

Celebrating 50 years of the

PONTE VEDRA



Recorder

July 25, 2019
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75 cents

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

PonteVedraRecorder.com



ABOVE: Gatorland's Stephen Thompson, right, holds a large snake. Donovan and Brendan Muir, both 2 years old, were unsure if they wanted to approach the reptile.

BELOW: A red-footed tortoise walks in the grass at Station Field between Wild Explorer shows by Gatorland.



NOCATEE FARMERS MARKET

Gators, Snakes & Turtles OH MY!



Jordan Gamber holds daughter Ali and shows off mermaid art she purchased at the market.



Photos by Christine Rodenbaugh

Summer heat did not keep Nocatee residents from attending the monthly farmers market on July 20 at Station Field. **Read more about it in Nocatee Happenings on page 9.**

Storm Readiness Guide

Pages 12-14



Sand Castles

Pages 15-42

Birthday Party Planner

Pages 48-51



CAR OF THE WEEK

2012 TOYOTA 4RUNNER
4WD, 4DR, V6, SR5

LEATHER, POWER, WIRELESS,
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Send us your news

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

Visit our website at www.pontevedrarecorder.com

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

WHAT'S THIS?

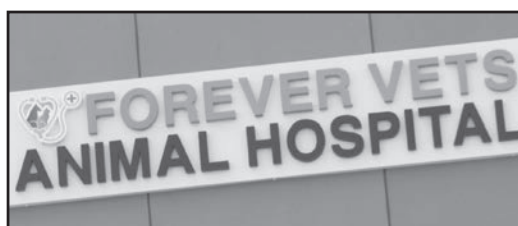


Do you know what this is?

Email answer to pvrecorder@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.

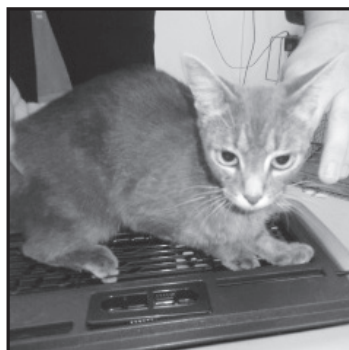
Only one reader correctly identified last week's photo as the sign for Forever Vets Animal Hospital. The winner was **Jean McLaughlin**. Congratulations, Jean — you may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during normal business hours.



ADOPT A PET

CAT OF THE WEEK

Sabrina is a 2-year-old, female, grey domestic shorthair, whose owner had to give her up. She is very lovable, loves her neck scratched and just wants to be cuddled. She is good with dogs, cats, children and is litter-trained. Come see Sabrina at the Pet Center today. #50418



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.**



DOG OF THE WEEK

Libby was found roaming around and her previous owner decided not to come and claim her. She is a spayed 3-year-old terrier Mix (looks like a boxer), who

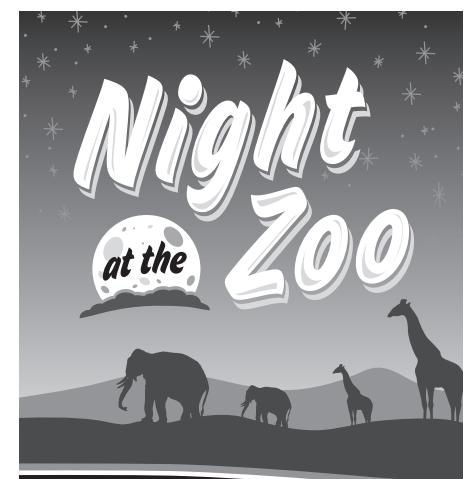
loves to play, is good with other dogs, is house-trained and looking for her fur-ever family. Come see Libby at the Pet Center today. #50640

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

S	A	N	S		B	A	T		P	S	S	T					
P	L	O	T		S	O	P	H		D	E	A	T	H			
A	B	L	E		A	L	O	E		U	L	N	A	E			
					A	L	L	E	G	O	R	Y		C	L	E	G
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G	A	M	E	T	E				L	I	T	E	R	A	L		
O	R	E			E	R	B	I	U	M		L	A	M	A		
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I	R	O	N						E	N	S			E	N	D	S

2	6	7	9	8	3	5	4	1
1	9	4	7	5	6	3	8	2
3	5	8	1	2	4	7	6	9
5	7	6	2	1	9	8	3	4
4	2	9	3	7	8	6	1	5
8	3	1	6	4	5	9	2	7
9	4	5	8	3	2	1	7	6
6	1	3	4	9	7	2	5	8
7	8	2	5	6	1	4	9	3

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.



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Oceanfront Retreat

Built to take advantage of the captivating water views and north of Mickler's Landing, this 4,878 property includes a pool and a new roof (2017). With 150 ft. of ocean frontage, this 1.45-acre lot is the ideal place to make your private beach retreat.
6 bedrooms, 6.5 baths \$3,750,000



Most Desired Oceanfront Location in NE Florida

Las Mirandas / Oceanfront Condo
 This first-floor fully furnished unit was totally renovated with the finest finishes & craftsmanship. Includes an office, staurnia floors, mahogany doors & built-in custom cabinetry.
2 bedrooms & 2 bathrooms + powder room \$1,650,000



Stunning Riverfront Estate
 Riverfront/ San Marco

Instantly makes you feel you've been swept away to a chateau in France. Exquisitely designed with extensive custom finishes, this 10,204-sq-ft. Tudor-style home is a masterpiece in design and built for entertaining.
5 bedroom, 6 full bath, 5 half bath \$6,900,000



A Sophisticated and Luxurious Retreat on Ponte Vedra Blvd
 Ponte Vedra Beach/ Oceanfront

This impressive oceanfront home reflects that magical merging of beach living and architecture. Situated on 220ft of Oceanfront this estate is a masterpiece of design and allows owners the ultimate beach living experience.
4 bedrooms, 5 and 3 1/2 bathrooms \$7,995,000



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 "From Cottages to Castles"



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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.



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For more information, contact Missy Dekay at 904.280.2838 | Missy@MissyDekay.com

Cheers to 50 Years!

Woodstock, Apollo 11, the Ponte Vedra Recorder

The Ponte Vedra Recorder first hit the streets in 1969. What were milestone events in your life in 1969? Were you born or married in '69? Maybe you started a business or work for a company that opened its doors that year.

The Recorder wants to share its 50th celebration with the community. Send us your stories and photographs sharing memories about 1969. Where were you and what were you doing that year? What do you remember about Ponte Vedra, Palm Valley or the surrounding area?

Where did you go to school and what was it like? Send us your school pictures. Tell us about your favorite music, fashion, sports or recreation. Where did you hang out and why?

For lifetime residents, what has changed? What changes made living in the area better or worse?

Send your photographs and memories to chris@opcfla.com with "Cheers to 50 years" in the subject line.



The results are in!

Winners of the Recorder's Best of the Best of Ponte Vedra contest to be revealed Aug. 8

When voting ended just before midnight Saturday, 45,280 votes had been cast in the inaugural Ponte Vedra Recorder Best of the Best of Ponte Vedra contest. The contest has ended, but the winners list will not be published until Aug. 8 in a special section in the Recorder.

Winners receive a framed certificate, a Best of the Best of Ponte Vedra window cling and listings in the Recorder's Best of the Best of Ponte Vedra special section and on the winners' website.

Only nominees in the ZIP codes 32082 and 32081 were eligible. Voters could login once each day and vote in as many categories as he or she wanted.

Launched May 16, the contest is in



recognition of the newspaper's 50th anniversary, which will be celebrated in November (#CheersTo50Years).

To advertise in the Aug. 8 special section, contact your sales representative, email susan@opcfla.com or call (904) 285-8831.

Panera Bread opens new bakery-cafe in Ponte Vedra

Panera Bread opened its newest Florida bakery-cafe in Ponte Vedra at 876 A1A North on Wednesday, July 24.

For eat-in guests, the bakery-cafe offers several seating areas, comfortable chairs, free Wi-Fi internet access and an outdoor patio. There is also a drive-thru, parking lot, Panera 2.0/Rapid Pick-Up and delivery.

"We are thrilled to open our newest bakery-cafe and we look forward to sharing Panera warmth here in Ponte Vedra," said manager Mairena Urrutia.

This bakery-cafe also offers Fast Lane Kiosks, in addition to cashier stations, so wait times are reduced. The kiosk is highly visual and includes a product builder to assist with order accuracy and customization. At the kiosks, and through the Panera web or mobile app, guests can save customizations, past orders, and "favorites" for easy ordering on their next visit. They can also redeem MyPanera rewards and securely save their credit card information for future quick checkouts.

For those on the go, an ordering option called Rapid Pick-Up will enable customers to place an online/mobile order from the office, car, work or home – up to two weeks in advance – and pick up food at a pre-determined time without waiting in line. The bakery-cafe will be equipped with a special "to go" pick-up area, featuring dedicated seating, an order-status monitor providing real-time information as orders are prepared and completed and shelf space to facilitate easy pick up.

"We live super close," said Ponte Vedra resident, Donna Vent. "We've known for six months that it's been opening. Living in Ponte Vedra we don't have a lot of places like Panera. Just quick food that is convenient and within walking, except for Starbucks."

The hours of operation for Panera Bread at 876 A1A North are Monday through Sunday from 6 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.



Photo by Chris Rodenbaugh

Panera Bread opens its bakery-cafe in Ponte Vedra, which is located at 876 A1A North.



Photos by Amber Lake

Golf legend Billy Maxwell celebrates 90 years at TPC Sawgrass

By Amber Lake

If there is one person who has earned a hole-in-one themed birthday cake, it's 90-year-old golf legend, Billy Maxwell. On July 22, he celebrated his ninth decade amidst fellow professional golf friends, family and a photo slide of all his career highlights at the TPC Sawgrass Country Club.

Maxwell even started the party off with a few putts on a model practice green to help him get warmed up.

It's amazing to think that it was 68 years ago when Maxwell won the U.S. Amateur title after helping North Texas State College win four consecutive NCAA Division team championships. Later he would go pro, winning seven times on the PGA Tour after serving time in the army. At his height, he won the Bob Hope Desert Classic while ranking in the top 25 in 24 stats, and nine of those were in top 10.

"There is only one U.S. Amateur, so it's a lot of golfers' dream today to win the Amateur," said daughter Melanie Bevill. "A lot of them say, 'I won the Masters but I would trade any one of those victories to say (I was a) a U.S. Amateur.'"

Originally from Abilene, Texas, Maxwell was practically raised on the green. His father was the superintendent of what is now known as the Maxwell



Photos by Amber Lake

Golf legend Billy Maxwell celebrates his 90th birthday with his family.

Municipal Golf Course, which was named after him. Billy Maxwell was one of three sons who were to all become professional golf players. He married Maxwell's mother after teaching her how to play.

"It's always been about golf," said Bevill, jokingly. "Really, at home I thought, could we ever talk about anything else?"

These days, however, Maxwell attends the American Golf Memories Project meetings so he can keep talking about golf — and is encouraged to do so. The nonprofit is hosted by Billy Dettlaff, who although retired, has sported a long career with the PGA Tour. He founded the first-ever American chapter of the program, which uses reminiscence therapy to help offset cognitive decline, such as memory loss, Alzheimer's and dementia.

"It's really lovely, they bring a group of golfers and they talk about some of their great memories involved," Bevill said. "He will talk about winning the Bob Hope and what he shot on and

whatever. That's what's amazing about golfers, they remember all those kinds of details."

The day of his party Maxwell spent the morning attending a group meeting with the Golf Memories Project. He was in good spirits, identifying professional golfers from throughout history and smiling while talking about the game. As the party commenced, he greeted everyone as they came over and wished him a happy birthday. Bevill said he planned the next day, July 23, to go to Cracker Barrel on his actual birthday. He wore 90 proudly during his party, however.

"Usually if I had a birthday for him, he's been mad at me and didn't want me to have it," Bevill said. "This time he didn't give me any trouble. I'm thinking 90 was kind of a big deal."

The American Golf Memories Project will be hosted every fourth Monday at TPC Sawgrass, with no cost to attend. RSVP to Dettlaff at amgolffmemories@gmail.com. Spouses and caregivers of members are welcome to attend.

21st century parking in the Nation's Oldest City

By Christine Rodenbaugh

The main reasons locals cite for not venturing downtown St. Augustine are traffic and parking. Mobility is an ongoing issue that has no easy solution, but in December 2007, the City of St. Augustine launched a valuable initiative that provided discounted downtown parking fees for St. Johns County residents — the ParkNow Card.

To promote the cards, the first 500 City water customers received a free card (in lieu of the \$2.50 one-time charge) when they paid water bills in December 2009. As word spread, the cards gained in popularity. According to Tara Bennie, parking coordinator, about 40,000 cards have been sold, and since the card itself does not expire, many of those may still be active with available funds.

The ParkNow Card still gives St. Johns County residents access to reduced parking fees at City meters, pay stations and in the Historic Downtown Parking Facility, but a more convenient App for cell phones was launched in early February.

The card helped, but users wanted to be able to add funds remotely or online instead of going to the water department or one of the "charging stations" downtown. Another request was to locate City parking areas. With the ParkStAug app available for Apple or Android phones, users can pay for parking, receive alerts before a parking session expires and extend a parking session (within the limit) without having to return to the vehicle. Since the vehicle is identified by its license plate, a receipt is not required on the dashboard.

One of the most noticeable changes to downtown parking will be the removal of parking meters. Eliminating parking meters, a downtown fixture for nearly 75 years, is intended to reduce clutter and

PARKING continues on Page 8



ABOVE: The Palms at Ponte Vedra retirement community helps host the American Golf Memories Project.



RIGHT: Maxwell warms up before his party July 22 at the TPC Sawgrass Country Club.



Photo by Christine Rodenbaugh

Since the ParkNow card was launched in December 2007, about 40,000 have been sold to St. Johns County residents. The cards allow discounted parking in St. Augustine's downtown at meters and in the parking garage.

Anne Crawford celebrates 10 years as Assistant Branch Manager and Youth Services Librarian at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch — St. Johns County Public Library System where she enjoys working with kids and teens, inspiring them to love reading and libraries.

Anne Crawford

What can you share about your background?

I was born in Atlanta, and primarily raised from second grade in Norcross, Georgia by two wonderful parents, Bill and Cathy Snyder. My younger brother, Frank, is a foot taller than me with a super-deep voice, and we had a Siamese cat named Sammy, and later a Jack Russell Terrier named Skye. I had special needs: I was born partially deaf and attended the Atlanta Speech School until I was mainstreamed into public school in second grade. I also grappled with ADD after mainstreaming. While my home life was great, school was tough, particularly middle school and high school, due to bullying. All of this informed the person I am today and makes me that much more determined to help put more kindness into the world and encourage youth to do so as well.

How did you choose Stetson University?

My parents were born and raised in Palatka, Florida, and every summer until I was 22, we vacationed at my parents' "hometown beach" – Crescent Beach on Anastasia Island – at the beach condo they still own. I knew, at some point, they would retire to this very beach, and since we are so close, I wanted to live near them if I could in the future. That's what initially made me consider Florida schools. I thought about Flagler, but as I was still a dedicated clarinetist, it didn't have performance opportunities, but Stetson did. I found out that my paternal grandfather got his bachelor's degree at Stetson, and once I visited the school, I fell in love.

What inspired you to pursue library science at FSU?

I took a year off from school after Stetson to figure out what I wanted to do. Teaching wasn't quite the right fit for me, but through my work with the St. Augustine YMCA, I still knew my passion was working with children and, through the Story-times I created in my work with the Y, firing up kids about reading. I was in charge of Kindergarteners and first graders in the after-school program at Hartley Elementary, and every day, they clamored for me to read "The Foot Book" by Dr. Seuss after I read it a few times. When I noticed they could recite it without my saying a word, I decided to enter the whole group into the Y's Talent Contest being held after school. On stage, these kids (now 25 and 26 years old!), performed "The Foot Book," reciting the story and marching to the beat. They all won first place! I started thinking, what if I combine two of my passions – working with kids and reading? It turns out, as a Youth Services Librarian, I get to incorporate my third passion as well – music!

When and where was your first position at a library?

As of July 28, 2019, I will have worked for St. Johns County Public Library System for 16 years (10 here at PVB as of October 5, 2019). Branch Manager Amy Ring and I helped open the Southeast Branch Library in 2003. I was Children's Librarian, and she was the Young Adult Librarian, both fresh out of graduate school. I was promoted in July 2007 to Assistant Branch Manager and Youth Services Librarian at the Anastasia Island Branch Library. I transferred to Ponte Vedra in October 2009.

How have library services changed since then? How have they remained the same?

Technology has been a huge game changer for Libraries since 2003. Smart phones and streaming opportunities didn't exist, and the internet was still relatively young. Although our services and methods have adapted to evolve with these trends, our intent has not. We are still looking, with every interaction, to be helpful, to be accessible, and to be kind to each and every person we serve. More than ever, Libraries are community hubs that are helping to combat the distance all this technology creates, allowing for members of the community to share common interests, make friends and to simply feel accepted.

Tell us about your position at the Ponte Vedra Library.

I've had the pleasure of working as the Assistant Branch Manager and Youth Services Librarian since I was a newlywed in 2009. Branch Manager Amy Ring's leadership inspires me every day. I also get to work with Maribeth Wood who puts her heart into everything, tremendous staff and Friends of the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library. But most of all, I get the absolute pleasure of working with our kids and teens, inspiring them to love reading and libraries, and giving them a safe place to be themselves.

Kindle or traditional printed book?

Both! Whatever format gets you reading is a big thumbs up in my book – pun intended.



Photo by Christine Rodenbaugh

What's your favorite thing about working in Ponte Vedra?

My favorite thing about working in Ponte Vedra is the people. So many folks still remember when I was pregnant eight years ago and ask me with smiles about my daughter. Ponte Vedra – like the neighborhood I grew up in Georgia – can get an unfair rap of being an affluent community considered to be comprised of people who are aloof and unaccepting of differences. Nothing could be further from the truth! The people who visit the library are warm, kind individuals from a variety of walks of life and are so supportive of our efforts to be as inclusive and welcoming as possible. That attitude – from our patrons to our staff to our VolunTeens – is what allows us to especially reach kids and teens who may feel marginalized elsewhere but are at home and free to be themselves at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library.

UNITED WAY-SJC GATHERS TO CELEBRATE 2019, PLAN 2020



Photo by Christine Rodenbaugh

United Way-SJC volunteers and benefactors gather to listen to the organization's president, Melissa Nelson, share results from the 2018-2019 year and plans for the coming year. The year-end event on July 18 at Art 'n Motion in St. Augustine featured hors d'oeuvres from Purple Olive and beverages from Dog Rose Brewing and Carrera Wine Cellar. For information, visit www.unitedway-sjc.org.

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The Special Rate will be applied to the enrolled savings account for a period of 12 months, starting on the date the account is enrolled in the offer. However, for any day during that 12 month period that the daily account balance is less than the \$25,000, the enrolled account will not be eligible for the Special Rate and will instead earn the applicable Standard Interest Rate for a Platinum Savings account. As of 05/31/2019, the Standard Interest Rate and APY for a Platinum Savings account in CT, FL, NJ and NY with an account balance of \$0.01 and above is 0.05% (0.05% APY); and for a Platinum Savings account in DE and PA with an account balance of \$0.01 to \$99,999.99 is 0.05% (0.05% APY) and with an account balance of \$100,000 and above is 0.10% (0.10% 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, then-current 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. 2. Available in-branch only; you must speak with a banker to request the special rate. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is effective for accounts opened between 07/08/2019 and 08/30/2019 and requires a minimum of \$25,000 in new money brought to Wells Fargo. "New money" is money from sources outside of the customer's current relationship with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. or its affiliates (which includes deposit, brokerage and loan/credit accounts). 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. A penalty for early withdrawal will be imposed and could reduce earnings on this account. Special Rates are applicable to the initial term of the CD only. At maturity, the special rate CD will automatically renew for a term of 6 months, at the interest rate and APY in effect for CDs on renewal date not subject to a Special Rate, unless the Bank has notified you otherwise. 1., 2. Due to the new money requirement, new accounts may only be opened at your local branch and you must speak to a banker to request the special rate offers for both new and existing accounts. Wells Fargo reserves the right to modify or discontinue the offer at any time without notice. Minimum new money deposit requirement of at least \$25,000 is for this offer only and cannot be transferred to another account to qualify for any other consumer deposit offer. If you wish to take advantage of another consumer deposit offer requiring a minimum new money deposit, you will be required to do so with another new money deposit as stated in the offer requirements and qualifications. Offer cannot be: • Combined with any other consumer deposit offer. • Reproduced, purchased, sold, transferred, or traded. 3. The Portfolio by Wells Fargo program has a \$30 monthly service fee, which can be avoided when you have one of the following qualifying balances: \$25,000 or more in qualifying linked bank deposit accounts (checking, savings, CDs, FDIC-insured IRAs) or \$50,000 or more in any combination of qualifying linked banking, brokerage (available through Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC) and credit balances (including 10% of mortgage balances, certain mortgages not eligible). If the Portfolio by Wells Fargo relationship is terminated, the bonus interest rate on all eligible savings accounts, and discounts or fee waivers on other products and services, will discontinue and revert to the Bank's then-current applicable standard interest rate or fee. 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. © 2019 Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. All rights reserved. Deposit products offered by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. Member FDIC.

OBITUARIES

Dr. John H. Bumgarner

Dr. John H. Bumgarner, 82, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died peacefully at home on July 12, 2019, surrounded by family.

A resident of North Carolina, John spent the last years being cared for by his wife, Barbara, of 48 years, and his family here in Ponte Vedra Beach.

The Bumgarner family thanks the staff at Community Hospice of Northeast Florida for their loving care and support. Also, the family would like to extend its sincerest gratitude to Celeste Fitzgerald, of the Life Enrichment Day Retreat, for providing a wonderful day program where John could continue to participate and enjoy life to its fullest.

