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PONTE VEDRA



Recorder

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Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

PonteVedraRecorder.com



Fit & Healthy

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Connections

Pages 13-28



Business Weekly featuring Who's Who in Law

Pages 29-34

DOWN BUT NOT OUT



MYTH:
All people with Down syndrome have a severe cognitive disability.

FACT:
Most people with Down syndrome have a mild to moderate cognitive delay or intellectual disability. This is not indicative of the many strengths and talents that each individual possesses.

TESORI FAMILY
FOUNDATION



The Tesori Family Foundation hosted a celebration in honor of World Down Syndrome Day last week.
Flip to page 4 for more.

Photos by Amber Lake

CAR OF THE WEEK



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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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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.

Two readers correctly identified last week's photo as the sign for Clean Ocean Surfboards. The winner of the random drawing is **Lee Anne Sluder**. Congratulations, Lee Anne — you may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during normal business hours.



ADOPT A PET



CAT OF THE WEEK

Linus is a 3-year-old, affectionate creamsicle who was brought to the Pet Center as a stray. Come visit him today at the Pet Center. #48886



DOG OF THE WEEK

Elvis is a sweet and shy, 4-year-old Treeing Walker Coonhound who came to the Pet Center as a stray. Come visit Elvis today at the Pet Center. #49215

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

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

M	A	G	I	T	S	P	L	A	G			
O	R	A	L	R	I	C	E	I	C	I	L	Y
M	A	U	L	E	L	A	N	C	R	E	A	M
B	R	U	S	S	E	L	S	I	O	N	S	
S	E	E	D	Y	D	N	A					
S	H	T	E	T	L	J	O	G	T	R	O	T
C	A	R	A	L	B	E	I	T	I	O	T	A
A	L	I	V	E	U	R	N	S	A	U	T	E
U	V	E	A	B	R	E	X	I	T	G	E	L
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8	1	4	3	5	7	9	2	6				
3	6	7	2	9	1	4	8	5				
5	9	2	8	4	6	1	3	7				
7	5	9	4	1	3	2	6	8				
6	4	3	7	2	8	5	1	9				
1	2	8	5	6	9	7	4	3				
9	3	1	6	7	4	8	5	2				
4	8	5	9	3	2	6	7	1				
2	7	6	1	8	5	3	9	4				

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

Discover something **NEW!**

AFRICAN FOREST

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The Perfect Beach Escape

Las Mirandas / Oceanfront Condo
 Located between The Lodge and the Cabana Beach Club, this second-story condo gives elevated views of the beach while maintaining the unit's privacy and security. Includes a large covered balcony and ground floor storage. **3 bedrooms & 3 bathrooms \$1,625,000**



Rare Waterfront Opportunity on Roscoe

3 purchasing options: Combine lots to create One of the last opportunities to have 150' frontage on the Intracoastal! **\$1,399,000.** Or this beautiful 150 x 400 lot can be divided into 2 -75' lots. **\$699,000 each.**



Furnished Coastal Cottage

With direct beach access and an open floor plan, this is the ideal vacation home or rental property. Features new roof, 2 new AC units, no HOA, and is being sold furnished. **5 bedrooms, 4 baths \$1,225,000**



Move-in Ready on Exceptional Lot

Located on one of the most extraordinary lots in all of The Plantation, this property recently underwent a makeover and is move-in ready. The beauty outside of the home is reflected throughout with stunning views of the pool, lake, and golf course creating the ideal space for indoor-outdoor living. **4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths \$950,000**

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World Down Syndrome Day celebrates an extra (special) chromosome

321 Love Your Neighbor event sheds stigma with help of Tesori Family Foundation and Church of Eleven22

By Amber Lake

Fact: The average life expectancy of a person with Down syndrome is nearly 60 years old. Some people with Down syndrome will live into their 80s. This is a huge increase from 1983, when the average life span of a person with Down syndrome was 25 years old.

Myths and misinformation were dispelled as one by one, community members stepped on stage at the Church of Eleven22 in Jacksonville on March 21 to present these facts about those living with Down syndrome during World Down Syndrome Day. The event not only dispelled common misconceptions but aimed at celebrating the often-misconstrued diagnosis of the third copy of the 21st chromosome. According to Michelle Tesori, co-founder of the Tesori Family Foundation, “Down Syndrome Day is a special day for us to formally celebrate what we have the pleasure of celebrating with our son every day — an extra chromosome!”

The second annual 321 Love Your Neighbor celebration included bouncy slides, activities and food trucks outside the Baymeadows location of the Church of Eleven22. The Tesori Family Foundation, a Ponte Vedra-based nonprofit organization devoted to helping families across Northeast Florida, hosted the event in addition to the church.

WJXT4 news anchor Nikki Kimbleton emceed the event, along with notable Downs syndrome speaker John Franklin “Frank” Stephens. Stephens is an advocate, actor, author and athlete with Down syndrome, who has spoken about the genetic disorder at Congress and has been invited to the White House — not once, but twice.

Stephens doesn’t only advocate for the rights of those with Down syndrome. He also presents his story as a mirror to children and parents of children with the condition to empower them to believe in a positive future. His success story of achievements reframes the dialogue about having a lifelong “disability” and what can be expected from someone with Down syndrome.

“When I come here, I know I advocate mostly to young parents and families,” Stephens said. “(I know) you’re wondering what life with Down syndrome has in store for you. I can answer that for you. It will be full of the ordinary and extraordinary. It will be filled with laughter and tears, but most of all, it will be filled with love. I know this because it has been my experience.”

Although a Down syndrome diagnosis still carries a stigma, there have been many recent improvements toward lifting the quality of life of individuals diagnosed. Organizations such as the Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville provide an array of services and job training initiatives to help those in the community achieve their potential. In anticipation of the Association’s 30th anniversary, it has grown from serving only a handful of families, to over 1,500 individuals and families with Down syndrome. The growth has resulted in the nonprofit’s recent relocation of its original Riverside office to Southside, where it can accommodate more onsite programming. This additional, new programming includes North Florida’s first employment training program tailored specifically to people with



ABOVE: Michelle Tesori speaks with her son, Isaiah, who has Down syndrome, at the 321 Love Your Neighbor event March 21 at The Church of Eleven22 in Jacksonville.



LEFT: Families enjoy the bouncy slide outside the Baymeadows location of The Church of Eleven22.

Down syndrome, who, according to a recent study from researchers at MassGeneral Hospital for Children (MGH-FC) and colleagues in the Netherlands, never stop learning and acquiring functional skills throughout their lives.

During Stephens’ presentation at the 321 Love Your Neighbor event, he spoke about his October 2017 congressional testimony. In front of Congress, Stephens advocated for allotting federal money to research that would help people with Down syndrome, rather than focusing on addressing the condition with prenatal testing that could result in selective abortions. He addressed the chairman and members of the committee with the introductory statement, “Whatever you learn today, please remember this: I am a man with Down syndrome and my life is worth living.”

By looking at his history of accomplishments, it safe to say that Stephens has indeed had a full life at only 37. He has acted in the award-winning film, “Touched by Grace,” as well guest-starred in the Emmy-winning TV show, “Born this Way.” In addition, Stephens won the 2016 Quincy Jones Exceptional Award from the Global Down Syndrome Foundation for his work addressing discrimination against those with Down syndrome. He regularly lectures at universities around the U.S, promoting his message of inclusion and acceptance in a diverse world.

Stephens credits much of his success to his parents, John and Cornelia Stephens, and his brother, Nick, for support-



John Franklin “Frank” Stephens addresses the audience for the World Down Syndrome Day 321 Love Your Neighbor event.

Photos by Amber Lake

Puppies and patriotism: A perfect pairing

K9s for Warriors is seeking 'puppy raisers' in area to help mission of serving veterans

By Paris Moulden

Do you want to be able to give some love to adorable puppies and help veterans at the same time?

K9s for Warriors, a nonprofit based in Ponte Vedra, is looking for "puppy raisers" to help expand its mission of pairing military veterans and service members suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury and/or military sexual trauma with a canine companion.

The Puppy Raisers program places puppies between the ages of 8 weeks to 12 months old in a home environment to ready the youngsters before they can begin more formal training at the K9s for Warriors facility.

"Acceptance is contingent on if we have enough raisers," said Brianna Bentov, public relations manager for K9s for Warriors. "We do get offered more (puppies) than what we can handle."

According to Ks for Warriors, puppy



Photo courtesy of K9s for Warriors

K9s for Warriors is looking for puppy raisers in the area to help get dogs ready to pair with veterans.

raisers must meet the following requirements:

- Must be at least 18 years old
- Must live within 50 miles of Camp K9 (114 Camp K9 Road, Ponte Vedra Beach)
- Must have regular access to a car
- Must attend monthly obedience classes with K9 trainers
- Must provide a safe environment for a puppy under 1 year of age
- Must teach the puppy manners and basic obedience
- Must provide the puppy with age-appropriate socialization opportunities, such as public outings
- Must supervise the puppy throughout the day
- Must agree to return the puppy upon request

PUPPIES continues on **Page 12**

PVHS students organize annual Teens Take a Stand fundraiser

March 30 event to benefit Betty Griffin Center, Hubbard House

The third annual Teens Take a Stand Benefit Concert will be held at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 30, at Ponte Vedra High School. Once again, the event will support the Betty Griffin Center in St. Johns County and Hubbard House serving Duval and Baker counties.

The benefit concert features a variety of acts — including performers from the Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, Bolles High School and Ponte Vedra High School. Catalina Alers-Alers from 97.9 Kiss FM will be the special guest emcee for the evening. There will also be a silent auction featuring local restaurants, a custom leather jacket, spa baskets, golf four-somes and much more. A survivor from the Betty Griffin Center will additionally

share her personal story of abuse.

Since its founding in 2016, Ponte Vedra High School's Teens Take a Stand club has donated over \$35,000 in combined contributions to the Hubbard House and the Betty Griffin Center, both of which provide services to survivors of domestic and/or sexual abuse. Teens Take a Stand is the only high school club in the Jacksonville area of its type.

This year's event is chaired by Ponte Vedra High School seniors Grace Freedman, Carissa Clough, Charlotte Moore and junior Chase Magnano, with many other club members actively involved to ensure a successful program.

Tickets are available online for a cost of \$10 for students and \$20 for adults and can be purchased at www.schoolpay.com/parent/mip/McRE. Donations are also appreciated and can be made online at www.schoolpay.com/pay/for/Teens-Take-A-Stand-Donations/SiNzeT?p=yes.



The "10 Top Kids of Kindness" from PVPV/Rawlings' "10 Small Steps of Kindness, One Giant Leap for K9s" program receive a certificate and a K9s for Warriors hat and keychain for their efforts.

Photo courtesy of Michelle Bettler

PVPV/Rawlings students raise money through acts of kindness to sponsor service dog at K9 for Warriors

The PVPV/Rawlings project, "10 Small Steps of Kindness, One Giant Leap for K9s," raised \$11,471 to sponsor a service dog at K9 for Warriors.

The school voted to name the service dog Rawly.

To accomplish this goal, students were asked to complete 10 acts of kindness and then reflect upon their favorite one. Staff then selected the "10 Top Kids of Kindness." Below are the acts that they performed:

- Kindergartener Vann bought dinner over to a neighbor who lost her husband this year. Vann enjoys doing things to make her neighbor smile.
- Kindergartener Mason kept an 80-year-old neighbor company who was lonely.
- First grader Harper's neighbors recently passed away from cancer. Harper has been going over to check on the neighbor's wife and delivering treats, drawings, hugs or anything to cheer her up. Harper's family will miss their neighbor forever, but they are happy to continue their friendship with his wife.
- Second grader Jake volunteered at the homeless shelter on Christmas.
- Third grader Jackson sat next to a

kid when the student had nobody to talk to.

