

Ponte Vedra Recorder



September 29, 2016
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75 cents

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PonteVedraRecorder.com



Developer pulls Vilano resort proposal; may resubmit

As a county commissioner prepared to make a motion to deny their proposal, the developers of the proposed Watermarke resort in Vilano Beach withdrew their application in order to preserve the right to resubmit it at a later date. Read more on page 4.



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Featuring Legal Eagles
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Every drop counts
Ribault Garden Club
gathers to discuss
water conservation
Page 8

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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 pvrecorder@opcfla.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

WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

Email your answer to jennifer@opcfla.com by Tuesday at 5 p.m.

All correct entries will be entered into a random drawing to win tickets for two adults and two children to the Jacksonville Zoo. In order to allow as many families as possible to win, participants are only eligible to win a ticket prize pack once every four months.

Several readers correctly identified last week's photo as Books A Million. The winner of the random drawing is **Joy Mizelle**— congratulations, Joy! You may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during regular business hours.



Don't forget — incorrect but entertaining guesses might also be rewarded with a trip to the zoo.

ADOPT A PET

CAT OF THE WEEK

Hi there, my name is Lucy and I am a 6-year-old female cat who is looking for a new home. I was brought to the pet center as a stray. As this animal was a stray there may be some traits that are unknown at this time.



Come visit us today here at the pet center! #33851

DOG OF THE WEEK

Well howdy there! My name is Finn and I'm a 1-year-old male husky who is looking for a new home to call my own. I was brought to the pet center by my parents because they did not want to keep me anymore. I'm a dog with a lot of spirit and I love to exercise. Nothing



makes me happier than when I can run around outside and play fetch or tug-o-war. So come on by the pet center and pay me a visit! #30723

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

St. Johns County Pet Center

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

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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3	7	1	2	8	4	9	5	6			

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.



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Congressional candidate David Bruderly addresses Beaches Democratic Club

The dredging of the St. Johns River, U.S. military activities and the tenor of the presidential campaign were among the topics congressional candidate David Bruderly discussed at a recent meeting of the Beaches Democratic Club.

Held Sept. 20 in Neptune Beach, the meeting was attended by approximately 45 people, who listened as Bruderly explained his positions on a variety of issues. Bruderly is running for the 4th congressional district seat being vacated by the retiring U.S. Rep. Ander Crenshaw.

Bruderly expressed his opposition to the dredging of the St. Johns River, charging that those who support the project have no proof of a return on investment and are providing “a subsidy for Asian shipbuilders.”

When asked about his position on simplifying the tax system, Bruderly suggested that a more progressive tax system is needed. He expressed his support for a carbon tax and a “21st century Glass–Steagall Act.” He also discussed U.S. military activities, saying that he opposes the “politics of fear” being waged in the current presidential campaign and expressed the view that America must be “brokers of peace.” On the topic of health care, Bruderly declared health care to be a human right, and described himself as a “rational and progressive” candidate.

Bruderly said he welcomes the chance to have a face-to-face debate with his Republican opponent, former Jacksonville Sheriff John Ruth-erford.



Courtesy of the Beaches Democratic Club

Florida Congressional District 4 Democratic Party candidate Dave Bruderly speaks at the Sept. 20 meeting of the Beaches Democratic Club in Neptune Beach.

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Watermarke developers withdraw application for comp plan amendment

Project partners pull application in order to preserve right to resubmit it

By Jennifer Logue

Moments before a county commissioner could make a motion to deny their application, the developers of the proposed Watermarke resort last week withdrew the application for a comprehensive plan amendment that would allow them to construct a private resort and beach club on Coastal Highway at Vilano Beach.

At the Sept. 20 meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, Commissioner Rachael Bennett concluded nearly five hours of presentations, discussion and public comment by making a motion to approve transmittal of the proposed amendment. When no one seconded Bennett's motion, however, Commissioner Jay Morris indicated his intention to make a motion to deny the application, prompting the developers' attorney to request its withdrawal. County Commissioners then voted to accept the application's withdrawal.

The hearing was but the latest chapter in the proposal to build a resort with 120 hotel rooms, 50 villas, a 39-slip marina and



Palm Valley Venture Partners rendering

70,000 square feet of resort amenities on Coastal Highway/A1A approximately 1.5 miles north of Vilano Town Center. The proposal has sparked community opposition, with some Vilano Beach residents forming the group Save Our Vilano to oppose the project.

The Sept. 20 BCC meeting was held before hundreds of residents wearing white, many of whom sported white t-shirts proclaiming their opposition to the resort plan.

"It was clear that, with the numbers of opposition present, we were not going to get the votes needed for transmittal," Developer Steve Magiera said. "By withdrawing the application, we preserved the option to reassess the plan and potentially resubmit our application in the months

ahead."

While saying that he and his project partners appreciate the passion of the Save Our Vilano members, Magiera said he doesn't believe the group is representative of the views of the wider community.

"Since the hearing, we have received numerous phone calls, text messages and emails from the working residents of the Vilano area expressing concern that the Save Our Vilano group purports to represent all of the Vilano area," he said. "Their message to us is that the 150 people that attended the hearing...do not represent the other 3,000 plus Vilano area residents."

A question of commitment

Much of the Sept. 20 hearing focused on a provision in the developers' application

that would give them the right to revert back to the property's current Residential C zoning should the resort project fail to move forward. Currently, the property is approved for a 79-unit residential development. That provision didn't sit well with Morris, who said he'd never encountered such a request in his six years on the board.

"I've never seen that put in where you kind of want (to have) your cake and it eat it too," Morris said. "You're trying to rezone something, but if it doesn't work out all right for you, you want to go back to what you had before that you're trying to get away from now."

The inclusion of that language, Morris said, caused him to question the developers' commitment to making the resort a reality.

Magiera disputed that assessment.

"I can tell you that there's no shortage of dedication to this project," he said at the hearing. "We wouldn't have gone through this for seven months if we weren't dedicated to this project."

"We don't know where the world is going," he continued, "and the market for this kind of investment capital could dry up."

Commissioner Jimmy Johns also expressed concern.

"The recession has made all of us gun shy," he said. "I share the concern with this 'we'll have it one way or the other de-

WATERMARKE continues on Page 5

Landscaping donation beautifies Palm Valley Community Center

The Palm Valley Community Center's grounds will be beautified thanks to a significant landscaping gift from Kathy's Creative Gardens and Nursery.

Kathy Esfahani, a certified master gardener, welcomed the opportunity to donate her talents and resources to such a high-profile location in Palm Valley.

"I'm a very community-minded person," Esfahani said, "and saw the task of beautifying the community center property as a wonderful way to show my community spirit and say thank you to the neighborhood who has shown such support for my business."

Home to the Palm Valley Community Association, the community center has been a gathering place for Palm Valley residents for nearly 70 years. The community association maintains four standing committees: Growth and Traffic Management, Community Communications, Special Events and

Beautification. While the Beautification Committee is actively working on other projects, beautification of the community center grounds was the top priority.

Deborah Lamir, president of the PVCA, was excited when first told of the donation offer.

"As a nonprofit community group, we are dependent on the financial donations and volunteerism of local residents and businesses to enhance the quality of life in our community," Lamir said. "Kathy has made a significant statement of her commitment to 'keep Palm Valley special' through her generous gift."

Founded in 1948, the PVCA is one of the oldest continually operating community associations in North Florida. The group works to represent the common interests and shared views of all members of the greater Northeastern St. Johns County area.



Courtesy of the Palm Valley Community Association

New landscaping provided by Kathy's Creative Gardens and Nursery is part of a beautification project at the Palm Valley Community Center.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The district school system plays a big role in St. Johns economy. The rapid growth and reduced state support received from past years creates a constant money squeeze on dollars available to meet the ever raising and pressing need to provide quality education for all students.

This week's focus group meeting highlighted the continuing financial challenges facing the district. Some of the results are: over 300 mobile classrooms are needed to meet the over 38,000 students. New elementary schools cost approximately \$34 million; new high schools cost about \$55-60 million dollars. School board policy and Superintendent Joyner have implemented a program of staffing each school with a nurse. Part of the rationale for this is the stated 25 percent of the student population having a "chronic health" problem. State support is not provided for this program.

While the impact fee ordinance for rapid growth counties is intended to offset a substantial part of the cost of new capital investment, the amount reported – while varying over the years – is about 12 percent of the annual cost. Impact fees received by the county for needed roadway and parks and other facilities is not known, but is all part of the required new infrastructure by the rapid growth of our county.

While the selection of a new superintendent is well underway, one of the factors to sustaining a top-rated school district will be improved management and planning between these elected bodies. Much of the county's quality of life, and what so many find enjoyable about our county, rests upon improved management of the continued growth we face and the resources needed to pay for it.

Henry Warner

•••

I spoke at the BCC meeting Sept. 20 regarding the Vilano request for a comp. plan change from residential to a resort hotel. What I didn't say and regret is the following:

Developers are always with us. But this is a clear example of what I call development speculators. These are people who hunt around for smaller pieces of land – anything from 10 acres to 50 – that may be zoned RS 1 (one per acre) or R2 (at two per acre) and then try to increase this by the use of variances that will add more homes to the site. We have seen a lot of this in Palm Valley and Ponte Vedra.

One group got bonus points for additional lots by donating to affordable housing in St. Augustine. Another wanted to add more homes by claiming bonuses for using energy-efficient building techniques. Still another in Ponte Vedra wants to add truck loads of dirt to an

WRITE TO US

The Ponte Vedra Recorder welcomes letters to the editor on topics of concern to the local community. Letters must include the name and address of the author and be limited to no more than 400 words. The Recorder reserves the right to edit all letters for content, length and clarity. Letters may be submitted to jennifer@opcfla.com.

almost unbuildable site to get many more lots.

The Vilano group wanted to change from residential to Rs 3 so they could have a resort hotel and the trimmings. Right next door to residential. They lost, but not before the community banded together and hired their own attorney, Jane West, an environmental attorney. They also flooded the media with letters. This is good and so is Ms. West.

What is not good is the need for citizens to have to pay for an attorney to get the county to enforce their own rules.

What is good that came out of this is the commission's ability to vote for the citizens.

We need a lot more of this and a lot more citizen involvement.

*Mary Kohnke
Ponte Vedra Beach*

•••

I believe that Gate Petroleum's effort to develop the property at the end of Neck Road can be the red line in the sand in efforts to stop the incessant development of land in St Johns County.

I have only been on the Outpost property once for a fundraiser. I found the natural beauty of the area much more interesting than making small talk with people I had nothing in common with and would never see again.

The people living on Neck Road have everything to lose and nothing to gain by allowing this development to continue.

If you need volunteers to chain themselves to construction equipment to slow this effort, I am in the phone book. Just because big corporations can develop land does not mean they should be allowed to do so.

I wonder sometimes, is it going to take anarchy to stop wealthy individuals like Herb Peyton and big businesses willingness to trample the rights of the people for the sake of big profits?

To me, taking my country back includes putting a stop to development of critical wetlands such as the Guana Tolmato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve with whatever means necessary. If anarchy is what is required, count this old man in.

*Rick Mansfield
Ponte Vedra*

Watermarke

Continued from 4

pending on the economy. I'm concerned it's not been vetted enough."

Those sentiments were echoed by some of the residents who spoke during the public comment portion of the hearing.

"Watermarke is a conundrum in the fact that their attorney proposed that if it is not a success, then it can revert back to the original Residential C plan," Vilano Beach resident Linda Doherty said. "Does this sound like a confident, right kind of development plan?"

Other residents focused on the issue of compatibility, saying such a large commercial property would be out of place in their neighborhood.

"A commercial space bigger than the White House... has no business being inserted into our residential community – at least according to our comprehensive plan," resident Brandy Schmidt told commissioners. "Please vote to keep big commercial development where it belongs."

Former County Commissioner Mary Kohnke, meanwhile, told the board, "You were elected to represent the interests of current residents. There will always be those who try to lure you with the interest

of higher property taxes for new projects, even if they're not compatible. If these projects were so compatible, they wouldn't be asking for comp plan changes."

While Bennett offered the view that a resort would have less impact on the county than a residential development – which would impact schools and other county services – her fellow board members failed to support her motion to approve transmittal of the amendment.

"I'm all for commercial construction...I hope you build this project," Morris said. "You're just building it in the wrong location."

Following the application's withdrawal, Magiera said the Watermarke team was reassessing its resort proposal "to determine whether a mutually agreeable and financially feasible alternative exists."

In the meantime, he said, the developers will move forward with the residential option for which the property is already zoned.

"We still believe the resort option is the highest and best use for this property," he said. "The residential plan has always been an option – we just don't believe it's the best option. Nevertheless, we will immediately begin to get all necessary permits and file construction plans for the condominiums given the 2018 and 2021 expiration dates for the PUD."

Bill Nesbitt, a spokesman for Save Our Vilano, said the group has no issue with that project.

"Save Our Vilano recognizes the right of this or any responsible developer to build out the currently in force residential PUD that the land owner requested and was granted in 2007," Nesbitt said.

Should the resort proposal be resubmitted, however, the group will reassert its opposition.

"Save Our Vilano remains vigilant and opposed to any change in the comp plan that would allow higher densities and large commercial projects along A1A," he said. "The prevailing view across this barrier island of 5,000 residents is to continue as an area of residential neighborhoods along with a vital town center on Vilano Road."



St. Johns County PZA map

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As the owner of Beachside Embroidery & Monograms, a Southern Style Boutique, Kelli Votaw specializes in creating one-of-a-kind gifts and apparel for both children and adults. She lives in Ponte Vedra with her husband, Ty Votaw, and daughter Grace.

Kelli Votaw

By Jennifer Logue

What services does Beachside Embroidery & Monograms provide?

