

Ponte Vedra Recorder



July 12, 2018
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75 cents

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PonteVedraRecorder.com

COMING SOON NOCATEE SPRAYPARK

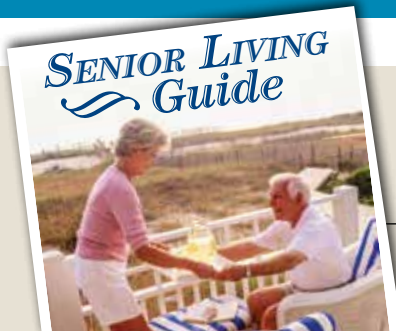


Rendering courtesy of Nocatee Ponte Vedra www.nocatee.com

A rendering displays the plans for Nocatee Spray Park, which is slated to open in late 2018. **Read page 8 for more.**

Lawsuit filed
against Oak Bridge,
St. Johns County

Page 4



Senior Living Guide

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Business Weekly

Pages 29-33



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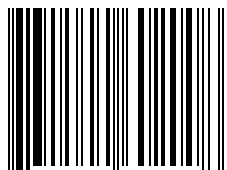
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One of Us
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Send us your news

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

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Also, check out the **Ponte Vedra Recorder** channel on YouTube.

WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

Email your answer to jonb@opcfla.com by Monday 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 readers correctly identified last week's photo. As a result, we're going to give you all another opportunity to send in your guesses!

ADOPT A PET

CAT(S) OF THE WEEK

Several stray kittens are now at the St. Johns County Pet Center looking for new homes. As they are strays, some traits are unknown at this time. Come visit them today!



DOG OF THE WEEK

My name is Articus, and I am a 2-year-old dog who was brought to the pet center as a stray. There may be some traits that are unknown at this time. Come visit me today here at the pet center! #43496



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

St. Johns County Pet Center

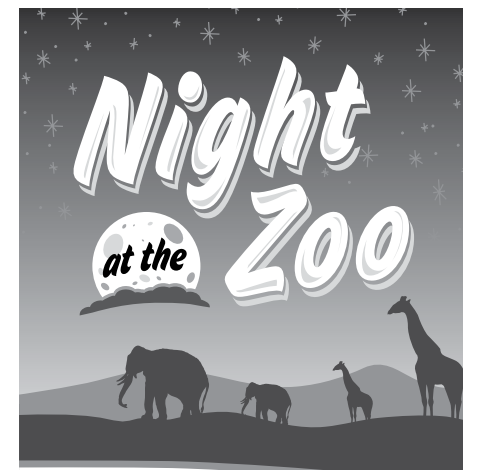
Cat adoptions at the St. Johns County Pet Center are \$30 for males and \$40 for females. Dog adoptions are \$45 for males and \$60 for females. Adoption fees include microchipping, neutering/spaying, rabies vaccinations and shots. The pet center is located at 130 N. Stratton Road off U.S. 1 between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

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

C	L	E	A	T	O	F	F	S	I	T	E	
P	O	R	C	H	L	E	A	A	L	O	H	A
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2	1	6	4	5	7	3	8	9
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7	5	8	9	3	1	4	2	6
8	6	1	3	7	9	2	5	4
5	9	3	1	4	2	8	6	7
4	7	2	8	6	5	9	1	3
6	3	4	5	2	8	7	9	1
9	2	7	6	1	3	5	4	8
1	8	5	7	9	4	6	3	2

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.



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This open landscape single story Arthur Rutenberg home is an entertainer's dream! Extra-large sliders open the living room onto pool and lanai with stunning water-to-golf views. Don't miss this opportunity to live on one of the most extraordinary lots in The Plantation at Ponte Vedra. **3 bedrooms & 3.5 bathrooms \$950,000**



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Sophisticated European Inspired Home

Marsh Landing Country Club
This home offers a light filled open plan for gracious and expansive entertaining. The centerpiece of this unique home is a lush garden courtyard providing a private sanctuary including pond, fountains, and fireplace. **4 bedrooms & 4.5 bathrooms \$925,000**



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Ponte Vedra Beach / Oceanfront
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Why I Serve

The Ponte Vedra Recorder is excited to bring you Why I Serve, a video series featuring Wounded Warrior Project that highlights local veterans and active service members, revealing why they decided to serve and what the experience provided them.

Watch the series on the Ponte Vedra Recorder website at www.pontevedrarecorder.com.

Future sponsorship opportunities are available for Why I Serve, as well as for similar video series; any interested parties should contact Ben@OPCFLA.com for more information.

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Oak Bridge development to be contested in court

By Samantha Logue

With the unanimous approval of the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners, the controversy over Alta Mar Holdings LLC's proposed plans for the sale and development of the Oak Bridge golf course appeared to have reached its conclusion in May. Following the filing of a lawsuit on June 14, however, it seems the public battle will indeed rage on, only now it will be in a courtroom.

It was in a 5-0 vote that the county commissioners decided May 15 to approve Alta Mar's plans for the back 40 acres of the Oak Bridge course, which included selling them off for commercial and age-restricted residential development. Although the commissioners were united in their approval, however, the proposed development was not without its detractors, with many residents and business owners abutting the land citing the potential for increased traffic flow and a decrease in property values as reasons for concern.

Filed against St. Johns County and OBDP, LLC (which is managed by Alta Mar), the June 14 complaint challenges the commissioners' decision, asserting that the approved development orders — which involved rezoning parcels of land — were inconsistent with the county's 2025 Comprehensive Plan, and that the proper protocols were not followed in approving them.

Seeking declaratory and injunctive relief, the complaint maintains that "neither the county nor the developer provided any evidence or analysis of an overriding public need to convert the property from public recreation to the private development proposed by the (development orders)," and urges the court to prevent the implementation of the development plans.

Noting that the county has until mid-August to formally respond to the complaint, County Attorney Patrick McCormack said, "The county will defend the Board of County Commissioners' decision through the litigation."

Representatives for OBDP were unable to be reached for comment, but since first proposing his plans for the Oak Bridge course in 2016, Alta Mar's David Miller has contended that the course is in desperate need of repair and that at least \$2 million is required to ensure its economic viability. He has also further maintained that the only way to obtain those funds is through selling the last six holes of the 18-hole course.

Plaintiffs listed in the lawsuit include: Ponte Vedra Management Group LTD; Frank Levene, a resident of Hidden Oaks, a neighborhood that abuts the planned development; Schweim Properties, LLC; Park Place at Sawgrass Condominium Association, Inc.; and Sawgrass Village Executive Center Association, Inc.

Representatives for the plaintiffs did not respond to requests for comment.



Photo courtesy of the Oak Bridge Club at Sawgrass

MSD Board of Trustees votes to maintain millage rate



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

The Ponte Vedra Beach Municipal Service District (MSD) Board of Trustees meets July 9 at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library, where it voted to maintain the millage rate of .375.

By Jon Blauvelt

The Ponte Vedra Beach Municipal Service District (MSD) Board of Trustees voted to maintain the MSD's .375-millage rate for fiscal year 2018-2019 at its meeting on Monday, July 9 at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library.

All trustees voted to maintain the millage rate except for Treasurer John Wegl, who was in favor of decreasing the rate. According to Chairman Gary Jurenovich, the MSD has kept the millage at .375 for several years, which he noted is a sign of fiscal responsibility.

"We continue to run a very fiscally sound MSD," Jurenovich said. "We don't like to spend money if we don't have to."

Trustee Greg Wong pointed to the MSD's contingency reserve as a reason to maintain the millage rate. At .375, the

MSD estimates its contingency reserve will total about \$66,900 for the next fiscal year. Lowering the rate would decrease the funds available in that reserve.

"I like lower taxes, but I think the contingency is important for the MSD," Wong said.

Board Attorney Wayne Flowers noted the board can reduce the millage rate in September when the trustees finalize the MSD's budget, but it cannot be increased after the July 9 vote.

Residents call for support of strengthened tree ordinance

Also at the MSD meeting, two residents during public comment requested the MSD Board's support of a strengthened tree ordinance in Ponte Vedra.

St. Johns County entering negotiations to sell convention center at World Golf Village

By Samantha Logue

Seeking to make improvements to the Renaissance World Golf Village Resort, Atrium Hospitality received good news last month when the St. Johns County Commission voted unanimously in favor of entering negotiations with the company for the potential sale of the St. Johns County Convention Center at World Golf Village.

Although Atrium owns the Renaissance and oversees the operation of the adjacent convention center, the land underlying both buildings and the convention center itself are owned by St. Johns County. After about two decades of operating under that arrangement, however, it was revealed at the June 19 meeting of the County Commission that Atrium is now looking to purchase the convention center from the county, along with the associated 10.3

acres of land.

“In February of 2018, Atrium reached out to the county to explore an interest in acquiring the convention center,” said Gail Oliver, land management systems director for the county. “A property improvement plan by Atrium is required to secure continued licensing for the Renaissance Marriott branding. Atrium would also like to reposition the hotel to appeal to upscale transient and group demand, and this requires a significant capital investment of \$18 to \$20 million.”

Atrium’s specified improvement plan includes adding “resort-style amenities, water features, food and beverage facilities, and a spa” to the hotel. With its franchise license agreement with Renaissance Marriott set to expire July 31, 2020, the company maintains that both the fee simple interest to the property and the

capital investment are necessary to extend the agreement and “ensure the long-range viability of the hotel and the convention center.”

The convention center, meanwhile, was funded through a \$16.9 million bond and will be paid off in December of 2020, according to Oliver.

In addition to the approval to move forward with negotiations, Oliver added that county staff was also seeking funding “not to exceed \$50,000” from the General Fund to complete a preliminary appraisal of “the land, improvements, air rights and other real and personal property interests in order to facilitate such negotiations.”

In apparent agreement, the commissioners approved those requests in a 5-0 vote without any major questions or concerns, but not before two residents had voiced their opposition.

“It’s just wrong,” St. Augustine resident Ed Slavin said. “I think we should hold on to it, having put \$16.9 million-worth of bonded indebtedness into this project. I haven’t seen one good reason why we should sell it, and if this hotel developer wants it, they need to disclose on the public record every single beneficial owner.”

Ellen Whitmer of St. Johns agreed, contending that it was unfair for the county to sell the convention center when the taxpayers had already borne the burden of paying it off.

“I am not in favor of this and I hope that the people of St. Johns County will not be in favor of it,” she said. “Too many times I’ve seen assets paid for by the taxpayers at a great cost, only to be traded away, swapped away, sold away; and we don’t get a very good bargain at all. We get taken advantage of and I’m tired of it.”

\$616M approved for hurricane recovery in Florida

On June 28, following a meeting with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Ben Carson, Gov. Rick Scott announced the approval to distribute \$616 million to local communities for Florida’s long-term recovery efforts from last year’s hurricane season.

To benefit those who were impacted by Hurricane Irma, as well as those displaced by Hurricane Maria, the funds will be used to replace and repair damaged homes, build new affordable housing and provide grants to impacted businesses through HUD’s Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program. Funds will be administered by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO).

As required of the plan, more than 80 percent of the funding will be used to address needs in the hardest-hit counties and ZIP codes. These areas, determined by HUD, include Brevard, Broward, Collier, Duval, Lee, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Orange, Polk and Volusia counties, as well as ZIP codes 32136, 32091, 32068 and 34266.

“It’s great news that we were able to secure critical funding from HUD that will directly benefit the families who were most affected by last year’s storms,” Scott said. “This \$616 million will enable communities to build new affordable housing and to replace homes lost in the wake of last year’s hurricane season. Through this program, we can continue to move forward with long-term affordable housing solutions for displaced families as well as provide grants to businesses who were



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

Hurricane Irma leaves a home in ruins along A1A in South Ponte Vedra Beach.

impacted by the storm. We won’t stop working until all of Florida’s communities have fully recovered.”

Together, with Florida’s hardest-hit communities, the state will allocate the majority of the CDBG-DR funding to address housing needs through programs that repair and replace damaged homes; construct new affordable rental housing

units; purchase land for the development of affordable housing; and provide assistance through grants to support impacted businesses.

Additionally, the state action plan includes opportunities to address critical economic and infrastructure needs in Florida’s urban centers and rural communities — specifically those of the Florida Keys

— as well as support for new Floridians who moved from Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria.

For more information about the CDBG-DR program or to view the approved state action plan, visit floridajobs.org/community-planning-and-development/assistance-for-governments-and-organizations/disaster-recovery-initiative.

Jack Peter is the president of the World Golf Hall of Fame in St. Augustine and a resident of Ponte Vedra.

Jack Peter

Can you please tell us about your background?

I previously worked for Disney in Orlando in the film and television business, which is what I was doing in Chicago prior to that. I started with the PGA Tour in 1994. I had an opportunity to meet the people at the PGA Tour when they were starting to develop the vision for the World Golf Village and their plans to build and relocate PGA Tour Productions, which is now PGA Tour Entertainment. One thing led to another, and they hired me to oversee that project, get the entertainment building built and relocate the staff. Then in the early 2000s, I had the opportunity to take over the Hall of Fame.

What role do you play in the induction process, and what's that process like?

I oversee the process, and I would be considered the executive producer of the induction ceremony itself. If it goes well, the team gets awarded. If it goes poorly, I'm the complaint department. The induction ceremony process has changed over the years. Right now, competitors have to win 15 times on their respective tour internationally and be at least 50 years old to qualify. There's a voting process that happens, and you need 75 percent of the vote. We've tried to make it very inclusive in terms of the people who are in consideration. We have started to move it around the world. We took it to an every-other-year format some years ago. We've been in St. Andrews, Scotland with the British Open, we've been in New York with the Presidents Cup and we're headed to Pebble Beach in 2019 for the men's U.S. Open.

Do you have a favorite moment from the induction ceremonies you've produced?

It was very heartfelt when we inducted Charlie Sifford, the pioneering African American player and the first African American inducted into the Hall of Fame. He was introduced by Arnold Palmer, and prior to that, Gary Player was on stage. Charlie's speech was priceless. It means so much to all of the Hall of Fame members to see and understand what Charlie had gone through in the pre-civil rights era.

When you look back on your career, what are you most proud of?

I'm most proud of the people I've met and the relationships I've built. I've been very fortunate in this job to meet people all over the world. That to me is my greatest accomplishment.

