> <p>Destination: DINO Twenty-five species of life-size and life-like animatronic dinosaurs will be on display at the Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens through July 4. The cost is \$4 for non-members; \$3 for members. Zoo admission is not included. The zoo is located at 370 Zoo Parkway, Jacksonville. For more information, visit www.jaxzoodinos.org.</p>	<p>Arbor Terrace luncheon workshop Wartime veterans or their surviving spouses are invited to a special luncheon workshop about long-term care benefits Wednesday, June 15, at 11:30 a.m. at Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra, 5125 Palm Valley Road. The workshop will provide information regarding possible eligibility for long-term care benefits to pay for home care, assisted living or nursing home. Seating is limited. RSVP by June 10 by calling (904) 834-7578.</p> <p>Overeaters Anonymous meeting Overeaters Anonymous meets every Wednesday at noon in the CFC room 203/205 at Christ Episcopal Church, 400 San Juan Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop eating compulsively. There are no dues or fees. Call (904) 405-8664 for more information.</p> <p>PV Professionals Networking Group The Ponte Vedra Professionals Networking Group meets the second, third and fourth Wednesday of the month from noon to 1 p.m. at Mulligans, 43 PGA Tour Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach. The first Wednesday of the month, the group hosts an after-work social mixer at various locations. For more information, call Dave at (904) 248-9871, visit www.pvpng.com or email pontevedrapng@gmail.com.</p> <p>Ponte Vedra Toastmasters The Ponte Vedra Toastmasters Club offers opportunities for developing your leadership and communication skills. The group meets Wednesdays at The Players Community Senior Center, 175 Landrum Lane, Ponte Vedra. The meeting starts promptly at 7:30 a.m. Contact Lucy Reep at (904) 607-3695 or contact-5199@toastmastersclubs.org for more information.</p> <p>Music by the Sea concert series Music by the Sea takes place every Wednesday through Oct. 12, 2016 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the St. Augustine Beach Pier, 350 A1A Beach Blvd. On June 15, Mid-Life Crisis will perform. The concerts are free; guests can purchase a dinner plate for \$10 from the sponsoring restaurant. Food is served at 6 p.m. and the music starts at 7 p.m. For more information, call (904) 347-8007 or visit www.augustine.com/event/music-sea.</p>	<p>Volunteer Interest Meeting The Beaches Museum & History Park will host a meeting for prospective volunteers Thursday, June 16, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the museum, 381 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville Beach. Attendees will be able to tour the museum and learn about the many opportunities available to volunteers. High school students looking to complete community service hours are also welcome. For more information or to RSVP, call (904) 241-5657 or email info@beachesmuseum.org.</p> <p>Grief Support Group A Grief Support Group meets on the third Thursday of every month at St. Paul's Catholic Church in the library of the Family Life Center, 578 First Ave. N., Jacksonville Beach. The group is for men and women who are grieving the death of a family member or friend. The next meeting will be Thursday, June 16 at 7 p.m. For information, call Kathy at (904) 553-8933 or Catherine at (904) 247-0665.</p> <p>Coffee on the Coast The JAX Chamber Beaches Division Coffee on the Coast will be held Thursday, June 16, from 8 to 9 a.m. at Ponte Vedra Wellness Center, 100 Corridor Road S., Suite 220, Ponte Vedra Beach. The cost is \$5; advance online registration requested. Continental breakfast will be served. Register online at www.myjaxchamber.com.</p> <p>Concerts in the Plaza The 2016 Concerts in the Plaza summer music series continues June 16 with a performance by Mike Hart's Decoy live at 7 p.m. at Plaza de la Constitución, 22 Cathedral Place, St. Augustine. The concerts continue every Thursday through Sept. 1. All concerts are free and attendees should bring lounge chairs for seating. Picnic dinners are popular, but alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the plaza. For more information, call (904) 825-1004 during weekday office hours or visit www.concertsintheplaza.com.</p> <p>Free calendar listings for community groups and nonprofit organizations are published at our discretion on a space-available basis. Send your event at least 10 days before publication. Submit events to carrie@opcfla.com, post online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com using the automated form or call (904) 686-3939.</p>

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Sunday, June 19th
9:00 AM - 9:00 PM

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Tuesday, June 28th
6:00 - 8:00 PM

For complete information on our dining and social events, visit our website at <http://www.tpc.com/sawgrass-dining>.
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Hilton Garden Inn Jacksonville/Ponte Vedra earns TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence for 5th consecutive year

The Hilton Garden Inn Jacksonville/Ponte Vedra has received TripAdvisor's 2016 Certificate of Excellence for the fifth consecutive year.

The award is based on the quality, quantity and recency of reviews submitted by travellers on *TripAdvisor.com* during a 12-month period.

"We are proud and honored to have consistently good reviews from our guests," General Manager Chuck Schoonmaker said. "Our team at the hotel truly does exemplify founder Conrad Hilton's original vision of 'Spreading the warmth and light of hospitality around the world.' Our

guests' experience is our top concern, and it is immensely gratifying to our team to be so wonderfully recognized for their efforts."

TripAdvisor Vice President Heather Leisman said the Certificate of Excellence is one way the site helps travelers make informed decisions when making travel plans for business or pleasure.

"This recognition helps travelers identify and book properties that regularly deliver great service," she said. "TripAdvisor is proud to play this integral role in helping travelers feel more confident in their booking decisions."



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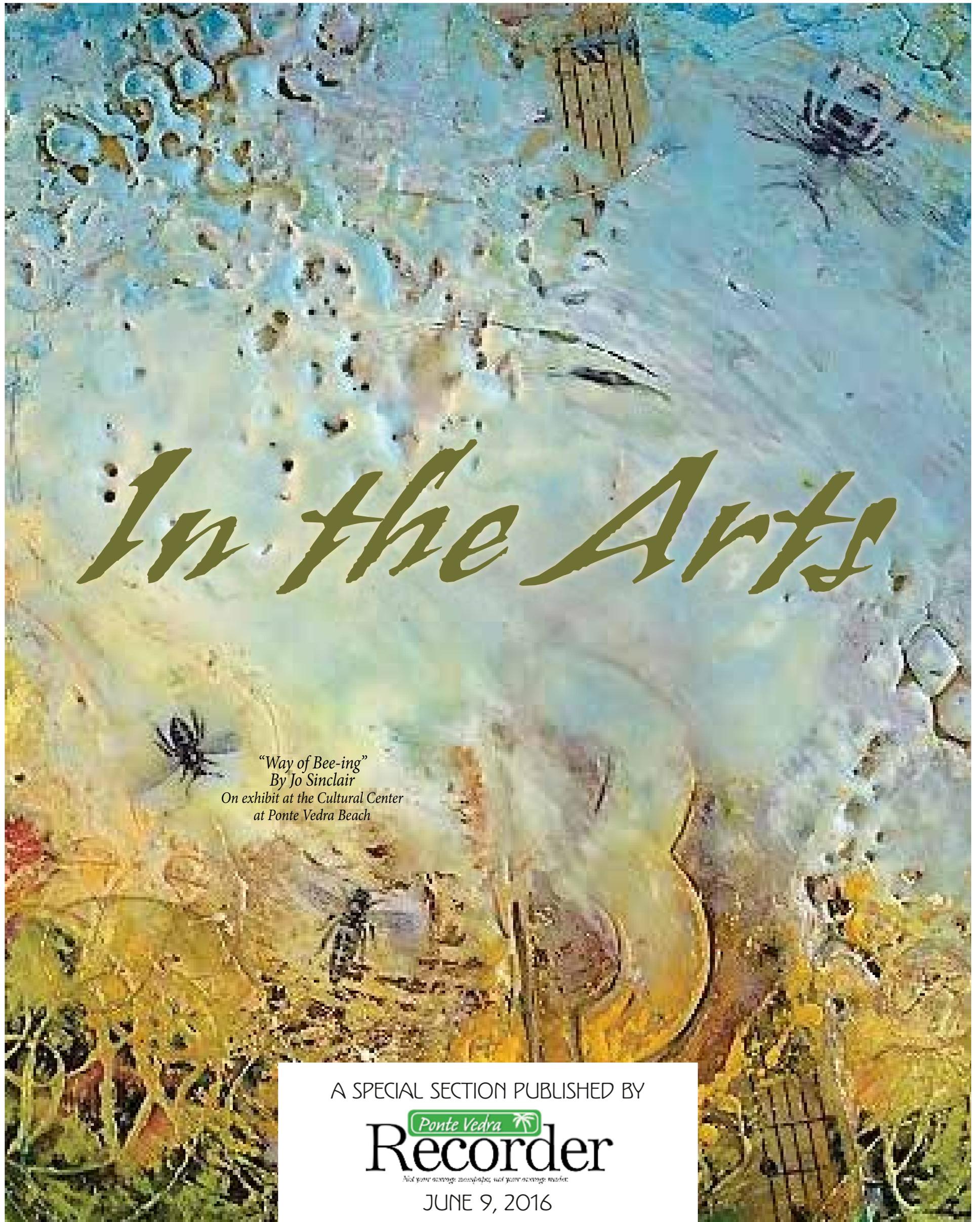
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In the Arts

*“Way of Bee-ing”
By Jo Sinclair
On exhibit at the Cultural Center
at Ponte Vedra Beach*

A SPECIAL SECTION PUBLISHED BY

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JUNE 9, 2016

Grace Conservatory to open in Nocatee

Dance studio's owners hope to enliven community through the arts

By Jennifer Logue

For Kristina Robison, opening her own dance studio in Nocatee Town Center is the realization of a lifelong dream.

