

# Ponte Vedra Recorder

*Not your average newspaper, not your average reader*

**July 20, 2017**  
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75 cents

PonteVedraRecorder.com



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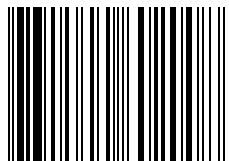
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## ONE SHOT AT A TIME: PGA TOUR UNVEILS UPGRADED PERFORMANCE CENTER AT TPC SAWGRASS

Photo by Stand Badz, PGA TOUR  
Todd Anderson (right), the performance center's director of instruction, uses the facility's technology to help a student improve his game. Read more on page 41.

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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. E-mail submissions to [pvrecorder@opcfla.com](mailto:pvrecorder@opcfla.com) or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach.**



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## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

T	I	R	E	D	B	B	C	S	T	E	W
U	T	E	R	I	L	A	H	H	O	U	R
B	L	A	N	C	U	S	A	O	F	F	A
A	L	L	S	T	A	R	F	A	N	T	A
T	U	N	D	E	U	S					
A	K	A	M	I	N	I	G	H	E	T	T
G	A	U	D	M	O	S	T	U	S	H	E
E	Z	R	A	A	S	H	E	S	P	E	A
N	O	U	N	S	E	P	E	E	N	I	S
T	O	M	A	T	O	A	M	A	H	R	E
O	V	E	N	M	U	G					
M	A	R	T	I	A	L	H	Y	D	R	A
A	D	H	O	C	A	R	E	D	O	T	E
D	I	E	T	S	T	A	R	L	O	O	S
E	T	A	S	E	N	D	E	M	P	T	Y

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

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

## WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

Email your answer with your first and last name to [jonb@opcfla.com](mailto:jonb@opcfla.com) by Monday at 5 p.m. All correct entries will be entered into a random drawing to win tickets for two adults and two children to the Jacksonville Zoo. In order to allow as many families as possible to win, participants are only eligible to win a ticket prize pack once every four months.

Two readers correctly identified last week's photo as the Mickler's Landing Beach entrance sign.



The winner of the random drawing was Judy Reed. Congratulations, Judy – you may pick up your prize at the Recorder office during normal business hours.

## ADOPT A PET

### CAT OF THE WEEK

My name is Jazzy, 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 me today here at the pet center! #38440



### DOG OF THE WEEK

My name is Stewy, and I am a 2-year-old male dog 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 me today here at the pet center! #38519

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.**



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# Ponte Vedra man arrested for unlawful sexual activity with minor

By Jon Blauvelt

A 40-year-old Ponte Vedra man was arrested Monday by Clay County Sheriff's Office deputies for engaging in unlawful sexual activity with a 16-year-old boy.

Virgil Badie, of 136 Skywood Trail in Nocatee, was arrested in Clay County on three counts of unlawful sexual activity and transported to the Clay County Jail.

According to a police report, deputies responded to a "suspicious circumstance" that led to a 16-year-old boy telling them that he had engaged in consensual sex with Badie. The victim said that he met Badie on an application that he downloaded on his phone and tablet.

The report adds that Badie asked the victim for naked pictures, and that Badie sent photos of himself to the victim. The victim stated that he doesn't remember if Badie ever asked him about his age, but

that they did talk about school.

According to the report, Badie is an employee of VyStar Credit Union in Orange Park.

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# Ponte Vedra Corporation awaits next steps on Vista Tranquilla

## Debate over development of The Outpost drags on



Photo courtesy of Lucas Peters: Aerial Photography Jacksonville

The Outpost property is located at the end of Neck Road and adjacent to the Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve (GTMNERR).

### By Jon Blauvelt

Ponte Vedra Corporation (PVC) Attorney Lynn Pappas said she expects to receive the next round of comments and guidance from St. Johns County staff on the company's Vista Tranquilla application by the end of July.

The company submitted its responses to the county's review of its controversial development project June 30. The Gate Petroleum subsidiary has asked the county to review the responses and make its next move within 30 days, which could include deciding if the application is ready to go before the Planning and Zoning Agency and Board of County Commissioners. The county conducted its review of the project and sent comments to PVC in late February 2017.

