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# Recorder

December 3, 2020

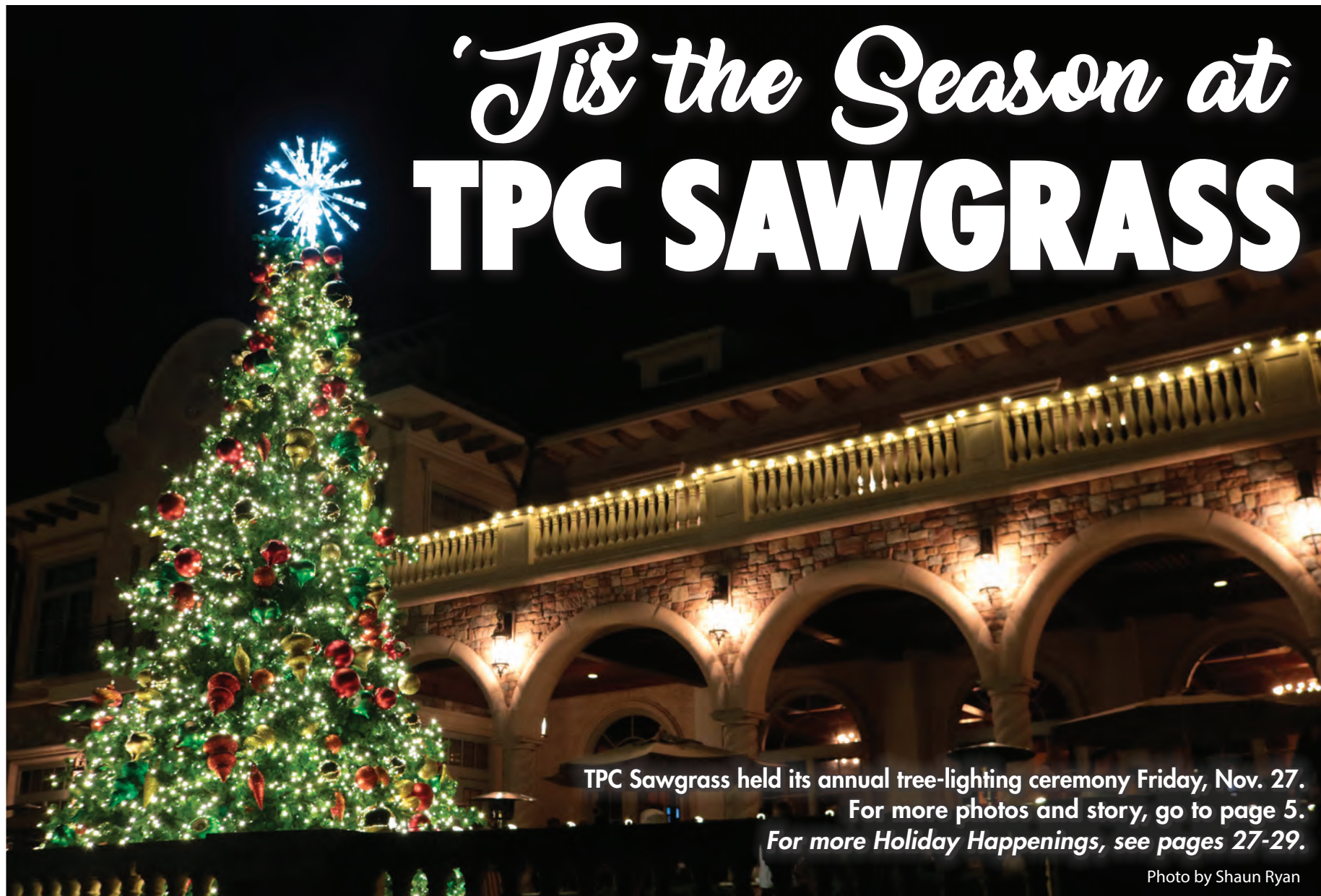
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Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

PonteVedraRecorder.com

## 'Tis the Season at TPC SAWGRASS



TPC Sawgrass held its annual tree-lighting ceremony Friday, Nov. 27.

For more photos and story, go to page 5.

For more Holiday Happenings, see pages 27-29.

Photo by Shaun Ryan

What's Available NOW On **hulu**



**INSIDE: CHECK IT OUT!**  
The Recorder's Entertainment  
EXTRA featuring TV listings,  
streaming information,  
puzzles and more!



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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](mailto:pvrecorder@opcfla.com) or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach**. Submissions may be published in the paper, on our website or on our social media platforms.

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

## NOTES TO READERS

**Don't miss an issue:** In case social distancing requirements get more strict, we will email you your paper. Send your email address to [pvrecorder@opcfla.com](mailto:pvrecorder@opcfla.com).

**Weekly newsletter:** The Recorder offers a weekly newsletter every Monday that outlines some of the top stories of the week, as well as providing access to our E-Edition and Entertainment EXTRA! To get the newsletter emailed for free, email [don@opcfla.com](mailto:don@opcfla.com). We'll add you to the list.

## ADOPT A PET

### CAT OF THE WEEK

Well, hello there. My name is Dudley. I am a 5-year-old male domestic short-hair with white and brown tabby colors. I really enjoy stretching out and being rubbed — oh, and I love to purr. I am looking for a new roommate to hang out with and talk, so come on down and meet me at the Pet Center today! #56448



### DOG OF THE WEEK

Hey there! My name is Mater, and I am a 10-month-old male red tick coonhound. I am ready to play and run and have fun with other dogs because I am super friendly. I don't love to be walked on a leash — but I do try! Please come meet me. I am waiting on my new family so I can give them lots of kisses — yes, LOTS! Come visit me at the Pet Center today! #56542

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.**

## BRIEFS

### St. Johns County brings back Christmas "Tree-cycling" program

St. Johns County is hosting its annual Christmas "Tree-cycling" program from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 28, through Monday, Jan. 4, for those who wish to recycle Christmas trees after the holiday.

Residents are encouraged to bring Christmas trees to any of the following locations:

- Ron Parker Park – 607 Old Beach Road
- Cornerstone Park – 1046 A1A North
- Davis Park – 210 Davis Park Road
- Mills Field – 1805 Racetrack Road
- First Tee – 4401 Cypress Links Blvd.

Artificial trees will not be accepted and trees should be free of decorations and debris. Designated areas and signage will direct participants where to drop off their trees. For more information, call (904) 209-0335.

BRIEFS continues on Page 4

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

S	T	O	P		C	O	W		B	A	I	T						
L	A	M	E		C	A	V	A		S	A	L	S	A				
A	X	I	S		O	R	A	L		P	S	A	L	M				
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6	7	1	9	3	2	4	8	5
9	2	8	7	4	5	1	6	3
5	3	4	1	6	8	2	7	9
2	8	5	4	7	3	6	9	1
7	4	9	5	1	6	8	3	2
3	1	6	2	8	9	7	5	4
8	5	3	6	2	1	9	4	7
4	9	2	8	5	7	3	1	6
1	6	7	3	9	4	5	2	8

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

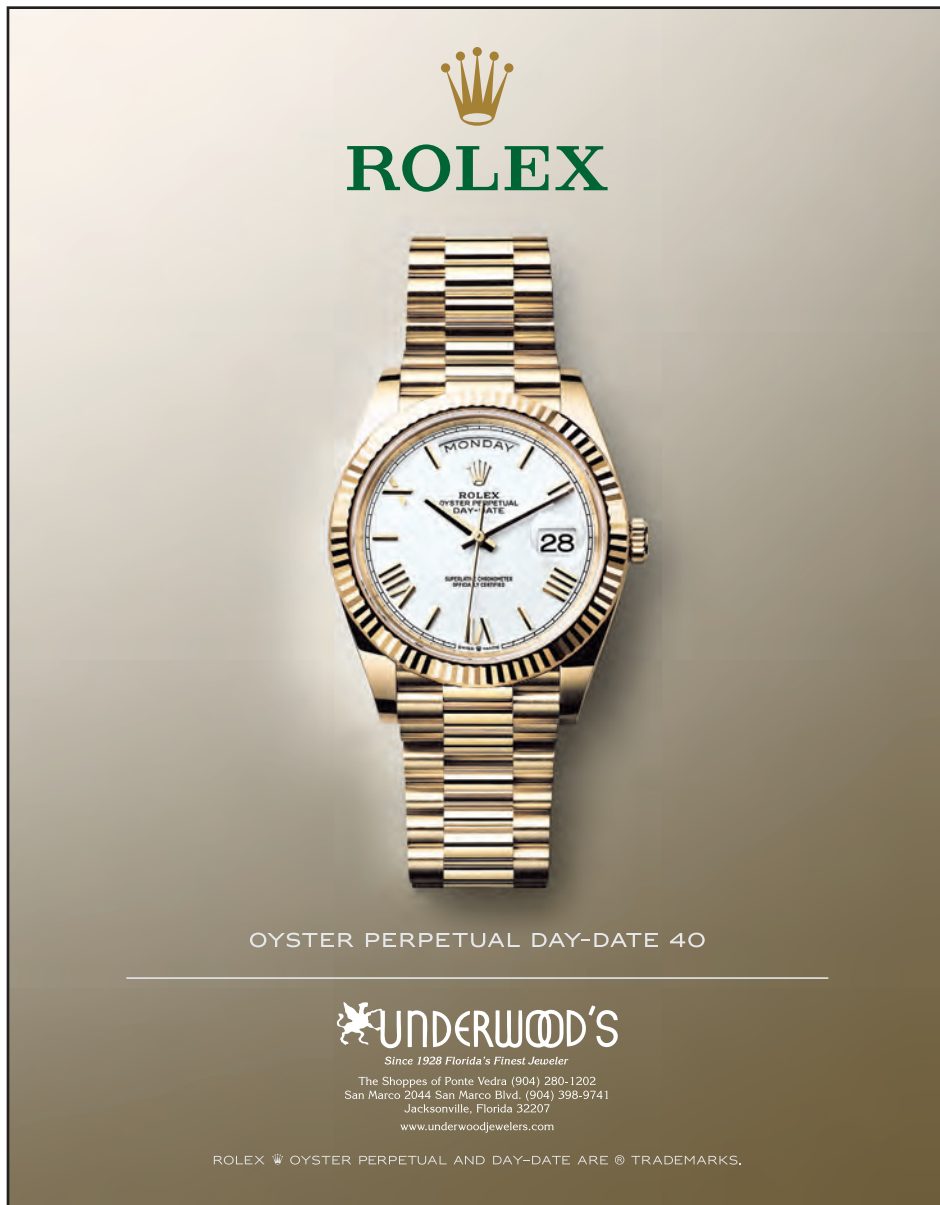



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# Multi-vehicle crash at A1A, Mickler Road claims life of cyclist

A two-vehicle crash at the intersection of State Road A1A and Mickler Road on Monday afternoon, Nov. 30, claimed the life of a cyclist, according to the Florida Highway Patrol.

The intersection was taped off and traffic had to be rerouted as investigators respond-

ed to the scene.

According to the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, the cyclist was struck and ejected from the bike, sustaining significant bodily injuries. At least two vehicles

**CRASH** continues on **Page 4**

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# Rep. Rutherford honors area service academy nominees

2 PVHS students, 1 Nease student among 34 selections from 4th Congressional District

U.S. Rep. John Rutherford (FL-04) announced this year's nominees to the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA), United States Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA), United States Military Academy (USMA) and the United States Naval Academy (USNA).