■ Fourth grader Charlie organized a lemonade stand with his sister and his neighbor to raise money for Wolfson's Children's Hospital. They raised \$36, used the money to buy toys and dropped them off at Christmas.

■ Fifth grader Chase saw a turtle walking on the road, so he stopped and helped it cross.

■ Fifth grader Juliette and her brother and sister completed a beach cleanup and filled over three bags of trash.

■ Fifth grader Emma helps her older brother William, who has Down syndrome, with his school work.

■ Fifth grader Taylor volunteered serving at the homeless shelter on Christmas.

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Deb Chapin is a Ponte Vedra resident, member of the St. Johns County Recreation Advisory Board, founder of the PV Greenway Alliance and passionate supporter of cancer research and treatment.

Deb Chapin

Can you please briefly tell us about your background?

I grew up in New Canaan, Connecticut, a great place to live and near New York City. I come from a large family with seven siblings, many of whom live nearby. My father, Jim Allegro, and step-mom, Lesley, live in St. Augustine. He was a former Marine and corporate businessman who became an executive board member of ESPN in its early years and helped to build the company and grow its operations. He helped the team at ESPN establish the V Foundation for Cancer Research, and my younger sister is now on the board and founded the Wine Celebration raising over \$108 million for research to date. Our mother was lost to cancer and then a few years ago, we lost our oldest son to brain cancer, which has resulted in a few of my passionate endeavors.

I've been coming to St. Augustine since 1982 when we had a beach condo and my sister was studying at Flagler. My husband and I moved here permanently 25 years ago with young children, and it was a great place to raise a family. I worked primarily in business development for a private company for several years and I also had a small equestrian center here in Ponte Vedra. A few years ago, I joined the St. Johns County Recreation Advisory Board (RAB) to advocate for sports & recreation. My husband, Sandy, and son, Kevin, have a successful carpentry and remodeling business and my daughter, Becca, lives in Winter Park, Florida.

What's the story of the Jamie Chapin Classic Golf Tournament?

The event relaunched a few years ago when the new University of Florida (UF) lacrosse coach, Garrett Hanrahan, decided to select a cause for the team and became aware of Jamie and his legacy. Jamie, my son, was a UF grad who had been captain of the lacrosse team at UF and at Nease High School. He helped launch lacrosse locally, but he loved all sports — especially ice hockey. He was diagnosed with a Glioblastoma/Astrocytoma, a deadly brain cancer, after graduating from UF. Coach Hanrahan, along with Jamie's friends, inspired us to pick up where we left off and we began the annual golf event again.

We discovered the newly formed Immunotherapy Research Team at UF directed by Dr. Duane Mitchell. So, together we're working to host a special event to create awareness and help fund the research initiative.

When is the third annual event? What makes this year's event different?

We're hosting an evening event on Friday, May 17, with a presentation from Dr. Mitchell to raise awareness about UF and the ReMission Alliance — a collaboration of 12 top research centers in the United States and Canada under the direction of UF, including Duke, MD Anderson, Dana-Farber, UCSF and others. With the help of AI (artificial intelligence), they are going to change the trajectory of this devastating disease. Dr. Mitchell scored among the top at the recent Biden Cancer Summit and announced the Alliance in February 2019. They are looking to raise \$100 million to fast-track the trials and treatments.

It's about time there is a collaboration of sharing the tissue and the data! This is about the future of cancer treatment. We hope to raise funds and to create alignment of private entities and advocates that have the same goal — to support research. We can't turn our backs on this; quitting is not an option because cancer isn't going anywhere.

How can people help?

May 17 Dinner Gala

We have an amazing community of active, successful and generous people. We are seeking sponsors and participants. Info is available at www.CaribbeanMoonlightGala.com. The dinner event will host Dr. Mitchell from UF and hear about the new Alliance and its cutting-edge discoveries.

May 18 Golf Classic

The golf is a fun day hosted by UF Men's Lacrosse at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club Lagoon Course and sponsors will be hosted at the hospitality tent along the 11th Fairway. Registration is available at www.JamieChapinClassic.org.

Donations can be made to UF Foundation by contacting Jessica Maier via email at Jmai0001@shands.ufl.edu or by phone at (352) 265-7237



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

On another note, we understand you've worked to preserve greenspace in Ponte Vedra. How did you start PV Greenway Alliance Incorporated?

A team of grassroots advocates and I started on a mission to create some safe recreational, destination-based trails in Ponte Vedra and preserve some greenspace. It is now PVGA — a 501c3. We've identified areas that could possibly be used for a multi-use greenway. Over the last few years, much that had remained has been purchased and developed. We did a lot of outreach and inspired other groups to begin similar initiatives. We were accepted for assistance from RTCA National Park Services in 2016.

Today, PVGA is on the brink of our phase 1, which includes a small wharf in Palm Valley. From there, we will endeavor to design a multi-use path to Sawgrass Village and eventually connect to the schools. (We have five schools and a YMCA within two miles.) Our new Commissioner, Jeremiah Blocker, is helping to establish this as a priority in our area. We have recently been awarded a grant from DEP and UF and that will help with the cost of the wharf decking. A marine contractor is helping to build this to commemorate his family heritage so we'll hope to break ground soon! Community advocates can support us by liking us on Facebook @ PVGreenway and join our group of advocates.

Edited by Jon Blauvelt

John Franklin “Frank” Stephens poses with a fan during the World Down Syndrome Day 321 Love Your Neighbor event March 21 in Jacksonville.

Photo by Amber Lake



Down

Continued from 4

ing him. He urged the families at the 321 Love Your Neighbor celebration to do the same.

“Your kids are going to climb on your shoulders and do things we never even dreamed,” Stephens said. “This is what happens when you decide to follow joy not despair. Open your hearts to your children’s joy. Oh, and when you run across an occasional nonbeliever, who looks at your

child and frowns, or ones that say something like, ‘Bless your heart, that must be so hard,’ or the kid that says, ‘What’s wrong with your baby?’ Just tell them, ‘My little one has an extra chromosome — but don’t worry he is very accepting, he won’t hold it against you that you’re common.’”

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North Island at Marsh Landing

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Big Cypress - ICW
\$1,250,000

Incredible 4BR/4.5BA pool home on north end of Roscoe with no thru traffic and flanked by the Intracoastal Waterway and Cabbage Creek. Stunning Travertine floors and walls of glass to enjoy the ICW views. Perfect for entertaining with courtyard saltwater pool and spa, alfresco dining area and spacious guest house. Expansive Trex deck, dock and boathouse with lift. MLS 981112



Ponte Vedra Blvd
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Beautifully built and thoughtfully designed 5BR/4.5BA home across the Blvd from the ocean. Gleaming wood floors, lofty ceilings, deep moldings and open floor plan. Gorgeous kitchen with double ovens & gas cook top opens to gathering room with fireplace and french doors out to huge screened balcony overlooking sparkling pool, fire pit and wonderfully private yard. MLS 984651



Marsh Landing Country Club
\$1,835,000

Located on the most exquisite lot, this beautifully appointed 4BR/4.5BA home is designed to enhance its serene 1.75 acre setting among the Marsh & Cabbage Creek surrounded by resort like pool and spa, a pergola for outdoor dining, fire pit, lush gardens and meticulously landscaped yard. Climate controlled wine room, gym, media room, game room and 2 family rooms. MLS 984256

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Thursday, March 28	Friday, March 29	Saturday, March 30	Sunday, March 31
<p>Alzheimer's Support Group An Alzheimer's support group will meet on March 28 at Starling at Nocatee from 6 to 7:30 p.m.. For more information, contact Starling at Nocatee at (904) 596-0880. Starling at Nocatee is located at 999 Crosswater Pkwy. in Ponte Vedra.</p> <p>Savvy Job Hunters Ministry March workshop Learn how to effectively target and land the ideal job during two presentations by National Speaker, Author, Leadership and Management Trainer, and Entrepreneur Brad Raney on March 28. Learn the success factors that will help with searching for jobs. During the Advanced Networking Strategies presentation, learn successful job search techniques, such as using LinkedIn for networking, the power of connections, Networking vs Schmoozing and more. Bring resume copies for review. Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) Practitioner, Margaret McNaughton will be attending and offering the chance for all to take the MBTI assessment free of charge. The workshop is from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Christ Episcopal Church in the Parish Center conference room and is free of charge. To sign up, email Pam Ottesen at pottesen66@gmail.com. Christ Episcopal Church is located at 400 San Juan Dr. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Lunch & Learn: spinal decompression Suffering with disc issues in either the back or neck? Join on March 28 for the Lunch & Learn on spinal decompression at the offices in Ponte Vedra Beach. Spinal decompression is a non-surgical treatment proven to bring pain relief to those suffering with disc issues. Dr. Casey Means will discuss what conditions are best treated by decompression and how this therapy provides relief. A complimentary lunch will be provided at 11:30 a.m. and Dr. Means will start his presentation around 12 p.m. noon. For more information or to RSVP, call (904)273-2691 or email events@pontevedrawellnesscenter.com. The Ponte Vedra Wellness Center is located at 100 Corridor Road S. Suite 220 in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>Dinner with an Artist Dinner with an Artist, a quarterly artist talk and dining experience will be held on March 29 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Cultural Center's Scene Gallery. The dinner will feature two artists, Bobbi Mastrangelo and Master Artist Ellen Diamond, who's work is currently on display at the Cultural Center. Tickets are \$99 for members and \$125 for the general public. For more information, contact Jennifer Jordan at jjordan@ccpvb.org or (904) 280.0614 ext. 1202. The Cultural Center is located at 50 Executive Way in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Nickolas Butler at The BookMark Internationally bestselling author Nickolas Butler will appear at The BookMark on March 29 at 7 p.m. to present his new novel, "Little Faith." Nickolas Butler is the author of the novel "The Hearts of Men," the internationally bestselling and prizewinning novel "Shotgun Lovesongs," and the acclaimed short story collection "Beneath the Bonfire." For more information, contact The BookMark at (904) 241-9026. The Bookmark is located at 220 First Street in Neptune Beach.</p> <p>First Coast Card Club hosting Friday Night Live The First Coast Card Club will host its playing date at a St. Johns County hotel for Friday Night Live on March 29. Meet at 5 p.m. for seating and 6 p.m. to play. At 5:30 p.m., the event will begin with complimentary chef-inspired hors d'oeuvres and a mixologist's choice cocktail served until 6 p.m. Happy hour is from 5 to 7 p.m for additional beverages. Live music is from 6 to 8 p.m. The event is free to attend and RSVP is required. Contact the club organizer at (904) 829-0643 to RSVP, the hotel location or for more information.</p> <p>Casino Night at Starling There will be a Casino Night at the Starling at Nocatee on March 29 from 6 to 9 p.m.. For more information, contact Beth Littman at (904) 596-0880. Starling at Nocatee is located at 999 Crosswater Pkwy. in Ponte Vedra.</p>	<p>Open Days Garden tour The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens and the Garden Conservancy announce the launch of the Open Days Garden tour on Saturday, March 30. The tour will highlight four river-front gardens in San Marco, as well as the historic Cummer Gardens. All revenue will be shared between the Cummer Museum and the Garden Conservancy. Gardens will be open between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on March 30. Guests may visit each garden at their own pace on this self-directed tour. Day passes and maps will be available at the Cummer Museum and the Ward Room. Purchase tickets at the Cummer Museum. The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens is located at 829 Riverside Ave. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>St. Paul AME Church Family & Friends weekend St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church will host Family & Friends Weekend on Saturday and Sunday, March 30 and 31. All are welcome and encouraged to bring family and friends. The Family & Friends cookout starts Saturday at noon at St. Paul Park. with a concert following at the church at 6 p.m. On Sunday, join for the worship service starting at 10:45 a.m. For more information, contact St. Paul AME Church at (904) 829-3918. St. Paul AME Church is located at 85 ML King Ave. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Garage sale fundraiser for Save Guana Now There will be a large garage sale on March 30 for the Save Guana Now organization. A wide variety of quality items were donated for the cause, ranging from TVs to designer pillows, to gently worn shoes by designers like Prada. The sale will have art, toys, tools, collectibles, antiques, home decor, clothing and more. There will also be toys and activities for kids while the shopping gets done. Save Guana Now focuses on defending the 99 acres of preserved land, known as the Outpost, from undergoing construction and development. The home is on Guana Lake with a view of the Outpost property. The sale is from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.. The garage sale will be located at 1254 Neck Road in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>Sundays at Surfer the Bar Every Sunday, join Big Fish Power Yoga for a free Music & Flow class at Surfer the Bar. The class is held upstairs at the bar and runs from 10 to 11 a.m. every week. Bring friends and family and enjoy brunch and mimosas downstairs following class. Register under classes on bigfishpoweryoga.com. Surfer the Bar is located at 200 First St. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Comprehensive college planning seminar Worried about planning for college? Don't be! Learn how to prepare for the college application process and how to plan for the cost of college. with this seminar at the Marsh Landing Clubhouse on March 31 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.. Nancy Barnard of Educational Development Services, Inc. will share her strategies for mastering the SAT and ACT. Ian Aguilar, CFP®, MBA, of B&C Financial Advisors will illustrate how to not only save for college, but also how to save on the cost of college. Feel confident about college planning with this informative seminar. For questions or to RSVP, call (904) 273-9850 or email ian@bandcfinancial.com. Seating is limited. The Marsh Landing Clubhouse is located at 25655 Marsh Landing Pkwy. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>DogFest Jacksonville Join the fun at DogFest Jacksonville, a community-based walk and festival that brings dog lovers together for a cause. All funds raised benefit Canine Companions for Independence and their mission of matching assistance dogs with children, adults and veterans with disabilities, free of charge. These expertly trained assistance dogs make a profound impact through the jobs they do like opening doors, picking up dropped items, alerting to sounds and more. Spend the day at DogFest and celebrate these canine friends and heroes that bring joy to many lives. Everyone is invited to join for a day of festivities, inspiring speakers, dog demonstrations, music, food and more. Registration is free. DogFest is on March 31 at the Seawalk Pavilion from noon to 4 p.m.. For more information, visit www.cci.org/dogfest. The Seawalk Pavilion is located at 75 First St. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p>