"Every day from the time I was 5 years old, I would tell my mother, 'Mommy, I don't need to go to school because I'm going to be a dance teacher and own a dance school,'" Robison said.

This summer, that dream will become reality, as Robison and her husband, Vaughan, open Grace Conservatory. To be located at 485 Town Plaza Ave., Ste. 450, the new dance studio slated to open in early August will offer lessons for both children and adults.

The couple, who moved to Nocatee's Willowcove neighborhood with their three young children last fall, said Grace Conservatory will bring the arts to the growing master-planned community.

"We saw that Nocatee was just such a family-oriented place with amaz-

ing schools — but there really weren't many arts opportunities in the area yet," Robison said. "We wanted to bring the arts to this great community and round out the offerings here."

A life of dance

Despite her childhood protestations — which continued right up until it was time to go to college — Robison did indeed go to school, continuing on to study dance at the well-respected dance conservatory at Texas Women's University.

"I'm so glad my mother made me go — I learned so much about dance and the history of dance," she said. It helped shape me to be the dancer and teacher I am today."

Following graduation from college, she returned to her home in San Antonio where she taught at a local dance studio before moving with her husband to New York City. She joined a dance troupe there and performed professionally for two years before starting a family.

After a move to Nashville to be closer to family, the Robisons moved to Nocatee and initiated plans for Grace Conservatory, drawing on Vaughan's

professional experience as a project manager.

"We have a great partnership," she said. "He handles the planning and business side of everything and I handle all the rest."

Dance for all ages

Grace Conservatory — which takes its name from the middle name of Robison's daughter — will offer classes for dancers as young as 2 years old in tap, ballet, jazz, hip hop and lyrical — which incorporates elements of jazz, ballet and modern dance. Registration is now open on the school's website (www.graceconservatory.com), and the conservatory has also been operating a booth at the Nocatee Farmer's market to introduce local families to its offerings.

In addition to Robison, the studio will have two certified dance teachers, with classes offered Monday through Saturday for dancers at all levels of experience.

"Everyone can dance," Robison said. "My goal is to help build confidence."

She also hopes to foster a love of dance and the arts among even the youngest students.

"I want to help them build that



Photo by Jennifer Logue

Grace Conservatory Owner Kristina Robison has more than 15 years of experience in dance education and choreography.

love, and hopefully it's a love that will continue throughout their lives," she said. "Dance builds discipline, it builds character, it builds identity and strength. There's nothing better than to see a child's face light up with a big smile because she can't wait to come to dance class."

Local authors to speak at Ponte Vedra Book Fair

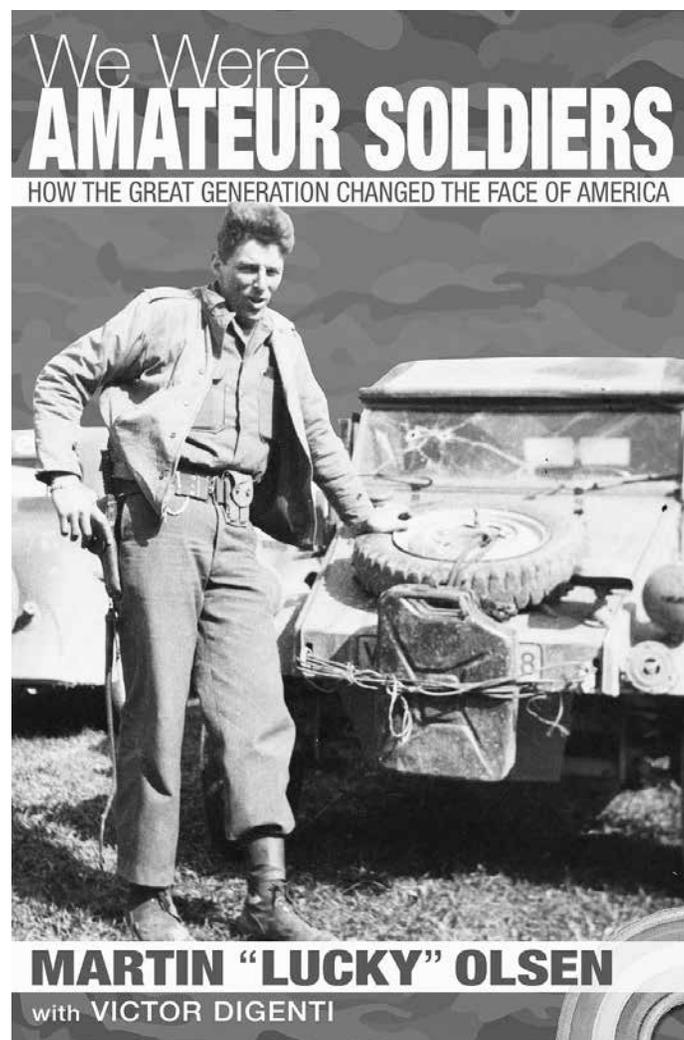


Photo courtesy of Vic DiGenti

Four local authors will discuss their writing journeys and sign copies of their book at the Ponte Vedra Book Fair, to be held Monday, June 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Branch Public Library.

Participating authors include Thomas Bragg, Sheila Weinstein, Bill Yancey and 92-year-old Martin Olsen, who served in World War II. In his memoir, "We Were Amateur Soldiers: How the Great Generation Changed the Face of America," Olsen blends the history of a generation born during the Great Depression, who fought and won a world war, and went on to rebuild a society that launched new industries and sent men to the moon. His story is more than a war memoir in that it tracks his life from growing up on Long Island, working at his father's small business, and taking it over after the war and growing it into a market leader. He lives in Vicar's Landing.

Bragg was a country boy from tiny Nankipoo, Georgia, living in poverty and turned out by his mother because she couldn't feed him and his five brothers and sisters. He joined the army at 17 and his life was never the same. In his memoir, "Nankipoo Ranger," Bragg writes of his long climb in the ranks to master sergeant, becoming a Ranger fighting in Vietnam, and being inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame. He's recently moved from Blackshear, Georgia to Nocatee.

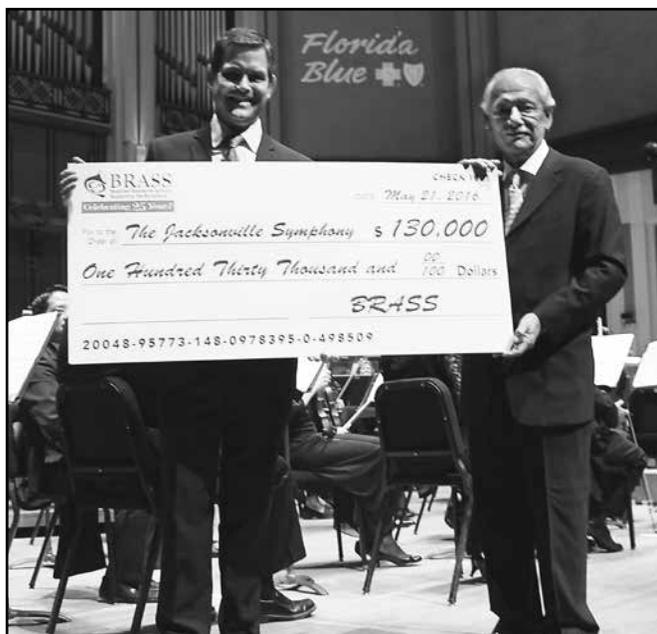
Weinstein wrote of a difficult time in her life when she lost her husband of 42 years to

dementia. Her book, "Moving to the Center of the Bed: The Artful Creation of a Life Alone," discusses her struggles to adapt after his death, fighting depression and despair and finding the strength to build a new life on her own. Weinstein has worked at the United Nations, and taught French and piano. She now lives in Ponte Vedra Beach and is working on a novel.