What are your goals for the World Golf Hall of Fame moving forward?

I want to focus on the global awareness of the Hall of Fame. I think it's important that it continues to have a global footprint and a global acceptance. I think that helps the area. I think it helps with tourism and the destination. It can't just be a Florida-based attraction along 95. It's very important to keep those relationships up, whether they're with Hall of Fame members in Tokyo or South Africa, but also the golf communities in those parts of the world. The other piece is to continue to be a good neighbor in Northeast Florida and continue to reach out to the golf community here.



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

Do you have a favorite round of golf you've played?

I have two favorites. I got to play a round of golf with Gary Player at Augusta National, and it's very hard to beat that. It was priceless. He goes out of his way to make you feel comfortable and give tips and help. The other one was playing in a charity outing, and Arnold Palmer was at one of the Par 3s. I didn't get the hole in one, but I missed it by inches in front of him. He looked at me and said, "You must be playing too much golf and not working enough."

What do you enjoy most about living in Ponte Vedra?

I play a lot of golf. I enjoy the ocean. I love the little diversity in the climate we get. It's terrific seafood. The beach is fairly accessible. It doesn't have high-rises up and down the beach, which a lot of Florida does at this time. Every time I come home across the Intracoastal, there's a big sigh of relief.

Edited by Jon Blauvelt

To watch a video portion of the interview, visit pontevedrarecorder.com and click One of Us.

MSD meeting

Continued from 4

Their request comes after a homeowner cut down several trees on his property on Ponte Vedra Circle. Frustrated neighbors say the removal of the trees changes the integrity of the neighborhood because the trees support each other, and isolated trees are more likely to fall during storms.

“They came in and knocked down 28 trees in two days,” Ponte Vedra Circle resident Lauri Rice said at the MSD meeting. “We probably have had 20 trees knocked down in about five years. What they did was bad. ... There was no forethought to what they did.”

Ponte Vedra Circle resident Rob Becker, who also serves on the Ponte Vedra Zoning & Adjustment Board (PVZAB), said at the meeting that a group of neighbors has asked county planners to review the tree ordinances for the City of St. Augustine and Atlantic Beach, and identify best practices that can be applied to Ponte Vedra. Becker said the goal is to develop an ordinance that can be installed as an overlay district within the MSD. The next steps, according to Becker, are for the county planners to present information about the tree ordinance at an upcoming PVZAB meeting.

Because the issue has received significant attention in the community, Jurenovich said the board will plan to hold

a discussion on it at next month’s MSD meeting.

In other MSD news, Vice Chairman John Cellucci, who manages the MSD’s relationship with Republic Services, said the district’s budget for sanitation will decrease next year, after concluding Republic made a miscalculation concerning the number of houses it services. The finding, Cellucci said, should save the MSD about \$12,500 a year for the next six years. Cellucci also noted he has asked Republic for a credit to make up the difference for what the company was actually servicing.

In addition, Wegl said the Ponte Vedra Beach branch of the St. Johns County Tax Collector’s Office will most likely not move to its new location at 151 Sawgrass Corners Drive until January or February of 2019.

The next MSD meeting is scheduled for Monday, Aug. 13 at the library.

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Magazines’* “Top 250 advisors” in the US, and one of Forbes* “Best in State Wealth Advisors” for Florida. His advice has been featured in the Wall Street Journal for years, and he’s been quoted as a financial expert in the national press for decades. Barron’s* has called advisors like Jeff “the best people in the business” and “truly great financial advisors” and says that they are “accepted in the industry” as the “top 1%” who set “the highest standards of their profession.” Forbes says it “scours... financial services industry” and has “uncovered great advisors” like Camarda “that are leading the way” and apply “best practices” to deliver a “high-quality experience for clients.” Camarda’s completed the CFP®, ChFC®, CLU®, CFS® and BCM™ designations**, and currently holds the CFA® investments expert and EA tax expert designations, as well as graduate degrees in financial planning, including a PhD in Financial and Retirement Planning. Dr. Camarda has written hundreds of articles and dozens of financial reports, whitepapers, and guides, and founded Wealth Education Radio. He is also an award-winning academic researcher into advisor competence and ethics. Camarda Wealth is A+ rated by the Better Business Bureau and has offices in Ponte Vedra Beach and Fleming Island.

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Dr. Camarda’s Weekly Wealth Nugget

ARE YOU SITTING ON AN ESTATE TAX TIMEBOMB?

Estate tax rules change a lot, but one thing’s remained constant – successful families risk losing massive wealth to these taxes. You may remember the estate tax was recently repealed – for one year! And while tax reform has bumped the tax-free amount for a little while, the new law brings the old limits back for 2026 and beyond. This could worsen your problem if you or your spouse plan to live more than six years...Effective planning can solve this tax problem and preserve millions more for your family. Unfortunately, we’ve seen a broad lack of such planning among many wealthy people who need it most, even among sophisticated clients like CPAs and attorneys. Smart provisions like protectors, dynasty tax control, spousal income access, and integrated asset protection planning can mean the difference from being rich – and getting and staying really rich. Great fortunes spring from extraordinary planning. To learn more, call for a no-charge, confidential phone consult with the Camarda team, or select from the FREE wealth education options below. Don’t wait – the temporary increase in the estate exemption has opened a new world of tax control for many successful families, but only for a little while. Please take a moment to do it NOW, while it’s on your mind, and before the flow of life makes “ordinary” “permanent” again. We stay busy, call today!

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Nocatee Spray Park to open in late 2018

PARC Group unveils renderings, plans for community's newest water park

According to the PARC Group, developer of Nocatee, the master planned community's newest water park — Nocatee Spray Park — will open in late 2018 and become the largest addition to Nocatee since its founding more than a decade ago.

Located between the Nocatee Community Park and Nocatee Swim Club on the western side of Crosswater Parkway, Nocatee Spray Park will feature more than 100,000 square feet encompassing a 42-foot water slide tower, five slides, a resort-style beach and interactive spray features. Nocatee residents and their guests will be able to interact with water features such as being sprayed while sliding, climbing and playing in a tropical island setting.

“The addition of the Nocatee Spray Park is part of our ongoing commitment to continually raise the bar for fun and unparalleled lifestyle in Nocatee,” said Rick Ray, chairman of Nocatee's Community Development District and president of The PARC Group. “The size and scope of the water features are very unique for a community amenity.”

Nocatee Spray Park will have interactive features for kids and adults, centered around Whale Harbor, a four-story water slide tower that will be the tallest water slide in Northeast Florida — 25 percent higher than Top Tide Slides in the Nocatee Splash Park. The Spray Park will also include Serenity Bay, a resort-style beach environment with beach volleyball; Scuttle Cove, a smaller spray park for younger children; and Paradise Park playground.

SPRAY PARK continues on **Page 11**



Renderings courtesy of Nocatee Ponte Vedra www.nocatee.com

A rendering illustrates the Boat House, which will be the gated front entry to Nocatee Spray Park. For color versions of the photos, visit pontevedrarecorder.com.



LEFT: An aerial rendering displays the plans for Nocatee Spray Park, which is slated to open in late 2018 and become the largest addition to Nocatee since its founding more than a decade ago.



ABOVE: Blue Water Bar & Grill will serve both food and drinks at the water park.

NOCATEE HOSTS GOLF CART PARADE TO CELEBRATE FOURTH OF JULY

Close to 200 golf carts adorned in patriotic decorations were on display in Nocatee's first-ever Fourth of July golf cart parade last week. The parade went through the Town Center communities, Willowcove and Tidewater. Prizes from Ponte Vedra Golf Carts were given to the most active community and most patriotic and creative golf carts. In addition to the parade, Nocatee celebrated the holiday with a patriotic party at the Splash Waterpark that included entertainment by the J Crew Band, food trucks, bounce houses, a balloon artist, yard games and more.

Photo by Susan Griffin



UPCOMING EVENTS IN NOCATEE

Check out some of the events that are taking place in Nocatee:

Food Truck Friday
Friday, July 13 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Swim Club Green
Several food trucks will gather at the Swim Club Green to serve members of the community local, one-of-a-kind, gourmet food and snacks. This event will feature live music by Joe Downing. Drinks will be available for purchase at the bar, including select craft beers and wines. There will also be a Kidzone sponsored by St. Johns Inflatables. Rocky's will be open at Splash Waterpark.

Summer Tap Takeover
Saturday, July 14 from 7 to 10 p.m.

Splash Waterpark Bar
Come enjoy a night out at the Splash Bar. There will be live

music from Tad Jennings, yard games and the bar will be serving select craft beers, wine and mixed drinks! Plus, Rocky's will be open. This is a free event for residents and their guests.

Beer and Bingo
Thursday, July 19 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Splash Waterpark
Veterans United Brewery will be hosting a Tap Takeover at Bingo Night. This is a free event for residents and their guests ages 21 and over only. Bingo will begin at 6:30 p.m. There will also be a variety of other board games to choose from this evening. The Splash Bar and Rocky's will also be open. RSVP to fun@nocatee.com.

HUG Foundation partners with HEAL to hold golf camp for children with autism



Golf camp participants take a break from the golf course and enjoy some drinks and snacks before heading back out to play again.

Photos by Benjamin Naim

By Benjamin Naim

The HUG Foundation partnered with the HEAL Foundation to host a golf camp for children with autism this week at TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Held Monday, July 9 to Wednesday, July 11, the three-day golf camp offered children with autism a chance to learn about the game of golf, go on a nature hunt throughout the Stadium Course, create custom golf balls and test their skills on the 17th Island Green. Hosted by the HUG (Help Us Golf) Foundation, the camp was free for participants and made possible thanks to a grant from the HEAL Foundation.

Jarrad Kogos, the founder of HUG and a Fletcher High School graduate with Asperger Syndrome, said the camp enriches lives and helps kids with autism learn how to interact with others.

“Golf is a game they can use to connect to other people,” he said. “It’s also a good exercise rather than staying home and playing videogames all day.”

Kogos, also a brain cancer survivor, said golf helped him get through life’s adversities and inspired him to start a nonprofit. His goal is to expand his golf camp and start a special needs golf tour in the next decade.

Additionally, Kogos said he receives positive feedback after every camp.

“Camp is usually full before I release the dates,” he added. “All the parents always ask about it months in advance.”

Lisa Homburger, the mother of a 9-year-old golf camp participant Hudson, said the event offers several mental and physical benefits and is a perfect fit for her son.

“He was always interested in golf,” she said. “I think it really helps with hand-eye coordination for children with autism. It gives them immediate gratification, hitting the ball, getting it out there. I think a lot of it goes back to physical therapy.”

PGA Head Golf Professional Brian Riddle coached participants and worked with the HUG Foundation in coordination with HEAL to help organize the camp. The PGA representative described the impact of the three-day event as “absolutely huge.”

“It’s not just swinging a golf club,” he said. “We want them running, jumping, interacting, the social skills, playing with other kids and socializing with other kids. We also teach them about the environment at a golf course.”



An instructor helps children with autism learn how to putt a golf ball at the HUG Foundation golf camp, which was sponsored by the HEAL Foundation and held July 9-11 at TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach.



ABOVE: HUG Foundation founder Jarrad Kogos observes day one of his golf camp.

LEFT: Lisa Homburger’s 9-year-old son, Hudson, poses for a photo with golf camp volunteers.

Some children can lose confidence in themselves if they miss a hole, Riddle said, so instructors offer them words of encouragement every time they take a swing.

“If the ball didn’t go in the hole, they might think they failed,” he added. “It’s far from it. They’re successful, they’re making good swings and good attempts at it. We just enjoy seeing them enjoy it, we

enjoy seeing them practice and play and get used to it and it’s just as fun for us as it is for them.”


Jason Gurka, the executive director of the HEAL Foundation, said his organization has supported HUG since the inaugural golf camp in 2009. The partnership works for HEAL because it allows families to enroll their children in a golf camp at no cost, Gurka added.

“It’s easy to support Jarrad,” Gurka said. “He’s a class act and he really does care about teaching golf to kids who are on the spectrum.”

Gurka said he chose to work with Kogos’ HUG Foundation because of the organization’s track record. He added that the golf camp in particular is a rare opportunity for kids on the Autism Spectrum to familiarize themselves with the game.


Founded in 2004, HEAL has spent the last decade raising funds through events and providing grants to local organizations, camps and schools to serve those with autism. The organization has provided about \$2 million in total at the local level. For more information on the HEAL Foundation or to make a donation through PayPal, visit www.healautismnow.org.

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Politics in St. Johns is a large political gathering hosted by the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce. It is designed as a fun educational evening aimed at connecting candidates running for office with members of the business community. The event will feature the candidates, candidate informational booths, candidate introductions, and a straw poll vote conducted by St. Johns County Supervisor of Elections Vicky Oakes (with the release of results to the local news media). The event is open to all Chamber members, guests and members of the general public free of charge.

CANDIDATES WISHING TO PARTICIPATE SHOULD VISIT
www.SJCChamber.com/pisj
 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Note: You must be one of the first 300 individuals to pre-register in order to cast your vote for your favorite candidate in the straw poll at Politics in St. Johns. To pre-register for the July 16 event in Ponte Vedra, go to sjcchamber.com/Politics-in-St-Johns-Event-Registration-Ponte-Vedra

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BARRERA HOSTS ICE CREAM SOCIAL AT LOCAL SMALL BUSINESS

St. Johns County School Board District 4 Representative Kelly Barrera stands alongside Kacey Roache, Lola Roache and Lyndsay Barrera at an ice cream social she hosted June 30 at Christy's Dream Ice Cream Bar in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Photo courtesy of Kelley Bost



County Commission District 4 candidate Dick Williams addresses attendees of the Meet the Candidates event June 27 hosted by the St. Johns County chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America.

Photo courtesy of Kelly Aguirrechu

Local chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America holds Meet the Candidates event

The St. Johns County chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America held a Meet the Candidates event June 27 to allow the community to hear from those seeking election in District 4.

Taking place at the Coastal Oaks Clubhouse in Nocatee, the forum hosted County Commission candidates Dick Williams, Jeremiah Blocker, Nicholas “Mike” Dudynskay and John “Jack” Gorman; as well as School Board candidates Dr.