PVC is proposing to rezone 99 acres of Conservation property known as The Outpost from Open Rural to Planned Unit Development to build a subdivision there known as Vista Tranquilla. The Outpost property is located at the end of Neck Road and adjacent to the Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve (GTMNERR).

Most notable in its responses to the county is PVC's plan to remove 11 lots from the subdivision, resulting in a total of 66 homes. The company says it will also consolidate plans for an east and west park into one centralized neighborhood park and provide required upland buffers in the northern and western sections of the property. Among several other revisions, PVC plans to provide a minimum 30-foot buffer and 20-foot water quality treatment swale along the eastern perimeter of the property, as well as increased building setbacks within the Guana Lake Edge.

"It's a voluminous response," said Pappas. "All of that is supplying additional material which supports the land plan as well as changes we felt were appropriate and improved the plan based on what we received from the county in their comments."

Jane West, an attorney representing the residents living along Neck Road who have formed the nonprofit group Save Guana Now to fight the development, believes the company's responses are anything but voluminous.

"It might be large in quantity," said West. "But in terms of the quality of the changes I saw, they were nominal at best."

West emphasized that the "elephant in the room" is that the property in question is designated on the St. Johns County future land use map as Conservation, and that the company needs a comprehensive plan amendment to change the designation. The county has consistently asked that the application be accompanied by this amendment.

"This is a peninsula that juts out into one of the most pristine, natural areas in our county," said West. "Of course it's designated Conservation. Why would we not adhere to what our planners put on the map and what has been on the map for two decades, just to accommodate another housing development?"

Pappas and PVC have continued to argue that a plan amendment is not required to process the application. They say the land use designation is conditional and requires future boundary adjustments based on environmental field surveys. They also argue the county has consistently approved such boundary adjustments in the past, determining that development on non-jurisdictional portions of such property may be developed consistent with the surrounding property, which in the case of Outpost is Residential C.

This debate has been ongoing for several years. PVC filed a lawsuit against the county in September 2016, asking the court to force the county to act on its PUD application, which the company said was not addressed within the typical time frame. The lawsuit charged that county officials failed to process requests dating back to 2013 for a routine administrative interpretation regarding the limits of the Conservation designation of The

Outpost.

After hearing from both parties in April, Judge Michael Traynor decided to stay the case, sending it back through the normal county process. Pappas said Traynor also told PVC to work with the county to establish a timeframe to respond to the county's February comments. Pappas noted that they didn't want to respond to the comments until receiving such direction from Traynor at the hearing in April. She said the company's June 30 responses were submitted well within the timeframe agreed upon with the county, adding that they were sent almost two months earlier than the deadline established by the code.

In those responses, PVC states that the compatibility of its PUD design is environmentally superior to the existing Neck Road

development due to its lower residential density, required central water and sewer connections and increased buffers, among other reasons.

Nicole Crosby, co-founder of Save Guana Now and a Neck Road resident, said this claim is laughable. She referenced a memo written by GTMNERR Manager Dr. Mike Shirley in May in which he cites concerns over the development's impact on the reserve's water quality. Save Guana Now and a handful of environmental organizations that have pledged their support for Crosby's group, including the Sierra Club and the Audubon Society, argue Vista Tranquilla will also adversely impact migrating birds and species of concern in the area, and contribute

OUTPOST continues on Page 5

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# Outpost

Continued from 4

pollution to the reserve and additional traffic on Neck Road.

In its responses, PVC states that the PUD's stormwater and water treatment systems will provide protections for the environment

beyond those implemented in most of the existing Neck Road residential areas. PVC also claims that traffic will not exceed the county's Minor Collector threshold of 2,000 vehicles per day to Mickler Road.

Crosby acknowledges that traffic will slightly reduce with 11 less homes, but overall, not much for her has changed.

"We're really looking at the exact same problem," said Crosby, who noted that the

next Save Guana Now meeting is July 26 at 7 p.m. at Mickler's Landing Beach. "The fact that they made other, what they would consider concessions, didn't surprise me either because they're trying to make the project appear less unattractive. It's still basically 76 acres of uplands that are going to have complete habitat destruction."

