

THE RECORDER



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September 8, 2022
Volume 53, No. 45
75 cents

Serving Ponte Vedra, St. Augustine, The Beaches and Greater St. Johns County

PonteVedraRecorder.com



In The Arts
Local man's amazing collection
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Parent Volunteers Keep School Events Going
Page 11

entertainment EXTRA
Trace Adkins stars in "Monarch," premiering Sunday on Fox.
September 8 - 14, 2022

Trace Adkins is on familiar turn in 'Monarch'

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



Dollhouse dream comes true

Contributed photo. Brendan Hoffman, left, sits next to Anna, a patient in the Community Hospice & Palliative Care Community PedsCare program. Hoffman has made more than 80 dollhouses for children in the program or those with parents in hospice care. Through Dreams Come True, Anna's room was transformed to look like the interior of the dollhouse Hoffman made for her. See story, page 5.

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One of Us

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Business Weekly

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Send us your news

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



Visit our new website at www.pontevedrarecorder.com

Plus, find the Recorder on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ThePVRecorder

BRIEFS

Daddy Daughter Dance at the link

The link is planning its Daddy Daughter Dance — back by popular demand — for 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17.

The event is an opportunity to make some special memories as daddies and daughters enjoy sweets and treats, take selfies at the selfie station and dance the night away with tunes from the D.J. To help make this a special evening, arrival will be via a red carpet.

The cost is \$50 per couple for members, \$65 for nonmembers. For dads who would like to bring more than one daughter, there is an additional charge of \$15 per daughter.

To find the Eventbrite link and purchase tickets, go to thelink.zone and click the Events button.

The link is located at 425 Town Plaza Ave., Ponte Vedra, in the heart of the Nocatee town center.

St. Augustine plans annual 9/11 ceremony

On Sunday, Sept. 11, the City of St. Augustine will continue its annual tradition of holding a Ceremony of Remembrance, in honor of those who died in the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

The ceremony will be held at the St. Augustine Fire Department's main station at 8:30 a.m. and will be broadcast live online on the fire department's Facebook page. The 15-minute program will include a presentation of the colors, a musical presentation, remarks by St. Augustine Fire Chief Carlos Aviles and remarks by guest speaker Erin Durkin. For more information, go to citystaug.com.

Next Concert in the Plaza is Sept. 8

Lonesome Bert & Thick & Thin Band will perform at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 8, in the Plaza de la Constitución, downtown St. Augustine.

Since 2005, they have been a seasoned favorite of the free Concerts in the Plaza series. The band's music is described as folk, bluegrass and jugband.

Concerts may be cancelled or postponed due to weather. If a concert is cancelled, the public will be notified on citystaug.com and on Facebook. If a cancellation notice is not

posted, then the concert is still scheduled. For the complete season schedule, parking information, and more, go to citystaug.com/657/Concerts-in-the-Plaza.

'Spy of the Century' is topic of speech

The Friends of the Ponte Vedra Beach Library will present the next installment of its Speaker Series on Sept. 17 with Raymond Wong, who will offer the insights into the "Spy of the Century," Robert Hanssen.

Hanssen was a very religious family man who served with the FBI for more than 20 years and was a spy for the Soviet Union most of that time selling secrets and causing the deaths of many U.S. agents in Russia. The FBI and CIA knew there was a mole, but each pointed their fingers at each other.

The program will be presented at 2 p.m. in the Ponte Beach Library's FOL Room. Admission is free, and the presentation is open to the public.

St. Johns County warns residents of king tides

King tides are the highest predicted high tides of the year, and they often cause nuisance flooding in coastal and low-lying areas. More severe flooding can occur if the king tide coincides with severe weather conditions (heavy rain, strong winds, big waves). However, sea level rise is causing these tides to happen more frequently, last longer and extend further inland.

To remain safe during a king tide, avoid driving through standing water. If necessary to drive through standing water, proceed slowly and with caution to avoid creating a wake. Avoid parking and leaving vehicles in areas prone to flooding. For more information, go to CityStAug Weather Stem.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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Building Hope Charity Golf Tournament to benefit Rethreaded

The Northeast Florida Division of PulteGroup, one of the nation's leading home builders, has announced the "Building Hope Charity Golf Tournament" benefitting Rethreaded.

The tournament is Tuesday, Nov. 1, at The Palencia Club in St. Augustine. Registration opens at 10 a.m. with opening tee time at noon.

"Our charity golf tournament will support the outstanding work of Rethreaded and its mission to harness the power of business to create hope and opportunity for survivors of human trafficking," said Tony Nason, division president of PulteGroup's Northeast Florida Division. "We are looking forward to a great

day of golf at The Palencia Club's world-class Arthur Hills designed champion golf course, and we welcome everyone to join us as a player or sponsor."

Sponsorship opportunities ranging from \$1,500 to \$7,500 are available. All sponsorship packages include a golf foursome, two golf cart rentals and lunch and dinner. Space is limited. To learn more and register, contact Katie Robinson-Hensley at Katie.Hensley@Pulte.com or call 904-648-6196.

For more information about PulteGroup's Northeast Florida Division, go to www.pulte.com/jacksonville.

DEATH NOTICES

Stella Boecker

Stella Boecker, 94, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Aug. 25, 2022. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. 904-249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

Andrew Hunt, Jr.

Andrew Hunt, Jr., 77, of Ponte Vedra, Florida, died Sept. 1, 2022. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedra-valley.com

Gary Holland

Gary Holland, 82, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Sept. 1, 2022. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – www.pontevedra-valley.com

Mary E. McLeod

Mary E. McLeod, 89, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Aug. 24, 2022. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. 904-249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com



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The Recorder's garden columnist Kathy Esfahani of Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery shares her tips for growing gorgeous gardens in Northeast Florida.

Photos provided by Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery

KATHY'S GARDENING GUIDE

Annuals vs. Perennials

"A flower does not think of competing with the flower next to it. It just blooms." — Zen Shin



By Kathy Esfahani

Homeowners often wonder whether it is better to plant annuals or perennials to develop color in their landscape. The answer is both!

Planting a combination of annuals and perennials adds color and variety in your gardens that last season after season.

An annual is a plant that lives for only one season. Although replacing annuals at the end of each season adds maintenance to your yard, the reward is a rainbow of vibrant colors while these plants are blooming. Annuals typically last three to six months, requiring replacement two to



Foxtail fern, perennial

three times per year.

When using annuals, plan your landscape to include several places where you want constant color and do not mind replanting each season. These locations can be garden beds or planters. Popular spots for annuals include framing a front

entry, highlighting a driveway or mailbox, or surrounding a relaxing outdoor living space. Prepare your gardens for annuals with two to three inches of compost, peat or topsoil. If you choose, you can add fertilizer; mix approximately the first six inches of soil before planting.

In our area, warm weather annuals are still suitable in September. When planting now, consider pentas, salvias, vincas and zinnias.

Perennials are plants, shrubs and trees that last indefinitely; flowers can survive at least three growing seasons in Northeast Florida. Many perennials turn brown and seem to die in the winter, but they will grow back from the roots. Just prune off dead stems and wait for them to reappear. Although perennials require less maintenance since they do not need replacing, they do not produce the dramatic color of annuals.

Consider planning your landscape with at least 90% perennials to balance the showy color with less replacement cost and effort.



Flower of the Week

Vinca

When selecting perennials to add to your landscape now, look for African iris, agapanthus, blue daze, bush daisy, foxtail fern, gardenia, gold mound duranta, hydrangea, knockout/drift roses, loropetalum, muhly grass, portulaca and many more.

Happy planting!

Flower of the Week: Vinca

Please email Kathy at kcg.pvr@gmail.com for any questions or gardening tips you would like to see in the future. For more information & ideas, visit Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery, 196 N. Roscoe Blvd. The phone number is 904-655-7373.

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Girl's dream comes true: a life-sized version of a beloved dollhouse

Dollhouse maker on hand for heartwarming event

By Shaun Ryan

The fulfillment of a little girl's dream and the culmination of a promise made by one local dad to his daughter 13 years ago came together Aug. 26 on a single, wondrous occasion.

Dreams Come True, a nonprofit organization dedicated to granting the dreams of children with life-threatening illnesses, unveiled its latest project: the transformation of a family playroom into a life-sized version of a dollhouse cherished by the girl, whose name is Anna.

Anna is a patient in Community Hospice & Palliative Care's Community PedsCare program. Through PedsCare, she received a bright blue dollhouse

made for her three years ago by someone she'd never met, Nocatee resident Brendan Hoffman.

The dollhouse has since held a special place in Anna's heart, and when Dreams Come True asked what her dream was, she said she would like her bedroom transformed into that same dollhouse.

The work took months, and Anna's family had to find ways to keep it a surprise. But it all proved worthwhile on the day she was invited to enter her completed dream room. Meeting her there for the first time was Hoffman, a man who has dedicated the past 10 years to making dollhouses for children in the program.

"I was actually speechless and overwhelmed and my heart was full," said Community PedsCare Director Patrice Austin, "because what I realized was two beautiful things had happened. The young lady had a dream come true, and secondly, Mr. Hoffman had an opportunity



Contributed photo

Anna reacts to seeing her room transformed to look like the interior of her beloved dollhouse. Dollhouse maker Brendan Hoffman looks on.

to really see the fruition of his efforts on behalf of his daughter's memory."

Hoffman's own daughter Dawn contracted melanoma and passed away in 2009 at the age of 28. He was at her side for the six weeks she was at Community

Hospice & Palliative Care, and one day she made a special request.

"There was this old dollhouse at Hospice that was sitting up on a shelf,

DOLLHOUSE continues on Page 8

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OUT WITH THE OLD
IN WITH THE NEW

Mark Ryan has worked for several businesses over the years, and he began his latest venture earlier this year as director of sales and marketing with America's Choice Title Company. In his free time, he loves to run, surf and golf, which is what brought him back to the Ponte Vedra area in 2005 after a short stint in the 1980s.

Mark Ryan

As told to Anthony Richards

Tell us a little about yourself and your background.

I was born in St. Paul, Minnesota, and graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1974.

After college, I began a career in the broadcast advertising sales business, which also happened to be in 1974, and I currently reside as a member of the Sawgrass Country Club community.

How did you get involved with your current business?