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Monday, April 1	Tuesday, April 2	Wednesday, April 3	Thursday, April 4
<p>Trivia at Mellow Mushroom Join Mellow Mushroom every Monday night at 7 p.m. for trivia with Trivia Nation. This event is free to play and there are prizes for the winners. Mellow Mushroom is located at 1018-2 Third St. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Mosaic Mondays at Southern Swells Join Beach Life Mosaics at Southern Swells in Jacksonville Beach on April 1 for a night of mosaic fun with friends and family. Mosaic projects, instruction and supplies are included. Choose from over six dozen projects to make. Step-by-step instructions will be given to complete the project. There's a 10-person minimum and 25-person max per class. Ticket prices range from \$20 to \$89 (depending on project chosen), not including tax and processing fees. All are welcome to bring food to the event with beverages recommended for purchase at the Southern Swells brewery. The event runs from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Southern Swells is located at 1312 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Salsa variations at The Dance Shack Join The Dance Shack on April 1 for its daytime dance classes. Sneak in some exercise, meet new people and improve on dancing skills - all before rush hour. Salsa is fast-paced and requires some footwork with tons of dips and spins. There are multiple Latin nights in various Jacksonville clubs and restaurants almost every night of the week. Join in on these Latin nights with some freshly taught moves. These hour-long workshops for dancers of all levels will teach a different step each week. The class is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members and no appointment or partners are needed. Class is from 1 to 2 p.m.. The Dance Shack is located at 3837 Southside Blvd., Suite 1 in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Monday night yoga Join certified yoga instructor, Miranda Cunningham for her one hour yoga class on April 1 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at The Edge Rock Gym. Cunningham will teach an all-levels Vinyasa flow session for climbers and non-climbers alike to provide them with the confidence, education and alignment. The Edge Rock Gym is located at 3563 Philips Hwy. #702 in Jacksonville.</p>	<p>Florida Blue free Tuesday at the Cummer Each Tuesday evening from 4 to 9 p.m. enjoy free admission to the Cummer Museum and its historic gardens, thanks to the generous support of Florida Blue. Guests can enjoy free admission to the galleries each Tuesday evening and the Cummer Café is also open for Tapas Tuesday sponsored by VyStar Credit Union. The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens is located at 829 Riverside Ave. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Free quit smoking class Ever thought about quitting tobacco? Join for a free Quit Smoking Now class from the Northeast Florida Area Health Education Centers at the Flagler Hospital-Wellness Center. Classes meet once a week for six weeks starting on Tuesday, April 2 from 6 to 7 p.m. Free patches, lozenges and gum will be provided, along with a quit plan, workbook, water bottle, stress ball and more. For more information or to register, call Northeast Florida AHEC at (904) 482-0189. The Flagler Hospital-Wellness Center is located at 120 Health Park Blvd. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Business owners summit This business owners learning experience will take place on April 2 in the new NE Florida Builders Association (NEFBA) Headquarters auditorium from 8 a.m. to 1p.m. Learn to avoid the six often-made mistakes to make business stay successful and focused. Five qualified presenters will participate, each with a unique perspective on how to protect and advance a business. There is no cost and breakfast and lunch are both complimentary. Come prepared to learn and benefit from the summit. To register, learn about the speakers or more information, visit www.HubbardFinancialPlanners.com/Events/ or call (904) 399-8883. The NE Florida Builders Association headquarters is located at 6747 Southpoint Pkwy. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>First Coast Card Club playing date There is a First Coast Card Club playing date at a St. Augustine coffee shop on April 2 at 1 p.m. Contact the club organizer at (904) 829-0643 to join the club, RSVP and/or obtain location information.</p>	<p>Greenhouse Yoga Join Maggie's Herb Farm every Wednesday and Friday morning from 10 to 11:30 a.m. for a mindful Kripalu flow yoga practice in the greenhouse at Maggie's Herb Farm. Soothe body and mind in the fresh air, grounded on natural, river pebbles for a unique greenhouse yoga experience. Practice yoga surrounded by beautiful greenery, butterflies, herbs, hummingbirds and free-range chickens. Attendees are encouraged to bring their yoga mat, towel and water bottle. Pre-registration is not required. Maggie's Herb Farm is located at 11400 Country Road 13 N. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>First Wednesday Artwalk The First Wednesday Art Walk is a monthly event produced by Downtown Vision, Inc. (DVI), the Business Improvement District, to bring people to the cultural and historical center of the city and showcase Jacksonville's deep and energetic pool of creative talent. Open to visual and performing artists, Art Walk is on the first Wednesday of every month from 5 to 9 p.m., rain or shine in downtown Jacksonville, centering in Hemming Park. Explore Jacksonville's local art, talent and businesses and much more on April 3. For more information, contact Hemming Park at (904) 515-5098. Hemming Park is located at 135 W. Monroe St in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Caregiver support group The group will meet at The Palms at Ponte Vedra on April 3 at noon. This group encourages caregivers to maintain their own personal, physical and emotional health while optimally caring for a person with dementia. This group also provides a needed break from caregiving responsibilities. Support groups create a safe, confidential, supportive environment. They also educate and inform participants about dementia and help participants develop methods and skills to solve problems. The Palms is located at 405 Solana Rd. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p>	<p>Friends luncheon for the Family Opera Festival Friends of First Coast Opera and Global Island Treasures invite all to a three-course luncheon at Terra & Acqua in Sea Grove at 11:30 a.m. on April 4. Join for a fashion show by Donna Moody Gray of Global Island Treasures featuring her original pearl designs. All guests will receive a raffle ticket for gifts including wines from Tim's, located next door in Sea Grove. For questions and more information, call (904) 461-3561. For reservations, send checks for \$40 per person to Friends Of First Coast Opera to 138 Herons Nest Ln. in St Augustine, Florida, 32080. This fundraiser will help with operatic programs next season. Terra & Acqua is located at 134 Sea Grove Main St. in St. Augustine Beach.</p> <p>GAL Young Professionals happy hour Say cheers! The Young Professionals of the Guardian ad Litem (GAL) Foundation of Florida's First Coast, Inc. will host a Happy Hour on April 4 at Manifest Distilling. Happy Hour starts at 5:30 p.m. All proceeds benefit GAL. There will be lots of food and giveaways. The event is \$20. A little bit goes a long way for abused, abandoned and neglected children in the Fourth Judicial Circuit. Manifest Distilling is located at 960 E. Forsyth St. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Godspell at Christ Episcopal Church Christ Episcopal Church School of the Arts presents the Broadway classic rock musical Godspell. Performances are at Christ Episcopal Church Ponte Vedra Beach. Premier party and opening night is Thursday, April 4. Party starts at 6:30 p.m and showtime is at 7:30 p.m. with additional performances through the week. General Admission is \$20 and preferred seating is \$25. To purchase tickets or view showtimes, visit www.christepiscopalchurch.org. Christ Episcopal Church is located at 400 San Juan Dr. in Ponte Vedra Beach.</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 Daniela@opcfra.com or call (904) 686-3939.</p>

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Fit & Healthy



Kate Amato Foundation to host KATE KUP tennis tournament April 5-6 at Oak Bridge Club

Proceeds to benefit pediatric cancer research

By Daniela Toporek

On April 5 and 6, the Kate Amato Foundation will host the second annual KATE KUP Triples Tennis Tournament at the Oak Bridge Club at Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Money raised by the KATE KUP will benefit the Kate Amato Foundation's focus on cutting-edge pediatric cancer research projects around the country.

"Everyone is welcome," said Dr. Lisa Amato, co-founder of the foundation. "Bring beach chairs, follow and watch teams compete. We'll also have a kids zone, bounce house, face paint and students from Ponte Vedra High School who will work with kids on how to play."

During the tournament, players will dress

up in costumes, compete and rotate around the courts while spectators follow along with their favorite teams. Event attendees can also enjoy one of the many activities set up at the event, such as yoga sessions organized by Big Fish Yoga and retail therapy thanks to Lilly Pulitzer.

"The TacoLu food truck and local breweries will be setting up, along with a champagne tent," Amato added. "Hand & Stone will be there for free chair massages."

The VIP Kickoff Party will be held on Friday, April 5, the evening before the tournament, from 6 to 10 p.m. at 3 Palms Grille. The event will feature live music by The Band Be Easy. The KATE KUP is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 6. Admission is free and opportunities to donate will be available throughout the event.

The first KATE KUP Triples Tournament was hosted in 2018. Approximately 100 players



ABOVE: Jeff and Dr. Lisa Amato, co-founders of the Kate Amato Foundation and parents of Kate Amato, pose at a foundation event.



LEFT: Kate Amato radiates positivity with her inspirational tattoo and big smile.

Photos courtesy of Dr. Lisa Amato

AMATO continues on Page 11



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The colorful teams from last year's KATE KUP Tournament pose for a group shot.

Amato

Continued from 10

signed up and the foundation raised over \$50,000.