Rutherford congratulated the 34 nominees at the Allen D. Nease High School Performing Arts Center on Monday night and wished them success in their final selection process.

"One of the greatest privileges I have as a congressman is to nominate motivated and well-rounded young leaders from our community to attend America's military academies," Rutherford said. "These students are some of the best and brightest Northeast Florida has to offer. I

thank these outstanding young men and women for making the noble decision to serve our country and I look forward to following their many future successes."

Each year, thousands of students from across the country apply to attend one of the nation's service academies. The ultra-competitive selection process includes receiving a nomination from the president, vice president or a member of Congress.

The 34 students from Northeast Florida who received nominations through Rutherford's office must now compete for admission against nominees from across the country.


The nominees from Florida's 4th Congressional District are:

#### ALLEN D. NEASE HIGH SCHOOL

■ Brandon Timothy Donovan – USMA

#### BARTRAM TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL

■ Chloe Marie Hill – USAFA  
■ Mackenzie Ann Williams – USMA



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#### BISHOP KENNY HIGH SCHOOL

■ Christopher Joseph Waldrep – USNA  
■ William James Weinbecker – USMMA

#### THE BOLLES SCHOOL

■ David Olufemi Adewale – USAFA  
■ William Gray Camp – USAFA, USMA  
■ Meagan D. Donovan – USAFA, USNA

#### CALVERT HALL COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

■ Joshua Gabriel Fisher – USMMA, USNA

#### CREEKSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

■ Jacob William Douberly – USNA  
■ Pavel A. Shilenko – USAFA, USMA  
■ Elyse Victoria Soracco – USMA

#### DOUGLAS ANDERSON SCHOOL OF ARTS

■ Caroline Elizabeth Guiler – USAFA

#### THE EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

■ Cooper Pierce Richart – USNA

#### FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

■ Eric Jeffrey Su – USMA

#### FLORIDA VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL

■ Coral Morgan Lee – USAFA

#### KUBASAKI HIGH SCHOOL

■ Nathan Walden Scherry Jr. – USNA  
■ Sebastian Scherry – USMA, USMMA, USNA

#### PAXON SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED STUDIES

■ Tavia A. Romans – USMMA  
■ Adam Vincent Slama – USAFA

#### PONTE VEDRA HIGH SCHOOL

■ Edward Anderson Lancaster – USNA  
■ Mason Diego Romero – USNA

#### SANDALWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

■ Aliyah Gabrielle Alexander – USNA  
■ Nathan Dylan Benavidez – USMMA

#### THE SETZER BOYS ACADEMY

■ Robert Lee Setzer – USMA, USMMA

#### STANTON COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

■ Alejandro S. Fluit Martinez – USMA

#### ST. JOHNS COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

■ Walker Bay Mathews – USMA

#### ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY

■ Jackson Conrad Miller – USMMA

#### ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY

■ Connor Joseph McQuade – USMMA

#### UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

■ Jacob Langdon Saperstein – USAFA

#### USMA PREPARATORY SCHOOL

■ Thomas Scott Zitiello – USMA

#### USNA PREPARATORY SCHOOL

■ Jordan Micah Rodgers – USNA  
■ Maxwell Bruce Silva – USNA

#### WEST NASSAU HIGH SCHOOL

■ Abigail Grace Vienneau – USAFA, USMMA

## Briefs

Continued from 2

### St. Johns County Public Library extends hours beginning Jan. 5

The St. Johns County Public Library System is extending hours at all facilities to accommodate the needs of working families and students beginning Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021. The Main Branch, Ponte Vedra Beach Branch and Southeast Branch

libraries will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesdays through Fridays. The Anastasia Island Branch, Bartram Trail Branch, and Hastings Branch libraries will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursdays, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. All libraries will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays, and remain closed on Sundays and Mondays. For more information, go to [www.sjtpls.org](http://www.sjtpls.org) or call your local branch library.



Law enforcement officials investigate a multi-vehicle crash involving a bicycle Monday at the intersection of State Road A1A and Mickler Road.

Photo by Shaun Ryan

## Crash

Continued from 3

stopped at the scene showed signs of damage.

Deputies responded after the call came in at 1:37 p.m. They were joined at the scene by the Florida Highway Patrol.

Law enforcement routed southbound traf-

fic on S.R. A1A through a parking lot at the intersection and then onto Mickler Road. But some local residents watching from the parking lot said they lived just south of the scene on S.R. A1A and so were unable to bypass the congestion to get home.

The Recorder contacted the FHP, but no further information was available at press time. However, some media were reporting that the victim was a 77-year-old man.

# Tree lighting draws revelers to TPC Sawgrass

By Shaun Ryan

It was a night of festive fun as local residents gathered for the tree lighting ceremony Friday, Nov. 27, at TPC Sawgrass.

Diners gathered early as the sun sank into the horizon to enjoy dinner on the veranda. Nearby, the elevated lawn slowly filled with revelers.

Carolers sang holiday favorites, and friendly staff poured cups of hot cocoa and set out special cookies.

As darkness descended on the clubhouse, children played games and adults chattered in lively conversation, all awaiting the big moment.

At last, the emcee welcomed the crowd to the event, urged them to observe social distancing and then led the visitors in a countdown to the 6:30 p.m. throwing of the switch.

Suddenly, the large tree at the center of all the activity burst into brilliant light and a cheer rose up.

The holidays had officially come to TPC Sawgrass.



Brilliant lights illuminate the TPC Sawgrass Christmas tree as visitors enjoy the festivities during the tree-lighting ceremony Friday, Nov. 27.



**ABOVE:** Carolers perform holiday favorites at the TPC Sawgrass tree lighting ceremony.

**RIGHT:** Large, shiny bulbs reflect the tiny lights on the tree at TPC Sawgrass.

Photos by Shaun Ryan



**ABOVE:** A little girl waves to one of the carolers at the TPC Sawgrass tree lighting ceremony.

**LEFT:** The TPC Sawgrass tree is seen from the lighted rail of the veranda.



*Michelle Smith is a Ponte Vedra Beach resident and the U.S. operations manager of Ocean Sole Africa, a nonprofit that originated in Kenya and uses washed-up flip flops to make art, helping clean up ocean debris and provide jobs and income for the Kenyan community. Last year, Ocean Sole expanded operations to Northeast Florida, opening a gallery showcasing its colorful flip-flop art at 5150 Palm Valley Drive, Suite 406, in Ponte Vedra.*

*As told to Holly Tishfield*

**Can you please briefly tell us about your background?**

I am the U.S. operations manager for Ocean Sole Africa, a local 501c3 nonprofit. I have been married for 23 years to my wonderful husband, David, and we have an amazing 12-year-old daughter named Greysen. I have spent most of my 25-year career in customer service and sales, although I am having much more fun selling art made of upcycled flip flops!

**What do you enjoy most about your role?**

I like the fact that my job has purpose now. I'm not just selling to be selling. I'm selling our art to help provide care for our workers in Kenya. Plus, our art makes everyone happy. When people purchase a piece, they leave my studio with a huge smile on their face. Then each and every time they see their purchase, they smile again and again!

**What are some of the challenges that your industry/company is facing?**

Most of our work is done through in-person sales in our studio at 5150 Palm Valley Road, Suite 406 and at festivals and art events around Florida. All of our retail festivals and events have been postponed this year, due to the pandemic, and most of our wholesale events have either been postponed or have gone virtual. We are looking forward to big things in 2021, just like everyone else! We have events planned at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium in Clearwater, Party for the Planet at the Miami Zoo and the Right Whale Festival in Amelia Island.

**What are your primary roles/responsibilities?**

I wear many proverbial hats at Ocean Sole. I am the U.S. operations manager. I also oversee the distribution center, where we fulfill our online orders. I attend local events to bring awareness to our mission, sell our art out of the studio/at events, provide support to our retail space in Sawgrass at Coastal Elements, and I also help our U.S. wholesalers throughout the U.S. and Canada with new wholesale orders.



**What do you enjoy most about Ponte Vedra area?**

We have received a ton of support from our local Ponte Vedra residents. This community is crazy about art! We were a part of the PV Holiday Shoppes at the Cultural Center just last week. Everyone I met had read about us in the Ponte Vedra Recorder and were excited to support our cause. Many of them have children and grandchildren and are excited to give them a gift with a purpose this holiday season.

**What upcoming event are you most excited for and why?**

The Deck the Chairs event in Jacksonville Beach. Ocean Sole has partnered with Beaches Go Green this year for an amazing

art exhibit on the main stage at Seawalk Pavilion, running through New Years Eve. We are proud to be sponsors of this amazing event for this holiday season. We are raffling off one of our XXL Sea Turtles at the event, and all proceeds will go back to Deck the Chairs. Please come out to support this artfully fun event! We will have a booth there every Friday and Saturday night from 6-9 p.m. (weather permitting) throughout the event.

**What do you like to do in your free time?**

I like spending time with my family and friends. I also love to walk the dog, walk on the beach, read and complete art projects with my family!



Photos provided by Ocean Sole Africa

**Ocean Soul Africa uses art to raise awareness of the effects of ocean pollution by making colorful art from recycled flip flops.**

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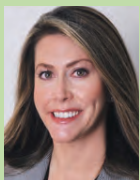
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All properties listed are in Ponte Vedra unless otherwise noted.

# Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital plans virtual art, antiques show

44th annual event, 'Virtual Venice,' to be available online Dec. 4-10

The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital has announced that the 44th annual Art & Antiques Show benefiting the Jacksonville hospital will be an online experience, accessible from any mobile device or computer.

The one-of-a-kind online event will feature internationally known interior designers and antiques experts, local culinary talent and inspiration for entertaining at home. Presenters include interior designers Charles Chewing, Elaine Griffin, Katie Ridder, Sean Scherer and Tara Shaw; Flower Magazine founder Margot Shaw; internationally known landscape designer P. Allen Smith; and events planner Rebecca S. Gardner.

Venetian fare demonstrations will include Chef Liz Grenamyer of Catering by Liz and Bottega by Liz Grenamyer; Steve Kunz of The Brick Restaurant; Chef Kevin

Adams of SAVOR Jacksonville; Chef Rebecca Reed, corporate pastry chef at Black Sheep Restaurant Group and recent champion of the Food Network's "Chopped Sweets" culinary competition; and Chef Jamey Evoniuk of Chef's Garden Catering & Events.

Special features will include virtual tours of the Jacksonville- and Nantucket-based 1939 wooden yacht, Innisfail, and an iconic 1920s-era marble home in Jacksonville's Avondale neighborhood.

The grand finale and heart of the annual show will feature 27 current and former Wolfson Children's patients who show their style and personalities on the red carpet during the 2020 Children's Fashion Show, "Amore."

The program will include an insider tour of the pediatric Critical Care Tower that is under construction with hospital President Michael Aubin.

The chairs for the 2020 Art & Antiques Show are Meg Phillips Folds, Drew Brundick Haramis and Julie Howard Howerton.

Funds raised from the 2020 Art & Antiques Show will support a \$4 million gift to endow programs, services and equipment for a state-of-the-art Neonatal Intensive Care Center, currently under construction as part of the new Critical Care Tower at Baptist Medical Center in downtown Jacksonville. The new tower is expected to open in February 2022.

Since 1973, The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's has raised \$34 million for the hospital to support behavioral health, minimally invasive surgery, the bone marrow transplant unit and other critical needs.