I was transferred to the Jacksonville office of a national media sales company in 1984 and was here for two years before then being transferred to New York City in 1986.

After more than two decades, I made the move back to Ponte Vedra in 2005, and this time that was not the only move I made, as I also started a second career in the real estate business just a year after moving back in 2006.

I followed it up by starting my own real estate brokerage in 2007 and wound up merging with Watson Realty in 2009.

I then went to Re/Max in 2014 as managing broker of their Ponte Vedra office and then went to Coldwell Banker in 2015, where I went on to manage three of their local offices for six years.

My latest venture was starting up America's Choice Title Company in March of 2022 as director of sales and marketing with the company.

What are the primary goals/services provided by your current business?

America's Choice Title Company closes real estate transactions, and my main responsibility is gaining exposure for the company at the various real estate offices in the area.

This exposure in turn helps to increase the number of monthly transactions we handle.

America's Choice Title Company has an unbelievable great reputation in the real estate industry, which is one of the main reasons why I chose to join them.

In what other ways do you try to stay involved in the community?

I have served on the board of the GTM (Guana Tolomato Matanzas) Estuarine Research Reserve.

I got involved with the board because I was race director of a 50k trail race on their trail system, so the connection was there and developed because of that.

I also spent time on the board of The Wolfson Children's Challenge committee, which raises money for Wolfson Children's Hospital by hosting charity runs of various distances.

It is a great way for the community to get involved and give back at the same time, especially for those who love to run.

I am also a member of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Division.

What do you enjoy most about living in the North Florida area?

When I moved here in the mid-'80s, I took up surfing, which I still do today.

As a golfer, I was attracted to the Sawgrass area and have been a member of Sawgrass Country Club ever since I first came down in 1984.

Surfing and golf were two of the biggest reasons I moved back here in 2005 after years in New York City.

I am an avid ultra-runner, which means running in any race longer than a marathon (26.2 miles).

I have competed in six 100-mile races and numerous 50-mile and 50k (31-mile) races over the years.



Photo courtesy of Mark Ryan

Mark Ryan first came to Ponte Vedra in 1984, and after more than two decades away, he moved back in 2005.

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Dollhouse

Continued from 5

just a little thing,” Hoffman recalled. “Nobody played with it because it was way up on the top. Nobody could reach it. But she said, ‘You need to make one for the kids to play with.’”

Hoffman, who had no background in model-making or woodworking, protested that he couldn’t make a dollhouse.

Her response: “You can and you will.”

Hoffman waited a year after his daughter passed away before attempting to make his first dollhouse. The initial three or four did not turn out well, and he threw them away. But through trial and error, he began to produce small dollhouses to give to the Community PedsCare staff for the children.

Soon, he was becoming quite adept at it.

“As the years went, they got bigger and bigger and bigger,” he said. In fact, Austin said some were so large that, to deliver them, they had to take doorframes off the families’ homes to get the dollhouses through the door.

Hoffman made eight dollhouses a year, and each time he added new details. There would be furniture, carpeting, decorations and wallpaper. He began putting electricity in the houses, and then holiday lights, Christmas trees and wreaths.

“These are not tiny, little houses that come from a store,” Austin said. “They’re giant, beautiful homes that [the children] really transform into their own play world.”

The house Hoffman made for Anna was



The room, transformed by team from Dreams Come True, is the perfect place for a little girl like Anna.

finished the final year that he was able to carry out this work. Because everything shut down during the pandemic, he couldn’t get the necessary materials. Then, he began to experience trouble with his eyes and hands.

Despite the long hours and great care Hoffman put into his extraordinary gifts, he was never actually on hand when they were given to the children. So, the presentation on Aug. 26 allowed him to see the impact of his work for the first time.

“The other day, seeing Anna, that right there was so worth doing these houses,” he said. “To see the smile on her face and how much joy she gets out of it. That’s what my daughter was trying to tell me when she wanted me to do it. It does bring a lot of happiness to my heart.”

He said he hopes that his daughter knows that he carried out her wishes.

“I know that she’s satisfied with what I was doing,” he said.



Contributed photos

Brendan Hoffman and the Community PedsCare team are seen inside the transformed room. The original dollhouse, created by Hoffman, can be seen at left.



Anna takes in the wondrous transformation that turned a room in her family’s house into a life-sized interior of her beloved dollhouse.



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Locals take center stage during September

By Anthony Richards

September is considered “locals’ month” and many local attractions are taking part and showing how much they appreciate residents by offering discounts and other specials.

The initiative has been going on for years now and there has been a shift in the way September is viewed because of the effort.

“September had traditionally been referred to as ‘painting month,’ within the business world, because it was typically slower, so businesses took that time to apply a fresh coat of paint to their building,” said Richard Goldman, president and CEO of the St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra & The Beaches Visitors and Convention Bureau.

It is the first month after the busy summer season, which is fueled by an influx of tourists traveling through the area.

According to Goldman, the idea has been going on in the county for at least more than a decade.

“It has worked, not only to keep the employees of a business employed, but also to show the locals that they are very important,” Goldman said. “We’ve made definite progress.”

Tourists may leave, but the residents are the ones who remain throughout the year and are vital to keep the local economy consistent during that time.

There was a time in the past when businesses would close following the summer months and became essentially seasonal themselves.



Photo provided by FloridasHistoricCoast.com

LOCALS continues on Page 10

September is “locals’ month,” and many businesses and attractions are offering discounts for residents of St. Johns County.

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Photo provided by FloridasHistoricCoast.com

September is "locals' month," and many businesses and attractions are offering discounts for residents of St. Johns County.



The "locals' month" initiative has helped St. Augustine and the surrounding area's economy remain consistent even after the busy tourist months.

Locals

Continued from 9

However, that has changed and now residents can go to their favorite restaurants throughout the year and even have a growing variety of musical acts and entertainment to enjoy during the fall and winter months.

September is just the start of that, which is another reason why Goldman believes the "locals' month" initiative has become so vital, because it sets the tone and establishes momentum for the months to come.

An example of the increased focus on improving entertainment options is the Sing Out Loud Festival in St. Augustine, which consists of three weekends of performances at a variety of venues around town during September and is in its fifth year.

"It attracts wonderful music selections throughout the month," Goldman said. "We love our residents, and this is just another way of showing that."

Go to floridashistoriccoast.com/blog/ to find the details for each of the businesses and attractions offering September discounts for residents of St. Johns County.

- Carriage Way Bed & Breakfast Inn
- City Gate Spirits
- Colonial Quarter
- Florida Water Tours
- Fountain of Youth Archaeological Park
- Genteel & Bard
- Ghost Tours of St. Augustine
- Lightner Museum
- Oldest House Museum Complex
- Ripley's Believe It or Not St. Augustine, the Red Express Train and Bayfront Mini Golf
- Saint Augustine Historic Photo Tours
- Saint Augustine Beach House
- Spanish Military Hospital Museum
- St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zoological Park
- St. Augustine Aquarium
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- St. Augustine Experiences
- St. Augustine Land & Sea Tours
- St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum
- St. Augustine Pirate Museum
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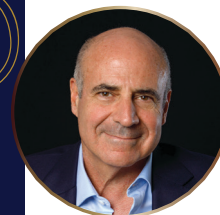
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Photos by Anthony Richards



Volunteer coordinator Rachel Clarke (No. 13) has a conversation with other volunteers at the merchandise stand.



The concession stand is one of the busiest roles for a volunteer on game night, especially during the halftime rush.

Behind the scenes of a Football Friday Night

Parent volunteers do their part to make it a success

By Anthony Richards

Friday night football has been a tradition across the First Coast and the country for years, and every week games are

played and fans take part.

However, there is much more than meets the eye to making sure these Friday nights in the fall are the spectacle we all love and enjoy as fans.

There are several volunteers that help, each with certain roles on the night.

According to PVHS football booster club president Todd Hickey, the football Friday night behind the scenes is a pro-

duction of sorts.

“There are a lot of moving pieces to this,” volunteer coordinator Rachel Clarke said. “Each week we probably need about 40 volunteers to get everything done.”

The majority of volunteers are parents of players either on the junior varsity or varsity squads, such as Clarke, who has had that role for the past four years and her son Ty is now a senior.

“The kids are putting in the effort, so why shouldn’t we as parents put in the effort to support them as well?” Clarke said.

Volunteer duties range from painting the field, operating concessions and the merchandise booth, parking cars, taking tickets, running the press box and working on the “chain gang” and marking the

VOLUNTEERS continues on **Page 13**

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September is Atrial Fibrillation Month: Know the Signs and Treatment Options



By Anthony Magnano, M.D.,

Ascension St. Vincent's
Riverside

When your heart jumps out of rhythm, it's called an arrhythmia. Atrial fibrillation,

also known as AFib, is the most common form. According to the CDC, AFib can increase risk of stroke by five times and

also puts patients at risk for heart failure. Unfortunately, it's estimated that up to half of all patients don't realize they have this common heart condition. That makes awareness and screening key. This AFib Awareness Month, learn risk factors, the symptoms and latest treatment options for AFib.

AFib Risk Factors

AFib is very common, especially as we age. According to a study published in the Journal of the American Heart Association, people over age 40 have a 1-in-4 lifetime risk of developing atrial fibrillation. That said, AFib increases steadily with age.

Additional risk factors for developing atrial fibrillation include obesity, high blood pressure, sleep apnea, coronary artery disease, congestive heart failure, valvular heart disease, rheumatic heart disease, diabetes or metabolic syndrome, lung disease or kidney disease. Certain behaviors can also increase your risk for AFib. These include smoking and alcohol abuse. High stress levels and mental health conditions can also be a factor in atrial fibrillation.

Signs and Symptoms

AFib affects millions of Americans,

but because many don't experience any symptoms, the condition often goes undiagnosed. These patients are only diagnosed through regular exams and screenings. For those who do experience AFib symptoms, these can include irregular heartbeat or palpitations, lightheadedness or dizziness, shortness of breath, faintness or confusion, extreme fatigue, and/or chest discomfort.

Latest AFib Treatment Options

My team of cardiologists at Ascension St. Vincent's are highly experienced in catheter ablation for AFib. This is a catheter-based procedure that eliminates the abnormal electrical impulses that serve as the trigger for AFib. It has been proven to perform more effectively than medication for many patients. However, every case of AFib is different, which is why a tailored treatment plan is essential.