Memorial donations may be sent to St. Johns County Council on Aging 180 Marine St., St. Augustine, Florida, 32084.

James McCormick

James McCormick, 81, passed away July 14, 2019. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on January 23, 1938, and grew up in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He graduated from St. Mary's High School in Colorado Springs and received his B.S. in accounting from Regis University in Denver. He moved to the beaches area in 1998.

Jim proudly served our country in the U.S. Navy. He served on the aircraft carrier USS Shangri La out of Mayport Naval base and was in Guantanamo Bay during the Cuban Missile crises. He was a CPA and worked for what is now Ernest & Young. He also was a corporate accountant for GATX Corporation in Chicago. After his move to Florida he worked and volunteered for The Hubbard House Domestic Violence Shelter. He also volunteered for Friends of Jacksonville Animals (FOJA) as their financial advisor.

Jim is survived by his wife of 37 years Patricia "Tish" (nee Kalamar), daughters Kelly (Anthony) Broeg, Shannon (Marlon) Thomas and stepson Brian Lelko; grandchildren Zachary and Kaitlyn Broeg and Julian and Tyson Thomas. He was predeceased by his parents Agnes (nee Mortensen) and Michael McCormick.

A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, August 3, 2019 at 11 a.m. in the Chapel of Quinn-Shalz Funeral Home, 3600 Third Street South, Jacksonville Beach, FL.

In lieu of flowers donation may be made to Hubbard House, P.O. Box 4909, Jacksonville, FL 32201 or Friends of Jacksonville Animals 2020 Forest St, Jacksonville, FL 32204. Please visit our online Tribute at www.quinn-shalz.com. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home.



A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre
3600 Third Street South (904)249-1100

Dr. John Alfred Bowers

Dr. John Alfred Bowers, 89, of Jacksonville, died July 20, 2019. A memorial service will be held Friday, Sept. 6, at 11 a.m. in the chapel of Palms Presbyterian Church. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Mary Anne Langius Delaney

Mary Anne Langius Delaney, 88, died July 15, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Norman Francis Whitmore Fountain

Norman Francis Whitmore Fountain, 91, died July 18, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

June Pool Reed

June Pool Reed, 100, of Jacksonville Beach, died July 19, 2019. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

Irene Helen Spaziano

Irene Helen Spaziano, 89, died July 21, 2019. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedravally.com

Foundation for military veterans to host heroes breakfast Aug. 3

Purple Heart Veterans and those who served in the military will be honored at the "Breakfast for Our Heroes" event hosted by the We Can Be Heroes Foundation from 8 to 10 a.m., Aug. 3 at the Applebee's on J.T. Butler Blvd.

Along with honoring veterans with a complimentary breakfast, the event will also include food collection for local

homeless veterans in re-employment programs. Suggested items to donate are individual servings of nonperishable, pre-packaged or pop-top canned goods.

Seating for the breakfast is limited. For tickets, call (904) 373-8817 or google the phrase, "Breakfast with Our Heroes in Jacksonville." For more information, visit www.wecanbeheroesfoundation.org.

Parking

Continued from 5

make it easier for pedestrians, wheelchairs and strollers to get around. Parking pay stations will remain for anyone not using the ParkStAug app.

Back in 2009, the hourly metered rate was \$1.50, but those with a ParkNow Card paid 50 cents per hour at meters and just \$1 to enter the parking garage. Garage parking rates increased over time, but it's still affordable for County residents — \$3 to park in the garage and still 50 cents per hour at City meters. The on-street time limit is 3 hours; the parking lot time limit is 4 hours. Overnight parking is not allowed in the garage without a special permit.

The new app is not accepted in the parking garage. The only way to get the resident discount at the Historic Downtown Parking Facility is by using ParkNow Card, so the cards will remain in effect for the foreseeable future.

Download the ParkStAug app free from Google's Play Store or Apple's App Store to pay for parking in all city managed parking locations. The app is similar to others that facilitate online transactions. Once downloaded, the user enters a method of payment and the license plate number of the vehicle. Users can set up the app at home before going downtown to park.

St. Johns County residents can register for discounted fees at www.ParkStAug.com. Be prepared to upload images of your vehicle registration and driver's license.

According to Bennie, 868 St. Johns County residents have applied for and received the resident discount available on the ParkStAug app. Except during peak times, like weekends or holidays, the turnaround time for approval to receive the resident discount is within two days. Having the proper documentation when submitting the application expedites the process. A driver's license and vehicle registration with a St. Johns County address is required in order to get the residential discount. Those needing assistance may contact the Parking Division at (904) 845-1090.

Once registered, the resident discount rates will be automatic when paying to park using the app. When the vehicle is



Photos by Christine Rodenbaugh

Look for parking zone numbers on signage or pay stations. A zone number is required to initiate a parking session in the ParkStAug app available since February for Apple and Android phones.

parked, the user simply opens the app and selects the zone where the vehicle is located. The zone ID is displayed on signage in the area. Enter the desired amount of parking time, called a session, and with a quick click the user is legally parked. Users know the parking session has successfully started when the Parking Session screen with a session countdown and expiration time is displayed.

When the session is about to expire, the app sends an alert and time can be added to the session if so desired. There's no need to skip dessert or cut shopping time short because of having to hurry back to the vehicle to "feed the meter."

Parking is enforced Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., except on Cathedral Place and King Street where enforcement begins at 10 a.m. Parking is enforced every day in the lot for the Castillo de San Marcos National Monument. Complete information on parking in St. Augustine is available online at www.CityStAug.com. Selecting 'Parking' under the Living or Visiting tabs.

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Nocatee Farmers Market features reptile show, military recognition event

By Christine Rodenbaugh

Hot, humid summer Florida weather did not deter Nocatee residents from attending the monthly farmers market July 20 at Station Field. The bounce houses were visited by a steady stream of shrieking children while parents sipped a cold drink or tasted fare from food vendors. Some visited the market to shop for produce, specialty foods, crafts and other wares. Others came for a special Wild Encounters experience presented by Gatorland or to recognize Marines serving overseas at the Marine Military Give Back event.

Nocatee resident Becky Turner organized the Marine Military Give Back event to recognize those serving overseas. Two of Turner's four sons, Charles and Chad, are currently serving in the military. Charles gave up a college scholarship and his job at Publix to serve his country. He's in basic training now and plans to study engineering. His older brother, Chad, is a lieutenant.

The mission at the farmers market was to collect essentials and package them for delivery to deployed Marines. To find out what items would be most appreciated, Turner asked a Marine in Afghanistan what he would like to find in an unexpected package. The request was for simple items: instant coffee, lip balm, deodorant, razors, toothpaste, wipes, protein packs, magazines and playing cards.

Pooles from Recruiting Sub-Station Ponte Vedra helped fill the gift bags to be sent overseas. The local pooles have either graduated or are currently attending Ponte Vedra High School, Nease High School, Creekside High School and Bartram Trail High School.

"I'm here to support those in uniform in Northeast Florida," said Representative Cord Byrd, Florida House District 11. He was on site to talk to donors and volunteers and also donated 100 packages to the cause.



ABOVE: Rep. Cord Byrd, Florida House District 11, and Becky Turner were at the market to facilitate stuffing packages to send to Marines overseas.



LEFT: Connor Melquist will be in second grade at PVPV. He took advantage of the bounce houses on site at the Nocatee Farmers Market July 20.

Photos by Christine Rodenbaugh

When the reptile handler from Gatorland announced the Wild Encounter presentation, the bounce houses emptied, and a crowd gathered at the open-air stage. Gatorland's Steven Thompson told the audience how to identify Florida's venomous snakes while holding a python. He also called for a youth volunteer who had the chance to hold an alligator while Thompson talked about the reptile's anatomy. Between shows, Thompson let a red footed tortoise wander through the grass and held the python for children willing to get close enough touch the snake.

The next Nocatee Farmers Market will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Aug. 17 at Station Field near the waterpark.



Gatorland's Steven Thompson (right) hands an alligator to apprehensive volunteer William.



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Thursday, July 25	Friday, July 26	Saturday, July 27	Sunday, July 28
<p>Fun with Macarons at JAX Cooking Studio Learn to make colorful and flavorful macarons from the talented Chef Verousce of Koek Cakes and The Perfect Pear Catering. Chef Verousce has a passion for teaching others her craft, so the JAX Cooking Studio is prepared for an exciting evening of baking. Fees cost \$60 per adult. Add a child that's ten years or older with an adult registration for \$35. Children registering at discounted price will make half of the adult quantity of each menu item. The class will be from 6:30 to 9 p.m. on July 25 at JAX Cooking Studio. JAX Cooking Studio is located at 14035 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Ancient dunes trail hike Discover the park's natural communities while enjoying a guided hike through ancient dunes from 9 to 10 a.m. on July 25 at Anastasia State Park. The hike may only be a mile long, but the level is still more challenging than others due to the natural sloping landscape and elevation. Hikers are to meet by the parking lot at the Hill-top Picnic area. Bring binoculars, comfortable walking shoes, a camera, water, bug spray and sunscreen. This event is weather permitting and subject to cancellation. Florida State Park Junior Rangers are also eligible to receive a recreation stamp in the Junior Ranger Passports. Program is free with regular park admission fee. For more information, email chanell.guillaume@floridadep.gov. Anastasia Park is located at 300 Anastasia Park Rd. in St. Augustine.</p> <p>SHREK: The Musical SHREK: The Musical will be showing at 8 p.m. on July 25 at the Players by the Sea theater. Thursdays nights are student nights! Students can purchase tickets at the discounted price of \$14 at the door with a valid student ID. General admission is \$28. Players by the Sea is located at 106 Sixth St. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Starling at Nocatee open house Assisted living community, Starling at Nocatee will host an open house from 9 to 11 a.m. on July 25. Tours will be offered every 15 minutes and light refreshments will be served. Starling at Nocatee is located at 999 Crosswater Pkwy. in Ponte Vedra.</p>	<p>GreenhouseYoga Join Maggie's Herb Farm on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 10 to 11:30 a.m. for a mindful Kripalu flow yoga practice in the greenhouse. 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>Night at the Zoo summer series Beat the summer heat at Jacksonville Zoo's "Night at the Zoo" summer series from 6:30 to 10 p.m. on July 26. As the final event of the series, Jax Zoo is pleased to inform that all have been accepted to attend Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens' "Night of Witchcraft and Wizardry." Learn how to make a proper wand for a witch or wizard. Enjoy live music in the Great Lawn or Range of the Jaguar areas. Trivia about the boy who lived will bring out the inner Hermione Granger in Harry Potter fans. Play games on the Great Lawn or attend classes about potions, botany and magical creatures. For event tickets and more information, visit www.nightatthezoo.jacksonvillezoo.org/2019/. The Jacksonville Zoo is located at</p> <p>Sublime with Rome featuring guests, Michael Franti and Spearhead, Common Kings and Seranation Sublime with Rome will be performing on July 26 at the St. Augustine Amphitheater with guests, Michael Franti and Spearhead, Common Kings and Seranation. The gates open at 4 p.m. and the show begins at 5:30 p.m. With Sublime bassist and co-founder, Eric Wilson, anchoring the group, Sublime with Rome are armed with a new album produced by Rob Cavallo, who has worked with Green Day, My Chemical Romance, Linkin Park and more. The latest release is an expression of three musicians who get each other and who communicate seamlessly through their instruments. For more information, visit www.staugamphitheatre.com. The St. Augustine Amphitheater is located at 1340C A1A S. in St. Augustine.</p>	<p>'Dozin' with Dinos' at the MOSH Guests will be able to spend the night at MOSH next to their favorite dinosaurs in the current traveling exhibition, "Expedition: Dinosaur," from July 27-28. Discover the world of dinos and the hunt for their fossils in the early 20th century. Check-in for the event is at 5:30 p.m. at the front desk. Evening activities will begin at 6 p.m. Cost is \$28 for museum members and \$35 for nonmembers. The sleepover includes a late-night snack and drink, museum time and breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Specify any dietary restrictions or food allergies to evalnoha@themosh.org. For more information, visit www.themosh.org. The Museum of Science & History is located at 1025 Museum Cir. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Jax Beach 'Summer Arts' market Join the Jax Beach community for its second "Summer Arts" market from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on July 27 at the Seawalk Pavillion. The market will feature local artists, jewelry, crafts vendors and more. For more information, email Jon at jon@softsandconsulting.com. The Seawalk Pavillion is located at 75 First St. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>'Around the World' wine tasting and painting Creative Blends Cafe is hosting an "Around the World" wine tasting event, featuring Painting with a Twist. The wine tasting begins at 5:30 on July 27 with the painting beginning at 7 p.m. Sample wines from countries around the world, such as New Zealand, Italy, Spain, France and Argentina. For prices and reservations, call (904) 687-4307 or email info@creativeblendscfe.com. Creative Blends Cafe is located at 262 Solana Rd. in Ponte Vedra.</p> <p>GreyHawk community "Flock Party" GreyHawk is hosting its own kind of the block party, a "Flock Party." Celebrate the summer season and the grand opening of the community's amenity center and model homes from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on July 27. The party is free and open to the public and will feature food trucks, live music and games for all ages, including a giant slide, obstacle course and more. GreyHawk community is located at 1090 Oakleaf Plantation Pkwy. in Orange Park.</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>Swing Dance Sundays Swing Dance Sundays is a weekly event with free lessons starting at 7 p.m. at The Volstead. Attendees can either bring a partner or join in on their own as they learn and experience all the swingin' steps of this classic, 1920's-style dance. The Volstead is located at 115 West Adams St. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Corey Kilgannon at Blue Jay Listening Room Corey Kilgannon, who also records and performs as the alter ego Radiant Phaedrus, is a Florida-based indie folk singer/songwriter and multi-instrumentalist. Born in New York, Kilgannon was raised in Jacksonville Beach, Florida, where he began playing guitar at eight and writing songs at 13. He began recording his music professionally in 2012. Kilgannon will be performing from 8 to 10:30 p.m. on July 28 at Blue Jay Listening Room. Tickets are \$20. For more information, visit www.bluejayjax.com. Blue Jay Listening Room is located at 2457B Third St. S. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>'Yoga and Brews' at Southern Swells Southern Swells Brewing Co. opens its doors early Sunday mornings for a free yoga class at 11 a.m. The brewery is only open to class participants so they can enjoy a relaxing practice and then, sip on a delicious beer to start off a refreshing, relaxing Sunday. Bring a yoga mat, towel and water bottle. Class is limited to the first 40 participants. For more information, email info@southernswells.com. Southern Swells Brewing Co. is located at 1312 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville Beach.</p>

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Monday, July 29	Tuesday, July 30	Wednesday, July 31	Thursday, Aug. 1
<p>Unusual Grape Varieties: Beyond the Obvious and Familiar There are some 1,300 different grape varieties grown worldwide, specifically for commercial wine production. This class is designed for adventurous, open-minded individuals that venture beyond the obvious and the familiar. The class will explore wines — the likes of which only seen in cutting edge restaurants and retailers in America. The class will taste seven wines and the cost of the wine is included in the fee. All participants must be at least 21 years of age. Class cost is \$79. Visit www.campusce.net and look up UNF to register. The Adam W. Herbert University Center is located at 12000 Alumni Drive in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Run Club at Southern Swells Join Jax Beach Runners on Monday nights at Southern Swells Brewing Co. for an evening run starting at 7 p.m. It is a 4.2-mile route, but runners can run as much or as little as they'd like. After the run, hang out and enjoy \$1 off Southern Swells beers for all who ran. For more information about Jax Beach Runners and their events, visit their meetup page at www.meetup.com/Jax-Beach-Runners/. Southern Swells Brewing Co. is located at 1312 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>'Babes + Books' meeting "Babes + Books" is the the official book club of "Babes Who Hustle." Led by Hurley Winkler in the Jacksonville location, the club features women-written and women-focused pieces, taking place in venues in various cities around the world. Jacksonville's meeting will take place on July 29 at Social Grounds Coffee at 6:30 p.m., starting with some networking, following a discussion on this month's book, "Stay Sexy and Don't Get Murdered" by Karen Kilgariff and Georgia Hardstark. For more information, visit www.babeswhohustle.com/bookclub. Call Social Grounds Coffee at (904) 683-2437 for more information.. Social Grounds Coffee is located at 1712 N. Main St. in Jacksonville.</p>	<p>Florida Blue free Tuesdays at The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens On Tuesday evenings from 4 to 9 p.m., enjoy free admission to the Cummer Museum and its historic art galleries and gardens, thanks to the generous support of Florida Blue. The Cummer Café is also open for Tapas Tuesday, sponsored by Vystar. The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens is located at 829 Riverside Ave. in Jacksonville.</p> <p>Kids \$1 Tuesdays at Trasca Co. & Eatery Take the family out and save some money on Tuesdays at Trasca & Co Eatery. Children eat for \$1 with the purchase of an adult entrée. The special works for dine-in, take out and deliveries. For more information, call Trasca & Co Eatery at (904) 395-3989. Trasca & Co Eatery is located at 155 Tourside Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p>Bingo Tuesdays at Mellow Mushroom Join Mellow Mushroom every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. for food, drinks, fun, and prizes. Grab some good friends and family, and get ready a groovy time. Stick around after for late-night happy hour specials. Mellow Mushroom is located at 1018-2 Third St. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>'Social Media #PRo Panel' hosted by North Florida PRSA In the world of social media marketing, brands often pursue the low-effort game of tweeting, Instagramming, feeding Facebook, and creating LinkedIn updates about products, services, and educational content, but see little engagement. Unwrap the secrets to creating content that helps audiences learn more about the brand. Meet with social media masterminds from iconic brands and learn how practitioners can create content that stops audiences from scrolling and gets them to engage with content. The Panel will run from 5-6:30 p.m. on July 30 at Nemours Home Office. Panelists include Melissa Lee, Director of Digital Content for Firehouse Subs, Darnell Brady, Social Media Manager for the Jacksonville Jaguars and more. To register for tickets and more information, visit www.nfprsa.org. Nemours Home Office is located at 10150 Centurion Pkwy. N. in Jacksonville.</p>	<p>Twilight golf league at St. Johns Golf Club Sign up a three-person, captain's choice team for St. Johns Club's drop-in every Wednesday evening at 5:30 p.m. The league runs through fall and costs \$17 for members and \$23 for non-members. For more information, contact Tommy Aycock at taycock@sjcfl.us or (904) 209-0350. The St. Johns Club is located at 4900 Cypress Links Blvd. in Elkton.</p> <p>Back to School Drive at Palms Presbyterian Church From now through Aug. 4, the community can help a child in need of supplies for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year. Palms Presbyterian Church is gathering school supplies and healthy snacks to assist elementary school students from four area schools. Brown paper bags with supply lists attached will be at the end of each row of chairs in Fellowship Hall. Pick one up between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., have fun shopping and return the donation items to Palms before August 4. Donation bins will be located in Fellowship Hall, the church office and the preschool office. For more information on donation items or questions, email Sallie Gipson at sallie.gipson@palmschurch.org. Palms Presbyterian Church is located at 3410 Third St. S. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>'Weekdayze of Summer' open studio Join Creative Grain Studio for its new weekday open studio sessions. Visit any time between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. (last project at 2:30PM) for the chance to create anything the studio has on hand. Registration is not necessary and all pre-printed designs will be discounted. Creative Grain is a DIY crafting studio where guests transform unfinished wood into personalized works of art. For more information, visit www.creativegrainstudio.com. Creative Grain Studio is located at 1814 Hendricks Ave. in Jacksonville.</p>	<p>College Day at Beaches Rock Gym All active students at any college, university or trade school can visit Beaches Rock Gym and show their student IDs at the front desk for free shoe rentals. The special will go on all day from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Aug. 1. For more information, call (904) 222-0707. The Beaches Rock Gym is located at 14 W. Third St. in Atlantic Beach.</p> <p>St. Augustine Moms Blog's final 'Summer Explore' tour at Anastasia Island The St. Augustine Moms Blog's "Summer Explore" tour is at its end with the final beach visit to at 11 a.m. on Aug. 1 at Anastasia Island. The group will meet at the playground and picnic pavilion for playtime, then head to the beach or out to the trails for a nature hike. This is one of St. Augustine Moms Blog's favorite spots due to the multiple activities offered at the island. Entry is \$8 per vehicle. The "Explore" tour is designed to connect moms and families in the St. Augustine community. Anastasia Island is located at 300 Anastasia Park Road in St. Augustine.</p> <p>Healthy school lunches class Join the Jacksonville Health and Wellness Center from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Aug. 1 as they walk families through healthy lunch ideas to pack for children for this upcoming school year. The class will include samples and recipes to help successfully implement a new way of eating that promotes health, vitality and awareness. Jax Health and Wellness personal fitness professional, Leah Klein, aspires to help coach others on a path to finding their optimal health and wellness. For information or to register for the class, call (904) 886-9804. The Jacksonville Health and Wellness Center is located at 9957 Moorings Drive, Ste #403 in Jacksonville.</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@opcfla.com or call (904) 686-3939.</p>

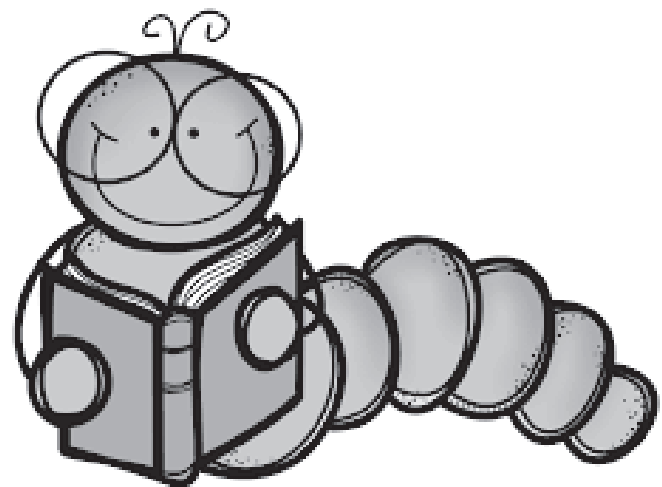
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STORM READINESS

Pages 12-14

Tips on hurricane disaster preparation

Residents of St. Johns County have experienced many storms throughout history and as hurricane season is underway, it's important to know the basics of preparation.