Abigail Levrini, Denver Cook and Kelly Barrera, who currently holds the District 4 seat. Over 60 residents attended the event.

“We had a great turnout,” said Kelly Aguirrechu, the local chapter leader for Moms Demand Action Ponte Vedra. “I’m so happy that Moms Demand Action of St. Johns County (was) able to host all of the candidates and give them a forum to

CANDIDATES continues on Page 11



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Photo courtesy of Kelly Aguirrechu
School Board District 4 candidate Dr. Abigail Levri addresses the crowd.

Candidates

Continued from 10

speak to the community.”

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America is a nonpartisan, nonprofit group made up of mothers, fathers, grandparents, educators, gun owners and non-gun owners working to educate the community on gun safety and gun violence prevention. The organization is currently rolling out Be Smart for Kids in St. Johns County, a program that addresses gun storage, gun safety and more. For more information, contact Aguirrechu at kaguirrechuFL@gmail.com or visit www.besmartforkids.org.

Spray Park

Continued from 8

Blue Water Bar & Grill, a restaurant serving both food and drinks, will also open in the Spray Park by the end of the year.

The neighboring event field, which will be more than twice the size of the current event area, will be the new home for community events and concerts, including the monthly Nocatee Farmers Market, the Roscolusa country music festival, drive-in movie nights, live

performances and more. Blue Water Bar & Grill will also be accessible from the new event field.

To learn more about Nocatee, visit www.nocatee.com or stop by the Nocatee Welcome Center at 245 Nocatee Center Way in Ponte Vedra.

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Nease NJROTC graduates 10 cadets from Leadership Academy

Recently recognized as the fifth Most Outstanding NJROTC Unit in the nation, Nease NJROTC restocked its high-performing cadet leadership ranks last month by successfully graduating a record 10 cadets at the Area 12 NJROTC Leadership Academy in Gainesville, Georgia, from June 10-16.

More than 200 high-performing cadets from Area 12's 60 NJROTC high school programs throughout North Florida and the state of Georgia participated in the training. Directed by the top Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard JROTC naval science instructors in the region, the training covered leadership, precision drill, academics and physical fitness.

Nease NJROTC graduates included rising seniors Sinead Morgan and Christopher Oliver; as well as rising juniors Elkhan Bagirov, Erin Durant, Lindy Gostage, Anna Hampton, John Lemos, Teagan Pettit, Hayden Rowe and Yuan Tian.

"Incredible," Gostage said. "I loved it and hated it at the same time, but I'm so glad I did it."

Cadet Troy Barber served as cadre during the week, assisting in the mentoring and training of the cadets, and all three of Nease's naval science instructors — Captain Scott LaRochelle, Master Chief



Photo courtesy of Scott LaRochelle

Nease NJROTC instructors and cadets recently completed the Area 12 Leadership Academy at Riverside Military Academy in Gainesville, Georgia. Pictured from left to right: Master Chief Duane Spears, Gunnery Sergeant Duane Hanson, Hayden Rowe, Elkhan Bagirov, Sinead Morgan, Troy Barber, Christopher Oliver, John Lemos, Yuan Tian, Anna Hampton, Erin Durant, Lindy Gostage, Teagan Pettit and Captain Scott LaRochelle.

Duane Spears and Gunnery Sergeant Duane Hanson — worked as instructors and advisors.

During the training, several cadets received individual commendations for exceptional performance, including Pettit

and Morgan as the No. 1 and No. 3 female athletes; Oliver as the No. 2 male athlete; Bagirov and Tian tying for No. 1 in academics; Tian as Honor Platoon cadet, signifying him as the top overall cadet in his platoon; and Hampton as platoon com-

mander for the overall top-rated platoon during the week.

"Best week of my life," Pettit said. "The week was nonstop go-go-go, and I can't believe how much we learned in such a short time."

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OBITUARIES

Mary Hartigan

Mary Elizabeth Lacy Hartigan died surrounded by her family on June 30, 2018, after a 15-month battle with pancreatic cancer.

Born Sept. 30, 1956, in Omaha, Nebraska, Mary is lovingly remembered by her mother, Virginia Lacy; brother, Pat Lacy (Sue); sisters, Sue Coleman and Nancy Taylor; husband, Dan Hartigan; four children, Andrew (Sarah), David (Maura), Matthew and Emily; five grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her father, Robert Lacy; her sister, Terri Baumert (Rich); and brother, Tom Lacy (Doreen).

Mary grew up in Omaha and attended Our Lady of Lourdes Parish & School, Duchesne



Mary Hartigan

Academy of the Sacred Heart and graduated from the University of Nebraska with an accounting degree. She held many jobs over the years, but her favorite was motherhood. She was a homeroom mom, chaperoned countless field trips and volunteered at St. Paul's Catholic School. Once her children were in school, she returned to the workforce and eventually was appointed director of merchandise for golf course properties at the PGA Tour. She retired in 2014 to spend more time with her grandchildren and had a passion for crafts that she often gifted to friends and family.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at noon on Friday, July 6 at St. Paul's Catholic Church of Jacksonville Beach. Interment was held at 2:30 p.m. in Ponte Vedra Valley Cemetery of Ponte Vedra Beach.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Mary's memory to St. Paul's Catholic School, 428 Second Ave. N., Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250, or Mayo Clinic Pancreatic Cancer Biology and Translational Oncogenomics Laboratory: Drs. Kasi and Copland research labs, 4500 San Pablo Road, Jacksonville, FL 32224.

Please visit the online tribute at www.quinn-shalz.com. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home.



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Betty Doeringer

Betty Z. Doeringer, 95, of Jacksonville Beach, died June 24, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Dolores Givens

Dolores M. Givens, 85, of Jacksonville, died June 20, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Estelle Mellon

Estelle L. Mellon, 89, of Jacksonville Beach, died June 19, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Joyce Mills

Joyce Messer Mills, 82, of Jacksonville, died June 24, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Sheila Reeder

Sheila Foley Reeder, 82, of Jacksonville Beach, died June 24, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Thomas Sapere

Thomas Frank Sapere, 83, of St. Augustine, died June 24, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

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SENIOR LIVING Guide



SPECIAL SECTION · JULY 12, 2018

Ponte Vedra 

Recorder

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

The Palms at Ponte Vedra resident reflects on life, shares advice approaching 100th birthday

By Benjamin Naim

Bud Baisden, a resident of The Palms at Ponte Vedra, is turning 100 on Friday, July 20.

The secret to his longevity? Vitamins. “I believe very much in vitamins,” he said. “It’s not medicine; it’s food that your body needs to keep working. I owe a lot, truthfully, to the vitamins I’ve taken.”

Bud’s son Bill described his father as a man who always looks forward rather than back. He also said that his dad does a good job of keeping up with the latest advancements in technology.

“Before we moved here, he had his own email account and he surfed the web,” Bill said. “He’s always tried to keep up, and he’s always tried to figure out what was going on and why.”

Bud said he came from a place where primitive technology was the norm, and he is fascinated by the progress he has witnessed over the years.

“I come from an area where there was no radio, no television, telephones weren’t even in place,” he said. “I’ve lived through all of that and the amount of science there is today to me is hard



Bud Baisden (left), who is turning 100 July 20, sits next to his son Bill at the library at The Palms at Ponte Vedra.

Photo by Benjamin Naim

to believe. What all is going on, it’s just almost impossible for me to believe it.”

An Ohio native, Bud moved to Florida in 1941 to join the Navy. He worked in a machine shop as an aviation mechanic during World War II before getting married and having a child. The veteran rose

up the ranks and eventually worked his way to a position as supervisor of a 115-man shop in Guam.

According to Bud, his four-and-a-half-year stint in the Navy was one of the highlights of his life.

“I’ve done all kinds of sales work,”

he said. “But I must say that I think my favorite occupation was in the Navy and supervision in the shops I’ve been at.”

Today, Bill and Bud maintain a close relationship. Looking back at his life, Bill revealed that if he could have picked his own parents — he wouldn’t have been capable of picking two better ones.

“I grew up in the 60s, and that was sort of a wild and crazy time,” Bill said. “They showed patience and perseverance. (Bud’s) easy going, he’s just fun to be around even today.”

As for his 100th birthday party, Bud doesn’t want to do anything special. The plan is to spend quality time with family and friends while celebrating the last century of his life, which he has thoroughly enjoyed.

“I’ve had a wonderful life, a fantastic life,” Bud said. “I’ve done just about everything I’ve wanted to do.”

According to the Baisdens, the true key to Bud’s success in life has been his optimistic attitude.

“He always says, ‘It’ll always work out,’” Bill noted. “Doesn’t it dad?”

Bud agreed.

“They work out for me,” he responded, “I will say that.”

Judy Ahlquist (left) has replaced Nancy Urban as the new manager of the COA’s Coastal Home Care department.

Photo courtesy of Council on Aging



Council on Aging Coastal Home Care names new manager

The St. Johns County Council on Aging (COA) has named Judy Ahlquist, R.N., the new manager of the Coastal Home Care department.

Ahlquist succeeds Nancy Urban, who moved out of the area, and took on her new role at the end of June.

“We are excited to have Judy take on this new position,” said Becky Gianni, Council on Aging executive director. “We know that Judy has all the qualifications necessary to succeed in this role, including a compassionate and understanding attitude for those we serve. Nancy Urban has served brilliantly in this role for eight years, and we are fortunate to have Judy step up to form a smooth transition.”

Ahlquist joined COA as a nurse in the Sunshine Adult Day Services Center.

“I am honored to assume this new position,” Ahlquist said. “I look forward to leading our Coastal Home Care team, providing quality in-home services for older adults and those with disabilities in St. John’s County.”

Coastal Home Care offers a variety of services to help maintain seniors’ independence in their own homes, in a retirement community or in a care facility. COA operates the Coastal Home Care for St. Johns County, and offers an array of other services, including transportation, Meals on Wheels, five senior centers, an adult day facility and more.

15th Annual Council on Aging Championship Golf and Gala set for Aug. 26 and 27

The annual Council on Aging (COA) Championship Golf and Gala will celebrate its 15th year with a golf tournament, dancing, an auction, dinner and more at its event Aug. 26 and 27.

The gala will be held at 5:30 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 26, and the golf tournament will tee off at the Slammer and Squire Course at 8:30 a.m., Monday, Aug. 27.

“This has been such a fantastic journey,” COA Executive Director Becky Gianni said. “We have felt the love and support of our community for 15 years and look forward to hosting the Championship Golf and Gala for years to come.”

At the gala, The Chef’s Garden will cater an all-you-can-eat buffet with choices for different tastes. After dinner, the Frank Saffi Band will play high-energy music for dancing. Throughout the evening, guests are encouraged to bid on hundreds of silent and live auction items, including art, gift cards, tickets to theme parks and events, sports packages, gift baskets and more. Later in the

evening, guests can enjoy a Matanzas sunset on the dock with a cold beer or wine.

The following day will be the Golf Tournament at Slammer and Squire. There will be both breakfast and lunch served, and awards will be given to the winning teams.

The Championship Golf and Gala is the biggest and most important fundraiser for Council on Aging. It raises funds for numerous programs and services, like Meals on Wheels, four senior centers, transportation, Adult Day Care, Coastal Home Care, Prescription Assistance and more.

COA needs participants, donations for the auction and sponsors. Donations being sought include new items or experiences, such as cruises, family vacations, collectibles, artwork, antiques, etc. Also, special talents and/or services can be donated. Donors and sponsors will be named in the COA Championship Gala program. For more information or to donate, contact Cindy Walker at (904) 209-3687 or cjwalker@stjohnscoa.com.

UPCOMING COA EVENTS

Join the St. Johns County Council on Aging at River House, located at 179 Marine St. in St. Augustine, for the following events:

Financial Fridays

Attend Financial Fridays to discuss financial issues impacting senior citizens. Various local professionals will be on hand to share their knowledge, tips and expertise to assist seniors with numerous financial situations. Call (904) 209-3655 to make a reservation for the next session, scheduled for Friday, July 27 at 10 a.m. Representatives from VyStar Credit Union will be discussing financial fraud. This event is complimentary for River House members and \$3 for non-members.

Gypsy Skirt Dancing

Visit the River House on Mondays from 10 to 11 a.m. for a fun, festive class celebrating diversity. Moves are basic, but still offer an effective workout. The cost for each session is \$4 for River House members and \$5 for non-members. Call (904) 209-3655 to make a reservation.

Senior Singles Group

Join local seniors for food, fun conversations and more on the first Tuesday of each month at various restaurants. The Aug. 7 meeting will take place at River House at 11:30 a.m. Advanced payment and reservations are required. The cost is \$12 per person. Call (904) 209-3655 for more information.

Greeting card creations

Participants can learn how to make their own greeting cards at this event, scheduled for Monday, Aug. 13, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All supplies are included in the cost of \$12 for members and \$15 for non-members. Call (904) 209-3655 to make a reservation.

Matter of Balance

Matter of Balance is a program designed to help people manage falls and increase activity levels. Participants will learn how to view falls as controllable, set goals for increasing activity, make changes to reduce fall risks at home and exercise to increase strength and balance. This eight-session class begins Tuesday, Sept. 4 from 10 a.m. to noon and continues every Tuesday and Thursday in September. This class is complimentary, but space is limited. Call (904) 209-3655 to register.

Author appreciation event

Join the River House on Friday, Sept. 14 at 10 a.m. with featured local authors K. Ross Lee and Betsy S. Lee. They will be discussing their books, "Andrew Ranson: St. Augustine's Pirate" and "The Relic: Jerusalem to St. Augustine." Autographed copies of the books will be available for additional purchase. The cost to attend is \$3 for River House members and \$4 for non-members.

The importance of proper nutrition for senior citizens



Jason Clark
Guest Columnist

By Jason Clark
Nourishment network manager at Lutheran Social Services of Northeast Florida
Special to the Recorder

A new study from Ohio State University and the Abbott health care company indicates that more than one-third of older adults

don't meet nutritional requirements. Yet, malnutrition is frequently

underdiagnosed in adults over the age of 65. As people age, they become less active and their metabolism slows. This slowdown means seniors need to consume fewer calories, but focus more on important nutrients. Since diet has been proven to greatly impact the immune system, as well as physical and cognitive health, it's especially important for older adults to maintain a healthy diet.