It is also very important to reduce the risk of stroke for patients with AFib. While Warfarin was the standard treatment for decades, my team participated in many of the major studies leading to approval of newer blood thinners that do not have food interactions, do not require blood tests for monitoring and are now the standard of care. Many patients can

manage AFib with oral blood thinners to reduce the risk of stroke. Unfortunately, they can carry a small risk of unintended bleeding which can be a problem for some people. At Ascension St. Vincent's, we also perform procedures to implant the WATCHMAN device that allow us to reduce the risk of stroke without putting patients at risk for increased bleeding.

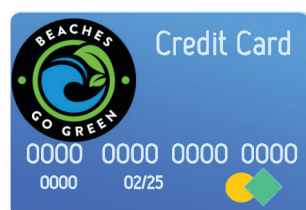
See Your Doctor for Annual Examination

This month, take control of your heart health by making your yearly appointment with your doctor. Because AFib can often have subtle symptoms, annual screening is important, especially if you are over age 65. Thanks to our new hospital in St. Johns County, you can now find specialty heart care even closer to home. If you or a loved one may have a heart rhythm disorder, speak to your primary care doctor or cardiologist today.

Dr. Anthony Magnano is a Ponte Vedra resident and Chief of Cardiology at Ascension St. Vincent's Riverside. For more information on Dr. Magnano and his specialty treating Atrial fibrillation, visit [Healthcare.ascension.org](https://www.healthcare.ascension.org).

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Lightner New Year's Eve gala marks museum's 75th anniversary

Tickets are on sale now for the Lightner Museum's 75th Anniversary New Year's Eve Gala. 2023 is the 75th anniversary of the museum's founding.

The gala will feature a seated dinner by Chef's Garden in the Alcazar Casino and a countdown party with live music by Ramona + The Riot in the historic pool. The evening will conclude with a midnight champagne toast and balloon drop.

Choices include:

- Dinner and Party ticket, 7 p.m. to

12:30 a.m., \$250 per person. Table of eight guests for \$1,888. Open bar, cocktail reception, seated dinner catered by Chef's Garden and live music by the Alberto Cebollero Trio.

- Countdown Party in the historic Alcazar Pool, 10 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., \$100 per person. Open bar, hors d'oeuvres by Chef's Garden, dancing to live music by Ramona + The Riot, and a midnight champagne toast with a balloon drop.

The Lightner Museum has been an integral part of the St. Augustine commu-

nity since it was first built as the Hotel Alcazar in 1888. The building opened as a museum on Jan. 1, 1948.

In 2023, the Lightner Museum celebrates the 75th anniversary of its founding, and the 135th anniversary of its iconic St. Augustine building. Throughout 2023, a Diamond Anniversary Celebration will feature a series of new exhibitions, events and opportunities to connect with art, history, culture and community.

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Volunteers

Continued from 11

down and distance to go on the sidelines during a game.

“The painting of the field is one of the ones that people really don’t know about, but it is really amazing to me,” Clarke said. “It’s a real community and everyone has to commit and buy in to make it happen.”

However, not all volunteers are parents of active players, such as Hickey, who stayed around to help even after his sons graduated, and a couple of press box guys, such as Jim Moyes, who is on the school’s broadcast of the home games.

Moyes has been doing it for more than a decade and the 81-year-old has continued to assist even after his grandchildren graduated.

The concession stand is arguably the busiest station on the night, especially at halftime, when fans and cheerleaders from both sides converge to get something to eat or drink before the second half begins.

Although it can get hectic and hot with food cooking in tight quarters at times, it is something that goes smoothly with the proper order and help on hand.

“If you’re a parent who’s new to town and you’re looking to find friends, come work at a concession stand, and you’re sure to find some,” concessions director



Janine Rosati scans tickets in one of the many roles performed by volunteers on football Friday nights.

Annelee Chetty chuckled. “Yes, you’re tired at the end of the day, but you’re also excited.”

While 40 volunteers are ideal to coordinator home games, volunteers play a vital part on road game nights as well, even though fewer numbers are needed.

Road game duties involve organizing a pregame meal and having snacks and drinks available for the players after the contest.

Jim Pennella is a first year volunteer whose son Charlie is a freshman and plays on the junior varsity team.

“There’s such a commitment and the program is so successful, and I just knew that it wouldn’t be possible without the parents doing their part to volunteer,” Pennella said. “It’s exceeded my expectations.”

However, there are many things that he has learned in his first couple of games

helping, and he continues to be surprised at the amount of work that goes on behind the scenes.

“I didn’t realize how much energy is involved to make this work,” Pennella said.

According to Chetty, she feels volunteering her time is one way she can set a great example for her son Pacey.

“You have to be that role model, because our kids look to us for that,” Chetty said.

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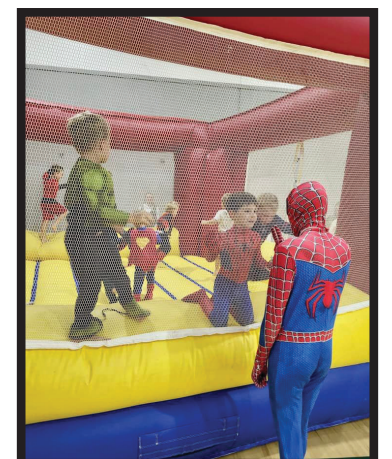
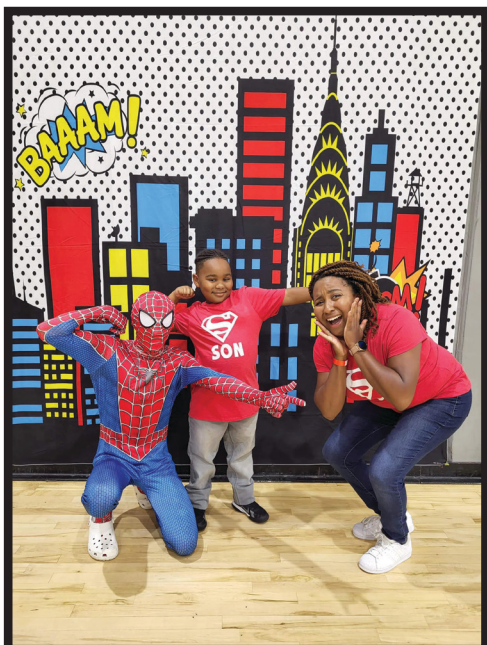
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Ponte Vedra YMCA hosts superhero event

The First Coast YMCA of Ponte Vedra hosted a superhero event for mothers and their sons Aug. 26. Those in attendance embraced the theme and dressed up as their favorite superhero and enjoyed games, music, photo opportunities with Spiderman, as well as pizza and cupcakes.

Photos courtesy of First Coast YMCA of Ponte Vedra





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Jax Beach Volunteer Life Saving Corps referendum on Nov. 8 ballot

The Volunteer Life Saving Corps of Jacksonville Beach received notification from the Supervisor of Elections for Duval County that it has officially met the minimum petitions certification threshold of 10% of registered voter signatures required to place a voter referendum on the Nov. 8 general election ballot.

Official notifications were sent to the Corps Board of Directors and attorneys for both the Corps and the City of Jacksonville Beach. The mayor and all city council members were also made aware of the development.

To get the proposed amendment on the ballot, the Corps needed to collect petition signatures from at least 10% of the City of Jacksonville Beach's 18,000-plus registered voters. Within 17 days, volunteers working alongside numerous local businesses collected 3,820 signatures representing over 19% of registered voters.

The Supervisor of Elections stopped counting after certifying 2,420 petition signatures, far exceeding the number required.

"We were thrilled with the overwhelming public support we received for the referendum petition," said Jim Emery, Volunteer Life Saving Corps Board of Directors president. "It is now up to the City of Jacksonville Beach to act upon the wishes of voters and follow state laws governing its own duties to complete this process and get the referendum placed on the November ballot. The city's constituents have indicated in a decisive way that they wish to vote on this matter."

The Corps launched its voter petition campaign last month. The amendment, if approved, would require the city to preserve the 110-year-old Corps' historical operations at the American Red Cross Volunteer Life Saving Corps Station and execute a deed of conveyance permitting the American Red Cross to convey the station to the Volunteer Life Saving Corps, for whom it was constructed 75 years ago.

The ARC currently owns the station building and it sits on land deeded to the ARC by the city.



The Volunteer Life Saving Corps and the City of Jacksonville Beach have been at odds since December 2021 following a Department of Labor investigation into wage-and-hour laws violations stemming from some paid Jacksonville Beach Ocean Rescue lifeguards also serving as volunteer guards with the Corps. On April 5, the city terminated its 10-year agreement with the Corps for volunteer service on Sundays and holidays, while also locking the Corps out of the ARC Volunteer Life Saving Station.

The Volunteer Life Saving Corps has maintained that this will effectively dissolve the 110-year-old volunteer organization, the oldest of its kind in the nation. Labor attorneys have advised that as long as Jacksonville Beach Ocean Rescue employees are not Corps members and each organization conducts its own training, all parties will be compliant with wage-and-hour laws.

The Volunteer Life Saving Corps is conducting a GoFundMe campaign to help support its legal efforts.



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Baptist Medical Centers recognized in U.S. News & World Report best hospitals

U.S. News & World Report has recognized the neurology and neurosurgery programs at Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville and Baptist Medical Center South as "high performing" in their annual best hospitals list. In addition, the two hospitals ranked No. 2 in the metro Jacksonville region, and 11th best hospital in Florida.

A hospital can earn a High Performing ranking for U.S. News' Best Hospital Procedures and Conditions in recognition of care that was significantly better than the national average, as measured by factors such as patient outcomes.

State- and metro-area rankings reflect the highest performing hospitals in the area across multiple areas of care.

For the 2022-23 rankings and ratings, U.S. News evaluated more than 4,500 medical centers nationwide. The U.S. News Procedures & Conditions methodology is based entirely on objective

measures of quality such as survival rates, patient experience and how successfully each hospital helps patients get back home.