Pappas disagrees, remarking that it's easy to say PVC's recent responses seem minimal,

when she believes they're quite substantive and meaningful. Regardless, she said the ball is now in the hands of the county.

"It stands exactly where it needs to stand," she said. "The county commission needs to vote on their position with respect to the language of their comprehensive plan."

As of now, PZA and BCC hearings on this debate have yet to be scheduled.

## Vicar's Landing Home Health joins Clay County Chamber

By Samantha Logue

Vicar's Landing Home Health Agency has joined the Clay County Chamber of Commerce. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held July 14 at the Vicar's Landing Administration building in Ponte Vedra Beach to celebrate the occasion.

The home health agency, a division of the Vicar's Landing retirement community, provides a spectrum of care and assistance to aging adults—including companionship, caregiving, nursing and rehabilitation services—based on their individual needs.

Having recently expanded its reach to Clay County, Vicar's Landing Home Health opted to join the Clay County Chamber to help increase its outreach.

"Right now, we're licensed in St. Johns, Duval and Clay County," said Director of Home Health Denice Blitch. "Our goal and our focus is to get outside the gates of Vicar's and actually get into the communities surrounding it."

For more information about Vicar's Landing Home Health Agency, visit [www.vlhha.com](http://www.vlhha.com).



Photo by Samantha Logue

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*Bo Cure is the wine & spirits director at Sawgrass Country Club- a role he's extremely passionate about and thankful to have. Also a musician, Cure has an interesting story and background that led him to Ponte Vedra Beach.*

## Bo Cure

By Jon Blauvelt

### What was your career path to your current job?

My first endeavor into the food and beverage industry was at South Seas Plantation on Captiva Island off the coast of Southwest Florida in the late 80s when I was 20 years old. Shortly after I started working at South Seas, I was taken under the wing of an extraordinary fine dining restaurant director, Arno Schied. Arno was such a great mentor to have at such a young age; he was German to the core and very strict as to the attention to detail in all aspects of our daily operations at the King's Crown, South Seas' formal dining restaurant and banquet facility. The exposure to such strict discipline at that time in my life helps me to this day. Beyond my time at South Seas, I worked as a high-volume bartender in unbelievably busy nightclubs until I was in my early 20s. It was in the early 90s that I became disillusioned with the life that goes along with working in nightclubs and decided to shift from playing guitar as simply a hobby to performing professionally. I played all across the United States for the next 20 years. Ironically enough, I was still working in nightclubs, but at least it wasn't a constant, and I enjoyed playing in different locations for the most part.

### What's a typical day like for you as wine & spirits director at Sawgrass Country Club?

My day generally varies between checking in on our beverage orders to the much more interesting facets of my job that include tasting wines that I might pick for our wine lists or wine dinners; hosting wine dinners and other beverage related events; setting up visits at vineyards for our members; or simply walking around our dining facilities and helping our members pick out a bottle of wine that might make their dining experiences much more enjoyable. I am also involved in conceptualizing member events, and I truly love this part of the job as I get an opportunity to create unique, eclectic events for our membership.

### What do you like most about your job and working at Sawgrass Country Club?

That's an easy question to answer: our members and my co-workers. I am so fortunate to work for such a great group of members and to work on a staff that I also care for dearly. Sawgrass is a family, and I feel very lucky to have become a part of such an amazing community and staff. Another aspect that I love about working for Sawgrass is that I can still play guitar professionally at the club. My much better half Tia Charles, who is a professional singer, and I perform at the club quite often, which creates a best of both worlds atmosphere for me.

### What are some of the challenges you face in your role?

I would have to say that my biggest challenge is imparting a love of wine to the millennials on our staff. There is so much good wine in the world now that to get a handle on even just the wine that comes out of a state like California or Oregon is daunting. It takes time and a true passion for vino to start to understand all of the subtle differences between the different varietals of wine on the market today.