Here are some "before the storm" tips from SJCC Emergency Management that might make a big impact the next time a hurricane strikes.

- Prescription information — medication, dosage, refills

- Doctors' names and telephone numbers

- Insurance documents - business, home, flood, vehicle including, policy numbers, policy types and household inventory; dvd, photo, video

- Banking/creditor information and contact numbers

- Documents — adoption, death, divorce or marriage certificates; copies of wills; home, property, vehicle titles; passports

Gather important information

Along with contact information for family members and friends, be sure to include banking, insurance and medical contacts. Include additional numbers that are important in case the evacuation lasts for an extended period of time. Keep all contact information up to date in a small notebook for easy access should residents be ordered to evacuate.

Bring all documents that are difficult or impossible to replace. This includes,

- Driver's license/picture ID/state-issued ID
- Cash/credit cards/debit cards
- Important telephone numbers and emergency contacts
- Medical records

Emergency supply kit

Ensure you and your family are prepared before a disaster strikes. If the community is impacted you may lose access to basic services, such as power and water. Access to essentials like food and water may be limited. Stock up on essentials and prepare. Here is a helpful list of all supplies that might come in handy.

- Water — One gallon per person per day for three to five days

STORM READY continues on Page 13



Don't Wait for this Red Flag!

Dead trees and limbs need to be removed before a storm approaches.

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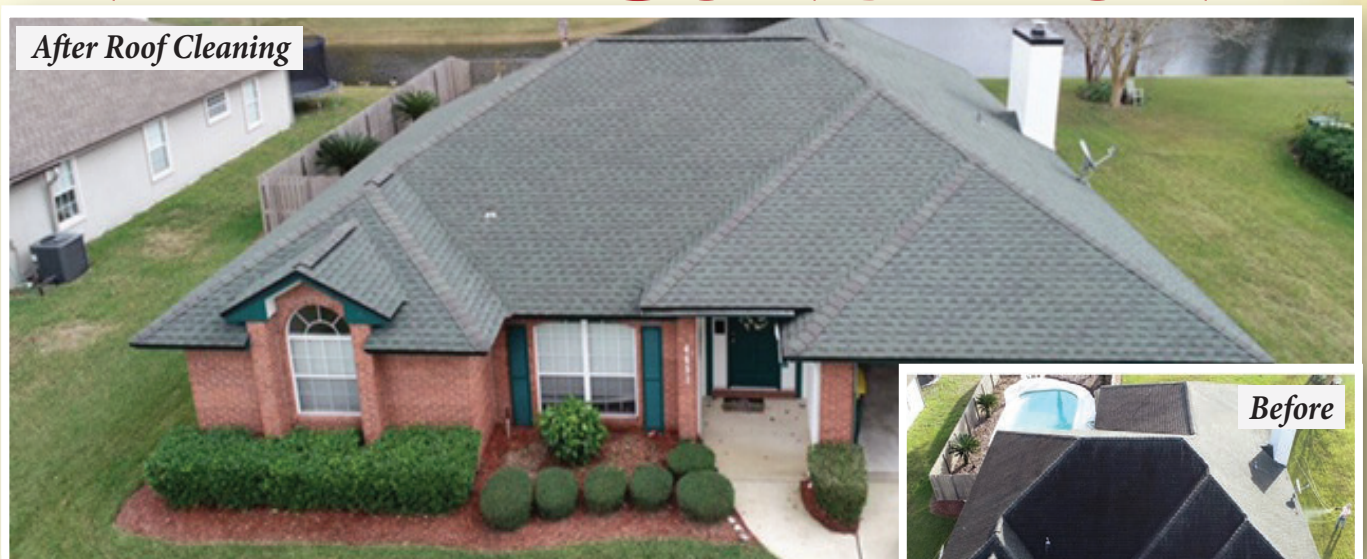


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Small businesses need to be storm ready



Bernie Dandridge
SBA/USDA
Business Development Specialist for
Florida Capital Bank

Small businesses make up 99.8% of all businesses in Florida, according to the Small Business Administration. As an SBA/USDA Business Development Specialist for Florida Capital Bank, I work with small business owners throughout the state; I'm especially passionate about supporting the success of local small businesses right here in our community.

With hurricane season underway, now is the time to make sure your business is prepared to weather this

year's storms. The 2018 National Hurricane Center report revealed that Hurricane Michael, a category five storm, caused \$18.4 billion dollars of devastation in Florida — damage that impacted thousands of small businesses.

Along with encouraging all Ponte Vedra residents to be safe during this time, it's equally important to ensure small business owners are prepared and aware of the resources available to them in the event of a disaster. FEMA's Ready Business Hurricane Toolkit warns that 40% of small businesses affected by a natural disaster won't reopen. Often due to a lack of preparation.

It's never too early or late to begin preparing for an emergency. Here are a few ways to get your business ready:

SECURE INFORMATION AND DATA

The first thing I advise is that you have a plan for securing important information. Your customers' informa-

tion and records are vital to the success of your business. Whether you have a cloud-based security system or a protected vault, it's important to make sure these documents and information are safe but also accessible. After a storm, remember that you may not have access to your place of business if there are damages. Keep that in mind as you implement plans for storing your data.

REVIEW INSURANCE COVERAGE

There are two parts to insurance. The first is knowing the ins and outs of your coverage prior to a disaster. Check your insurance policy to make sure that there are no caveats. Review property insurance, flood insurance and business interruption coverage. The second part is having the information accessible in the event of an emergency. This includes not only your coverage and plan details, but also your agent's contact information. You'll want to quickly be able to contact your agent if you need to make repairs to your place of business, such as a leak in the roof or flooding. Have your insurance information handy because the sooner you can file a claim, the sooner you can return to normal operations.

CREATE A COMMUNICATIONS GAME PLAN

Communicating to your customers during and after a disaster is important. Preparing this plan, in advance, is the key to being successful. Consider that you may have to close for several days. How can you effectively communicate that to your customers, employees and partners? There are several channels of communication to consider: email, text alerts, phone, website and social media. Whichever you decide is best for your business, have

a plan in place and keep the momentum going through constant updates.

KNOW YOUR SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCES

In our community, the most valuable resource for small business owners is the Small Business Development Center at the University of North Florida. If you don't already have a local SBDC consultant, the center offers free consultations for small business owners. Through the SBDC at UNF, consultants can guide business owners through disaster relief offerings, including short-term lending options to aid with payroll and disaster-related costs. The worst thing that can happen to a small business is a shutoff of revenue. Without a constant flow of revenue, employees can't be paid, and the business can cease to function.

Not only is the SBDC at UNF a great resource for after a disaster, but even now, they have access to extensive information and resources that they want to share with small business owners. If your business needs help after a disaster, seek support. In 2018, the SBA approved nearly \$7 billion for disaster recovery loans. Find out more information by visiting sbdc.unf.edu.

LEARN FROM PAST MISTAKES

My last piece of advice is to learn from past experiences. Hurricanes and storms are unfortunately very common in our state. Be aware of businesses in your area that may be similar to your business in size or industry and learn from their mistakes as well.

For more information, visit floridacapitalbank.com.

Storm Ready

Continued from 12

- Non-perishable foods/manual can opener
- Specialty Items such as baby food, formula and diapers for infants; Depends for the elderly; specialty foods for diabetic diets should also be included.
- Prescriptions/medications
- Clothing, including rain gear and sturdy shoes
- First aid kit
- Sanitation supplies — wipes, garbage bags
- Personal hygiene items
- Flashlights and extra batteries
- Radio — battery-operated or hand crank
- Electronics and chargers — cellphones, tablets, laptops, etc.
- Activities — books, cards, games, toys
- Cash — banks and ATMs may not be available
- Any additional items you or your family may need
- Pet supplies — At least three to five-day supply.

Know your risk

Residents of St. Johns County are evacuated by zone, so it is important you know your zone. Visit the St. Johns County Emergency Management website and click the "My Evacuation Zone" link, enter your address and Know Your Zone.

Hurricane evacuation zones define the areas that need to evacuate. Each zone is vulnerable to different levels of storm surge.

- Along the Atlantic coastline are evacuation zones A, B, C, D and E.
- The coastal counties of Northeast Florida (Nassau, Duval, St. Johns and Flagler) have added an evacuation zone, Zone F.
- Along the St. Johns River, Zone F represents a



Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

separate hazard comprised of low areas, or areas subject to flooding under specific conditions. Zone F in St. Johns County includes the lower lying areas on the western edge of the county along the St. Johns River, including portions of Hastings, Flagler Estates, Picolata and Wards Creek.

To find your evacuation zone online, visit the SJC Emergency Management website www.sjcemergency-management.org

In addition to knowing your zone, it is important to note that the SJC Emergency Management also discontinued the re-entry program as of 2017. Evacuation re-entry

will now be accomplished through proof of residency in evacuated areas. Examples of proof of residency can be a driver's license, state identification card, utility bill or lease agreement.

In the past, re-entry tags were issued to residents and business owners east of the Intracoastal Waterway. Green tags were issued for residents and business owners were issued two orange tags per business. While the tags were not mandatory, the goal was to facilitate a smoother and quicker re-entry process, but the program was determined to be ineffective.



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JULY 25, 2019

Celebrating 50 years of the
PONTE VEDRA

Recorder

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader



Photos courtesy of Michelle Floyd

Welcome to the summer issue of Sand Castles – a luxury, lifestyle and real estate seasonal section



Janet Westling
Contributing Editor

Summer is in full swing and this issue of Sand Castles is filled with wonderful ideas, design projects for your kitchen and pool information in case of a hurricane.

Heidi Zawacki's home renovation update continues with tips on product selection and inspiration for her new kitchen design. A new company with a focus on landscape and lighting recently opened for business and is aptly called Paradise Illumination. Pools by John Clarkson shares useful information on preparing your pool for a hurricane. The hurricane season started June 1 and runs until Nov. 30. It never hurts to be prepared!

I have commented in the past about the dog days of summer, which generally last from July 3 to Aug. 11. Webster defines those days as, "a period marked with lethargy, inactivity or indolence." What better way to survive the summer heat than to stay hydrated and eat healthy? Personal Chef Alice Hickox shares simple recipes using fresh, local seafood and seasonal citrus.

While the temperatures soar this

summer a lot of activity is going on in Ponte Vedra beach and our nation's capital. Many of us travel to Washington, D.C. over the summer and Mark and Elizabeth Barnette recently attended Ralph Reed's Faith and Freedom Coalition where President Trump spoke on the opening day of the conference. The four-day event featuring an array of prominent speakers concluded Saturday evening June 29 with a keynote speech by Vice President Pence.

Closer to home, a new very exciting real estate project is underway as the Cultural Center of Ponte Vedra embarks on a capital campaign to fund a \$15 million Cultural Center in the heart of Ponte Vedra Beach.

The local real estate market has been very healthy, very busy and continues on an upward curve this season. We hear from 16 seasoned First Coast Realtors who share their listings from the St. John's

River to the Atlantic Ocean.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices broker Holly Hayes gives us a neighborhood update in our market watch and shares with our readers a snapshot of the activity that is going on in many neighborhoods in Ponte Vedra Beach.

A neighborhood that could be described as Ponte Vedra's best-kept secret is River Marsh! I write about this in an article called Neighborhood Spotlight.

Our home is our castle, and at the beach it is our castle in the sand. From palm trees to sand dunes, golf courses to resort living, Ponte Vedra Beach and the Beaches communities offer the most desirable real estate in Northeast Florida.

Janet Westling, REALTOR, GRI, CIPS
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
Florida Network Realty
Sand Castles creator and contributing editor
Award-winning section
www.janetwestling.com

MARKET WATCH

Real estate market is hot as July beach sand

By Holly Hayes

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
Florida Network Realty

It is amazing how time flies. We have now passed Spring Break and the start of our dreaded hurricane season, and now we're in the midst of the heat of summer and tourist season.

We are working with buyers in all price points and inventory is still a challenge, but the market is as hot as the beach sand these days. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty is a market leader in luxury listings and sales, and the market is alive and well with some exceptional numbers.

Take a look at the availability, buying activity and prices per square foot for residential and condominium sales in Ponte Vedra Beach for the Q2 of 2019.

OCEANFRONT

Currently, there are 25 active properties ranging in price from \$697,400 to \$10,850,000. The average list price is \$4,232,832 with an average square footage of 5,054 and an average price-per-square-foot of \$801.49. Listings are lingering on the market an average of 421 days.

There are currently three properties in pending status ranging in price from \$1,549,000 to \$6,500,000.

There have been 15 closed sales in the second quarter priced between \$720,525 and \$7,700,000 with an average sales price of \$2,927,368. Homes are selling at an

average of 95% of list price with 3,280 square feet averaging \$908.34 per square foot spending 96 days on market.

More than \$43 million in volume was sold between April 1 and July 1.

OCEANFRONT | SOUTH PONTE VEDRA

Currently, there are 32 active properties ranging in price from \$699,000 to \$2,975,000. The average list price is \$1,393,850 with an average square footage of 3,227 and an average price-per-square-foot of \$443.39. Days on market average is 134.

There are currently two properties in pending status ranging in price from \$1,220,000 to \$1,599,000.

There have been 16 closed sales in the second quarter priced between \$550,000 and \$1,342,000 with an average sales price of \$926,682 at 95% of list price. Sales average 2,392 square feet at \$410.88 per square foot. Days on market average is 251.

Almost \$15 million in volume sold during this time.

SAWGRASS COUNTRY CLUB

Currently, there are nine active properties ranging in price from \$410,000 to \$875,000. The average list price is \$609,333 with an average square footage of 2,428 and an average price-per-square-foot of \$254.06. Days on market average 87.



MARKET WATCH continues on Page 19

Photo courtesy of metrocreativeconnection.com

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Pool prep for hurricane season

By Judson Clarkson

Pools by John Clarkson

Many of you are likely busy preparing to leave for the annual summer family vacation or perhaps you are back from vacation and are consumed with getting your kids ready to go back to school. Before you know it, we will hear weather reports of a storm that is forming out in the Atlantic and heading this way. After all, we are already close to two months into the 2019 hurricane season — if you can believe it.

The last thing any homeowner wants to contemplate right now is a potential hurricane, especially after families in Northeast Florida have had a rough past couple of seasons and some are still dealing with damage caused by Irma. Nevertheless, it is better to make your plan and ask the questions now, while things are calm, before the storm is a couple days away from landfall.

For better or worse, many pool owners have become proficient in hurricane preparedness thanks to Irma and Matthew. But for those who need a little advice, we thought it would be beneficial to review a few tips regarding how to prepare your pool for a hurricane. The challenge is each pool, deck space and yard are different. You may have commercial-sized deck drain or great natural change in elevation that assists with drainage, or you may have minimal deck drainage or drains that are clogged with dirt and don't allow for much drainage at all. Each situation is unique and must be viewed as such but, hopefully, you can take a few tips and then adjust as needed based on your situation.

The first question pool builders are asked is, "Should I drain my pool or lower the water level at all?" The Florida Swimming Pool Association does not mince words when it comes to emptying your pool. They strongly advise for homeowners not to empty their pool. The reason being, if water is removed from the pool, and the heavy rains from the storm raise the water table in your area, you may walk outside after the storm to find the structure of your pool floating in your yard. Because you removed the weight of the water, which was holding the pool shell down, the pressure from the water table under the pool becomes forceful enough to push the structure out of the ground causing all sorts of other problems.

The most common follow-up question we get is, "Should I drain the water level inside the pool at all?" The answer varies greatly depending on each situation. If the surrounding deck has enough drainage and the water from the deck and house gutters properly drains into the yard, lowering the level in the pool may not be necessary. If you are concerned with the pool overflowing and the drainage not keeping up, you can lower the



Photo courtesy Paradise Illumination LLC

level of water in the pool —but you are opening yourself up to other risks.

The FSPA recommends not to lower the pool more than 1 foot for a typical pool with standard depths. Draining the pool too much increases the chance the pool will float with ground saturation. The other requirements for draining the pool below the waterline tile are to shut off the valve and close off the skimmer. If water does not flow into the skimmer while the pump is running, the pump will run dry and burn up causing potential serious issues. Other pool owners choose to drain the pool to the bottom of the waterline tile but leave it high enough so that water is still getting inside their skimmer to prevent any potential issues with the pump.

If you choose to drain your pool before the storm — and it's likely draining will be needed after the storm — there should be a hose bib on the pool equipment. Attach a garden hose and run it to the best place to drain water on your property, turn on the pump to run the system, open the hose bib and water will start draining from the pool. Keep an eye on the progress or set a timer to keep checking the level. Be careful not to get distracted and let the pool drain below the waterline.

Other preventative measures include adding chlorine to, even if you have a salt chlorinator, and circulating it as much as possible before shutting the equipment off. It is recommended to turn off all electric power to the pool equipment at the circuit breaker. If the setup has a gas heater, it is recommended to shut off the valve supplying gas in case the line is compromised during the storm. If you live in a low-lying area and are concerned with the equipment area flooding, it is possible to disconnect the pump and store it in a dry room. A flooded pump will likely need parts replaced. In most cases, pool owners opt to shut off the equipment and then wrap any exposed electrical equipment with a waterproof material.

The last general question often asked is, "Should I throw my pool furniture

into my pool?" It is ideal to move any loose furniture and objects that are usually in the pool area inside the garage or house. If that is not possible, place them gently inside the pool to prevent them from becoming projectiles in the storm. The downside is, the furniture could scrape and consequently damage the plaster finish. The other concern is the chemicals in the pool may cause damage to the furniture.

After the hurricane has passed, drain the pool as needed to its normal level. If there is a heavy amount of debris inside the pool, use a pole and net to manually remove the debris as needed so the pump and filter don't get clogged. Once the pool is clean, inspect all the electrical equipment and make sure all valves are in the proper position. If everything is dry and all connections appear to be intact, turn the power back on at the breaker and get the pump running. If you hear any strange noises or smell anything burning, shut the equipment off and call a professional. If the equipment runs normally, it is time to test the chemistry. It is ideal to stock up and store chemicals in a safe place before the storm so you can then shock the pool and add chemicals as needed. You may need to vacuum sand out of the pool and, depending on how much debris goes through the filter, you may need to replace filter elements after getting the pool back up and running. Monitor the system closely to ensure everything is operating properly.

Hopefully, Northeast Florida will have a quiet hurricane season in 2019. However, if a storm heads our way, if you don't feel comfortable doing some of the tips above in preparation or after the storm has passed, contact an FSPA-approved pool professional who will be able to assist you. Keep in mind however, in the days leading up to as well as the weeks after, professionals will be inundated with service calls.

Until the weather channel reports systems forming, use the remaining time this summer to enjoy your pool area with friends and family.

Take outdoor space 'from ordinary to an oasis'

By Marian Riddle

Paradise Illumination LLC

With lighting and landscaping, Paradise Illumination LLC seeks to take an ordinary yard and turn it into a private piece of paradise.

William and Marian Riddle transformed their run-down foreclosure into something that looks and feels like a resort.

"We wanted our backyard to be a place that you couldn't wait to get home to. A place that made you feel like you were at a weekend getaway instead of home," Marian Riddle said.

They turned a not-so-cared-for property into a stunning display, both during the daytime and at night. Installing landscape lighting catapulted the beautiful landscape to another level.

"Our place was so beautiful during the daytime and we wanted that same feeling at night, without the hot sun," William Riddle said.

So they learned how to install landscape lighting and transformed the oasis into a warm, relaxing night retreat. Floating in the pool one day and admiring the view, Marian told William they should start transforming other people's properties. That was the beginning of Paradise Illumination.

Adding some tropical plants, palms, rock, paint and decorations from local shops in St. Augustine makes all the difference. Whether clients want a tropical paradise or a more Zen-like serenity feel, William and Marian can help create the space. William has extensive knowledge and many years in the landscape industry and Marian has quite the eye for color schemes, decorations and that special touch to blend everything together, making the two of them quite a team.

The husband and wife duo enjoy working together and transforming properties into something that homeowners cannot wait to show off.

"We strive to make your area not only beautiful, but also low maintenance. After all, we want you spending the majority of your time enjoying your oasis, not working on it," Marian Riddle said.

Paradise Illumination specializes in landscape lighting and property enhancements. They can transform that dark property into a lighted work of art. Throw in some plants, palms and decorations and the result is a resort-style area that is sure to be a hit during social gatherings.

Market Watch

Continued from 16

There are two properties in Contingent status at \$375,000 and \$1,050,000.

There is one home in pending status at \$899,000.

There have been eight closed sales in the second quarter priced between \$323,000 and \$1,850,000 with an average sales price of \$818,062 at 95% of list price. Average square feet is 3,197 at \$262.61 per square foot, spending 147 days on market.

Just over \$6.5 million in sold volume for the quarter.

OLD PONTE VEDRA | NON OCEANFRONT

Currently, there are 26 active properties ranging in price from \$465,000 to \$6,750,000. The average list price is \$2,000,492 with an average square footage of 3,783 and an average price-per-square-foot of \$500.44. Properties average 118 days on market.

There are currently two properties in contingent status at \$625,000 and \$3,695,000, and six properties in pending status ranging in price from \$515,000 to \$4,995,000.

There have been 11 closed sales in the second quarter priced between \$626,100 and \$1,975,000 with an average sales price of \$1,269,627 at 96% of list price. Homes average 3,251 square feet at \$387.04 per square foot and 85 days on market.

This area had a sold volume of \$13.9 million.