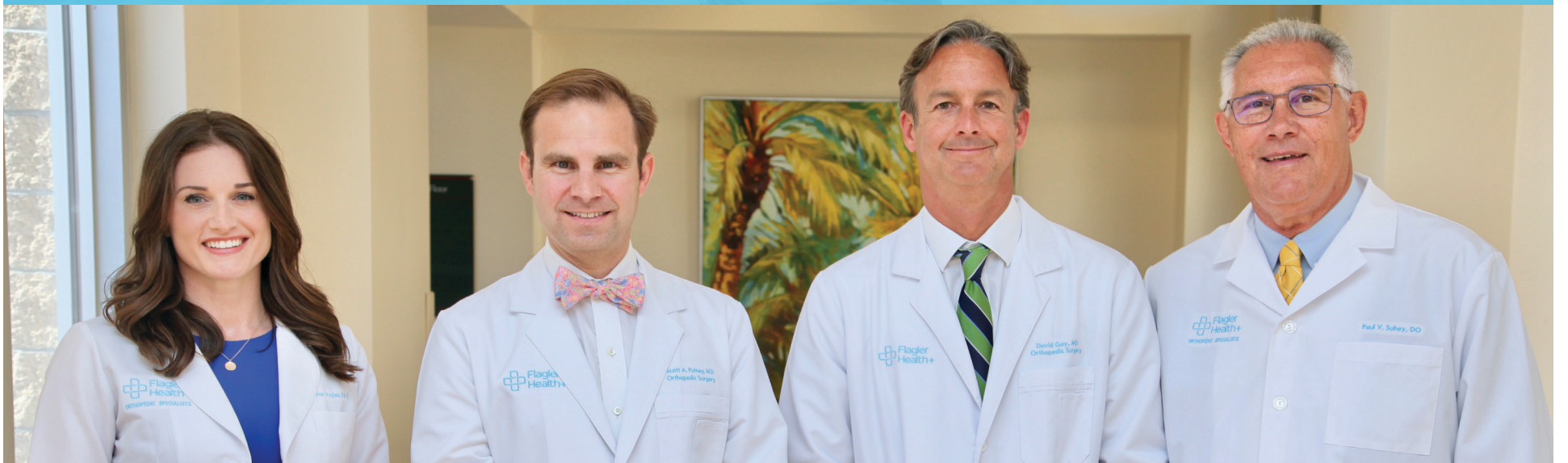
"Any time Baptist Jacksonville is recognized for its performance, it is a credit to our caregivers and their dedication to providing patient- and family-centered care," said Nicole B. Thomas, hospital president of Baptist Jacksonville.

"To be recognized among 4,500 medical centers throughout the U.S. is a tremendous accomplishment and we are honored. It's a tribute to our team members who serve our patients with the highest level of quality and care every day," said Kyle Dorsey, hospital president of Baptist South.

In June, Wolfson Children's Hospital was ranked by U.S. News & World Report as one of the 50 Best Children's Hospitals for pediatric neurology & neurosurgery.



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A view of the cemetery before it was cleaned up.



A view of the cemetery after it was cleaned up.

Palmer Catholic Academy student, family honor naval hero

A student at Palmer Catholic Academy has embarked on an ambitious project to honor the memory of a forgotten U.S. naval hero.

Will McTammany and his grandfather, Fred Apgar of Savannah, launched their efforts almost a year ago.

While driving along an isolated rural road in South Carolina in search of a historical sites, they stopped at a small rural cemetery. They found downed tree branches, leaves and debris everywhere and a cemetery suffering from years of neglect.

One grave site caught their attention. It was a family plot, partially surrounded by a broken wrought iron fence. A small American flag had been placed next to the headstone, and a faded red plastic flower had been laid on top of the marble slab. The stone's engraving read: John Herbert Dent, Captain US Navy, War of 1812, Feb 22, 1782 – Jul 29, 1823.

William and his grandfather, a Vietnam combat veteran, were stunned by what they learned.



Photos provided by Fred Apgar

Will McTammany cleans up the cemetery.

Dent was a Navy officer serving on the USS Constitution — Old Ironsides — when she captured the French frigate, *Insurgente*, in 1799. During the First Barbary War (1801-1805), Dent served as acting commander of the Constitution,

attesting to the respect afforded him by his superiors.

Subsequent to the attack on Tripoli in 1804, Dent served as the commander of the USS Nautilus (1804-1805), USS Scourge (1805), USS Hornet (1806-1809) and USS John Adams (1810-1811). During the War of 1812, Dent served as the senior officer in charge of U.S. naval operations in Charleston, S.C.

Apgar recalls standing over the grave site, his interest turning to indignation at how the Dent family plot had been permitted to deteriorate.

William thought Dent deserved better, and he and Apgar committed themselves to being “part of the solution.”

On March 19, William joined his grandfather, his Mom and Dad and three brothers, and devoted the day to removing brush, raking leaves and debris, cutting down hanging limbs and removing weeds and vines from the cemetery grounds. Dent's family plot received special attention. Daffodil bulbs were planted and American flags were placed

at the head of his grave and that of his wife, Elizabeth Anne.

The original fence that surrounds Dent's gravesite has been damaged and one section is missing entirely. The marble ledgers that cover the graves of Dent and his wife have cracked and are in need of repair. To pay for the cost for the replacement fence and repair and restoration of the marble ledgers — estimated to be approximately \$10,000 — William and his grandfather have embarked upon a fundraising effort to honor Dent's memory and recognize his service to the nation.

According to Apgar, donation checks should be made payable to Bethel Presbyterian Church and mailed to Bethel Presbyterian Church, 403 Church St., Walterboro, SC 29488. At the bottom of the checks, donors should indicate the donation is for the Captain Dent Memorial Fund.

For further information regarding the project or how to become involved, contact Apgar at 11tintel@gmail.com.

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— FEATURING —
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Coleman Talley launches Governmental Affairs Division



Coleman Talley, one of the Southeast's premier mid-sized law firms with offices in Atlanta and Valdosta, Georgia, and Jacksonville has announced the launch of a new Government Affairs service line,

available to clients in all markets beginning in early September.

The Government Affairs division will operate under Coleman Talley Strategies, LLC, (CTS), an affiliate of Coleman Talley LLP.

John Crawford, joined the firm on Sept.

6, will be the principal of the Government Affairs division, which will offer services related to state and federal government relations and lobbying, and related corporate strategies. Crawford is well-known in the Valdosta community, where he currently serves as vice president for university advancement at Valdosta State University.

"We are excited to have John join us and to begin offering this high-demand, increasingly critical service for our clients," said Coleman Talley Managing Partner Justin Scott. "Coleman Talley has been representing local governments for 85 years, beginning with our founding partner's representation of the City of Valdosta. Our attorneys also have decades of experience representing state governmental entities across a wide variety of areas,

so our experience and expertise align perfectly with this new service line."

Crawford brings Coleman Talley over two decades of his own government relations experience, having worked closely with local, state and federal officials, as well as with members of Congress.

His lobbying experience has focused on state and federal appropriations and education, resulting in increased funding for operations and facilities in Georgia.

Over the course of his career, Crawford has been recognized repeatedly by his peers, who twice elected him chair of the Council of University Governmental Affairs Representatives in Alabama. He was also invited to serve as logistics chair for the Southern Legislative Conference, as well as the National Speaker of the House Conference.

Crawford attended the University of Alabama, earning a B.S. in history. He received his Master's degree in public administration with a concentration in public policy from Valdosta State University. He will be based out of Coleman Talley's Valdosta office.

"I am thrilled for the opportunity to lead this new division," said Crawford. "I look forward to helping our clients build effective strategies that will positively shape opinion and drive favorable policy decisions while navigating the public, political, regulatory and legislative environments. Whether that involves outreach campaigns, lobbying, PAC strategies or other strategies and tactics, we will be able to provide them the full breadth of government affairs services, backed by the Southeast's brightest legal talent."

BOARD30 PV to mark anniversary at new location

The community and local fitness enthusiasts are invited to join in celebrating the opening of the new BOARD30 PV location, 4-7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, at 220 Valley Circle, No. 103.

BOARD30 PV isn't a typical gym or fitness facility — it's a high-energy, low-impact training experience that works the whole body. Members can choose from a variety of group classes that utilize mini trampolines, DaVinci Bodyboards and resistance bands, wall bands and battle

ropes, sculpting tools, weighted balls and more.

Classes are offered seven days a week and vary in length from 15 minutes to 60 minutes and are designed for all skill levels.

"As a small business owner post-COVID, we are very fortunate to still be in business and want to celebrate with our community and fellow small businesses," said Kristina McManus, co-owner with Rachel Daughtry of BOARD30 PV. "We

want to share our safe, fun and unique fitness studio with others who are looking to make health and wellbeing a priority, which is more important than ever."

The two moms have seen an increase in clients over the past eight years and now call many of them friends.

"We wouldn't be here today without them," Daughtry said.

In addition to instructor-led demos of the board, bounce and bands exercise classes and day-of discounted BOARD30

PV packages, neighboring businesses who will be onsite with giveaways and special pricing during grand opening. The first 50 adults will get a goodie bag with gift cards, BOARD30 PV apparel and more.

Their nonprofit spotlight is on the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund, established in 1996 to help families tackle childhood cancer by providing comprehensive financial, emotional and practical support. The nonprofit organization will be accepting gas and gift card donations.