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

### What do you think distinguishes Sawgrass from other clubs?

Usage. Our members utilize their memberships at our club. Our culture at Sawgrass is not one of profit margins and bottom lines first; it's about getting our members out to enjoy all the club has to offer. Of course, we have to be fiscally responsible, but ultimately Sawgrass Country Club is about creating an amazing experience for our members each time they visit the club. The sheer volume of business we have created at our food and beverage outlets has enabled us to gain lower pricing and pass those reduced costs on to our membership.

### What do you enjoy most about living on the First Coast?

I moved to this area from Naples, Florida, which is a

great place to live, but Naples really doesn't have the Southern hospitality vibe that the First Coast is steeped in. People, for the most part, are just pleasant and nice to each other here.

### When away from the club, what do you do in your free time?

I enjoy spending time at home with my family. Tia and I have a happy home with her two boys, Spencer and Nathan. I don't think there is anything more important than creating a good home life, especially when children are in the picture. I also get out and play tennis and basketball when I get the opportunity. I play tennis with some of the members, and I give the millennials I work with a chance to get back at me for driving them crazy about wine by playing basketball with them.

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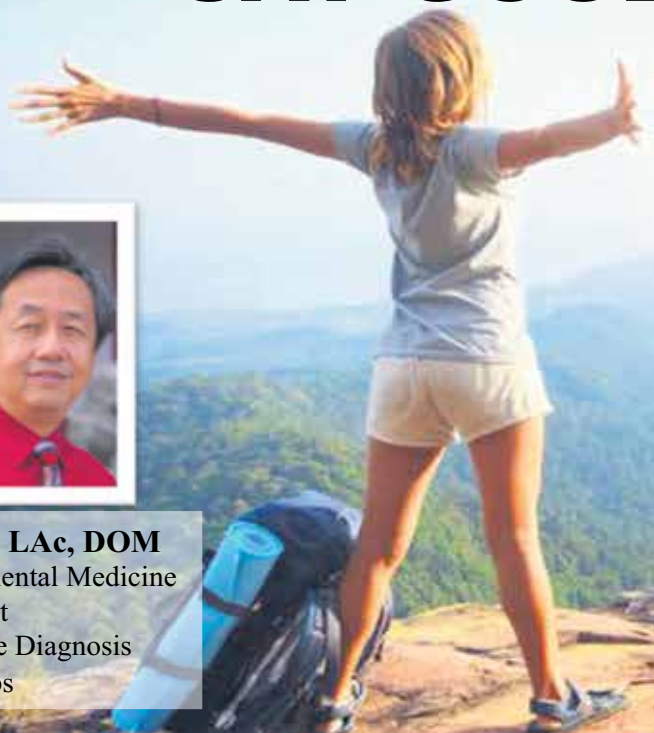
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# Bolles students enjoy summer exchange in China

For the fifth time since the exchange program between The Bolles School and China's Qingdao Tourist School was established in 2009, a group of Bolles students traveled to Qingdao for several weeks of summer study and cultural engagement.

"Over the course of the trip, students not only improved their Chinese speaking and listening skills, but more importantly, their understanding of Chinese people and culture—ultimately helping them to see the world from different perspectives," said Bolles Chinese language teacher Cheng-Me Rothschild, who chaperoned the trip with Bolles world language colleague Ying Li. The two teachers and 15 Bolles students returned to Jacksonville in late June.

The student group included: Elexis Bishop '18, Julia Butler '19, Reza Chahla-vi '19, Anna Csikai '19, Amelia Emas '20, Grayson Eng '18, Brian Fagan Jr. '19, Alexander Hastings '19, Stanley Lin '19, Stefan Mostovych '19, Hayden Norris '19, Justin O'Leary '20, Brandon O'Leary '18, Pearson Toomey '19 and Luke Piatt '19. During their stay at the Qingdao Tourist School, Bolles students lived in a dormitory.

Rothschild said the exchange program consists of two parts: learning and fun. For the first 10 days, students attended classes designed by the Qingdao School from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Classes included lessons



Photos courtesy of The Bolles School

**Bolles students explore a marketplace in Qingdao.**

in Chinese language, geography, history, traditional customs and festivals and were conducted in Chinese by the Qingdao School faculty. During the final 10 days of the trip, students traveled to cities across China including Beijing, Xi'an and Shanghai to experience Chinese culture firsthand.