MARSH LANDING

There are 31 active properties ranging in price from \$639,900 to \$4,250,000. The average list price is \$1,497,377 with an average square footage of 5,051 and an average list price-per-square-foot of \$280.78. Listings average 128 days on market.

There are five homes in contingent status ranging from \$849,900 to \$1,699,000.

There are currently six properties in pending status ranging in price from \$610,000 to \$1,299,000.

There have been 28 closed sales in the second quarter priced between \$690,000 and \$2,189,000 with an average sales price of \$1,136,834 at 95% of list price. Homes average 4,869 square feet at \$233.80 per square foot. Listings average 209 days on market.

This community has had increased activity this quarter and has a sold volume of \$31.8 million, which only lags oceanfront sales.

PLANTATION AT PONTE VEDRA

There are 30 active properties ranging in price from \$589,900 to \$1,699,000. The average list price is \$1,008,103 with an average square footage of 4,034 and an average price-per-square-foot of \$245.98. Listings average 212 days on market.

There is currently one home in contingent status at \$2,995,000.

There is one home in pending status at \$585,000.

There have been 22 closed sales in the second quarter priced between \$585,000 and \$1,775,000 with an average sales price of \$860,114 at 95% of list price. Homes average 3,748 square feet at \$229.03 per square foot. Average days on market are 156.

The Plantation had overall sold volume of \$18.9 million.

PONTE VEDRA BY THE SEA

There are seven active properties ranging in price from \$859,000 to \$1,095,000. The average list price is \$937,400 with an average square footage of 3,498 and an average price-per-square-foot of \$271.23. Listings average 66 days on market.

There is one home in contingent status at \$899,000.

There have been two closed sales in the second quarter priced between \$657,785 and \$935,000 with an average sales price of \$796,392 at 99% of list price. Closed sales averaged 2,640 square feet at \$300.69 per square foot and 206 days on market.

Total sold volume for the quarter was \$1,592,785.

PLAYERS CLUB AT SAWGRASS | LUXURY \$750,000 AND UP

There are four active properties ranging in price from \$910,000 to \$1,898,000. The average list price is \$1,263,250 with an average square footage of 4,911 and an average price-per-square-foot of \$254.26. Active properties have an average of 159

days on market.

There are three homes in contingent status between \$925,000 and \$1,174,900.

There are currently two properties in pending status ranging in price from \$875,000 to \$1,550,000.

There have been six closed sales in the second quarter priced between \$857,500 and \$1,450,000 with an average sales price of \$1,012,667 at 96% of list price. Sales averaged 4,189 square feet at \$243.04 per square foot and were on the market an average of 145 days.

Total sold volume was \$6,076,000.

PLAYERS CLUB AT SAWGRASS | UP TO \$749,000

There are nine active properties ranging in price from \$319,990 to \$699,000. The average list price is \$536,643 with an average square footage of 2,339 and an average price-per-square-foot of \$233.43. Active listings average 69 days on market.

There are five homes in contingent status between \$369,000 and \$699,500.

There are currently four properties in pending status ranging in price from \$380,000 to \$699,000.

There have been 22 closed sales in the second quarter priced between \$280,000 and \$684,000 with an average sales price of \$463,548 at 98% of list price. Closed sales properties averaged 2,083 square feet at \$223.78 per square foot and spent 35 days on market.

Total sold volume was \$10.2 million.

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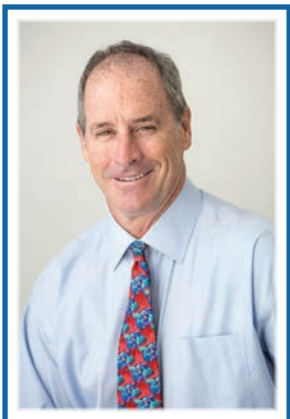
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Live the 'New Ponte Vedra' lifestyle

By Jan Fisher

Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty

If you have traveled on Ponte Vedra Boulevard in the past two years, then you may have noticed a progressive change. Gone are most of the older homes that characterized this popular old neighborhood — many of the structures dated back to the '80s, and some to the '20s. After the recession in the late '90s, a not-so-subtle transformation began. New construction, massive remodeling and the overwhelming desire to live by the beach have been the catalysts for change. Now, there's a distinct modern look. From the Duval County line to Corona Road what has long been known as "Old Ponte Vedra" should probably now be called "New Ponte Vedra."

The old three- and four-bedroom ranch style homes have mostly disappeared and in their place are what is known in real estate jargon as estates. Some are of the design that has stood the test of decades. Such is the case with 344 Ponte Vedra Boulevard. There is no distinct new style, this one could be considered French Normandy. It features a rock façade, turrets, concrete construction, wide planked hardwood floors throughout, and it sits on a large lot just a block from the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club. Beach access is just across the street, and the golf course is just out the back door.

Inside you will find a home that is mesmerizing. The combined formal living and dining room features a huge stone fireplace, beamed ceilings and French doors that lead to a private courtyard.

The open design features a combination kitchen and family room with more beamed ceilings and custom built-ins. There is nothing vintage about the cooking area with high-end appliances, white marble countertops and crafted cabinets. The spacious poolside recreation room has a secluded nook with a tall, conical wood beamed ceiling.

Venture outside to a virtual paradise. The large heated pool has a waterfall feature. The covered lanai has yet another stone fireplace and complete summer kitchen. There's a guest suite over the large three-car garage, and the main house has an additional air-conditioned garage for a total of four spaces. A putting green, Bocce ball court, and yet another outdoor dining area complete with a custom pizza oven finish this highly landscaped back yard.

344 Ponte Vedra Boulevard is more than 5,000 square feet with four bedrooms, five baths and a wine cellar.

This home, which epitomizes the "New Ponte Vedra" lifestyle, is offered for \$4,195,000 and is listed by Kim Martin-Fisher and Jennifer Martin Faulkner with Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty. For more information or to schedule a showing appointment, call (904) 699-9993 or (904) 524-6000.



Photos courtesy Jan Fisher

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TPC Lakeside Pool Home
Remodeled builder's 3BR + Den, 2.5BA waterfront showplace with wall of new sliders opening to incredible 1,000SF travertine decking, pool & gas fire pit. New smooth ceilings, baths, millwork, interior doors & wood floors throughout. 2007 Palmetto Point Dr. \$699,500



Photos courtesy of Michelle Floyd

The Pinnacle of Oceanfront Estates! Innovative, oceanfront masterpiece exudes modern sophistication

By **Michelle Floyd**
Sotheby's

The owners of this oceanfront gem took inspiration from the natural environment but also incorporated the latest technology to develop the enchanting personality of this estate. Their vision was brought to life by designer Kevin Gray and builder Brad Negard and the result of their collaborative efforts is this chic, contemporary beach house.

The property itself is nothing short of magnificent. It features 200 feet of Atlantic Ocean frontage and it enjoys the protection of being perched above 30 foot high dunes. Additionally, the quality, concrete construction on 85 pilings establishes a theme for excellence that is reflected throughout the home. This home was built in 2016 but it was intended to last for generations.

Solid, mahogany, 10-foot doors inlaid with stainless steel make a commanding first impression to visitors with their elegance and sophistication. While the undisputed focal point of the two story grand foyer is the breathtaking view overlooking an infinity pool to the Atlantic Ocean, the welcoming space is also highlighted by a stunning, freeform glass and mahogany staircase which is illuminated by a 5-foot stainless steel chandelier designed to mimic the freeform

movement of oceanic life, and a soaring, two-story marble fireplace.

The kitchen features an abundance of modern cooking amenities, including three ovens, Cambria Bristol Blue Quartz Countertops, Subzero refrigerator and freezer, extra deep self-opening and closing cabinets and separate catering kitchen worthy of even the most discerning chef.

The thoughtful design reflects a consistent premium on entertainment spaces, both inside and out. The inside features a home theater and expansive custom bar. Outdoors, guests enjoy a comprehensive summer kitchen, self-cleaning infinity pool, fire pit, hot tub, resort quality lanai and even a guest house with separate entrance.

This state-of-the-art home maintains its pristine ocean views with an automated window washing, window sprinkler system, and Phantom motorized screens.

From the property, to the construction quality to the details of every fit and finish, this estate is simply awe inspiring. Its exceptional quality and ability to capture the surrounding natural beauty translates into limitless potential for creating lifelong memories for the next owner.

Located at 1217 Ponte Vedra Boulevard, this home is listed by Michelle Floyd and offered for \$8,970,000.

Room with a view

By **Jim Zeller and Linda Ostoski**
Watson Realty Corp.

This is an impressive Tuscan-inspired 3,600 square foot home in the beautiful beachside community of South Ponte Vedra Beach. The marsh-to-Intracoastal views from this breezy residence are absolutely amazing. Greet guests at the large entry and they can immediately enjoy the pool to marsh to Tolomato River Views.

This custom-built home was designed with casual entertaining at the top of the list. The living room has large Palladian windows and adjacent professional wet bar and dining room, perfect for dinner parties. Luxury, high-end finishes abound (tray ceilings, custom moldings and art niches) are featured in the kitchen, breakfast area and family room. The gas fireplace is perfect to snuggle up to on those cool, late fall evenings.

This home is all about the view!

The master bedroom encompasses the entire second floor, with its own sitting room and fireplace with a large wraparound covered

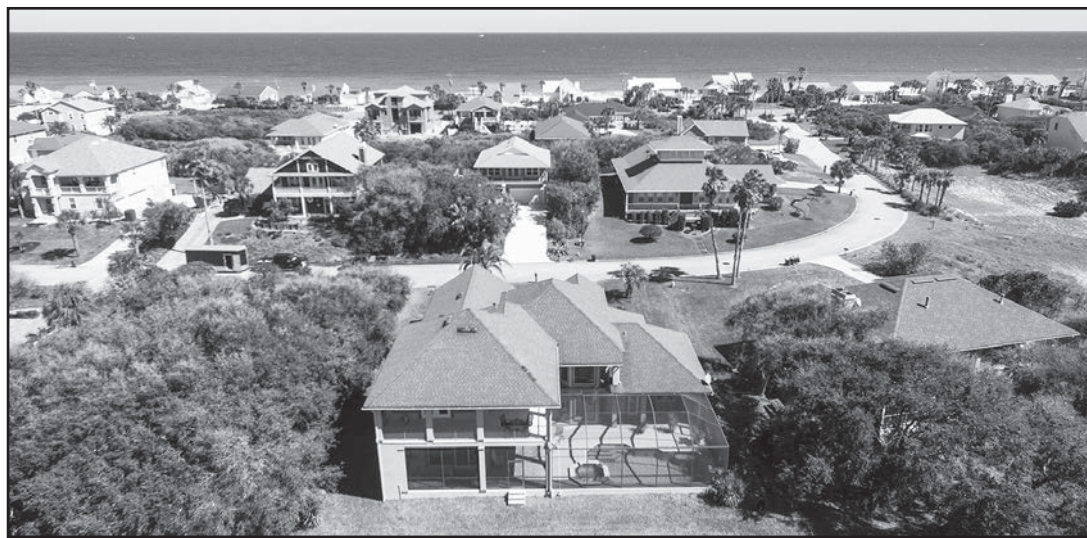
terrace. Picture yourself every evening enjoying the view of Lake Ponte Vedra merging with the Intracoastal Waterway and private planes landing at Northeast Florida Regional Airport in the horizon.

Two additional guest rooms and baths plus a professional office finish the first floor. The screened pool and bubbling spa provide a refreshing break from the summer's heat. For family cookouts, there is a summer kitchen and large patio area.

You have heard the term "Location, Location, Location." Well, this home is only two blocks from the beaches of Ponte Vedra. The dedicated ocean access makes the short walk pleasant. Just think, in one day you can enjoy the amazing view, swim in your pool, relax in your spa and boogie board in the ocean surf and never leave home.

The property is offered at \$825,000.00

For more information, contact the Luxury Leaders Team of Watson Realty Corp., Jim Zeller and Linda Ostoski at (904) 473-1515.



Photos courtesy of Jim Zeller and Linda Ostoski

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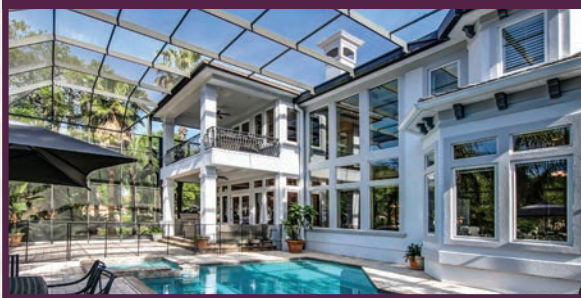
FABULOUS 5 BD, 4 FULL & 3 HALF BATH SANTA FE STYLE POOL HOME OVERLOOKING THE MARSH & GOLF COURSE IS SIMPLY STUNNING! **MLS# 984512 / \$1,398,000**

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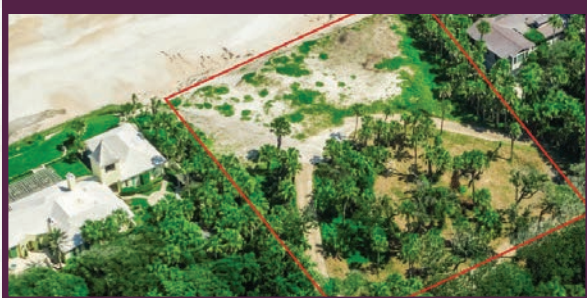
LOVELY 4 BD, 4.5BA POOL HOME FEATURING 5,021 SQ. FT WITH 40' FLOATING DOCK IN THE BACKYARD. **MLS# 994739 / \$1,898,000**

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Faith and Freedom Coalition gathers in Washington

By Mark Barnette

Two thousand people with Faith and Freedom Coalition gathered in Washington recently to lay the groundwork for the next presidential election, and it was a wild and exciting party. From the opening speech by President Trump to the keynote speech by Vice President Pence, the theme was simple: Keep America Great.

Faith and Freedom Coalition was the brainchild of Dr. Ralph Reed and since its founding more than a decade ago, it has become one of the largest faith-based political movements in the nation with a membership greater than 1.8 million. Technically, it is not wedded to a particular party, but to a core set of values. While it is true its goals and values align with the conservative philosophy, it would be a mistake to dismiss it as merely another Republican brand.

The coalition's principles – including a pro-life agenda – are at the center of its meaning and purpose, as well as a belief in Judeo-Christian traditions. Throughout the conference these themes were driven home again and again by a series of well-known and influential speakers, including the Senators Ted Cruz and Rand Paul, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Dr. Ben Carson, Education Secretary, Betsy DeVos, former Education Secretary and former Drug Czar Bill Bennett and author and documentarian Dinesh D'Souza. Other notable luminaires included Candice Owens and Charles Kirk, founder of Turning Point USA.

The conference began on a Wednesday with President Trump delivering a rousing speech to the packed house, and those in attendance said the popular president was at his best, praising the faith-based group for its enduring and steadfast support despite continuing strong opposition.

Speaking the day before he departed for Japan to attend the G20 Summit, the President highlighted his administration's promotion of traditional values. Trump claimed the "shameful" oppression of religious believers "ended" the day he took office.

"We're saying Merry Christmas again," Trump said.

He ended his speech promising to combat socialism and affirming his promises to work on behalf of the Religious Right.

"In America, we reject the failed socialist ideology of government domination. You'll



Amy Harris (from left), Pam Shore, Janet Westling, Sen. David Perdue (R-Georgia), Mark Barnette and Elizabeth Barnette pose during the Faith and Freedom Coalition gathering on June 26 in Washington.

end up with another Venezuela right here, and it won't take very long. Our rights don't come from politicians, they come from the creator," Trump said.

He added, "Above all else we know this, in America we don't worship government. We worship God."

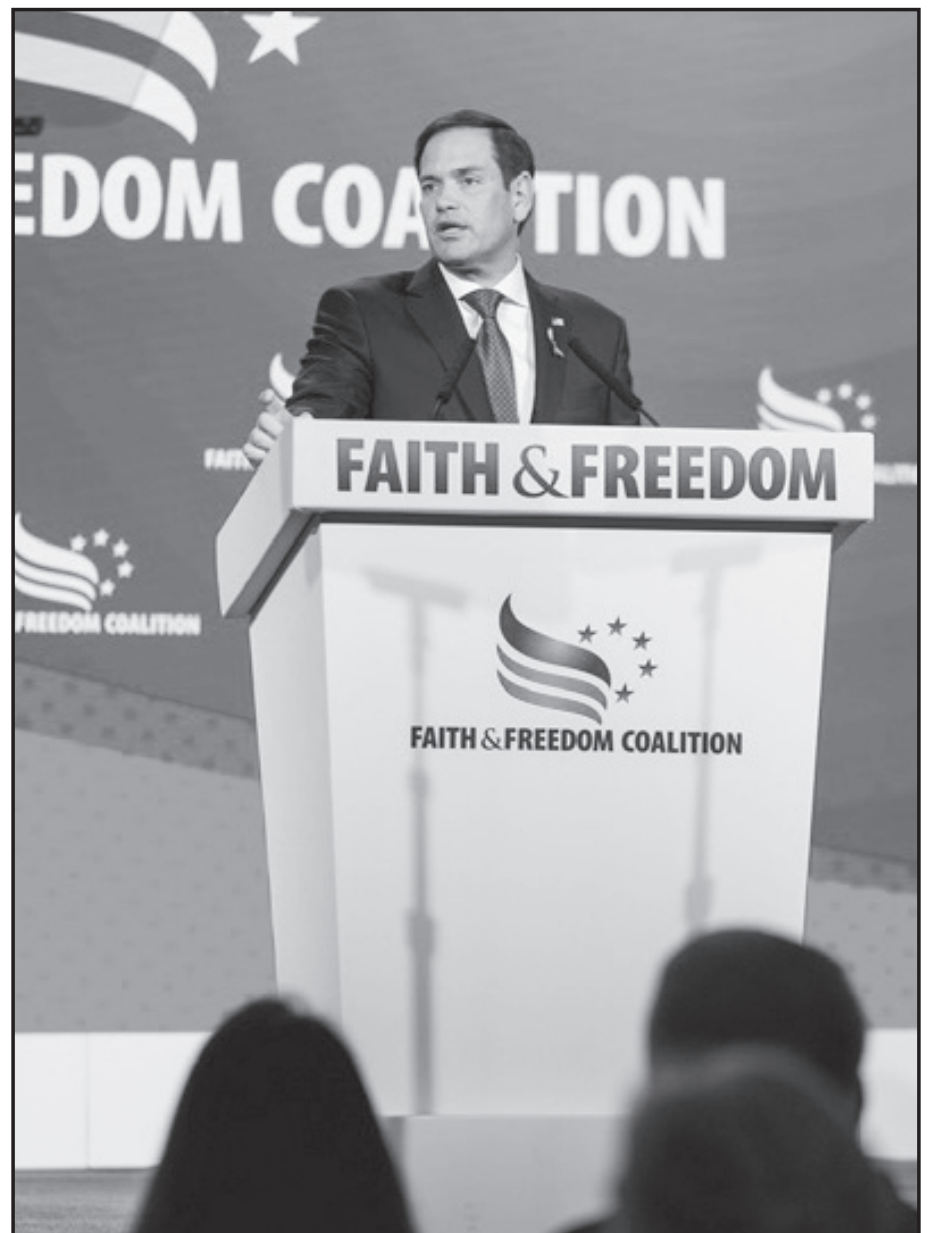
In describing the President's speech, Dr. Reed said, "On the key issue priorities of the faith community, President Trump has delivered on his promises, including the confirmation of two Supreme Court Justices and over 100 lower court judges, protecting the sanctity of unborn life, defending religious freedom, passing historic criminal justice reform and supporting the state of Israel."

The conference continued to inspire with attendees visiting Capitol Hill, where a succession of congressional leaders addressed the standing room only crowd at Faith and Freedom's "Town Hall." Addressing the crowd, Reed praised those who are "doing the Lord's work in the Devil's city."

Tennessee Senator Marsha Blackburn began session by addressing her list of top-10 things to do as a freshman senator. The list included priorities such as abortion, judicial confirmations, support for Israel, defending "free speech" on campuses, and challenging alleged anti-conservative "censorship" by tech companies.

Big tech was a theme throughout the session as several congressmen and senators addressed the need to reel in big tech and to hold them more accountable.

Some of the loudest cheers were saved for Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, whom Reed introduced as a "total hero" for



COALITION continues on Page 25

Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Florida)



Vice president Mike Pence speaks at the gathering.



President Donald Trump was the keynote speaker on Wednesday, June 26. He left immediately after to attend G20 summit in Japan.



Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas)



ABOVE:
Sen. Rand Paul
(R-Kentucky)

RIGHT: Found-
er of the Faith
and Freedom
Coalition Ralph
Reed (right)
speaks with
Sen. Marco
Rubio during
the event.



Photos courtesy
of Mark Burnette

Coalition

Continued from 24

blocking Senate consideration of President Obama’s Supreme Court nomination of Judge Merrick Garland — and for successfully overseeing the Senate’s approval of the President’s judicial nominees.

McConnell said that about one-fourth of U.S. circuit judges serving on the bench today are Trump nominees confirmed by the Senate in the past two-and-a-half years. He also pointed out the importance of Trump’s nominees being many years younger, on average, than Obama’s nominees.

McConnell also denounced socialism, saying the Democrats “want to turn us into something we’ve never been.” Addressing the current group of Democratic presidential candidates, he added, “They’re all talking about turning us into a socialist country — all of them.”

There’s no guarantee who will control the House, Senate, and White House after the next election, McConnell said, but he stated clearly, “If the U.S. Senate is the last place standing, none of this stuff will pass while I’m the majority leader.”

Congressman Mark Meadows, chair of the Freedom Caucus in the House of Representatives, was another representative who addressed the group. Meadows couched his work in terms of spiritual warfare, asking people to pray for him and saying, “The battle is ongoing, and each and every day, the enemy makes himself known.”