We offer a wide selection of unique gifts and children's clothing as well as the latest fashion apparel and accessories. Our focus is embroidery, but I also offer vinyl decals as well. In addition to personalizing our products, we can personalize items from outside our store.

What prompted you to start the business?

When I first moved here from Louisiana, I found that it was difficult to find a local business that personalized items with embroidery. After doing some research, I determined there was a market for such a business. At first, I worked out of my house but the business quickly outgrew that arrangement and I have been in the store front at the corner of Roscoe and Canal since October 2015.

What are some of the more popular items that people request?

Quick gift items. Personalized corkcicle canteens and tumblers have been extremely popular. Now that the holidays are approaching, a lot of my customers have already started bringing in their Christmas items.

What is the most unusual project on which you've worked?

The most unique item I stitched on was toilet paper. I was creating a house warming gift basket and wanted it to include something more than just guest towels so I stitched the same design I used on the towels onto a roll of toilet paper. It is actually not very difficult and makes a super cute bathroom display.

Do you do mass orders or do you focus primarily on customized, individual pieces?

My main focus is customized, individual items but I also offer corporate orders.

Are there any charities in which you're involved?

I am a big supporter of the local schools. We are a new business partner with Ocean Palms Elementary and I donate auction items for local groups/charities when asked. I think it's so important to give back to the local community.

How do you enjoy spending your free time?

I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I also love to research new ways to improve my business, whether it is finding new products, new displays or new ways to help my customers. As a small business owner, it is difficult (in a good way) to shut off my head and my heart and not think about new ways in which the business can succeed.



Underwood Jewelers trunk show, pet adoption event to benefit Ayla's Acres

Underwood Jewelers Ponte Vedra will host its 3rd annual three-day Lagos jewelry trunk show to benefit Ayla's Acres No-Kill Animal Rescue.

To be held Oct. 6, 7 and 8, the trunk show will support the St. Augustine-based nonprofit's animal adoption, spay and neuter services.

The three-day trunk show will kick off Thursday, Oct. 6 with a cocktail party and

raffle from 6 to 8 p.m. Actor, artist, and animal advocate Loretta Swit will be a special guest at the party, at which Underwood Jewelers will raffle off a Lagos Diamonds & Caviar diamond-beaded bracelet valued at \$2,750. One hundred percent of the raffle money will be donated to Ayla's Acres.

"We are very excited that Lagos has partnered with Underwood's to support

Ayla's Acres and our third annual trunk show and pet adoption event," said John Rutkowski, manager of the Ponte Vedra Beach Underwood Jewelers. "Lagos has been a leading designer in our store and this will be the first trunk show with their product. What a win-win for our clients and Ayla's Acres!"

Underwood's will also donate 10 percent of sales from all Lagos jewelry to

the animal rescue organization during the three-day event.

The benefit will conclude Saturday, Oct. 8 with a special adoption day in the parking lot at the Underwood Jewelers Ponte Vedra location. Between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., Ayla's Acres will have cats and dogs available for adoption, along with

ADOPTION continues on **Page 9**



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Every drop counts: Ribault Garden Club gathers to discuss water conservation

By Jasmine Marshall

Water conservation issues facing the local community was the focus of the Ribault Garden Club's annual "Coffee and Program" breakfast meeting held Sept. 22 in Jacksonville Beach.

"This time of year is always exciting because it's the first group meeting of the year," said Eileen Zebroski, a youth garden coordinator and club member. "It's a time of catching up because many of us are seeing

one another for the first time in a year. But it's also important because we'll be discussing things that affect all of us."

The meeting continued the club's tradition of discussing a subject of environmental studies with special guest Deirdre Irwin, water conservation coordinator of St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD).

Irwin urged the members to think of what they can do in the present to stave off overuse.

She noted that Jacksonville's population is expected to grow significantly in the next few years.

"We don't want to wait until it's too late," she said. "It's better to know 15 years early on why conservation is important right now."

Irwin offered several tips, suggestions and resources for local residents to encourage conservation habits while also recognizing some of the challenges of water conservation.

"Some people underestimate just how difficult it can be to save water because the change isn't immediately beneficial to them," she said. "Saving water can be costly. Effective water conservation sometimes requires buying new appliances and changing our own behavior – but it's important because we're relying heavily on conservation."

Invest in "sense" – Irwin suggested investing in EPA WaterSense labeled fixtures to aid conservation in the home. Products with the label meet the EPA's specifications for efficiency and are backed by testing and



Youth Garden Coordinator Eileen Zebroski does quick upkeep pulling weeds in the garden.

Photo by Jasmine Marshall

certification.

Irrigate less – Irrigation systems are among the biggest uses of water in St. Johns County. Irwin addressed a frequently overlooked aspect of water conservation by focusing on the ways outdoor usage is costing residents.

"It just doesn't make sense to irrigate every single day," she said, suggesting that during the dormant season irrigation could be reduced to as little as once per week. "Even with advanced irrigation systems, it's possible to overuse water."

To remedy this problem, Irwin recommended more efficient means of maintaining gardens and lawns with micro-irrigation, the practice of watering only the areas that need it while avoiding things (such as mulch) that don't.

Water-wise landscaping – Irwin also noted a major source of inefficient irriga-

tion practices: impractical landscaping. Site-appropriate landscaping choices such as planting vegetation native to the area, increasing the areas of shade in large yards to avoid overwatering plants and reducing areas of irrigated turf were a few tips presented. "Groundcovers" such as African Lily, Holly Fern and Mondo Grass fare well in shady areas, while trees like Crapemyrtle and Shumard Oaks provide shade without looking "out of place" in yards.

Form new habits – Irwin encouraged behavioral changes for more efficient water usage.

Things such as turning the faucet off when brushing teeth, running dishwashers only when they're full, checking and fixing leaks, setting clothes washers for the appropriate load size and filling bathtubs to one-third are small yet immediate ways to reduce individual water usage.

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All photos received will be published in the October 20th edition of The Ponte Vedra Recorder. **When sending the photo, be sure to include:** Pet's name and breed, Pet's parent(s) name(s), & Contact phone number

Email your photo to april@opcfla.com or mail it to the
Ponte Vedra Recorder
 Attn: April Snyder • 1102 A1A N., Unit 108 • Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
 All entries must be received by Friday, October 14th.

Adoption

Continued from 7

volunteers available to discuss adoption, fostering, volunteering and other ways in which people may help support the local nonprofit's mission.

"The hard work, effort, and passion that everyone at Underwood Jewelers has shown over the last three years has been nothing short of outstanding," said Fran Charlson, executive director of Ayla's

Acres. "Their annual event is a cornerstone of our fall fundraising initiatives and has contributed more than \$15,000 to our animals and mission. We are so thankful for this partnership."

Raffle tickets may be purchased in advance of the cocktail party for \$20 per ticket or \$50 for three tickets. Tickets are available at both Ayla's Acres Thrift Shop and Underwood Jewelers Ponte Vedra or through www.aylasacres.org. Underwood Jewelers Ponte Vedra Beach is located at 330 A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, call (904) 280-1202.

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Ponte Vedra Beach Campus | October 5, 2016 9 a.m.

Lower School (PK-5) Open House for Parents
Whitehurst Campus | November 9, 2016 9 a.m.

Middle School (6-8) Open House for Parents
Bartram Campus | November 8, 2016 9 a.m.
Bartram Campus | November 10, 2016 6 p.m.

Upper School (9-12) Open House for Parents
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Thursday, Sept. 29	Friday, Sept. 30	Saturday, Oct. 1	Sunday, Oct. 2
<p>Chapel Concert: EG Kight EG Kight, 2013 Georgia Music Legend Award recipient, will perform Thursday, Sept. 29 at 7 p.m. in the Beaches Museum Chapel. Kight's performance will be the kickoff to the Beaches Museum & History Park's Fall Concert Series. Tickets are \$20 in advance; \$25 day of show. For more information, call (904) 241-5657 or visit www.beachesmuseum.org. The museum is located at 381 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p>Lightner After Hours Lightner After Hours, the Lightner Museum's new monthly cocktail hour, will be Thursday, Sept. 29 from 5 to 7 p.m. The free event will feature complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages available at happy hour prices from Café Alcazar. September's cocktail hour will feature music by David Holley and Danielle Eva. Café Alcazar, located in the historic pool area of the museum will be open with a specialty dinner menu from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Free parking is available after 5 p.m. For more information, visit lightnermuseum.org/cocktail. The museum is located at 75 King St., St. Augustine.</p> <p>Arbor Terrace Life Enrichment Group The Life Enrichment Group Day Program takes place every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra, 5125 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra Beach. The group is designed for those with memory changes who would like to stay active mentally, physically and socially. For more information, call (904) 497-4346 or visit www.at-pontevedra.com.</p> <p>Travel Training Program The Council on Aging's Travel Training program is designed to assist seniors in learning to ride the Sunshine Bus. Residents interested in expanding their transportation options or who would like to increase their confidence as a bus rider can receive assistance from trained volunteers in navigating routes, reading time tables and making transfers. Contact the mobility manager at the Council on Aging at (904) 315-6505 or email Katie Arnold at karnold@stjohnscoa.com.</p>	<p>PV Professionals Networking Group The Ponte Vedra Professionals Networking Group meets Fridays at 9 a.m. at Watson Realty Corp., 615 Highway A1A S., Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, call Gloria at (904) 635-6103, visit www.pvpng.com or email pontevedrapng@gmail.com.</p> <p>Friday Wine Tasting Coastal Wine Market will host a Friday wine tasting Sept. 30 from 6 to 8 p.m. at 641 Crosswater Parkway, Suite B, Ponte Vedra Beach. Taste six wines for \$10. For more information, call (904) 395-3520.</p> <p>'Into the Woods' Players by the Sea Theatre's production of "Into the Woods" will be on stage through Oct. 8. Tickets are \$28. The theatre is located at 106 Sixth St. N., Jacksonville Beach. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (904) 249-0289 or visit www.playersbythesea.org.</p> <p>'Arboreal' exhibit The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach's new exhibit "Arboreal" featuring two Florida artists, Seth Satterfield and Linda Richichi, will be on display at the Cultural Center through Oct. 15. The Cultural Center is located at 50 Executive Way. The main gallery is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 904-280-0614 ext. 204 or www.ccpvb.org.</p> <p>'Oklahoma!' Limelight Theatre's production of "Oklahoma!" will be on stage through Oct. 23. Tickets are \$26. The theatre is located at 11 Old Mission Ave., St. Augustine. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (904) 825-1164 or visit www.limelight-theatre.org.</p> <p>Sound: An Exhibition of Sound Art Sound: An Exhibition of Sound Art featuring 17 artists will be on display at the Crisp-Ellert Art Museum through Nov. 22. The museum is located at 48 Sevilla St., St. Augustine. For more information, call (904) 826-8530.</p>	<p>Beaches Art Fest The 3rd Annual Beaches Art Fest presented by the Beaches Museum & History Park and Driftwood Jacksonville Beach in partnership with Holiday Art Shows will be held Oct. 1-2 at the Pablo Historical Park in Jacksonville Beach. Stretching two city blocks, Pablo Avenue will be closed to traffic and transformed into an outdoor art gallery. Each artist will be available to discuss their work, share their stories and answer questions. This rain or shine event will also feature food trucks. For more information, visit www.thebeachesartfest.com or call (904) 241-5657.</p> <p>Right Whale Festival The annual family-friendly Right Whale Festival will take place Oct. 1 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Seawalk Pavilion and will feature local efforts to protect these whale from extinction as well as ocean-themed activities and exhibits to emphasize education and environmentally responsible adventures and products. Live music, food trucks, art, and water recreation displays will also be featured at the festival. For more information, visit www.rightwhalefestival.com.</p> <p>EMMA Concert Association concert The 2016-2017 EMMA Concert Association season will kick off Oct. 1 with Peacherine Ragtime Society Orchestra at 7:30 p.m. at Lewis Auditorium at Flagler College, 14 Granada St., St. Augustine. Tickets are \$40; \$5 for children and students with ID. Tickets may be purchased in advance at www.emmaconcerts.com, by phone at (904) 797-2800, or at the door. The box office opens one hour before the performance.</p> <p>Datil Pepper Festival The Annual Datil Pepper Festival will take place Oct. 1 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Oct. 2 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the St. Johns County Agricultural Center, 3125 Agricultural Center Drive, St. Augustine. The Datil Restaurant Cook-Off will take place at 11:30 a.m. on Oct. 1. Attendees may purchase taste tickets beginning at 11 a.m. for \$1. An amateur hot sauce contest will also take place. The event will also include arts and crafts vendors, plant sales, and UF/IFAS educational exhibits. For more information, call (904) 209-0430 or visit http://stjohns.ifas.ufl.edu.</p>	<p>Caring Chefs The 33rd annual Caring Chefs benefiting the Children's Home Society of Florida, will take place Sunday, Oct. 2 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the Avenues Mall in Jacksonville. The event will feature nearly 70 sampling stations from Northeast Florida's top restaurants and live entertainment. Tickets are available at www.chscaringchefs.com.</p> <p>Castillo Founding Commemoration Florida Living History, Inc. in partnership with the National Park Service's Castillo de San Marcos National Monument will commemorate the founding of the Castillo de San Marcos - 344 years later, to the very day and on the very site - with the re-enactment of the 1672 "ground-breaking" ceremony that will feature General Don Manuel de Cendoya, royal Governor and Captain-General of Florida, and the royal officials of the presidio of San Agustín. The event, which will also feature daylong colonial Spanish demonstrations and historical interpretations, will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There is a Castillo admission fee of \$10 per adult; children ages 15 and younger are admitted free. Admission to the historical re-enactment at 3 p.m. on the Castillo lawn is free of charge to the public. For more information, email info@florialivinghistory.org or casa_ranger_activities@nps.gov.</p> <p>Practice with Purpose at Big Fish Yoga Practice with Purpose is an all-level yoga class offered on Sundays from 4 to 5 p.m. at Big Fish Power Yoga. The fee for the class is a \$5 cash donation that goes to the charity that Big Fish Power Yoga has selected for the quarter. Big Fish Yoga is located in the South Beach Regional Shopping Center in Jacksonville Beach at 3852 South Third St. For more info, call (904) 372-0601.</p> <p>Collection Tour Join the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens on Sundays for a guided tour of its permanent collection. The tour is free with the cost of admission. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville.</p>