In several cities, Rothschild said, the student group connected with Bolles alumni living in the area, giving vitality to the program. One of the highlights of the trip was a meeting with Stephen Schroeder in Shanghai. Schroeder, one of Rothschild's former students who participated twice in the Bolles China trip, works as the global processing improvement manager for real estate firm Cortland Partners' Shanghai branch. He talked to the students about working overseas and how his interest in Chinese language and culture evolved into a successful business career.

"Schroeder gave the current Bolles students great advice for their future," wrote student Julia Butler, who managed a travel blog for the group.

As part of the exchange program,



**Qingdao students teach Bolles students to play traditional Chinese games.**

students from the Qingdao Tourist School will travel to Jacksonville in February to

experience school, culture and travel opportunities in Florida.

# Chabad at the Beaches to offer another year of Hebrew school

Chabad at the Beaches will offer another year of Hebrew school starting Sept. 10 in Ponte Vedra to promote Jewish awareness and education.

The Beaches Hebrew school provides an academic environment for children to learn about Judaism. Students gain knowledge in Hebrew reading, writing, Jewish history and more.

Director of Chabad at the Beaches Rabbi Nochum Kurinsky says the school's goal is for children to "have a great time,"

to "love Judaism" and "connect to their heritage." He also believes the program offers a first taste of Jewish learning in a creative, joyful, hands-on and interesting way.

"Our school's underlying approach is for the children to enjoy the time spent at Hebrew school so that they are left with positive experiences and a greater appreciation for Jewish education," added Leah Kurinsky, director of the Beaches Hebrew School. "Our students love coming, and

we love seeing the sparkle in their eyes as they rush in the door Sunday morning. There is nothing that gives us greater joy than making Judaism so joyful and exciting for the children. They are often so busy having fun they don't notice how much they are learning."

The school utilizes a method of Hebrew reading called Aleph Champ and personalized attention for individual students to increase their rate of success.

Registration for Chabad Hebrew School

is now open for the upcoming year of 2017 – 18.

The Hebrew School, housed at Chabad Center for Jewish Life at 521 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra, will open Sept. 10. Classes are held on Sunday morning and are offered for children aged 5-13. To visit the Chabad Hebrew School, schedule an appointment by calling (904) 543 9301 or e-mailing [info@chabadbeaches.com](mailto:info@chabadbeaches.com).

For more information, visit [www.chabadbeaches.com/hebrewschool](http://www.chabadbeaches.com/hebrewschool).



# Landrum Middle School student to attend leadership conference in Washington, D.C.

Cade Eidam, a sixth-grade student from Landrum Middle School, will participate in the 2017 Junior National Young Leaders Conference (JrNYLC) in Washington, D.C., from July 16 through July 21.

Cade was nominated to attend the conference last spring by his music teacher Jennifer Schlechte at Ocean Palms Elementary. He graduated from fifth grade with straight A's, earning a spot on the honor roll. He plans to pursue a career as a professional athlete, and he aspires to be an effective leader.

JrNYLC is an Envision program that provides a historical view of leadership and encourages young scholars to develop their own leadership skills and strategies for suc-

cess in the 21st century.

"The Junior National Young Leaders Conference enables students to recognize their own leadership abilities in the context of great men and women from the past and present," said Andrew Potter, chief academic officer for Envision. "They return home with new confidence in their ability to make a positive impact in their school and communities. Washington, D.C., serves as the perfect backdrop for this inspiring program to generate a new generation of U.S. leaders."

At the six-day conference, sixth, seventh and eighth grade students take part in workshops and simulations to expand their leadership abilities. Scholars explore histori-

cally significant sites, such as Harpers Ferry National Historical Park and memorials throughout Washington, D.C., to reflect upon and learn from leaders and events of the past.

"The students gain greater sense of themselves, their roles to preserve American democracy and their responsibilities as tomorrow's leaders," Potter said.

Students like Cade will work with peers at the conference to create action plans for change to put into practice when they return home.