What does good nutrition look like?

A healthy plate includes a balance of lean proteins, fruits and vegetables, whole grains and low-fat dairy. Look for healthy whole foods around the perimeter of the grocery store in the produce, meat and dairy sections. When eating packaged foods, compare nutrition labels to find items lower in fat, added sugars and sodium.

Check out the National Institute of Health website for a body weight planner tool that calculates how many calories you should eat per day based on your age, weight, height and gender.

How can a healthy diet help?

Besides maintaining a healthy weight, eating well can also combat and even help prevent health conditions like heart disease, stroke and high blood pressure. When combined with regular physical activity, a balanced and nutri-

tious diet can also combat diabetes, depression, arthritis and certain types of cancer. These benefits are especially important to seniors as the risk of these potentially fatal diseases increases significantly as people get older.

A nutritious diet can also boost energy and mood. This in turn can make it easier to exercise regularly. In addition, the combination of exercise and healthy eating can help people fall asleep faster and sleep deeper.

How can seniors make healthy eating affordable?

Many seniors are reliant on limited retirement funds and Social Security. Fresh, non-packaged foods can be expensive and even unrealistic on a small budget. There are a number of ways seniors can stretch their budget to afford the important nutrients they need.

The National Council on Aging offers a variety of suggestions for eating healthy on a budget, including checking eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which can supplement seniors' food budgets.

Seniors can also take advantage of free services from local nonprofits. Besides traditional food banks, there are programs that will deliver food directly to the doors of low-income senior citizens. These programs are aimed at helping seniors get access to important nutrients and are free for those in need.

Proper nutrition is simply essential to every senior citizen's health and well-being. If you are or know a food-insecure senior, please follow the tips above or reach out to a local nonprofit for help.

Lutheran Social Services of Northeast Florida (LSS) was incorporated in 1979 and provides struggling families living on the First Coast with opportunities for new beginnings through programs focused on hunger relief, homelessness prevention, AIDS care and education and refugee services. For more information, visit www.lssjax.org.

Volunteers needed for COA

Volunteers are needed at the St. Johns County Council on Aging (COA) for the following:

- Administrative duties at COA Transportation from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- Delivering Meals on Wheels.
- Assisting the Integrative Memory Enhancement Program Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Call (904) 209-3686 or email aleach@stjohnscoa.com for more information.

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Millie, a resident of Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra, gathers with Chase Magnano during the art class.



Alexis and Chase Magnano with Ann, a resident of Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra

Photos courtesy of Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra

Elizabeth Paul (second from left) and her children Alexis Magnano, a Landrum Middle School student, and Chase Magnano, a Ponte Vedra High School student, teach residents of Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra about pointillism on July 9.

Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra hosts pointillism art class

Residents at Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra had the opportunity this week to learn more about pointillism at an art class taught by a few local residents.

Held on Monday, July 9, the class was led by Elizabeth Paul and her children Alexis Magnano, a Landrum Middle School student, and Chase Magnano, a Ponte Vedra High School student.

The class included a presentation on the life and work of Georges Seurat, a renowned painter and draftsman in the art of pointillism.

After the presentation, residents used Q-tips to paint dots to form a picture similar to Seurat's paintings.


For more information on Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra, visit www.arborcompany.com/locations/florida/ponte-vedra-beach.

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How seniors can simplify everyday tasks

The ability to perform everyday tasks is something many people take for granted. But as men and women approach or exceed retirement age, many may start to struggle with chores and tasks they have performed for decades.

Physical limitations are a common side effect of aging. But such limitations do not have to prove too big a hurdle for seniors to clear. In fact, there are many ways for seniors to simplify everyday tasks while maintaining their independence.

■ **Embrace technology.** Even the proudest Luddites cannot deny technology's potential to make seniors' lives easier. Seemingly simple tasks like shopping for groceries and vacuuming a home can be difficult for seniors with dwindling or limited mobility. But seniors with Internet access in their homes can order their groceries online and then pick them up in-store or have them delivered, saving them the trouble of walking around the store. With regard to vacuuming, autonomous vacuum cleaners have removed the need to use traditional vacuum cleaners. Certain autonomous vacuums employ sensors to detect dirty spots on the floor, and these vacuums can even be programmed to clean the home while residents are out of the house.

■ **Upgrade bathrooms.** Tasks associated with per-



Photos courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

sonal hygiene also tend to be taken for granted until they become difficult. But a few simple bathroom alterations can help seniors safely navigate the bathrooms in their homes so they can maintain their personal hygiene without fear of injury. Grab bars can be installed on shower walls so seniors can safely get in and out of their showers and bathtubs. Such bars are both effective and inexpensive, and some do not even require any drilling to install. Specialty grab bars, tub grips and tub transfer benches are just a few additional products that can make bathing easier for seniors who have lost or are starting to lose some of their physical strength.

■ **Get "smart" on the road.** Seniors who are experiencing mild difficulty driving can make getting around town that much easier by plugging their smartphones into their vehicles or making use of the various apps that have become standard in modern vehicles. For example, the maps app on a smartphone can be connected to a car and direct seniors to their destinations, saving them the trouble of remembering all the ins and outs of how to get a particular destination. Seniors also can employ apps to help them find their vehicles should they forget exactly where they parked in crowded parking lots. Such apps can increase seniors' comfort levels on the road while helping them maintain their independence.

■ **Downsize.** Whether downsizing to a smaller home or simply downsizing a lifestyle, seniors may find that living smaller is akin to living simpler. Empty nesters may find they no longer need several bedrooms in their homes, and moving into smaller homes can reduce their daily workloads while also clearing out clutter that can make performing everyday chores more difficult. Men and women accustomed to hustle and bustle may also find that cutting back on professional and/or personal commitments gives them more energy for everyday activities while enriching the commitments they continue to maintain.







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Thursday, July 12	Friday, July 13	Saturday, July 14	Sunday, July 15
<p>Women in the Bible Learn about key women in the Old and New Testaments at this July Bible study series at Lord of Life Lutheran Church. This weekly, one-hour discussion led by Pastor Hinkley or guest leaders, will take place Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Following a brief presentation, guests will participate in a lively discussion on various women in the Bible, and refreshments will be served. Lord of Life Lutheran Church is located at 276 N. Roscoe Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, visit www.lordoflifepvb.org.</p> <p>Throwback Thursday: 'Field of Dreams' at the Corazon Cinema and Cafe An Iowa corn farmer interprets voices in his head as a command to build a baseball diamond on his field. After building the diamond, the 1919 Chicago White Sox come to play. This film is showing at the Corazon Cinema and Cafe July 12 at noon as part of the theater's "Throwback Thursday" series. The Corazon Cinema and Cafe is located at 36 Granada St. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Chris Redd at The Comedy Zone Chris Redd, an actor, writer, standup, sketch and improv performer, will perform live at The Comedy Zone July 12 at 7:30 p.m. Email info@comedyzone.com or call (904) 292-4242 for more information. The Comedy Zone is located at 3130 Hartley Road in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Anastasia Watersports Camp Looking for a fun way for children to learn how to kayak, paddleboard and sail this summer? Discover watersports, hike through salt marshes and explore the beaches during the second-annual Anastasia Watersports Camp, to be held July 9 through 12 at Anastasia Watersports at Anastasia State Park. For more information and to make a reservation, email info@anastasiawatersports.com. This event will take place at 850 Anastasia Park Road in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Hang Ten Thursdays Adventure Landing visitors can enjoy \$10 admission to the water park on Thursdays as part of the "Hang \$10 Thursdays" deal. Visit www.jacksonville-beach.adventurelanding.com for more information.</p>	<p>Youth Saltwater Fishing Clinic This Youth Saltwater Fishing Clinic for ages 8 to 17 will take place July 13 from 9 a.m. to noon. The cost to participate is \$20 per workshop; everything needed for fishing is supplied. Pre-registration is required. Visit www.washingtonoaks.org or call (386) 446-6783 for more information. Washington Oaks Garden State Park is located at 6400 N. Oceanshore Blvd. in Palm Coast.</p> <p>Music in the Courtyard The general public is invited to enjoy live music every Friday and Saturday night from 6 to 9 p.m. at The Courtyard, located at 200 1st St. in Neptune Beach. Guests are encouraged to listen to local music while sipping on a coffee or glass of wine.</p> <p>'Ant-Man and The Wasp' at IMAX Theater at World Golf Hall of Fame As Scott Lang balances being both a Superhero and a father, Hope van Dyne and Dr. Hank Pym present an urgent new mission that finds the Ant-Man fighting alongside The Wasp to uncover secrets from their past. Visit www.worldgolfimax.com for showtimes and to purchase tickets. The World Golf Hall of Fame IMAX Theater is located at 1 World Golf Place in St. Augustine.</p> <p>'Quilt Extravaganza' exhibition This exhibition, entitled "Quilt Extravaganza," is located at The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. It features work by Jacque Huber. The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach is located at 50 Executive Way. Admission to the museum is free and the center is open Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be an opening reception July 13 from 6 to 8 p.m.</p> <p>Omni Amelia Island 2018 tennis summer camp Omni Amelia Island Plantation Resort is offering tennis camp Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Kids ages 5 to 14 will have the opportunity to work with professional coaches. For pricing information or to reserve a spot, call (904) 432-1485. Omni Amelia Island Plantation Resort is located at 39 Beach Lagoon Road in Amelia Island.</p>	<p>St. Augustine Amphitheatre Farmers Market The St. Augustine Amphitheatre Farmers Market will take place every Saturday morning from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The market features more than 100 tents with local produce, flowers, baked goods, handmade arts and crafts and more. The St. Augustine Amphitheatre Farmers Market is located at 1340 A1A S. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Dolphin Paddle on Salt Run Anastasia Watersports and Marineland Dolphin Adventure at Anastasia State Park will team up July 14 to offer a fun-filled interpretive paddle event. Hop into a kayak, paddle onto Salt Run and keep an eye for birds, turtles, manatees and dolphins. The program fee is \$40 per person including a boat rental, and \$25 for those providing their own boat. This event will start at 850 Anastasia Park Road in St. Augustine.</p> <p>First Coast Card Club event Join the First Coast Card Club July 14 for a cards and lunch session at Sawgrass Village Shop Center in Ponte Vedra Beach at 1 p.m. For more information, call (904) 829-0643.</p> <p>'Flipper' at Corazon Cinema and Cafe "Flipper" will be screened at the Corazon Cinema and Cafe July 14 at 12:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. This film is about Sandy Ricks being sent by his mother to Coral Key, a rustic island in the Florida Keys, to spend the summer with his uncle Porter Ricks. Sandy dislikes everything about his new environment until a new friend comes into his life, a dolphin named Flipper. The Corazon Cinema and Cafe is located at 36 Granada St. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Rod Man at The Comedy Zone Watch Rod Man perform at The Comedy Zone July 14 from 7:30 to 9:15 p.m. Rod Man is best known as the winner of season 8 of Last Comic Standing. For more information, email info@comedyzone.com or call (904) 292-4242. The Comedy Zone is located at 3130 Hartley Road in Jacksonville.</p>	<p>Sandals, Shorts and Steel Drum Service Every Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to noon, St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church invites guests to put on sandals and shorts for a more casual worship service featuring the tropical sound of steel drum music. The church is located at 465 11th Ave. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Cannon firing demonstration at Castillo de San Marcos National Park Service volunteers and personnel demonstrate a cannon firing at the Castillo de San Marcos museum/monument every Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Rangers and volunteers demonstrate the weapons and relate the experiences of the colonial Spanish soldier of 1740s St. Augustine. Firing times are subject to change depending on weather conditions and staff availability. Castillo de San Marcos is located at 1 S. Castillo Drive in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Hike & Marsh walk Join birding expert Susan Kileen on a hike and birding exploration of the Salt Marsh and the Secondary Fort Site Island July 15 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Participants should bring rubber boots, binoculars, cameras, water and other pertinent items. This event, set to take place at 15 Fort Mose Trail in St. Augustine, is weather permitting and subject to cancellation. For more information, call (904) 823-2232.</p> <p>Lulu's Luau Join Lulu's Waterfront Grille for its first annual Lulu's Luau July 15 starting at 11 a.m. The event will feature live reggae music; Hawaiian buffet-style food including a whole roasted pig and specialty craft Ole Smokey Moonshine cocktails; corn hole tournaments; jumbo jenga; limbo and more. Tickets cost \$40 per adult and will include a full buffet and two featured craft cocktails. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/events/212080009301600. This event will take place at 301 N Roscoe Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>