Sen. Mike Lee of Utah also spoke, saying he has become more appreciative of the Declaration of Independence. The Senator then Lee cited Alexis de Tocqueville’s writing, saying that religion was the source of America’s strength.

“What makes us great is the choice we make every day to follow our God,” Lee said. Lee, a Mormon, received loud applause for offering his personal religious testimony about his faith.

The crowd also warmly received the

remarks Sen. James Lankford of Oklahoma, who described his decision to run for Congress as an act of obedience to God.

“I believe God called on me to run,” he said. It certainly wasn’t what I thought I was intended to do, and at first I resisted, he said.

Josh Hawley, a freshman senator from Missouri, credited Religious Right activists with putting Trump in office, and lavished praise on the President.

“What President Trump accomplished during his first two years in office is truly historic,” he said. “And that is especially true for those of us who are devoted to protecting life and securing our religious liberty. We have never had a president in my lifetime who is this pro-life, this pro-family, this pro-freedom, this pro-religious liberty.”

Hawley also spoke of the importance of federal judges, saying he was focused on, “the fight against big tech and their attempt to shut us down, to censor us, to stop our voices, to write us right out of the public square.”

At the end of the town hall session, Reed told the crowd that former Senator Sam Brownback, now the U.S. ambassador for religious freedom, had told him that he can’t walk 20 feet in the White House or a Cabinet agency or on Capitol Hill “without running into somebody who is (a) a committed believer and (b) somebody I have worked with for at least 20 years in advancing our prop-family, pro-life agenda.”

Next to President Trump’s remarks, perhaps the most moving ones were those of keynote speaker Vice President Pence, who praised the work of the coalition and President Trump, and proudly declared, “America is back!”

The highlight of the final evening was the presentation of the Winston Churchill Lifetime Achievement Award to Former Education Secretary Bill Bennett. He extolled the assembled crowd to not merely complain about the things they believe are wrong around them, but to do something about it.

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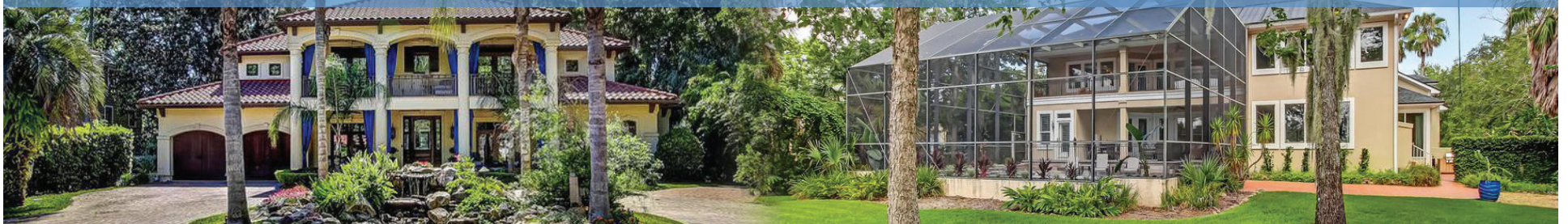
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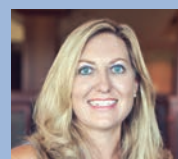
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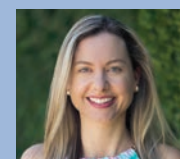
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Photos courtesy of Elizabeth Hudgins and Sarah Alexander

Witness spectacular water-to-golf views

By Elizabeth Hudgins and Sarah Alexander

Berkshire Hathaway Florida Network Realty

Situated on a greater-than-half-acre lot in the heart of The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach, this gracious single-story home effortlessly combines refined taste with resort living.

Upon entering the home, the feeling of timeless elegance greets you. The living room and formal dining room feature beautiful details that accentuate the space, including stunning crown moulding and wainscoting. The floor-to-ceiling windows allow for a captivating backdrop and beautiful light to fill the inviting space.

The master suite has a double door entry, generous seating area and private entrance to the pool and back lanai. The master bath feels like a lavish spa with its generous soaking tub, marble floors and rainfall shower. The additional three bedrooms are well appointed and spacious.

The renovated, gourmet white kitchen with stunning marble countertops and farmhouse sink will fulfill all of your HGTV dreams. Beyond just being aesthetically pleasing, this bright

eat-in kitchen offers a generous prep island and high-end appliances including a DCS 48-inch gas range, creating the perfect space for both home cooks and professional chefs.

The home's spacious floorplan opens from the kitchen directly into a sophisticated yet comfortable family room, allowing for ease of living. The wood burning fireplace, custom built-ins and access to the outdoor living area create a warm space ideal for entertaining both intimate and large gatherings.

While the spectacular water-to-golf views are visible from most rooms throughout the home, they are best appreciated outside either while relaxing on the home's large, covered lanai or enjoying a peaceful swim in the salt-water pool and spa. This tranquil space is beautifully landscaped and creates a one-of-a-kind outdoor oasis. Ideally situated, the home has maximum privacy and southeastern exposure, filling the house with light year round.

Located at 150 Twelve Oak Lane, this property is represented by Berkshire Hathaway Florida Network Realty, listed by Elizabeth Hudgins and Sarah Alexander, and offered at \$1,190,000.

Oceanfront penthouse offers spectacular views

By Kim Bright and Laura Bishop
Keller Williams Luxury Group

The gentle pull of the ocean on white sandy beaches and warm Florida sunshine are too much to deny. This is especially true of the pristine beaches of Jacksonville Beach. If you are searching for the perfect oceanfront home, the Watermark penthouse located in Jacksonville Beach checks every one of the boxes.

As you take your first steps through this three-bedroom luxury penthouse condo, you immediately feel the warmth and are welcomed by an abundance of natural sunlight spilling from the foyer's domed skylight. Your eyes are immediately drawn to the breathtaking, unobstructed panoramic views of the beach and ocean through the arched windows.

This open floor plan is perfect for entertaining or cozying up to the gas fireplace in the family room on a rainy day. This home is renovated to elegant contemporary style with the finest of finishes including the stunning Restoration Hardware chandelier. Porcelain tile is throughout the main

floor and office. Walk out onto the large, partially covered balcony with views as far as the eye can see. Any grill chef will love cooking outside on the balcony watching the beautiful sunsets while listening to the music from the condo's sound system.

In the heart of the home, you will find a spacious kitchen with custom cabinetry, granite counter tops and high-end stainless appliances including a wine cooler and separate icemaker.

The owner's suite offers endless ocean vistas, a spa-like remodeled master bath, Brazilian hardwood floors and ceiling, another gas fireplace and two large custom-fitted closets. Other amenities include two covered parking spots on the second floor, a large storage closet, outdoor pool and spa and private entrance to the beach.

Located at 50 3rd Ave. S., Unit 1101, this home is represented by Keller Williams Luxury Group, listed by Kim Bright and Laura Bishop, The Bright Bishop Group. Offered at \$1,625,000. For information, call (904) 502-4239



Photos courtesy of Kim Bright and Laura Bishop



1 Ocean Ridge Ct.
GATED OCEANFRONT COMMUNITY
 5 Bed 5 Full Bath 1 Half Bath 6,467 Sq. Ft.
 \$4,775,000 MLS 950260



2512 Riley Oaks Trl.
TURN KEY IN MANDARIN
 4 Bed 3 Full Bath 3,116 Sq. Ft.
 \$499,000 MLS 983301



512 7th Avenue S.
JACKSONVILLE BEACH
 4 Bed 2 Full Bath 1 Half Bath 2,672 Sq. Ft.
 \$462,000 MLS 1004858



780 Providence Island Ct. #780
QUEENS HARBOUR COUNTRY CLUB
 3 Bed 3 Full Bath 1 Half Bath 2,998 Sq. Ft.
 \$615,000 MLS 993549



293 & 295 North Roscoe Blvd.
INTRACOASTAL FRONTAGE
 150'x 400' Lot with Dock
 \$1,625,000 MLS 977026



1317 Ponte Vedra Blvd.
OCEANFRONT ESTATES
 5 Bed 6 Full Bath 1 Half Bath 7,916 Sq. Ft.
 \$5,225,000 MLS 1005722



4126 Ponce De Leon Blvd.
MINUTES TO THE OCEAN
 4 Bed 3 Full Bath 3,091 Sq. Ft.
 \$949,900 MLS 993561



112 Parkbluff Cir.
NEW CONSTRUCTION IN NOCATEE
 4 Bed 3 Full Bath 1 Half Bath 2,730 Sq. Ft.
 \$520,000 MLS 1002483



4348 Ponte Vedra Blvd.
BUILDING LOT WITH BEACH ACCESS
 110'x145'
 \$995,000 MLS 992848



1189 Ponte Vedra Blvd.
OCEAN FRONT HIGH DUNE
 4 Bed 3 Full Bath 1 Half Bath 6,409 Sq. Ft.
 \$5,150,000 MLS 962049



4352 Ponte Vedra Blvd.
NEW CONSTRUCTION
 4 Bed 4 Full Bath 1 Half Bath 4,590 Sq. Ft.
 \$2,795,000 MLS 992873



2403 S. P.
100' OF O.
 6 Bed 5 Full Bath
 \$2,200,000



129 Blooming Ln.
NEW CONSTRUCTION IN AZALEA ESTATES
 4 Bed 4 Full Bath 1 Half Bath 3,229 Sq. Ft.
 \$870,000 MLS 904676



317 San Juan Dr.
OLD P.V. - EUROPEAN ESTATE
 8 Bed 8 Full Bath 2 Half Bath 11,985 Sq. Ft.
 \$6,750,000 MLS 985744



344 Ponte Vedra Blvd.
OLD PONTE VEDRA
 4 Bed 5 Full Bath 4,597 Sq. Ft.
 + 413 Sq. Ft. Guest House
 \$4,195,000 MLS 984414



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352 San Juan Dr.
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6 Bed 6 Full Bath 1 Half Bath 5,149 Sq. Ft.
\$2,440,000 MLS 998373



314 Ponte Vedra Blvd.
OLD PONTE VEDRA

5 Bed 5 Full Bath 1 Half Bath 7,626 Sq. Ft.
\$5,800,000 MLS 998435



105 Solano Cay Cir.
IN THE VERY HEART OF P.V.

3 Bed 2 Full Bath 1 Half Bath 1,583 Sq. Ft.
\$340,000 MLS 1000706



1107 Ponte Vedra Blvd.
OCEANFRONT LOT

150' of Ocean-frontage
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600 Ponte Vedra Blvd. Unit 101
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\$615,000 MLS 964323



4115 Avalon Cir.
A TROPICAL OASIS

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725 Ponte Vedra Blvd.
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Ortega riverfront estate has spectacular downtown skyline views

By Jane Slater and Lee Elmore

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices

Welcome to 4703 Ortega Boulevard! This one-of-a-kind Ortega riverfront estate, nestled among old oak trees and unparalleled views of the downtown skyline along the St. Johns River, will please the most discerning buyer. After a multi-million-dollar, year-long renovation, this exquisite four bedroom, 4.5 bathroom, 5,910 square-foot home could easily be on the cover of Southern Living magazine!

Spread out on .96 acre of land, one can enjoy the expansive 164 feet of waterfront plus the advantage of sitting high on a 12-foot bluff. This pool home offers four spacious bedrooms, all have ensuite bathrooms and an additional half bath for guests. An elevator was added to conveniently take you to the second level. Additional living spaces include a foyer that spans the depth of the entire home, an open gourmet-style kitchen overlooking the breakfast room, a separate formal dining room, large living room plus a family room, library, wet bar, office, second-floor laundry room and a two-car garage plus another garage that doubles as an air-conditioned workshop. Alternatively, there are plans available to convert this workshop space into a large fifth bedroom.

Outdoor spaces abound with a charming, southern-style covered brick porch with columns, highlighting panoramic views of the river and beyond. A sparkling riverfront saltwater pool provides entertainment for the entire family, and the double

concrete bulkhead secures added protection. The landscape is beautifully crafted and designed to complement the colorful flower beds of hydrangea and azaleas, outlined by traditional boxwoods and natural grasses.

Unique historic details were added during initial construction and have been delicately preserved over the years. The impressive front entry doors with beveled leaded glass side lights and transom were recovered from the historic Windsor Hotel in downtown Jacksonville, the interior stairwell balustrade is from an old Jacksonville boarding house, and the refined moldings in the library were saved and repurposed from the luxurious George Washington Hotel from the early 1900s.

Pool parties, watching the 4th of July fireworks of downtown Jacksonville, Timuquana Country Club and the Florida Yacht Club from front row seats around the pool deck or the covered brick veranda, boats cruising by, the glittering lights of the downtown skyline, experiencing the morning sunrise from the pool deck and enjoying the afternoon sea breezes dancing over the river. It doesn't get much better than this. Location is everything about how your family lives, the lifestyle you are looking for and the friends you will share it with. This wonderful southern riverfront estate is an opportunity that doesn't come along but once in a blue moon.

This home is represented by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, listed by Jane Slater and Lee Elmore and is offered at \$3,450,000.



Photos courtesy of Jane Slater and Lee Elmore



Photos courtesy of Anita Vining

Sneak a peek ...

By Anita Vining

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices

Live the Ponte Vedra dream every day from this fabulous address. Relocating from Virginia, an insurance executive and his wife seeking the perfect lifestyle after retiring selected this lot and custom built their home in 1988. They designed the home from a favorite floor plan envisioned by his wife, incorporating stone from North Carolina for the exterior and a large gathering room with a floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace as the focal point. This home was designed for entertaining and comfortable family living with a flowing floorplan and high ceilings throughout.

The lot is 105 feet wide and 213 feet deep featuring a sweeping front yard view of the serene lake across Le Master. The landscape features a koi pond and the huge backyard offers privacy with plenty of room to build a pool and still have outdoor space. The sellers take with them wonderful family memories of grandchildren frolicking in the

backyard as they chased butterflies and bubbles. Hear ocean sounds and feel the breezes from the Atlantic or, even better, walk to the beach and dip your toes in the sand or water's edge. Hop on a bike, take a golf cart or walk to your choice of private clubs nearby. Ponte Vedra is home to numerous championship golf courses and THE PLAYERS Championship annual tournament in nearby Sawgrass.

This was the perfect home for entertaining their family and their children's families as they grew. It was and still is the place to be, but time passes and a new home awaits this wonderful owner. The current home will be placed in Northeast Florida Multiple Listing but before it goes public, it's time to start your vision for what could be your next family destination. Build your dream home on this special lot or transform the current home into your own.

This home is represented by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, listed by Anita Vining and is offered at \$1.425 million.

Add a pergola for summer entertaining

By Beko Masovic
President, Beko Inc.

A pergola is the perfect addition to your outdoor living space. It can add a design element to your garden, pool or patio. Besides adding visual appeal, it also has a practical side. A pergola can provide summertime shade and a perfect place for a bench or dining area

DESIGNING A PERGOLA

So, how do you begin to design and build a pergola? First, decide on the look you want. Pergolas can be customized to your needs. Design magazines are a great place to start to give you inspiration. So is HGTV and the landscaping shows that feature outdoor spaces. The internet is another great place to search for pergola designs

With so many styles to choose from, the next step would be to meet with a contractor and look at the space and area where the pergola will be installed. Discuss your ideas. Share the magazine photos you have that meet your criteria and design.

CHOOSE MATERIALS

You can purchase pergola kits that have all the materials ready to be assembled or you could create a custom pergola with a contractor or landscape designer draw.

The choices available can range from cedar wood to pressure treated lumber from the local home improvement store. These materials are resistant to wood rot. Pressure treated wood is the most economical and if painted properly and maintained should last a very long time.

INSTALL THE STRUCTURE

A very important consideration when installing a pergola is the foundation for the posts which support the frame. With



Photos courtesy of Beko Masovic

the possibility of hurricanes in Florida, it is a smart idea to place the post in a concrete foundation to ensure the pergola can resist strong winds.

Request an estimate from a contractor and determine a timeline for installation and the project completion date. Then sit back and enjoy Florida living in your outdoor oasis.

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Photos courtesy of Clare Berry

New construction on the Intracoastal Waterway

By Clare Berry

The owner's change of plans will be a buyer's good fortune when it comes to this brand new home, designed to take advantage of this beautiful site spanning 100 feet fronting the Intracoastal Waterway. This home was over two years in the making from design to completion with over-the-top specs and extra touches that buyers will appreciate.

Starting with the foundation of the house, the owner went one (or two!) better than the FEMA requirement of finished floor elevation at 7 feet. This home's FFE is 9 feet. The pool deck is at the same elevation. The timeless exterior features a barrel-tile roof, stucco and stone walls and details like brackets and wide overhangs. A paver driveway, breezeway, steps, porch and pathway — 8,000 square feet of pavers — surround the home.

The extra-high dock was constructed with 12-inch pilings, 40 feet long, hand-selected by the owner and driven down at least 20 feet. There is a 16,000-pound lift under roof (the owner's Grady White boat is 4,500 lbs.) plus a 6,000-pound lift on the side. The bulkhead is wood with rip rap in front. When they installed the

bulkhead, the permit allowed them to extend the property.

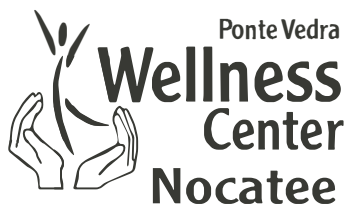
The pool has two swim shelves, three fountain jets and a state-of-the-art cleaning system. The screen enclosure was designed to preserve sight lines from any room of this home. This huge area includes access to utilities for future summer kitchen installation.

Inside, the open plan rules, featuring panoramic views from most areas of the house on both levels. Tones are earthy, allowing the inside and outside spaces to merge with little interruption through the beautiful PGT Low-E vinyl windows and doors. Tesoro wood plank-style tile flooring runs through most of the main level, which includes the owner's suite, guest suite, office, pool bath, formal dining area, great room and three storage areas. The kitchen features Thermador appliances and a 10-foot island with a seamless granite top.

Upstairs, two bedroom suites open to a huge family room with a spacious balcony, plus there's a private media room. This home was designed for low maintenance and high fun, offered for \$2,650,000. Call Clare Berry, Berry & Co. Real Estate, at (904) 382-5875 for a showing.

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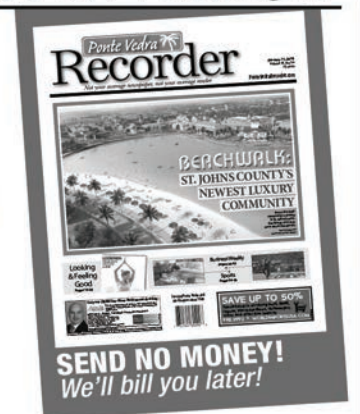
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Limes are key to summer menus

By Alice Hickox

Lettuce Do Dinner

We've all been enjoying the summer season for more than a few weeks already, but it's right now when July melts its way into August — and summer harvest is at its peak. Tomatoes are ripe, summer squash is plentiful, watermelon is sweet, and bouquets of basil are everywhere. With so many fresh ingredients available, it's the perfect time of year to eat fresh and light with minimal stove and oven time.

Favorite summer citrus fruits that are often overlooked are limes and key limes. They are a staple ingredient in so many of my favorite summer recipes including marinades, fresh salsa, margaritas and seafood ceviche. Last but not least, my favorite — refreshing key lime pie bars. Unlike lemons, limes have a more dense pulp and typically do not yield as much juice, which is why I love to take advantage of them during the summer when they are juiciest and a little sweeter.

The classic beach favorite, ceviche, marries the best of our local seafood to fresh citrus. Whether going solo with shrimp, or in a combination of shrimp, fish and scallops; lime juice is the common denominator. In this version I'm using fresh, local Mayport shrimp and snapper (also in season now), watermelon and avocado. Everything about this recipe shouts "fresh, delicious and light!" The best part of all, they're simple, easy recipes with minimal stove and oven time.

Following my recipe for ceviche is a knock your flip-flops off key lime bar recipe. Really, it's that good!

RECIPES continues on Page 34

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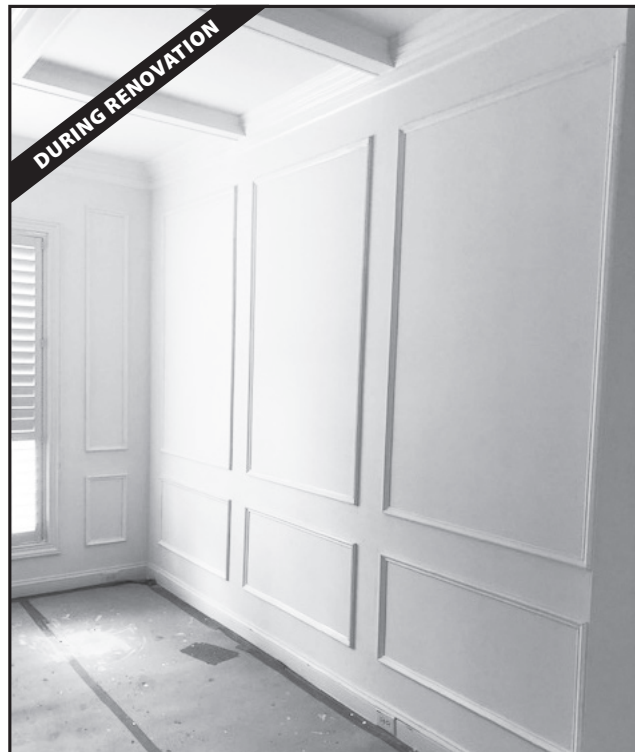
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Photos courtesy of Heidi Zawacki

Marsh Landing renovation update

By Heidi Zawacki

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty

Well it's been about six weeks since my last article was written. We added a coffered ceiling in the dining room and French moulding along the stairwell and in the dining room. Another big impact was made by changing out the builder-grade doors to solid wood.