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App allows people to take medical history with them

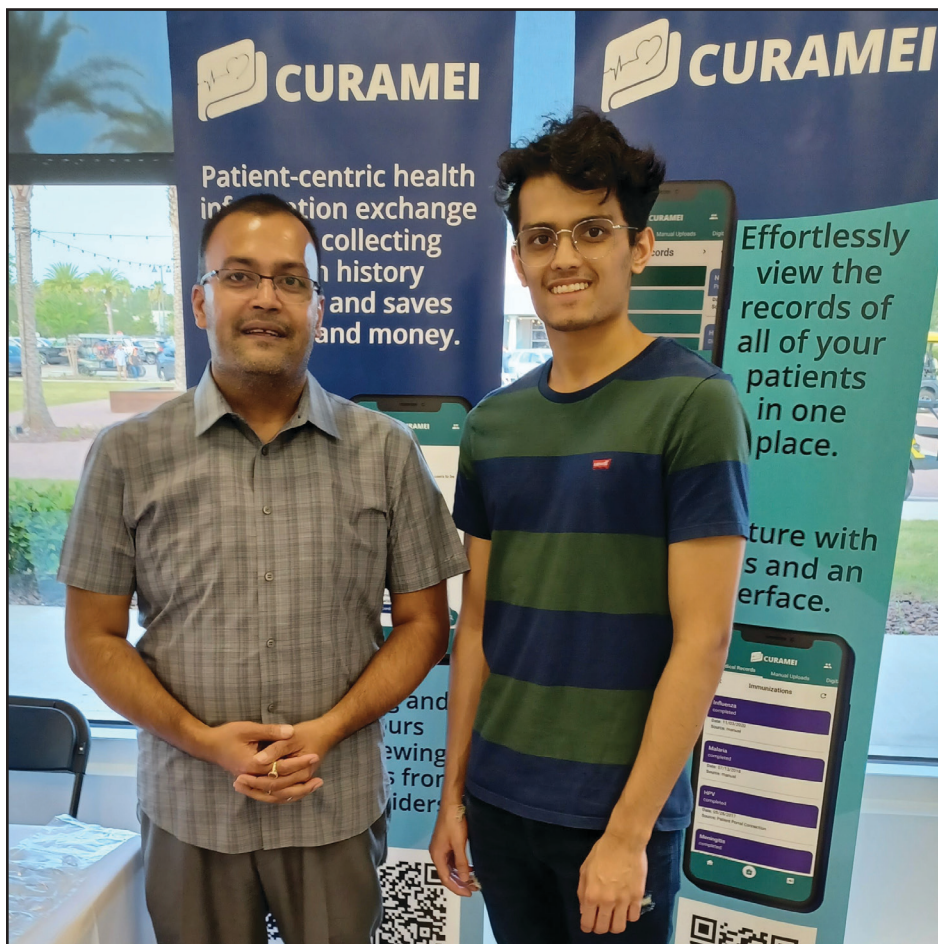


Photo by Shaun Ryan

Pankaj Singh, left, and son Aditya Singh created the Curamei app to help people keep their health records transportable. Here, they are seen at the link, where they are members, during the recent business expo.

By Shaun Ryan

A few years ago, Pankaj Singh began experiencing symptoms of a possible stroke. His family rushed him to the urgent care facility, but weren't sure they would get there quickly enough.

They saw an ambulance and stopped it, but Singh was not able to relate important information from his medical history to the paramedics. And when they arrived at the hospital emergency room, the doctors had none of that critical information either.

Everything turned out all right. The emergency turned out to be a false alarm. But it got Singh's son, Aditya, thinking about the problem.

"Currently, you go from doctor to doctor, hospital to hospital; your medical records aren't being transferred between them," he said. "If you go to the ER or you go to a new doctor, they don't know anything about your health."

This can be a special problem when traveling.

About a year after his father's health scare, Aditya Singh was speaking with a family friend who is a psychiatrist, and the topic arose.

"It just kind of struck a chord with my memory of my dad," Aditya Singh said.

"I was already thinking in the back of my head: How can we facilitate care coordination?"

An undergraduate at Georgia Tech studying computer engineering, he focused his area of expertise on portability of personal health data. He began to create an app that people can use — free of charge — to make their health histories available whenever and wherever they are needed.

"It's just kind of like a way that you can take ownership of your health data so you can go to any doctor and get the same quality," Aditya Singh said.

He and his father formed a company, Curamei Technologies. They spoke with leaders in health care and insurance. They studied the economics, legal issues and politics as they related to health care. And today, they are connecting with more and more facilities to grow the app's effectiveness.

In addition, they also have a free newsletter to help people learn more about medical issues, such as how Medicare works and why drug prices may be rising.

To learn more about the Curamei app, go to curameitech.com. The company can also be found on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter.

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Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty's Mega Open House Weekend returns Sept. 10-11.

Mega Open House Weekend is Sept. 10-11

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty's Mega Open House Weekend returns on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 10-11.

The Mega Open House Weekend features open house viewings of the company's listings of available homes. The listings encompass homes in a wide range of prices, styles and neighborhoods in Northeast Florida.

The company's popular Mega Open House event hosts numerous in-person open houses with virtual open houses on social media to ensure maximum reach and engagement. The company's virtual open houses help bring prospective buyers to the in-person open houses.

Go to OpenHouseNEFlorida.com for a list of open houses. Go to the company's Facebook page, facebook.com/FloridaNetworkRealty, and Instagram, instagram.com/FloridaNetworkRealty, to view the homes virtually during the event.

Everyone is welcome to visit homes for sale during the Mega Open House Weekend.

For more information about Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, go to FloridaNetworkRealty.com.



Contributed photo

Aryaman Bansal created his website to help improve financial literacy.

Teen educates others on financial literacy

By Shaun Ryan

For many people, the world of business, finance, economics and entrepreneurship is something of a mystery — understood by those with the relevant education or experience but opaque to nearly everyone else. That is particularly true of youth, for whom financial literacy often exists in its most rudimentary state, if at all.

Now, a new website offers free lessons, articles and even classes that prepare young people for financial success in the future.

The content is informative and useful and, by all indications, the work of a seasoned professional. But howtofinance.org is actually the creation of a Nease High School senior and two friends.

Aryaman Bansal discovered an interest in the subject when he was still in the eighth grade. So he signed up for one of the few available classes that satisfied that interest: Advanced Placement microeconomics.

“I had fun,” he said. “I learned more and more about business.”

He took another class in macroeconomics, but he wanted to learn more than what school had to offer. So, he has followed up with some summer programs. One focused on investment portfolio management. Last summer, he took a course offered by Cornell University: Economics for Leaders.

And a few months ago, he partnered with a student-led nonprofit called Bored of Boredom, which provides free educational enrichment online. He teaches a finance class there.

In fact, Aryaman is driven to educate others. Thus, his website.

“I felt like the community deserves to understand the basics of financial literacy a bit more, so that’s why I decided to start this initiative,” he said.

In this mission, he is joined by friends Akhil Vallabh and Miles Moerman.

Aryaman said he found inspiration at the link, the business hub and community centerpiece that opened in Nocatee in 2021. In fact, he has volunteered at the link, helping with its summer camps.

Finding an interest in the basics of business among the children there, he ran an entrepreneurship camp where the campers set up a profitable lemonade stand.

“We worked through just the logistics of it,” Aryaman said. “Like, what do we need to make a lemonade stand? How much profit do we need? What would we do with the money?”

They took a field trip to nearby Publix to purchase what they needed to sell their product. And in the end, they made about \$60.

“I was really happy to run that,” Aryaman said. “Just because that’s what I’m trying to do with this website. To inspire people to learn more about finances and just be financially literate.”

As he looks forward to college, he expects to major in finance or business and perhaps go into financial advisory one day.

“I feel like financial advisory is a career to get into, especially considering how rapidly developing our world is and how confusing things may be for some people — or a lot of people,” he said.

In the meantime, he tries to keep up with business news and continues to educate the community on financial issues via howtofinance.org.





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Grocer donates \$340K to aid students and school programs

Southeastern Grocers Inc., parent company and home of Fresco y Más, Harveys Supermarket and Winn-Dixie grocery stores, has announced a donation of \$340,000 to aid more than 420 public schools throughout the Southeast and support teachers, staff and students during the school year.

The three-week community donation program was held in all Fresco y Más, Harveys Supermarket and Winn-Dixie stores.

The grocer's customers and associates across Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi contributed to this cause by rounding up their grocery bills to the nearest dollar at checkout or by purchasing reusable Community Bags sold in stores. Donations will support each store's local school partner to ensure staff and educators have the supplies and resources they need most to set their students up for success during the school year.

"We are profoundly grateful to our generous customers and associates who supported this vital cause through our community donation program, which furthers our commitment to enrich local schools and empower the leaders of tomorrow," said Raymond Rhee, chief people officer of Southeastern Grocers. "Our schools serve as the foundations of our communities, and we believe it's our responsibility to inspire students to become their best selves and uplift

dedicated teachers as they guide them through another school year. We are all stronger together."

In 2021, the grocer and SEG Gives Foundation presented more than 400 schools with a \$352,000 donation to align with the foundation's support of causes that work to strengthen and improve the lives of its neighbors.

Additionally, Southeastern Grocers recently awarded \$70,000 in college scholarships to 28 associates through its SEG Scholarship Program to help fund their future education and cover the cost of courses, books and more for the upcoming semester.

To help address racial disparities in education, health care and food insecurity, the grocer, together with the SEG Gives Foundation, is currently accepting applications from nonprofit organizations for its Romay Davis Belonging, Inclusion and Diversity Grant program. Organizations supporting underserved populations throughout Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi may apply online at www.seggives.com/grantapp through Sept. 30 to be considered for a Romay Davis Belonging, Inclusion and Diversity grant ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000.




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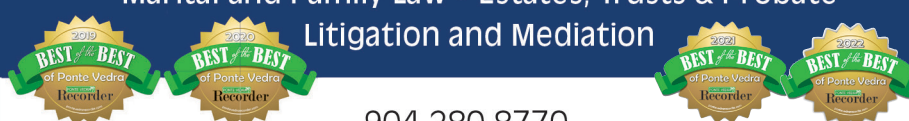
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AT THE LINK

DYNE Hospitality Group: Lessons in values and growth

By Shaun Ryan

On the second floor of an innovative facility in Nocatee resides an office for one of the biggest successes the restaurant industry has seen in the past decade. Its story is a testament to the fruits of hard work, faith and a commitment to the betterment of others.

DYNE Hospitality Group owns and operates 94 Tropical Smoothie Café franchise restaurants across six states, making it the largest franchisee in the nation. But that number will soon be old news – DYNE opens between 15 and 18 new locations annually.

Its headquarters are in Little Rock, Arkansas, but the local office at the link — a much celebrated business address and cultural centerpiece — is the base of operations for DYNE co-founder and co-CEO Nick Crouch.

At 37, Crouch has achieved the kind of success dreamt of by many an entrepreneur. But to understand that success, one must understand his work ethic and philosophy.

Born and raised in Columbia, Missouri, Crouch’s first job in the restaurant industry was washing dishes at the age of 15. He earned a business degree from the University of Central Missouri and, as a golfing enthusiast, he moved to California, where he earned a degree in golf complex operations management and got a job at an extremely high-end club in Rancho Santa Fe.

It wasn’t quite the career he’d hoped it would be. Golf pros don’t make their living playing the game. But it brought him into contact with very successful people, the kind who could afford to fly in by helicopter for 18 holes.