“The community response was fantastic,” Amato said. “Everyone had a good time and raised lots of funding. Enthusiasm has increased this year. There are over 100 players. The energy and excitement are unlike anything I’ve experienced before.”

STORY OF THE FOUNDATION

Kate Amato, a local Jacksonville Beach girl who died in November 2016 after a long battle with cancer, is the inspiration for the foundation.

Kate suffered from metastatic alveolar rhabdomyosarcoma, a lethal cancer that attacked the skeletal muscles. Knowing that only 4 percent of federal funding supports pediatric cancer, Dr. Lisa Amato and her husband, Jeff Amato, started the Kate Amato Foundation. They are determined to see an increase in funding for pediatric cancer research and a decrease in pain and suffering among children and families.

“Through her illness, we realized how little research there was,” Amato said. “I think people assume because we have such great national foundations, that it’s all being taken care of, that there’s enough money and there’s not.”

Pediatric cancers are also often ignored by pharmaceutical companies because they see the investment as a financial risk and the revenue does not outweigh the investment, Amato noted.

“It is the most excruciating pain imagin-

able,” Amato said referring to the loss of her daughter. “Through grief, we knew that we were going to do something. We learned too much to turn our backs. We felt responsible that we had to do something with this information. Educate, fundraise and advocate for change.”

The Kate Amato Foundation is making a difference with its three current research projects at UCLA, Baylor University and the University of Colorado. Each project was carefully selected by the foundation’s scientific advisory board, which includes pediatric oncologists from around the country.

“We give money directly to scientists doing the work,” Amato said. “We are directly having an impact on advancing science.”

The Kate Amato foundation awarded \$100,000 to these projects in its first year alone. And as Amato pauses and reflects on her family’s journey, there is no doubt in the world that she is stopping there.

“It’s a lot of mixed emotions,” Amato said about the efforts of the foundation. “It fills my determination. It energizes us. I imagine that what it means is one day some child may have a better option at a better life. It’s important that Jeff and I say how grateful our family is to the love and support throughout Kate’s illness and as we’re building the foundation. It’s humbling, inspiring and we’re very thankful.

“I think it brings me more of a sense of peace than anything,” Amato added. “If we could spare family pain and suffering and could give a child life. We couldn’t do it with Kate, but we might be able to do that for somebody else.”



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OBITUARIES

Eloise Dey Collins Lockhart

Eloise Dey Collins Lockhart was born January 26, 1929 in Charlotte, N.C. and died March 20, 2019 in Jacksonville, Florida.

She was predeceased by her parents Eloise Dey Doxey Collins and Charles Raymond Collins of Charlotte, NC and her brother Charles Raymond Collins Jr. of Virgin, Utah. She is survived by her daughter Eloise "Bunny" Lockhart-Sample, her granddaughter Ashley Rutland (Taylor) of New Orleans, Louisiana, her great grandchildren Beckett Rutland, Emma Rutland and Avery Kate Rutland of New Orleans, Louisiana, nephews Charles Raymond Collins III (Oriana) of Montclair, Virginia, John Collins (Terry) of Powell, Wyoming, and many great nieces, nephews and cousins.

Eloise attended National Cathedral School and graduated from Holton Arms School in Washington, D.C. She studied art in New York City at Columbia University and The National Academy of Design School. Eloise enjoyed her time studying under Maximilian Rasko of Hungary in New York City. She moved to Jacksonville in the early 1960's and later moved to the beaches. She was a member of the Ponte Vedra Chapter of the NSDAR, Junior League of Jacksonville and the Jacksonville Rose Society.

A memorial service was held at Christ Episcopal Church, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL Monday, March 25, 2019 at 10:30AM. Interment was held at Forest Lawn Cemetery Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 11:30AM in Charlotte, North Carolina. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, www.alz.org.

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

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Larry Weisman

Larry Weisman, 55, passed away on March 16, 2019 in Jacksonville, Florida surrounded by his family and lifelong friends.



Larry Weisman

Larry was born December 6, 1963 in Brooklyn, New York, to Rose and George Weisman.

In 1985, Larry graduated from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University with a degree in Aeronautical Engineering. He went to work for McDonnell Douglas in Long Beach, California where at a 76 Station, in a fated meeting true to his love of cars, he met Stephanie Weisman, his wife of 33 years.

Larry and Stephanie moved to Ponte Vedra, Florida where Larry began his career as a Financial Advisor. He served his community as a trusted advisor for 22 years and recently earned the title of Senior Vice President Investment Officer.

Larry is survived by his wife, Stephanie; children, Jake, Lauren, and Sarah; beloved pets, Ella Oprah, Kiki Dee, Tiny, and Mr. B.; parents, Rose and George; and brother, Steven.

A celebration of Larry's life will be held on April 6th from 3-7pm at Art N' Motion, located at 283 San Marco Ave, St. Augustine, FL 32084.

Larry's family asks you to consider making a donation to Baptist MD Anderson's Glioblastoma Research Fund by mailing a check to Baptist Health Foundation at 841 Prudential Drive, Suite 1300, Jacksonville, Florida 32207 with "Donation on behalf of Larry Weisman" in the memo. You can also donate at endcancerjax.com by entering "Donation on behalf of Larry Weisman" in the comment/memo box.

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

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Rosemary Elizabeth "Betty" Braden

Rosemary Elizabeth "Betty" Braden, 101, died March 21, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery - (904) 285-1130 - www.pontevedravalle.com

Glenn Hugh Conner

Glenn Hugh Conner, 85, of Jacksonville, died on March 17, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

WHY I SERVE

Featuring Wounded Warrior Project

Charlamain Caycedo

In this edition of Why I Serve, featuring Wounded Warrior Project, the Recorder sat down with St. Augustine resident Charlamain Caycedo, a Navy veteran of four years who served in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and the Persian Gulf.

After you enlisted in the Navy at 17, what would you tell someone at a similar age who is about to embark on a similar experience?

Go for it. Don't be afraid of anything. I've actually helped two women in my life enlist into the Navy. One currently is serving as a corpsman, and she just graduated. We have such a short life, and the military, though it has a lot of hardships, has a lot of benefits, and you see the world. You are put in situations that you never believe that you're in. And if it's hard, it's worth it, typically.

What does Wounded Warrior Project mean to you?

We were introduced very briefly in California to Wounded Warrior Project. It wasn't until we moved here that we really got to see what Wounded Warrior Project does. They have really just opened our eyes to our fellow brothers and sisters. The community and the network are



lifechanging. As a military family that goes through the trials and tribulations, to be connected to those individuals who have also done that really means a lot.

To watch the entire video interview, visit pontevedrarecorder.com and

A special series featuring



www.woundedwarriorproject.org

Puppies

Continued from 5

Bentov said a lot of the puppies are donated from breeders and are usually between 8 to 12 weeks old. The puppy usually remains with the puppy raiser from 2 to 8 months (depending on its age) before going to the K9s for Warriors onsite location for formal training, and eventually, being partnered with a warrior.

Puppy raisers are given a training manual and provided everything needed, including food, leash, crate and veterinary care, to help the puppy prepare for its important, future role.

Bentov said she understands it can be a difficult situation for a puppy raiser knowing the puppy they fell in love

with will have to be returned, but the nonprofit tries to make the transition as smooth and welcoming as possible. Puppy raisers are invited to graduations to see their puppy and meet the warrior it's paired with, as well as recognized at the event for the job they did.

"They understand they're helping to save a veteran's life," Bentov said.

According to Bentov, the number of requests to be a puppy raiser is increasing, and about half of those who apply are approved. But, she said, there are plenty of opportunities — and puppies — available for those who qualify.

"It's hard to turn puppies away," she said. "Especially when it's going to something so important."

For more information or to fill out an application, visit www.k9sforwarriors.org/puppy-raisers

NOCATEE EVENTS: KEEP IN MIND THE FOLLOWING EVENTS TAKING PLACE IN NOCATEE OVER THE NEXT WEEK

Food Truck Friday

Friday, March 29, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Swim Club Green

Some of Jacksonville's favorite food trucks will gather at Splash Waterpark to serve members of the community local, gourmet food and snacks. This event will feature live music by Barona Band Duo. Drinks will be available for purchase at the bar, including select craft beers and wines. There will also be a Kidzone with bounce house inflatables (weather permitting).

Pre-teen Pizza Party

Saturday, March 30, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Nocatee Basketball Courts

Nocatee pre-teens are invited to hang out with friends at Nocatee's Pre-teen Pizza Party. This event will feature pizza and games, and is for pre-teens who are enrolled in sixth, seventh and eighth grade for the 2018-2019 school year. Residents are allowed to bring one non-resident guest. Email fun@nocatee.com to RSVP.

Family Bingo

Thursday, April 4 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Blue Water Bar and Grill

Bring the kids out for a night of family fun at Family Bingo Night. This free family event will include Bingo and a variety of other board games. Bingo will begin at 6:15 p.m. Blue Water Bar will be serving select beer, wine and mixed drinks. Email fun@nocatee.com to RSVP.



ST. JOHNS COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Ponte Vedra Beach Division

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Ponte Vedra
Recorder

March 2019

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Isabelle Renault
President/CEO
St. Johns County
Chamber of Commerce

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO

Spring has literally and visually sprung, and we are enjoying the nice weather! We joined our many visitors at THE PLAYERS Championship golf tournament earlier this month — the course was beautiful! Jared Rice, executive director of the tournament, recently shared that 60 percent of tickets sold were purchased outside of our area — what a showcase for St. Johns County!

Your St. Johns County Chamber staff and volunteer leaders have been kept busy with numerous ribbon cuttings, events and advocacy efforts. We had a successful Economic Development Council Breakfast on Jan. 25 at World Golf Village, and Jeff Sheffield, executive director of North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), shared an overview of transportation changes ahead for our county. His presentation is posted on our website at www.sjcchamber.com/edc-quarterly-breakfasts

I hope you can all join us at our next Economic Development Council Breakfast on April 26 at World Golf Village. Jason Barrett, president and CEO of Flagler Health + (note the new name of the former Flagler Hospital) will be highlighting changes ahead for this expanding organization and industry. Flagler has already announced its expansions into Murabella and Nocatee. Registration is open for this event at www.sjcchamber.com/events/details/economic-development-breakfasts-2018-2019-177.

And, of course, don't miss the many events coordinated by the Chamber's Ponte Vedra Beach Division staff, Toni Boudreaux-Godwin and Lucia Miller, and sponsored by Chamber members in the Ponte Vedra area. I am especially looking forward to the State of the Beaches Joint luncheon on April 11 at the Sawgrass Beach Club. I am so proud of our collaboration with JAX Chamber and its Beaches Division. The After Hours at THE PLAYERS on March 7 was immensely successful and a great example of that partnership!

Speaking of Toni Boudreaux-Godwin, please join me in congratulating her on being chosen as a member of St. Augustine Record's inaugural class of "40 Under 40." I am so proud of her fine efforts leading the Ponte Vedra Beach Division and look forward to honoring her at the March 28 Celebration lunch. Please join me — more information can be found at www.gateouselive.com. Part of her success story is the amazing coordination of the Annual Ponte Vedra Auto Show. Mark your calendar for Sunday, Sept. 15 and visit the new website at www.PVAutoShow.com.

Our brilliant weather reminds me that hurricane season will be here soon. It is important and necessary to take precautions and preparations. Please take advantage of our local resources such as the St. Johns County Government Preparation Guide (www.sjcemergencymanagement.com) and FloridaDisaster.biz.

We want to provide you with the tips and tools that you need to be resilient and prepared.