SHOPPING FOR PRODUCTS

We also changed the lighting in the dining room and kitchen areas. I found some lighting on build.com and, sure enough, my contact there sourced the lighting at unbelievable prices.

We have chosen our counters after searching for the perfect counter. Quartz is a material that is supposed to withstand stains, watermarks and be the most durable product. After visiting local warehouses and searching for the right product, we went to Marble Masters located on the Northside of Jacksonville. We had used them in the past for honing down the travertine in our old home that was not installed correctly. Marble Masters has been in Jacksonville for 50 years. The staff provides great service, the pricing is competitive and the response time was very quick in getting our quote back. They have a great selection of remnants.

I had to then pick out flooring and tile for the shower as well as backsplash material for the kitchen. I went to many local small businesses and finally found a marble and mother of pearl circular pattern that I felt made a statement and was elegant and unique.

DEMOLITION AND DONATIONS

Last week I found out the cabinets would be arriving in the next two weeks!

I had heard from a friend that she had Habitat for Humanity remove her old cabinets and was able to get a significant tax write-off by donating to their organization. I called Habitat for Humanity and, yes, they came out and scheduled a removal of our existing cabinets and bathroom vanities as well as our appliances. I was told that when cabinets are removed, they go to the Habitat for Humanity store and made available for purchase to first-time homeowners making renovations. We have also decided to donate our fairly new appliances. This is a great way to donate and also get a tax write-off.


RENOVATION continues on Page 40

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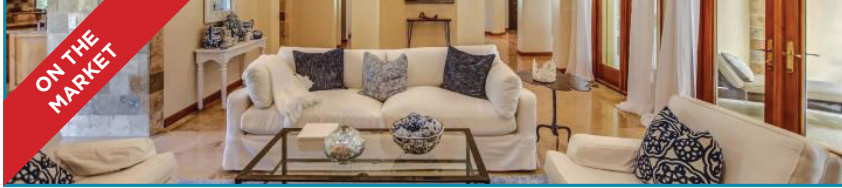
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719 SPINNAKERS REACH - SAWGRASS



A rare find on the ocean in Sawgrass. Spectacular first floor condo that has the only elevator in Spinnakers 1 from the garage to the first floor! This once in a lifetime, unique custom home is completely renovated with stunning details and designer finishes. **MLS# 991434 / \$2,150,000.00**

740 SPINNAKERS REACH - SAWGRASS



Spectacular oceanfront views from every room in your private oasis in Sawgrass. This stunning 3 bedroom/3 1/2 bath Spinnakers 1 second floor oceanfront condo is extraordinary. **MLS# 971123 / \$1,700,000.00**

104 MUIRFIELD - THE PLANTATION



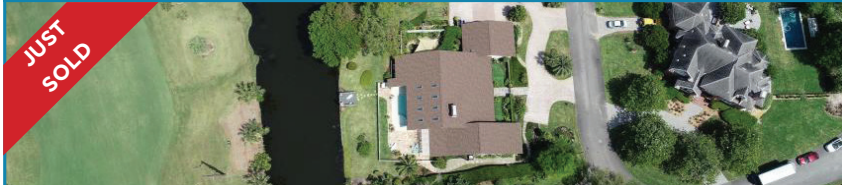
Enjoy expansive water-to-golf views from nearly every room in this completely renovated Cape Dutch cottage in The Plantation at Ponte Vedra beach. **MLS# 998678 / \$ 885,000.00**

129 SUMMERFIELD DRIVE - SUMMERFIELD



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3255 OLD BARN ROAD WEST - SAWGRASS



Walk to the beach, watch waves roll in across the shore and enjoy the beauty and mystique of the charming seaside neighborhood of Old Barn Island in Sawgrass! **MLS#992199 / \$1,125,000.00**



Mayport Shrimp, Snapper and Watermelon Ceviche

recipe, I found the freshest Mayport shrimp and snapper at Dan's Seafood in Ponte Vedra.

Key Lime Pie Bars (Serves 10-12)

Crust:

- 1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs (12 graham cracker sheets)
- 6 Tbsp. melted, Kerrygold butter
- 2 Tbsp. granulated sugar
- 1 tsp kosher salt

Pulse graham cracker sheets (in batches if needed) in food processor until fine crumbs. (Or purchase store-bought graham cracker crumbs to save a step.) Add sugar and salt, then drizzle in melted butter and mix well until crumbs are coated with butter. Line a half-size rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper. Press mixture into a quarter-inch crust to cover bottom (or double recipe for a full size baking sheet). Bake at 350°F for 10 minutes, just until slightly brown. Allow to cool completely before adding key lime mixture.

Key Lime Filling:

- 1 14 oz. can Eagle Brand sweetened condensed milk
- 1/2 cup fresh squeezed Key Lime juice (about one bag, or 8-10 key limes)
- 3 large egg yolks

Combine condensed milk, lime juice and egg yolks in bowl and mix thoroughly. Pour over cooled graham cracker crust and bake at 350°F for 10 minutes. Allow to cool before refrigerating. After refrigerating, cut into squares, or small two- to three-bite rectangles. Garnish with Cool Whip if desired. (Note: For crust, it is very important to use at least 82% fat butter to ensure the rich butter taste as well as crunch in the crust. Low-fat butter or substitutes will not produce the same crust.)



Key Lime Pie Bars

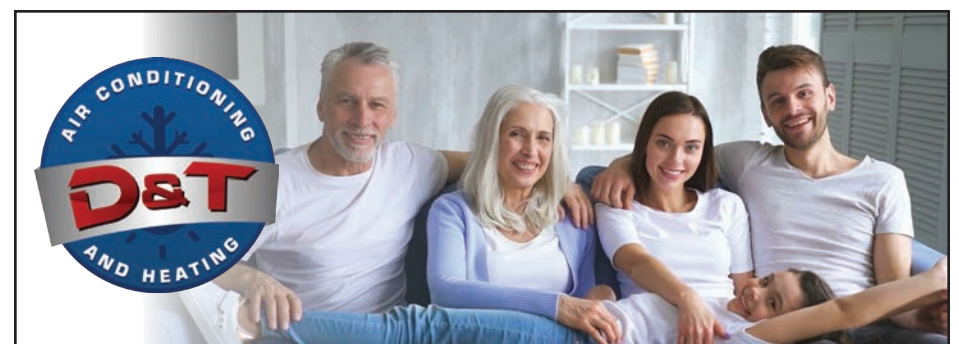
Recipes

Continued from 33

Mayport Shrimp, Snapper and Watermelon Ceviche (Serves 4)

- 6 ounces medium shrimp, peeled, deveined
- 6 ounces highest quality skinless snapper filet, cut into half-inch pieces
- 1 jalapeño, seeds removed and minced
- 1/2 cup fresh lime juice, plus more for garnishing
- 1/4 cup fresh orange juice
- 2 cups fresh watermelon, cut into bite-sized cubes
- 1 avocado, halved and diced
- 1/2 small red onion, very thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup fresh cilantro, coarsely chopped
- Tortilla chips, for serving

Cook shrimp in medium pot of boiling, salted water for 45 seconds, just until pink on outside, but barely cooked on inside. Transfer to an ice bath; drain and pat dry. Cut shrimp into half-inch pieces and transfer to large bowl. Add snapper, jalapeño, orange juice and lime juice; toss to combine. Chill, tossing occasionally, at least 20 minutes, but an hour is best. Add watermelon, onion, avocado and cilantro just before serving and toss. Season with salt to taste. NOTE: This recipe is also delicious with just shrimp, or if fresh snapper is not in season, grouper or corvina can be substituted. For this



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

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
 HomeServices
 Florida Network Realty



NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT

River Marsh

The seaside community of River Marsh is described as “Ponte Vedra’s best-kept secret.”

Convenient to shops, schools and a bike ride away from the beach, River Marsh is a unique community with 29 distinctive beautifully designed homes and a river runs through it. Launch your kayak from the River Marsh pier and explore the Guana estuary and scenic waterway.

The opportunity to own a home in River Marsh is rare. Developed in 2001, the Guana River location and proximity to the ocean attracted residents who wanted to relocate to a smaller neighborhood and quieter place to call home.

According to homeowners association president Jim Sabo, “River Marsh is a hidden treasure off the beaten path but close to everything. It is an easy walk or bike to the beach! This is a close-knit community of great neighbors who appreciate the beautiful trees and layout of River Marsh that feels like Old Florida!”

Just Sold – 113 River Marsh Drive

Step inside and view a stunning home that is beautifully decorated. Experience the good life with great designs indoors and out. The manicured landscaping and gardens were the work of landscape architect Rob Smith. This charming home could

grace the cover of Veranda Magazine.

With over 3400 square feet of living space that includes 3 Br, 3 1/2 Ba, a downstairs study and master Br, upstairs bonus room and craft room, this is the perfect house for a family to call home. Represented by Berkshire Hathaway HSFNR. Listed by Janet Westling. Sold for \$775,000.

ON THE MARKET
Tuscany meets coastal contemporary – 169 River Marsh

This is a spacious home with over 4,500 square feet and four large bedrooms, perfect for the family. Expansive living spaces overlook the outdoor terraces with majestic oak trees that’s great for entertaining.

Step inside 169 River Marsh and experience a charming Tuscan home that blends Old World design with coastal contemporary furnishings that are simply stunning.

Built like a fortress with concrete block construction the owners from Italy created a stormproof home that is quiet on the inside and insulated to ensure very low electric bills. Launch a kayak on the river from the River Marsh Pier, bicycle to the

RIVER MARSH continues on **Page 37**



169 RIVER MARSH



113 RIVER MARSH DRIVE



136 RIVER MARSH





BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices

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OCEANFRONT RETREAT

Built to take advantage of the captivating water views and north of Mickler's Landing, this 4,878 property includes a pool and new roof (2017). With 150 ft. of ocean frontage this 1.45-acre lot is the ideal place to make your private beach retreat. 6 bedrooms, 6.5 baths. Offered for \$3,750,000.



Call Elizabeth Hudgins
904-553-2032



PLANTATION AT PONTE VEDRA

Ultimate family resort lifestyle! Enjoy fabulous amenities for the entire family. Step inside this 4BR/3BA, 3201sf updated & pristine home & imagine yourself sitting in front of the living room fireplace surrounded by beautiful built-ins or relaxing by the pool. Offered for \$740,000.



Call Anita Vining
904-739-1626



OCEANFRONT CONDO

First Floor End Unit with the best location in the building. East side Patio leads directly to the ocean & West side patio (off the Owner's Suite) leads to the pool. What more could you ask for? Updated Kitchen with SS appliances & granite counter tops. Tile in wet areas & upgraded carpet in the bedrooms. Outdoor storage for your beach chairs, surf boards & fishing poles! 4th BR/ Flex Room off dining room. Offered for \$774,000



Call Beverly Hecht
904-610-7652



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. Offered for \$1,175,000.



Call Sarah Alexander
904-334-3104



WATER TO GOLF VIEWS IN MARSH LANDING

Luxury, privacy, and tranquility await you in this beautiful 5 BR 4 BA 4665 SF executive home built by Benchmark Homes. Spacious floorplan, a kitchen made for entertaining and screened pool and lanai. Offered for \$1,090,000.



Call Cheryl Dolan
305-509-1396



VILLAGES OF VILANO

The former home of Gary Rossington of Lynryd Skynyrd as well as aerobatic pilot, Patty Wagstaff. This beautiful 3BR/2BA home provides a haven within this well-maintained beach-to-intracoastal community just steps from the tennis courts and club house. The cul-de-sac garden home features a great room with fireplace. The split floor plan features a spacious master bedroom & en-suite bathroom. Add'l bedrooms privately located on the other side of the home. The sunroom/den could be converted to a 4th BR. Kitchen has solid wood countertops with abundant cabinetry & an eat-in area. This home features Hardie board siding, newer roof & HVAC all on a pond view lot. Offered for \$385,000



Call Cyndi King
904-687-8000



UNOBSTRUCTED OCEAN VIEWS

Fronting on Jax Beach's 1st Street, directly across from beach parking access, luxury 3-story townhouse with 3BR/3BA, garden courtyard and 2-car garage. Offered for \$799,000.



Call Molly Thompson
904-708-5002



COASTAL ELEGANCE IN PV BY THE SEA

Nestled in the heart of the best of Ponte Vedra Beach, this 3BR/3BA +den/office, 2581sf home is tastefully upgraded with a flexible, open floorplan on a large private wooded lot. Gleaming hardwood floors, wet bar with beverage fridge, fireplace, crown molding, high ceilings abound. Short walk to the beach! Offered for \$839,000.



Call Lew Walters
904-806-3047

To be included in the next issue publishing October 24th, please contact (904) 285-8831



TUSCANY MEETS COASTAL CONTEMPORARY IN RIVER MARSH

This splendid 4BR/3.5BA home is spacious with over 4500sf, the perfect family home. Expansive living spaces overlook the outdoor terraces with majestic oak trees, great for entertaining! Built like a fortress with concrete block construction the owners from Italy created a storm proof home that is quiet on the inside & insulated to ensure very low electric bills. Offered for \$995,000.



Call Janet Westling
904-813-1913



EPHING FOREST YACHT & COUNTRY CLUB

Lives like a Penthouse, feels like a home! This one-of-a-kind exclusive 4782sf riverfront penthouse has 3 bedrooms, 3 full bathrooms & 1 half bath and a media room. Bright, open living areas & breathtaking views of the St. Johns River.



Unit includes 3 garage spaces. 24 Hour manned security gate. Offered for \$1,495,000.
Call Anita Vining
904-739-1626



IMMACULATE LAKESIDE HOME

Move-in ready, 3BR/2BA +den/office, 2013sf home with an open & spacious floorplan. Tasteful upgrades throughout. Stainless steel appliances, granite countertops & a fully equipped kitchen with huge prep island. Covered lanai, 2-car garage with paved driveway. Offered for \$398,000.



Call Rosemary Kristoff
904-333-4841

River Marsh

Continued from 35

beach and enjoy Ponte Vedra living.

Represented by Berkshire Hathaway HSFNR. Listed by Janet Westling. Offered for \$995,000.

Waterfront oasis in River Marsh – 136 River Marsh

Beautiful corner lot home offering the best of both indoor and outdoor living.

The two-story living room with attached Florida room is the perfect space for gatherings. The kitchen is complete with a gas stove, granite countertops, farmhouse sink, and eat-in dining area.

The downstairs master retreat features a stunning master bath and an impeccable dressing room. Five bedrooms total, the fifth bedroom being used as flex-space and has an attached office.

As remarkable as the interior is, the backyard is just as impressive. Showcasing the freshwater lagoon, this outside space was designed for entertaining and enjoying the gorgeous Florida weather. The wraparound paver patio features a pool, summer kitchen, two firepits and industrial shade sail.

Look no further because this home indeed has it all.

Represented by Berkshire Hathaway HSFNR. Listed by Elizabeth Hudgins and Sarah Alexander. Offered for \$1,175,000.



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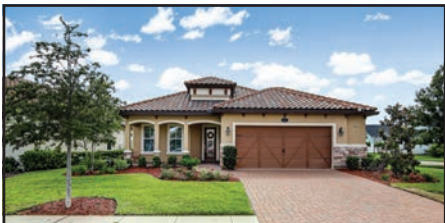
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TUSCAN INSPIRED SIENA AT NOCATEE

Open concept living in the Town Center area of Nocatee! Walk, bike, or golf cart to shopping, dining, and Splash/Spray Parks! 3 BR 2 BA with 2.5 car garage. Move-in ready and with wheelchair accessibility. Offered for \$430,000.



Call Cheryl Dolan
305-509-1396

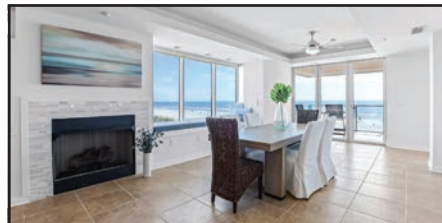


EPPING FOREST YACHT & COUNTRY CLUB

Beautiful 5BR/5.5BA, 5539sf Situated on high & dry lot offering pool & backyard space for play area. Motivated seller's made improvements including gorgeous hardwood flooring throughout & newly painted interior. Spacious bedrooms each with private bath. Gated & secure waterfront community. Offered for \$1,275,000.



Call Anita Vining
904-739-1626



OCEANFRONT BLISS WITH 2 CONDOS COMBINED INTO ONE FABULOUS HOME

Magnificent 4 bedroom/4 bath oceanfront condo in S Jax Beach measures an impressive 4,473 sqft, offers 180-degree panoramic views of the ocean. 4 coveted parking spaces and 2 storage units. Enjoy all the benefits of living in a spacious single-family home without stress of maintenance! Offered for \$1,390,000.



Call Jennifer Sexton
904-463-3326



WATERFRONT RETREAT

Located on a freshwater lagoon this home offers the best of both indoor and outdoor living. Designed for entertaining and enjoying the Florida weather, the backyard features a summer kitchen, two fire pits, and pool. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths. Offered for \$1,175,000.



Call Elizabeth Hudgins
904-553-2032

To be included in the next issue publishing October 24th, please contact (904) 285-8831

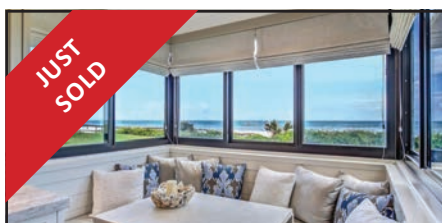


VILLAGES OF VILANO CONDO

Beach Where You Live! This beautiful 2BR/2BA condo provides a haven within this well-maintained beach-to-intracoastal community just steps from the tennis courts and club house. The split floor plan features a spacious master bedroom & en-suite bathroom. Both living room and master bedroom have ocean views. Add! 1 bedroom privately located on the other side of the condo. Open updated kitchen has solid surface countertops, updated stainless steel appliances, abundant cabinetry & a breakfast bar. Offered for \$235,000



Call Cyndi King
904-687-8000

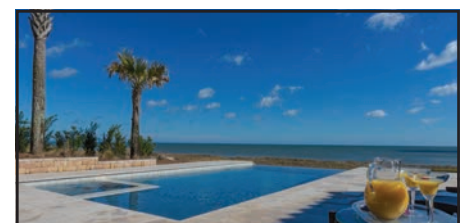


SPINNAKERS REACH

This once in a lifetime, unique custom home is completely renovated with stunning details & designer finishes. Magnificent oceanfront views from every room. This 1st flr condo is warm & inviting with 2,523 sf, 3BR/3BA and an abundance of ocean views! Savor your morning cup of coffee in your spectacular kitchen overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. Sold at \$2,150,000.



Call Janet Westling
904-813-1913



OCEANFRONT OASIS

Immaculate home located on a gated 1+ acre lot. Positioned on a high and dry dune, with 27 ft of elevation and breathtaking oceanfront home views. 5 bedrooms, 6 full / 2 half baths. Offered for \$5,250,000.



Call Sarah Alexander
904-334-3104

Two luxury oceanfront condos merged into superb single-family home

By Jennifer Sexton

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices

Let the organic beauty of the ocean wash over you upon entering the front door and enjoy the view of the white, sandy beach and Atlantic Ocean on the horizon.

When the homeowners of this stunning unit at the WatersEdge located at 123 1st Street South, #402 in Jacksonville Beach took on the project of combining two units, they realized how rare such oceanfront space was within a smaller, boutique-sized condo building with only 18 units.

This four-bedroom, four-bath oceanfront condo now measures an impressive 4,473 square feet and offers 180-degree panoramic views of the ocean. Enjoy all the benefits of living in a spacious, single-family home without the inevitable stress of maintenance. Homeowners get double the storage and double the parking with this home. Storage is never an issue with ample closet and storage spaces in the unit, plus the owner is granted two large storage closets (instead of one) on the fourth floor.

Drive up to this oceanfront retreat, then let the security gates open and gently close as you park in one of four private parking spaces. Two are covered spaces and two additional designated spaces are just outside the garage for guests. Zoom up to the fourth floor, enter the home, and exhale as you're met with unobstructed views and a modern, bright and wide open floorplan.

Those gifted with hospitality will enjoy the finely appointed kitchen that flows into the oceanfront dining room, as the owners

spared no expense with professional Thermador stainless steel appliances. The dining space is anchored by a gas fireplace and offers access to an oceanfront glass balcony complete with a summer kitchen. Kick your feet up in the massive family room while watching football or enjoying the views of the moon reflecting off the water and listening to smooth jazz over the surround sound system.

Three of the four bedrooms are conveniently en-suite with walk-in closets, while the larger fourth suite is a self-contained area that can be used as a theater room office, or an in-law/teenager hideaway. All rooms feature custom cushioned window seating to relax and take in the mesmerizing backdrop. Indulge in the master retreat with glorious views, a second balcony, a second gas fireplace, two walk-in closets, jetted tub and a walk-in shower with two shower heads.

This extraordinary condo is large enough to comfortably host the kids, grandkids, out-of-town guests and pets. It's the perfect spot to watch the Sea & Sky Airshow this year.

The HOA fee includes water, electric, gas, trash and exterior insurance. A brand new roof was installed in June. With its central location just south of Beach Blvd. on the oceanfront, you can venture out to a festival at the Sea Walk Pavilion, stroll on the beach for miles, fish, surf or simply enjoy your favorite beverage poolside. Welcome home!

This property is represented by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, listed by Jennifer Sexton and offered at \$1,390,000.



Photos courtesy of Jennifer Sexton



Photos courtesy of Babs Bowler

Coastal home has deeded beach access

By Babs Bowler

Watson Realty Corp.

This coastal "beach" home has been well maintained by the original owner. There are four bedrooms and three full baths. The home has a reverse open floor plan with lots of natural light to take advantage of the expansive ocean and marsh views. The primary living/social area is on the second floor. Amenities include a spacious kitchen overlooking the great room with a gorgeous pecky cypress ceiling and two large sea grass fans. There is an impressive coquina fireplace flanked by built in shelves and cabinets. Wooden plantation shutters throughout the home complement the airy environment.