Yancey is a retired physician who grew up all over the world as the son of an Air Force officer. He's also the prolific author of nine books, ranging from alternative history to medical suspense novels. His latest, "Quantum Timeline," is a science fiction thriller exploring the machinations and ramifications of time travel. In the book, Detective Bill Engle learns that changing history may be more dangerous than interfering with the space-time continuum. Yancey is a resident of St. Augustine.

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Photo courtesy of BRASS
BRASS President Michael Imbriani (right) presents Jacksonville Symphony Association President and CEO Robert Massey with a donation raised through the all-volunteer group's fundraising efforts.



BRASS donates \$130,000 to Jacksonville Symphony

The all-volunteer group BRASS (Beaches Residents Actively Supporting the Symphony) recently concluded its 25th Anniversary year by presenting the Jacksonville Symphony with a check for \$130,000 raised through the group's fundraising efforts.

BRASS President Michael Imbriani presented the check to Jacksonville Symphony Association President and CEO Robert Massey May 21 on the Jacoby Symphony Hall stage prior to the symphony's performance at Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts.

"I am pleased to present this check for \$130,000, which includes a generous gift from the estate of Isabelle Davis, a founder of BRASS," Imbriani

said. "Thanks to the enthusiastic support of our more than 300 members and board of directors, BRASS has raised \$240,000 for the Jacksonville Symphony in the past two years."

At a private reception before the on-stage presentation, Massey told BRASS members, "The Jacksonville Symphony is grateful for the enduring support from BRASS and its members. We've just completed our first full season with Courtney Lewis as music director and have introduced several successful new programs such as Symphony in 60. The fundraising efforts and enthusiastic support of BRASS will make it possible for the Symphony to continue to bring music to the community in many ways."

Summer Jazz Series kicks off June 12

J.J. Sansaverino, The Jazz All Stars and The Groov are among the acts that will entertain beachgoers this summer, as the 15th Annual Summer Jazz Series kicks off this weekend in Jacksonville Beach.

To be at the Sea Walk Pavilion, the concert series begins at 5 p.m. Sunday June 12 with a lineup of three jazz acts. The series returns July 10 with another lineup of jazz performers:

JUNE 12, 2016

5:00 p.m. Opening Act: The Groov

6:15 p.m. Second Act: J. J. Sansaverino

7:30 p.m. Headliner: Brian

Simpson, Marion Meadors, & Elan Trotman as The Jazz All Stars

JULY 10, 2016

5:00 p.m. Opening Act: Isaac Byrd, Jr.

6:15 p.m. Second Act: Althea Rene and Jeanette Harris

7:30 p.m. Headliner: Four 80 East with Special Guest Art Sherrod Jr.

Sponsored by the City of Jacksonville Beach, PRI Productions, 96.1 WEJZ and WJXT Channel 4, the Summer Jazz Series is free and open to the public.

Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs, and refreshments will be available for purchase.

St. Johns County Master Gardener class application deadline is July 1

Contact forms are being accepted for the 2016 St. Johns County Master Gardener class. The Master Gardener program recruits volunteers for horticultural activities of the Extension Service.

In exchange for 50 hours of intensive horticultural education, the volunteer commits to donating 75 hours of volunteer time to

Extension Service projects.

Examples of volunteer projects include arboretum care, aiding with the demonstration vegetable garden and assisting on the phone desk.

Interested participants can call (904) 209-0430 ext. 0 for a contact form.

The deadline for the applications is July 1.

State of the Arts grant recipients chosen

Ten organizations recently were awarded grants through the State of the Arts (SOTA) Grant Program of the St. Johns Cultural Council.

This year's grantees represent a diverse range of cultural activities serving diverse populations such as homeless children given an opportunity to take piano lessons, at-risk students who can learn art as an incentive to complete homework, and senior citizens who can create art and practice the art of storytelling.

Spring SOTA grants were given for the following cultural programs:

- Felicia Regan and Keys to Success — Music Program for St. Luke's A.M.E. Church and Transitional Housing Program for Homeless Families
- Caren Goldman and Compas-

sion Through the Eyes of Children 3, Incarcerated Youth Obelisk Program

- Morgan Kelly — Island Turtle, Tales of Sand and Sea, Puppetry Project

- Heather Hagy, Exploring Printmaking in the Arts — silk-screening, Sebastian Middle School

- Darlene Mahany, Council on Aging Players Senior Center — The Art of Silk Scarf Painting

- Kristin Pidcock and Education at Limelight Theatre — The Storytelling Project at the Council on Aging

- Laurie Schreve and Valley Ridge Academy Art Smart Program — Monthly Art Smart Projects

- Ted Voorhees and Cyprian Center for the Expressive Arts — Inside

Out: Seeing Days in the Lives of Incarcerated Children

- Valerie P. Mull and Friends of the Main Library St. Augustine, The Main Art Studio — Art Lessons will be provided for adults who have little artistic experience and would like to sample different mediums

- Nancy Christensen and St. Johns County-based Artists for After-School at-risk children and ACE Program Artist Cultural Education program — visiting artists

"These are small grants — up to \$500 — that have big impact," Andy Witt, St. Johns Cultural Council executive director said. "The St. Johns Cultural Council is proud to support so many worthy programs that help youth at risk, elders, arts in schools, and engage artists in valuable com-

munity development."

Support for the program is generated through the sale or renewal of a "State-of-the-Arts" license plate in St. Johns County. Each license plate generates \$20 for this designated fund.

The Cultural Council board opens the process for these micro-grants twice a year — spring and fall. This year, the St. Johns Cultural Council received more applications for grants than ever before, making the process a highly competitive one. Applications are reviewed by a board committee, and award winners are selected according to compliance with the grant guidelines. The next cycle of funding will be in the fall. Applications are available at www.stjohnsculture.com.



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The 2016 Beaches Art Fest call for artists and poster contest entries

The Beaches Art Fest returns the first weekend in October and event organizers are currently recruiting artists to participate in the event as well as a poster contest.

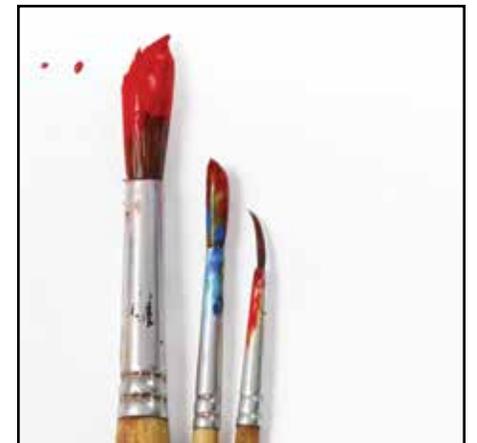
Driftwood and the Beaches Museum & History Park will once again partner to present The Beaches Art Fest 2016 at Pablo Historical Park on Beach Boulevard in Jacksonville Beach.

The 3rd annual The Beaches Art Fest will take place over the span of two days this year: Saturday, Oct. 1 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. rain or shine.

The juried art and fine craft event consists of artists and craftsmen from around the country. Exhibitors will be selected by the jury committee to represent the best work in each category for a well-rounded art and fine craft festival.

The art fest will span two city blocks and feature an outdoor art gallery highlighting each artist, where festival-goers will have the chance to interact with the artists, ask them questions and learn more about their work.

The Beaches Art Fest will benefit the Beaches Museum & History Park. More information can be found online



at www.holidayartshows.com/beaches-art-fest-exhibitor-information.html#.VICNZvkrJdg.

The 2016 Beaches Art Fest Poster Contest is also now open. Artists are invited to create an original design that best exemplifies The Beaches Art Fest. All graphic media is acceptable; there is no fee to enter.

The winner will receive a free booth in a prime location at the Beaches Art Fest and other perks. The deadline to enter is June 24. The winner will be announced July 1. For more information, visit www.holidayartshows.com/beaches-art-fest-poster-contest.html#.V1B42Y-cGUL.