"Virtually Venice" will premiere at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 4, and be available for viewing until Dec. 10. The link to the show is: [www.youtube.com/channel/UCQgeU9iEfMz1o38G6p1hCCQ/live](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQgeU9iEfMz1o38G6p1hCCQ/live).

For "Virtually Venice" links, more information or to make a donation, go to [www.ArtandAntiquesShow.com](http://www.ArtandAntiquesShow.com), call (904) 202-2886 or email [womensboard@bmcjax.com](mailto:womensboard@bmcjax.com).



**Trunk Show**  
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# Music and more to delight visitors during special Lightner event

By Shaun Ryan

The sounds of the season will permeate the Lightner Museum on two special nights in December as the iconic St. Augustine institution welcomes the public to “Music in the Museum: Holiday Nights at the Lightner.”

During the ticketed event, the St. Augustine Orchestra will perform festive music throughout the museum — in the grand lobby, in the music room and in the historic casino of the former Alcazar Hotel.

Visitors will be able to enjoy the music as they shop for unique holiday gifts, tour the museum or enjoy drinks on the garden terrace.

Those traveling to the Nation’s Oldest City to take in its Nights of Lights spectacle may want to include the museum event in their visit.

Visitors who haven’t been to the Lightner Museum since the pandemic struck may want to stop by the new stained-glass exhibit on the mezzanine above the old pool. The new gallery space features 12 recently restored stained-glass windows and a dramatic dragonfly lamp by Tiffany Studios.

Following Hurricane Matthew, museum staff discovered that several pieces in the stained-glass window collection had sustained water damage and needed stabilization. The windows were carefully removed and restored. They are exhibited in light boxes that allow each to be illuminated from behind and show off their brilliant colors.



Photo by Craig O’Neal

**Lightner Museum in St. Augustine is planning a special holiday event that will include music throughout the museum.**

Shoppers will also find that the Museum Store has undergone a transformation. The shop, formerly located on the mezzanine level, has been moved into the space that had housed the Victorian Village.

In fact, the whole first floor of the museum has seen upgrades.

“Music at the Museum” will be held from 6:30 to 8:30

p.m. Dec. 11 and 12. Tickets are \$25, \$15 for those 17 and younger. They can be purchased at [lightnermuseum.org](http://lightnermuseum.org).

Those attending this event are required to wear masks, practice physical distancing when possible and use hand sanitizing stations.

Lightner Museum is located at 75 King St. in St. Augustine.



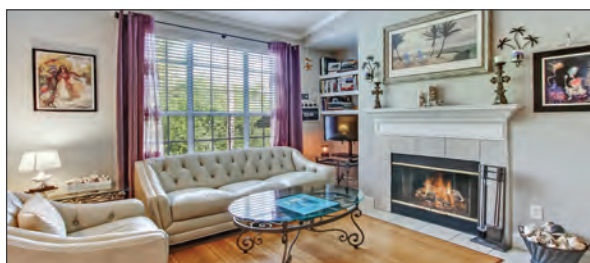
### Oceanfront Beach Escape

Located between The Lodge and the Cabana Beach Club, this second-story condo gives elevated views of the beach while maintaining the unit’s privacy and security. Includes a large covered balcony and ground floor storage. **3 bedrooms & 3 bathrooms \$1,585,000**



### Sophisticated Coastal Luxury

A masterpiece of design and craftsmanship, this custom beach home was thoughtfully designed by Nesting Place Interiors & Heritage Homes and offers a neutral coastal palette with panoramic views of the Ocean & the Guana. **4 bedrooms, 3F/2H bathrooms \$3,600,000**



### Ideal Investment Condo

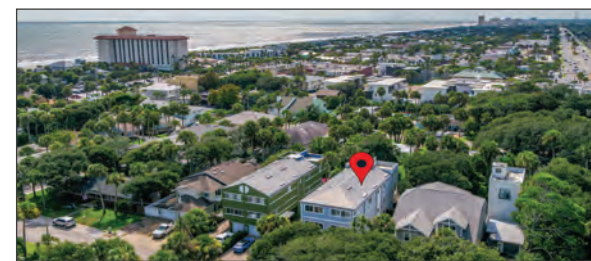
Ideally located within walking distance to restaurants, grocery shopping, TPC and much more. This unit offers vaulted ceilings, new AC unit, wood burning fireplace and nature preserve views. Ideally located in Grand Cay Villas in the heart of Ponte Vedra Beach.

**1 bedroom, 1 bath \$154,000**



### Intracoastal Condo + Boat Slip

Located in the private gated community of Marina San Pablo, this 6th story luxury condo offers a convenient location, resort style amenities, and phenomenal views of the marina and Intracoastal Waterway along with a 20x50 boat slip. **3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths \$730,000**



### Atlantic Beach Retreat

Ideally located this 3-story townhome is only two blocks away from the ocean and the Beaches Town Center. Enjoy the home’s rooftop deck or the easily maintained backyard oasis complete with a 6-ft privacy fence, covered patio, and relaxing hot tub. **3 bedrooms, 2F/2H bathrooms \$810,000**



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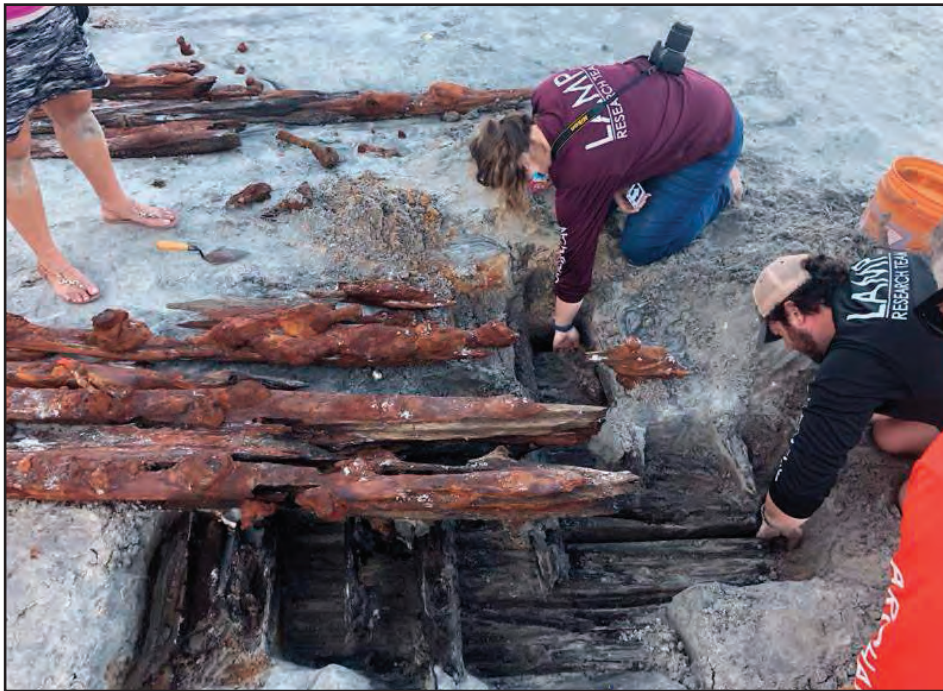


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# Dune erosion reveals new shipwreck at Crescent Beach



The LAMP team digs out remnants of a ship buried under a dune in Crescent Beach.

Tropical storm Eta helped to uncover the remains of a shipwreck buried under a dune along Crescent Beach.

Mark O'Donoghue, a local resident, was walking along the beach on Saturday, Nov. 14, and saw the exposed timbers. Returning on Sunday, Nov. 15, he saw more of the timbers uncovered by the waves and reached out to the St. Augustine Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime Program (LAMP) Director Chuck Meide. The LAMP team began inspecting and documenting the shipwreck on Sunday.

The LAMP team believes that the ship was likely an American merchant ship carrying commodities like hardware or flour. More than 70% of all known historic shipwrecks lost in Florida are merchant vessels participating in the coastal trade

moving goods from one coastal port to another along the Atlantic coast. Dating the ship is a bit tricky. However, Meide believes it to date back to the 1800s.

"Everything we've seen on it so far fits that hypothesis; wooden planking, wood timbers, iron fasteners," Meide said. "They look quite similar to other ships from the 1800s that we have seen."

As the research arm of the St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum, LAMP has helped to identify several shipwrecks with the most recent coming ashore in March 2018 on Ponte Vedra Beach.

Although the current shipwreck will not be recovered, the LAMP team will

SHIPWRECK continues on Page 14



Photos by Chuck Meide

The LAMP team catalogues timbers from a shipwreck after remnants were found buried in the dunes at Crescent Beach last month.

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# 4TH AVENUE SOUTH SHOPS HOLD HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE



The shops and businesses of 4th Avenue South in Jacksonville Beach kicked off the holiday season with a festive open house Nov. 5. Guests enjoyed holiday refreshments and entertainment while getting a jump on their seasonal shopping at participating businesses, including Michele Toomer and Whitney Toomer Canney of Sailors Siren (above) and Cottage By the Sea (right).

Photos by Susan Griffin



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Photos provided by Beaches Go Green

Students from Ponte Vedra and Nease high schools recently joined forces to clean up Mickler Beach.

Nease and Ponte Vedra high school students set aside their rivalry for the greater good recently during a combined Mickler Beach cleanup.

# Rival schools join forces to clean up beach, raise awareness

Rivals Nease High School and Ponte Vedra High School came together Saturday, Nov. 21, to help the environment.

The two schools' Beaches Go Green clubs had a friendly contest where more than 70 students volunteered to clean up Mickler Beach and to raise awareness of the waste in the oceans.

Several bags of trash were collected along with several large items.

"We recognize that keeping the beach clean is important," said Zoe Kurtz, co-president of Nease Beaches Go Green. "However, it's more important for us to be educated and to change our habits by creating less waste for future generations. Plastic pollution is something that

really scares my friends and I. We love the beach and ocean and want to keep it clean and healthy."

This clean-up is one of many collaborative efforts between the two schools' Beaches Go Green clubs.

The main purpose of the Beaches Go Green student clubs is to create environmental awareness and education among their peers and to teach younger students as well.

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# Nemours Children's Specialty Care Jacksonville unveils THE PLAYERS Lobby

At a recent ribbon-cutting ceremony, officials, doctors, patients, donors and friends celebrated the dedication of THE PLAYERS Lobby at Nemours Children's Specialty Care in Jacksonville.

The \$3.5-million renovation represents a total refresh of the space, the first major renovation project since the clinic opened in 1991.

THE PLAYERS donated the lead gift of \$500,000, renaming the Nemours lobby, which serves as the gateway into the clinic to more than 100,000 patients and families each year when they arrive for appointments.

"The transformational gift from THE PLAYERS gave us the opportunity to elevate the lobby to reflect a more inviting and warm environment, and the excellence of care we at Nemours offer our patients and families," said Dr. Gary Josephson, chief medical officer of the clinic. "We look forward to future opportunities to work with these great partners."

"THE PLAYERS is honored to support Nemours' leading efforts in improving the lives of children and families across Northeast Florida and beyond," said Jared Rice, executive director of THE PLAYERS. "This new lobby is symbolic of the quality, excellence and compassionate care patients receive, and we are honored to help welcome them when they enter these doors."

In keeping with Nemours Children's Health System's approach to integrate patients and families in designing new spaces, families joined team meetings to help inform the decision-makers about functionality of the space. Patient arrival sequences were studied to improve the flow through the front doors and reception area, resulting in easier access to the elevators leading to the clinic.