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Monday, July 16	Tuesday, July 17	Wednesday, July 18	Thursday, July 19
<p>MOSH Mondays The Museum of Science and History's MOSH Mondays feature discounts including buy-one-get-one-half-off admission for adults, 10 percent off MOSH-branded items in the museum shop, 10 percent off memberships when signing up in-person and 10 percent off birthday packages when signing up in-person. MOSH Mondays also feature rotating weekly programs. MOSH is located at 1025 Museum Circle in Jacksonville. Visit www.themosh.org for more information.</p> <p>St. Paul AME Vacation Bible School All children from preschool to 16 years old are invited to Vacation Bible School at St. Paul AME Church, located at 85 Martin Luther King Ave. in St. Augustine. Classes will be held July 16-20 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the church. Breakfast, snacks and lunch will be provided, and the program is free of charge. Registration is required. For more information, contact Nichol Sparrow at nssparrow78@yahoo.com.</p> <p>Newcomers Club of Northeast Florida social Join the Newcomers Club of Northeast Florida July 16 for a Sahara Silk Arabic Music and Dance Show at 2 p.m. The event, taking place in Fleming Island, will feature a coffee/snack social. For more information, call (904) 829-0643.</p> <p>St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church Vacation Bible School Join St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church for Vacation Bible School July 16-20 from 9 a.m. to noon for lessons about Jesus' love. The event will feature games, songs, crafts and more. The cost to attend is \$35. Register at www.spbts.com and click on the "Sunday School" page. St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church is located at 465 11 Ave. N. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Politics in St. Johns Politics in St. Johns is a candidate meet-and-greet event hosted by the Chamber of Commerce. This event will take place July 16 at 5:30 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, located at 1050 A1A N. Visit www.pvconcerthall.com for more information.</p>	<p>Volunteers needed Volunteers are needed at the St. Johns County Council on Aging for administrative duties at COA Transportation from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. any day Monday to Friday. Contact Amy leach at (904) 209-3686 or email aleach@stjohnscoa.com for more information.</p> <p>Prenatal Yoga Join the Y Healthy Living Center, located at 170 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach, for a prenatal yoga session July 17 at 6 p.m. Prenatal and postnatal yoga provides safe, simple and effective exercises designed to help women cope with the changing needs of their body before and after pregnancy and birth.</p> <p>Youth volleyball camps St. Johns River State College will hold three age-specific youth volleyball clinics for boys entering grades three through eight from 6 to 7:30 p.m. July 17-19. Registration costs \$45. This event will take place at the Tuten Gymnasium at the SJR State Palatka campus, located at 5001 St. Johns Ave. in Palatka. For more information or to register, contact Cohen at (386) 312-4237 or email matthewcohen@sjrstate.edu.</p> <p>Community meetings St. Johns Parks and Recreation will host two community meetings July 17 from 6 to 8 p.m. at THE PLAYERS Community Center, located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach, and July 18 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the City of St. Augustine Beach City Hall, located at 2200 A1A Beach Blvd. The meetings are part of a multi-phase parks and recreation master plan update process. For more information, call (904) 209-0344.</p> <p>Bookmobile A Bookmobile will be open July 17 at the Publix at Nocatee Town Center, located at 120 Market-side Ave. in Ponte Vedra Beach, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to browse books, movies, music and more.</p>	<p>Toastmasters Club Toastmasters Club #5199 of Ponte Vedra Beach meets every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. at THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center. These meetings help attendees improve public speaking and gain leadership skills. The senior center is located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach. Email Lucy Reep at lucyreep@gmail.com for additional information.</p> <p>Wednesday Market at St. Augustine Beach The St. Augustine Beach Wednesday Market offers oceanfront shopping at the St. Johns County Pier Park every Wednesday starting at 8 a.m. Approximately 60 to 80 vendors can be found at the market selling locally grown produce, baked goods, prepared foods, arts, crafts and more. Visit www.sabca.org for more information.</p> <p>Alzheimer's Support Group Cypress Village will host an Alzheimer's Support Group on the third Wednesday of each month at 3 p.m. Call (904) 807-6222 to RSVP. Cypress Village is located at 4600 Middleton Park Circle E. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Baby/toddler Little Ones class Join the Anastasia Island Branch library for a baby/toddler Little Ones class July 18 from 10:15 to 10:40 a.m. This class is for children up to 18 months of age. The Anastasia Island Branch is located at 124 Seagrove Main St. in St. Augustine Beach.</p> <p>Music by the Sea concert This free weekly concert series at the St. Johns County Pier features a wide variety of musical genres. On July 18, Ain't Too Proud to Beg will perform from 7 to 9 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to bring a beach chair or blanket along with a favorite beverage. This event will take place at 350 A1A Beach Blvd. in St. Augustine Beach.</p>	<p>Bob Colacello at the Cummer Museum Bob Colacello, an influential voice in American political and social culture for more than 40 years, is coming to the Cummer Museum of Arts & Gardens July 19. The lecture will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by a question and answer session and book signing. For more information, contact Amber Sesnick at (904) 899-6034 or email asesnick@cummuseum.org.</p> <p>Grief Support Group A Grief Support Group will meet on the third Thursday of each month at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Room 102 of the Family Life Center. The group is aimed at men and women who are grieving the death of a family member or friend. The next meeting will take place July 19 at 7 p.m. St. Paul's Catholic Church is located at 578 1st Ave. N. in Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 553-8933.</p> <p>Yoga for Survivors The Y Healthy Living Center at the Ponte Vedra YMCA will host a Yoga for Survivors class July 12 at 11:30 a.m. Cancer patients, survivors, caregivers and others with range of motion and pain limitations are invited to join in this gentle and safe yoga practice, which is free and open to the public. Call (904) 202-5376 or visit www.baptistjax.com/ymca to reserve a spot. The Ponte Vedra YMCA is located at 170 Landrum Lane.</p> <p>Dinner and a movie Join moviegoers on the third Thursday of each month at River House, located at 179 Marine St. in St. Augustine, for dinner and a movie at 4 p.m. The cost to attend is \$15 for River House members and \$20 for non-members. In addition to dinner, guests will receive a soft drink and popcorn. Beer and wine will be available at an additional cost. Call (904) 209-3655 to reserve a seat.</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 ben@opcfla.com or call (904) 686-3939.</p>

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Ponte Vedra Beach resident to compete in Ms. Senior Jacksonville pageant July 21

By Benjamin Naim

Ponte Vedra Beach resident Kim St. Clair Seals will compete for the Ms. Senior Jacksonville crown on Saturday, July 21 at the University of North Florida.

"It's my first time competing in a pageant," Seals said. "I used to be a girl who would go fishing and do other kinds of stuff. I was never a pageant girl, so this is the first time ever."

Seals, the president of the Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association's North Florida chapter, said one of the reasons she's participating in Ms. Senior Jacksonville 2018 is to educate people on heart disease and its impact on women. According to Seals, women with a family history of the ailment are at a higher risk for heart attacks, peripheral vascular disease and other problems.

"I'm very excited to have this opportunity to be a spokesperson for Jacksonville and be an advocate for all women," she said. "To improve quality of life and prevent disability from strokes, that's what I'm really passionate about."

Seals said she heard about the pageant when she saw a contestant at Costco with a Ms. Senior Jacksonville sash. After inquiring about the competition, Seals followed the recommendation of her mother-in-law and attended a previous edition of the pageant before deciding she wanted to compete herself.

In preparation for Ms. Senior Jacksonville, Seals said she is seeing a voice instructor to help with the choreography for a song she'll be performing at the competition.

She is also working out and eating healthy.

"I'm going to the gym and making sure I'm fit," Seals noted. "I'm eating well, getting sleep, taking care of my voice and practicing 'the walk' because you have to do 'the walk' in a gown ... I'm keeping my spirits and my enthusiasm up."

Furthermore, Seals asserted that winning the competition would allow her to utilize a larger platform to be an advocate for all women.

"I'm very active with the American Heart Association, with Tobacco-Free Jacksonville," she revealed. "I'm already doing a lot of this stuff but I want to continue, and having that voice and being able to be visible will be huge. They utilize Ms. Senior Jacksonville for a lot of other functions."

Seals also said, should she win the pageant, she wants to go to a Jacksonville Icemen game and skate onto the ice with her sash and crown and have the team wear red, the color for women in heart disease. She is also interested in throwing a ceremonial pitch at a Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp game, or even singing the national anthem.

Winning Ms. Senior Jacksonville wouldn't be the end for Seals. A July 21 victory would open the door for the Ponte Vedra resident to compete for the Ms. Senior Florida crown, and eventually Ms. Senior America.

"That would be just so huge," she said. "Then I would think that it would bring so much more attention to this (heart disease) issue ... just to make women aware, that's what I want to do. I want to be a huge voice; that would



Photo courtesy of Kim S. Clair Seals

Ponte Vedra resident Kim St. Clair Seals will compete for the 2018 Ms. Senior Jacksonville crown on Saturday, July 21 at the University of North Florida.

mean the world to me."

For more information on the Ms. Senior Jacksonville pageant, visit www.aseasonedaffair.com.

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Starling at Nocatee hosts Derby Day and Fourth of July parties

Starling at Nocatee recently hosted Derby Day and Fourth of July parties.

Located at 999 Crosswater Parkway, Starling at Nocatee offers concierge living, assisted living and memory care. For more information, visit starlingliving.com/communities/starling-at-nocatee.



Photos courtesy of Starling at Nocatee

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Retirement savings: Say hello to Uncle Sam



Ric Schilling
Columnist

By Ric Schilling

One area of retirement planning that receives significant attention is accumulating enough savings to retire without the fear of running out of money later in life. However, an area that receives far less attention is the taxability of the savings as they are withdrawn. If they are fully taxable, the net income a pool of savings will produce is much less than anticipated, and can require a much larger pool of savings to account for the loss

due to income taxes. Let's look at ways to address this problem.

First, understand that funds invested in traditional IRAs, 401(k)s and other tax-deferred savings programs are fully income-taxable when withdrawn. So, if you only use these types of retirement savings plans, you may have as high a tax bill in retirement as you had when you worked. Make sure you plan accordingly.

Second, a more non-traditional but safer way to create tax-free income from taxable IRA accounts is a Fixed Index Universal Life contract. These contracts are quickly becoming an alternative to Roth IRA accounts for those 59½ years of age and older. IRA distributions are taken and then used to fund this contract resulting in:

- a) Lower required minimum distributions
- b) Income tax-free borrowing
- c) Tax-free death benefit to the ones you love
- d) Chronic illness accelerated benefits

Third, funds invested in Roth IRAs and Roth 401(k)s are taxed going in, so they come out tax-free. That may affect how much you can afford to save but also reduces the amount you have to accumulate, as there will be no loss to income taxes.

Fourth, savings invested after tax, in appreciating assets, are subject to future capital gains taxes but not income taxes generally (some dividends are taxed at normal rates but not all) as the money was already taxed. So, while not quite as favorable as tax-free, capital gains tax rates have traditionally been lower than applicable income tax rates, which is a plus.

My best suggestion is that you try to achieve a balance between the three types of savings so your income in retirement is a blend of income-taxable, tax-free and capital gains taxable funds. That way, your total tax burden in retirement should be quite a bit lower than it would otherwise be, hence reducing the need for much higher savings accumulations to compensate for tax erosion.

SCHILLING continues on **Page 23**



Photo courtesy of Columbia Restaurant Group

Columbia Restaurant in St. Augustine is one of seven locations in Florida where patrons can donate to the St. Johns County Council on Aging as part of the restaurant's 21st annual Community Harvest program in September.

Annual Columbia Restaurant fundraiser to support COA, other nonprofits

Patrons of any of the seven Columbia Restaurant locations in Florida throughout the month of September will have the opportunity to donate to the St. Johns County Council on Aging as part of the restaurant's 21st annual Community Harvest program.

Through the program, the Columbia donates 5 percent of all guests' September lunch and dinner checks to the charitable organizations chosen by their customers. Over the past 20 years, the Columbia Restaurant Community Harvest has donated more than \$2.2 million to nonprofit organizations throughout Florida. This year, the list of organizations will include the St. Johns County Council on Aging.

Local community members can participate in the Columbia Restaurant Community Harvest program by visiting the Columbia Restaurant located in downtown St. Augustine at 98 St. George St.

"We started this program in 1998 as a way to

help many of the worthy nonprofit groups that are so important to our communities," said Richard Gonzmart, president of the Columbia Restaurant Group. "We thought the best way to do this was by letting our customers get involved in selecting the organizations. The process is simple — they just put a check mark next to one of the charitable organizations listed on a form we provide. They turn it in to their server; we do the rest and donate 5 percent to the charity."

The original Columbia Restaurant was founded in Tampa's Historic Ybor City in 1905 by Cuban immigrant Casimiro Hernandez Sr. and is now Florida's oldest restaurant. All Columbia locations are owned and operated by fourth and fifth generation members of the founding family, except for Columbia Restaurant Cafe at Tampa International Airport, which is operated in partnership with HMSHost.

Visit www.ColumbiaRestaurant.com for more information.



Photo courtesy of the Windsor at San Pablo

The Woodwind Quintet of Navy Band Southeast performed at The Windsor at San Pablo on July 3.

Windsor at San Pablo hosts Navy Band Southeast Woodwind Quintet

The Windsor at San Pablo hosted the Woodwind Quintet of Navy Band Southeast July 3 for a patriotic performance in celebration of the Fourth of July.

The musical unit performed a tribute to U.S. veterans in front of residents and employees of the Jacksonville-based assisted living and memory care facility.

"The show was amazing," said Alissa Searcy, sales director at The Windsor at San Pablo. "We were so honored."

Navy Band Southeast is one of 11 official U.S. Navy Bands. It consists of trained professional musicians dedicated to the highest levels of musical performance. The band performs at military ceremonies, public concerts, parades and much more. Inspiring pride and patriotism through music, the unit performs more than 500 engagements annually throughout the Southeastern United States.

For more information on The Windsor at San Pablo, visit www.legendse-niorliving.com/Find-a-Community/florida/the-windsor-at-san-pablo.html.

Social Security retirement income planning: The critical path you can't afford to miss



By Dr. Jeff Camarda
Special to the Recorder

Crafting and maintaining a retirement plan entails some of the most important decisions you will ever make.

Getting this right can give you the income you need for a satisfying lifestyle, with adequate reserves against the risks of higher health care costs and long-term care. Doing so can also mean you leave a nice inheritance to the people or causes that you care about. Getting it wrong can yield a life of misery and even a shortened one if you can't afford to pay for the drugs, operations and other care you may need.

This article could alert you to danger areas other advisors have overlooked and brighten your future. For many, Social Security is a big part of this equation. Even for affluent investors with other resources and sources of income, Social Security is a major asset. It is unwise to marginalize the value of Social Security.

Social Security-claiming decisions — when and how you take your benefits — can be one of the most bewildering and error-prone choices retirees make, and once done, there is usually no going back. A big mistake that remains is taking benefits too early, before reaching full retirement age, or even later. If you expect to live a normal life expectancy, you may be leaving lots of money on the table.

Not coordinating with your spouse's claiming strategy is another potentially costly pitfall, as are divorcees not claiming benefits and not carefully planning job income around Social Security tax traps. Another mistake we see is not checking for errors in the Social Security credit record; it is not uncommon to see government mistakes on past earnings that slash benefits unless corrected. Finding errors and

fixing them is not as hard as it sounds, and a professional in the retirement planning field can conduct an analysis and report to show you how.

Investors with portfolios, IRAs, annuities and other assets sometimes discount the value of Social Security, but this can be a mistake. If you've been a high-earning taxpayer, live long and make smart Social Security claiming choices, the present value of a successful couple's benefits can be as high as \$3,504,000 or more; that's how much you would have to have invested in a pension to match the income stream. And if you play your tax cards right, the after-tax value could be much, much more than a pension. That's a serious asset by anyone's standards and deserves careful planning.