Now registering for the 2016-2017 season

- *PreBallet/Tap combos and Ballet/Creative Movement combos for 3-5 year olds; evenings, mornings, and afternoon classes
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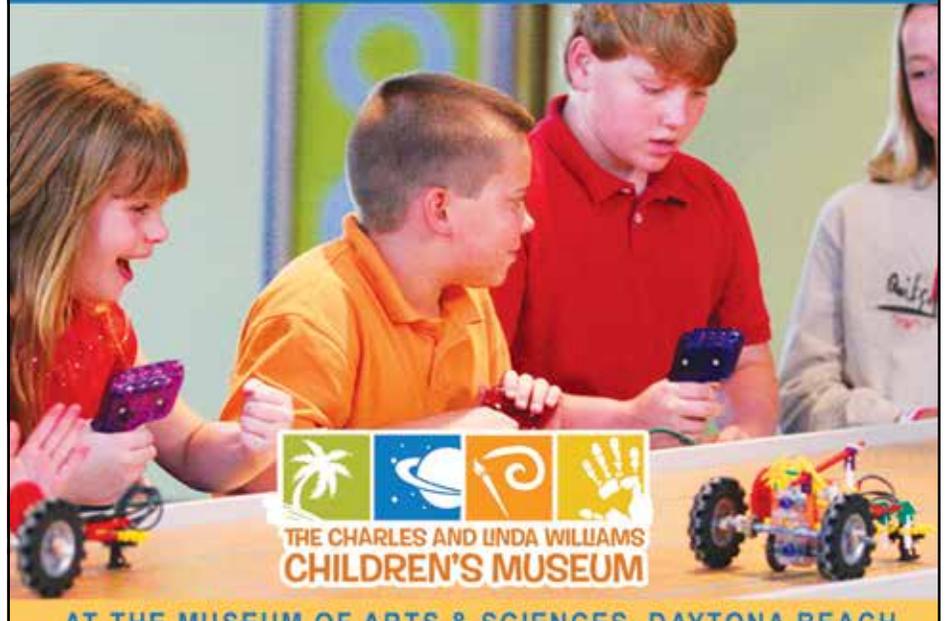
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Cultural Center showcases 'Birds and Bees,' pastel society exhibits

By Jennifer Logue

Nature in all its glory was on display June 3, when the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach held opening receptions for two new exhibits.

The cultural center's Main Gallery was the setting for the opening of the "Birds and Bees" exhibit featuring the sculptural work of Donald Martin and the abstract encaustic work of Jo Sinclair. Guests admired both artists' works, which aimed to present the natural world in new and unexpected ways. Sinclair's works, for example, incorporated beeswax — a reflection of her role as the wife of a master beekeeper.

"Jo Sinclair has been instructing here (at the cultural center) for a very long time, while Don Martin is an instructor at Flagler College," Development Director Toni Boudreaux said. "So they are really steeped in the St. Johns County artists' community."

Down the hall in the center's Scene Gallery, meanwhile, the First Coast Pastel Society was holding the opening reception for its annual Member Show and Sale. A large crowd of



Richard and Paula Willits attend the "Birds and Bees" exhibit.

artists and arts' lovers mingled and admired works submitted for exhibit, which was juried by nationally known pastel artist Karen Margulis. And like the "Birds and Bees" exhibit, the pastel show's works featured numerous artistic depictions of the natural world.

Boudreaux noted that the Pastel Society was one of the cultural center's group members, whereby fellow arts organizations may hold meet-

Photos by Jennifer Logue



"Burial Book" by Donald Martin

ings and exhibitions at the center. The Watercolor Society has a similar group membership arrangement, she noted.

"Many of their members take classes here at the cultural center, so it's a really beneficial relationship for us to work with these artists," she said. "We try to accommodate their needs."

Both the "Birds and Bees" and Pastel Society exhibits will be on display at the cultural center through July 16.



Keichi Hartley, Debra Fox and Julie Poh attend the Pastel Society show.

Cutter & Cutter to host multi-artist exhibition

Cutter & Cutter Fine Art will host a multi-artist exhibition of some of the gallery's newest works beginning June 24 at its gallery in St. Augustine.

"New Work – Fresh Off the Easel" will open June 24 at 7 p.m. with a collector's party at Cutter & Cutter's Brilliance in Color gallery, located at 25 King St. in historic St. Augustine.

The exhibition will feature new art from George Gallo,

Royo, Ramon Vilanova, Daniel Greene, Simon Bull, Dean Mitchell, Thomas Arvid, Worley Faver, Mark Wood, Matthew Cutter, Dmitri Danish, KAMU, Josef Kote, M & I Garmash, YUN, Navarro, Tang Wei Min, Anne Packard, and Cynthia Packard.

Gallery hours are Sunday through Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.



Photos courtesy of Cutter & Cutter Fine Art
"Yellow Roses" by Cynthia Packard



"Listen to the Waves" by Josef Kote

Lightner Museum to host free art exhibition celebrating America's national parks

The beauty and majesty of America's national parks will be highlighted through a free art exhibition to be presented at St. Augustine's Lightner Museum.

"America's Parks I Encore Exhibition" will be on display at the museum June 10-Aug. 31. In addition to featuring artistic representations of America's diverse landscapes, the free exhibition will include 18 origi-

nal works from the St. Johns Cultural Council's recent "Find Your Park Plein Air" outdoor painting event held in conjunction with the National Park Service, the Castillo de San Marcos and Fort Matanzas.

To mark the opening of the exhibition, the St. Johns Cultural Council will host a reception from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday June 9 at the museum. In addition to showcasing 50 original

artworks inspired by nature and the wild, the event will feature live entertainment and culinary bites inspired by the national parks and created by local restaurants, including Collage, Blackfly, The Reef, La Pentola, Culinary Outfitters, O.C. White's and more. Guests will also have an opportunity to meet and speak with artists about their work and inspiration.

Tickets for the opening reception

are \$50 per person (\$90 per couple) and may be purchased at www.celebrating100years.eventbrite.com or through the St. Johns Cultural Council at (904) 808-7330. Proceeds from the opening reception will benefit the cultural council's ArtReaches Program, which supports individual artists and performers, emerging arts and cultural groups, and arts education.

Behind-the-scenes at Players by the Sea Theatre

By Carrie Resch

The First Coast offers a wide variety of theatrical offerings from which to choose. Audiences may be unaware, however, as to just what goes into mounting a season of theatrical productions.

The process starts with the selection of productions for any given season and moves forward from there — from assigning a director and a creative team to actor auditions, set design, lighting and sound and rehearsals.

Here's a behind-the-scenes look at Players by the Sea's current stage production "Shipwrecked! An Entertainment: The Amazing Adventure of Louis De Rougemont (As Told By Himself)" directed by Jason Collins and featuring a troupe of three actors: Matt Tompkins, Kasi Walters and Tamara Arapovic.

Season announcement

The beginning of the production process starts with deciding on what productions to feature for the season. Players by the Sea presents nine productions per season, featuring a variety of genres.

The 2015-2016 season marked the milestone 50th season for the community theatre. Following "Shipwrecked! An Entertainment," the final production of the 50th season will be the musical "Memphis" on stage July 22-Aug. 13.

"It's a massive undertaking," Collins said of the theatre's behind-the-scenes work to produce shows back-to-back. The 2016-2017 season was announced in May, and the next three shows have already been lined up, according to Collins.

Season 51 opens Sept. 16 with the musical "Into the Woods."

Planning and auditions

Following the season announcement, scripts are divided up among directors. Collins said he was asked to do "Shipwrecked! An Entertainment" in November or December of last year.

Then it's a matter of polishing the script



Photos by Carrie Resch

Matt Tompkins and Tamara Arapovic work through their lines while "Shipwrecked! An Entertainment" Director Jason Collins, Lighting Designer Nicole Kosnik Anderson and Stage Manager Kristen Walsh observe.

and creating a wish list as far as set design, costumes and props go. As with any not-for-profit organization, PBTS productions must remain within the allotted budget.

The next step involves choosing the creative team who will create set design, props, costumes, lighting and sound and actor auditions. Auditions for "Shipwrecked! An Entertainment" took place in the beginning of March.

Rehearsals

Once the actors have been chosen, rehearsals begin.

During rehearsals for "Shipwrecked!," the actors had to learn how to do puppetry, to make fluid movements with the props.

"It's all about learning how to move and make them look real," Collins said. "A lot of our rehearsal is taking these things and making the audience believe."

The rehearsals also offer an opportunity for actors to say their lines aloud, get stage direction from the director and navigate the set.

After a series of initial rehearsals take place, a cue-to-cue rehearsal is held to rehearse lighting and sound. Collins estimates that on average there are a total of 25 rehearsals per production, more for musicals.

Students invited to 'rock out' during Camp Rock

FOSAA sponsors summer music program

The Friends of St. Augustine Amphitheatre (FOSAA) and Eclipse Recording Studios have teamed up to launch Camp Rock, a five-day camp in which children can work with professional musicians to learn the dynamics of playing in groups.