Stay involved in the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce. We have lots of information on our website at www.sjcchamber.com. You can also call us or visit us. Our Ponte Vedra Beach office is at 200 Solana Road; the phone number for the office is (904) 285-2004. Our St. Augustine office is at 1 News Place in St. Augustine; our number there is (904) 829-5681. We continue to deliver continuous value-added service to our members and the community, resulting in a business environment and quality of life where existing businesses prosper, and new companies find it attractive to locate in St. Johns County. The Chamber strengthens business credibility, improves business visibility, amplifies business advocacy and drives prosperity in the community.



'ChamberU' provides members with relevant, convenient business education

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce has partnered with Chamber member Lani Carrow, CEO of Work Life Connection, to offer an exclusive, online training program for management and development called "ChamberU."

In the first webinar, episode 1, "Determining Your Management Style," Carrow discusses personal preferences and listening behaviors using the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI). The MBTI is an introspective self-report questionnaire indicating differing psychological learning and communicating preferences.

According to the Myers & Briggs Foundation, the purpose of the MBTI personality inventory is to make the theory of psychological types described by psychiatrist C. G. Jung understandable and useful in people's lives. The essence of the theory, per the foundation, is that much seemingly random variation in the behavior is actually quite orderly and consistent, due to basic differences in the ways individuals prefer to use their perception and judgment.

Carrow has created a "quickie" version to conveniently be taken online. This exercise helps managers understand the

perception of staff and staff to understand management preferences.

Throughout her career, Carrow has participated in the growth of employee development from its inception as a continuous improvement HR activity to its current status as a proactive business partner, actualizing effective organizational performance. Her background spans the retail, insurance, education, entertainment, pharmaceutical, healthcare and banking industries.

Find out more about the benefits offered with Chamber membership, such as Cham-



Lani Carrow

berU, by contacting Erin Johnson, sales and marketing manager, at (904) 687-2057, or by email at erin.johnson@sjcchamber.com.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Toni Boudreaux-Godwin
 Director PVB Division,
 St. Johns County
 Chamber of Commerce

It's a beautiful time of year here in Ponte Vedra Beach. We just wrapped up a phenomenal week of golf during TPC week. March proved to be a great move allowing for cooler temperatures and challenging greens for our star-studded tournament. After a tremendous round on Sunday, Rory McIlroy can now add his name to the list of champions of THE PLAYERS.

As we turn our attention to enjoying the season, we invite you to get out and take in all that our beautiful beach community has to offer before the temperatures go up. School will be out in a few months and summer will be here before you know it.

The St. Johns County Chamber PVB Division has a few upcoming events that we want to make sure you have on your calendar. Join us April 11 for our Annual

State of the Beaches luncheon with JAX Chamber, where leaders representing the four Beaches cities will update attendees on current projects and provide an overview of what to expect in the New Year. Keynote speakers will include: District 4 Commissioner Jeremiah Blocker, Ponte Vedra Beach; Mayor Elaine Brown, Neptune Beach; Mayor Charlie Latham, Jacksonville Beach; and Mayor Ellen Glasser, Atlantic Beach.

May always marks the time of the year when we take time to recognize you — our members during our Membership Appreciation Awards. These outstanding members go above and beyond to make our community a great place to live, work and play! The event is always a fun opportunity where we take the time to award outstanding members for their

commitment to the Chamber with awards such as the Rookie of the Year Award and the Crushing It Award. The date is May 29 — we hope to see you there!

We invite you to get involved with us at the PVB Division during one of our monthly events. With each event we offer the opportunity to not only attend and network but to add value to your organization by sponsoring. We offer a range of multi-level sponsors that allow for a greater impact for your business. The staff at the Division is here to help you get the most out of your membership. We have something for everyone and are excited to be bringing you more opportunities than ever to connect and maximize the benefits of being a Chamber member. We look forward to seeing you out and about!

UPCOMING PONTE VEDRA BEACH DIVISION EVENTS

APRIL

Chamber Before Hours

Date: Wednesday, April 3, 2019

Time: 8 to 9 a.m.

Location/Sponsor: Ponte Vedra Wellness Center - Nocatee
 205 Markside Ave., Suite 200, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32081

PVB Division Joint Luncheon w/ Jax Chamber Beaches Division: Beaches State of our Cities

Date: Thursday, April 11, 2019

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Location: Sawgrass Beach Club
 9797 Summer Place, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Info: City government impacts the lives of local businesses daily. Join us for the 2019 State of our Cities Luncheon, where leaders representing the four Beaches cities will update attendees on current projects and provide an overview of what to expect in the new year.

Keynote Speakers:

District 4 Commissioner Jeremiah Blocker, Ponte Vedra Beach
 Mayor Elaine Brown, Neptune Beach
 Mayor Charlie Latham, Jacksonville Beach
 Mayor Ellen Glasser, Atlantic Beach

Sponsor: Fields Auto Group

Chamber After Hours

Date: Wednesday, April 17, 2019

Time: 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Location/Sponsor: Arthur Rutenberg Homes/Marcus Allen Homes, Inc
 181 Sea Glass Way, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Info: Join us at a stunning home by Arthur Rutenberg Homes/Marcus Allen Homes, Inc. Network among members and guests! The host will provide beverages, delicious bites, fun and entertainment.

MAY

Chamber Before Hours

Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2018

Time: 8 to 9 a.m.

Location/Sponsor: North Guana Outpost
 4415 Mickler Road, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Chamber at Noon

Date: Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Ruth's Chris Steak House
 814 A1A, N Suite 103, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Speaker: Dr. Joseph G. Joyner, president of Flagler College

Sponsor: Fields Auto Group

PVB Division Member Appreciation Awards

Date: Wednesday, May 29, 2019

Time: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Location: Sawgrass Beach Club
 9797 Summer Place, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL, 32082

Info: The PVB Division once again returns to recognize you, our members! Join us for one of our most popular signature events, the annual Membership Appreciation Awards. Enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres, beverages and live music oceanfront at the Sawgrass Beach Club. It will be a beautiful evening recognizing outstanding members going above and beyond to make our community a great place to live work and play!

Sponsor: Sawgrass Country Club

JUNE

Chamber Before Hours

Date: Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Time: 8 to 9 a.m.

Location: Trasca & Co Eatery
 155 Tourside Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Sponsor: Spherion Staffing

Chamber at Noon

Date: Wednesday, June 12, 2019

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse
 110 Championship Way, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Speaker: Pat McManamon, founder and president of Sandler Training Jacksonville

Sponsor: Fields Auto Group

Chamber After Hours

Date: Wednesday, June 19, 2019

Time: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Location/Sponsor: Iberia Bank
 250 A1A, North Suite 300, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082



Matt Price

Matt Price named PVBD Ambassador of the Quarter

Matt Price was recently recognized as the Ponte Vedra Beach Division's (PVBD) Ambassador of the Quarter.

Price is currently the vice president of commercial banking for Regions Bank. He also serves as chair for the PVBD Ambassadors for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

He was hired by Regions in 2006 and has built his career successfully for 16 years. Price was previously vice president for the Division's Ambassadors and also recognized as Ambassador of the Year in 2017.

Price and his family are residents of Ponte Vedra Beach and are avid tennis players. He was born and raised in Albany, Georgia, and graduated from Georgia Southern University.

For more information and to register, visit www.sjcchamber.com, or call the Ponte Vedra Beach Division office at (904) 285-2004.



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For more information about these works, the artists, or other works, contact Bob Nickerson at First Coast Artists at 904.280.8187.



Coming up ...

The remainder of Connections will look back on Ponte Vedra Beach Division events that have taken place since the beginning of the new year.

From "Before Hours" and "After Hours" events to "Chamber at Noon" luncheons, the Recorder will help Chamber members and friends alike reminisce about what has been a busy and exciting last few months.

This section also includes summaries of special Chamber events, including After Hours at THE PLAYERS, and a few ribbon-cutting ceremonies. Enjoy the ride!

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Photos by Susan Griffin

Trasca & Co. Eatery General Manager Karina Coryell and Owner Sara Frasca gather with Trudy Toche of Positively Profiling at a Chamber "Before Hours" event on Jan. 9.

Trudy Toche with Positively Profiling hosts Chamber 'Before Hours' at Trasca & Co. Eatery

Trudy Toche with Positively Profiling hosted/sponsored a "Before Hours" event for the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, Jan. 9.

Held at Trasca & Co. Eatery, the event allowed attendees to network and enjoy breakfast before work.

More photos from the event, Page 18

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However, for any day during that 12 month period that the daily account balance is less than the \$25,000 minimum, the Special Rate will not apply, and the interest rate will revert to the standard interest rate applicable to your Platinum Savings account. As of 02/15/2019, the standard interest rate and APY for a Platinum Savings account in AR, CT, DC, FL, GA, MD, MS, NC, NJ, NY, SC, TX and VA with an account balance of \$0.01 and above is 0.05% (0.05% APY). Each tier shown reflects the current minimum daily collected balance required to obtain the applicable APY. Interest is compounded daily and paid monthly. The amount of interest earned is based on the daily collected balances in the account. Upon the expiration of the 12 month promotional period, standard interest rates apply. Minimum to open a Platinum Savings account is \$25. A monthly service fee of \$12 applies in any month the account falls below a \$3,500 minimum daily balance. Fees may reduce earnings. Interest rates are variable and subject to change without notice. Wells Fargo may limit the amount you deposit to a Platinum Savings account to an aggregate of \$1 million. Offer not available to Private Banking or Wealth customers. 2. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is effective for accounts opened between 03/25/2019 to 05/31/2019. The 11-month New Dollar CD special requires a minimum of \$25,000 brought to Wells Fargo from sources outside of Wells Fargo Bank N.A., or its affiliates to earn the advertised APY. Public Funds and Wholesale accounts are not eligible for this offer. APY assumes interest remains on deposit until maturity. Interest is compounded daily. Payment of interest on CDs is based on term: For terms less than 12 months (365 days), interest may be paid monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or at maturity (the end of the term). For terms of 12 months or more, interest may be paid monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually. 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For bonus interest rates on time accounts, this change will occur upon renewal. If the Portfolio by Wells Fargo relationship is terminated, the remaining unlinked Wells Fargo Portfolio Checking or Wells Fargo Prime Checking account will be converted to another checking product or closed.

THE PLAYERS Championship executive director provides updates on tournament at Chamber luncheon



Jen Hendrich, Lucia Miller, Jackie Smith, Lori Adams and Rice gather at the luncheon.

The change in date from May to March, parking and ridesharing, a new entrance into the tournament and a campaign to invest in the tournament's equity colors, were among the topics discussed by THE PLAYERS Championship Executive Director Jared Rice at a Chamber of Commerce luncheon on Jan. 10.

Held at Sawgrass Country Club in Ponte Vedra Beach, the event was a joint luncheon hosted by the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce and the Beaches Division of the JAX Chamber. Rice served as the keynote speaker and provided a few updates on the tournament, which took place March 14-17.



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

THE PLAYERS Championship Executive Director Jared Rice addresses attendees of a joint Chamber luncheon on Jan. 10 at Sawgrass Country Club.

MORE FROM 'BEFORE HOURS' AT TRASCA & CO. EATERY



ABOVE: Trudy Toche addresses attendees of the "Before Hours" event Jan. 9.

RIGHT: Trasca & Co. Eatery general manager Karina Coryell and owner Sara Frasca talk with event guests.

Photos by Susan Griffin



Jennifer Thomas and Jen Hendrich



Food at the "Before Hours" event



Photos by Susan Griffin

Standfast Asset Management President and CEO Scott Grant addresses attendees of the Chamber "After Hours" event held at his office on Jan. 30.

Standfast Asset Management hosts Chamber 'After Hours'

Standfast Asset Management hosted an "After Hours" event for the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on Jan. 30.