Among the new and refurbished features of THE PLAYERS Lobby at Nemours Children's Specialty Care are:

- New entrance sliding doors and way-



Photo provided by Nemours Children's Health System

**Matt Welch, THE PLAYERS vice-chair of Spectator Services; Jared Rice, THE PLAYERS executive director; Dr. Larry Moss, Nemours Children's Health System president and CEO; patient family members Norah, Megan and Barry Sproles; and Dr. Gary Josephson, chief medical officer, Nemours Jacksonville Specialty Care cut the ribbon for THE PLAYERS Lobby.**

finding that allow for ease of entry.

- An open-floor plan and new windows, allowing more light and accentuating the location on the St. Johns River.

- A new café for visitors and employees

with riverfront, outdoor seating. A donation from the Hodges family, the Hugs from Hunter 3 Café honors their three sons who passed away after battling the same rare disease, dyskeratosis, a genetic

form of bone marrow failure, which has been identified in fewer than 30 cases worldwide.

- Upgraded accessibility, including adjusted heights for tables and seating, and new family restrooms on the ground floor.

■ The Florida Blue Art Gallery. Through a gift from Florida Blue, art pieces from 30 Nemours patients, themed "connecting communities," are displayed in the shape of the Jacksonville skyline. The artwork, produced through the creative activities and art services offered to Nemours patients, will rotate on an annual basis.

■ The Family Education Zone, a designated space for reading, playing or taking phone calls between appointments, thanks to a gift from Dr. Michael Erhard, physician-in-chief for Nemours Florida, and his wife Lynn.

■ The lobby's landmark model train. Thanks to a \$50,000 gift from the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund, the beloved train is getting a new display case, allowing better accessibility for the retiree volunteer group who change the train décor seasonally.

- Enhanced access to the outdoors and butterfly garden.

Nemours is the sponsor of the Kids Zone at THE PLAYERS Championship, the PGA TOUR's flagship event that takes place each March in Ponte Vedra.

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## OBITUARIES

### Kent Thomas Clifford

Kent Thomas Clifford, 73, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Nov. 20, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Margaret Elizabeth Cooper

Margaret Elizabeth Cooper, 79, of Neptune Beach, Florida, died Nov. 23, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. (904) 249-1100 [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com)

### Matthew Davis

Matthew Davis, 36, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Nov. 13, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Joanne Delesky

Joanne Delesky, 61, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Nov. 24, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. (904) 249-1100 [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com)

### Shawna Frank

Shawna Frank, 44, of Ponte Vedra, Florida, died Nov. 21, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Wolfgang H. Mahn

Wolfgang H. Mahn, 59, of Atlantic Beach, Florida, died Nov. 29, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. (904) 249-1100 [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com)

### David Miyamura

David Miyamura, 72, of St. Augustine, Florida, died Nov. 19, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Kathleen Mollenhoff

Kathleen Mollenhoff, 63, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Nov. 26, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Carol Ann Reed

Carol Ann Reed, 76, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Nov. 26, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. (904) 249-1100 [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com)

### Jerry Allen Rinehart

Jerry Allen Rinehart, 74, of Jacksonville, died Nov. 20, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com) (904) 249-1100.

### Richard E. Roberts

Richard E. Roberts, 91, of St. Augustine, Florida, died Nov. 24, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Dorothy St. Germain

Dorothy St. Germain, 91, died Nov. 20, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Jeffrey Robert “Robby” Word

Jeffrey Robert “Robby” Word, 83, of Jacksonville, died Nov. 27, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com) (904) 249-1100

## Shipwreck

Continued from 10

continue its survey work and take samples of the timbers and iron work. Flagler College students will also be working with LAMP to properly document and record the shipwreck, gaining field experience in archaeology.

“Florida’s maritime past is America’s story as the nation’s oldest port dating back to the Spanish landing in 1565,” said Kathy Fleming, executive director of St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum. “The St. Augustine Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime Program is committed to saving our maritime history and passing these stories on to our future generations.”

To learn more about maritime archaeology and the maritime history of St. Augustine, visit the St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum’s Wrecked! exhibit featuring artifacts from the American Revolution. Located on the first floor and in the basement of the Keeper’s House, this exhibit tells the story of British Loyalists fleeing American forces as they approached Charleston, South Carolina. Florida was a British colony at the time and St. Augustine provided a haven for many escaping the war.

For more information on the St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum or the Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime program, go to [www.staugustinelighthouse.org](http://www.staugustinelighthouse.org). The nonprofit museum is open every day from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. with special extended hours during the holiday season.

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# Recorder

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# Vicar's Landing at Oak Bridge to break ground in early 2021

By Shaun Ryan

An expansion of Vicar's Landing has been in the works for nearly five years, and now it is about to become a reality.

Developers for the retirement community's new campus, Vicar's Landing at Oak Bridge, are expected to break ground early in 2021, with phase one construction beginning by mid-year.

"We're really excited about where we are and what's to come," said CEO Bruce Jones.

Public enthusiasm for the project is very high. Even before Vicar's Landing could begin marketing the expansion, word of mouth generated a strong waiting list.

"We have experienced a significant increase in demand in recent years and have a waiting list of more than 280 people," Jones said. "Furthermore, factors such as the public health crisis of 2020 have likely heightened seniors' desire for safety, security and access to high-quality health care. The Vicar's Landing lifestyle provides this and so much more with our team's exceptional service and numerous activities so residents can continue to live life to the fullest."

Vicar's Landing at Oak Bridge received approval from the state in October to officially begin the project.

More than 50% of the 76 residential units in phase one have already been sold. These represent a combination of cottages and apartment homes. Phase one, which will include a 21,000-square-foot clubhouse, is expected to be completed by June 2022.

Total build-out is expected to be complete by 2025, though Jones said the construction timeline would be compressed if the surge in demand continues.

In all, there will be 235 units in the gated community, including 175 for independent living, 42 assisted-living units and 18 memory-care units. Independent living units are available in duplex and triplex cottages with garages or in four-story apartment buildings over covered parking. They will range in size from about 1,400 to 2,400 square feet and will feature two bedrooms, a den and two or more bathrooms.

"The residential units at Vicar's Landing at Oak Bridge will be slightly larger than on our existing campus, and the design will complement the area's existing aesthetic," Jones said. "Residents at both locations will have access to all of Vicar's Landing's convenient amenities, existing and forthcoming."



Images provided by Vicar's Landing

Vicar's Landing at Oak Bridge will be a private, gated community with round-the-clock security staff.







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# Expansion

Continued from 16

The new campus will be located no more than half a mile from the existing one and will have nearly 30 acres of natural, undeveloped landscape. There will be a fitness center, card room, large village green area for outdoor games and a full-sized, heated swimming pool.

There will be transportation between campuses and some new dining options.

“We anticipate residents from the main campus going over to the Oak Bridge campus for dinner, for events, and vice versa,” Jones said.

The main campus has a fine-dining restaurant and a café. The new campus will offer a main dining room with the focus somewhere between these two, as well as a lounge area adjacent to the pool for tapas-style fare.

Residents of the new campus will have access to amenities on the flagship campus, which was founded more than 30 years ago. These include an auditorium, worship center, classes and other programming.

Vicar’s Landing offers access to skilled nursing care and a wellness clinic. Residents are enrolled in the Life Care benefit program, which provides not just a home, but meals, activities, security, transportation, housekeeping and maintenance.

“Anything they will need through the rest of their lives,” said Jones.

Entrance to Vicar’s Landing at Oak Bridge will be off State Road A1A, just north of Sawgrass Village.

The total project investment is \$162 million, and the expansion campus will result in the creation of 100 permanent jobs.

“We’re just really excited about this project and being able to expand our reach to meet the demand that we have here in Ponte Vedra Beach,” said Jones.

For more information, go to [vicarslanding.com](http://vicarslanding.com).



Residential units will feature two bedrooms, a den and two or more bathrooms.



Residential units will feature two bedrooms, a den and two or more bathrooms.



This rendering shows what one of the residential units will look like on the inside.



Cottages and apartments will range in size from about 1,400 to 2,400 square feet.

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Volunteers from Cypress Village help coordinate a “Walk to End Alzheimer’s” on Nov. 7. Residents, employees and business partners helped the lifecare community raise money for the cause.

# Cypress Village hosts ‘Walk to End Alzheimer’s’

By Holly Tishfield

Cypress Village, a lifecare community located near Mayo Clinic, is no stranger to the disease known as Alzheimer’s.

Its campus has housed hundreds of residents in need of living assistance, with specialized facilities including a long-term nursing residence and a memory care facility.

Part of what makes Cypress Village unique and what keeps residents feeling youthful, are the social events and celebrations hosted weekly on the property.

Art classes, golf lessons and the ever-popular Bingo Nights are just a few of the festivities that Cypress Village offers. Not to mention all its daily amenities and holiday celebrations, as well.

On Nov. 7 at the Middleton Park Circle on campus, Cypress Village hosted a “Walk to End Alzheimer’s.” The walk began at the main entrance and went on for one mile around the property.

Laurel Mundell, the communications manager at Cypress Village, was one of the attendees at the walk and mentioned

how rewarding it was to see so many people turn up.

“We had just over 70 or so walkers on our campus,” Mundell said. “It was a fabulous turnout.”

Residents, employees, vendors and business partners were invited to join Cypress Village in the walk, and were encouraged to make a donation to the cause.

Besides making donations, attendees also had the opportunity to participate in a silent auction. Normally, Mundell said, the community puts on a big bingo tournament, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they decided to host an auction instead.

At the walk, participants were asked to wear masks and stay socially distanced from one another while completing the one-mile trek.

“Between all the donations from employees, residents and our partners, we were able to raise over \$10,000,” said Mundell.



Photos provided by Cypress Village

WALK continues on Page 21

Cypress Village held a “Walk to End Alzheimer’s” at its campus Nov. 7.

# Husbands usually don't consider their wives' future when deciding when to take Social Security benefits



**Dan Armstrong**  
Guest Columnist

The amount of Social Security benefits a surviving spouse receives depends, in part, on when their deceased spouse began claiming benefits. However, husbands usually don't take survivor's benefits into account when claiming benefits, according to a recent study, meaning that many widows will needlessly experience a significant drop in income.

Because women typically live longer than men and men are often the higher earners, most married women will be widowed and will have their income drop below what they need to maintain their accustomed standard of living. The spouse of a worker who has died is entitled to the worker's full retirement benefits once reaching full retirement age. If the worker delayed retirement, the survivor's benefit will be higher.

Husbands have the option of increasing their surviving spouse's income by delaying Social Security benefits, but according to a study by the Center for Retirement

Research at Boston College, most husbands do not take their wives' future needs into consideration.

The study looked at whether greater awareness of Social Security survivor's benefits would affect claiming decisions. The study found that husbands tend to take more immediate concerns into consideration, such as their health and whether they have another pension, rather than their wives' survivor's benefits. Giving the husbands information about how they could improve their wives' financial well-being by claiming benefits later did not change their claiming decisions.

The study concludes that in order to protect widows, the government should consider providing survivor's benefits in a way that doesn't tie the surviving spouse's benefits to the decision of when to claim benefits.

As things stand now, however, if you are the higher earner and are nearing retirement, you may want to take into account how your decision on when to claim benefits will affect your spouse if he or she survives you.

**Dan Armstrong is an attorney based in Ponte Vedra Beach.**



Photo provided by Cypress Village

**Cypress Village held a "Walk to End Alzheimer's" at its campus Nov. 7.**

## Walk

Continued from 20

Leading up to the event, Cypress Village already raised a few thousand dollars for charity, but after the silent auction and more generous donations, they were able to reach the \$10,000 mark.