To be held July 11-15 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the amphitheatre, Camp Rock is designed for middle and high school students with some experience singing or playing guitar, bass, keyboard or drums. Students will work under the direction of Jim Stafford of Eclipse Recording Studios, along with professional local musicians before being placed in "combos" to help them learn group dynamics.

On the final day of camp, the students will perform in their combos for family and friends. The next week, they'll record their songs in Eclipse Recording Studios and receive a CD.

An application and more information can be found at www.eclipserecording.com. The cost of tuition for the week is \$200. Scholarships are available.

For more information contact Jim Stafford at camprock@eclipserecording.com.

Players by the Sea 50th Season Finale Gala

The 50th Season Finale Gala benefitting Players by the Sea will be held Friday, June 24 at 7 p.m. at TPC Sawgrass.

The gala will feature a gourmet buffet, live and silent auction, and music from Gene Nordan and Friends. Attire is beach elegant.

Tickets are \$100 per person. Tickets purchased before June 10 will include two tickets good for any performance during the PBTS summer musical "Memphis" opening July 22. Tables for eight, which will include a private concierge for the evening, are available for \$1,000.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call the box office at (904) 249-0289 or visit www.playersbythesea.org.



Photos by Carrie Resch

Kasi Walters, Matt Tompkins and Tamara Arapovic rehearse a scene.

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Weird Al Yankovic's 'Mandatory World Tour' comes to amphitheatre

Weird Al Yankovic brings his "Mandatory World Tour" to the First Coast this weekend, when the Grammy Award-winning comedy recording artist performs at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre Saturday, June 11 at 8 p.m.

Billed as a "comedy rock show," Yankov-

ic's St. Augustine show is the fourth stop on a 76-city tour that follows last year's tour of the same name.

"I've decided to do the 'Mandatory World Tour' for one more year, after learning that some people didn't make it out to the show the last time around," Yankovic said. "Ap-

parently, they don't know the meaning of the word 'mandatory!'"

In a career that spans four decades, Yankovic has won numerous awards for such well-known song parodies as "Eat It," "Like a Surgeon," "Fat" and "Smells Like Nirvana." His 2011 album *Alpocalypse* debuted

in the Billboard Top 10, and was nominated for two Grammy Awards (Best Comedy Album and Best Short Form Video). His 2015 album "Mandatory Fun" features parodies of some of the biggest hits of the previous year, including Pharrell Williams' "Happy" ("Tacky"), Robin Thicke's "Blurred Lines" ("Word Crimes"), Lorde's "Royals" ("Foil"), Iggy Azalea's "Fancy" ("Handy") and Imagine Dragons' "Radioactive" ("Inactive"). The album debuted at number one on the Billboard Top 200 album chart — the first time in history that a comedy album debuted in the top spot.

In addition to his recordings and music videos, Yankovic is known for his cult-hit feature film *UHF* (1989), his late '90s CBS Saturday morning series *The Weird Al Show* and the numerous AL-TV specials that he has made for MTV and VH1 over the years.

His 2006 album, "Straight Outta Lynwood," spawned the Billboard Top 10 single "White & Nerdy," the video for which spent two months at number one on iTunes and garnered more than 150 million hits on the Internet. His 2011 children's book "When I Grow Up," meanwhile, was a New York Times bestseller.

Tickets for the "Mandatory World Tour" range from \$39.50 (level 300) to \$69.50 (seated pit). Gates open at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at the amphitheatre box office and through Ticketmaster.



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Events in July

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REDDOCK

OBITUARY

Lynda B. Reddock

Lynda B. Reddock, 68, died Wednesday, June 1, 2016. The family takes comfort in knowing she is with the Lord and reunited with many loving family members, most especially her twin sister, Glynda B. Harrell.

She is survived by husband Joseph Carmichael Reddock Sr., daughter Julie Reddock Davis, son Joseph Carmichael Reddock Jr. and granddaughter Jessica Lynn Davis.

Lynda was born in Dublin, Georgia on June 9, 1947 to Emory and Jewell Burgamy.

She received her Associate Nursing Degree from Florida Community College of Jacksonville and went on to engage her affection for helping

and healing. In her spare time, she enjoyed playing tennis, fishing, swimming, baking and sewing.

Lynda enjoyed watching the University of Georgia Bulldogs play in the fall and her passion was watching and attending professional tennis events.

Her new hobby was decorating bird houses, which she gave lovingly to her granddaughter. Please sign the online guestbook at www.pontevedravalley.com.

OBITUARY

Janet A. Loudis

Janet A. Loudis, a long-time resident of Ponte Vedra Beach, passed away peacefully May 28, 2016 at the McGraw Center, Community Hospice. She was born in New Jersey.

Janet had a variety of careers in the area, including human resources management for several large concerns. Holding a real estate license, Janet was employed for several years by Property Management at Ponte Vedra Club Realty Property Management, part of Ponte Vedra Club Realty. Her most recent position was as a part-time receptionist at the PGA Tour offices locally.

Of the many accomplishments of which Janet was proud is the degree in Business she received from the University of North Florida. She lived at the time in Palm Coast, worked full time and

commuted to night school to achieve her BA.

Janet is preceded in death by her parents and brother, Tommy Chromey. She is survived by brothers Andrew Chromey, Martin Chromey (wife Barbara), and nephew AJ Chromey, all of New Jersey.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Friday, June 10 in Our Lady Star of The Sea Catholic Church. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to American Cancer Society.

Please visit the online Tribute at www.quinn-shalz.com. Services are under the direction and care of Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home.



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Council on Aging receives \$52,000 from Walmart Foundation

The Council on Aging will be able to replace the aging kitchen equipment used by its Meals on Wheels program, thanks to a donation from Walmart.

Robert Midgett, export operations manager for Walmart, presented a \$52,000 check from the Walmart Foundation to Council on Aging Executive Director Becky Yanni to support the organization's Meals on Wheels program.

"At COA, we serve over 400 freshly prepared meals every single day — and about 265 of those daily meals go to homebound elders through the COA Meals on Wheels service," said Yanni, noting that the COA's kitchen equip-

ment was at approximately 20 years old. "Walmart really stepped up to the plate to help us fight hunger and poor nutrition and enhance the quality of life for the St. Johns County elder community."

Midgett noted that when the COA requested the funds, Walmart recognized a real community need. "We strongly believe that it is our job to help support the people that we are able to serve within our community," he said, adding that the foundation's state giving advisory reviews submissions and administers the funds twice a year.



Photo courtesy of St. Johns County Council on Aging. Walmart's Robert Midgett presents a \$52,000 donation to the St. Johns County Council on Aging. From left: Midgett, COA Food Services Manager Ruthie Shakar, COA Executive Director Becky Yanni and COA Board President Joseph Boles Jr.

Adult day care a critical component to addressing Alzheimer's Disease

By Susan Johnson
Special to the Recorder

A lot can happen in a minute. For example, 250 babies are born every minute; lightning strikes the earth 6,000 times every minute; there are five earthquakes every minute and Americans eat 21,000 slices of pizza every minute. (Yep, you read that right!) That's what the statistics say, anyway.

The statistics also say that if you add just six seconds to that minute, someone in the United States will develop Alzheimer's disease. Every time. Every 66 seconds.

But let's stop the clock for a minute and take a quick look at how these 66 seconds are adding up. How are they affecting our lives and the lives of our friends, neighbors and family members? According to the Alzheimer's Association (www.alz.org), more than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease at this very moment, making it the 6th leading cause of death in the United States.

What's more, in 2015, family caregivers provided 18.1 billion hours of unpaid care at an estimated economic value of \$221.3 billion. And that's not all. They also spent, on average, more than \$5,000 every year on the cost of that care. For some, this means doing without luxuries like vacations and new cars; for others, it means cutting back on essentials like food, medica-

tions and recreation. In addition, many caregivers opt to work at home during the hours when their loved one is less active just to make ends meet.

Unfortunately, here in St. Johns County, we are keeping a steady pace with the national count: More than 4,000 residents are dealing with a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or another form of dementia, brain trauma or memory loss. That means you probably know someone who is either personally challenged by the medical issues of dementia, or providing care for a loved one who is.

"Our county statistics are sobering," said Becky Yanni, executive director of the Council on Aging. "Professional, compassionate adult day care is a key component to quality of life."

The Council on Aging has taken the lead on this issue, Yanni said, by providing the only two licensed, therapeutic adult day care centers in St. Johns County: the COA Sunshine Center at 180 Marine St. in St. Augustine, and the COA Ponte Vedra Adult Day Care Center, located 1048 A1A North.