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Monday, Oct. 3	Tuesday, Oct. 4	Wednesday, Oct. 5	Thursday, Oct. 6
<p>Sierra Club presentation The Northeast Florida Sierra Club will host a presentation by Lisa Blizzard, volunteer for the Jacksonville Chapter of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, Oct. 3 at 6 p.m. in the main room at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library, 101 Library Blvd. Blizzard will talk about the organization's activities and some of the many events they sponsor, such as the Protect Our Oceans Dinner in St. Augustine and the annual Right Whale Festival in Jacksonville Beach. All are welcome to attend. For more information, call Larry Lickenbrock at (904) 537-6047.</p> <p>Earth, Sea & Sky Exhibition Through October 2016, view multi-media artist Joyce Gabiou's works at the Earth, Sea & Sky exhibition at First Street Gallery, 216-b First St., Neptune Beach. For more information, call (904) 241-6928 or visit www.firststreetgalleryart.com.</p> <p>Caregiver Support Group The Players Caregiver Support Group meets every Monday from noon to 1 p.m. at The Players Senior Center, 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach. Kimberly Weir of Heartland Hospice facilitates a weekly discussion of current concerns and issues of caregivers. For more information, call (904) 280-3233.</p> <p>For the Love of Driving Volunteer drivers are needed to assist seniors in achieving their mobility goals in St. Johns County. Transportation needs range from trips to the grocery store and classes to spousal hospital visits or social activities. Contact the mobility manager at the Council on Aging, (904) 315-6505, or email Katie Arnold at karnold@stjohnscoa.com.</p> <p>Sunshine Center Volunteers The adult day center located in the Coastal Community Center is seeking creative volunteers to assist with simple arts and crafts projects with seniors Mondays through Fridays from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Call (904) 209-3686 for more information.</p>	<p>'Theatre of the Mind: Storytelling' The annual Tale Tellers of St. Augustine Theatre of the Mind: Storytelling show, "A Dark and Stormy Night VI," returns with a new ensemble of tellers and tales Tuesday, Oct. 4 at Limelight Theatre. The performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. General admission tickets are \$10; group rates are available in advance. Limelight Theatre is located at 11 Old Mission Ave., St. Augustine. For more information or to make reservations, call (904) 471-0179 or (386) 446-4909.</p> <p>PVWC Social Hour at TPC Sawgrass The Ponte Vedra Woman's Club will host a social hour at TPC Sawgrass Tuesday, Oct. 4 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.pontevedrawomansclub.com.</p> <p>Sunset Rotary Club Meeting The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset meets Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn. Community leaders are welcome to attend. For more information, call club President Janeene Hart at (904) 412-5409 or email jwhart1208@gmail.com.</p> <p>Tapas Tuesday The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens presents Tapas Tuesday at the Cummer Café. Every Tuesday from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on the Cummer Café patio. For more information, visit www.cummermuseum.org.</p> <p>Annual Activity Member Become an annual activity member at The Players Community Senior Center. Membership includes discounts on fee-based classes, designated events and coastal travel along with complimentary participation in a wide variety of scheduled activities. Call Darlene Mahany at (904) 280-3233 for more information.</p> <p>Free Bridge Lessons Free beginning bridge lessons are available at the Jacksonville School of Bridge, 3353 Washburn Road., Jacksonville Beach on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Lessons start 9:30 a.m. and end at 10:15 a.m. This is followed by an actual game at 10:30 a.m. and ends by 2:15 p.m. Contact Burt O'Dell at (352) 428-1075 for more information.</p>	<p>Trails Symposium St. Johns County, in conjunction with the St. Johns County Trails Coalition, will host a Trails Symposium to discuss the future of non-motorized multi-use trails throughout the county Oct. 5 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Nocatee Crosswater Hall, 245 Nocatee Center Way. The symposium is free and open to the public. Participants will have an opportunity to contribute through small break out discussions conducted by the East Coast Green Alliance, the Ponte Vedra Greenway Alliance, the St. Johns County Horse Council, the St. Johns County Audubon, the Southern Off Road Bicycle Association, and the Velofest Community Initiative. Public input is vital to identifying and prioritizing trails in St. Johns County that could connect local, regional, statewide, and national trail systems. For more information, call Wil Smith at (904) 209-0324.</p> <p>Ponte Vedra Toastmasters The Ponte Vedra Toastmasters Club offers opportunities for developing your leadership and communication skills. The group meets Wednesdays at The Players Community Senior Center, located at 175 Landrum Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach. The meeting starts promptly at 7:30 a.m. Contact Carmen J. Sardiñas at (904) 382-3303 or contact-5199@toastmastersclubs.org for more information.</p> <p>Life Enrichment Group The Life Enrichment Group is a program designed for those with memory changes who like to stay active mentally, physically and socially while allowing caregivers and loved ones some free time for themselves. This program is offered weekdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Ashford Court, 1700 The Greens Way in Jacksonville Beach. For more information, call (904) 568-8174, or email life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com.</p>	<p>PVWC Luncheon The Ponte Vedra Woman's Club will hold a luncheon for prospective and new members Thursday, Oct. 6 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Attendees can learn more about the PVWC; new members are always welcome to join. RSVP to Ann Marie Hubbard at pinkhubb@gmail.com for details.</p> <p>Mental Health Recovery Support Free mental health support is available to the public facilitated by Georgia/Florida Certified Peer Specialist Whitney Bolin. Sessions are by appointment only Monday through Friday; call (770) 403-4991 or email whitneybat76@gmail.com. Bolin also facilitates a mental health recovery group at Flagler Hospital from 2 to 4 p.m. every Tuesday.</p> <p>Habitat for Humanity volunteers Habitat for Humanity of St. Augustine/St. Johns County is currently seeking qualified homeowners. Habitat does not give away homes for free. Instead, homeowners pay an affordable monthly mortgage payment and Habitat helps build them a simple, decent place to live. For more information on volunteering, donating or qualifying for a Habitat home, visit habitatstjohns.org.</p> <p>Cultural Center's 'Friends for the Arts' Become a "Friend." The Cultural Center recently recreated a volunteer organization dedicated to supporting the arts. Get involved in the arts by joining a team of fellow art supporters in Ponte Vedra Beach. Help develop and support fundraising projects and help initiate special projects to benefit and promote The Cultural Center and the arts in the community. More than 50 volunteer art supporters have already joined. Make a difference in our community. For more information visit www.ccpvb.org/friends-for-the-arts.</p> <p>Free calendar listings for community groups and nonprofit organizations are published at our discretion on a space-available basis. Send your event at least 10 days before publication. Submit events to carrie@opcfla.com, post online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com using the automated form or call (904) 686-3939.</p>


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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4



Roger Thurow
Journalist, Author and Senior Fellow at Chicago Council on Global Affairs

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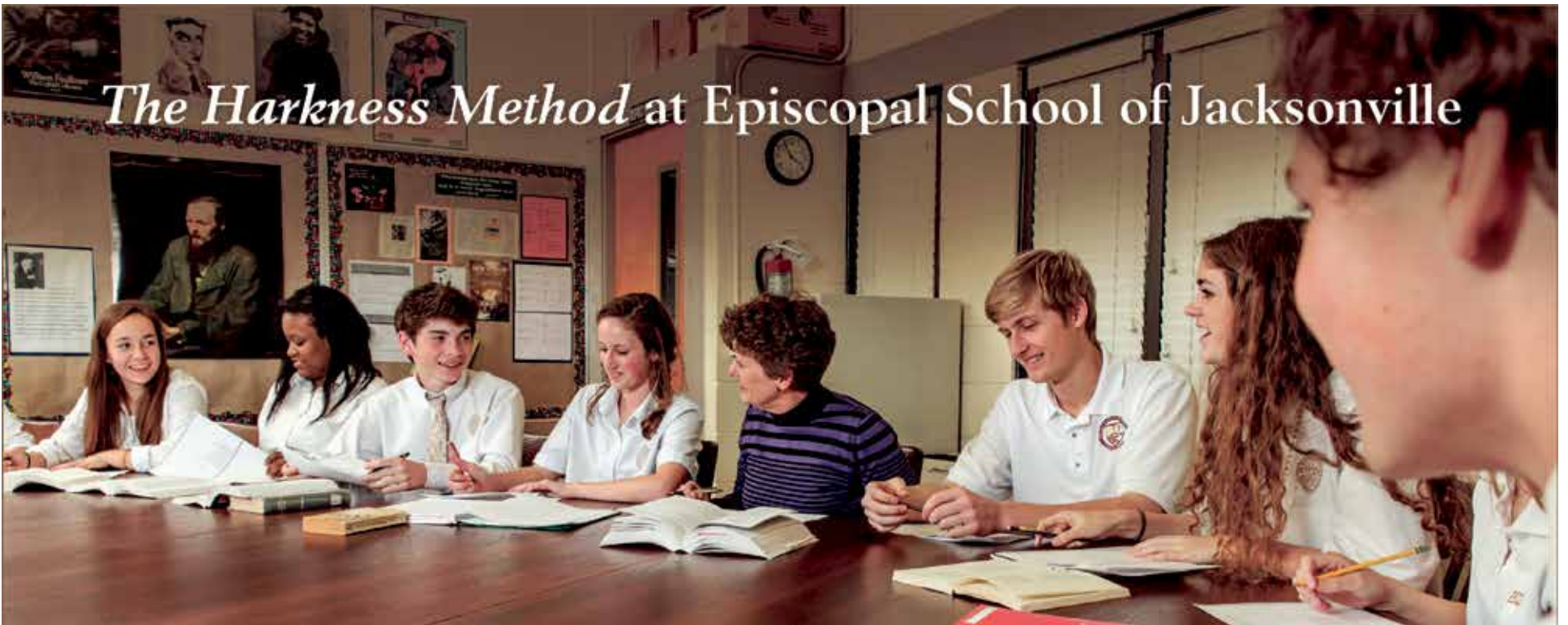
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Sheriff's Office offers tips on 'Parenting Tech-Savvy Kids'

By Jennifer Logue

The video shows a 10-year-old girl sitting at the computer in her bedroom, typing away.

Chatting online, the girl happily makes plans for a play date with her 10-year-old friend, Sam. Only "Sam" isn't 10 and he isn't a friend; he's an adult man who has cleverly tricked the girl into revealing her phone number, address and the fact that she is home alone.

"If you think this doesn't happen, it does," Lt. Mike Strausbaugh of the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office told a group of Nocatee parents and kids last week. "We have a whole unit that sits behind closed doors and searches the internet for people like this who are looking for kids."

How to parent and protect children who are often far more technologically savvy than their parents was the focus of Strausbaugh's presentation Sept. 20 at Nocatee's Cross-

water Hall. The 90-minute seminar provided attendees with background on a variety of topics – from social media and cyberbullying to internet pornography and sexting. And in order to protect children from the dangers on the internet, Strausbaugh said, parents first need to familiarize themselves with the programs and apps today's kids are using.

"My son can run rings around me when it comes to this stuff," Strausbaugh said. "They are far, far better at this than we are and there's a lot of dangerous stuff on the internet."

Cellphone secrets

Many parents may be unaware of the number and variety of applications – or apps – available to kids on their cellphones, Strausbaugh said.

"It's a different world than we lived in," he said. "We used to carry backpacks; kids today may still carry backpacks, but their entire life is in

that phone."

At the presentation, attendees viewed an ABC News segment where parents of a group of 11- to 13-year-old girls were surprised to learn their daughters had applications such as Calculator% – an app designed to look like a regular calculator but that can hide photos and other files from prying parental eyes. One mother was shocked to learn that her 11-year-old daughter had more than 1,000 Instagram followers and was receiving messages from strangers asking "R U a virgin?"

"She's 11 – do you think she even knows half of those people?" Strausbaugh asked. "When we were kids, we had like 10 or 15 good friends," he said. "Now, kids consider people they 'know' or 'like' on Instagram to be friends – and that's scary."

Strausbaugh recommended that parents check their children's cell phones periodically for questionable

apps, photos or text messages.

"We as parents cannot be afraid to ask for that phone and look at that phone," he said. "It's your phone."

Internet pornography and sexting

Research shows that the average age of first exposure to internet pornography is 11, Strausbaugh said.

"Kids are one click away from some pretty serious stuff that will imprint on their brain forever," he said.

Also of major concern: sexting, or the sending of sexually explicit images or content. It's a serious problem, Strausbaugh said, with many girls saying they were pressured by a boy to send sexually explicit photos, only to have the boy share the images with the world online.

"If you have young ladies, make sure no matter what boys ask for, they don't get involved in (sexting),"

Cyber Safety Tips

Set a family media use plan – for example, no phones or media at the dinner table or at bedtime

Take phones and screens away from kids at bedtime

Keep computers in common areas and out of kids' bedrooms

Limit screen time to one to two hours per day

Check to see what apps your kids have on their phone

Teach kids not to give out personal information online

Check your kids' privacy settings to see who can see what they're sharing

CYBER continues on Page 15

'Nocatee Uncorked' wine tasting lights up water park

By Jennifer Logue

Nocatee's Splash Water Park lit up the night Sept. 24, when the master-planned community held its popular semi-annual "Nocatee Uncorked" wine tasting event. Five hundred tickets were available for the sold-out event, which gave Nocatee residents an opportunity to sample nearly 60 different wines while enjoying appetizers, bands and entertainment in two different sections of the water park amid palm trees bedecked with lights. Attendees had a chance to learn something about each wine from experienced wine experts such as Steve Lourié, who along with wife, Shawn, served samples from their newly opened Nocatee shop, Coastal Wine Market & tasting room.