Hosted at the business' office at 100 Executive Way (Suite 114) in Ponte Vedra Beach, attendees enjoyed networking, beverages and hors d'oeuvres. Catering was provided by Savour Sensations.



Lori Adams and Kim O'Steen



Barb Savage and Greg Wolff



Catering and wine by Savour Sensations

OYBC HOSTS CHAMBER REPRESENTATIVES FOR RIBBON CUTTING



Photo by Susan Griffin

Optimal You Brain Centers (OYBC) participates in a ribbon-cutting ceremony with representatives from the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on Jan. 24. OYBC, which opened its office in the later part of 2018, provides a full suite of chiropractic services, including adjustments, pain management, massage therapy and neuroplasticity exercises.



LEFT: Chamber Ponte Vedra Beach Division Director Toni Boudreaux-Godwin and Sawgrass Country Club Director of Membership Services Janet Collins stand in front of the rendering for the new Sawgrass Country Club clubhouse, which is projected to be complete in late fall 2020.

BELOW: Jenny McKeithen, Alexandra Rivera and Jackie Smith gather at the "Before Hours" event.

Photos courtesy of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce

Sawgrass Beach Club hosts Chamber 'Before Hours'

The Sawgrass Beach Club hosted a "Before Hours" event for the Ponte Vedra Beach (PVB) Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, Feb. 6. Attendees enjoyed the opportunity to network and eat a little breakfast before heading into work.



Barb Savage of First Atlantic Bank speaks at the "Chamber at Noon" event.

'Chamber at Noon' event features discussion on storytelling in the business world

The Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce hosted marketing guru Jay Owen at its "Chamber at Noon" event on Feb. 20 at the Sawgrass Beach Club.

Owen, the founder and CEO of Design Extensions and a graduate of Nease High School, shared tips on storytelling in the business world and how to tell stories the right way to promote a brand and build customer loyalty.

Visit designextensions.com for more information on Owen and Design Extensions.



David Godwin and Gloria Dongara



Barb Savage and Dr. Erika Hamer



ABOVE: Jay Owen, the founder and CEO of Design Extensions and a Nease graduate, addresses attendees of the "Chamber at Noon" event on Feb. 20 at the Sawgrass Beach Club.



LEFT: Ashley Folladori and Rob Schlingmann

Photos by Susan Griffin

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This Plantation home features 3BD, 3.5 BA and almost 3,700 sq.ft. The private outdoor living spaces include a large screened pool and lanai with lagoon views! **MLS#977757 / \$735,000**

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Custom-built North Island masterpiece in Marsh Landing offers 5 BD, 6 BA & over 6,000 sq. ft. You'll love the gorgeous views of the marsh, water and resort-style pool. **MLS# 905244 / \$1,650,000**

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This extensively renovated home is stunning! Featuring 5BD, 5BA and offers almost 5,000 sq.ft. of beautiful living space. Situated on a double lot, you'll appreciate the expansive property, which can be subdivided. **MLS# 974719 / \$1,049,000**

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Photos by Susan Griffin

The Setzer, Cochran, Soares & Hubbard Pediatric Dentistry team gathers with representatives from the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce during a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Feb. 1.

Setzer, Cochran, Soares & Hubbard Pediatric Dentistry hosts Chamber ribbon cutting to celebrate PVB office

Setzer, Cochran, Soares & Hubbard Pediatric Dentistry celebrated the practice's new office location at Sawgrass Village in Ponte Vedra Beach with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Feb. 1 attended by representatives of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce. The ribbon cutting was also held in recognition of the practice's new membership with the Chamber.

Located at 340 Front St., Suite 770, the practice offers orthodontics, emergency care, pediatric anesthesiology, preventative care, extractions, fillings and crowns, among other services.

Opening its location in Ponte Vedra Beach in September 2018, the Sawgrass Village office is open on Wednesdays from 1 to 3 p.m. and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The practice also has a location on Bayberry Road in Jacksonville. Visit www.setzerandcochran.com for more information.



The practice offers orthodontics, emergency care, pediatric anesthesiology, preventative care, extractions, fillings and crowns, among other services.

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<p>THE EARLS OF LEICESTER FEAT. JERRY DOUGLAS APRIL 5</p>	<p>THE WEIGHT BAND FEAT. MEMBERS OF THE BAND & THE LEVON HELM BAND APRIL 18</p>	<p>FLORIDA CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT PRESENTS BEETHOVEN "INTROSPECTION" MAY 5</p>
<p>WE THREE APRIL 7</p>	<p>TINSLEY ELLIS APRIL 19</p>	<p>WINEHOUSED: THE AMY CELEBRATION MAY 25</p>
<p>PAT METHENY JAMES FRANCIES & NATE SMITH APRIL 9</p>	<p>THE PSYCHEDELIC FURS APRIL 23</p>	<p>ART GARFUNKEL MAY 30 SOLD OUT</p>
<p>RICHARD MARX APRIL 11</p>	<p>APEX THEATRE PRESENTS DISNEY'S "FREAKY FRIDAY" APRIL 26-28</p>	<p>LAKE STREET DIVE THE RAD TRADS JUNE 5</p>
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Photo courtesy of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce

The North Guana Outpost gathers with representatives of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce for a ribbon-cutting event on Feb. 10 to celebrate the re-opening of its paddle launch.

North Guana Outpost hosts Chamber for ribbon-cutting event

The North Guana Outpost recently celebrated the re-opening of its paddle launch in Ponte Vedra by hosting representatives from the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on Feb. 10 for a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Located at 4415 Mickler Road, the North Guana Outpost offers kayaks, paddleboards and surfboards, as well as bait and tackle, clothing, beach gear, sunglasses and accessories and more.

Visit www.northguanaoutpost.com for more information.



Photo courtesy of St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce

Representatives of VyStar Credit Union enjoy the Chamber "Before Hours" event on March 6.

VyStar Credit Union hosts Chamber 'Before Hours' event

VyStar Credit Union hosted a "Before Hours" event for the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on March 6.

Attendees of the event enjoyed the opportunity to network and eat breakfast before heading to work.

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The Morgan Company celebrates office relocation with Chamber ribbon-cutting, 'After Hours' event

The Morgan Company celebrated the relocation of its office to the Hodges and Butler Boulevard area by hosting a ribbon-cutting ceremony and "After Hours" event with the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on Feb. 27.

"It was a super turnout," said Kim Scott, president of the Morgan Company. "We felt like we got to spend some quality time with customers and dear friends from the Chamber.

"Our move has really just kind of (created) ... a new energy," Scott added. "There's some great new energy and I'm excited about 2019 and exploring some opportunities and changes that we've never done before."

Previously located at the Beaches, the women-owned business was opened by Scott and her mother, Samm Morgan, in their home office in 2000.

MORGAN continues on Page 25



The Morgan Company celebrates its office relocation to the Hodges and Butler Boulevard area with the Chamber of Commerce on Feb. 27.



Stacey Dewitt and Dave Danzeisen



LEFT: The Morgan Company team gathers at the ribbon-cutting ceremony and "After Hours" event. Pictured from left to right are: Gennifer Mace, controller; Donna McDonough, new business development; Kim Scott, president; Karen Butler, director of operations and marketing; and Aimee Oakes, product and sales specialist.

Photos by Susan Griffin

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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THEME: COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS

ACROSS

- Obama to Harvard Law School, e.g.
- Structure named for 31st President
- *Academy of Country Music Awards broadcaster
- Mike Myers' 2008 role
- Dumpy establishment
- Go "Boo!"
- Somebody ____
- Black tropical cuckoo birds
- Spasm of pain or passion
- *Grand Garden Arena location
- Unagi, pl.
- Liz of "30 Rock"
- As opposed to B.S., pl.
- Caesar's Palace, e.g.
- Takes and hopes for a ransom
- Any mountain peak
- Major airline
- Bibliographical abbr.
- Part of a ticket, pl.
- Drench
- Israel's neighbor
- Millimeter of mercury
- Like #40 Down
- Octopus' defense
- Regards highly
- Mr. Miyagi's forte
- *Used to crank up the volume

DOWN

- Novelist Zola
- Sushi restaurant offering
- *Host of awards show
- Madagascar primate
- Enthusiasm
- Adopted son of Claudius
- 12 for AA attendee
- Pluribus
- U2 guitarist
- *Shay's other half
- Giant Hall-of-Famer
- Don't let it hit you on your way out?
- Wrinkles are a sign of this
- Quiet time
- Major in the sky
- European breakfast staple
- Australian canid
- Type of deadly flu
- "M*A*S*H" ____ hall
- *Hall-of-Famer Smith, June Carter's ex
- *The Osbornes, colloquially
- "Monkey ____ monkey do"
- Animal in Phillip Pullman's "His Dark Materials"
- Lieu
- *Entertainer of the Year contender
- Cupid's mom
- Auction action

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

- Social class among Hindus
- Certain saxes
- Sudden growth
- Yachting cap
- Skylit lobbies
- House coat
- Quench
- Schools of thought
- Spinning toy
- *" ____ in the End"
- Biblical shall
- Tinkerbell, e.g.

- Inside info
- Eastern V.I.P.s
- Harnessed
- Audience's approval
- *Bebe Rexha's " ____ to Be"
- Bristle
- End of grace
- Office communique
- Do over
- Cogito, ____ sum
- Dropped drug
- Poetic over

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Chamber Economic Development Council breakfast focuses on transportation

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Council (EDC) hosted its quarterly breakfast on Jan. 25 at the World Golf Hall of Fame at World Golf Village. Transportation trends, near-term projects and the role of transportation in economic development were discussed by Jeff Sheffield, executive director of North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO).



Photo courtesy of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce

Isabelle Renault, president and CEO of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, joins Jeff Sheffield, executive director of the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization, and Mike Davis, chairman of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Council (EDC) Executive Committee, at the Jan. 25 EDC Quarterly Breakfast.

“Transportation goes beyond building roads,” Chamber President and CEO Isabelle Renault said. “We need to focus on using technology and data sharing to increase mobility in order to increase efficiency without having to invest more heavily in major construction infrastructure.”

The next EDC quarterly breakfast will be Friday, April 26, at Shell Hall inside the World Golf Hall of Fame at World Golf Village. Jason Barrett, CEO and president of Flagler Health+, will be the keynote speaker. He will discuss changes to the healthcare enterprise and the healthcare industry.

To register for the next event, visit www.sjchamber.com and go to the calendar of events. Non-chamber members may call Erin Johnson at (904) 829-5681 to register.

To find out more about the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce or to

BREAKFAST continues on **Page 25**



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Morgan

Continued from 23

The Morgan Company now has five employees and expects to expand even more this upcoming year.

“I’ve made a number of leaps of faith over the last few years and surrounded myself with some amazing women,” Scott said. “I am excited and proud to continue to grow The Morgan Company as a successful women-owned business.”

Breakfast

Continued from 24

become a member, visit www.sjchamber.com, call (904) 829-5681 or find them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/sjchamber.

com/sjchamber. For more information about Jeff Sheffield’s presentation, visit www.sjchamber.com/edc-quarterly-breakfasts. For additional information about the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization, visit northfloridatpo.com.

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Business, community leaders network at Chamber's annual After Hours at THE PLAYERS

The festivities of THE PLAYERS Championship kicked off for several hundred business and community leaders at the Chamber of Commerce's After Hours at THE PLAYERS event on March 7.

Held this year at the Stadium Village near the new Nicklaus Entry, the annual event is organized by the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce and the JAX Chamber. Guests enjoyed networking, complimentary refreshments and food from several local restaurants.