All money raised from the walk will go directly towards supporting the Alzheimer's Association, an organization founded in 1970 with the purpose of accelerating global research, driving risk reduction and early

detection, and maximizing quality care and support for Alzheimer's patients. Cypress Village is the second highest contributor in Jacksonville.

The Memory Care facilities at Cypress Village offer person-centered and individualized care options, with a belief that "the abilities that remain are far more important than those that are lost."

The Walk to End Alzheimer's was another way for the Cypress Village community to show its support in finding a cure for the disease while getting residents involved in an enriching activity at the same time.



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# ElderSource offers resources to support seniors' mental health this holiday season

In partnership with Department of Elder Affairs, Together Apart: Holidays at Heart aims to limit loneliness for seniors

Across the state, local Area Agencies on Aging are working together to promote mental health resources and programs for seniors through the Together Apart: Holidays at Heart campaign. While many older adults choose to stay safer at home and isolate themselves to prevent exposure to the coronavirus, ElderSource, in partnership with the Florida Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA), are ensuring that no senior feels alone during the holiday season.

"Although we provide these services to our seniors year-round, it feels especially important to connect with them during the holidays," said ElderSource CEO Linda Levin. "We must do our part as a community to protect the physical and mental health of our most vulnerable population by spreading holiday joy and cheer in the safest ways possible."

Resources offered locally include:

- Virtual Caregiver Support Group, which makes it possible for caregivers to connect face-to-face in real time with other caregivers using today's technology.
- Caring Connections Telephone Reassurance Program, which provides friendly telephone calls from trained volunteers to

older adults who are living alone and/or are homebound.

■ Uniper, a service available for any home TV, computer or smart phone device that offers live and pre-recorded activities, access to healthcare experts, wellness programs and opportunities to connect with family and friends.

"This year has presented numerous challenges for everyone, but we know Florida's older population has been disproportionately affected," said DOEA Secretary Richard Prudom. "We want to make sure the holidays remain a time of joy and connection for our seniors by reminding them that even though they might be apart from loved ones, there are many ways to reach out and stay connected. The services provided through local AAAs give individuals a way to identify and meet these needs."

For more information about Together Apart: Holidays at Heart, go to [www.holidaysatheart.org](http://www.holidaysatheart.org), and to learn more about ElderSource, go to [www.myeldersource.org](http://www.myeldersource.org). If you or a loved one are living with feelings of depression and loneliness this holiday season, call the Elder Helpline at (800) 963-5337.



Photo provided by metrocreativeconnection.com

## Healthy eating options for seniors

"Let food be thy medicine" is a quote attributed to Hippocrates, the ancient scholar considered to be the father of modern medicine. The saying relates to the notion that what people put in their bodies can heal and/or prevent certain conditions.

For seniors with medicine cabinets full of over-the-counter and prescription

medications, the idea of relying predominantly on food to promote optimal health may be tempting, and various foods can be particularly useful to the 50-and-over demographic.

According to the World Health Organization, poor diet is a major contributor



Photo provided by metrocreativeconnection.com

## Food

Continued from 22

to many of the diseases that affect older people. Poor diet has been connected to the development of diabetes, and degenerative diseases such as osteoporosis also may be linked to the foods ones eat. The National Council for Aging Care says micronutrient deficiency is often a problem among the aging due to factors like lack of variety in diet and reduced food intake. Eating a variety of foods can provide all of the nutrients people need to stay healthy as they get older. Certain foods may be particularly helpful.

■ **Brain-friendly foods:** Foods such as avocado, leafy vegetables, sunflower seeds, blueberries and salmon are good sources of vitamin E, antioxidants, omega-3 fatty acids and other nutrients that may help ward off dementias like Alzheimer's disease, advises Sonas Home Health Care.

■ **Anti-inflammatory foods:** Foods rich in omega-3 fatty acids may help prevent inflammation that can cause cancer and rheumatoid arthritis. Aging.com says foods that are high in omega-3 fatty acids, like salmon, should be consumed at least twice per week.

■ **Fruits and vegetables:** Fresh, canned or frozen produce tend to be high in micronutrients, including a variety of important vitamins that are essential for all components of health. The Academy

of Nutrition and Dietetics advises eating dark green vegetables, such as leafy greens or broccoli, and orange vegetables, such as carrots and sweet potatoes.

■ **Energy-boosters:** Choose whole grains that can provide sustained energy by way of healthy carbohydrates over processed grains.

■ **Bone-friendly foods:** Calcium-rich foods, such as milk, yogurt and cheese, can prevent calcium from being leached from the bones, which contributes to conditions like osteoporosis.

■ **Digestive system-friendly foods:** The digestive system slows down as the body ages, as the walls of the gastrointestinal tract thicken and digestive contractions that push waste along may slow down and become fewer. Foods rich in fiber can promote proper digestion by moving food through the digestive tract more easily. High-fiber foods also may help naturally reduce blood cholesterol levels.

■ **High-iron foods:** Without enough iron in the body, a person may feel tired and lethargic from a reduced production of hemoglobin, which carries oxygen in the blood from the lungs to the rest of the body. A lack of oxygen in body tissues from anemia can be serious, says the National Council for Aging Care. Tofu, spinach, lentils, pumpkin seeds, and fortified breads and cereals are high in iron.

Smart food choices can help seniors live long and healthy lives.



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## Council on Aging joins Meals on Wheels, Subaru in effort to meet seniors' needs

Council on Aging (COA) will participate in the 2020 Subaru Share the Love Event as a member of Meals on Wheels America – one of four national Share the Love charitable partners supported through the campaign.

Now through Jan. 4, Subaru of America will donate \$250 for every new Subaru vehicle purchased or leased to the customer's choice of participating charities.

"We are very excited to get the word out about this opportunity for members of our community to help seniors in St. Johns County at no cost to them," said COA Executive Director Becky Yanni. "Seniors have never needed our help more than they do today, and this is an easy way to help us meet their urgent needs."

Participating Meals on Wheels America members like COA will receive a share of the donations raised by Subaru in their state. COA has partnered with Subaru of Jacksonville, 10800 Atlantic Blvd., Jacksonville, to raise awareness for the event

and drive support for Meals on Wheels.

"Meals on Wheels America is proud to partner with Subaru of America for the 13th consecutive year to enable more seniors to live with independence and dignity," said Ellie Hollander, president and CEO, Meals on Wheels America. "Since 2008, the Subaru Share the Love Event has helped deliver more than 2.3 million meals and friendly visits to vulnerable seniors nationwide. We're enormously grateful to Subaru and its retailers for their long-standing commitment to Meals on Wheels and the millions of seniors who depend on it for nourishment and companionship."

Over the last 12 years, Subaru of America and its participating retailers have donated more than \$176 million to its charity partners. This year's Subaru Share the Love Event is on track to bring that total to more than \$200 million.

For further information, go to [mealsonwheelsamerica.org/sharethelove](http://mealsonwheelsamerica.org/sharethelove).

## COA announces holiday 'non-event' fundraiser for Care Connection Program

When seniors need assistance and there is no funding available for the help they need, where can they turn?

Luckily, seniors in St. Johns County can turn to a program from the nonprofit Council on Aging called Care Connection. The program provides a wide range of services that help seniors maintain their independence and quality of life at home, rather than being compelled by difficult circumstances to enter assisted living.

Care Connection is entirely powered by donors and volunteers from the community. And so, each year, COA typically rings in the holiday season with a festive fundraising event at River House called "Christmas on the River" to generate the funds necessary to run the program.

—This year, however, the annual event has been forced to turn to an alternative format due to COVID-19 concerns.

"We're calling it the non-event of the season," said Tom Torretta, the Council's development director. "This year, instead of buying an outfit, hiring a sitter or missing the game, we're asking the community to please donate their ticket value to Care Connection and make sure this program will continue to be available. We're also

asking our business sponsors in the community to please continue to be there for the vulnerable elders the program serves."

Services provided through the program include minor home repairs; grab-bar installation; lawn services; help applying for energy assistance, food stamps and Medicare; and the construction of wheelchair ramps.

The program also provides assistive devices – such as wheelchairs – and pet food, so that elders will not need to sacrifice their own meals to feed their pets.

"The sense of security and safety provided by a grab bar, expertly installed by our minor home repairs team, or the continued pride a senior can take in their home after their lawn is freshly mowed by our cutters-and-clippers crew is immeasurable," Council staff member Michael Large said. "We also offer peace of mind to family members who may live across the country."

The sole staff member, Large coordinates the program, working with approximately 60 volunteers to see that seniors receive the critical help they need.



# Fundraiser

Continued from 24

In 2019, some of the work accomplished by dedicated volunteers and generous supporters included building 11 wheelchair ramps; providing 200 assistive devices like wheelchairs, walkers and shower chairs; installing more than 50 sets of grab bars; maintaining an average of 75 lawns per month; successfully submitting 75 food stamp applications for seniors in need; and delivering 1,900 pounds of pet food.

“Care Connection is truly a community effort,” explained Council Executive Director Becky Yanni. “Unfortunately, COVID-19 has not diminished the needs seniors have for assistance. On the contrary, the community’s support is even more important to their well-being and safety now.”

To learn more about the “non-event” fundraiser or to support it, go to [www.bit.ly/nonevent2020](http://www.bit.ly/nonevent2020). Donations may also be mailed to COA at 180 Marine St., St. Augustine, FL 32084 with the note “Care Connection.”

Individual ticket price donations are \$50, and Elder Guard sponsorships begin at \$250. Sponsors should contact Torretta at 904-209-3700 or [torretta@coajc.org](mailto:torretta@coajc.org). Monthly donations are another way supporters can help finance the program.

“Christmas on the River may be cancelled this year, but the good news is the holiday spirit is not,” Torretta said.



Photo provided by Council on Aging


**Volunteers with COA’s Care Connection gather around a wheelchair ramp they constructed.**


“Whatever the community can share in the spirit of the holidays will make a huge difference to elders in our local community


who are so in need of our help and support right now.”

For more information on the wide range

of services Care Connection provides, go to [www.coajc.org/care-connection](http://www.coajc.org/care-connection) or call (904) 209-3700.


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# HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Catch the holiday spirit with these events taking place around the First Coast



Deck the Chairs in Jacksonville Beach kicked off its eighth season Nov. 21 and will run through Jan. 1.

## Deck The Chairs celebrates successful opening

In a pandemic-challenged year, organizers of Jax Beach Deck The Chairs were determined to provide a lift to residents and visitors. The secret ingredient to bringing joy into the community came once again from holiday lights and creatively decorated lifeguard chairs. Based on a very successful opening weekend and a Thanksgiving weekend that continues to grow in popularity, the organizers achieved their objectives.

“In its eighth season as Jacksonville Beach’s favorite holiday tradition, JBDTC decorators went the extra mile to guarantee visitors the best display we have ever put together,” DTC founder Kurtis Loftus said. “We worked more than seven months getting this exhibit ready for the public, and I am very proud of the extraordinary creativity showcased by our sponsors and volunteers in the JBDTC park space.”



Photos by Paris Moulden

DECK THE CHAIRS continues on Page 28

Area businesses and nonprofits created displays for the holiday event.

## Helicopter to take Chanukah gelt to new heights in Nocatee

The ancient custom of giving children gelt (money) on Chanukah will be taken to a whole new level at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, with the annual dramatic Helicopter Gelt Drop.