The oversized garage offers a spacious workshop for the craftsman. Multiple screened porches and open decks provide the perfect spot to relax and enjoy beach life. There's even an electric fence to protect pets.

Improvements include an HVAC system, high-impact windows and sliding doors, roof, soffits/gutters, hardie board, a hybrid heat pump water heater, landscaping and motion flood lights. The St. Johns County school district has superior ratings. The elementary, middle and high school boasts excellent scores. Local real estate property taxes are the lowest in the northeast coastal region. Come and enjoy sunrises and sunsets every day!

This home is listed with Watson Realty Corp. and Babs Bowler (owner/agent) for \$1,500,000. M LS #998557

Plantation Oaks pool home has lake views



Photos courtesy of McAfee/Hughes Group

By McAfee | Hughes Group
RE/MAX Specialists PV

Situated on one of the largest lake lots in desirable Plantation Oaks in Ponte Vedra Beach, this estate sized home offers privacy and stunning lake views. With almost three-quarters acre and at the end of a cul-de-sac street, buyers can find solace and minimal traffic on one of the only four dead-end streets in the community. Relaxing on the large covered lanai and pool deck afford ultimate relaxation with clam breezes and views of pristine palms and sweeping oak trees.

The home boasts over 5,100 square feet, five bedrooms and six full bathrooms. The downstairs floor plan provides open concept living with formal living and dining spaces and a large kitchen to family room area. All rooms have optimum views of the pool, spa and lake. The master bedroom has an en-suite office area and luxurious master bathroom. There are two guest bedrooms, two full bathrooms and a full cabana bathroom on the first floor. Upstairs are two oversized bonus areas currently used as multi-purpose bedrooms and flex spaces plus two full bathrooms.

The home has a visually balanced design style with elements of elegant simplicity seen in selections throughout the house. The expansive kitchen flanks two islands, colored concrete countertops, clean wood shaker style cabinets, con-

temporary hardware and stainless-steel appliances. Window trim details and the fireplace mantel in the family room add to the serenity of the space by incorporating natural materials and earthy tones. The Zen décor style continues in the master bedroom and bathroom with brand new wood flooring and simplistic straight-lined vanities with two oval vessel sinks and industrial wall-mounted faucets below a streamlined track light fixture. A soaker tub and large walk-in shower with jets and dual shower heads complement the vanity creating the ultimate bathroom.

Stepping outside the calming effect continues under the considerable covered lanai area overlooking the pool and spa. With a freeform shape in the pool, multiple water features and built-in garden areas, the entire space creates a soothing atmosphere listening to the water surrounded by the peacefulness of nature and the lake vista. The large fenced yard is ready for outdoor play and games.

Plantation Oaks community amenities include gated access, pool, tennis, clubhouse and lake gazebo and it is minutes from the Atlantic Ocean, premier shops and restaurants in Ponte Vedra Beach and the best St. Johns County Schools.

The home, located at 713 Berry Lane Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082, is listed for sale for \$1,069,500 by Katie Hughes Johnson and Kim White with McAfee|Hughes Group RE/MAX Specialists PV.

Exquisite estate on the Intracoastal Waterway

By Jennifer White
RE/MAX Specialists PV

Ponte Vedra Beach, located in North-east Florida, is a seaside haven known for its pristine beaches, Intracoastal Waterway and famous resorts with championship golf. Ponte Vedra is home to the PGA Tour, the ATP, The Player's Championship, several famed private beach clubs and is in close proximity to the renowned Mayo Clinic and downtown Jacksonville, home of the Jacksonville Jaguars. Ponte Vedra is located in St. Johns County, one of the wealthiest counties in Florida that also boasts A-rated schools that are ranked top in the state.

Living in Ponte Vedra Beach affords one many opportunities to get out and explore all of the intricacies on the Intracoastal Waterway. That's especially true if you are one of the lucky ones to live on Roscoe Boulevard, home to magnificent estates with amazing views of the Intracoastal Waterway and breathtaking sunsets. Roscoe Boulevard is a water

lover's dream; from enjoying sweeping views, to watching beautiful boats go by, fishing from your dock, launching your canoe or kayak, the possibilities to enjoy the outdoors are endless.

Now, enter 87 Roscoe Blvd. North — WOW, WOW, WOW!

A Mediterranean beauty, 87 Roscoe Blvd. North is the ideal place to call home with its large Intracoastal-front lot with mature trees, updated interior and impeccable outdoor living space, this home has it all. Recently updated by top local designer, Nesting Place Interiors, this home has a designer kitchen to envy with many upgrades including quartzite counters and backsplash, high-end appliances, travertine and wood floors throughout, a wine cellar flanked by bricks and a pecky cypress door imported from 17th century Polish church ruins. The home boasts solid concrete construction on the first floor and a 964-square-foot covered lanai to rival any European garden. And who wouldn't want to relax



Photos courtesy of Jennifer White

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Renovation

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INSPIRATION

I'd like to share with you how I found my inspiration.

I love Pinterest and found that I was able to save my ideas according to a specific room or project. From there I was able to share my ideas on how I envisioned the room that was being

worked on with my contractor. For example, I had ideas for my white kitchen, so searched white kitchens and save any look I liked to my kitchen folder. I could print and share ideas with our contractor so he could see the look I was trying to achieve.

The first column about renovating our home appeared in the May 23 edition of Sand Castles. Stay tuned for the final renovation!

18TH ANNUAL

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Entertain and celebrate in luxury estate

By Sharon Funk

Welcome home to your very own slice of Northeast Florida paradise. Nestled on 2 acres under a canopy of matured trees in the Marsh Landing Country Club, lies a European-inspired estate on prime waterfront real estate in Ponte Vedra Beach.

This distinguished home offers a distinct style and amazing detail that blends Old World charm and warm, natural materials with the amazing architecture sense of Frank Lloyd Wright.

Featuring a collaborative design, this home has a main house masterfully connected with verandahs to the two villas. The flowing floor plan weaves inside and out between three distinct buildings that contain seven bedrooms, eight bathrooms and nearly 15,000 square feet under roof.

The natural transition of wood and stone flow freely in and out of the home connecting with the natural elements of its surroundings. The main house has been recently remodeled to reflect the style of designer Ray Booth adding a more transitional, light, mid-century modernism ambiance. The gourmet kitchen opens to a living area which boasts high ceilings and folding panoramic doors overlooking an event lawn perfect for entertaining or family activities.

The main house is all on one level and contains the indoor/outdoor great room, formal dining room, master suite, two en suite bedrooms, eat-in gourmet kitchen, media room, mudroom/office and a three-car garage with full storage above.

Across the courtyard you will find a fully independent three-bedroom guest villa. There is a master bedroom, living room and half kitchen downstairs and two more bedrooms and a full bathroom upstairs.

To the Intracoastal side of the property a third building with majestic views contains a game room and pool bath that occupies the entire first floor. Upstairs there is a seventh bedroom or office, bath with steam shower and a large gym facing the Intracoastal Waterway. Accessible from both of these upper rooms is a balcony that offers the best views of the water in the house.

There is a central pavilion that has been used to entertain hundreds of people as well as an outdoor chef's dream kitchen flanked by a wood burning fireplace and outdoor seating area. This home has allowed the owners the ability to serve and entertain as the hosts of many charitable and social events through the years. If you want to entertain your guests indoors or outdoors, the possibilities are numerous. Whether hosting corporate events, TPC, Bible studies, weddings, family reunions or opening their home to family and friends, this home offers a unique arena for casual gathering, community and celebration.

The square footage of covered exterior space is almost equivalent to the heated and cooled square footage itself. Included with the property is also a deeded 50-foot slip in the Harbour Island Marina with deep water access to the Atlantic Ocean. This is truly a one-of-a-kind spectacular property that the owners have taken great pride in designing and building from the ground up. From the concrete block construction to the inclusion of great finishes such as Rocky Mountain Hardware and Bevolvo Lighting, no detail has been left to chance in this luxurious estate. Offering private views of the Intracoastal Waterway, this is Ponte Vedra waterfront living at its best.

This property is represented by Sothebys, listed by Nicholas Eklund and Brian Moorman and offered for \$5,485,000.



Photos courtesy of Sharon Funk

V Pizza expands to Palm Valley

V Pizza announced its sixth store location along with their latest bar concept, Julep, located at 154 Canal Boulevard in Ponte Vedra has set a targeted grand opening for August.

Established by three Jacksonville locals, V Pizza was conceptualized during a vacation by falling in love with Neapolitan pizza. They knew immediately that their hometown had to have this style of pizza without the travel to Naples, Italy.

V Pizza has expanded from the initial San Marco location to six stores since 2014. The company seeks to build solid foundations with a focus on people rather than resumes. V Pizza consistently looks to promote from within and create a passionate atmosphere where the only thing better than the food is the people serving it.

The Palm Valley restaurant and Julep bar will serve high-quality, authentic Neapolitan-style pizza and award-winning wings. To achieve this level of quality, V Pizza imports world-class ingredients and uses only one cooking device: the hand-crafted Stefano Ferrara wood-fired oven. Julep will open with the goal of having one of the largest whiskey and bourbon collections in the Southeast and countless craft cocktails.

"Palm Valley is more than a new location for us. As an owner, my ties to The Valley are rooted by my father, Dennis Leger, who was a major player in developing TPC Sawgrass," owner Paul Scott said. "My hope is that this new location will serve the community and create another place for friends and families to enjoy for years to come."

For more information, follow V Pizza on Facebook at VPizzaJax



Photo courtesy of V Pizza

Exquisite

Continued from 39

by the Intracoastal reading a book, sunbathing or hopping right on the boat to pleasure ride, fish or boat to local restaurants? Don't miss your chance to see this beauty; it's truly spectacular!

Notable features and updates

Dock resurfaced 2019, new bulkhead 2019, all new shower heads 2019, three new Toto Toilets 2019, updated kitchen 2017, new roof 2016, dock with a 10,000 lb. boat lift, fish cleaning station and electricity, surround sound throughout home, veranda and dock, remarcited pool 2016, gated home with smart doorbell that connects to a camera or your phone, "Next" water filtration (like drinking "Smart Water")

This home is represented by Re/Max Specialists PV and listed by Jennifer White. For more information, call (904) 446-0495, email jenniferwhitesellspb@yahoo.com or visit www.jenniferwhiterealestate.com.

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DAVID EISNER
Sales Manager • 301-537-6226

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- 40 acre fishing lake
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- Text T40423143 to 81035



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Sales Executive • 904-237-2757

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Sales Executive • 904-460-4589



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Atlantica Isles at Beachwalk is located 1 mile east of I-95 on County Road 210 (Exit 329).
Please visit our website AmericrestLuxuryHomes.com for details on Atlantica Isles at Beachwalk.



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Business Weekly

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Nocatee celebrates new apartment complex with ribbon cutting

Page 45

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

Corrine Howard (from left), Lucia Miller, Carrie Wilson and Jodi Corwin attended the July 28 networking breakfast at Ruth's Chris Steak House in Ponte Vedra.

Photos by Susan Griffin



Ruth's Chris Steak House opens doors to private events during breakfast, lunch hours

Breakfast networking event showcases new menus

Ruth's Chris Steak House in Ponte Vedra hosted a breakfast networking event on July 28 to help showcase the expansion of its hospitality services. The fine dining restaurant now offers private and corporate functions outside normal business hours.

In addition to their regular private dining services, a breakfast and

lunch service aimed at special celebrations and corporate events has been added. Both the breakfast and lunch options have new, revamped menus along with the same quality and service that Ruth's Chris is known for. Private parties are encouraged to book lunch between 11 a.m. and noon to allow the res-

taurant to reset for dinner. Melissa Marshall, sales and banquets manager of Ruth's Chris Ponte Vedra said that despite the restaurant's normal hours of opening for dinner at 5 p.m., they will make accommodations for private parties and corporate events hosted throughout the day.

RUTH'S CHRIS continues on Page 46

Deter. Detect. Defend.



Harry Pappas
Columnist

Every year, thousands of people are victims of identity theft. It can happen to anyone, even you and me! Therefore, I want to share with you a technique that I use for my finance to help protect me from bandits. One of the best weapons in the confrontation with identity theft is to put a "credit freeze" on your existing credit. It took me 15 minutes and

cost \$30 to establish a credit freeze with the three credit reporting companies (Experian, TransUnion and Equifax). However, as of September 2018, there is no charge to place or remove a credit freeze. This relatively easy procedure, without cost, makes this approach essentially a "no-brainer," as we can significantly lower the probability of having someone steal our identity. Below are the most common questions and answers regarding a credit freeze.

What is a credit freeze?

Most states have laws that allow consumers to "freeze" credit. In essence, access to credit reports is restricted. If a consumer places a credit freeze, potential creditors and other individuals will not be able to gain access to the credit report unless the freeze is temporarily "lifted." Having a credit freeze makes it very unlikely that an identity thief would be able to establish an account in your name.

PAPPAS continues on Page 46



Melissa Marshall sales and banquets manager of Ruth's Chris Ponte Vedra and Christine Swanbeck welcomed guests on of the networking breakfast.

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SCOTT GRANT GIVES AQUA JAX PRESENTATION TO PVB SUNSET ROTARY



Photo by Susan Griffin

On June 18, Brian Anderson, left, President of Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Sunset, thanks Scott Grant, right, for giving a presentation about the new Aqua Jax, an exciting vision for the Riverfront that would anchor the downtown area and contribute to the area's revitalization.

Kathleen Floryan joins eXp Realty

Kathleen Floryan recently announced she has joined eXp Realty, a residential real estate brokerage operating in all 50 U.S. states.



Kathleen Floryan

Floryan focuses on Ponte Vedra Beach and the surrounding communities and has 13 years of experience in residential sales. Her credentials include Medical Doctor Agent Certified, New Home Construction Certified, Certified Luxury Home Marketing Expert, Resort and Second Home Certification, Short Sale and Bank Owned Property Certified, and Transnational Referral Certification.

A consistent top producer, Floryan's volume of closed sales for the past 12 months has put her in the top 10% of all real estate agents in the Northeast Florida Association of Realtors. She was ranked No. 20 in the 2018 Jacksonville Business Journal List for Real Estate Agents.

Floryan was previously associated with Ponte Vedra Club Realty six years and had a wonderful career with that organization. "I keep my eye on the market, market trends, opportunities for myself and for my customers benefit," Floryan said. "I knew when I saw the model of eXp Realty and what it has to offer my business, I had to decide and take a leap into the cloud. After all, I met my husband on the internet!"

FLORYAN continues on Page 45

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69						70				71				
72						73				74				

THEME: HOW DO YOU LIKE IT?

ACROSS

1. "Beat it!"
6. Bupkis
9. Tobacco mouthful, slangily
13. "All My Children" diva
14. *Pie ____ mode
15. Oil source
16. * ____ or to go
17. Meghan Markle's Archie, e.g.
18. East Asian peninsula
19. *Italian or ____ meatballs
21. *A la King or Kiev
23. Pine juice
24. Jury colleague
25. U.K. broadcaster
28. Make a reference
30. Wine grape
35. Riyadh native
37. *Wafer, cake or sugar
39. "No way" partner
40. On ____, or cheap
41. Old World lizard
43. Rani's dress
44. Like a Harvard building?
46. "Don't bet ____!"
47. Table scraps
48. *With cream or sugar
50. Montana tribe
52. Make lacework
53. Prospector's mother
55. Directing Spike

57. *Shaken or stirred
61. *Not on the rocks
65. ____ Bashevis Singer
66. Gobbled up
68. Between 10 and Queen
69. *Mini or maxi
70. No longer working abbr.
71. Saint in the Caribbean
72. Nobel Peace Prize capital
73. Kum Ba ____, song
74. Triangular road sign

DOWN

1. Gets the picture
2. ____ dad or ____ fish
3. Stravinsky's "The ____ of Spring"
4. DNA and RNA
5. Natalie Merchant, once?
6. Funny poet Ogden
7. U.N. working-conditions agcy.
8. Jousting pole
9. Chocolate candy, to a Brit
10. " ____! The herald angles sing"
11. Toward the lee
12. Withdraw gradually
15. Vail trail
20. Virgo's brightest star
22. Request for tailor
24. Self-flagellation, e.g.
25. In its simplest form
26. Music to a performer's ears

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		9			7		
2		6	8				
		6	1		3	9	
				7	2		6
		4			1		
	2	3	7	6		4	9
5			3			2	

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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.

27. Representative of Allah on earth
29. *Eat in or ____
31. Comme ci, comme ça
32. Pie display
33. Largest artery
34. *Lime or ____
36. *Rare or medium
38. Chieftain in Arabia
42. Bikini, e.g.
45. Civil wrong
49. Bajillion years
51. More rare than daily
54. Dear one for writing
56. Boredom
57. Fermented soybeans
58. Says "What?"
59. *Not top-shelf
60. Hawaiian tuber
61. Long for Liz
62. Small European freshwater fish
63. Bad to the bone
64. In Davy Jones' locker
67. *Hot or iced

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CHAMBER HOLDS RIBBON CUTTING FOR THE RESERVE AT NOCATEE



Photo by Susan Griffin

St. Johns County Chamber Ponte Vedra Beach Division recently held a ribbon cutting to celebrate The Reserve joining the Chamber. The community offers one-, two- and three-bedroom layouts with amenities including a clubhouse with fitness facility, beach entry pool and dog park with dog wash and bike care facility. The apartment's kitchens feature granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, modern cabinetry and even USB ports.

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For schedule information visit www.CityStAug.com/Concerts and get weekly reminders at www.Facebook.com/CityStAug

Alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the Plaza.



Concerts in the Plaza is a free cultural event presented by the City of St. Augustine.

Floryan

Continued from 44

eXp Realty is a cloud-based real estate brokerage and provides 24/7 access to collaborative tools, training and socialization for real estate brokers and agents through its fully immersive, cloud campus environment. It is one of the fastest growing real estate brokerage firms in North

America with more than 20,000 agents across 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia and three Canadian provinces. As a public company subsidiary, eXp Realty uniquely offers real estate professionals within its ranks opportunities to earn company stock for production and contributions to overall company growth.

For information, call Kathleen Floryan at (904) 687-5146 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. or email kathleen.floryan@exprealty.com.

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- | | |
|--|---|
| AUG. 29 JOHNNYSWIM | OCT. 31 ACOUSTIC ALCHEMY |
| AUG. 30 OMD
(ORCHESTRAL MANOEUVRES IN THE DARK) | NOV. 2 HERE COME THE MUMMIES |
| SEP. 16 DON FELDER | NOV. 22 THE FAB FOUR
"THE ULTIMATE BEATLES TRIBUTE" |
| SEP. 20 LOCAL NATIVES
DEVON GIFILLIAN | NOV. 23 MASON JENNINGS |
| SEP. 28 GRANDSON
NOTHING, NOWHERE | NOV. 24 JOHN OATES
THE GOOD ROAD BAND |
| SEP. 30 BAD SUNS
LILLY & ULTRA Q | DEC. 10 A PETER WHITE CHRISTMAS
w/ EUGE GROOVE, VINCENT INGALA & LINDSEY WEBSTER |
| OCT. 5 JOHN MEDESKI'S
MAD SKILLET | DEC. 20 HORTON'S
HOLIDAY HAYRIDE
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| OCT. 10 MARTY STUART'S
PILGRIM SHOW | JAN. 30 RODNEY CROWELL |
| OCT. 11 STEVEN PAGE | FEB. 1 OVER THE RHINE |
| OCT. 17 THE WOOD BROTHERS | FEB. 14 AL STEWART |
| OCT. 24 THE ALLMAN
BETTS BAND
JOANNE SHAW TAYLOR
& JD SIMO | FEB. 20 TOM PAPA |
| OCT. 27 WYNONNA
& THE BIG NOISE | FEB. 21 JIMMY WEBB |
| | FEB. 28 STEEP CANYON RANGERS |
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Jennifer Sexton – Berkshire Hathaway
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Kim Martin-Fisher – Coldwell Banker Vanguard
LASH
Lew Walters – Berkshire Hathaway
Lisa Barton Team – Berkshire Hathaway
Lockett Law
Lord of Life Lutheran Church

Main Event
Mandala Family Wellness
Marchand Faries Financial Management
Marks Gray, PA
Marsh Landing Country Club Realty
Michele Smith – RE/MAX Coastal Realty
Mitchell A. Stone
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Ponte Vedra Home Care
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Pusser's
Quinn-Shalz Funeral Home
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WeatherGuard
Wells Fargo
World Imports, USA
Wounded Warrior Project
Your CBD Store
Zisser Law



David Godwin and Stuart Davis



Lori Adams and Shana Ryan

Ruth's Chris

Continued from 43

"If somebody wants to host something here, we definitely try to make it happen," Marshall said.

The new continental breakfast menu and private lunch menu range from \$38

to \$60. The event host chooses the lunch menu items.

For information about booking a private event or corporate function, call Ruth's Chris Steak House in Ponte Vedra at (904) 285-0014. To inquire about attending the next breakfast networking event, email Melissa Marshall at salespontevedrabeach@ruthschris.com.

Pappas

Continued from 43

Who can access my credit report if I place a credit freeze?

Companies that we do business with will continue to have access to our credit report. In addition, some states, potential employers, insurance companies, property owners and other non-creditors can still get access to your credit report with a credit freeze in place.

What is the cost to establish a credit freeze?

There is no charge for placing, temporarily lifting and permanently removing a credit freeze.

How do I place a credit freeze?

To place a credit freeze, you will need to contact the three nationwide credit bureaus — Equifax, Experian and TransUnion. Online, you will type in your name, address, social security number and date of birth. You can also submit a credit freeze via phone or in writing. You may have to give a previous address if you have lived at your current one for less than two years. In addition, you may need to answer a few questions about your background, including loans you have taken out, credit cards you hold or previous addresses to confirm your identity.