For more information about the Junior National Young Leaders Conference, visit [www.envisionexperience.com/Leadership](http://www.envisionexperience.com/Leadership).



Photo courtesy of Jennifer and James Eidam  
**Cade Eidam**



Photo courtesy of Berkshire Hathaway

**Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty is collecting backpacks and school supplies for local children at all area offices during the company's 18th annual Backpack Challenge.**

## Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty holds 18th annual Backpack Challenge

### Real estate firm collecting new backpacks and supplies at office locations

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty is collecting backpacks and school supplies for local children at all area offices through July 31 during its 18th annual Backpack Challenge.

Last year, partnering with community and local charities, the company donated more than 1,000 backpacks filled with school supplies to local children. This year, the company has set a goal to exceed last year's contribution and is inviting the community to help. The company is collecting backpacks for students in kindergarten through grade 12.

"Every child deserves to begin the school year with a new backpack and the supplies needed for school," said Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty Founder, President and CEO Linda Sherrer. "A new backpack filled with school supplies is a wonderful gift, providing every student with the confidence needed to begin a successful school year."

#### **Backpacks and supplies may be dropped off at the following Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices office locations:**

- Home office - 4190 Belford Road, Suite 475, Jacksonville
- Avondale/Ortega - 3627 St. Johns Ave, Jacksonville
- Beaches/Intracoastal West/Southside - 3535 Highway 17, Suite 10, Fleming Island
- Mandarin/St. Johns - 11576 San Jose Blvd., Jacksonville
- Murabella - 196 Capulet Drive, Suite 3, St. Augustine
- Ponte Vedra/Nocatee - 333 Village Main St., Suite 670, Ponte Vedra Beach
- San Marco/San Jose - 1983 San Marco Blvd., Jacksonville
- St. Augustine - 112 Sea Grove Main St., Suite 210, St. Augustine Beach

"Words cannot express how much we appreciate the numerous donations and generous support we receive from our team members and community during the Backpack Challenge," said Broker/Executive Vice President Christy Budnick. "We know that beginning the school year with a new backpack filled with supplies makes a difference in the lives of children living in our communities, and this effort helps us accomplish that goal."



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Photo courtesy of St. Augustine Humane Society  
**St. Augustine Humane Society's Executive Director Carolyn Smith and Staff Veterinarian Dr. Lauren Rockey gather with Tucker.**

# St. Augustine Humane Society and Husky Haven Rescue of Florida partner to treat local dog for heartworm disease

## Mosquito season promotes heartworm disease in dogs.

The St. Augustine Humane Society and Husky Haven of Florida will provide heartworm disease treatment for Tucker, a local, male Siberian Husky in the advanced stages of the illness.

Staff Veterinarian Dr. Lauren Rockey and her medical team will treat Tucker through the humane society's pet wellness clinic. Executive Director Carolyn Smith will provide foster care for the four-year-

old dog. Tucker will be available for adoption through Husky Haven after his heartworm condition is under control and manageable.

"With the rainy season upon us in Florida, mosquitoes are also in abundance, so it's important to make sure dogs are protected against this deadly sickness," Smith said. "Heartworm disease is carried from dog to dog solely through the bite of a mosquito."

Smith believes heartworm disease is easily preventable before the illness is diagnosed with a monthly parasiticide. The humane society offers \$20 heartworm tests and monthly prevention costs running from \$4-7 at the clinic.

According to Dr. Rockey, heartworm disease is a serious and potentially fatal illness that is transmitted by infected mosquitoes. Dogs are natural hosts for heartworms, which live inside the dog and can mature into adults and produce offspring. If left untreated, Dr. Rockey added, their numbers can increase and cause lasting damage to the heart, lungs and arteries. Even after removal, she explained that heartworms can cause lasting damage to the dog's health and quality of life. As a result, prevention is the medically

recommended option and treatment when needed should be administered as early in the course of the disease as possible, she said.

The annual cost of prevention, as stated by Dr. Rockey, can be less than \$75, but treatment of a dog that already has the illness can easily exceed \$1,000 - particularly if complications occur.