After the chocolate coins rain down from the sky in a shimmering shower, children can rush in safely (and socially distant) to collect their treasures.

Lighting up the night at the Nocatee Spray Park, families are invited to a Chanukah Light Show following the kindling

of a Giant Glowing Menorah.

The show will be accompanied by lively music and a smorgasbord of Chanukah treats. What’s more exciting, Gili’S Kosher Food Truck, will be there, too. The lighting of a dazzling glow-in-the-dark Menorah and the joyous, family atmosphere will be sure to keep children and children-at-heart engaged and entertained throughout the evening.

“This year’s menorah lighting is done with the recognition of the crucial need

for a message of hope during what for many is a very difficult time,” said Rabbi Mendel Sharfstein, director at Chabad of St. Johns. “The flames of the menorah shine out into the night, reminding us that even when confronted with much darkness, a tiny light can dispel it all. Another act of goodness and kindness, another act of light, can make all the difference.”

CHANUKAH continues on Page 28

### HOLIDAY CALENDAR

#### DECK THE CHAIRS

**When:** Runs through Jan. 1

**Where:** Seawalk Pavilion and Latham Plaza

Starting on Nov. 21 and continuing for six weeks, guests can marvel at all the holiday magnificence decorating the Latham Plaza and Seawalk Pavilion area at Jacksonville Beach. Forty lifeguard chairs will be covered top to bottom in shining decorations during the month of December as a way to promote local business, instill public pride and share cultural diversity through creative expression. The area will also be home to a 30-foot hand-crafted musical tree, the Kids’ Creative Space and multiple digital light shows. All month long guests can stroll among the decorated chairs and celebrate the holiday season for free.

#### JAX ILLUMINATIONS DRIVE-THROUGH HOLIDAY LIGHT SHOW

**When:** Sunday-Thursday, 6-9:30 p.m., Friday-Saturday, 6-10:30 p.m., through Jan. 2

**Where:** Morocco Shrine Center

No need to worry about social distancing at this drive-through light spectacular. Load up your family and friends and cruise through millions of twinkling and sparkling holiday lights at the Morocco Shrine Center, where you can celebrate the holidays from the safety of your vehicle. Jam out to their coordinated holiday music station, or rock out to your own holiday favorites. Either way, guests are in for an illuminated treat. This year the drive-through features a 300-foot tunnel of lights and two mega Christmas trees. Weekday admission is \$20, and on weekends it is \$25. Passenger vans can also enter for \$35.

#### LUMINARY NIGHTS (REIMAGINED)

**When:** 7 p.m. Dec. 1 and 6:30 p.m. Dec. 3

**Where:** St. Augustine Lighthouse and Maritime Museum

COVID-19 regulations may have changed this time-honored tradition, but they can not stop it completely. This year Luminary Nights at the St. Augustine Lighthouse and Maritime Museum will take place over two different nights. On the first night, guests can attend a drive-through in the parking lot where various festive stations will be set up along the way for families to enjoy. This event will have holiday elves roaming the grounds, as well as holiday carolers. For the second night of event, families around the community are encouraged to light their pre-purchased luminary kits at 6:30 p.m. and share photos of the displays online with the hashtag #Luminary2020. To order a luminary kit or learn more about the event, visit the St. Augustine Lighthouse and go to the Maritime Museum website.

CALENDAR continues on Page 29

# Deck the Chairs

Continued from 27

One of the favorite activities for JBDC attendees is to vote for their favorite chairs. This year, the competition has gotten intense with more than half the chairs decorated by brand new participants. Several newcomers include Boys and Girls Club of Northeast Florida, UNF Alumni Association and Living Learning Communities, Beachside Swimwear, Cancer Specialists of North Florida, Here Tomorrow, Kingdom Management and The Discovery School.

Visitors also appreciated the new exhibit layout, which featured less fencing along the sidewalks and additional space between the chair displays. Organizers set up a larger concession tent and increased park lighting to help make the experience more relaxing and easier to navigate.

Finally, mark your calendars for the following free arts programming scheduled during the month of December:

■ **Saturday, Dec. 5** – Moonlight Movies presented by City of Jacksonville Beach, chorus and dance performances

**Saturday, Dec. 12** – Tuba Christmas and Night of Music and Dance 1 (dance performances)

**Saturday, Dec. 19** – Chair Awards, Visit from Santa and Night of Music and Dance 2 (dance performances)

Go to [www.deckthechairs.org](http://www.deckthechairs.org) to learn more or to volunteer.



Photo by Paris Moulden

The annual Deck the Chairs runs through Jan. 1 in Jacksonville Beach. The popular holiday event is back for its eighth season.

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## Chanukah

Continued from 27

Throughout the pandemic, Chabad of St. Johns has been on the front lines of providing social, humanitarian and spiritual support to the community. The COVID-safe menorah lighting is the latest of many innovative programs created in response to these unique times by Chabad of St. Johns, including Passover Seders-to-go, Rosh Hashanah shofar in the park, Shabbat-in-a-box, dozens of meals delivered to the elderly and homebound and menorahs and candles for everyone to bring light into

their homes.

To ensure everyone is safe, the menorah lighting will be outdoors in a large field so that everyone can safely socially distance, and wear masks. For those who are 55-plus or high risk, there will be a special socially distant seating area cordoned off. There will also be the option of a drive-in for anyone who is uncomfortable with getting out of their cars. This way everyone can take part in the festivities and ensure that everyone is safe.

As part of a global effort to bring the message of light, love and warmth to the public, Chabad of St. Johns County (Nocatee, St. Johns and the World Golf Village areas) joins thousands of Chabad centers across the globe in staging public Chanukah celebrations.

The celebration is free and open to the public and will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 10, at the Nocatee Spray Park.

For more information about Chanukah events and public Menorah lighting ceremonies, go to [www.JewishStJohnsCounty.com](http://www.JewishStJohnsCounty.com) or [www.facebook.com/JewishStJohnsCounty](https://www.facebook.com/JewishStJohnsCounty)

Call (904) 701-4422 or email [info@jewishstjohnscounty.com](mailto:info@jewishstjohnscounty.com) for more information.

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# Calendar

Continued from 27

## CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUES & CRAFTS EXPO

**When:** 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Dec. 5

**Where:** St. John Paul II Catholic Church, Nocatee

The Christmas Boutiques & Crafts Expo will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5, at St. John Paul II Catholic Church located at 127 Stone Mason Way in Nocatee. Outdoor Vendors will be offering Christmas decorations, apparel, cosmetics, food products, home decor, religious items, jewelry, accessories, unique gifts and more! Come and shop local.

## PALM VALLEY BOAT PARADE

**When:** 6 p.m., Dec. 5

**Where:** Intercoastal Waterway, Palm Valley  
A decades-old tradition, the residents of Palm Valley delight in gathering together to host an annual boat parade and celebrate the beginning of the holiday season. Known as the "Mardi Gras" of boat parades, this event is like no other. Members of the community help one another pull off this amazing display and welcome all newcomers with a friendly hand. This lighted parade stretches over seven miles of the Palm Valley waterways, where spectators can watch from hundreds of different docks, restaurants and designated viewing areas. The Palm Valley Boat Parade hopes to create lasting memories for both guests and participants alike.

## HOLIDAY NIGHTS AT LIGHTNER

**When:** 6:30-8:30 p.m., Dec. 11 and Dec. 12

**Where:** The Lightner Museum, St. Augustine  
On Dec. 11 and Dec. 12, The Lightner Museum will host the St. Augustine Orchestra for two nights of holiday cheer. Enjoy festive music as the orchestra performs throughout the museum: In the grand lobby, in the music room and in the historic casino of the former Alcazar Hotel. While enjoying the music, guests can also shop for unique holiday gifts, tour the museum and enjoy drinks outside on the garden terrace. The event will be from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. both nights. General admission is \$25 and \$15 for children. Advance tickets are strongly recommended. For more information or to order tickets, go to [lightnermuseum.org/event/music-at-the-museum-holiday-nights-at-the-lightner](http://lightnermuseum.org/event/music-at-the-museum-holiday-nights-at-the-lightner).

## HOLIDAY GIFT WRAPPING

**When:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays beginning Dec. 12; Friday, Dec. 18, through Wednesday, Dec. 23; 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 24

**Where:** South Beach Regional Mall, Jacksonville Beach

Multiple Sclerosis Society volunteers are returning to The Beaches for the seventh year in a row to offer free holiday gift wrapping. Located outside sponsoring businesses Gretchen's Hallmark and Five Below in the South Beach Regional Mall, MS volunteers will wrap packages purchased from all local stores and online services. Donations to the Society help provide programs and services for the thousands of North Floridians impacted by the disease. Wrapping will be available Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. starting Dec. 12. The free service will continue Friday, Dec. 18, through Wednesday, Dec. 23, same hours. Christmas Eve wrapping will be available 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Shoppers this year may also take advantage of a limited concierge service being offered by volunteers. By dropping off large amounts of gifts, volunteers will wrap overnight and deliver locally within 24 hours.

## TAILS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

**When:** 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Dec. 12

**Where:** Pet Supermarket Parking lot area, 880 A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach  
SAFE Pet Rescue is holding a holiday dog adoption event with lots of fun activities. Santa will be in attendance for pet photos, from noon to 2 p.m. There will be music and a bake sale hosted by Girl Scout Troop #843, plus several silent auction items. The Safe mobile adoption van will be at the Pet Supermarket parking lot from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 12. CDC guidelines will be followed.

## SANTA BRUNCH BUFFET

**When:** 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Dec. 13

**Where:** TPC Sawgrass  
Experience a delicious brunch at the beautiful Nineteen restaurant and enjoy a morning of holiday magic. Kids can also meet Santa Claus and discuss their deepest Christmas wishes. Adult entry to the buffet is \$60, children ages 6-12 are \$30, while little elves under 6 are free.

## ART CAMP: IMPRESSIONS OF THE HOLIDAYS

**When:** 9 a.m.-noon, Dec. 28 through Dec. 30.

The St. Augustine Art Association hosts a

three-day winter art camp where students will study the art of 20th Century French artist Marguerite Castaing. They will learn to utilize Impressionist techniques through shading methods, brush strokes and color principles. Students will work in pencils, pen and ink, pastels and paints to create colorful rolling landscapes, seasonal scenes and delicate portraits. Ideal for children ages 6-12. The cost is \$75, which includes supplies. To register, go to [www.staaa.org/artcamp](http://www.staaa.org/artcamp). For questions or assistance, call the St. Augustine Art Association at (904) 824-2310.



CAVIAR COLLECTIONS

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# Business Weekly

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Nocatee Happenings:  
Relaxation is goal at  
new dental practice

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Members of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division join First Coast Mortgage Funding Vice President Aaron Bacus (center, left) and President Jason Kindler (center, right) in a ribbon-cutting ceremony Nov. 19, in front of their office in Ponte Vedra Beach.

## First Coast Mortgage Funding draws on long experience of founders

By Shaun Ryan

Two highly experienced mortgage professionals have joined forces to found a new business in Nocatee. Aaron Bacus is vice president and Jason Kindler is president of First Coast Mortgage Funding, located at 360 Town Plaza Ave. Suite 340.

Though the business has only been open since February and just had its ribbon-cutting ceremony this month, it has been performing well. Bacus said it has been averaging about 50 loans per month.

“It’s been spectacular,” he said.