If you have an investment account of even a few hundred thousand dollars or more, making the right Social Security "claiming" decisions can become very complicated, with taxes, joint mortalities, various benefit combinations and benefit ages all impacted by the rest of your unique wealth planning. The wrong choices on investment, IRA and other planning could mean you needlessly pay tax on nearly all your Social Security! And wrong claiming ages and benefits choices by you and your spouse could mean a difference of hundreds of thousands or more in lost lifetime income if you're not careful.

Running out of money and being forced to rely on children or spend down their inheritance to make ends meet are among retirees' greatest fears. According to the Wall Street Journal, with over 50 percent of senior widows below the poverty line, leaving a spouse financially insecure is a grave concern. Avoiding the wrong Social Security decisions can go a long way to assure funding for the retirement you want.

Dr. Jeff Camarda is the firm chairman, CEO and chair of the portfolio management board for Camarda Wealth Advisory Group, which has offices in Ponte Vedra Beach and Fleming Island. For more information, call (800) 262-1082.

Schilling

Continued from 22

Lastly, search out a firm who has a minimum of 15 years of tested experience in the retirement space and that holds the designation as a fiduciary, which by law must put your best interest first.

Frederic "Ric" Schilling is a Florida native, born in Jacksonville, FL. Ric is President of Senior Guardians of America, a local North Florida firm specializing in tax reduction, long term illness planning, asset protection, probate avoidance and life income planning. Ric is a National Speaker and Advocate on

Senior Issues and has been featured by the Florida Times Union and WJXT, TV-4 in Jacksonville as an authority on Estate Planning and Retirement Issues. Senior Guardians has an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau and is a member in excellent standing with the National Ethics Association. Contact Frederic: 904-371-3302 or 888-891-3381 Please visit: www.seniorguardian.com

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-Larue C., Sarasota, Florida

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-Larry L., Sarasota, Florida

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Photo courtesy of Silver Creek

A Silver Creek resident snuggles with a rescue dog named Chevy. Others will have similar opportunities July 26 when Silver Creek hosts its "Yappy Hour" adoption event in partnership with S.A.F.E. Pet Rescue.

Silver Creek partners with S.A.F.E. Pet Rescue to host 'Yappy Hour' adoption event

Silver Creek Retirement is working with S.A.F.E. Pet Rescue to hold a special event Thursday, July 26 that will allow guests to bring a pet, snuggle a pet or even adopt one.

The "Yappy Hour" adoption event will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. at Silver Creek, which is located at 165 Silver Lane in St. Augustine. S.A.F.E. will bring animals to the retirement community and help facilitate the fostering and adopting of animals that need a loving home. Those in attendance can also enjoy hors d'oeuvres and beverages, as well as homemade treats for pets.

To RSVP, call (800) 821-8170. For more information on Silver Creek, visit silvercreekretirement.com. For more information on S.A.F.E., visit www.safe-pet-rescue-fl.com.



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What is BPH?

Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia, or BPH, is a condition in which the prostate enlarges as men get older. Over 70% of men in their 60s have BPH symptoms so it is very common. While BPH is a benign condition and unrelated to prostate cancer, it can greatly affect a man's quality of life.

Symptoms Include:

- Frequent need to urinate both day and night
- Weak or slow urinary stream
- A sense that you cannot completely empty your bladder
- Difficulty or delay in starting urination
- Urgent feeling of needing to urinate
- A urinary stream that stops and starts

If you suffer from the above symptoms, you are not alone. BPH is one of the leading reasons for men to visit a urologist!

What is Erectile Dysfunction?

Erectile dysfunction is also referred to as impotence. This is a condition where a man has difficulty achieving OR maintaining an erection. It affects at least 30 million men to some degree. It's most common in men 40 years and older but experts believe statistics regarding this condition are not completely accurate because many men do not report it or seek help. Evaluation and treatment of erectile dysfunction can be, often times, covered by insurance. Only urologists can offer the full range of treatments. Treatment management can be tailored to each patient's specific need. We are not a "one size fits all" practice.





Photos courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

Some factors to consider when adopting a dog or cat later in life

While many people associate pets with kids who can't wait to welcome the first cat or dog into their homes, pets can benefit aging men and women as well.

It's not uncommon for seniors to feel lonely or depressed when they retire, their children move away or they lose a spouse or close friend or friends. The American Humane Society states that studies show pets help seniors overcome loneliness and depression by providing affection, company and entertainment. Pets also provide much-needed mental stimulation, and many pet owners find their pets help them become more physically active as well.

Seniors who adopt pets may also feel a sense of purpose when helping animals who may not have anywhere to live. This is particularly true of older companion animals, which many young families are understandably hesitant to adopt. Mature pets might be an ideal fit for seniors. When seniors are looking to adopt a pet, there are various reasons why older pets or particular animals might be the perfect fit for them.

- Adult pets may already be house-trained, saving seniors the trouble and effort of training them.

- Seniors may find cats fit their lifestyles more than dogs, as cats are less active and do not need to be walked or played with as much as dogs. Cats also are small and easily maneuverable, meaning even seniors who have arthritis or other physical limitations can easily care for cats. Many cats are also content to spend long periods of time sleeping on their owners' laps.

- Small dogs that can be active within the house might be a good idea as well, especially for seniors with mobility issues. They're also easily transported to and from vet appointments.

It's important that seniors carefully weigh the benefits of adopting a pet against any limitations they may have. Having a backup plan for care is advantageous as well. Seniors should not adopt a pet if they anticipate frequent travel or medical care that requires they be away from home for long periods of time.



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Villages of Seloy resident praises 55+ community for location, amenities and more

Cherie Katin moved into the Villages of Seloy just as spring was breaking this year in Northern Florida.

Over a number of months, she made the move from Jacksonville to her new home in the 55+ planned community in the St. Augustine area.

"I simply love the area," Katin said, noting the proximity to the outlet malls just two-and-a-half miles away, and the beach just a little bit further.

Katin found that getting into her new place was easy with the help and support of management, sales teams and others.

"They were very helpful," Katin said of the Villages of Seloy staff. "I've just been so impressed with what they've done — everything went smoothly."

Describing what she called a "seamless" experience, Katin mentioned working with the title company, Landmark Title,

and how easy it was to get the details in place.

"That (purchasing process) was a very nice experience also," she said.

Another factor she appreciated was receiving a binder with contacts for utilities and other needed information. This, she said, made the move-in easier.

Since moving in, Katin has been enjoying the open floor plan of her one-level "Vilano" condo, which is 2,230 square feet, and the ease of pulling into the double-car garage.

"You can just drive in," she said. "It's a wonderful property."

She also likes the one-level design that is standard in the units, because it makes it easier to get around the home, especially long-term.

"I can do steps now, but in the future, who knows?" Katin said.

As she gets acclimated to the



Photo courtesy of Beson4

The "Vilano" condo at Villages of Seloy is 2,230 square feet, and among four home designs offered in the 55+ community in the St. Augustine area.

Villages of Seloy, Katin has also been active in meeting neighbors at a recent block party and taking aquatic exercise classes.

"I've enjoyed it immensely," she said, describing meeting neighbors in a fun, relaxed environment, and exercising on-site. Her grandkids, she said, also

like to come and visit.

As for the construction going on to build out the Villages of Seloy to accommodate new residents, Katin said the Villages of Seloy team is trying as hard as they can to make it a non-intrusive experience.

"They're doing what they

have to do to continue to build," she said. "It's not a big deal."

Villages of Seloy is exclusively listed by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty. For more information, call (904) 810-2097 or (904) 810-2098 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and arrange for a private tour.

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THEME: SINGERS & SONGWRITERS

ACROSS

1. "___ of time"
6. Federal Communications Commission
9. Frosh, next year
13. "Vamos a la ___"
14. *Don McLean: "A long, long time ___"
15. Par on a short golf hole
16. Whatsoever
17. Steadfast Soldier's material
18. Art class support
19. Classical music composition, pl.
21. *One of his hits is a stadium favorite
23. *Paul McCartney's 2013 album
24. Fat Man or Little Boy
25. Cul de ___
28. Prince of India
30. *"I Will Always Love You" creator
35. "Goodness gracious!"
37. *Chuck Berry's "___ Over Beethoven"
39. Bird-made fertilizer
40. Beginner
41. Interior designer's field
43. Come clean, with "up"
44. Meat jelly dish
46. Ad staple
47. What refugees do
48. *Best selling artist in 2000s in U.S.
50. Type of tide
52. Pig pen

53. #34 Down, alt. spelling
55. Bird word
57. *King of Pop
61. *Bruce Springsteen
65. "Farewell" from Emmanuel Macron
66. Bonanza find
68. Cone shaped dwelling
69. Dust-related allergy trigger, pl.
70. "Days of ___ Lives"
71. *Soul singer-songwriter Hayes
72. Pavlova's pas
73. X
74. Smallest units of life

DOWN

1. Pampering places
2. Chorus member
3. Indian flatbread
4. *He's "Tangled Up in Blue"
5. Salt merchant
6. *"___" Domino
7. Computer-generated imagery
8. Urban dwelling
9. A fake in bed
10. Guesstimate phrase
11. Hammer part
12. Retained
15. Lipton package
20. Grammy, e.g.
22. Mischievous little rascal
24. Theater tier
25. Caterpillar hairs
26. Discrimination

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27. Plural of carpus
29. *Piano man
31. 1600s neck wear
32. Chinese weight units
33. Beginning of illness
34. Offensively curious
36. "How you ___?"
38. Opera house box
42. House pest
45. Population count
49. Cow call
51. Kind of license
54. Condescending one
56. Falstaffian in body
57. Impromptu performances
58. Miners' passage
59. Give a quote
60. *Neil Young: "___ on rockin' in the free world"
61. Type of seabird
62. October stone
63. *"Kiss From a Rose" singer-songwriter
64. Abbreviated seconds
67. "The Murders in the ___ Morgue"

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A K9s for Warriors trainer (right) shows a puppy to Vicar's residents Mary Lee Golitz and Ginny Dunn.



"Science Bob" Pflugfelder, a popular science presenter who has appeared on several TV shows, performed to a full house at Vicar's Landing on June 8. Pflugfelder is the son of Vicar's resident Anne Pflugfelder.

Vicar's Landing hosts 'Science Bob,' K9s for Warriors puppy training

On June 8, Vicar's Landing hosted "Science Bob" Pflugfelder, a science teacher, author maker and presenter who has appeared on "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" "Live with Kelly and Ryan," "The Dr. Oz Show" and others.

Also the son of Vicar's resident Anne Pflugfelder, "Science Bob" performed to a full house at the local retirement community.

Later in the month on June 20, Vicar's hosted trainers from K9s for Warriors for a puppy training. The Vicar's Members' Trust is sponsoring a K9s for Warriors dog, and several residents of the retirement community sponsor dogs from the local nonprofit.



A K9s for Warriors trainer (left) holds a puppy with Vicar's resident Mary Monroe at a puppy training event held June 20 at Vicar's.

Photos courtesy of Janice Richardson

Jacksonville University partners with senior living group on new facility

Jacksonville University is teaming up with alumnus Greg Nelson and Clear Choice Health Care to bring a skilled nursing facility adjacent to campus, benefiting students of the university's Brooks Rehabilitation College of Healthcare Sciences and providing a multigenerational environment for seniors.

Dolphin Pointe, a 120-bed, \$22-million project overlooking the St. Johns River, is set to open in late 2018 and will be managed by Clear Choice Health Care of Melbourne, Florida.

Brooks Rehabilitation College of Healthcare Sciences Dean Dr. Christine Sapienza, Ph.D, CCC-SLP, believes the university's partnership with Nelson and Clear Choice Health Care will produce a steady flow of skilled, job-ready, graduates.

"As demand for healthcare services has skyrocketed," stated Sapienza, "higher education has been challenged to provide the deepest, most robust training



Rendering courtesy of Eileen Voyles

Dolphin Pointe, a new senior living facility formed by Jacksonville University, alumnus Greg Nelson and Clear Choice Health Care, is slated to open in Jacksonville's Arlington community in late 2018.

possible. This project is a key component of our answer to that challenge."

Geoff Fraser, Clear Choice senior vice president and one of the project's visionaries, believes the project will link students and older individuals through continuing education for seniors and work opportunities for students.

"We are confident the multigenerational environment this project creates will benefit both the seniors and students in many meaningful ways," said Fraser.

Features of the Dolphin Pointe project include a 5,000 square-foot therapy gym, two HydroWorx aquatic systems and 120 private suites.

Nelson, a long-time senior living developer and former board member for Jacksonville University, purchased 64 acres next to JU in 2014 but has been

developing the Dolphin Pointe concept for many years. He is confident the project will serve as a catalyst to revitalize the Arlington community, home to JU, bringing ancillary medical services for students and seniors alike.

"This is a fresh, new approach to senior living," added Nelson. "No other school of healthcare sciences in Florida has such a relationship with and proximity to a senior living facility. This project produces a powerful academic and multigenerational healthcare experience for both students and residents. It's quite unique."

Dolphin Pointe is the first of a three-phase project that will eventually include independent living, assisted living, medical office building, urgent care and a student health center.

LOCAL SENIOR GOLFER FINISHES STRONG AT RECENT AMATEUR TOURNAMENT

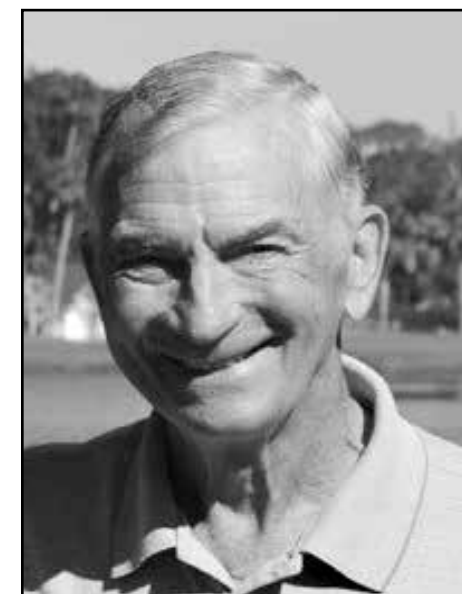


Photo courtesy of Doreen Halvorsen

George Halvorsen, a 76-year-old Marsh Landing golfer, finished only two strokes behind the 31-year-old winner of the Palmer Flight of the Golf Channel's amateur tournament at TPC Sawgrass on Sunday, July 8. Halvorsen often competes against players who are more than 40 years younger than him. Last year, he won so many of the Golf Channel's local tournaments in its Hogan Flight (which plays from the white tees), that the Golf Channel moved him to the Palmer Flight (which plays from the blue tees).