Why is adult day care so important when we talk about dementia care? The truth is, we all need the company of others to whom we can relate and with whom we feel comfortable. Socialization is crucial to quality of life at any age, no matter our particular issues. It is important that each of us feels connected to our environment. At the COA

adult day care centers, specially designed activities and exercises provide stimulation while encouraging a sense of accomplishment. There are also field trips, parties and a rhythm and routine that give the participants a feeling of security and comfort.

Another big advantage of adult day care is that it provides the caregiver with time free from the stress that accompanies the job of caring for a loved one. Caregivers can continue to work without worrying about how Mom or Dad are doing at home. They can meet a friend for lunch, schedule their medical appointments, take a class or simply relax and listen to music or read a book. The hard truth is that caregivers are great at caring for others but not always so great at caring for themselves. So by allowing for regular respite time knowing their loved one is in a safe and secure setting, caregivers can do whatever they need to do to rejuvenate and re-energize.

To learn more about memory loss or to schedule a tour of a COA adult day care center, please call the Council on Aging at (904) 209-3700 or visit www.coasjc.com.

Sixty-six seconds. Just enough time to make a phone call. Because a lot can happen in a minute.

Susan Johnson is the communications coordinator for the St. Johns County Council on Aging.

7th Annual Big Bang 5K & Fun Run is June 25

The Big Bang 5K & Fun Run returns to Ponte Vedra Beach Saturday, June 25 at 8 a.m. at Christ Episcopal Church.

New for 2016, the top 200 5K finishers will receive a custom Big Bang medal along with the 2016 Big Bang t-shirt — for pre-register participants only.

A post celebration and awards ceremony will be held after the fun run.

The entry fee is \$20 until June 19; \$25 from June 20-26. Race day entry is \$30. The fun run is \$10.

Christ Episcopal Church is located at 400 San Juan Drive. For more information or to register, visit www.bigband5k.itsyourrace.com.

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Photo courtesy of Coldwell Banker Vanguard.

Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty presents check to The Pink Ribbon Golf Classic

Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty recently presented a \$1,500 check to The Pink Ribbon Golf Classic.

The money was collected from Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty events and contributions, and will go

toward a Mayo Clinic study for lymphedema.

Since its inception nine years ago, the Pink Ribbon Golf Classic has raised nearly \$1 million for breast cancer research and related services.



Photo courtesy of Sawgrass Country Club.

Sawgrass Country Club General Manager Barry McDonald, Sawgrass Country Club President Salina Harkleroad, and JAGA representatives and Sawgrass Country Club members Ray Gottschalk, Randy Nader and Gregg Dieboldt.

Sawgrass Country Club raises more than \$12,000 to support scholarship trust fund

Sawgrass Country Club raised \$12,040 in 2016 in support of the Jacksonville Area Golf Association (JAGA) scholarship trust fund. JAGA's trust fund helps financially support students in need who have an interest in the game of golf.

Through the JAGA scholarship fund, Sawgrass has helped 21 students reach their goal of going to college — some of whom have gone

on to careers in golf.

Students receive \$1,000 per term for up to eight terms of undergraduate study — an increase from the initial amount of \$250. All contributions to JAGA go to the scholarship fund.

Since the founding of the scholarship fund in 1974, more than \$1 million in scholarships have been awarded to college-bound students.

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'Karate kid' wins triple crown in state championships

By Jasmine Marshall

to discipline and commitment.

Third-grader Jessie Miller is no stranger

At only 8 years old, Ponte Vedra's "karate kid" has represented Karate America

of Ponte Vedra in statewide tournaments, received more than 50 awards for martial arts, and is fresh off a triple-crown win in the state championships in ATA Songahm Taekwondo. Miller currently holds a statewide first-place standing amongst competitors 1- to 8-years-old in form with 61 points, sparring with 25 points and weapons with 49 points through wins in events at the world, regional, state and city levels.

And she's not done yet.

"I hope I can get my first-degree black belt soon," said Miller, who currently holds a red belt. "And I'm really looking forward to going to district and world this year."

As the state's triple crown champion, Miller qualified to compete in the two-day, seven-state Southeast District Championship in Dalton, Georgia in which the top 10 students of every state compete for the district title, where she placed first in weapons with a bow staff.

She will also compete in the 2016 ATA World Expo at the end of the month in Little Rock, Arkansas hosted by the Grand Master of Songahm Taekwondo.

Her achievements have won her the praise of many, including Florida First Lady Ann Scott. Miller recently met Scott, an experience she called "amazing," and received a letter from the First Lady congratulating her for her ATA wins and diligence.

"I know a lot of hard work and determination went into your commitment," Scott wrote. "(It) is to be commended and recognized, especially in someone so young."

Miller's parents agree.



Photos courtesy of Ted Miller
First Lady Ann Scott with Jessie Miller



Jessie Miller

Ted Miller has seen his daughter's efforts first hand, helping her with warm-ups and exercise, such as practicing in the water to improve her responses and seeing her through stretches, push-ups, sit-ups and punch combinations. He says he tries to support her growth by encouraging her to practice and honor her commitments.

"Jessie made a commitment at the beginning of the season this year to try for a state championship," he said. "She's exceeded it by winning three ... her success is based on her desire to achieve respect — not only receiving it, but giving it first."

That desire shows in Jessie's passion for the sport. Ted says above all, she keeps the same three goals for every tournament: to have fun, to do her best and to make new friends. For those reasons, Jessie says the thrill of competing isn't only in winning.

"I want to do it forever," she said. "It's fun because you always meet new friends and you keep them forever."

Miller also has a message for other kids her age trying to reach their own goals.

"Don't let other people tell you that you can't do something," she said. "I think all kids should work hard (toward their goals) — in fact, everybody should."

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Thanks, Coach

Longtime Coach Helmly retires after 35 years

Facebook group attracts hundreds who offer gratitude for his impact on their lives

By Jennifer Logue

By his own admission, Edward Wayne “Butch” Helmly was a tough coach.

“I could be pretty hard (on players),” he said.

But even he was moved when news of his retirement after 35 years of teaching and coaching — most of it at St. Johns County high schools — spread via Facebook. After his daughter, Rochele, launched a Facebook group called “Coach Helmly is Retiring,” the group soon attracted nearly 400 members, many of whom wrote moving tributes about the impact Helmly had on their lives.

“I was very emotional,” said Helmly, who recently retired from his position as dean of students at Creekside High School. “That’s what I tried to do for the past 35 years is make a difference in kids’ lives — to teach them the dedication, hard work and commitment needed to succeed in life.”

Those sentiments were echoed on Facebook by numerous individuals impacted by Helmly.

“Thank you so much for the time and effort you took to teach me to be not only physically tough but mentally as well,” Tony Richburg wrote. “... I just want to say thank you and yes, sir, you were right to say you made me... Because without you the game may have been over long ago.”

W. Todd Johnson wrote, “I have forgotten a few things over the years, but one thing I have not forgotten was my time with Coach Helmly. You, sir, are what every young man needs in their life. I am grateful to have played for you. I hope that I made you proud because that’s what we all wanted.”

A lifetime of dedication

A lifelong sports enthusiast, Helmly was 13 when his family moved to Palm Valley. At the time, the area was so rural and swampy, he said, that when he later went to Fletcher High School classmates would joke that he needed a canoe to get home from school.

He began his teaching and coaching career in 1981, when he was among the first staff at the newly opened Nease High School. Helmly coached numerous sports at Nease for 13 years before accepting an offer to serve as head football coach at Interlachen High School. For six years, Helmly made the 67-mile drive



Coach Helmly



Coach Helmly and his wife, Kathy.

from Palm Valley to Interlachen, sometimes sleeping in the team’s field house if he had to be back early the next morning.

In 2000, he returned to St. Johns County to teach at the newly opened Pedro Menendez High School, where he served as defensive football coach and girls’ softball coach. Two of his children transferred from Nease to Pedro Menendez in order to be coached by their father.

“People assume that you’re going to get special treatment if your Dad is the coach, so if anything you have to work twice as hard,” said Rochele Helmly, who played on the girls’ softball team. “My Dad always wanted to push you and get you to give that 100 percent.”

Integrity and respect were also cornerstones of Helmly’s approach.

“Ninety-five percent of kids won’t go to college on an athletic scholarship,” Coach Helmly said, “so I always stressed academics were important, along with integrity and respect. That made the kids be winners.”

One tangible sign of that respect, Rochele Helmly recalled, was her father’s rule requiring team members to wear ties on game days.