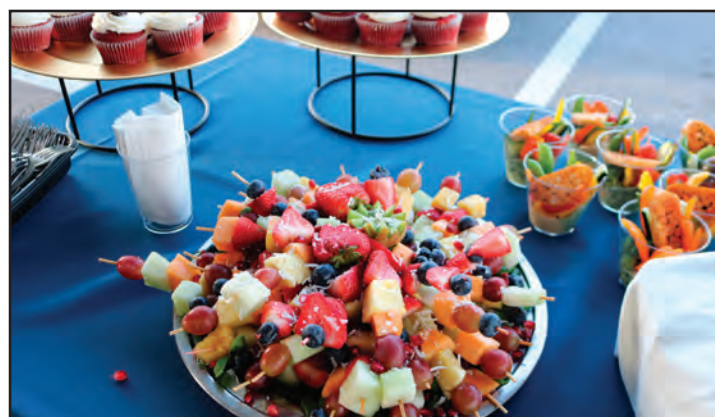
That success may be due in part to each man’s extensive experience. Each has originated mortgages for thousands of clients, Kindler since 2001 and Bacus since 1997.

The two had long known each other, working together at a firm in Jacksonville and have built very good reputations in the industry. Finally, they decided to strike out on their own and form their own company focused on residential mortgages.

First Coast Mortgage Funding is a mortgage broker, which is different than a lender.

“We can survey lots of different lenders and choose what lender best fits our clients’ needs,” Bacus said.

This gives clients a choice, made possible in part by



Photos by Susan Griffin

MORTGAGE continues on Page 31

A variety of snacks and treats were served at the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

## Retirees: Know your tax forms, or else!



Ric Schilling  
Columnist

There are so many tax forms out there with more numbers and letters than Carter had liver pills (remember that one)? It’s almost impossible to tell if they are talking about a “Star Wars” character or a tax form anymore.

However, there are those we are expected to know and probably don’t know. For instance, the ol’ Form 1099-R. This represents money you’ve taken from a retirement account, annuity, profit-sharing plan, IRA, insurance contracts or a pension. But ... it also may include a direct transfer or rollover of a retirement account (thataway to keep it confusing ol’ IRS).

A copy of this little beauty is sent to the IRS, so it is kind of important that it is accurate and included on the tax return. This form must be issued by Jan. 31 of the year following the distribution or you can be beheaded (not really, just not a good thing).

Because the Form 1099-R covers so many types of distributions it’s important to inspect each one for errors, which are not uncommon. Errors on this form can come directly out of your pocket. The last thing we need to do is overpay taxes.

Then there is good ol’ Form 5498, which will detail the funds that have been rolled over and when new monies have been contributed to an IRA, Roth IRA, SEP or a SIMPLE plan. (This includes re-characterized contributions as well.)

Form 5498 also lets the IRS know which IRA owners are taking required minimum distributions (RMDs). There’s a cute little box on this form which the IRA custodian must check off to signify this action. This little doozy is not filed with your tax return. It just lets the IRS

SCHILLING continues on Page 31

# Schilling

Continued from 30

know there was a distribution from a retirement account. If you've rolled over money from an account from work you will also receive a 1099-R but you will also receive the 5498 from the new custodian to verify it being a non-taxable event.

What the heck is a 72-t payment you may ask? A 72-t is a way for folks under 59½ to tap into their IRA's without paying the 10% penalty. The strategy applies only to IRA's selected and the payments must continue for five years or until the participant reaches the age of 59½, whichever is longer. There are three types of payout plans available, so you must study these carefully before triggering the payments. If you violate the terms of the payment plan, then they chop off your arm (just kidding again). The IRS will impose the 10% penalty on the entire amount, whether you've taken it or not. So ... no modifications once a plan of payment is selected, right? Right!

Lastly, it's the Form 8915-E, Qualified Disaster Retirement Plan Distributions and Repayment. This will be used to identify a COVID-related distribution (CRD) from a retirement account before

the age of 50½, therefore scooting by the 10% penalty on early withdrawals from retirement accounts. However, you must be a qualified individual to get this exemption.

OK class, tax lesson is over for now. It's time for recess and a glass of wine.

**Frederic "Ric" Schilling is a Florida native, born in Jacksonville, FL. Ric is President and founder of Senior Guardians of America, a local North Florida firm specializing in tax reduction, long term illness planning, asset protection, probate avoidance and life income planning. Ric is a National Speaker and Advocate on Senior Issues and has been featured by the Florida Times Union and WJXT, TV-4 in Jacksonville as an authority on Estate Planning and Retirement Issues. Senior Guardians has an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau and is a member in excellent standing with the National Ethics Association. Ric Schilling is a Certified Financial Fiduciary (CFF). You may contact Ric at 904-371-3302 or 888-891-3381 Please visit: [www.seniorguardian.com](http://www.seniorguardian.com)**

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# Mortgage

Continued from 30

changing technology. In fact, the business' website allows clients to submit a loan application or pre-qualify for a home loan. They may also evaluate their options by using the website's interactive calculators.

Another thing First Coast Mortgage Funding has going for it is its focus on local properties and local partners.

"Our bread and butter, obviously, is North Florida and the Nocatee area," said Bacus.

The business has Realtor partners throughout the area and also works with David Weekley Homes.

Of course, the increase in people moving into Northeast Florida has helped First Coast Mortgage Funding to find rapid success.

"The growth has been spectacular," Bacus said. "Obviously, rates being so low doesn't hurt, but people are just flocking here. It's unbelievable. We're



Photo by Susan Griffin

**First Coast Mortgage Funding President Jason Kindler (left) and Vice President Aaron Bacus address attendees at a ribbon-cutting ceremony Nov. 19 in Ponte Vedra Beach.**

really excited to be a part of it."

Kindler and Bacus are also deeply involved in the community. They support the schools as well as the YMCA.

Go to [firstcoastmortgagefunding.com](http://firstcoastmortgagefunding.com) for more information.

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**NOCATEE HAPPENINGS**

# New dental office offers relaxing, spa-like atmosphere

By Holly Tishfield

Most people dread a trip to the dentist's office. Between the stress of handling insurance coverage, booking an appointment and possibly needing work done, it is no wonder we do not normally associate the word "relaxing" with a dentist visit — but, for a new office in Nocatee, relaxing is exactly what they strive to be.

Dr. Pauline Le, a Jacksonville resident with a passion for health and wellness, opened her new dentist office/spa named Le Dental Spa at the end of September.

Le has a notable presence on social media, where she shares videos and photos of the procedures she offers in her office, as well as tips and tricks on the best ways to take care of your pearly whites. She enjoys having such a vast platform to help educate people on how dental health can impact more than just your mouth.

"It is not your typical dentist's office. We have definitely honed in on making it feel more like a spa," Le said. "We want to make our patients feel relaxed."

Focusing on natural lighting and general coziness, Le and her team worked together to ensure that the office is a safe space for patients. There are TV's mounted to the ceilings, candles lit around the



Dr. Pauline Le recently opened Le Dental Spa in Nocatee. The dental office aims to offer a relaxing environment with televisions, candles, pillows and a section of beer and wines.

room, the option of pillows, blankets and even a selection of beer and wines.

"I went into dentistry because I love

building relationships with people," Le said. "It is not just a one-time visit. I am going to see you for the rest of your life,

if I am doing something right."

For opening her first solo practice, Le knew that the Jacksonville/Nocatee area would be the perfect location to draw in like-minded patients.

"In Nocatee, people really care about their health and well-being," Le said. "They like to take care of themselves, and at this point in my career, I like to be surrounded by people who think the same way I do."

At the opening celebration back in September, Le's office hosted guests in the parking lot of the office building, where it catered food and offered drinks. Guests were also lucky enough to receive an early tour of the office and meet staff members.

"It has been super rewarding treating people the way I want to treat them, the way they deserve to be treated, without any restrictions from insurance companies," said Le.

Le Dental Spa is accepting new patients every day. Guests can choose from Le's extensive list of fillers and botox treatments or visit the spa for cleanings, whitenings and other dental procedures. You can learn more about the Spa on its website at [www.ledentalspa.com](http://www.ledentalspa.com) or find it on Instagram at [@ledentalspa](https://www.instagram.com/ledentalspa).

Photo provided by Pauline Le

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Amy Hemphill Dove works on a leaf layout.

# Fiber artist to discuss work, demonstrate techniques Dec. 6 at St. Augustine gallery

Butterfield Garage Gallery is featuring fiber artist Amy Hemphill Dove during the month of December.

Hemphill Dove, who refers to herself as a “dyed-in-the-wool” fiber artist, will be in the gallery all day Sunday, Dec. 6, to discuss her work and demonstrate her technique.

Her materials and subject matter are pure nature. She roams landscapes collecting everything that catches her attention, and back in her studio she explores the potentials.

“I love this process!” she said. “The botanicals release remarkable secrets from local plants that we see every day and often take for granted. Botanical dyeing and printing allow me to look beyond the usual green of leaves and to really see the shapes, structure and the chemistry in nature.”

And Hemphill Dove knows her chemistry, having earned a bachelor of science degree in textile design from Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science.

After college, she worked as a Jacquard fabric designer for a major Eastern mill, creating many contemporary, abstract, floral and more traditionally patterned interior fabrics for select furniture manufacturers.

A consummate experimenter, she combines techniques and materials freely. She dyes, felts, prints,



Photos provided by Butterfield Garage Gallery

“Arabesque” by Amy Hemphill Dove

stitches onto a range of natural textiles to surprising results. Using diverse techniques of Shibori (the Japanese art of resist dyeing and texturing), folding, pleating, binding and printing, she creates a unique beauty and diversity in her pieces.

There are many variables at work in this kind of art, including soil, climate, water, pH type and weave of the fibers and fabrics.

ARTIST continues on Page 35

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## THEME: DISNEY

### ACROSS

- \*Bambi and others like him
- Nail a criminal
- Use a paring knife
- Cornucopia's shape
- Lawyers' org.
- Interior designer's focus
- \*Gibson Girl Ice Cream Parlor's draw
- 1/100 of afghani
- Tapestry
- \*Minnie Mouse's full first name
- \*"Be Our Guest" performer
- Kukui nut necklace
- #22 Down competitor
- Dojo pad
- Pillow filler
- Detected
- Burden of proof
- Ness' domain
- Vernacular
- Poker amount
- Divvy up
- U.S. freshwater invader
- Relating to nose
- Golfer's warning
- "The Three Musketeers" dueling sword
- Isaac of science fiction fame
- \*"The Princess Diaries" leading actress
- Pigpen
- Candle burner
- Greek letters on campus
- \*Remy's idol Auguste \_\_\_\_\_
- \*Pongo's mate
- Radio sign
- J. Edgar Hoover's org.
- Was dishonest with, two words
- \*Iago and Kevin
- \*Scar to Simba, e.g.
- At the point of death, archaic
- Command to Fido
- Seed alternative, to a landscaper
- Loses color

### DOWN

- Fraud
- Famous Amos
- Before long, to Shakespeare
- Alef and Bet follower
- \*Like a Haunted Mansion visitor
- California valley
- \*Aladdin's sidekick
- What football and baseball have in common, pl.
- "Frasier" actress Gilpin
- Homesteader's measure
- \*Shere Khan's cry
- Highland tongue
- Woman in trouble?
- It may be perfect
- Moves down
- Itinerary word
- Cap attachment
- Part of a sleeve, pl.
- Organ swelling
- Loads
- Military group
- Sarah, alt. sp.
- Not a slob
- \_\_\_\_\_ Piper
- Object of worship
- Tear, past tense
- \*"A Bug's Life" characters
- \*Human child in Monstropolis

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# AS IF! The 90's Fest announces new date for 2021 event



Photo provided by Ancient City Entertainment

**Musicians perform during AS IF! The 90's Fest last year. The 2020 event was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but the festival is scheduled to return in May 2021 with a new mission in mind.**

Earlier this year, Ancient City Entertainment announced a '90s-themed music festival promising a “summer kickoff that lets adults feel like kids again while kids have an amazing day that they can look forward to at the end of the school year every year.”