"Not only is there the cost of Immiticide injections, the dog must be carefully monitored by a veterinarian," she said.

"The treatment can be very hard on a pet, and Tucker appears to have a heavy burden of heartworms, so his recovery will not be easy."

Husky Haven will thoroughly screen each new owner applicant before placing Tucker in his new home. Husky Haven is a non-profit based in Clearwater, Florida, that works with the humane society to provide support, education and assistance to all owners of Huskies. The organization rescues stray, surrendered and endangered Siberian Huskies, and it provides medical treatment for their rescue dogs.

For more information about heartworms, visit [www.heartwormsociety.org](http://www.heartwormsociety.org), call the humane society at (904) 829-2737 or email [info@staughumane.org](mailto:info@staughumane.org).

# Lightner Museum to host "The Sisterhood of the Traveling Plants"

Duo to perform demonstration of floral arranging and "tablescaping" reminiscent of the English country manor

The Lightner Museum will host "The Sisterhood of the Traveling Plants" Sunday, July 23, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. for an afternoon demonstration of floral arrangements and table landscapes.

The presentation will be demonstrated by Garden Club of St. Augustine members Cathy Snyder and Marilyn Smith, who combine to make up the sisterhood duo. Cost for the event is \$30 per person, and tickets can be purchased at [www.lightnermuseum.org/traveling-plants](http://www.lightnermuseum.org/traveling-plants). Light refreshments will be served by the Garden Club of St. Augustine. Attendees should bring tickets to the museum's front desk any time before the event to enjoy complimentary admission to the museum.

Proceeds will benefit the Lightner Museum, a non-profit cultural institution sustained by individuals, businesses and sponsors.

"The Sisterhood of the Traveling Plants event is an excellent complement to the museum's upcoming Dressing Downton™ exhibition beginning this October," said Elizabeth Graham, Lightner Museum educator.

For more information about the Garden Club of St. Augustine, visit [www.gardenclubofstaugustine.org](http://www.gardenclubofstaugustine.org).



Photo courtesy of Lightner Museum

**Elizabeth Graham, Lightner Museum educator and program coordinator.**

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Photo courtesy of Rotary Club

# Ponte Vedra Rotary Club donates to DONNA Foundation

The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach kicked off its new year of community service July 13 at its regular club meeting, which included the presentation of a \$7,500 donation to The DONNA Foundation. The donation is one of many the Rotary Club has made to local nonprofits from the proceeds of its annual Mineral City Celebration fundraiser. From left: DONNA Foundation Executive Director Amanda Napolitano, Founder Donna Deegan and Rotary Club President Billy Wagner.

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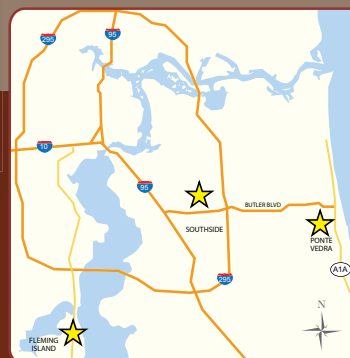
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## Holistic vet practice offers water treadmill and physical therapy room to rehab patients

By Jon Blauvelt

A holistic veterinary practice in Jacksonville Beach recently opened a new rehabilitation wing at its facility that features a water treadmill and a physical therapy room.

"This has been a dream of mine that started a couple years ago," said Dr. Jenna Hauck, owner of Veterinary Acupuncture and Wellness, which treats dogs and cats. "I'm so excited to be able to offer this to the Beaches and to Jacksonville."

Located at 480 Osceola Ave., the practice installed the water treadmill in the beginning of May.

Dr. Jessie Burgess, who leads the practice's rehabilitation efforts, explained that the buoyancy enabled by the treadmill allows patients experiencing pain to rehab safely with less pain because they don't have to carry 100 percent of their weight in the water.

She also said the treadmill helps patients build, strengthen and relax their muscles due to the hydrostatic pressure and viscosity that characterize the machine. An additional benefit of the treadmill, she said, is the resistance of the water, which helps patients decrease swelling.