“He had a bag in his office full of just the most awful-looking ties,” she laughed, “and if a player forgot to wear a tie, they had to go to his office and get one of these ridiculous ties!”

In 2008, Helmly opened yet another high school, joining the staff at the new Creekside High School as dean of students, assistant football coach and head track coach. He will continue to coach track in retirement while enjoying more time to hunt, fish and work on the home he and his wife recently bought in Jacksonville.

In the meantime, he has enjoyed connecting with students both on Facebook and through letters from former students thanking him for the lessons he imparted to them.

“It makes me feel good to know I

made an impact, because my athletes are basically my children, too,” he said. “I just want to thank all the families for giving me the opportunity to coach their kids and for 35 years of being able to do that.”

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PV U11 Thunder wins championship

The 10U Ponte Vedra (PV) Thunder Travel Baseball team won the USSSA Northeast Florida State Championship in Lake City, FL May 21-22. The PV Thunder opened pool play on Saturday with a 12-8 win against the Columbia Shockers. The offense was led by Ethan Yesensky and Parker Gunnell who both hit homeruns. In the PV Thunder's second game in pool play, the team tied the CSA Warhawks 7-7 to earn 4th seed for bracket play on Sunday.

In the first game of bracket play, the PV Thunder pounded out 13 runs

against the Big Diamond Rockets, including eight runs in the first inning with Coston Crawley's RBI hit and Ridge (James) Richardson creating havoc on the bases stealing second and scoring. The PV Thunder would ride the pitching arm of Dylan Driscoll who also hit a two-run double to win 13-5.

In the semi-final game against Keystone Baseball Academy, the PV Thunder battled on the pitching arm of Matt Hoag, but found themselves

PV U11 Thunder continues on Page 31

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PV U11 Thunder

Continued from 30

down early in the game. Dominic Masto started the offense with a triple in the second inning, scoring on an errant throw and Davis Handley hit a three-run homerun to tie the game 6-6 in the bottom of the fifth inning. Jake Guarnera would then hit in the winning run and the PV Thunder would advance to the championship game with a 7-6 win.

The PV Thunder offensive attack did not slow down in the Championship game against the Diamond Dreamz,

as they jumped out to a 8-0 lead in the second inning led by Cade Eidam, who had three hits and scored three runs. The Diamond Dreamz offense was shut down by the pitching of Doran Moore and the PV Thunder would earn their first USSSA championship ring winning with a final score of 10-2.

Honorable mention to Davis Handley and Ethan Yesensky (2 HR) who were both named to the All-Tournament Team.

The 10U PV Thunder Travel Baseball program coached by Terrance Freeman, James Eidam, and Matt Masto practice and play their games at Davis Park in Ponte Vedra.

Local gymnast qualifies for 2016 national championships

Caroline Balcita, 14, of St. Augustine is competing this week in the USA Gymnastics Rhythmic National Championship being held in Providence, R.I.

Balcita, a Level 10/Elite Rhythmic gymnast who trains out of World Rhythmics Gymnastics in Jacksonville, placed in the top 25 in the country at the national qualifying event held recently at the Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid, N.Y. By finishing in the top 25, Balcita qualified to join 1,800 of the country's best gymnasts, acrobatic gymnastics, rhythmic gymnastics, and trampoline and tumbling in Providence for the Junior Olympic competition. If the United States qualifies for the 2016 Olympic Games for rhythmic gymnastics and/or trampoline, the USA Gymnastics Championships will be part of the Olympic selection for those two disciplines.

A rhythmic gymnast for eight years, Balcita has experienced success in 2016, with season highlights including

2016 Level 10 Florida State Champion, 2016 Level 10 Region 6 Champion, and most recently, placing 11th at the USAG National Qualifier to earn her trip to Providence. Her 11th-place finish also marked the second year in a row she's placed in the top 25 at the USAG National Qualifier.

An invited member of the USA Gymnastics Rhythmic Elite Squad, Balcita has the opportunity to train twice yearly at either the Karolyi Ranch outside of Houston, or the Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid, N.Y.

Balcita is a straight-A student at Liberty Pines Academy where she is in the eighth grade. She will attend Bartram Trails High School in the fall.

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Marsh Landing Women's Golf winners



Photo courtesy of Marsh Landing Women's Golf Association

Betty Jean O'Steen, Mary Ellen Young, Tina Shupe and Leigh LeMoyné were the first-place winners of the Marsh Landing Women's Golf Association closing day May 24. The format was one best ball of four net.

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Armada U-23 Wins Fourth-Straight After Stifling 2-0 Decision Over Strikers U-23

Though head coach Pat Cannon didn't think it was his squad's sharpest performance, Jacksonville Armada U-23 found a way to clamp down and earn its fourth-straight win in a 2-0 decision over Fort Lauderdale Strikers U-23 on Sunday at Jacksonville University's Southern Oak Stadium.

Leo De Smedt netted his team-leading third goal of the season and Victor Rojas found the back of the net for the second time this year, but it was Armada U-23's backline play by Juan Arguedas, Ciaran McKenna, Diogo Quirino and Jay Bolt combined with goalkeeper Kyle Nasta's clutch reflexes that stole the show.

Jacksonville (4W-1L-0D, 12 pts., 1st NPSL Sunshine Conference) firmly controlled the pace and possession in the first half but found itself in several dangerous situations in the second. Nasta stood tall in each situation and finished with 10 saves in earning his first clean sheet of the season and leading Armada U-23 to its second-straight shutout.

"I told the guys after the game that if you look back at teams that either win championships or make runs through the playoffs, they find ways to win even when they don't play well," Cannon said. "Today we look at it as we found a way to win although we didn't put our best performance on the field. Hats off to Kyle Nasta, who made some fantastic saves tonight."

Armada U-23 set the pace early, keeping a strong hold on possession and establishing a strong attack. In the 10th minute, Jacksonville got on the board first when De Smedt converted on a penalty kick that zoomed past the diving reach of Strikers U-23 keeper Matias Reynares and into the right upper 90 of the goal.

Striker Helge Pietschmann set it up for De Smedt when he attempted to run onto a ball crossed into the box and was obstructed by Fort Lauderdale defender Fabricio Ortiz to draw the foul.

Bolt orchestrated a second goal in the 33rd minute when his cross from the wing on a breakaway flew in perfectly for Rojas, who ran on to it and headed it in to give Armada U-23 a 2-0 lead.

Dennis Zapata nearly upped Jacksonville's lead to 3-0 in the 44th when Pietschmann flicked a perfect ball ahead and Zapata had a one-on-one with Reynares, but Reynares charged out to cut down Zapata's angle and got a fingertip on the shot to force it wide.

Zapata had another near-strike in the 49th when hit a shot on a rope from the top of the box, but Reynares got a hand on it just in time and tipped it over the goal. In the 73rd, Armada U-23 sub Ricky Prestridge hit a



solid cross from the wing close to the goal that looked like it was destined to be headed in, but Pietschmann was called offside.

Both Zapata and Pietschmann finished with a team-high three shots each.

Armada U-23 will hit the road next weekend for a crucial showdown with 2015 conference champion Miami Fusion FC at 7 p.m. on Saturday at Ives Estate Park in Miami.

"The mindset this week is we will give them tomorrow off and we will get after it on Tuesday," Cannon said. "It's going to be a very difficult training session for the boys on Tuesday and then taper down a bit, but I told them after the game that next weekend could be a deciding factor for us if we want to make it in (to the NPSL playoffs). (We will put in) hard work this week and get tactically ready for the game."

MATCH REPORT

Starting XI:

JAX (4-1-2-3): Nasta, Arguedas, McKenna, Quirino (c), Bolt, Escobedo, Morgan (Reynolds 90'), Zapata (Garcia 82'), De Smedt (Prestridge 63'), Pietschmann (Vega 79'), Rojas (Donnelly 67')

FTL (4-3-3): Reynares, Ramos, Rodrigues (Foster 55'), Palacios, Ortiz (c), Clavijo (Solari 72'), Martinez (Cardoso 52'), Ochoa, Orsi-Dadomo (Yearwood 62'), Ramalho, Ayrolla (Suedois 77')

Scoring Summary:

JAX: De Smedt (penalty kick) 10'

JAX: Rojas (Bolt) 33'

Discipline:

JAX: Bolt (caution) 55'

FTL: Ortiz (caution) 62'

About Jacksonville Armada U-23

Jacksonville Armada U-23 is a developmental soccer team part of professional club Jacksonville Armada FC, a member of the North American Soccer League. Armada U-23 plays in the National Premier Soccer League Sunshine Conference South Region along with Fort Lauderdale Strikers U-23, Kraze United (Orlando), Miami Fusion FC, Miami United, Storm FC (Miramar, Fla.), Tampa Bay Rowdies 2 and Weston FC. For more information about Armada U-23, visit www.ArmadaFC.com/u-23. Follow Armada U-23 on Twitter @ArmadaFCU23.