With the COVID-19 pandemic halting more events than can be counted, AS IF! The 90's Fest has announced a new date and new brand mission.

On Saturday, May 15, at Francis Field in downtown St. Augustine, AS IF! The 90's Fest will raise funds for ACE Alliance, the nonprofit chapter of Ancient City Entertainment committed to supporting St. Johns and Putnam County's “movers and shakers,” who dedicate their craft and livelihood to the culture of tourism, entertainment and hospitality. ACE Alliance provides fellow artists and industry members disaster relief and wellness impact.

“This event has transitioned from a fun summer party to a Florida tourism industry reboot made by local tourism workers for local tourism workers,” explained Jeanetta Salyer, owner of Ancient City Entertainment and the organizer of the festival. “The '90s was the last era where growing up was cool, and we're stoked to fi-

nally be able to throw this rad festival. It's going to be an amazing day where a portion of sponsor and vendor proceeds directly benefit ACE Alliance and ultimately, the creatives in our community.”

Headliner Eve 6, who rocked the 1990s with hit singles like “Inside Out,” “Here's to the Night” and “Promise,” will take the stage as well as bands like Spider Monkey, Ramona + the Riot, The Space Heaters, NKO Nerd Kill Overdrive, Bad Dog Mama, Chil-lula, The Swell Acoustics and Salt and Pine.

AS IF! The 90's Fest will be held on Saturday, May 15, from noon to 9 p.m. at Francis Field, 25 West Castillo Drive in downtown St. Augustine. This action-packed, family-oriented, one-day event will feature live music, games, slime zone, a Lisa Frank selfie station, a 27-foot water slide, food trucks and more.

General admission tickets are \$15. Children under 5 are free and children ages 5-13 are \$5. VIP tickets are available for \$30 and include a lounge area and VIP bar access. Sponsor and vendor opportunities are still available. Contact Monika Bernthal at [asif90sfest@gmail.com](mailto:asif90sfest@gmail.com) for more information. To buy tickets, go to [www.asifthe90sfest.com](http://www.asifthe90sfest.com)

## Artist

Continued from 34

Hemphill Dove's drive to explore new directions generates incredible variety in her pieces; each is a one-of-a-kind creation. The broad range of fibers and

techniques she uses become scarves, tapestries, shawls and more, all with an organic beauty.

On display this month are hand-dyed, botanical-printed silk scarves, shawls, wraps and felted wall-hangings.

Butterfield Garage Gallery is located at 137 King St., St. Augustine.

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# Sports

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Send your sports news to  
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## Sharks OT Guarnera earns spot in freshman all-star game

By Don Coble

Jake Guarnera would have been happy to make the junior varsity football team at Ponte Vedra High if it meant more playing time.

As it turned out, he got all the playing time he wanted as a starting strongside offensive tackle on the varsity.

The 6-foot-3, 255-pound man-child was so impressive during his freshman season, he was selected to the Football University Freshman All-America team.

After playing at Landrum Middle School a year ago and in the 2020 Future Stars all-star game last June at Atlanta, the 15-year-old now will travel to Naples to play in the FBU All-American Bowl on Dec. 21.



Ponte Vedra freshman offensive tackle Jake Guarnera lines up against the Suwanee defense during a game Oct. 23.

One of the youngest players on the varsity, Guarnera quickly asserted himself. Now he feels comfortable playing against other boys who are considerably older and more experienced.

“Maybe at the beginning it was a little overwhelming,

but after a couple games, it was all smooth sailing,” Jake said. “Once we started playing, it wasn’t mentally challenging at all.

**ALL-STAR** continues on **Page 37**



Photos provided by Carolyn Taraboletti

PVHS boys lacrosse players Freddie DiMarzo (from left), Andrew Worman and Joe Taraboletti sign their National Letters of Intent on Nov. 11.



PVHS girls lacrosse players Pierson Schuchart (from left), Sami Lowinger, Trish Balsler and Courtney Rausch sign their National Letters of Intent on Nov. 11. (Not pictured: Taylor Rocha)

## PVHS lacrosse players sign National Letters of Intent

Eight Ponte Vedra High School student-athletes signed National Letters of Intent on Wednesday, Nov. 11, to play lacrosse at their chosen colleges and/or universities. PVHS boys lacrosse players who signed letters of intent

are Freddie DiMarzo (University of Utah), Andrew Worman (University of Tampa) and Joe Taraboletti (University of Denver).

PVHS girls lacrosse players who signed letters of

intent are Trish Balsler (Bates College), Sami Lowinger (Mercer University), Courtney Rausch (Palm Beach Atlantic University), Taylor Rocha (Ohio State University) and Pierson Schuchart (Long Island University).

# Jacksonville Golf & CC earns win at 2020 Club Team Championship

On a picture-perfect fall day, the team representing host Jacksonville Golf and Country Club posted a 14-under-par 130 to outlast 21 other area teams and win the 23rd Club Team Championship, conducted by the Jacksonville Area Golf Association and the Northern Chapter of the North Florida PGA on Nov. 22.

The winning team consisted of Northern Chapter PGA member Ray Barr and club members Bill Devine, Skip Lunsford and Fermin Mendez in the two best balls format.

Two strokes back at 132 was the Sawgrass Country Club team of pro Rhonda

Ferguson, Darrin Ferguson, Lisa Morrison and Sarah Phillips. Taking third-place honors with a score of 133 was pro Hayes Farley, Marty LaPrade, Rob Sandlin and Steve Settles of San Jose Country Club.

Low pro honors went to Cary Splane of Marsh Landing Country Club with a 69, one better than a 70 by Farley. Jennifer Borocz of TPC Sawgrass claimed third, firing a 71.

The Family Championship will conclude the 2020 JAGA tournament season. It will be played Saturday, Dec. 19, at Jax Beach Golf Club. Billed as JAGA's "most fun event of the year," The Family



Photo provided by JAGA

**Jacksonville Golf & Country Club team members Fermin Mendez (from left), Bill Devine, pro Ray Barr and Skip Lunsford pose with the Club Team Championship trophy on Nov. 22.**

Championship welcomes men, women, boys, girls, grandparents, parents and professionals and amateurs alike, from ages 9 to 99. There are separate tournaments for family and couples. For details and to en-

ter by Dec. 15, go to [www.jaxareagolf.org](http://www.jaxareagolf.org). The Northern Chapter PGA's final event of the year is the Northern Chapter Pro-Am at TPC Sawgrass on Dec. 16. For details, go to [www.nfpga.com](http://www.nfpga.com).

# Jags rally but 2-point conversion fails in 27-25 loss to Browns

By Mike Bonts

Special to the Recorder

The Cleveland Browns shut the door on Jacksonville's attempted two-point conversion with 2:14 to play and denied the Jaguars another opportunity with a 27-25 win last Sunday at TIAA Bank Field.

In his first start since 2017, Jaguars' quarterback Mike Glennon completed 20-of-35 passes for 235 yards and two touchdowns with zero picks including a 46-yard TD strike to receiver Collin Johnson.

"I thought Mike [Glennon] made some good throws, some accuracy throws. I think he took some shots which I was happy with," said Jaguars head coach Doug Marrone. "I think it was a little rough, obviously he hasn't played a game since I think '17 or '18. I think there was a lot of good things."

Johnson caught four passes for a career-high and team-best 96 yards. His 46-yard touchdown reception in the first quarter marked the second-longest TD by a Jaguars player in 2020 and the longest TD reception by a Jaguars rookie since Keelan Cole Sr. caught a 73-yard pass in 2017.

Jacksonville linebacker Joe Schobert, playing against his former team for the first time, forced the first fumble of his Jaguars career in the third quarter, which safety Andrew Wingard returned for 17 yards.

The Jaguars (1-10) turned the turnover into points with a two-yard TD reception by tight Tyler Eifert.

Glennon led the Jaguars on an 11-play 78-yard drive to pull within two points with 2:14 remaining in the game. Trailing 27-19 the Jaguars got the ball back with 5:29 to play, leaving the visitors with nothing to show for a possession that spanned more than six minutes.

The Jaguars needed to convert a fourth-and-long at



Photo provided by the Jacksonville Jaguars

**The Jaguars' James Robinson runs for some of his 128 rushing yards during last Sunday's game against the Browns.**

the Browns' 25 with 3:43 to play. Olivier Vernon sacked Glennon. But Vernon was penalized for unsportsmanlike conduct. The penalty gave Jacksonville's another series of downs.

Rookie running back James Robinson then ran for a 4-yard score, setting up a game-tying two-point conversion that resulted in an incomplete pass.

Robinson turned in a career-best 159 scrimmage yards, 128 rushing and 31 receiving, to become the first undrafted rookie in NFL history to total 1,100 scrimmage yards

## JAGUARS FIRE GM CALDWELL

Jacksonville terminated general manager David Caldwell following Sunday's loss to Cleveland. Caldwell has been the Jacksonville GM since January 2013. The Jaguars are 39-86 since then and have lost 10 or more games in every season except for 2017. "I've met with Dave Caldwell to express my appreciation for his service to the Jacksonville Jaguars as our general manager," Jaguars owner Shad Khan said. "Dave was exceptionally committed and determined to bring a winner to Jacksonville, but unfortunately his efforts were not rewarded with the results our fans deserve and our organization expects. Our football operation needs new leadership, and we will have it with a new general manager in 2021."

through their first 11 career games. He extended his season total to six rushing touchdowns and eight total TDs. Robinson joins Fred Taylor and Maurice Jones-Drew as the only players in franchise history to gain 1,000 rushing yards and score eight or more TDs in the first 12 weeks of a single season.

Quarterback Baker Mayfield threw for 258 yards and two touchdowns for the Browns (8-3). Jarvis Landry had his best game of the season, catching eight passes for 143 yards and a touchdown.

"There's no doubt that we are going to try to win every single game that we play, and I can tell you that. That is not a question so whatever we have to do to win, we are going to be able to do," Marrone added. "I think that getting these guys healthy, getting them to play, getting them back, we're holding out hope for some of these guys to come back to help us from an IR standpoint and as soon as they're ready to go we're going to bring them back and play. There's no doubt that's the direction that we're headed as coaches and players."

The Jaguars play at Minnesota (5-6) at 1 p.m. Sunday.

## All-Star

Continued from 36

"People like to say offensive linemen aren't smart, but we are. We have to know where we are on the field."

Even with three years before graduation, Guarnera said it's never too early to start thinking about the next step — college football. He's keeping his grades up — he's enrolled in honors and AP classes with a 3.93 grade point average — and he spends time lifting weights when he's not

on the basketball floor for the Sharks.

"I'm trying to get my name out there with football coaches," Guarnera said. "I want to get into a good college and keep playing."

Only 60 ninth graders were invited to the all-star game.

"I know it's early to start thinking about it, but I'd like to play [college] football in the Carolinas," Guarnera said. "It's not too far from home, but it's still not too close."

"I have a long way to get before I get there, though. I just have to keep working at it."

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