“As a young man, I thought: How are these guys so wealthy?” Crouch recalled. “How did they become so successful?”

Proximity provided opportunities to pick the brains of these people.

“This is the whole reason I’m in business today,” he said. “What I learned was that all of them owned a multitude of something.”

One way to accomplish that is through franchising.

At this critical juncture, a few words from one of the club members prompted Crouch, then 25 years old, to go into business for himself. The man told him he was wasting his time at the club, that he needed to get out and do something more.

A search for the right opportunity eventually brought Crouch to St. Johns County, where he ate lunch at the Tropical Smoothie Café on County Road 210 West. Inspired by what he experienced there, he popped into the kitchen to inquire about purchasing the franchise, which at the time was not for sale.

It took some doing — Crouch only

had a few hundred dollars in the bank — but he was lucky enough that his family believed in him and gave him the loan to purchase the restaurant. And in 2011, he bought it. That’s when the real work began.

“I worked there open to close for quite a long time,” he said. He sometimes even slept in the back booth after long nights closing up the Café and preparing for the next day. He did everything he could to save his money, lived off of baloney sandwiches and other cheaper foods and focused on paying down his debt. He paid his debt back to his family and took his story to the banks, where he finally won the financial support he needed to add about 14 more restaurants over the next few years.

In 2016, the brand named him National Franchisee of the Year, an achievement aspired to by another successful franchisee, Glen Johnson of Little Rock.

Johnson and Crouch met at that conference and became friends immediately. The men ended up talking extensively about business, their values and a shared vision to help people. and inspire others. This culminated in a merger of their two companies to form DYNE Hospitality Group, their restaurant operating group, and DYNE Development, their commercial real estate development firm.

“Dyne” is a term in physics that relates to acceleration and is therefore the perfect metaphor for what followed: rapid growth. It was the embodiment of what Crouch had learned while working at the country club, and it provided a means to carry out DYNE’s mission: “Create opportunities using our God-given gifts.”

“We believe that the only way to create continuous opportunities for others is to be constantly growing our businesses. We strive to help our team financially, professionally and personally,” Crouch said. “We believe in taking chances on people who might not get a chance. ... We believe each person was given a gift by God, and we try to align that passion or that gift with the person and then let them use that in a way that will benefit the company and themselves.”

These are not just words. The DYNE management always seeks to match its people with a career path that will best allow them to thrive, based on their strengths. In addition, the company’s Pyneapple Fund was created to provide financial support to employees in times of special need, and a scholarship fund was set up to help employees pursue goals through a higher education. The company’s DYNEWELL program helps its people achieve personal wellness goals.

As a community partner, DYNE conducts a clothing drive each December.

Crouch discovered the link, which is located at 425 Town Plaza Ave., Ponte Vedra, when his family was consider-



Photo by Shaun Ryan

Nick Crouch is co-founder and co-CEO for DYNE Hospitality Group, which has an office at the link.

ing a move to Nocatee. He met with the team at the link and “fell in love with the whole concept,” and knew he wanted to set up his office there.

Crouch travels a lot for business, having Cafes and commercial properties in six states. However, when he is in Ponte Vedra, he can be home in 30 seconds

rather than 50 minutes and can visit with his children whenever he wants.

“It’s been life-changing moving to Nocatee and being a part of the link,” he said. “I can honestly say that. It’s been really, really cool to just simplify life.”

To learn more about DYNE Hospitality Group, go to dynehg.com.

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In the Arts



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TEACHER TO PRESENT SHOW SO PEOPLE DON'T FORGET 9/11



Contributed photo
Jason Nettle portrays one of the characters in his one-man show, "9/11: We Will Forget."

Jason Nettle, theater director at Ponte Vedra High School, will perform his one-man show, "9/11: We Will Forget" at 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11, in the school auditorium. Nettle plays 18 New Yorkers dealing with the events and aftermath of that horrific day, which took the innocent lives of almost 3,000 people.

"I wrote the show to educate millions of people who weren't alive when it happened or knew very little about it," he said. "This show is obviously very personal, though it is not designed to be sad. It is educational, inspirational and eye-opening to the thoughts and behaviors of those in the city affected by the attack. Almost everyone I spoke with or read about swore they wouldn't forget. I set out to help people — all of us — keep that

promise. If this show only does that, then we have accomplished our goal, but I think it will do more than that. I think, through the eyes of the 18 characters I portray, the audience gets reminded of the entire perspective of what happened."

Nettle lived in New York City at the time of the attacks. He spent six months researching and four months writing "9/11: We Will Forget" and performed it for the first time on 9/11's 10th anniversary. The show was named "Best of the Fest" by the Orlando Sentinel at the 2012 Orlando Fringe Festival.

This show has been called a must-see for anyone who wants to commemorate that fateful day — and for those who were too young to understand it when it happened. In today's world, Nettle thinks it is essential that people come together and not forget that day in history.

Admission to the show is a suggested donation of \$10 at the door. Money raised at this performance will benefit The Dramatic Arts Boosters at Ponte Vedra High School.

ON STAGE

A roundup of musical acts appearing before Oct. 9 at local venues

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Purchase tickets at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre box office or ticketmaster.com.

For further information about each act, go to pvconcerthall.com/events.

• **The Fixx** — 7:30 p.m. Sept. 17.

• **Andy McKee** — With special guest Calum Graham. 7:30 p.m. Sept. 20

• **Molly Hatchet** — With special guest Strayin' Anchors. 8 p.m. Sept. 30

• **Todd Barry** — 8 p.m. Oct. 1

• **Ainsley Earhardt** — With Sean Hannity. 2 p.m. Oct. 2

• **Victor Wooten, Steve Bailey & Derico Watson** — 8 p.m. Oct. 5

• **Jen Fulwiler** — 7 p.m. Oct. 8

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Box office hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturdays. Tickets sold at the box office are available via credit- and debit-card only. A valid ID is required for all box office transactions and ticket purchases must be made in person.

Tickets may also be purchased at ticketmaster.com. For further information about each act, go to theamp.com/events.

• **Matisyahu** — 7:30 p.m. Sept. 9

• **Billy Currington** — With special guests Noah Guthrie and Matt Koziol. 7:30 p.m. Sept. 10.

• **Ringo Starr and His All Starr Band** — 7:30 p.m. Sept. 15

• **Snail Mail** — Sing Out Loud free event. 7 p.m. Sept. 16

• **Conan Gray** — 7 p.m. Sept. 18

• **Jack White, The Supply Chain Issues Tour** — With special Guest Cat Power. 8 p.m. Sept. 19

• **Sing Out Loud: St. Augustine Record Fair** — Free event. 11 a.m. Sept. 25.

• **Sing Out Loud: Shovels & Rope** — Free event. 6 p.m. Sept. 25.

• **Earth, Wind & Fire** — 7:30 p.m. Sept. 27

• **Sing Out Loud: Lucius**. Free event. 7 p.m. Sept. 30. Sold out.

• **The War on Drugs** — 7 p.m. Oct. 6
— *Compiled by Shaun Ryan*



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String Quartet No. 1 in D Major, Op. 11 Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

January 15, 2023

Lullaby George Gershwin
Octet in E-flat Major, Op. 20 Felix Mendelssohn

March 26, 2023

String Quartet No.19 in C Major, K. 465 "Dissonance" Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
The Lick Quartet David Bruce

April 23, 2023

Quartettsatz, D 703 Franz Schubert
String Quartet No. 14 in D minor, D. 810 Franz Schubert
"Death and the Maiden"

June 4, 2023

Quintet for Piano and Strings in E-flat Major, Op. 44 Robert Schumann



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Contributed photos



Don Zentz, director of jazz studies, accepts his induction into the Jacksonville Jazz Hall of Fame with DA jazz students' support.



Don Zentz, director of jazz studies, performs with Douglas Anderson jazz students during this year's Jacksonville Jazz Festival.

Douglas Anderson's jazz program increases allure

National recognition illustrates benefit of local arts education

Douglas Anderson School of the Arts has been exemplifying excellence for decades, as evidenced by accolades earned year over year for programmatic

excellence. The jazz program at Douglas Anderson is one example of many that showcases talent on the national stage. Students at the high school level have a chance to excel in the arts, by way of instruction offered by faculty, staff and visiting artists in residence as well.

Earlier this year, the school's SOTA Jazz Ensemble I earned an overall score

of 97% and won the National Jazz Festival for high school jazz bands. Its Jazz Combo won the small group category of the festival and trumpeter Giovanni Martinez was named the "Superior Musician" with tenor saxist Ethan King recognized as an "Outstanding Musician."

In April, DownBeat magazine once again recognized the DA flagship jazz ensemble as one of the top high school jazz bands in the country in its 45th Annual Student Music Awards. This was the sixth consecutive year that DA Jazz Ensemble I either won the category or placed runner-up, uncommon historic consistency, according to DownBeat.

The National Jazz Festival recently presented Don Zentz, the director of jazz studies at the Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, with its Jazz Educator Award, and the Jacksonville Jazz Festival named him to its Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame began in 1999 with three inductees: Mayor Godbold, Mike Tolbert and Dan Kossoff, who all three had a pivotal role to play in the creation and production of the event.

Now in his 38th year of teaching, Zentz has received a Jazz Education Achievement Award from DownBeat, an Outstanding Teaching Award from UNF and a TIP Award for Excellence in Teaching from the Florida Board of Regents and has been a Keilwerth Saxophones artist performer and clinician since 1995.

Don Zentz has led DA's jazz program since 2016, when he took over from retiring founding director Ace Martin. Prior to that, Zentz had been the director of fine and performing arts at The Bolles School.

If your child has a special talent in the arts, Douglas Anderson School of the Arts can help foster their growth and excellence as students, grades 9 through 12, are carefully nurtured through intensive study.

Established as an arts school in 1985, the school attracts students from all parts of North Florida and South Georgia who have talent in dance, instrumental or vocal music, performance or technical theater, film and video production, creative writing and visual arts. A high academic standard — coupled with broad arts curriculum — offers students an opportunity to excel in a chosen discipline while preparing them for post-secondary education.

To learn more about the school and its programming, go to douglasandersonSOTA on Facebook, or online at da-arts.org.