"This event has proven to be so popular," Nocatee Community Manager David Ray said. "The water park in the evening is just so beautiful and we wanted to have an adult-focused event that took advantage of that."

Initially intended to be an annual event, Ray noted, the inaugural "Nocatee Uncorked" was so successful that the community decided to hold it twice a year.

While many attendees reported being regular attendees at "Nocatee Uncorked," several guests were new residents who had recently moved to Nocatee, which currently ranks as the third fastest-growing master-planned community in the nation. They gave both the event and the Nocatee community as a whole high marks.

"We love it here," said Carol Bogue,

whose family recently moved to Nocatee's Cypress Trails neighborhood.

Michael and Jan Pierre recently moved to Nocatee's Kelly Pointe neighborhood after living in Orlando and Maryland.

"This is so much better than Baltimore," Jan Pierre said, praising the number of events and activities Nocatee offers residents.

Her husband agreed. "We have two little kids and it's just been great."

View photos from "Nocatee Uncorked" online at www.pontevedrarecorder.com.



Shawn and Steve Lourié of Coastal Wine Market serve guests at "Nocatee Uncorked."

Photo by Jennifer Logue

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Cyber

Continued from 13

he said. "Once it's out there, it's out and you'll never get it back."

Teens should also be aware of the serious legal ramifications of sexting, Strausbaugh added. While a first offense is considered non-criminal and carries only a small fine and community service requirements, a second sexting offense is a misdemeanor. A third offense is a felony. What's more, if the first offense involves sending images of a sexual act, it automatically becomes a felony.

Cyberbullying

Once constrained to the school yard, bullying has also moved online, becoming all the more insidious due to the viral

nature of the internet and the fact that the victim cannot escape from the torment even in their own home. At the Nocatee presentation, attendees watched a video about the true story of a girl who was bullied at school and online so relentlessly that she ultimately committed suicide.

"We're behind the eight ball because people can sit behind their computer screen and fling that stuff out there," said Strausbaugh, who noted that girls are more likely to bully peers online than boys. "It can get

real nasty real fast."

If a parent suspects their child is being bullied online, Strausbaugh said, they should notify school administrators. In 2013, the Florida legislature passed a law that allows schools to discipline students for off-campus harassment.

"Schools used to just deal with what happened within the walls of the school," he said. "That law gives them the right to go out and discipline (students) for what they do online."

Above all, Strausbaugh said, parents mustn't be afraid to have a frank conversation with their children about both the positive and negative sides to the online world, and to remind them that whatever they do or say online has the potential to be seen by everyone.

"It's like living in a glass house – everything is visible to someone," he said. "Character counts online, just like it does in school. You want to be known as a good digital citizen."

Bestselling author Charles Martin to appear at The BookMark

New York Times bestselling author and Jacksonville native Charles Martin will be at The BookMark Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 7 p.m. to kick off his tour for his new novel "Long Way Gone."

A radical retelling of the prodigal son story, "Long Way Gone" takes the reader from tent revivals to the Ryman Auditorium to the tender relationship between a broken man and the father who never stopped calling him home.

At the age of 18, musician and songwriter Cooper O'Connor took everything his father held dear and drove 1,200 miles from home to Nashville, his life riding on a six-string guitar and the bold wager that he had talent. But his wager soon proved foolish. Five years after losing everything, he falls in love with Daley Cross, an angelic voice in need of a song. But just as he realizes his love for Cross, O'Conner faces a tragedy that threatens his life as well as his career. With nowhere else to go, he returns home to the remote Colorado mountains, searching for answers about his father and his faith. When Cross shows up on his street corner 20 years later, he wonders if it's too late to tell her the truth about his past and if he is ready to face it himself.

Martin is also the New York Times bestselling author of 11 previous novels, including "Water from My Heart," "A Life Intercepted," "Unwritten," "Thunder Rain," and "Where the River Ends." His works have been translated into 17 languages. Martin resides in Jacksonville with his wife and three sons.

The BookMark is located at 220 First St., Neptune Beach. For more information, call (904) 241-9026.

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Meet the 2016 - 2017

Ponte Vedra Beach Division Board

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we come upon the end of our fiscal year, it is time to recognize our outgoing Ponte Vedra Beach Division Board members as well as our incoming board members who will officially take on their responsibilities on Oct. 1. We have been blessed to have such terrific leadership over the last several years and we are excited for what the future holds.

I would like to formally recognize those elected board members who are completing their terms in office:

- Christine Adams, Rogers Towers
- Felicia Cox, Iberia Bank
- Erika Hamer, Ponte Vedra Wellness Center
- Frances King, King & Associates Insurance Agency

- Michele Smith, RE/MAX Coastal Real Estate

The commitment that they showed over their terms has meant a great deal to me personally, but also and more importantly to the organization. Our chamber is made better by their involvement and they will be missed. My congratulations also to Dr. Hamer, who was elected to a seat on the St. Johns County Chamber Board of Directors and will begin a three-year term on Oct. 1.

Beginning Oct. 1 we welcome the following people to the Division Board:

- Jennifer Belisario, TPC Sawgrass
- Toni Boudreaux, Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach
- Gloria Dongara, AAA The Auto Club

Group

- Sarah Hewett, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services

- Rachel Landis, PGA Tour

Additionally, I would like to congratulate Ed Mercel (Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty) for his election as chair; Ponte Vedra Recorder Publisher Susan Griffin on her election as vice chair, and Rob Schlingmann (The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach) on his election as secretary.

We thank each of you for giving of your time, talent and resources for the betterment of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce and the business community. We are an organization that is great because of our members and we value your commitment and leadership!



Isabelle Rodriguez
President/CEO

Chamber thanks outgoing SJC board members, welcomes new

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce would like to thank those members who have volunteered their time and talents to lead the organization. On Oct. 1, incoming St. Johns County Chamber board members will take their positions and outgoing members will be released from their board position responsibilities.

Below are the outgoing members and those who have committed to helping the chamber achieve its goals in 2016-17.

Outgoing SJC Board Members:

- Mark Litzinger, City of St. Augustine
- Lou Noir-Jones, Wells Fargo
- Jason Barrett, Flagler Hospital
- Dave Danzeisen, Clean Getaway Car Wash
- Jeff King, Bozard Ford
- Cliff Logsdon, Beaches & Shores Newspapers
- Lu Moore, The Garden Produce
- Kris Phillips, Newstalk 102.1 FM and 1240 WFOY
- Richard Pinto, Sunburst Crystal
- Randy Swift, VyStar Credit Union

Incoming SJC Board Members:

- Arleen Dennison, First Coast Technical College
- Kit Keating, Fountain of Youth Archaeological Park
- Dirk Schroeder, Century 21 St. Augustine Properties
- Erika Hamer, Ponte Vedra Wellness Center
- Scott Schiller, Reunion Bank of Florida
- Scott Graddy, Augustine Computer Services
- Kathy Fleming, St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum
- John Stavely, Where Visitors Guide

Outgoing PVB Division Board



Photos by Susan Griffin

Thanking the outgoing board: Ponte Vedra Beach Division Chair Lin Jones (left), Dr. Erika Hamer, Christine Adams, Dave Danzeisen, Felicia Cox, Michele Smith and President Isabelle Rodriguez. Not pictured: Frances King.



Lin Jones and Isabelle Rodriguez thank outgoing PVB Division Chair Dave Danzeisen for his service.

PONTE VEDRA BEACH DIVISION AMBASSADOR CHAIR

Ricki Taylor is an assistant vice president and mortgage loan originator with Synovus Mortgage, located in the Synovus Bank headquarters at Gate Parkway.

A veteran of the mortgage business for 30 years, Taylor has managed underwriting, processing and shipping, affording her a unique perspective and the ability and expertise to handle even the most complicated loans.

She is able to help clients throughout the Southeastern United States and specializes in jumbo loans and portfolio products. She has expertise in all facets of lending and often gives advice to real estate professionals in difficult situa-

tions.

Taylor has been a top producer for Synovus Mortgage for more than 18 years and was recognized by the Jacksonville Business Journal as a “Five Star Mortgage Professional.”

Her dedication to service, coupled with her expert knowledge, creates an exceptional experience for borrowers and serves as a reliable source for builders and realtors.

In addition to serving as chair of the Ponte Vedra Beach Division’s ambassador board, Taylor serves on the membership committee for the Jacksonville Beach Chamber.

She also volunteers her time with the Gamma Phi Beta sorority chapter at Jacksonville University. She is a graduate of the University of Georgia.

The American Banker magazine rated Synovus Bank one of “America’s Most Reputable Banks,” based on customer scores. Forbes ranks Synovus Bank as one of the “Top 50 Most Trusted Institutions.”

Taylor’s father was a career Air Force officer. Her oldest son is a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy and her youngest son is in his fourth year of medical school at the University of Florida.



Ricki Taylor

Chamber welcomes new Ponte Vedra Beach Division ambassadors

As the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce begins its 2016-2017 year, the Ponte Vedra Beach Division extends its appreciation to those members who have agreed to serve as chamber “ambassadors,” representing and championing the Ponte Vedra Beach Division at chamber events and out in the community.

PONTE VEDRA BEACH DIVISION AMBASSADOR BOARD

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Ricki Taylor
Synovus Mortgage Corp.

VICE CHAIR
Ilene Thrasher
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PROGRAM CHAIR
Brian Anderson
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COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR
Matt Price
Regions Bank

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
Lori Adams
Cabi Independent Fashion Stylist

PONTE VEDRA BEACH DIVISION AMBASSADORS
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Robert A. Baer Co.

BILL LODISE
BB&T

AMY MILLER
Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC

KARI ZERRAHN
Allstate

St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce to hold annual awards celebration

‘Business Boogie’ theme of Oct. 19 event

By Jennifer Logue

A new format, a new venue and a new theme are just a few of the highlights of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce’s upcoming annual awards celebration.

To be held Oct. 19 at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, this year’s event will feature a more celebratory atmosphere,

organizers said. Featuring a 1970s theme of “Business Boogie,” with 70s attire encouraged, the event will include a brief awards presentation followed by dancing to the popular band “Boogie Freaks” presented by SERVPRO of St. Augustine and SERVPRO of Ponte Vedra Beach. Guests will also be able to move among a

variety of food and drink stations and bid on silent auction items while networking.

SJC Chamber CEO Isabelle Rodriguez noted that this year’s celebration is open to not only chamber members but all companies that are interested in joining the chamber to help grow their business.

“This is an annual signature event that businesses do not want to miss,” she said. “This year it has a different twist with more entertainment as well as networking opportunities. Attendees will enjoy great food and drinks and dancing to the fun hits of the ’70s!”

Celebrating accomplishments

“Business Boogie” will also celebrate the chamber’s accomplishments of the previous year, with awards presented to leaders who have made significant contributions to the chamber’s mission. Awards to be presented include the President’s Award, the Fred Schroeder Member of the Year Award, the St. Augustine and

Ponte Vedra Ambassador of the Year awards and the Chamber of Commerce Member of the Year Award.

Sponsors of the event include Northrop Grumman Corporation, Auld & White Constructors, Ripley’s Believe it or Not! Museum, Ponte Vedra Recorder and the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall.

Susan Griffin, publisher of the Ponte Vedra Recorder, is heading up the silent auction effort.

“Silent auction donors will position their goods and services before a large gathering of local business and community leaders,” said Griffin, who said the chamber celebration is a highly anticipated annual gathering. “So get on your boogie shoes and come party with the chamber!”

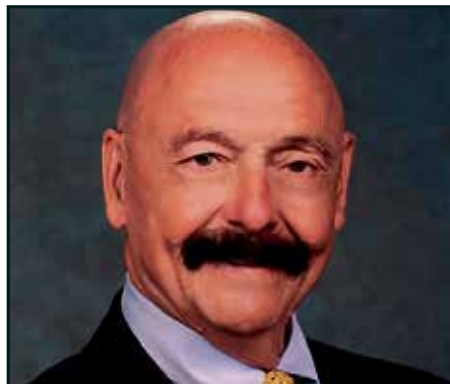
An early bird ticket rate of \$95 per person is available to chamber members. Tickets for non-members are \$125 per person. To register, visit www.sjcchamber.com. For information on available sponsorships, contact Events Manager Debra Bulak at debra.bulak@sjcchamber.com. To donate an auction item, contact Griffin at susan@opcfla.com.



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Meet the Ponte Vedra Beach Division 2016-2017 Board of Directors

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce welcomes the 2016-2017 board of directors for the Ponte Vedra Beach Division. The incoming board represents a broad cross-section of industries and individuals, each of whom brings years of professional experience and business acumen to their board duties.



CHAIR
Ed Mercel
Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty

Ed Mercel is a successful Realtor with a penchant for network building in both sales and property management. He has more than 18 years of experience in the real estate industry, having worked for a number of leading real estate firms and property management divisions.

Prior to entering real estate, Mercel was an internationally recognized producer

and director whose credits include producing and/or directing drama, variety and children's programming as well as seven Olympic games.

Mercel is a past president of the local chapter of the National Association of Residential Property Management. In addition to serving as chair of the board of directors of the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, he serves on the board of directors for Beth El Synagogue.

SEE **DIRECTORS**, PAGE **21**

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VICE CHAIR
Susan Griffin
Ponte Vedra Recorder

Susan Griffin is publisher of the Ponte Vedra Recorder, the community paper of record serving Ponte Vedra and the Beaches since 1969. Griffin also serves as publisher of the bimonthly First Coast Register magazine. The Register covers First Coast social events as well as fashion, dining and home décor trends throughout the year.