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Sawgrass Marriott kicks off weekly Sunday brunch

By Jon Blauvelt

A new Sunday brunch is the latest initiative launched by the culinary team at the Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Held at Vernon's Restaurant from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., the weekly event features a different theme each Sunday, allowing patrons to experience a variety of tastes and experiences at one single venue.

"You're going to get a different feel but the same restaurant," said Tanya White, assistant sous chef at the Marriott who has been tasked with leading the brunch efforts. "You don't have to travel all over town. Right at your front door, you have the opportunity to 'travel' all over the world."

The brunch kicked off this past Sunday, July 8 with a "Soul Food Sunday" theme, including dishes such as hummingbird pancakes, sawgrass smokers beef brisket, buttermilk fried chicken and more. The theme for this upcoming Sunday, July 15 is "Art and Jazz," which White said will feature a "bayou feel," incorporating seafood into many of the dishes. The brunch on July 22 will have a "Farm to Table" theme, and the event July 29 will feature a "Chef's Choice" theme to allow guests to learn more about who's behind the scenes.

The weekly brunch also includes live music and a children's buffet and activity to help families enjoy the experience. In addition, local vendors who support the event attend to provide guests with more information about their respective offerings.

"It feels like an upscale farmers market," White said. "It gives the local people the opportunity to see the things that are in your area."

The brunch buffet costs \$25 or \$34 for the buffet and bottomless brunch drinks. For children under 12, the kids brunch buffet is \$8.50. Prices do not include tax and gratuity, and 18 percent gratuity is added to parties of six or more.

Reservations can be made by calling (904) 280-3405 or by visiting www.opentable.com/vernons-restaurant?page=1.

Sustainable sourcing

Several of the ingredients used in the Sawgrass Marriott's new brunch are sourced directly from the resort's grounds, thanks in large part to the efforts of the hotel's new lead beekeeper, Matt Sanchez.

The first lead beekeeper ever appointed at Marriott International, Sanchez manages 13 active hives in a patch of woods behind the resort's spa and right before the villas. Only accessible by golf cart, the piece of land that houses the hives sits on a hill about 20 feet from the road. Once overgrown, the area is now cleared after two years of landscaping work and maintenance by Sanchez. Adjacent to the bee colonies, Sanchez also manages a garden of crops ranging from datil peppers to tomatoes to brussels sprouts.

"The bees and plants are two sides of the same coin," said Sanchez, who previously served as an omelet chef



Photo by Susan Griffin

Displayed is one of the recent plates served at the new Sunday brunch at Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa, which is held at Vernon's Restaurant and offers a different theme each week.



ABOVE: The brunch features a Kid's Corner so families can enjoy the experience together.

Photo by Susan Griffin

LEFT: Lead Beekeeper Matt Sanchez manages 13 bee hives, a garden of crops, chickens and quail at the Sawgrass Marriott. His efforts help the culinary team source several ingredients directly from the resort's property.

Photo by Jon Blauvelt

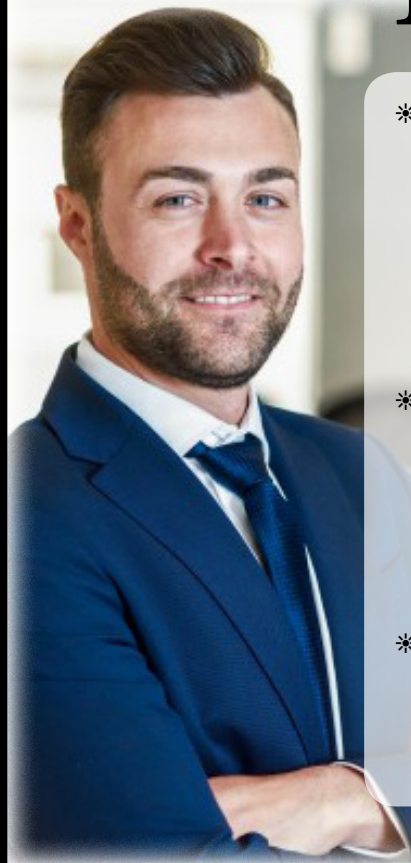
and officially assumed the beekeeper title in the spring. "They (the plants) feed the bees. The bees pollinate and live off the nectar. (They're) completely interconnected."

Both the honey from the bees and the crops from the garden are used in the brunch, as well as in many of the resort's other culinary offerings.

In the same general area, Sanchez also manages a

chicken coop and a quail run. The culinary team is not currently using their eggs, as the resort is awaiting necessary permitting and licensing to do so. But they're certainly part of the long-term plan and are now being used in different ways, Sanchez said.

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Elite Airways to offer service at Northeast Florida Regional Airport

Airline is connecting Mayo Clinic campuses with nonstop flights between Minnesota and St. Augustine

Elite Airways recently announced the launch of air service at the Northeast Florida Regional Airport for flights between Rochester, Minnesota and St. Augustine.

The new service route, which begins July 20, is designed to connect the Mayo Clinic headquarters in Rochester and the major campuses in Northeast Florida, with twice-weekly nonstop jet service.

“Elite Airways is pleased to start service in St. Augustine, one of the most historic and picturesque towns in Northeastern

Florida, with twice-weekly nonstop service to Rochester, Minnesota” said John Pearsall, president of Elite Airways. “Elite appreciates the value of flying to and from one’s hometown airport with fewer lines and wait times, and believes this route will be embraced by both business and leisure travelers, as well as Mayo Clinic staff, patients and families who wish to fly nonstop between these two prominent campus locations.”

Said Gianrico Farrugia, M.D., vice president of Mayo Clinic and CEO of Mayo

Clinic in Florida: “Mayo Clinic operates as one Mayo Clinic with three destination sites, so our staff often travel between Mayo locations in Jacksonville and Rochester, Minnesota. Direct flights provide an exciting new opportunity for Mayo Clinic staff to conveniently connect.”

Elite Airways is a full-service airline. It will operate a CRJ-700 jet on the route, seating 70 people in a two-by-two seating configuration. Elite Airways passengers receive free onboard snacks and beverages and a free first checked bag up to 50 pounds. There are no ticketing change fees.

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For fares and schedules, go to eliteairways.com, or call (877) 393-2510.



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

Matt Sanchez manages a garden of crops that are used across the resort’s culinary offerings.

Brunch

Continued from 29

“The chickens and quail dovetail with the bees,” Sanchez said. “When the bees fight certain parasites, I’ll give frames to the chickens. The chickens will clean the parasites off. There’s this entire chain.”

Sanchez also noted that the area is home

to a compost bed that regenerates the soil that is used to plant the crops. Other examples of the resort’s sustainable practices include a citrus grove by the spa, another garden by Alice & Pete’s and 11 hydroponic towers, among others.

“We’re on the cutting edge of a lot of stuff,” Sanchez said. “This is bigger than me. ... it’s a great feeling to be a part of something bigger.”

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Chamber's Leadership St. Johns Class completes program

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce's Leadership St. Johns (LSJ) Class of 2018 has completed its year-long program, graduating 27 participants from all sectors of industry, commerce and public service, the most in the program's history.

The graduates include: Michelle Adams, St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum; Janette Allen, Flagler College; Myrna Allen, St. Johns River State College; Carlos Aviles, St. Augustine Fire Department; Jeremiah Blocker, North Florida Lawyers, PLLC; Christopher Buttermore, Matthews Design Group, Inc.; Michael Dresback, St. Johns County School District; Debra East, Launchpad Consultants LLC/Blue Sky Life Coaching LLC; Alexius Ferguson, Children's Home Society; Donna Guzzo, Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach; Matthew Hartley, Gwanda, LLC; Stephen Hudson, Digital Mark Company, LLC; Bruce Jones, Vicar's Landing; Steven Ladrido, Coldwell Banker Premier Properties; Patricia Larkin, Early Learning Coalition of North Florida; Regina Mangus, Flagler Hospital; Lisa McGowan, VyStar Credit Union; Amy Miller, Carr, Riggs and Ingram, LLC; Samuel Morgart, Ameris Bank; Matthew Nelson, Advanced Disposal Services; Maria Sit, Northrop Grumman; Leslie Snyder, St. Augustine Youth Services; Matthew Stevens, St. Augustine Distillery Co.; Jackson Taylor, St. Johns County Sheriff's Office; Thomas Torretta,



Photo courtesy of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce

Members of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce's Leadership St. Johns (LSJ) Class of 2018 gather after graduating from the leadership development program.

St. Johns County Council on Aging; Janette Wagner, Capital City Bank; and Melissa Wissel, City of St. Augustine.

According to Bob Porter, the Chamber's LSJ program director, members of the class of 2018 will continue to be mentored by program alumni who maintain and promote a positive difference in the region.

"The program provides a way to recognize talented individuals who will benefit from the experience and who can utilize the opportunity to advance their organizational and personal professional goals," said Porter. "Additionally, strong connec-

tions established among class members are invaluable throughout one's career and beyond."

Isabelle Renault, the Chamber's president/CEO and a graduate of Leadership St. Johns and Leadership Florida, said involvement in LSJ can be a stepping stone to participating in nonprofit and volunteer government advisory boards as well as potential involvement in future elected office.

"We also want our class members to consider using the skills honed through the LSJ experience to engage actively in the governing of St. Johns County," she said.

The leadership development program was started in 2001 and has over 300 alumni including the former superintendent of schools and current Flagler College President Joseph Joyner, the current Superintendent of Schools Tim Forson, Flagler Hospital CEO Jason Barrett, local entrepreneur and St. Augustine Distillery founding partner Philip McDaniel, District 1 School Board Representative Beverly Slough and St. Augustine City Manager John Regan. The program was established to educate, connect and encourage elite and emerging professionals as they strive to make a positive impact on the local economy and community.

The Chamber will begin to accept applications for the new program year on July 22. The program runs from October through the following June. Class members need to be committed to meeting one day each month to experience a full day of policy briefings and onsite tours providing an in-depth overview of the challenges and opportunities faced by St. Johns County's many industries, government agencies and nonprofits. Class members who successfully graduate from the program are accepted into the ranks of leadership alumni in St. Johns County and across Florida, and many LSJ graduates have been accepted into the state-wide Leadership Florida program. For additional information and to register after July 22, visit sjchamber.com/LSJ.


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St. Johns Town Center adds five new retailers

St. Johns Town Center recently announced the addition of five new stores to its list of retail offerings, including UNTUCKit, Lilly Pulitzer, Thrive, Vans and Z Gallerie.

"We're thrilled to have such exciting announcements to share," St. Johns Town Center General Manager Valerie Beaubrun said. "A great way to start the summer, we continue to provide shoppers with exceptional retail additions that everyone will enjoy."

Recently-opened, direct-to-consumer apparel brand UNTUCKit is located across

from Maggiano's Little Italy in a 1,500 square-foot space. Providing sleek, yet casual clothing for any occasion, the online retailer turned brick-and-mortar specializes in button-downs that are specifically tailored to be left untucked and fall to the perfect length, available for both men and women. The brand was founded in 2012 to fill a hole in men's casual dressing by offering an untucked shirt that fit and looked good. UNTUCKit has expanded its product line to include sweaters, polos, jackets, sweatshirts, performance wear, tees, henleys and accessories.

Lilly Pulitzer, an iconic American resort wear brand, has had a temporary location open at St. Johns Town Center since March 1, but recently opened its 2,475 square-foot permanent store next to Kendra Scott. Lilly Pulitzer founded her lifestyle brand almost 60 years ago with the notion that life is best enjoyed in the sun. Her happy resort lifestyle inspired her to create a label known for bold color, breezy styles and beachy, day-to-night dressing.

Jacksonville's first Thrive also just opened at St. Johns Town Center. Located in a 1,600 square-foot store between The Vitamin Shoppe and LensCrafters, the IV Vitamin infusions and boosters address customer issues from well-being to recovery. IV therapies can cleanse the body of toxins and replace them with the ability to recover faster, feel healthier and look younger. Formulated by doctors and administered by nurses, Thrive can help Jacksonville residents kickstart their health.

The original action sports footwear company and a leading lifestyle brand for today's youth market, Vans recently opened in a 2,600 square-foot space across from Bath & Body Works. Offering men's and women's active performance footwear, apparel and accessories, the brand supports and promotes the action sports lifestyle


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St. Augustine Distillery supports affordable housing through partnership with Habitat for Humanity

At a recent dedication of Habitat for Humanity of St. Augustine/St Johns County's 138th home, the St. Augustine Distillery presented a sponsorship check in the amount of \$67,250.

The donation qualifies as a sponsor donation through the Community Contributions Tax Credit Program (CCTCP). As part of this program, the St. Augustine Distillery employees also donated over 200 hours constructing the home.

The 138th home constructed by Habitat volunteers was built in West St. Augustine for the Adcock family, a single mother and her son. Ms. Adcock works several jobs, including driving a bus for St. Johns County Schools.

Habitat homes constructed in St. Johns County, and in the state of Florida, qualify under CCTCP and can offer corporations a one-for-one return on investment in the form of tax credits that can be applied against Florida corporate income tax, insurance premium tax or as a refund against Florida sales tax (for businesses registered to collect and remit sales taxes). Under the program, the tax incentive often ends up



Photo courtesy of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce
St. Augustine Distillery General Manager Matt Stevens (second from right) presents Habitat board member Mark Nighbor (from left), potential homeowner Shalana Adcox, Habitat Executive Director Malinda Everson and Habitat board member Alex Mansur with a sponsorship check for \$67,250.

equivalent to the full amount of the home sponsorship donation. While Habitat utilizes grants and other funding sources, the main source of sustainable funding comes from the community, both individuals and businesses.