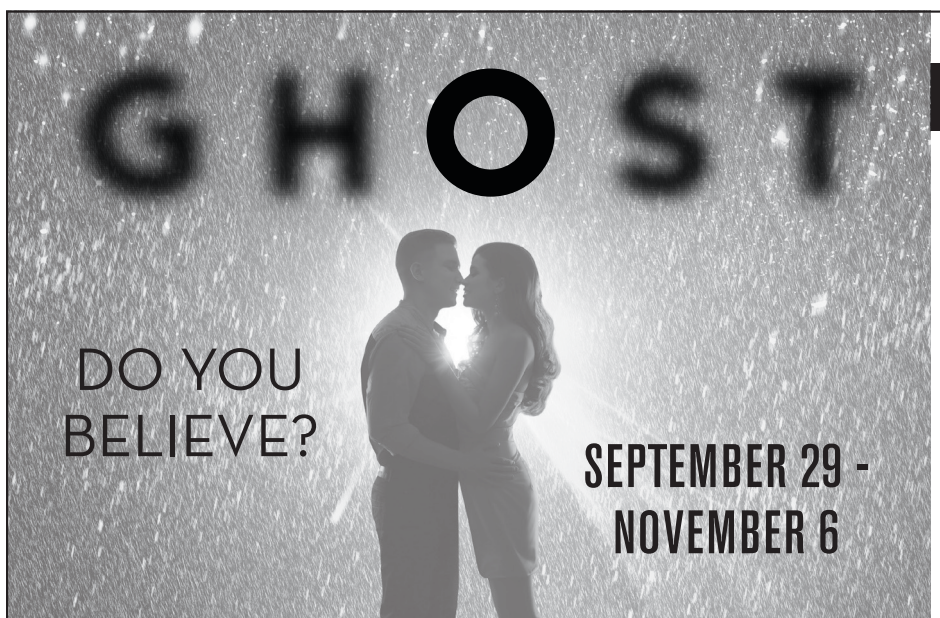


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'Broadway In Jacksonville' season kick-off Monday, Sept. 12

The FSCJ Artist Series, sponsored by VyStar Credit Union, will kick off the 2022-23 Broadway in Jacksonville season with its annual open house at the Jacksonville Center for the Performing Arts, 300 Water St., Jacksonville. Doors open at 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 12. All are welcome to this event.

The first 200 to arrive will receive an Aladdin gift bag. Local food trucks will be onsite serving eats and treats, including Josie's Latin Fusion Food Truck, Twisted Okie BBQ and Tacos, and Tikiz Shaved Ice & Ice Cream.

Prizes, a cash bar and live music from Bold City Classic will round out the evening. In addition, attendees will get a sneak peek at the upcoming season with a performance by a special alumni guest from Disney's "Aladdin."

The theater will also be open to the public to allow attendees to "test drive" seats available for subscription for the upcoming season. Staff will be on hand to answer questions about subscribing or the shows in the season. Attendees will also be able to purchase any available seat for subscription during the event, as well as tickets to other FSCJ Artist Series events for this season.

Current Broadway season subscribers will be able to pick up their season tickets, exchange their tickets and buy single tickets for family and friends.

Shows in the Broadway Season are: "Elf The Musical," Dec. 6-11; "Disney's Aladdin," Jan. 10-15; "Pretty Woman," Feb. 15-19; "Jesus Christ Superstar," March 21-26; and "Mean Girls," April 25-30.

Five-show subscription packages are available to purchase, as well as four-show packages with "Elf" as a season option. These may be purchased at the event, ordered online at fscjartistseries.org, or over the phone by calling 904-632-5000.

Performances for the FSCJ Artist Series Broadway in Jacksonville Season are 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays, 8 p.m.

Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Saturdays, and 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sundays. "Pretty Woman" does not have a Tuesday performance.

By becoming a subscriber, order season tickets and reserve seats for all five shows before single tickets are available to the public. Subscriptions may be ordered online at fscjartistseries.org, or over the phone by calling 904-632-5000 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday.

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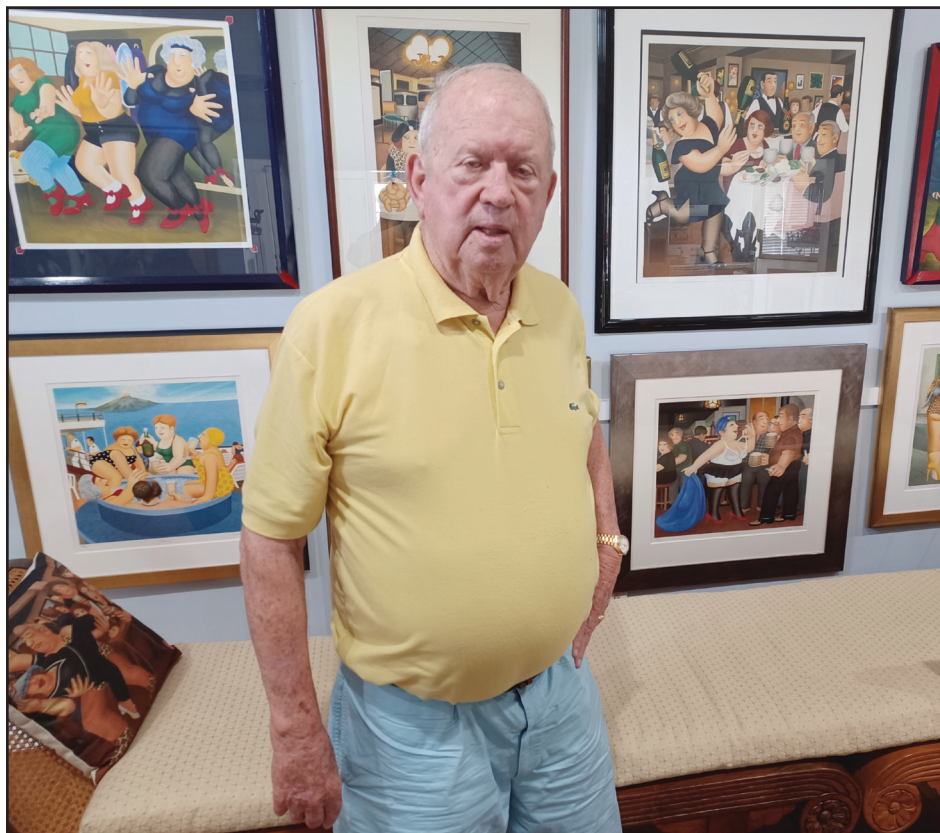
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Local man made a career of selling art, publishing original prints



Photos by Shaun Ryan

With original prints of Beryl Cook's paintings behind him, J. Norman Henry stands in a room he has filled with art.



Pablo Ziegler Trio <i>Visual Artist: Dawn Montgomery</i>	SUNDAY 10/9 • 4:00 PM
David Briggs* <i>organ</i> St. Johns Cathedral	SUNDAY 11/13 • 4:00 PM
Soweto Gospel Choir <i>Visual Artist: Chris Clark</i>	FRIDAY 12/16 • 7:30 PM
Marcus Roberts Trio <i>Visual Artist: Debbie Pounders</i>	SUNDAY 2/5 • 4:00 PM
Laredo–Robinson–Polonsky Pajaro-van de Stadt <i>Visual Artist: Elena Oblander</i>	FRIDAY 2/24 • 7:30 PM
Chanticleer <i>Visual Artist: Vanessa Withun</i>	SUNDAY 3/5 • 4:00 PM
Alon Goldstein <i>piano</i> <i>Visual Artist: Jessica Hall</i>	FRIDAY 3/24 • 7:30 PM
Italian Saxophone Quartet <i>Visual Artist: Scott Blake</i>	SUNDAY 4/16 • 4:00 PM
American Brass Quintet <i>Visual Artist: Marisa Yow</i>	SUNDAY 5/7 • 4:00 PM
Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra <i>Visual Artist: Lisa Lofton</i>	FRIDAY 5/26 • 7:30 PM

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BEACHESFINEARTS.ORG



By Shaun Ryan

If there's one thing J. Norman Henry has, it's art.

For decades, he made a living buying and selling original paintings, publishing original prints and collecting works from his many travels. He estimates his collection of framed pieces somewhere in the hundreds and unframed pieces in the thousands. And while he recalls clearly where he acquired some of the more significant pieces, there are others with less memorable origins.

He and wife Barbara have been Florida residents for about five years, but prior to that they made their home in New Jersey, where they kept a warehouse full of art. Then, last month, as they prepared to sell their home up north, they emptied the warehouse and transported its contents to Palm Valley.

"It was a nightmare getting it out," Henry said. "We had two huge truckloads of stuff coming down."

Much of that art now hangs on the walls of houses the Henrys own.

Asked what he intends to do with it, Henry replied, "That's the \$64 question."

But art aficionados may want to check out his website, flanagangraphics.com, where works by more than 100 artists can be found and purchased. Here, those in the know will recognize pieces by Jan Balet, Roy Carruthers, Michel Delacroix, Ren Gruau, Peter Heard, Gian Carlo Impiglia, Bruce McCombs, Edwina Sandys and others of note.

Though he is no artist himself, Henry has roots in the collection of art. His great-grandfather was a connoisseur.

"He had a collection that he devoted the last part of his life to," said Henry.

"He donated the collection to the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts."

For the first 20 years of Henry's professional life, he worked in the investment business. Then, he went on a business trip to Haiti early in the 1970s and discovered that he liked Haitian art.

"I bought 50 paintings without knowing anything about what I was doing," he said.

Through a friend living in La Jolla, California, he was able to sell every piece.

"It was incredible," he said. "I went and bought 50 more. I kept buying more. I sold tons and tons of it."

His next discovery was Oku — Shigeo Okumura — but this venture, too, remained more hobby than career. Eventually, that would change.

In the late 1970s, he began to publish original prints. But he didn't make any real money until he signed a contract with British artist Beryl Cook.

"I was very lucky," he said. "My mother was in London in 1976. She went into this gallery. She said, 'I saw an artist I think you'd really like.'"

A visit to the gallery confirmed his mother's judgment: He did like Cook's work.

"Beryl Cook was the most wonderful artist to deal with," he said, looking back over his career in the world of fine art.

And while Henry has a wealth of anecdotes about some of the big names he's known in the art and collecting worlds, Cook seems to hold a special place for him.