Griffin is beginning her 20th year with the Recorder, which she joined as an advertising account executive. She later served as the paper's sales manager before being named publisher. Prior to joining the Recorder, Griffin owned travel agencies in Florida and Georgia. In addition to being very active in the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, she serves on the board of directors of the Overlook V office condominiums and is an officer of the Community Papers of Florida.

Active in the community, Griffin volunteers her time to support numerous events benefiting local charities.



SECRETARY
Rob Schlingmann
The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach

As general manager and chief operating office of The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach, Rob Schlingmann reports directly to the president and has full financial and operational responsibility for the club, which in high season has a staff of more than 140 employees in 16 departments. In addition to managing all club operations, he oversees all functions of the Plantation's homeowners' association.

With more than 30 years of experience in the private club industry, Schlingmann

has managed some of the most exclusive clubs in South Carolina, Delaware and New York. Before moving to the Ponte Vedra Beach area, he was the general manager of The Apawamis Club in Rye, New York.

Schlingmann holds a degree in hospitality from the University of Houston. In addition to being involved with the Chamber of Commerce, he serves on the board of directors of the Florida Club Managers Association.



Jennifer Belisario
TPC Sawgrass

Jennifer Belisario has worked for TPC Sawgrass, home of THE PLAYERS, for more than six years, the past four years as director of sales and marketing.

She brings 10 years of successful sales, marketing and leadership experience and is responsible for managing the membership and annual pass sales, and implementing new marketing strategies and promotional initiatives to further solidify TPC Sawgrass's commitment to its members and the surrounding community.

A Jacksonville native, Belisario is a graduate of the University of North Florida, where she earned a bachelor's degree in marketing.

She previously served as the director of membership sales and communications at Jacksonville Golf and Country Club for nine years and as director of sales and marketing at Holiday Inn Express & Suites and the Four Points by Sheraton.



Steven Beyer
VyStar Credit Union

As vice president of the Jacksonville Beach branch of VyStar Credit Union, Steven Beyer is responsible for extending credit union services to more people while making a positive impact in the community. A Jacksonville native, Beyer has served as an ambassador for the Ponte Vedra Division of St Johns County Cham-

ber for the past three years while also serving as the Ambassador chair. He also serves on the advisory board for Ponte Vedra High School.

Beyer has volunteered for many charitable initiatives, including the March of Dimes, United Way, Light the Night and various other charities. He is also focused on financial literacy and helping people of all ages reach their financial goals through education and planning.

Toni Boudreaux
Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach

As director of development for the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach, Toni Boudreaux is responsible for managing all fundraising activities for the nonprofit organization.



Working with the executive director, she oversees and coordinates all aspects of the center's contributed income, including memberships, annual fund, sponsorships, corporate partnerships, non-program

SEE **DIRECTORS**, PAGE 22

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DIRECTORS

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events and donor retention.

Boudreaux holds a degree in Communications and an MPA from the University of North Florida.

In addition to serving on the Ponte Vedra Beach Division chamber board, she is a member of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach, which presented her with its Rotarian of the Year Award for 2015-2016.

She is also a member of the UNF Speakers Bureau and the advisory board for the Communications Department.



Janet Collins
Sawgrass Country Club

Janet Collins is the director of member services at Sawgrass Country Club, where she has been a key member of the staff for more than 18 years.

A certified marketing professional, Col-

lins leads the development of the club's marketing plans, overseeing membership development, budget management, social media, promotional presentations and the production and distribution of marketing materials.

She plays a critical role in managing public relations and advertising initiatives while providing the highest level of customer service.

In addition to serving on the Ponte Vedra Beach Division board, Collins served as president of the Northeast Florida Professional Club Marketing Association for six years.



Dave Danzeisen
Clean Getaway Car Wash and Detail

The immediate past chair of the Ponte Vedra Beach Division board, Dave Danzeisen has more than 40 years of experience in the transportation and car wash industries.

A Pennsylvania native, Danzeisen

served as president of the American Bus Association, American Transit Operators, the National Association of Bus Owners and the NYS School Bus Operators Association.

In 1970, he founded Vanguard I Tours, a school transportation company serving Westchester County, New York.

He also founded the White Plains Bus Lines mass transit company in 1973 and the Bedford Bus Company in 1975.

Danzeisen is the owner and CEO of Clean Getaway Car Wash, Classic Car Wash and Duckys Car Wash. In 2006, he developed Showboat Car Wash in St. Augustine.



Gloria Dongara
AAA

Gloria Dongara is the life and annuities specialist for AAA Life. In this role, she helps clients ensure they are prepared for the unforeseen. A New Jersey native, Dongara moved to Ponte Vedra in

1992 as part of a relocation with Merrill Lynch, where she worked for 15 years and managed teams in the client service, cash management, draft processing and training areas. She later served as an advertising sales representative for the Ponte Vedra Recorder before joining Bank of America, where she advanced to the position of senior vice president of the global KYC Services team.

Dongara is active in both the St. Johns County and Jacksonville chambers of commerce as well as the Seven Bridges chapter of BNI.



Sarah Hewett
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty

Sarah Hewett is a professional sales associate with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty. Based in Ponte Vedra Beach, she offers

SEE **DIRECTORS**, PAGE 23

Annual Event

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DIRECTORS

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her clients full-service representation when they are looking to buy or sell their home.

A fourth generation Jacksonville native, Hewett completed a master's degree in physical therapy in Atlanta before returning home and continuing her career in physical therapy for 16 years. In 2008, she received her real estate license and followed in the footsteps of her mother, a successful local real estate professional. As a full-time real estate sales associate, Hewett enjoys helping others achieve their dreams.



In addition to generating sales of event packages and corporate sponsorships, she is responsible for sales reporting, concept marketing and promotions.

Prior to joining the PGA Tour, Landis was a special events manager and senior sales account representative for Folio Weekly.

She also previously served as an advance representative for former President Bill Clinton, coordinating logistics to ensure successful events.

Rachel Landis PGA Tour

As sales manager for THE PLAYERS and Web.com Tour Championship, Rachel Landis works with the executive director on budgets, inventory, sponsorships and more.

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Frances King and Marie Watson

TPC Sawgrass upgrades key to club's future, general manager says

By Jennifer Logue

When it comes to planning for the future of TPC Sawgrass and its signature event, THE PLAYERS Championship, General Manager Bill Hughes says it all comes down to three little words.

Grow the game.

“(At TPC Sawgrass) we are all in charge of growing the game,” Hughes told attendees at the July 14 joint luncheon meeting of the St. Johns County and Jacksonville chambers of commerce. “Because if we don’t grow the game, we have no game.”

Achieving that goal, he said, requires an understanding that, unlike other golf clubs, TPC Sawgrass is all about showcasing THE PLAYERS Championship and serving an increasingly global audience that flocks to Ponte Vedra Beach each year for golf’s “fifth major.” He pointed to the opening of the \$32.5 million clubhouse in

2007 as a seminal moment in the elevation of TPC Sawgrass and even The PGA Tour as a whole.

“The clubhouse changed the whole complexion of what the tour is,” Hughes said. “To see what has happened since then ... it didn’t happen by luck. It’s the result of a strategic business plan, and (Executive Director) Matt Rapp and his team have executed that plan on every pillar.”

Now, Hughes and his staff are preparing for the next phase in TPC Sawgrass’s evolution as the golf course undergoes a \$50 million renovation. Hughes outlined for chamber members a number of the major upgrades happening, including re-grassing all the greens with new varieties of grass, enlarging eight greens and lengthening two holes. Other improvements underway include ripping up the driving range and making it bigger and building a new golf course maintenance facility.



Photos by Susan Griffin

Dave Danzeisen, Lin Jones, Bill Hughes and Amanda Patch



Sandra Goode and Gloria Dongara



Renee Parenteau



Melinda Demsey, Kelley Moore and Tina Robbins



Sam Ruiz and Dr. Dan Vosgerichian display a copy of Connections, the official chamber section published by the Ponte Vedra Recorder.

The Plantation hosts Chamber After Hours

Members of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce had an opportunity to see the recent upgrades to the Beach Club at The Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach, when the club hosted the July 20 Chamber After Hours networking event.



Bill and Kim McClure



Ilene Trasher, Steven Beyer and Julie Hull

Photos by Susan Griffin



Toni Boudreaux, Gay Dunn and Lori Adams



Isabelle Rodriguez, Dave Danzeisen, Rob Schlingmann and Lin Jones



Dr. Rob Karol and Dr. David Yoder



Frances King and Dr. Erika Hamer



Pete and Brenda Ruffing

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Candidates meet constituents at 'Politics in St. Johns'

A capacity crowd filled the Hilton Garden Inn in Ponte Vedra Beach July 27, as dozens of candidates turned out to meet with constituents and supporters at "Politics in St. Johns."

Co-sponsored by the Ponte Vedra Recorder and the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, the event attracted candidates from races up and down the ballot including the races for county commis-

sion, St. Johns County sheriff and the 4th congressional district race. The following week, the chamber hosted a second Politics in St. Johns event at the Solomon Calhoun Center in St.

Augustine that attracted an estimated 500 people. Nearly 350 votes were cast in the event's straw poll, which included national as well as local races.

PONTE VEDRA



Former Jacksonville Sheriff and 4th Congressional District Candidate John Rutherford



Carol Mauer, Chuck Schoonmaker and Anna Washington of the Hilton Garden Inn.

Photos by Susan Griffin



County Commission Candidate (District 5) Henry Dean, Chuck Johnson and County Commission Candidate (District 3) Jerry Cameron



St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Isabelle Rodriguez



Elizabeth Granite, County Commissioner – and 4th Congressional candidate – Bill McClure and Kim McClure



Democratic congressional candidate Dave Bruderly talks with local Democrats.



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John Reardon and Mary Middleton O'Brien



Jane and Hunter Conrad



Nearly 350 votes were cast in the Politics in St. Johns straw poll. David Bruderly



Sheriff David Shoar

Recorder, Chamber of Commerce host 'Coffee with the Editor'

More than 60 business and community leaders visited the Ponte Veda Recorder offices to attend "Coffee with the Editor."

Held Aug. 10 in conjunction with the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce's Ponte Veda Beach Division, the event gave attendees an opportunity to meet Managing Editor Jennifer Logue and learn about the role the Recorder plays in the community.

"The great turnout here today is both a testament to the strong St. Johns County business community and the Recorder's well-established reputation as the community's paper of record since 1969," Logue told attendees. "We are committed to being the paper readers turn to for local, original reporting they can trust."



The Ponte Veda Recorder staff: Ed Johnson, Jennifer Logue, Kristin Flanagan, April Snyder, Susan Griffin and Jasmine Marshall. Not pictured: Carrie Resch.

Photos by Susan Griffin



Karina Coryell of KC's Kitchen provided breakfast refreshments.



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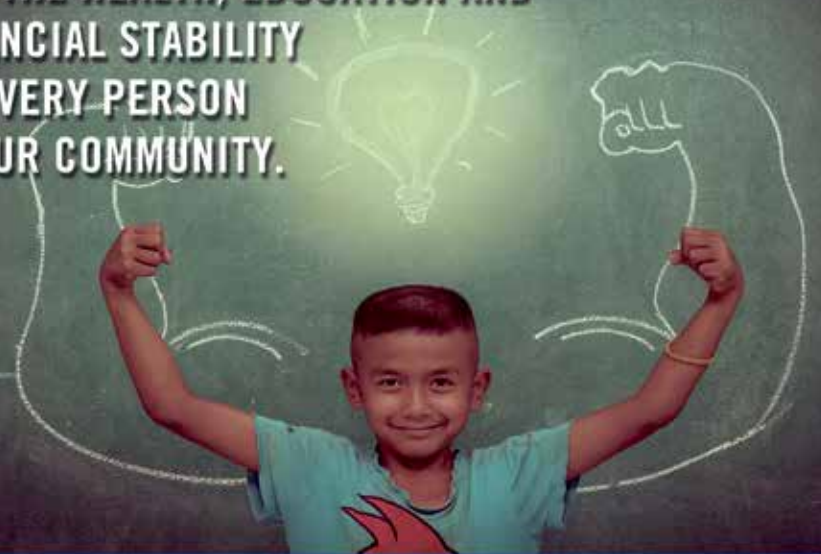
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Photos by Susan Griffin

Ed Johnson, Malcom Anthony and Recorder Managing Editor Jennifer Logue



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Sawgrass Beach Club hosts 'Chamber at Noon'

St. Augustine Ponte Vedra VCB President and CEO Richard Goldman gave chamber members an update on the region's tourism industry at an Aug. 17 luncheon held at the newly renovated Sawgrass Beach Club.

"We're essentially an economic development engine,"

Goldman said, "and we work wonderfully with the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce."

In 2015, Goldman said, 6.3 million visitors traveled to St. Johns County – an increase of 1 million visitors over the previous year – generating a \$1.7 billion financial impact on local businesses.



Randi Guthard, Donna Day and Sarah Hewett



Ed Merzel, Ricki Taylor and Richard Goldman

Photos by Susan Griffin

King & Associates holds ribbon cutting at new Sawgrass Village office

By Jennifer Logue

Representatives from the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce's Ponte Vedra Beach Division were on hand Aug. 23 to help local insurance agency King & Associates celebrate the grand opening of its new Sawgrass Village office.

Located at 3202-3 Sawgrass Village Circle in the Falls professional building, the new office marks the reestablishment of King & Associates as an independent insurance agency after a two-year partnership with another agency. Owner Frances King said the new office will enable King & Associates to continue do what the agency does best: provide one-on-one, personalized service to clients both old and new.

"We're small enough that we can really concentrate on taking care of our clients and their needs," King said, noting that some staff members have been with the agency for more than 15 years. "They all have extensive backgrounds in insurance and good experience in working with our clients."



Staff members help cut the ribbon on the new Sawgrass Village offices of King & Associates.