Sponsors included the Ponte Vedra Recorder, which hosted a table and distributed copies of its Insider's Tournament guide, as well as Stretch Zone Ponte Vedra, ASAP Towing & Storage, Optimal You Brain Centers, Cologix, Florida Blue and Trulieve.



Lucia Miller, Bethany Taylor and Monisa Thompson



The Ponte Vedra Recorder table

Photos by Susan Griffin and Jon Blauvelt



Guests at the event enjoy visiting the Ponte Vedra Wellness table.



Darryl Brown, Arteshia Melo and Vanessa Williams



Gianni Gonzalez and Susan Glaize



The Optimal You Brain Centers team



Greg Smith, Dawn Adams and Ginny Smith



Kim and Andy Scott



Keri Cook and Therese Cap



'Chamber at Noon' features discussion on tourism industry with Richard Goldman

The Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce hosted Richard Goldman, president and CEO of the St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra & The Beaches Visitors and Convention Bureau, at the "Chamber at Noon" event on March 20.

With the event held at Sawgrass Beach Club, Goldman discussed tourism in the area over the past fiscal year and the positive impact it has on the business community. Among several other topics, he also provided updates and looked ahead to the future, sharing plans about new lodging and renovations to lodging in the area.

ABOVE: Brian Zehren, Toni Boudreaux-Godwin, Richard Goldman, Moe Ghanimah and Isabelle Renault gather at the "Chamber at Noon" event on March 20 at Sawgrass Beach Club.



RIGHT: Tim Crosby and Elizabeth Chatham

Photos by Susan Griffin



Goldman addresses event attendees about tourism in the area.



Vanessa Allen and Jenny McKeithen

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Business Weekly

Right age, right reasons to start regularly reviewing your estate plan

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PAGE 29

THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2019

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com



Photo by Ed Johnson

Arthur Rutenberg Homes President Bill Goreschak and Patti Guthrie enjoy the VIP preview.

GreenPointe Communities hosts preview of new model home at EvenTide in Ponte Vedra Beach

More than 200 guests recently enjoyed an exclusive VIP preview celebrating a new model home at EvenTide in Ponte Vedra Beach.

In addition to hors d'oeuvres, libations and an exhibition of original artwork by local artist Joan Carver, guests at the March 21 event were among the first to tour the Tidewater showcase home by Arthur Rutenberg Homes by Mark Refosco. The event was hosted by GreenPointe Communities.

"We appreciate everyone who attended our VIP celebration and shared their enthusiasm for EvenTide's magnificent new model home," said Mike Taylor, North Florida regional president at GreenPointe Communities. "As the Tidewater demonstrates, EvenTide offers a rare opportunity to build an expertly crafted and innovatively designed new custom home just steps from the ocean in Ponte Vedra Beach."

The Tidewater displays a West Indies-style exterior and a beachy, coastal color palette of white, silver blues and driftwood tones. The 5,270-square-foot home presents stylishly appointed interiors, impressive outdoor living spaces, luxury finishes and state-of-the-art features.

The Tidewater model is open daily and by appointment.

Located along Ponte Vedra Boulevard,



Photo courtesy of Clockwork Marketing

Joan and Mark Refosco attend a VIP preview March 21 for the new Tidewater model home at EvenTide in Ponte Vedra Beach. Joan is vice president of sales for Arthur Rutenberg Homes, and Mark is a franchise owner for the home builder.

EvenTide is an intimate enclave planned for 23 luxury coastal homes that embrace Ponte Vedra Beach-style living. For more information about EvenTide and a personal tour, call (904) 962-7477 or visit www.EvenTideLiving.com.

Varsity blues

By Janet Johnson

Special to the Recorder

"There's no secret ... anybody can be successful in anything if they just put in the time and work." That's what legendary University of Southern California (USC) water polo coach Jovan Vavic said in 2017 in an article published on USC's website. Now, it looks like money helps, too.

Vavic was among the 50 defendants arrested in the nationwide college admissions conspiracy called "Varsity Blues" by federal prosecutors. Other high-profile defendants include actresses Lori Loughlin and Felicity Huffman. The scheme, orchestrated by William "Rick" Singer, involved two kinds of fraud, according to the prosecutors. One



Janet Johnson
Guest Columnist

was to cheat on the SAT or ACT, and the other was to use Singer's connections with coaches and use bribes, disguised as charitable contributions, to get the students in under fake athletic credentials.

The ACT/SAT scheme, per court papers, involved parents paying between \$15,000 and \$75,000 per test for a third party — usually Harvard grad Mark Riddell — to take the test in the place of the student, or replace their responses with his own. How he did it, reported the Wall Street Journal, allegedly involved Singer bribing test proctors,

JOHNSON continues on Page 33

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If you haven't been regularly reviewing your estate plan, start when you hit 60



By Dan Armstrong
Special to the Recorder

How frequently you should review your estate plan depends on how old you are and whether there has been a significant change in your circumstances.

If you are over age 60 and you haven't updated your estate plan in many decades, it's almost certain that you need to update your documents. After that, you should review your plan every five years or so. But if you're younger, you don't need to do so nearly as often.

Age

Here are a few age ranges and what they mean in terms of estate planning:

- 18-30. Everyone needs a durable power of attorney, healthcare proxy and HIPAA release so that they have people they choose to step in and make decisions for them in the event of incapacity.

- 30-40. Once you begin accumulating assets, get married and have children, it's important to create an estate plan to care for your loved ones in the event of your death. It also can't hurt to update your durable power of attorney, health care proxy and HIPAA release, since the people you may have appointed at 18 (your parents?) may not be the people you want in these roles at 35.

- 40-60. Unless there's been a change in your circumstances, and assuming you've set a good plan in place during your 30s, you probably don't need to review your estate plan during your 40s and 50s.

- 60-70. Once you've hit your 60s, it's time to take a look. Your children are probably grown. You may have grandchildren. And, hopefully, you've accumulated some wealth. The people you appointed to step in in the event of incapacity when you were 35 may not be in a position to assist when you're 65. You may have retired or are contemplating doing so. And, unfortunately, the chances of disability or death increase with every year.

- 70+. Now it's time to review your plan every five years or so. Changes happen to your health and that of your loved ones, to the tax laws, to the programs supporting long-term care or disability care. It's important to have a plan in place and to adjust it as circumstances change.

Change in circumstances

While the timeline above outlines when you should review and perhaps update your estate plan, it needs to be supplemented by the following potential changes in circumstances that would warrant a

review of your plan to see if it still meets your goals and needs:

- Marriage. You're likely to want your assets to go to your spouse and to name him or her to be your agent in the event of incapacity.

- Divorce. Likewise, if you get divorced, you probably won't want your assets to go to your ex-spouse or to rely upon him or her to step in if you were to become incapacitated.

- Children. Once you have children, you'll want to provide for them and to name someone to step in as guardian in the event of your death or incapacity and that

of their other parent, if any. Generally, once you have a plan in place, you do not have to update it if you have more children.

- Disability. If you or someone who would inherit from you becomes disabled, you will need to plan to protect and manage your assets, whether for yourself or for your beneficiaries.

- Wealth. If you accumulate sufficient assets to exceed the thresholds for state and federal estate taxes (\$11.4 million federally), you may want to plan to reduce or eliminate such taxes.

- Moving. If you move to a new state or country, it will be important to have your

estate plan reviewed to make sure it works in the new jurisdiction.

In short, until you reach age 60 or 70, reviewing your estate plan every five years probably is overkill. But do so whenever you have a change in circumstances such as those listed above. If you're over 60 and haven't updated your estate plan in many years, now's the time. Then, having a review every five years is definitely a good rule of thumb.

Dan Armstrong, of the Law Offices of Dan W. Armstrong, P.A., is an elder law attorney serving Ponte Vedra Beach who specializes in elder law, estate planning and corporate law.



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One Ocean Resort & Spa names Darren Keener new director of sales and marketing

One Ocean Resort & Spa in Atlantic Beach has added Darren Keener to lead the sales and marketing efforts at the resort.

Bringing diverse training and nearly 13 years of experience with a background in the luxury resort realm, Keener is charged with growing the resort's business.

"Darren's extensive market knowledge has enabled him to make a positive impact from day one and we are excited to have him lead our sales and catering teams," said David Mariotti, general manager of One Ocean Resort & Spa. "His innovative approach and dedication to the client relationships makes me certain that he will be an asset to the growth of the resort experience."



Darren Keener

Joining One Ocean Resort & Spa after eight years with Omni Hotels and Resorts, Keener most recently managed efforts at Omni Amelia Island Plantation Resort as the associate director of sales. Prior to Amelia Island, Keener was the national sales manager at Omni Atlanta Hotel at CNN Center, where he received accolades as a four-year President's Circle Award Winner, Sales Team of the Year winner and two-year finalist for Sales Manager of the Year. Keener also previously held sales manager positions at Hyatt Regency Miami and Hyatt Regency Atlanta.

Now, Keener is excited for his next chapter at One Ocean Resort & Spa.

"The team is an experienced and talented group of professionals who have made this move an exciting transition," he said. "I'm motivated to build from our current success to drive growth for 2019 and beyond at this first-class resort."

For more information about One Ocean Resort & Spa, call (904) 249-7402.



Photo provided by Atilio Cerqueira

AB Beach Boulevard, LLC partners (left to right) John Atkins, William "Bubba" Ryan and Atilio Cerqueira stand in front of construction of the Beaches Industrial Park, which is scheduled to open in summer 2019.

New 85,000-square-foot industrial park to open at the Beaches summer 2019

Construction by AB Beach Boulevard, LLC is now underway on a four-building, 85,000-square-foot industrial park in South Jacksonville Beach.

Located at 950 10th St. S. in Jacksonville Beach, the Beaches Industrial Park is five minutes from J. Turner Butler Boulevard.

According to AB Beach Boulevard, LLC, the 4.5-acre development will be the largest industrial complex of its kind at the Beaches and will open in summer 2019. Units ranging from 1,200 to 26,000 square feet will feature 14-by-14-foot roll-up doors, three-phase power, 25-foot ceilings and 6-inch slabs able to support extreme, heavy duty racking systems.

AB Beach Boulevard, LLC says the new industrial park is zoned to accommodate a variety of businesses, and provides ample space for those wanting to store RVs, boats, etc.

General contracting for the industrial park is being provided by Atkins Builders.

AB Beach Boulevard, LLC filed as a Florida Limited Liability in the State of Florida on March 23, 2016. Partners include John Atkins, William "Bubba" Ryan and Atilio Cerqueira.

For more rental information, call Atilio Cerqueira at (904) 334-2983.

Time for some financial spring cleaning



By Karsten Jacobson, CFP®

Karsten Jacobson
Columnist

Spring is here — and for many of us, that means it's time for some spring cleaning. This year, in addition to tidying up your home, why not try brightening

your financial environment? Some of the same moves you make to clean your surroundings may apply to your finances. Consider these suggestions:

■ **Get rid of clutter.** When you go through your closets, attic, basement or other areas, you may find many items you no longer need. You might be able to sell some of these things or find other ways of disposing of them. And as you review your portfolio, you might also encounter "clutter" in the form of investments that may be redundant to others you own. If so, you might consider selling these investments and using the proceeds to purchase new ones, which may help you broaden your portfolio.

■ **Protect yourself from hazards.** As you go about your spring cleaning, you may encounter hazardous substances, such as cleaning agents, paints, batteries, pesticides and so on, which you don't need anymore and which may pose potential health risks. You can reduce the possible danger from these materials by recycling or disposing of them in an environmentally safe way. Your overall financial situation has hazards, too, in the form of illness or injury preventing you from working, or, in your later years, the need for some type of long-term care, such as an extended stay in a nursing home. To protect yourself, you may need appropriate insurance, including disability and long-term care.