David Weekley Homes hosts school supplies drive benefiting Investing In Kids (INK!)

David Weekley Homes is hosting its fourth School Supplies Drive in cities across the country, and between July 1 and Aug. 3, the local community is invited to support children in need by donating new school supplies to Investing in Kids (INK!).

INK cultivates student and teacher achievement via funding, initiatives and other means of support throughout the St. Johns County School District. Since 1994, the organization has been providing the tools that children need for success so they may reach their full potential into adulthood. Donations can be dropped off at the Division Office/Design Center, located at 680 Crosswater Parkway in Ponte Vedra or at any David Weekley model home in the Jacksonville area.

David Weekley Homes strives to make a positive impact in the communities in which it builds through its CARE program. This is accomplished by joining together with team members, homeowners, vendors and community partners to volunteer with different organizations, and by The David Weekley Family Foundation donating more than \$100 million to a variety of organizations through the U.S. and abroad over the past 20 years.

Town Center

Continued from 32

through events such as the Vans Triple Crown of Surfing, the Vans Pool Party and the Vans Warped Tour. The store

will also carry child and infant sizing.

Additionally, Z Gallerie just opened in a 9,000 square-foot space across from Starbucks. From the exclusive to the unusual, Z Gallerie is the place to find an eclectic mix of fun and fashion. The unique lifestyle retailer specializes

in furnishings and accessories for the home and office and offers a wide selection of art, lighting, home textiles and culinary and decorative accessories.

For more information about St. Johns Town Center's retail offerings, visit www.StJohnsTownCenter.com.

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Birthday party idea: Find fun at area parks

A day at the park is one of the simplest and most cost-effective activities people can embrace as they look to celebrate an upcoming birthday.

Few things are better than a warm, beautiful day spent in the park, and there are many activities that outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy for a birthday celebration when visiting a local park.

■ **Hit the trails.** Many people visit parks to go hiking. You might find your park has a series of hiking trails right on the property. Pick up a park map and figure out in what direction you plan to set off.

■ **Take in the wildlife.** Parks are home to local wildlife, and those who want to catch a glimpse of that wildlife can head to the park in the early-morning hours when crowds should be light and things relatively quiet. Take inventory of the various

bird species you see, or watch for deer or scurrying chipmunks. Kids can have fun sketching park animals during the birthday celebration.

■ **Have a picnic.** Pack a lunch, a blanket, a birthday cake, presents and some sports equipment and head to the park for a picnic with family and friends.

■ **Hold an impromptu game.** Invite friends and family members to join you at the park and divide into two teams before playing a couple of innings of softball, volleyball or kickball.

■ **Experiment with geocaching.** Geocaching is a hobby in which individuals use latitude and longitude coordinates to pinpoint hidden caches. Inside boxes or containers, they may find clues to another cache or even some small trinkets. Geocaching can be an interesting



Photos courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

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Birthday party idea: Host an outdoor movie night

During the golden age of outdoor movie viewing, drive-in-movie theaters were a phenomenon, and over the last 40 years or so, the number of drive-in theaters has declined considerably.

However, that doesn't mean the concept is no longer viable, especially when planning your next birthday party. Outdoor movie enthusiasts can construct an outdoor theater in the comfort of their own backyards by considering the following:

■ When creating an outdoor viewing experience at home, don't forget to make food part of the birthday experience. A classic popcorn maker can keep freshly popped corn ready on demand. In addition, fire up the grill to ensure there are plenty of tasty items available.

■ Projectors enable viewers to display a movie on just about any large, unobscured surface. While a large, hanging sheet can be handy, any smooth surface in your home, such as a large expanse of wall, can

do the trick. Projectors now come in various sizes, and there are some pocket-sized varieties that can work with phones and other mobile devices.

■ Create multi-leveled viewing by setting up seating on an incline in the yard, if available. Otherwise, place lawn chairs toward the back and have viewers in the front sit on blankets or towels so they do not obscure the screen for viewers in the back.

■ Choose a family-friendly or kitschy movie to display for the birthday party. Delve into the classics of your movie library. Imagine seeing "Jaws" on a big screen once more or a cult-classic like "Ferris Bueller's Day Off."

■ Build in some intermission time when everyone can get up from their chairs or picnic blankets and mingle. Also, plan some pre- and post-viewing activities. Drive-in theaters were known to include some additional entertainment to boost attendance. Having a dance party or including some carnival-type games can make for a well-rounded and enjoyable birthday night.



Comedian, actor, writer Paul Reiser to perform at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall July 28

By Paris Moulden

After more than 30 years in show business and starring in numerous hit television shows and movies, actor, writer and comedian Paul Reiser will make his first visit to Ponte Vedra when he performs at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall on July 28.

Reiser, who starred in “Mad About You,” “My Two Dads,” “Beverly Hills Cop,” “Aliens” and countless other TV shows and movies, returned to stand-up a few years ago after a nearly 20-year hiatus, and said performing live again felt like a homecoming.

“I have taken a long break from doing stand-up,” Reiser said. “When ‘Mad About You’ started, which was 1992, I was busy with the show, so I didn’t get out and perform. And then the show was over in ’99 and I was more than happy to stay home. I was writing and stuff, but I wasn’t performing.”

“So, there was a long break,” he continued. “I had been meaning to get back out, but I was just waiting for the right moment, and I just jumped in. What I realized going back out there was it was this great feeling. It was sort of like getting together with old friends. I actually feel like the audiences

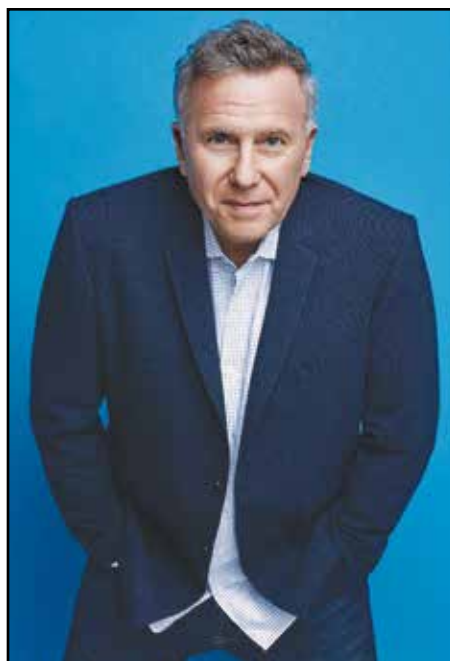


Photo courtesy Nicole Greene/Personal Publicity
Paul Reiser will perform at 8 p.m. July 28 at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall.

who come to see me, they know me.”

In the meantime, Reiser has stayed busy writing books and scripts, producing and acting, and has found a lot of success on the major streaming services, like Netflix, Hulu and Amazon Prime.

Reiser created, co-wrote and produced the TV series “There’s Johnny” for Hulu, which follows the story of a young man who gets a job with the “Tonight Show” with Johnny Carson in 1972. Reiser said the project was very special to him, not only because of his involvement behind the scenes, but because it also reminded him of a time when watching something on TV really meant something, because, back then, if you missed a show, you missed it.

“I kind of miss missing,” Reiser said. “You can’t miss anymore. With ‘There’s Johnny,’ which I was very proud of, it was about Johnny Carson in 1972, and as I was doing it, a couple of things struck me. In 1972, I was 15 or 16 and the highlight of my week would be staying up late on a school night to watch Johnny Carson when my favorite comedians were going to be on ... it struck me the commitment to what you watch and the dedication that you don’t have now because there’s no rush. You can watch anything anytime, anywhere. ... That’s why Johnny Carson was so unique. He was on for 30 years and he was in your living room and in your home in a way that nobody else is.”

REISER continues on Page 36

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Reggae group Iration and special guests Common Kings, Katastro and more will perform at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre Oct. 13.

Reggae group Iration and special guests to perform at St. Augustine Amphitheatre Oct. 13

The St. Augustine Amphitheatre will host alternative reggae group Iration and its “Press Play Fall Tour” featuring special guests Common Kings, Katastro and more to the stage on Saturday, Oct. 13.

Formed in Isla Vista, California, Iration is comprised of members Micah Pueschel (guitar/lead vocals), Adam Taylor (bass), Joseph Dickens (drums), Cayson Peterson (keyboard/synth) and Micah Brown (guitar/vocals). Most of the members of Iration met while growing up in Hawaii, but the band members reconnected in Santa Barbara, California circa 2004

— the exception being Micah Brown, a California native who officially joined the group in 2014. Iration has been touring nationally since 2008, performing at festivals nationwide from Lollapalooza to Sunfest and Hangout, closing stages at festivals like Bottlerock and Outside Lands.

Iration’s performance with Common Kings, Katastro and more starts at 7 p.m., with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. Tickets for the show can be purchased at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre and Ponte Vedra Concert Hall Box Offices, as well as at ticketmaster.com or by phone at (800) 745-3000.

Reiser

Continued from 35

Reiser also starred on a critically acclaimed series on Amazon Prime. “Red Oaks,” which ran from 2014-2017, was a coming-of-age story set in the 1980s surrounding a country club in New Jersey. In addition, Reiser was a regular character on season 2 of the hit Netflix series “Stranger Things.”

When it comes to wearing different hats as an actor, writer or producer, Reiser said he doesn’t really have a favorite.

“They’re all fun, and they’re all different,” Reiser said. “It’s fun to have people over to your house and sometimes it’s nice to go to somebody else’s house.”

But stand-up is in a place all its own, he said.

“The Third World is doing stand-up, which is simpler,” Reiser said. “There are fewer moving parts. You get on a plane, tell your jokes and go home. That’s very refreshing to me. Luckily, I’ve been able to do all of them. I’m writing things now and I’m doing these shows, and, in between them all, continuing to do stand-up which is my first love. And you never really get over your first love.”

Reiser’s return to stand-up has also given him the opportunity to meet people across the country, and to find out how much certain shows or films he’s been a

part of have resonated with them. Reiser does a meet-and-greet with fans after the show and has been surprised how often he’s been told about the impact of a particular episode of “Mad About You” or that a couple got married to the show’s theme song (which Reiser co-wrote and played piano for).

“It’s a very nice feeling, because you don’t know who’s out there or who is enjoying it, and then you get to meet up with the people and find out one way or another that they like what you did,” Reiser said. “That’s a pretty nice feeling.”

Reiser said fans familiar with his work as Jamie Buchman on “Mad About You,” or anyone who has read his three books — “Couplehood,” “Babyhood” and “Familyhood” — will be familiar with who they’re seeing on stage.

“I always say I made a character (Buchman) as much like me as possible, so I wouldn’t have to act too hard,” Reiser said. “It was because I’m lazy. So if anybody watched “Mad About You” or read my books, then they won’t be surprised.

“Nobody comes to my show and goes ‘whoa, that’s not what I was expecting.’ I’ve never had that.”

Reiser won’t say for sure what he’ll talk about in the July 28 show because sometimes he comes up with something on the fly, but he’s pretty clear on what the show won’t have.

“There will be no juggling, no sing-

ing or dancing, no animal acts,” he said. “And no politics.”

Reiser said he just looks forward to visiting new places, meeting new people and recapturing the allure of performing for live audiences.

“There aren’t many things that you can go back and replicate the same feeling that you had when you were 18,” he said. “But going back and doing stand-up was totally the same for me. It’s just as fun and exciting, and just as frustrating and elusive. Still figuring out why a joke works one minute and not the next. It’s still as intriguing a challenge as it was when I was 18.”

And while he may have played many types of characters on film, both comedic and dramatic, audiences can expect just one style at the live show.

“They didn’t come for a sad story, they came to laugh,” he said. “So hopefully, they’ll come, and they’ll go home laughing.”

And the audience isn’t the only one who leaves with something from the show.

“That’s the surprise bonus,” Reiser said. “It’s just fun to see actual human beings and shake their hands and hear their stories. And often, it’s surprising.”

Reiser will perform at 8 p.m. on Saturday, July 28. For more information, visit www.pvconcerthall.com or www.paulreiser.com. For tickets, go to www.1.ticketmaster.com/event/2200548CD793AE1B.

Florida Department of State seeks nominations for Florida Folk Heritage Awards

Florida Secretary of State Ken Detzner recently announced that the Florida Department of State is seeking nominations for the 2019 Florida Folk Heritage Awards — annual awards that recognize individuals who have made exemplary contributions to Florida’s traditional culture.

“Each year, the Florida Folk Heritage Awards seek to honor and recognize excellence in folk and traditional arts and the community impact of Florida’s tradition bearers,” Detzner said. “The Florida Folk Heritage Awards reaffirm our state’s unique cultural heritage by acknowledging distinguished Floridians for their skills and accomplishments in the traditional arts.”

Folklife includes a wide range of creative forms such as art, crafts, dance, language, music and ritual. These cultural traditions are transmitted by word of mouth and demonstration, and are shared within community, ethnic, occupational, religious and regional groups. Nominees should be individuals whose art or advocacy has embodied the best of traditional culture in their communities.

Nominations should describe the accomplishments and background of the nominee and explain why he or she deserves statewide recognition for preserving a significant facet of the state’s cultural heritage. Supporting materials such as photographs, slides, audio-visual samples and letters will assist the state’s Florida Folklife Council in evaluating nominees. Each nomination also requires at least two letters of support from community members, colleagues, peers, cultural specialists or any other individuals who can confirm the details of the nomination and attest to the nominee’s qualifications. Award recipients will be announced in January 2019.

Nominations must be postmarked no later than Oct. 1, 2018, and mailed to Florida Folklife Program, Bureau of Historic Preservation, 500 South Bronough St., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250. Nominations can also be emailed to folklife@dos.myflorida.com.

For more information about the Florida Folk Heritage Awards or the Florida Folklife Program, contact State Folklorist Amanda Hardeman at (850) 245-6427. For guidelines, award policies and previous winners, visit www.flheritage.com/preservation/florida-folklife-program/folk-heritage-awards.

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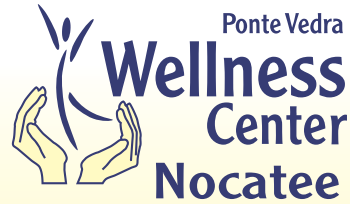
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