Photos by Susan Griffin

Brian Anderson, Malcom Anthony and Lin Jones



The King & Associates team: Staci Kidwell (front), owner Frances King, Helen Viollet, Lisa Melendez and Laura Halvorsen



Chris and Ginger Peace

Photos by Susan Griffin



Frances King and Dave Danzeisen



Ed Mercel and Dave Danzeisen



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Best In show #4

1954 Cadillac El Dorado takes top honors at Ponte Vedra Auto Show

By Jennifer Logue

A 1954 Cadillac El Dorado took top honors at the 2016 Ponte Vedra Auto Show Sept. 11, claiming the coveted trophy from a field of hundreds of both new and vintage automobiles ranging from the 1920s to today.

The red convertible El Dorado owned by Ed Schenck received the Wells Fargo Best in Show Classic at the event, which featured the presentation of 30 trophies in a variety of categories. New this year was a

category for golf carts, which shared space alongside displays and booths from local businesses, the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office and more. The daylong event also featured a memorial tribute to mark the 15th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Sponsored by the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, the annual Ponte Vedra Auto Show regularly attracts thousands of attendees. This was the first year the event was held at Nocatee Town Center.



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Photos by Susan Griffin:

The Best Exotic Trophy, sponsored by the Ponte Vedra Recorder, went to Ralph Nuñez, shown with St. Johns County Chamber CEO Isabelle Rodriguez and Brandon Starks of presenting sponsor Fields Auto Group.



Future Classic Best New Corvette sponsored by Ponte Vedra Wellness Center: Fred Porter, with Isabelle Rodriguez and Brandon Starks



Porsche Future Classic sponsored by Florida Crown Region: Cynthia Brooks King with Isabelle Rodriguez and Brandon Starks



This year's Auto Show featured a category for golf carts.



Best Classic Off Road trophy, sponsored by Land Rover Jacksonville: Awarded to Patrick Miko, shown with Brandon Starks and Isabelle Rodriguez



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Pure Barre studio holds ribbon cutting



Photo by Susan Griffin

Members of the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce were on hand to help Mike and Victoria Koster celebrate the grand opening of their Pure Barre studio. The latest business to open its doors in the newly revamped Sawgrass Village, Pure Barre uses a ballet barre in a 55-minute full-body workout.


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Source: Real Value of Joining a Local Chamber of Commerce
Shapiro Group, 2012.



Phong Nguyen, Greg Evans, Quintin Kendall, Declan Reiley, John Regan, Isabelle Rodriguez and Victor Raymos

Photos by Susan Griffin

Transportation improvements key to county's growth, officials say

The connection of 9B to St. Johns Parkway, improvements to Race Track Road and efforts to deal with traffic and parking issues in St. Augustine were among the priorities highlighted by local, state and county transportation officials at a St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce breakfast.

As Florida's population continues to increase, officials said, transportation improvements are critical to ensuring continued growth and prosperity both locally and statewide.

"By 2030, we'll have 6 million more people calling Florida home," CSX Vice President Quintin Kendall told attendees at the Aug. 26 breakfast presentation sponsored by the chamber's Economic Development Council. Locally, he said, estimates predict that St. Johns County will have as many as 150,000 new residents by that time.

"For this continued growth, we've got to ensure Florida remains successful," Kendall said, "and we need to plan for Florida's future and that includes transportation."



Kimberly Holland and Rachel Landis



Chamber President and CEO Isabelle Rodriguez



SJC Chamber Vice President of Economic Development Declan Reiley



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Photo by Susan Griffin

The Learning Experience held a ribbon cutting ceremony for its new location in Nocatee Sept. 15. Members of the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce were on hand to help welcome the new business, located at 70 Greenleaf Drive at the entrance to Nocatee's Greenleaf neighborhood. The Learning Experience offers infant, preschool and early education programs.



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Traffic study, PV Greenway among items discussed at PVB Chamber meeting

Improving traffic and transportation safety and a proposal to build a traffic-separated greenway trail in Ponte Vedra were among the topics discussed at a luncheon meeting of the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce.

Held Sept. 14 at the Sawgrass Beach Club, the luncheon featured presentations by Greg Leonard of the Citizens Traffic Task Force and Deb Chapin of the PV Greenway & Preserve initiative.

The Ponte Vedra/Palm Valley Traffic Study – which focuses on AIA from Mickler Road to the Duval County line, Palm Valley Road, Solana Road and Roscoe Boulevard – is scheduled to be completed by next summer.

“This entire process and the completion of the study will happen by June of next year, so the study piece of it is at least in our foreseeable future,” Leonard said. The study results and recommendations will be made public at that

time, in June or July 2017.

After the traffic study is completed, the next step will be figuring out how to mobilize funds. Possible sources of funding include the federal government, FDOT or the county, but asking the county for new funds at this point in time is a very uphill task, Leonard said.

The action plan set forth by the PV Greenway & Preserve initiative, meanwhile, has been largely accomplished, organizer Deb Chapin said. The grassroots group, which proposes to create a multi-use traffic-separated greenway trail system, has gained a lot of policy maker support and established a lot of partnerships, she said. Currently, the group is in the process of looking at obtaining a 501(c)(3) non-profit status, and is seeking funding to help with the group’s website – which Chapin said should be online in a couple of weeks – as well as maps and renderings. A business plan for maintenance also needs to be established, she said.



Photos by Susan Griffin

Dr. Erika Hamer, Lin Jones, Jennifer Bruno, Debra Chapin, Derek King, Brian Anderson and Dave Danzeisen



Debra Chapin

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Photos by Susan Griffin

Representatives from the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce were on hand Sept. 14 to mark the grand opening of Nona Blue. Handling ribbon cutting duties was PGA Tour golfer Graeme McDowell, who owns Nona Blue with partners Joe Davi and Bill Bona.

Ponte Vedra welcomes Nona Blue

By Jennifer Logue

Hundreds of local residents turned out to celebrate the grand opening of Nona Blue Sept. 13-14, marking the latest restaurant to open in Ponte Vedra's burgeoning Sawgrass Village.

The restaurant's Sept. 14 grand opening was preceded by a VIP reception the night before. Guests walked the red carpet and posed for photos with PGA Tour golfer Graeme McDowell and his Nona Blue founding partners Joe Davi and Bill Bona. Inside, guests enjoyed cocktails and generous samplings of the restaurant's appetizers, including firecracker shrimp, fried calamari, "Mama's meat-loaf" sliders, flatbreads and more.

The following day, McDowell and his partners held a formal ribbon cutting ceremony to inaugurate their second Nona Blue location.

"It's so amazing," McDowell said of joining the Ponte Vedra community. "I've played many PLAYERS Championships here."

In addition to representatives from the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, the Nona Blue team was joined by former New York Giants Coach Tom Coughlin, who accepted a \$15,000 donation for his Tom Coughlin Jay Fund representing all the gratuities the Nona Blue staff collected during their "Practice with a Purpose" soft opening.



Graeme McDowell, Ponte Vedra Recorder Publisher Susan Griffin, the St. Johns County Chamber's Declan Reiley, Bill Bona and Joe Davi



Danielle Hall



Anette and Andrew Saalman



Melissa Bushong and Rod Strader



Michael and Nicole Story



Geri Price and Debbie Davis



Mandy Morrow and Millie Harrison



Photos by Susan Griffin

Ponte Vedra Beach Division Director Lin Jones joins Nona Blue owners as they present former New York Giants Coach Tom Coughlin with a donation to the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund.



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The Vista, Ponte Vedra to join Nocatee's Twenty Mile neighborhoods

Nocatee's Twenty Mile community will soon expand to include The Vista, Ponte Vedra, a gated neighborhood featuring 44 home sites starting in the low \$900s.

To be built by The Pineapple Corporation, The Vista will offer custom designed estate-style homes featuring Spanish Eclectic architecture. With five courtyard floor plans, homes in The Vista, Ponte Vedra will range in size from 4,000 square feet to more than 5,500 square feet.

"We are thrilled to introduce our newest community, The Vista, Ponte Vedra," Pineapple Corporation President

Spencer Calvert said. "We are unveiling new home designs for this distinctive community that will complement the area's rich history and magnificent surroundings. Our homes will reflect The Pineapple Corporation's legacy of excellence, offering the highest level of craftsmanship, exceptional quality and superior design."

Located just west of the Intracoastal Waterway, Nocatee's Twenty Mile features an Old Florida style with oak trees and split-rail fencing. The community is zoned for St. Johns County schools and a new K-8 school is currently under construction adjacent to the community.



The Vista, Ponte Vedra will feature 44 estate-style homes in a gated neighborhood within Nocatee's Twenty Mile.

Nocatee map

Climbing the 10-step commitment ladder

SECOND IN A SERIES



Harry Pappas
Columnist

I hope that you found Part 1 of the 10-step commitment ladder of some interest, or at least interesting enough to garner your curiosity to read the following narrative. We will now climb steps three, four, five and six. Suit up, soldier.

We are going in hot!

Step 3: Persistence. We need to remind ourselves that we have not failed until we quit. In "Think and Grow Rich," Napoleon Hill says, "Every successful person finds that great success lies just beyond the point when they are convinced their idea is not going to work." Success waits for those of us who can hang on just a little bit longer while we endure the pain just a little longer! The story about gazelles in South Africa encapsulates my view about never giving up. Every morning in South Africa, a gazelle wakes up knowing it must outrun the fastest lion or be killed. Every morning, a lion wakes up

knowing it must outrun the slowest gazelle or starve to death. Therefore, it does not matter if we are gazelles or lions. When the sun comes up, we had better be running.

Step 4: Adversity. When difficulties strike, the easiest and most logical thing to do is to quit – but not if you are former marine lieutenant and motivational speaker Clede McClary, who says that you must FIDO (forget it, drive on!). In other words, fuhgeddaboutit! Successful people FIDO, because they embrace failure and do not allow roadblocks to stop them from accomplishing their dreams. They understand that failure is necessary! They view hardships as life lessons.

When difficulties emerge, I habitually struggle with frustration, anger and disappointment. I get down on myself, but I do not stay down because staying down is for losers. Instead, I suggest that we heed the words of wisdom from author and minister Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, who said; "If you have no problems, I warn you, you are in grave jeopardy. You are on your way out, and you do not know it. Perhaps what you had better do is immediately go to your room and shut the door and get down on your knees and pray to the Lord, 'Lord, please; don't you trust me anymore? Give

me some problems!" We all get our share of setbacks, so let us not try to duck them. Instead, strap in and let us meet misfortune head on.

Step 5: Learning. How we feed our mind is every bit as critical as how we feed our bodies. Will we continually sharpen our saw? According to author and businessperson Steven Covey, "sharpen the saw" means "preserving and enhancing the greatest asset we have: us! It requires having a balanced program for self-renewal in four areas of your life: physical, social/emotional, mental and spiritual."

All the successful people I know are devoted readers. They simply need to know. They are inherently inquisitive. According to personal development guru Jim Rohn, "Formal education will earn you a living, while self-education will make you a fortune." To put it another way: It is more important to work harder on ourselves than on our occupation. I love what renowned author and speaker Jeffrey Gitomer has to say regarding learning: "College education prepares you to play Jeopardy! and Trivial Pursuit. The rest of what we need to learn about our success, we have to learn on our own."

Step 6: Mentoring. Throughout history and well before there were books and institu-

tions of higher learning, people would seek out the masters and learn from them. A Chinese proverb states, "Mentors know the road ahead. Ask those coming back." We need to learn from those who have already walked the path before us. Successful people leave clues, and it is our job to uncover them.

There is an old saying: "Watch the man ahead of you and you will soon learn why he is ahead." I learned a long time ago that it is far more productive to imitate a successful person than to envy him.

Harry Pappas Jr., CFP®, Managing Director-Investments, Certified Estate and Trust Specialist™, Certified Divorce Financial Analyst™, Pappas Wealth Management Group of Wells Fargo Advisors, 818 A1A N, Ste. 200, Ponte Vedra, Florida 32082, 904-273-7955, harry.pappas@wellsfargoadvisors.com

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

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REAL ESTATE SNAPSHOT**By Michael Hannon**

Special to the Recorder

With beautiful beaches, wonderful weather and the top-rated school system in the state, Ponte Vedra is a popular place to call home – a fact that keeps the real estate market active. Here is a “snapshot” that offers a sense of what properties in various price ranges are selling for in the current real estate market.

RECENT SALES**Condominiums – Ponte Vedra, 32081**

115 Tidewater Parkway		\$195,000
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Single Family – Ponte Vedra, 32081

55 Cortona Lane	3B/2B	\$296,800
42 Rialto Drive	3B/2B	\$361,930
321 Deer Valley Drive	4B/3B	\$730,515

Lots - Ponte Vedra Beach, 32082

501 Ponte Vedra Boulevard 100' Oceanfront		\$3,250,000
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Condominiums - Ponte Vedra Beach, 32082

112 Timberwalk Court	1B/1B	\$112,900
12 Little Bay Harbor	3B/2B	\$545,000

Single Family Homes - Ponte Vedra Beach, 32082

8 Red Snapper Lane	3B/2B	\$ 261,150
39 Lake Julia Drive South	3B/3B	\$625,000
7550 Founders Way	5B/5B	\$1,175,000

MLS reported +/- 20 sold real estate transactions this week. The list above illustrates representative sampling of reported sold transactions. Property information is not guaranteed. © 2016 MLS and FBS

Have real estate questions? Email them to have your question answered in a future column. Submit questions to mh@michael2020.com.

**MEET THE DEVELOPER | TROY WHITE**

Troy White, principal of WGV Residential Ventures I, LLC, and his partners are developing La Fontana at World Golf Village. He recently shared his thoughts on the luxury condominium community.

What attracted you to World Golf Village?