■ **Find new uses for existing possessions.** When you are sprucing up your home, you may rediscover uses for things you already have. Who knows — perhaps that treadmill that's been gathering dust in your garage could actually be employed again as part of your rededicated exercise regimen. And you might be able to get more mileage out of some of your existing investments, too. Suppose, for instance, that some of your stocks are paying you dividends, which you take as cash. If you don't really need this income to support your lifestyle, you might consider reinvesting the dividends so that you can own more shares of the dividend-paying stocks. Over the long run, increased share

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LOCAL CHEF RECEIVES BIG HONOR



Photo courtesy of Silver Digital Media

Chef Matthew Sanchez from Sawgrass Marriott Resort in Ponte Vedra Beach (center) accepts a ROSE (Recognition of Service Excellence) Award for his work with the property's Bee Hill (microfarm). Sanchez accepted the award at the Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association's Northeast Chapter ROSE Awards ceremony in February. ROSE Awards recognize Northeast Florida front-line hospitality employees who demonstrate excellent customer service. More than 100 nominations were submitted for the 2019 awards. Sanchez is the first lead beekeeper ever appointed at Marriott International, managing several active hives in a patch of woods behind the resort's spa. He also manages a garden of crops adjacent to the bee colonies. Both the honey and crops are used in many of the resort's culinary offerings.

Johnson

Continued from 29

after many of these students received permission to take untimed tests, based on doctors' notes attesting to learning disabilities. Riddell, a Florida resident, was able to get targeted test results. According to court documents, he is slated to plead guilty to conspiracy to commit mail fraud and money laundering, and faces up to 20 years in prison. He expects a reduced sentence in exchange for his cooperation.

The bribes to coaches are almost the more breathtaking allegations. The bribed coaches, who make recommendations on which recruited athletes should be accepted, were vouching for athletes who, in many cases, had never played the sports in which the coaches were claiming they excelled. According to numerous reports, Lori Loughlin, who played Aunt Becky on "Full House," and her fashion designer husband, Mossimo Giannulli, are accused of paying \$500,000 in bribes to have their two daughters designated recruits to the USC crew team, although neither daughter had ever competed in crew. The parents allegedly sent photographs of each girl on a rowing machine.

In the indictment, one parent was recorded in a conversation with Singer saying, "...you understand that [my daughter] is not worthy to be on that team." The response from Singer was: "No, no, he's my guy... [A]nd he knows [s]he's not coming to play, he knows all that." While the allegations haven't been proven yet, this is compelling, and galling, evidence.

So how are the universities responding? So far, Yale has announced that they are rescinding the admission of one student as a result of their part in the scandal,

which included their former soccer coach accepting bribes to recommend students who were not athletes. Other schools have launched investigations, and students at Stanford have filed class-action lawsuits, claiming that "unqualified students found their way into the admissions rolls of highly selective universities, while those students who played by the rules and did not have college-bribing parents were denied admission," according to a UPI article published on March 14. The students also claim their degrees from Stanford will have less value "because prospective employers may now question whether she was admitted to the university on her own merits."

What should happen to the students? Should students, who didn't know they were admitted under false pretenses, be punished for their parents' sins? At a minimum, they shouldn't get the benefit of their parents' criminal behavior. Perhaps they should be made to retake entrance exams, and reapply, on their own merits this time. If students did know, should they be prosecuted in federal court, marking them for the rest of their lives, for what their parents did? Surely, children should not be punished for the sins of their parents. Maybe the silver lining of the whole Varsity Blues case is that these children will learn important lessons about the price of feeling entitled.

Janet Johnson is a criminal defense attorney in Jacksonville who practices in state and federal courts. White collar crimes, including fraud, embezzlement and tax evasion, are among her areas of expertise. She is rated AV Preeminent on attorney rating website Martindale-Hubbell and has been named to the American Institute of Criminal Law Attorneys' Top 10 Best Attorneys list. Johnson is also a legal analyst for CNN and HLN.

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Janet E. Johnson, P.A.
CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEY

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

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Jacobson

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ownership is a key to helping build your portfolio.

■ **Establish new habits.** Spring cleaning doesn't have to be just about physical activities — it can also involve a new set of habits on your part. For example, instead of placing your unread magazines in an ever-expanding pile, try to read and recycle them quickly. You can also develop some positive habits as an investor, such as "paying yourself first" by regularly putting some money in an investment account each month, even before paying all your bills. You can also avoid

some bad habits, such as overreacting to market downturns by selling investments to "cut your losses," even though those same investments may still have strong growth potential and may still be suitable for your needs.

Doing some spring cleaning can make you feel better about your living space today. And applying some of these techniques to your financial situation can help you gain a more positive outlook for tomorrow.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones financial advisor, Karsten L. Jacobson, CFP®, is a financial advisor for Edward Jones at 2208 Sawgrass Village Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach.



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Sports

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Sharks football coach Toblin leaving for Bolles

Search for replacement underway as PVHS aims to elevate program

By Paris Moulden

Ponte Vedra High School (PVHS) is searching for a new head football coach after Matt Toblin resigned from the job last week to take the head coaching position at Bolles.

“Coach Toblin is a great coach, great man, great teacher,” Ponte Vedra Athletic Director Eric Frank said. “We were fortunate to have him as part of our program over the last five years, and we will definitely miss him and wish him the best of luck as he and his family go on to Bolles.”

Toblin led the Sharks to an 8-3 record last season, including a 42-13 win over Bolles. He has a 39-18 record in his five seasons at PVHS and led the Sharks to a runner-up finish in the 2016 Class 5A state championship. He takes over a storied Bolles program that finished 8-5



Photo by Jerry/Chris Norton

Football coach Matt Toblin is leaving Ponte Vedra after five seasons to take the head coaching job at Bolles.

last season and lost to Trinity Christian in the Class 5A regional finals.

Toblin published a letter on the Ponte Vedra football Twitter page on March 20, thanking the school and play-

ers for their support. He wrote that leaving the programs was “one of the most difficult things I have ever had to do.”

“The Ponte Vedra program has always been bigger than one person and I expect it to continue to grow and flourish,” Toblin said in the post.

Frank said the school has begun a search this week, both locally and nationally, to find the right candidate to replace Toblin and continue the program in the “great direction” it was heading under him.

“We not only want it to continue in that direction, but we want the person who comes in to elevate the program to the next level,” Frank said.

Frank said there is no set timetable for finding a replacement and the school plans to be diligent in making the right choice.

“We are going to be very selective in our decision-making going forward because we want to make the best decision for our school and our student athletes,” Frank said. “Holding us to a timeline could hinder that success so we’re paying attention to all the details.”

Nease center Camille Hobby named 2019 Miss Basketball

By Paris Moulden

Nease senior center Camille Hobby was named the 2019 Florida Dairy Farmers Miss Basketball following a final round of voting by a statewide panel of high school coaches and media representatives on Friday, March 22.

Hobby was earlier named the Class 7A girls basketball Player of the Year and was one of nine finalists for the overall award. Hobby received seven of the 19 first-place votes and 122 points to finish ahead of Class 4A Player of The Year Koi Love of Miami Country Day (107) and Class 9A Player of the Year Fujika Nimmo of Haines City (80).

“It’s definitely a really good feeling to win,” Hobby said. “My teammates and I, my parents, everyone involved, we all kind of won it together.”

Hobby is only the fifth player from the Northeast Florida to be named Miss Basketball in the 27 years the honor has been awarded.

Hobby averaged 18 points, 11 rebounds,



Photo courtesy of Sherri Anthony

Nease’s Camille Hobby was named 2019 Miss Basketball by Florida Dairy Farmers.

2.2 blocks and 2 steals per game, helping lead the Lady Panthers to a 30-2 record and runner-up finish in the state tournament. She also helped Nease coach Sherri

HOBBY continues on Page 38



Photo courtesy of Web.com TOUR

Nease graduate Vince Covello displays the trophy after winning the Chitimacha Louisiana Open on Sunday, his first Web.com Tour title.

Nease grad Vince Covello wins first Web.com Tour title at Chitimacha Louisiana Open

After two late bogeys seemingly pushed him out of contention, Vince Covello birdied the final hole in regulation and the third playoff hole to earn his first Web.com Tour title at the Chitimacha Louisiana Open presented by MISTRAS on Sunday.

A Nease High School and University of North Florida graduate, Covello topped 54-hole leader Justin Lower in the playoff with a birdie

after both players made pars on the first two holes. The playoff was contested on the 18th hole (repeating) at Le Triomphe Golf & Country Club Broussard, Louisiana, after both players ended regulation at 19-under 265.

“It’s unbelievable,” said an emotional Covello, who currently lives

COVELLO continues on Page 38

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Covello

Continued from 36

in Jacksonville. "I wasn't sure this day would ever come. I feel blessed to be here and lucky that I got it done. It was certainly a crazy finish there at the end. I pulled everything out that I could and it ended up being enough."

Entering the final hole needing a birdie to tie Lower at 19-under, Covello stuck his ball to one foot away for an easy

birdie and entry into a playoff. He then promptly pulled his drive into the water to start the playoff but got up and down from 113 yards for par to match Lower.

"When I was down there (by the water), I knew I wasn't done yet," Covello said. "I still had a chance. I still ended up with a clean lie and a good angle into the pin, so somehow I talked myself into believing that I still had a chance. I made that 10 to 12 footer to extend it, and that was huge."

All week long Covello relied on his

iron play at the par-71 course. He led the field in greens in regulation through three rounds before hitting only 11/18 during the final round. Covello began the day with a bogey at the first before rattling off birdies at Nos. 4, 5 and 7 to make the turn at 2-under. After another birdie at the par-5 12th, Covello bogeyed Nos. 13 and 14, falling three back of Lower. But Lower bogeyed Nos. 14 and 15 to open the door and Covello responded with birdies on 16 and 18 to reach the playoff.

"I always felt like I was good enough to

win, but you don't know until you actually do it, until you prove it," Covello said. "Today I proved it and I'm really proud of that. I've had a couple of wins on the mini-tour level, came close in Canada on the Mackenzie Tour, but this is definitely my biggest win to date."

The 36-year-old has played professional golf for the last 15 years across many different levels and on the Web.com Tour full-time over the last two years. He previously had two career top-10 finishes in 79 career starts.

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Hobby

Continued from 36

Anthony earn her 600th victory this past season, and Hobby credits Anthony with helping her succeed.

"I just love Coach Sherri to death, honestly," Hobby said. "She's been a really great coach and a great person. Obviously, every day at practice she pushes me. She's just always been there as a coach, and someone I know I can call on if I need anything at all."

Next up for Hobby is NC State, which is the No. 3 seed in the Women's NCAA Tournament. The Wolfpack beat Kentucky 72-57 on Monday night to advance to the Sweet 16 where they will play second-seeded Iowa on Saturday. The 10th-ranked Wolfpack (28-5) have a respected and storied history in women's

basketball, which was a big factor in Hobby's decision.

"I saw how much they cared about the women's program," Hobby said of NC State. "Not every school do you have thousands of people come to watch women's basketball, so the fans really care. Coach (Wes) Moore and the coaching staff recruited me really hard, and I just felt like they cared about me and how I could progress as a player."

Hobby plans to take what she learned at Nease to help her new team, and her goal in the next stage of her basketball career is to win an ACC Championship.

"I'm most proud of my team and the way we responded to adversity," Hobby said of her time playing for the Panthers. "We learned that it takes everyone to be committed, and not just one person or a couple of people. Everyone has to be on the same page."

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