Wall Street prophets and their marketing wizardry

If we want to look like a brilliant stock market forecaster, all we have to do is to prophesize the same thing repeatedly until it happens. Regrettably, far too many stock



Harry Pappas
Columnist

market newsletter publishers and self-proclaimed gurus use this marketing tactic. In my opinion, to be a successful investor, we do not need gypsies with crystal balls, soothsayers wearing wizard hats, palm readers and stock market pundits with sketchy records of accomplishment. Sadly, these doomsayers tend to get far more attention than more authentic analysts who refuse to play the prediction game and openly tell us they do not know what will happen next. The folks who have been predicting a market crash year after year deserve no credit for finally stumbling on an accurate forecast. The way I see it, often in the real world, it is the brave and bold who get ahead, and not necessarily the intellectual. Nevertheless, I understand the temptation to believe in doom and gloom, as folks are still emotionally shattered from seeing their wealth cut in half twice; once in 2000 and again in 2007-08. Therefore, it is easy to

understand that, according to the Federal Reserve Board analysis in 2015, 55 percent of Americans have no money in the stock market!

It takes great courage not to allow rumors about the looming collapse of stocks to affect our decisionmaking. Our human survival instincts teach us to look for danger that may be lurking behind the trees, while our social disposition encourages us to be knowledgeable when others may not. Said differently, we want to be the highly valued and respected person who warns others of danger. This primitive nature is precisely why there are boatloads of so-called experts willing to give us their Armageddon opinion. The psychology is easy to understand. Stock market declines — which, as we know, are normal and expected — are by nature disorderly and create a contagion of fear. Moreover, investors often believe that when stocks are nose-diving, there is something “the market knows” but they do not. Consequently, they begin to feel stupid, perhaps as some suggested I did back in 2008 when I stayed the course and weathered the brutal 37 percent decline in stock prices. I am sure that many of my clients felt, at that time, as if we were the only ones silly and naïve enough to maintain our investment strategy during an economic collapse.

Maybe I am too much an optimist, but I steadfastly believe what the consummate visionary, Winston Churchill, said about

being an optimist: “It does not seem too much use to be anything else.” Little did we know that the stock market would eventually bottom in March 2009 and then proceed to more than double during the next five years! While past performance is not indicative of future results, in the final analysis once again, the 2008 debacle proved that indeed perceptive investors know that the seemingly worst of times can potentially be a time to make money. When everyone else is too afraid to act, they pull the trigger, or if they are fully invested, they stay the course. Nonetheless, after the dust settled and calm heads prevailed, my clients and I did not look so irresponsible and inexperienced, but possibly courageous and confident.

If we are looking for reasons to be concerned about a potential stock market decline, there are plenty of reasons to light our fuse. What most people do not understand is there are always reasons that now is not the time to invest in stocks. Do you remember the bird flu that made headlines in 2006? The unrelenting news coverage of the outbreak was a classic example of getting the heebie-jeebies, as the flu virus could kill tens of millions of people worldwide. Then, of course, there was the Ebola scare in 2014? More heebie-jeebies! The list goes on and on. Fear sells, plain and simple.

It appears that every time the stock market heads south for a time, too many

folks think, “Is this it? Is this what the doomsters have been predicting? Maybe they are right and this time is indeed different. I cannot afford another decline like 2008. Maybe I should hit the eject button.” I only have 10 words for you that I steadfastly argue will serve you well: “Do not succumb to the siren song of the naysayers.” ’Nuff said. Cheers!

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6. Red and blue states
9. *Summer sandal, e.g.
13. Ancient Greek marketplace
14. "____-a-dub-dub"
15. Royal topper
16. See-through curtain
17. Santa ____ winds
18. *Olden-day road trip assist
19. Brezhnev's hat fur
21. *Luminescent summer catch
23. D.C. bigwig
24. Octagonal warning
25. Rejuvenating spot
28. Windshield option
30. Fall asleep
35. Bowling ball path
37. Bluish green
39. Japanese-American
40. Individual unit
41. Cry of the Alps
43. Sign of engagement
44. Levi's fabric
46. *Halfway around links?
47. Modern support
48. Catch in a snare
50. Delivery org.
52. Renewable Energy Technology, acr.
53. Obama is in his last one
55. One of Bo Peep's flock
57. *S'more cooker
61. *Summer movie venue
65. Tear jerker
66. Pilot's estimate
68. "Around the World in Eighty Days" author
69. Homo homini ____
70. Tank
71. Cereal killer
72. Ivan the Terrible, e.g.
73. Compass point between NE and E
74. City on Rhone River

DOWN

1. Jim Carrey's 1994 disguise
2. Muslim honorific
3. As opposed to talker?
4. Zones
5. *Outdoor shopping venue
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7. *Soaked up in summer
8. Behind a stern
9. Location
10. Two quarters
11. Like family lore

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15. Saltwater game fish
20. Wholeness
22. Charge carrier
24. *Peanuts and Cracker Jack venue
25. *Slip-n-____
26. Similar to a plate
27. With regard to, archaic
29. Vegas glow
31. *Gardener's turf
32. Willow twig
33. Use an ÉpÈe
34. Conflict or dispute
36. Arab chieftain
38. *It's in your sunglasses
42. A pariah avoided
- by others
45. Monastic night-time liturgy
49. P in m.p.g.
51. Office chair feature
54. "Super" Christopher
56. Each and all
57. *Summer discharge
58. Cross to bear
59. Australian palm
60. They were Fantastic
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62. Cogito ____ sum
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ALTITUDE

Local youths play in NCAA regional baseball tournament



Walker Sheller

Photo courtesy of Rebecca Sheller

Two Ponte Vedra High School graduates played in the NCAA regional baseball tournaments last week, contributing to their teams' efforts.

Walker Sheller pitched for Stetson University, closing four games to bring home the trophy in the Atlantic Sun tournament for Stetson. The team was later eliminated June 4 at the Coral Gables Regional Championships after falling to Florida Atlantic.

Max Miller, meanwhile, played for Duke University before the team lost to University of South Carolina Saturday.

Both Sheller and Miller played on the Ponte Vedra baseball team that won the state tournament in 2013.

Toll Brothers to hold Alex's Lemonade Stand events

Toll Brothers will host two local Alex's Lemonade Stand events Saturday, June 11 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. as part of National Lemonade Days, an event where volunteers across the country host lemonade stands to raise funds for childhood cancer research.

Homeowners and their children

will assist in hosting the lemonade stands at Coastal Oaks at Nocatee, 18 Lighthouse Point Circle, Ponte Vedra Beach and Julington Lakes, 57 Lake Mist Court, St. Johns.

One hundred percent of the proceeds will support the Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation.

North American Butterfly Association Butterfly Count

The GTM Research Reserve chapter of the North American Butterfly Association welcomes the public's participation in the North American Butterfly Association Butterfly Count, to be held Monday June 27 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., weather permitting, at the Environmental Education Center, 505 Guana River Road, Ponte Vedra Beach.

The North American Butterfly Association Butterfly Count is a nationwide program that conducts long-term monitoring of butterfly populations. Knowledge of butterflies is a plus but is not required.

For more information, contact Shannon Rininger at shannon.rininger@dep.state.fl.us or call (904) 823-4500.

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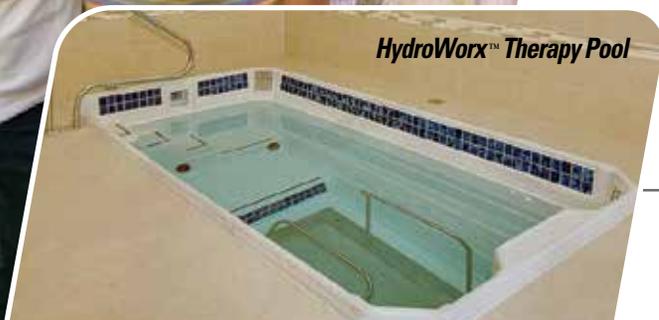
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- Montessori Program

Our Memory Care Uses The Principles Of Montessori:

- To Focus on an individual's abilities, not deficits
- To Engage in meaningful activities
- To Allow for highest level of functioning possible
- To Enhance self-esteem
- To Provide meaningful, social roles

Memory Care Day Care Subject to availability

HydroWorx™ Therapy Pool



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