World Golf Village boasts two of the southeast's finest golf courses – the Slammer & Squire, designed by Bobby Weed in collaboration with Sam Snead and Gene Sarazen; and the King & Bear, designed by Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus. World Golf Village is surrounded by 2,700 acres of nature preserve, is home to the World Golf Hall of Fame and a host of nearby restaurants, shops and entertainment options. Centrally located between historic St. Augustine and Jacksonville, World Golf Village offers easy access to everything including area beaches, shopping, restaurants and attractions. It is everything a neighborhood should be.

How does La Fontana compare to other communities?

Whether you enjoy spending time on the golf course or wish to bask in the sunshine, La Fontana offers the ultimate Florida lifestyle. Located in The Neighborhoods of World Golf Village, La Fontana homes

overlook the 8th hole of the Slammer & Squire golf course and residents enjoy a desirable lock-and-leave lifestyle. The community has an active and entertaining environment, yet at the same time is very peaceful. In addition to first class community amenities, La Fontana residents also have access to club amenities of the King & Bear, which include pools and lighted tennis courts. La Fontana is carefree Florida living at its best.

What features and amenities can buyers enjoy at La Fontana?

La Fontana consists of thoughtfully designed three- and four-bedroom condominium residences featuring luxurious and high-end appointments. Homes feature gourmet kitchens, spacious master suites, private detached garages and screened lanais. Homes at La Fontana range in size from 1,915 square feet to 2,400 square feet and are ideal for those looking to right-size their square footage..

La Fontana is located at 90 Champions Way in St. Augustine's World Golf Village. Its sales center is open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. For more information, visit www.LaFontanaFL.com.



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CAROLYN S. ZISSER limits her practice to family law, providing solutions to the most complex family law problems and focuses exclusively on matters involving divorce, child custody, military family issues, modification of judgments and division of retirement plans and other assets. Carolyn has been representing family law clients for more than 35 years. She continues to receive numerous accolades -- including an AV rating with Martindale-Hubbell, an AVVO rating of 10 (out of 10), inclusion in Super Lawyers and an appointment as Master of the Jacksonville Family Law Inn of Court. Carolyn offers her clients an unequalled commitment to obtaining the best results possible and has been certified in Collaborative Law to enable her to offer her clients an alternative to the traditional approach to divorce. The firm works with a network of professionals, including forensic accountants, business valuation experts, occupational evaluation experts, Certified Divorce Planners and other consultants, as needed. Carolyn is strongly dedicated to providing the finest representation to every client.

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Suzanne W. Green has been practicing law since 1987 and is a former prosecutor with the Duval County State Attorney's Office. Suzanne W. Green has been in private practice since 1990 and has managed her own firm since 1997. Suzanne also attained higher level degrees in business related fields prior to attending law school. Suzanne is also active in the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce and was recently elected as Chairman of our St. Augustine - St. Johns County Airport Authority.

We welcome a new attorney to our firm, Ms. Erin Bowden, graduate of Florida State University and University of Akron School of Law.

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New programs, expanded repertoire boost Jacksonville Symphony attendance

By Jennifer Logue

An expanded repertoire, high-quality guest artists and a commitment to making classical music accessible to everyone are just a few of the factors that have boosted attendance at the Jacksonville Symphony in the past year, Music Director Courtney Lewis says.

Lewis – who begins his second season as music director this week – addressed members of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sept. 22, sharing his vision for what the Jacksonville Symphony is and what it can become.

“The symphony is much better than people think it is,” said Lewis, who joined the orchestra after stints in Boston, New York, Minnesota and Los Angeles. “When we plan a season, we try to give everybody something they’ll enjoy.”

Lewis has implemented a number of programs aimed at making the symphony more accessible and more relevant to contemporary audiences.

“When I joined the symphony,” he said, “the orchestra was in a need of a more varied diet.”

In addition to adding pieces by such legendary composers as Mozart and Haydn and what Lewis calls the “big, juicy romantic repertoire” of 19th century composers, the symphony’s upcoming season will feature pops performances ranging from Disney songs and Bugs Bunny to the 50th anniversary of The Beatles’ “Sergeant Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band.” The symphony will also offer several of its popular movie nights, whereby a popular feature film is screened as the orchestra performs the film’s score live. This season’s film screenings will include “West Side Story.”

Broadening the appeal

To attract new audiences, the Jacksonville Symphony has developed new programs that aim to accommodate



Photo by Jennifer Logue

busy lives. Through its “Symphony in 60” program, for example, people who work downtown can arrive at 6 p.m. on a weeknight, have cocktails and then enjoy a one-hour concert. During the performance, HD cameras give the audience a new perspective on what the musicians are doing during the concert. Following the performance, the audience is invited up on stage to meet the musicians.

“We hear so much that classical music is an art form that’s dying and this proves that’s not the case,” Lewis said. “We’re trying to explode that sense.”

Lewis is also committed to bringing high-caliber musicians to perform with the symphony, drawing on the best musical talent in the world

“We’re seriously upgrading the quality of guest artists,” he said. “As we try and build the Jacksonville Symphony, it’s really important for us to work with the best people.”

A series of free community concerts and a presentation of the child-friendly opera “Hansel and Gretel,” meanwhile, will offer additional opportunities for lo-

cal residents to experience the symphony.

Challenging expectations

The 2016-2017 Jacksonville Symphony season begins Sept. 30 with a performance of Igor Stravinsky’s “Rite of Spring,” a piece that was highly controversial when it first debuted in 1913.

“When it first premiered, there were fist fights and people threw tomatoes at the stage,” Lewis said. “We hope that doesn’t happen this time.”

Yet the response to the now-classic “Rite of Spring” does illustrate a fundamental question regarding art forms like the symphony, Lewis observed.

“Should (artistic performances) just comfort and entertain us,” he asked, “or actually challenge us to think about who we are as a society?”

To that end, Lewis wants to introduce more contemporary classical music to the Jacksonville Symphony’s repertoire.

“For some reason, when we hear about new classical music, we run for the hills,” he said. “We’re working very hard to change that.”

Jacksonville Symphony to perform three free community concerts

For the second year in a row, the Jacksonville Symphony will provide free community concerts to the residents of Northeast Florida.

Plans call for three free concerts in October to celebrate the 2016-2017 season opening.

“Our goal is to reach more of North Florida,” Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra President and CEO Robert Massey said.

“Last year, we entertained more than 201,000 people. We continue to seek out community venues to reach more residents and allow everyone to experience the symphony.”

The Mayo Clinic Community Concert Series will be held Oct. 7 at 8 p.m. at the Seawalk Pavilion in Jacksonville Beach; Oct. 8 at 8 p.m. at the Times-Union Center’s Jacoby Symphony Hall; and Oct. 9 at 6 p.m. at Bethel Baptist Institutional Church in Jacksonville.

Music on the program for the concerts includes Beethoven’s Symphony No. 5 in C minor, Op. 67 along with Antonín Dvořák’s “Carnival Overture” and Igor Stravinsky’s Orchestra Suites No. 2 for small orchestras.

Music Director Courtney Lewis will lead the orchestra at each appearance.

“I’m excited about bringing the symphony to more venues in North Florida,” Lewis said.

“Our appearance at Bethel Baptist Institutional Church is a ‘first’ for the orchestra. We know that when we share our music with people, they become more interested in attending and supporting the symphony.”

The symphony is planning a second week of free community concerts in spring 2017.

Susan G. Komen awards Mayo Clinic \$600,000 to develop breast cancer vaccine

The Susan G. Komen Foundation recently awarded The Mayo Clinic Jacksonville \$600,000 to develop a vaccine to prevent breast cancer.

Komen Scholar Keith Knutson, Ph.D. will use the grant to develop the vaccine by identifying proteins present only in tumor cells that will trigger an immune response.

“We are so thankful for our friends, family and neighbors who fight alongside us, helping to reduce the number of breast cancer deaths in North Florida, both on the ground and through research,” said Delores Wise, executive director of Komen North Florida.

The grant was part of nearly \$33 million in new research grants announced by Susan G. Komen, the world’s leading breast cancer organization. Grants were made to facilities in seven countries and 23 states. In addition to the Mayo Clinic Jacksonville, the University of Miami’s Miller School of Medicine and the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer and Research Institute received grants of \$180,000 and \$450,000, respectively, to fund other treatment and prevention research. Since 1982, Florida research facilities have received more than \$14 million from Susan G. Komen.

“For nearly 35 years our organization has

been a leader in the fight to end breast cancer, changing how people think about, talk about and treat this disease,” said Komen President and CEO Judy Salerno, M.D., M.S. “Not only will these grants accelerate our understanding of key areas in breast cancer research, but they include funding for early-career investigators.”

The grants are part of Susan G. Komen’s goal to reduce breast cancer deaths in the United States by 50 percent over the next decade.

“As federal research dollars become increasingly difficult to secure, these awards give promising young researchers an op-

portunity to establish their careers, and help ensure breakthrough breast cancer research continues for years to come,” Dr. Salerno added. “Their work is essential to achieving our vision of a world without breast cancer.”

Grants funded in this round by Susan G. Komen include 38 grants focused on stopping metastatic breast cancer; 15 grants exploring novel treatments for aggressive forms of the disease; 21 grants aimed at advancing techniques for detecting primary and recurrent breast cancer; and 12 grants aimed at identifying the causes of breast cancer disparities and testing ways to overcome barriers to care.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Advanced Disposal launches common stock IPO

Advanced Disposal announced an initial public offering of 19,250,000 shares of its common stock Sept. 26.

All of the shares are being offered by the company, whose common stock has been approved for listing on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol "ADSW." The underwriters have the option to purchase up to an additional 2,887,500 shares of common stock.

The offering of the securities will be made only by means of a prospectus. Copies of the preliminary prospectus may be obtained from Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., Attention: Prospectus Group, 60 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005-2836; by email to prospectus.cpdg@db.com; or by telephone at (800) 503-4611. Copies may also be obtained from Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, Attention: Prospectus Department, One Madison Avenue, New York, New York, 10010 (telephone +1 (800) 221-1037 or email at newyork.prospectus@credit-suisse.com); or from Barclays Capital Inc., via telephone: (888) 603-5847, email: Barclaysprospectus@broadridge.com or standard mail at c/o Broadridge Financial Solutions, 1155 Long Island Avenue, Edgewood, NY 11717.

Advanced Disposal intends to use the net proceeds from the shares offered to repay outstanding borrowings under the Term B loan portion of its secured credit facilities.

USA Today names St.



Augustine Distillery 'Best Craft Gin Distillery'

St. Augustine Distillery has been named Best Craft Gin Distillery in the United States in USA Today's 10Best Readers' Choice travel award contest. It was one of 20 distilleries from around the country nominated by a panel of industry experts, including Brian Christensen from Artisan Spirit Magazine and Olivier Ward from Gin Foundry.

"We are honored to have been included in such a well-respected group of craft distilleries," said Philip McDaniel, co-founder and CEO of St. Augustine Distillery. "Like us, many of these distilleries work in small batches, using traditional techniques and are working hard doing what they love. We are proud to be able to take this recognition home to our employees."

St. Augustine Distillery's New World Gin has garnered attention for the artisanal distillery located in downtown St. Augustine, including gold medals in the 2016 Los Angeles International Spirits Competition, 2015 American Craft Spirits Association (ACSA) Competition and 2015 San Francisco World Spirits Competition. It was also named "Best Gin of the South" in Southern Living magazine's Food Awards.

"It's always nice to receive validation that if you create a high-quality spirit using locally sourced ingredients, people take notice," said McDaniel. "We feel that we hit the mark with our New World Gin, a beautiful spirit that is evocative of Florida and makes spectacular cocktails."

Northeast Florida's first Kiddie Academy holds ground breaking

A groundbreaking ceremony for Northeast Florida's first Kiddie Academy was held Sept. 19 at the new site located off Racetrack Road one block west of US 1.

According to owners Rita and Joe Geronimo, the \$2.3 million, 10,000 square-foot facility is expected to open in 2017.

When completed, Kiddie Academy will serve up to 170 children between the ages of 6 and 12 and have a staff of 20.

After relocating to the Nocatee area in 2013, the Geronimos said they noticed a demand for child care with the growth happening in the area.

"When I started looking into the different child care options in the market, I was very impressed with Kiddie Academy's focus on education," Rita Geronimo said. "The programs also emphasize continuous, open communication between teachers and parents concerning each child's development."

Geronimo added that while the child care center wouldn't open until next spring, it will be accepting applications for children to attend – and will offer a \$100 tuition credit to the first 50 families to sign up as part of its "FirstFamilies Program." For registration information, call (904) 466-8477 or email stjohns@kiddieacademy.net.

MOVERS & SHAKERS



Photo courtesy of Dream Vacations

IFA Chairman Aziz Hashim, Mara Hargarther, Claudia Thaler, Mariana Huberman of the IFA Franchisess Forum and Chris Rush, DVP, Strategy & Business Development, Small Business Services.

Ponte Vedra travel agency owners win Franchisee of the Year Award

Dream Vacations of Ponte Vedra owners Mara Hargarther and Claudia Thaler recently received the Franchisee of the Year Award from the International Franchise Association.

"IFA is proud to recognize Mara and Claudia with the Franchisee of the Year award," said IFA President & CEO, Robert Cresanti, CFE. "The franchising community is a critical component of the U.S. economy in large part due to the dedication of these exemplary individuals who have helped grow the industry and continue to give back to their communities, including a strong commitment to help others in need."

A cruise and travel agency, Dream Vacations said the franchise owners are "inspirational role models" for other franchisees.

"We are proud and humbled to have won the International Franchise Association Franchise of the Year on behalf of Dream Vacations," Hargarther said. "We are so fortunate to be in this business where we make dreams come true."



Photo courtesy of Florida's Historic Coast

Bill "Captain William Mayhem" McRae, Pirate & Treasure Museum, 2016 Attractions Employee of the Year; Dianya Markovits, St. Johns County Cultural Events Division, 2016 Government Employee of the Year; and Paul Burch, Sunset Grille, 2016 Restaurant Employee of the Year.