How do I temporarily lift my credit freeze to give one access to my credit report?

If you want to apply for a loan or credit card, or need to give someone access to your credit report, temporarily lifting your credit freeze is easy. Each of the three consumer rating companies will give you a personal identification number. You will need your PIN to lift the credit freeze. You can do this online, by phone or mail.

Is a credit freeze for everyone?

No. Having a credit freeze can be inconvenient if you continually lift your credit freeze. When consumers request to lift the freeze by phone or online, the credit bureaus must take that action within 1 hour, but if consumers make these requests by mail, the agency must place or lift the freeze within three business days.

Joe Ridout, consumer services manager with the nonprofit consumer rights group Consumer Action, said it best, "I think for anyone who is extremely concerned about the prospect of identity theft, there is no better tool than a credit freeze."

I could not agree more! Not only do I have a credit freeze for my credit, but my children do as well. I encourage you to consider establishing a credit freeze. If you need help or have further questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Casey or me. We are here to provide you with the service and investment advice that you want and deserve.

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We appreciate you!

Local author releases new historical romance novel 'Beacon Beach'

By Amber Lake

Taffeta dresses, rocky coastlines, forlorn lighthouses and the constrained modesty of a passionate Victorian romance highlight local resident Maggie Fitzroy's new book, "Beacon Beach."

Set in 1886 in Cape May, New Jersey, the novel weaves the romance genre with historical fiction at a luxurious seaside resort called "White Caps." The main character, Jacy James, struggles with societal expectations, grieving for the loss of her fiancé at sea and her budding feelings for a convalescent residing at the resort, Cole Stratton. All making for one perfect summer read, to be consumed beachside with one's toes in the sand.

"Beacon Beach" marks Fitzroy's fourth novel and second fiction novel. A longtime journalist who made a career at First Coast Magazine and The Times Union's Shorelines, Fitzroy got her start writing at the Ponte Vedra Recorder in 1998, after leaving a job teaching at The Florida School for the Deaf and Blind.

"I felt I wasn't doing what I was supposed to be doing in life," Fitzroy said.

Self-taught, Fitzroy began with photography, taking pictures of community events. Soon, she realized that pictures weren't telling the "whole story," so she asked for an opportunity at writing — which, ironically, was immediately shot down.

"He said, 'you can't write, photographers can't write, they can't even spell,'" she said.

Rather than letting one editor stand in the way of what she thought she could do, she kept asking until the then new Ponte Vedra Recorder editor, Grace Hayes, came to the position and encouraged her to write and pursue her passions.

From there, Fitzroy taught herself journalism, interviewing members of the Ponte Vedra area and connecting people across the neighborhood. She became interested in the historical landscape of the communities she was in and learning to research and verify facts. After transitioning to the Times-Union and then First Coast Magazine, she found herself wondering what her next step would be. Luckily, her editor at the time doubted her less than she doubted herself.

"Why don't you write a novel?" she asked.

Fitzroy didn't think she could, but she

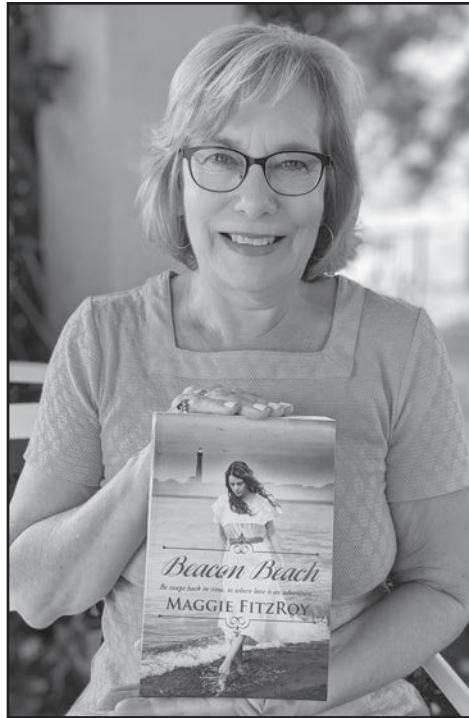


Photo by Amber Lake

Maggie Fitzroy will be signing her new novel, "Beacon Beach" at The BookMark at 7 p.m., Aug. 15 during Thursday's Beaches ArtWalk.

didn't really have a great answer for "why not?" So, she did what she always did, she bought a bunch of books on the subject and learned.

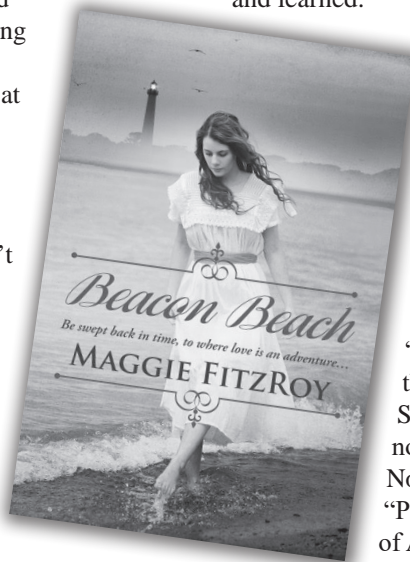
"I don't know why I doubted myself for so long," Fitzroy said. "But once I knew I had the imagination then I went and got a book called 'Writing Fiction for Dummies.'"

Fitzroy published her first fiction novel, "Mercy's Way," set along the Oregon trail in 1885. She has also written two nonfiction books featuring Northeast Florida history, "Ponte Vedra Beach: Images of America" and "Jacksonville Beach: Images of

America." Her books have garnered large acclaim and can be found at Amazon, Bookbaby, Barnes & Noble, iBooks and Kobo. It is also sold in-store locally at The BookMark in Neptune Beach.

It has been a long road from fiction "Dummy" to distinguished writer, but Fitzroy goes to show that mastering a skill can be as simple as asking yourself, "Why not?" and being up for the challenge.

Maggie Fitzroy will be signing her new novel, "Beacon Beach" at The BookMark at 7 p.m., Aug. 15 during Thursday's Beaches ArtWalk. The BookMark is located at 220 First St., Neptune Beach. For more information, call (904) 241-9026.



LOCAL BREWERY RELEASES SING OUT LOUD SESSION IPA



Photo by Christine Rodenbaugh

Sugarbeats took the stage July 20 at Colonial Oak Park for the Sing Out Loud Session IPA release party. The audience was able to sample the new brew by Intuition Ale Works formulated especially for the 2019 Sing Out Loud Festival. Intuition's director of sales, Daniel Courts, said the beer is made using Amarillo hops and has a melon, citrus and kiwi flavor profile. The release party also brings awareness to the Sing Out Loud Festival, which kicks off Sept. 6 at Colonial Oak Park, and includes hundreds of acts at many venues on the First Coast. Most festival events are free. Concerts at The Amp will require ticket purchase. For more information, go to www.singoutloudfestival.com.



Photo courtesy of Butterfield Garage Gallery

Buy local fine art at garage sale prices throughout August

The Annual Butterfield Garage "Garage Sale" opens on First Friday, Aug. 2 and will continue throughout the month. This year the sale will be bigger and better than ever with 32 local artists offering high-octane art at discounted prices.

Member artists exhibit older work, art with slightly damaged frames, experimental work that has never been shown and even works of other artists from private collections. It's all on display at

Butterfield at "garage sale" prices. With a wide variety of art medium including paintings, sculpture, photography, prints, textiles, glass, jewelry and more, this is always a fun time and a great opportunity to find some real bargains. There will be no early sales.

The Butterfield Garage Gallery is located at 137 King Street in downtown St. Augustine. For more information, email info@butterfieldgarage.com or visit www.butterfieldgarage.com.

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Jacksonville's first indoor, outdoor dog park hosts birthday parties for pups

By Daniela Toporek

In a time when young adults are focusing more on careers and less on parenthood, it's no wonder they're also more involved in spoiling pet companions. From dog parks to cat cafes, the world is turning its head away from the traditional norm of marriage and family and turning toward an age of freedom and pet companionship. So, it's about time the First Coast got its first indoor and outdoor private dog park, complete with a craft beer and coffee bar and the ability to accommodate dog birthdays and events of all kinds. Welcome to Kanine Social.

Kanine Social offers both indoor and outdoor play for pups, along with day-care, veterinary checks, training classes and even party space to host an array of events. Want to celebrate a pup's birthday? Kanine Social's got it covered with ample space for guests to throw an elaborate birthday for their pet and pet's pals.

"Events are all over the board," said Kanine Social co-owner, Daniel Moffatt. "Anything dog-related, of course. We've



With accommodations such as a doggy day-care, vet and training classes, Kanine Social does its best to satisfy every pup and its owner's needs.

worked with K9s for Warriors, but we've done some stuff that's non dog related. We have corn-hole tournaments once a month, bingo every other week, brunch events every other Sunday and we've worked with the Humane Society. We did a Lily Pulitzer event last month and we're hosting Kendra Scott this month. They'll come in, set up and donate a portion of

PUP PARTY continues on **Page 49**



Photos courtesy of Dustin Fries and Daniel Moffatt
Owners (left to right) Dustin Fries and Daniel Moffatt enjoy their facility with their own dogs, Mason, Maverick and Murphy.



Photo courtesy of Vanagram

Vanagram is a 1972 VW bus and mobile photo booth available for weddings, parties and other events.

St. Augustine locals turn VW bus into elaborate mobile photo booth

By Daniela Toporek

Ryan Ropero's search for the perfect Volkswagen bus started around three years ago. After countless inquiries, rusted Volkswagens and dozens of disappointments, he found her. His dream 1972 Volkswagen bus, coincidentally located in Los Alamos, New Mexico, about an hour and a half away from his hometown, Toas. It was fate. And with that fate, came his dream business, Vanagram.

Vanagram is a mobile photo booth located within Ropero's VW. The DSLR camera, installed by Ropero himself, comes with a 20-inch screen and customizable backdrop for every occasion.

"I mainly do weddings," Ropero said, although he's open to all types of events. "Normally, the bride will want to customize it (the VW) with her floral arrange-

ments. I'll get with the florist and collaborate."

The Vanagram also attended the Vans Duct Tape festival, where Ropero decorated the van accordingly.

"I cut this cardboard out as the backdrop behind the seat," he said. "I put duct tape and Vans stickers all over it. It was really cool looking for the event."

Ropero also customizes the photo strips for each event. The bottom of the strip or the background will have the bride and groom's name or the name of the event.

Vanogram even attended St. Augustine's Night Market last December for a Christmas-themed booth. The VW was equipped with a mailbox for Santa letters, Christmas gifts and lights and even a special guest, Santa Claus, himself, taking photos with

VANAGRAM continues on Page 50

Family-friendly Jacksonville entertainment center strives for guests to feel like VIP

Partying may be all fun and games, but hosting one is a different story. With all the planning, like choosing the food, drinks, music, activities and entertainment (along with making sure things go to plan), it's hard for the party host to sit back and enjoy their own celebration. To relieve all that, there's Main Event Jacksonville.

Main Event, located near the Avenues Mall in Jacksonville, is a large entertainment center that can host all types of events, such as birthdays, graduations,

business parties and more. The Main Event staff allows party hosts to choose from a variety of options involving food and entertainment.

"We like to say we make it a turnkey event," Hilary Williams, Main Event sales manager said. "Our staff will set up the party with a host running the show, making sure it's memorable."

Birthdays now also feature the new "Hunt for FUN" scavenger hunt, where

MAIN EVENT continues on Page 50

Indoor skydiving facility gets adrenaline pumping

Skydiving can be both an expensive and scary endeavor. With those fearful of heights, it's hard to even imagine intentionally jumping off a plane at approximately 13,000 feet. For those wanting to feel that same adrenaline rush, but aren't quite ready to take the leap, there's iFly.

iFly is one of Jacksonville's latest attractions that opened its doors in November of 2018. It's an indoor skydiving facility that allows guests to achieve the thrill of flying within an air-blasting tunnel and with an experienced instructor. Guests ages free and up are welcome to try this safe, supervised and unique experience while making memories with friends and family.

Once guests check in, they'll go through orientation to prepare for the action. After, guests will receive their

flight suits and helmets and will be ready to fly.

Guests will be suspended in mid-air, learning to fly, flip, roll all over the tunnel, so iFly staff suggest wearing comfortable clothing, close-toed shoes and to leave any loose objects such as earrings, necklaces, watches and hair accessories at home. Learn to skydive in one of the tunnels or even take it a step further and use the virtual reality helmet to fly across the world.

iFly also offers multiple packages for group events like birthdays, company events or other social outings, and offer flight enhancements and food and beverage catering options.

iFly is located off Brightman Boulevard just off I-295 in Jacksonville. For more information, visit www.iflyworld.com/jacksonville or call (904) 712-3388.

Pup Party

Continued from 48

their sales for the Humane Society."

Kanine Social even hosted a drag queen bingo with JASMYN, Jacksonville's LGBTQ organization, and raised \$400 toward the cause.

Josh Pritchard, a Kanine Social regular, said that this place not only helps his fluffy friend, Captain Berger Piccard, with physical activity, but mental activity as well, to help learn how to socialize with all kinds of other dogs.

"For example, there was a Great Dane once, and she (Captain Berger) got a little aggressive, but not negatively," Pritchard he said. "She just didn't know how to play with him/her, but after three or four times, including daycare, they're perfect."



Kanine Social is the First Coast's first indoor and outdoor private dog park and craft beer and coffee bar.

To prove Captain Berger's enthusiasm, Pritchard had her jump up on one of the stands of the playground. Captain Berger was going to be featured in the paper, so she clearly wanted to show off her skills.

She then posed with her dog dad for a photo after a couple minutes of calming her down, from all the excitement.

Moffatt opened Kanine Social in 2018 alongside friend and co-owner, Dustin

Fries, both of whom wanted the ability to go out and watch sports with friends without leaving their furry family members behind.

"Every city needs an indoor dog park and we're in Florida," Fries said. "It's hot most of the year, so the fact that we have A/C, an indoor dog park, craft beer and that the dogs can really play off the leash — I think that's where the idea ultimately stemmed from."

"We live in Springfield and we can take our dogs outside to walk around, but it gets rained out," Pritchard said. "We just got her (Captain Berger) a bath yesterday and I don't want to take her out and get muddied up. Here, it's inside, there's nice A/C, we have the option to go outside and chase balls. It's been so great. It's just a nice place to go.

"The bar isn't bad, either."



Photo courtesy of Main Event

Main Event

Continued from 49

friends and family cheer while the birthday kid navigates through five different challenges to win a prize, such as free laser tag, arcade game play or a prize from the items inside the “Big Crane Game.”

One of the most popular games, according to Williams, is “Virtual Rabbits: The Big Ride,” a virtual reality rollercoaster where riders take a seat in a simulation chair, put on VR goggles and “ride” in 360 degrees of ups, downs, twists and turns.

With bowling lanes, skee ball, laser tag, arcade and video games and more, Main Event Jacksonville is a location to enjoy with all ages. For those looking for adult activities, there is a billiards room with a shuffleboard table, two restaurants and a full bar.

Choose from four packages that range from two to three hours for a minimum of 10 guests. Packages include reserved party space, menu options, activities, a FUNcard and a dedicated party host and free kids’ cups and soft drinks for party guests.

For more reservations or more information, visit www.mainevent.com or call (904) 260-7500.

Vanagram

Continued from 49

children and bringing Christmas cheer. Oh, and in place of regular photo strips, Ropero printed out Christmas cards instead.

Ropero explained that his passion for the VW bus was what fueled the idea for his business.

“They’re super cool,” he said. “Something about them is just iconic. It became an obsession. There are a bunch of these, ‘van-lifers,’ that I follow and the freedom really appealed to me, having your home on your back and travelling around for a few months, seeing the world. Of course, it’s kind of difficult with a wife and two kids.”

His wife, JamieLee Ropero, has been on board with the company ever since Ryan created a one, three and five year business plan that was financially doable once the bus was found.

When he found it, Ryan sent his mechanic to Los Alamos. “Had I known it was in that great condition, I would have driven it back myself,” his mechanic said.

Ryan redid the interior, seats and flooring, with little work done on the engine. “Everything else is original,” he said, with excitement, as if Santa brought him the van himself.

Ropero hopes that in the future, he’ll add multiple vans to his business, along with different types of automobiles, too. To add variety to the company, Ropero is



Photo courtesy of Daybreak Photo

Vanagram owners, Ryan and JamieLee Ropero, pose behind their beloved bus, ready to snap photos at any event.

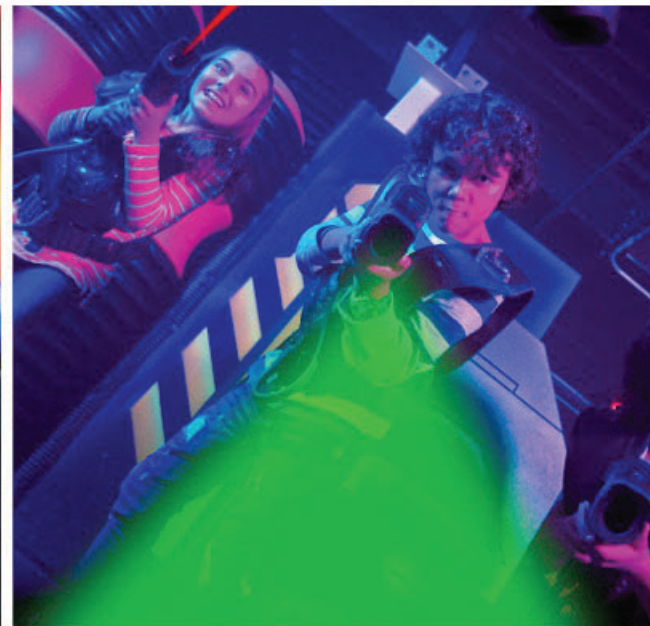
rebranding the business and next month, Vanagram will be known as the Photo Mobile Company.

“My goal is to have a few VW buses,” he explained. I want to do a 1950s-60s trailer and other projects too. So changing the name to Photo Mobile Co. opens up what I’m able to do. My dream is also to open up a branch in Gainesville, maybe Orlando. That’s 15 years or so down the road, but you gotta start somewhere.”

For more information or to book Vanagram for an event, visit www.Vanagram.Co or check out Vanagram’s Instagram at @VanagramCo.

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Jaguars announce open training camp dates



Photo courtesy of Jacksonville Jaguars

Fans had the opportunity to hang out with Jaguars players during the Special Olympics Fantasy Camp in June. Starting July 25, fans will have access to training camp practices.

By Daniela Toporek

With football season finally around the corner, the Jacksonville Jaguars announced open training camp sessions for fans from July 25 to July 30 at the Dream Finder Homes Practice Complex by TIAA Bank Field.

Each training session starts at 8:45 a.m., with gates opening at 8:15 for fans wanting to arrive early. Admission is free, but registration is required and is on a first-come, first-served basis. Fans can register for the training camps at www.jaguars.com/trainingcamp19 with tickets delivered online. The first four practices are open to fans, with the July 27 exclusively available to Jags-365 season-ticket members only. The team's first practice in full-padded uniform is on July 28.

Merchandise and concessions will be available on site, as well as limited player autograph ability after each

practice. Practices are also subject to change, depending on weather or other factors, so it's encouraged to follow the Jacksonville Jaguars on social media on the day before and of the event.

After a 5-11 record last season, along with multiple injuries, the Jacksonville Jaguars went through many changes, including new coaches, a new offensive coordinator, John DeFilippo, and new quarterback, Nick Foles, replacing Blake Bortles, starting quarterback for the past four years. It's a mystery to how the Jaguars will fare for the upcoming season, but both the franchise and fans are ready to find out.

The Dream Finder Homes Practice Complex is located at 1 TIAA Bank Field Drive in downtown Jacksonville, right beside TIAA Bank Field, with parking will be available at Lots M and N.

For more information, visit www.jaguars.com/trainingcamp19.

Shrimp & Suds Craft Beer Festival returns Aug. 3

The Shrimp & Suds Craft Beer Festival will once again be held at the Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville from 6 to 9 p.m. on Aug. 3.

Presented in part by Destroyer Rocks! Promotional Products, the festival will allow guests to enjoy unlimited samples of craft beers from companies such as Bold City, Ruby Beach, Wicked Weed, Lagunitas, Tabula Rasa and more. Food, including the shrimp & pulled pork nachos seen on the Travel Channel's "Food Paradise," will be available for purchase.

Throughout the festival, guests will be able to shop for Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp gear in the team store or purchase ticket packages for the upcoming season.

Tickets for the Shrimp & Suds Craft Beer Festival are \$40 each. VIP admission is \$50 and includes early access one hour before the gates open for general admission. Legal ID will be required for entry to the event, which is exclusively for guests ages 21 and over. No children, babies or strollers will be allowed to enter the event. No outside food or drink is permitted. For ticket purchases and more information, visit www.jaxshrimp.com.

The Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville are located at 301 A. Philip Randolph Blvd. in Jacksonville.



Photo courtesy of Jacksonville University

Hannah Berman, a senior at Jacksonville University, will compete in the Ladies National Golf Association Amateur Championship beginning July 29.

Former PVHS golfer seeks amateur championship

Ponte Vedra resident Hannah Berman will tee off at 9:30 a.m. Monday, July 29, in the 89th Ladies National Golf Association Amateur Championship at the Golf Club of Tennessee. The tournament is 72-hole stroke play with a 36-hole cut to the lowest 60 scores and ties.

Berman, a former Ponte Vedra High School standout, is a senior at Jacksonville University where she is on the 2019-20 ladies golf roster.

In January, Berman tied for fifth place at the Women's Orlando International Amateur Championship in Winter Garden. In June, Berman was runner-up in the Women's Southern Amateur Championship at Supply, North Carolina where she shot a 2-over 74 during the 18-hole stroke play portion of the event. She was seeded seventh for the Southern Amateur match play competition.

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