"Beryl only painted about six paintings a year," he said. "I know every painting she's done."



What J. Norman Henry does not have is empty wall space. Here are some of the many pieces he recently transported from his warehouse in New Jersey.

Sports



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WEEK 3 FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Fleming Island matchup has makings of another shootout

By Anthony Richards

Two weeks into the season and the Nease Panthers and Ponte Vedra Sharks are still looking to put a notch in the win column.

The Sharks have a bye week and are regrouping prior to traveling to take on Middleburg Sept. 16.

Having an early bye cannot always help as one on a later date, in terms



Marcus Stokes and the Nease offense heated up with 41 points against Creekside. Now they look to make it the norm.

of players getting healthy, but in the Sharks' case both coaches and players believe that it has come at the perfect time.

However, with the Sharks off, the attention turns to the Panthers, who host the Fleming Island Golden Eagles (2-0).

The Panthers were able to right the ship offensively in the last game against Creekside with 41 points scored. However, now the attention turns to correcting the defensive side of the ball in week three.

It does not get much easier against a Fleming Island squad that has posted 49 and 51 points in the first two weeks against Clay and Rickards, respectively.

Leading the way for the Golden Eagles is Brenden Cook, who is averaging 112 receiving yards per game and a trio of backs that can run the ball and are averaging more than 50 yards a game.

However, despite being surrounded by weapons, the Golden Eagles' starting quarterback is still only a sophomore and it will be up to the Panthers to apply pressure and make him uncomfortable.

With Marcus Stokes, Samuel Milton and the rest of the Panthers' offense looking to have found their form, look out because Friday's matchup has all



Photos by Anthony Richards

The Nease Panthers host the Fleming Island Golden Eagles in their second home game of the season Friday.

the ingredients required for another good ole' fashioned shootout inside Panther Stadium.

One of the many positive signs offensively from the Creekside loss included the improvement from the receiving corps from the opening game to week two.

Gavin Gmeiner and Maddox Spencer

both catching touchdowns will only help give them even more confidence heading into this week's contest.

Look for this offense to continue to grow as Marcus Stokes continues to strengthen the rapport he has with the wideouts.

As that relationship develops, so will the Panthers' offensive production.



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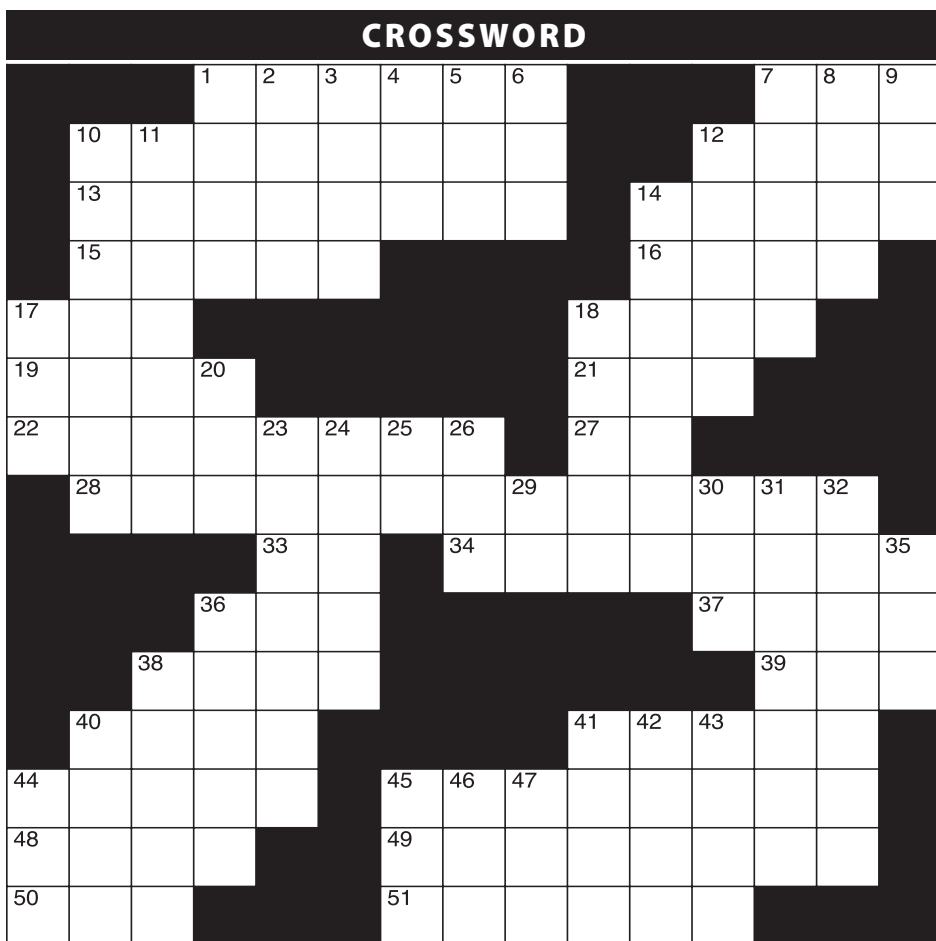
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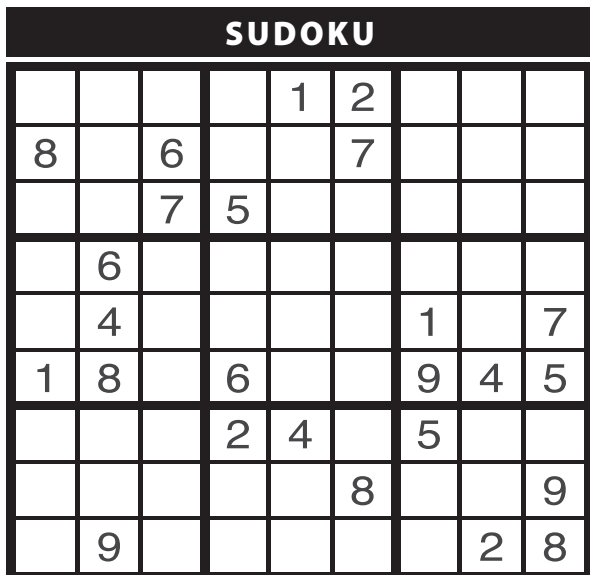
- 1. Grievous
- 7. Queens ballplayer
- 10. Honorable title
- 12. Created
- 13. Grillmasters do it
- 14. Wartime German cargo ship
- 15. Cocoplum
- 16. Hebrew calendar month
- 17. British thermal unit
- 18. Brews
- 19. One of Thor's names
- 21. Decorative scarf
- 22. Clothes
- 27. - __: denotes past
- 28. A way to address a lover
- 33. Commercial
- 34. Utters repeatedly
- 36. Google certification (abbr.)
- 37. Taxis
- 38. Belgian village in Antwerp
- 39. Talk excessively
- 40. Broad volcanic crater
- 41. Surgical instrument
- 44. Listens to
- 45. Revelation of a fact
- 48. Paddles
- 49. Heard
- 50. Tooth caregiver
- 51. Metric capacity units

- 6. Midway between east and southeast
- 7. Mothers
- 8. German river
- 9. Israeli city __ Aviv
- 10. Discharged
- 11. Areas near the retina
- 12. Greek mythological sorceress
- 14. Very unpleasant smell
- 17. " __ Humbug!"
- 18. White poplar
- 20. Journalist Tarbell
- 23. Teachers
- 24. One older than you
- 25. Long Russian river
- 26. Run batted in
- 29. Beloved Hollywood

- alien
- 30. Holiday (informal)
- 31. Furniture with open shelves
- 32. Argued
- 35. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- 36. Cars have them
- 38. Volcanic craters
- 40. Made of fermented honey and water
- 41. Shelter for mammals or birds
- 42. One who utilizes
- 43. Moves swiftly on foot
- 44. Builder's trough
- 45. Architectural wing
- 46. 12
- 47. Pacific Standard Time

DOWN

- 1. Protein-rich liquids
- 2. Musician Clapton
- 3. Wine
- 4. When you hope to arrive
- 5. Something one can get stuck in



Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



Photos by Anthony Richards

PV Thunder 12U coach David Reid-Foley speaks with his team prior to practice.

Thunder 12U raising money for Cooperstown trip

By Anthony Richards

It is a tradition within the Ponte Vedra Thunder organization to send 12U teams to compete at a national tournament each summer at Cooperstown.

Although the event is not until July 2023, one of this year's teams has already begun the process of raising money in the hopes of making the trip next year.

"It's probably the biggest tournament we'll play all year," Cameron Ganther said.

The team has created a page at gofundme.com called the "The Boys Need Your Help Getting To Cooperstown!!," where the community can contribute and help them reach their goal of \$30,000.

"The trip is so expensive just per player, and obviously it's in New York, so we have to decide whether we're flying or driving," coach David Reid-Foley said. "As soon as we get to the Cooperstown complex, everything is taken care of," Reid-Foley said. "That includes food, and we stay in the bunk house with the boys, so they don't have to worry about hotels or anything like that."

The accommodations do not include parents, so they will have to make other overnight arrangements during that time.

"We're just trying to raise as much money as we can, because I want to say it's about \$1,500 to \$1,600 just for one player, so we're trying to help take that cost off of the parents," Reid-Foley said.

At the 12U level, many of the players have played baseball before and understand the basics, so it becomes more about homing in on technique and the mental awareness associated with the game.

"It's about teaching them the small things that make a difference, like how to



Players practice pitching.

lead off first base the right way," Reid-Foley said. "Everything we teach the kids is just stuff that we've been taught throughout our baseball careers."

Reid-Foley has been associated with PV Thunder for a couple of years, but he is a local product, having played baseball at Paxon before playing college ball and at the professional level spending 2013 to 2017 within the Los Angeles Dodgers organization.

One of the things Jaxson Hipp is looking forward to about the trip is not only playing in the tournament, but also being able to tour the National Baseball Hall of Fame, which is also located in Cooperstown.

"I think we're hoping to get there a couple of days early," Hipp said.

For Blake Muldowney, baseball is the sport for him, as he loves everything about it, from the hitting to the fielding and everything in between.

Even though Cooperstown will be a bigger stage than they are used to playing on, it does not seem to faze the group, and in fact they cannot wait for the experience.

"It's a little nervous at first, but once you get out there, everything just becomes fun," Muldowney said.

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