VCB presents hospitality and tourism awards

The St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra and The Beaches Visitors and Convention Bureau presented awards to representatives of St. Johns County's tourism and hospitality industries at its recent annual

meeting.

Taking home the top award in the attractions category was Bill "Captain William Mayhem" McRae of the St. Augustine Pirate & Treasure Museum. Dianya Markovits of the St. Augustine Amphitheatre and Ponte Vedra Concert Hall received the award in the government category while Jenny Regland of the Pirate Haus Inn received the lodging category prize. Paul Thomas Burch of the Sunset Grille took home the award in the restaurant category, while the top retail award went to Sam Andrews of the St. Augustine Lighthouse and Maritime Museum gift shop.



COTTINGHAM

Cottingham completes Tauck training

Beverly Cottingham, a travel agent from AAA Travel in Ponte Vedra Beach, recently completed an in-depth training program with Tauck, joining the less

than 1 percent of the company's worldwide network of travel agents who have successfully completed the program. By completing the curriculum, Cottingham becomes a Tauck Certified agent who qualifies for special programs and other exclusive benefits provided by the company.

Tauck is a 90-year-old leader in premium quality guided travel, with more than 120 land journeys and cruises to more than 70 countries and all seven continents. The company was recently named the "World's Best River Cruise Line" by the readers of Travel + Leisure magazine for the second consecutive year.

Florida museum director named president-elect of Paleontological Society

Bruce McFadden has been selected to serve as president-elect of the Paleontological Society.

A Florida Museum of Natural History curator and University of Florida professor, McFadden took office Sept. 25 during the society's annual meeting in Denver. He will serve two years as president-elect and then a two-year term as president.

"It is an honor to lead the Paleontological Society," MacFadden said. "I am interested in reaching out to anyone who wants to be involved with fossils and paleontology, whether they are professionals, students, teachers, hobbyists or other members of the general public."

MacFadden was a geology instructor at Yale University before he began working at the Florida Museum in 1977. His research focuses on the evolution, ecology and geography of fossil mammals that have lived in the Americas over the past 50 million years.



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6. Put into service
9. Slowly one
13. Center of iris
14. "Platoon" setting
15. Ben Franklin's invention
16. Naked protozoa
17. First prime number
18. Trail follower
19. *Norman Bates/Janet Leigh movie
21. *2002 horror flick starring Naomi Watts
23. Actress _____ Michele
24. Potato's soup mate
25. Not hook or cross
28. Fodder holder
30. Before Reuse and Recycle
35. Reunion attendee
37. Baptism or shiva
39. Enter user name and password
40. Delhi wrap
41. Abominable snowmen
43. Swine and avian diseases
44. Signs of things to come
46. "Will be," according to Doris Day
47. Cohen brothers' "Barton _____"
48. Public announcement
50. Bit attachment
52. #9 Across' digs
53. Like pinkish cheeks
55. Boston _____ Party

57. Go off on a _____, or deviate

61. *Jeff Goldblum's unfortunate teleportation experiment
64. La _____ opera house
65. Freudian topic
67. Sag
69. Per _____, or yearly
70. Black and white sea bird
71. "Number the Stars" author
72. None of this for the weary
73. Soap-making ingredient
74. English county

DOWN

1. Number cruncher
2. Coal in a stocking
3. *Killer ones attacked in 1995's "Congo"
4. Female oracle
5. "Oh, The _____ You'll go!"
6. "Do _____ others as..."
7. *Movie featuring the killer Jigsaw
8. Be theatrical
9. Recipe command
10. Mischievous Scandinavian god
11. Baker's baker
12. Shipping hazard
15. Israeli money
20. *Like "The Wolf Man"
22. Of a female
24. 50-50 draw, e.g.
25. *Avenger in a hockey mask
26. Remember this

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	4						7
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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

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| <p>battle site?</p> <p>27. Chemistry lab glass device</p> <p>29. *"What _____ Beneath" with Michelle Pfeiffer</p> <p>31. Remove, as a hat</p> <p>32. a.k.a. tangelos</p> <p>33. *Dracula's title</p> <p>34. Glorify</p> <p>36. Short skirt</p> <p>38. Michael Collins' country</p> <p>42. Says, archaic</p> <p>45. *Neve Campbell vs. Ghostface flick</p> | <p>49. Long period of time</p> <p>51. Found in a haystack?</p> <p>54. Diamond datum</p> <p>56. 1970s big dos</p> <p>57. Russia's 1917 abdicator</p> <p>58. High school breakout</p> <p>59. Grannies</p> <p>60. Pig out</p> <p>61. Puff of marijuana</p> <p>62. Blues</p> <p>63. Bygone era</p> <p>66. Laroche or de Mau-passant</p> <p>68. Eucharist vessel</p> |
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Sharks settle score with Pedro Menendez

By Jerry Norton

The Ponte Vedra Sharks had a score to settle with Pedro Menendez Friday night and settle it they did. In 2015, the Falcons handed the Sharks an unexpected 25-20 defeat after Ponte Vedra had rolled to four straight wins and had visions of an undefeated season. The payback came as the Sharks pummeled the Falcons 49-22 in a game that was not nearly as competitive as the score might indicate.

Ponte Vedra scored early and often behind the passing and running of quarterback Nick Tronti and running back Hal Swan and Tronti's talented group of receivers. Tronti found his tight end Kit Connelly wide open over the middle for a 46-yard touchdown before the game was two minutes old.

Moments later, Ponte Vedra forced a three-and-out punt and was back on offense near their own 40-yard line. A pair of passes to Jake Maguire picked up 20 yards and Swan's 37-yard burst gave the Sharks a first and goal inside the Falcon 10. Tronti's keeper took advantage of the field position as he scored the first of his three running touchdowns.

Linebacker Sam Barnhard's fumble recovery of the ensuing kickoff put the football

back in Tronti's hands and the senior quarterback went immediately to wide-out Marshall Few for 36 yards. Few's remarkable catch came despite the Falcon defender's apparent interference. It wouldn't be his only remarkable catch of the game. He made a brilliant diving grab in the end-zone in the third quarter for the final PV touchdown.

With the Sharks again in the shadow of the Falcon goal posts, Tronti rolled left on a keeper for a touchdown and a 21-0 score.

The Shark defense contributed to the rout when Andrew O'Dare forced another Menendez fumble giving Ponte Vedra the ball near midfield. Swan and Zach Walton took turns chewing up yardage in big chunks. Swan's plunge from a yard out put Ponte Vedra up 28-0 just as the second quarter started.

Menendez found a soft spot in the Shark defense on their next possession by completing a 70-yard pass to a wide-open receiver. Responding to their touchdown, the visitors forced a PV punt, then marched 50 yards to a fourth and goal situation at the Sharks' one-yard line but weren't able to score.

The Sharks, aided by a pass interference call, used big running plays by Swan

and Tronti to move 99 yards as the first half clock ticked down. Swan ran in from four yards out for the touchdown with 25 seconds left in the half.

The breakdown in the Ponte Vedra secondary that led to Pedro's first score came

SHARKS continues on Page 50

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Jaguars fail to hold late lead, remain winless

By Mike Bonts

Justin Tucker kicked a 54-yard field goal with 1:02 to play as Baltimore kept the Jacksonville Jaguars winless with a 19-17 win Sunday at EverBank Field.

“It was a tough hard, fought battle,” Jaguars Coach Gus Bradley said. “I know the problems. And I am the problem fixer.”

Tucker accounted for most of the Ravens’ offense with field goals of 43, 42 and 37 yards in the victory.

With the Ravens’ trailing 17-16, Brent

Urban blocked a Jason Myers field goal that allowed Baltimore one last shot at victory. Myers had put the Jaguars up by one point minutes earlier on a 49-yarder.

Jaguars QB Blake Bortles threw two TDs but also three interceptions, the last one with 16 seconds to play in the game. Bortles finished 24 of 38 for 194 yards and rushed for 17 yards.

The boo birds came out after his first pick. “If I went to somebody’s work and performed as bad as I did, I would boo them too,” Bortles said.

Neither team seemed to be able to take control of the game. The Jacksonville running back tandem of T.J. Yeldon and Chris Ivory combined for a total of 31 yards.

Baltimore QB Joe Flacco threw two interceptions but also ran for the team’s only TD on a seven-yard run. Flacco was 29 of 40 for 214 yards. Steve Smith caught eight passes for 87 yards for the Ravens. Baltimore had 84 yards on the ground mostly on the heels of Terrance West’s 45 yards.

Allen Robinson caught two touchdown passes of three and 11 yards from Bortles.

Robinson had seven catches for 57 yards.

Defensively, rookie defensive end Yannick Ngakoue registered his second consecutive game with a sack-fumble when he brought down Flacco on second-and-three with 39 seconds remaining in the first half.

Ngakoue registered his first career sack last week at San Diego. Defensive tackle Malik Jackson also registered his first sack of the season and first sack with the Jaguars.

Linebacker Telvin Smith registered seven tackles against the Ravens. Smith extended his league-leading streak to 19 games with six-plus tackles and also eclipsed 250 career tackles.

Safety Tashaun Gipson registered his first interception with the club in the fourth quarter. Linebacker Paul Posluszny registered his 15th career interception when he intercepted Flacco with less than five minutes remaining in the fourth quarter.

The Jacksonville Jaguars defense forced a three-and-out on Baltimore’s first offensive possession, marking the first time this season and the first time since Week 13 of the 2015 season at Tennessee that Jacksonville’s defense has forced a three-and-out on their opponent’s first offensive possession.

The Jaguars defense also forced a three-and-out on the Ravens’ second offensive possession, marking the first time since Week 8 of the 2014 season against Miami that the Jaguars defense forced three-and-outs on two consecutive possessions to begin a game.

Jacksonville is now 0-3 and will play the Indianapolis Colts next Sunday in London. The Ravens improved to 3-0.

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Sharks

Continued from 49

back to bite the Sharks on the Falcons final play of the half. This time it was an 80-pass completion.

Ponte Vedra wasted little time making up for the defensive misplay that ended the first half. Tronti took matters in his hands by running 45 yards through the Menendez defense – a play that would make the ESPN highlight reels if it occurred on Sunday afternoon.

The Sharks finished their scoring on Marshall Few’s second brilliant catch of the game, this one covering 33 yards.

The Sharks’ record improved to 4-0 and they have scored an average of 45 points in each of their last three games. Tronti’s stellar season continues as he completed nine of 18 passes for 169 yards and two TDs. He also ran for three scores. Swan carried 18 times for 145 yards and a pair of touchdowns. Few caught five passes covering 93 yards and one TD.

The Sharks hit the road for a conference game against Westside on September 30 at 7 p.m.

View game photos at www.pontevedrerecorder.com

PVHS's McKevitt claims medalist honors in match against Nease

Ponte Vedra High School senior Sara McKevitt continued her standout golf performance recently, carding an even par 36 in the team's initial match against Nease High School, claiming medalist honors.

Under the direction of Coach Clint Finlay, McKevitt is in her fourth year of varsity play, improv-

ing her performance each year.

Last year, she led the Sharks at the prestigious Honda Invitational Golf Tournament, posting a two-day score of 82 and 81.

Her nine-hole low score last year was a 35 at the district tournament.

A member of the All-County Golf Team the last two years, McKevitt

practices at the Windsor Parke Golf Club and also participates in local and regional golf tournaments.

Along with junior Sophie Membrino, she looks to lead the Sharks to a repeat of their district and regional championships and make a successful run at the state championship.



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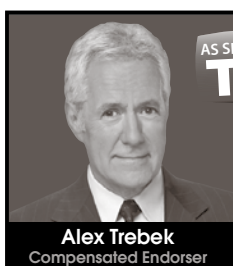
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KEEPING UP

By Barbara Boxleitner

Special to the Recorder

Olivia Printy has been recognized for her soccer play.

The freshman is a starting goalkeeper for Manhattan College. The Ponte Vedra Beach resident was named the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference rookie of the week after recording her first shutout. She made six saves.

Through eight games (3-5), she had a 3-4 record. As of Sunday, her .841 save percentage and 0.99 goals against average ranked second in the conference.

More women's soccer

Columbia College junior goalkeeper **Katherine Yahnke** had a 4-4 record in eight starts. The Ponte Vedra Beach resident had a 2.09 goals against average and .811 save percentage.

Bartram Trail product **Courtney Schell** had two goals and two assists in starting the first eight games for Auburn University. The junior midfielder was second on the team in points.

Senior midfielder **Sam Patterson** started the first eight games for Coastal Carolina University. Previously at Bartram Trail, she had two assists.

Ponte Vedra High graduate **Callie Delaney** started four of the first five games for New

York University. She is a freshman defender.

Ponte Vedra Beach resident **Tanner Wallace** played in two games for Texas Christian University. She is a junior defender.

Football

University of Pittsburgh redshirt senior quarterback **Nathan Peterman** was 14-for-29 for 237 yards in a loss to Oklahoma State. The Bartram Trail graduate threw a 60-yard touchdown and had one interception. He rushed nine times for 33 yards.

Junior linebacker **Will Trillo** had seven tackles for Southeastern University against Virginia University-Lynchburg. He is a past Bear. Also from Bartram Trail, **Michael**

Clarke is a freshman defensive back for Bentley University.

Methodist University starting defensive lineman **Will England** had four tackles and half a sack against Randolph-Macon. He played for Allen D. Nease.

Men's golf

Andrew Morris is a freshman for Fairleigh Dickinson University. The Nease graduate shot a 241 (75-84-82) to finish fourth among the Knights at the Alex Lagowitz Memorial Invitational.

Send updates about area athletes to Barbara Boxleitner at bboxleitner@outlook.com.



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