Hauck explained that a range of patients come into the practice to use the treadmill. The most common participants, she said, are dogs and cats recovering from surgery. In addition, she said the water treadmill is beneficial for overweight patients, or older patients who have

found themselves in a downward cycle of walking less and becoming weaker. The treadmill, Hauck said, is easier on their joints because of the buoyancy. As a result, they can begin rebuilding muscle and become more confident.

"It just really can be so gratifying," said Hauck, who opened the overall practice in 2011.

Hauck added that the treadmill is also valuable for athletic dogs that may be recovering from injury. Julie Marco of Atlantic Beach recently started bringing her three-year-old Belgian Malinois, Electra, into the practice for that very reason. Marco explained that Electra is a top-10 dock diving dog in the country who has sustained muscular injuries throughout her competitive life. She said the water treadmill and overall rehab services at Veterinary Acupuncture and Wellness have become a newfound saving grace for her dog.

"There's really not a lot I could have done without this type of rehab," said Marco. "Doing this will be a long-term solution."

Burgess explained that Electra displays abnormalities with her gait and resistance to jump vertically. Options of traditional western medications and potential muscular injections are aimed to support and "bandaid" these clinical signs, she said, but are limited in diagnosing and correcting the primary problem.

Burgess noted that the benefit of canine rehabilitation for a dog like Electra is that they can work with the patient's body to heal the

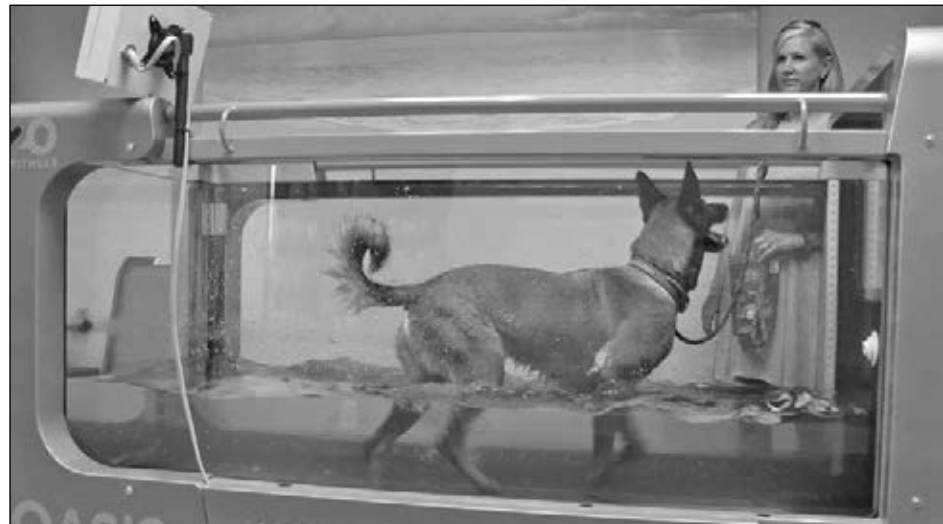


Photo by Jon Blauvelt

**Julie Marco's Belgian Malinois, Electra, uses the water treadmill at Veterinary Acupuncture and Wellness.**

muscular injury through stretching, range of motion and controlled exercise and movements in the underwater treadmill and get her back to competitive athletic status as soon as possible.

In addition to the water treadmill, the vet practice recently added a new physical therapy room to its offerings. The room features several pieces of equipment to help patients with their rehab, including cavaletti poles, physio balls, balance discs and wobble boards.

Hauck noted that an initial rehab consultation, which includes a free water treadmill trial, is

\$95. Moving forward, she said individual sessions with the water treadmill cost \$65. Using the physical therapy room ranges in cost from \$25-50, she added, depending on the exercises that are completed.

"I'm super excited about letting people know," said Hauck, whose practice also offers acupuncture, chiropractic services, Chinese herbs, laser therapy, homeopathy and massage therapy. "I think it's going to be such a great thing. We're just getting busier every day. It's awesome."

## St. Augustine Humane Society launches 7th annual photo fundraiser

### 'The Cutest Show on Earth' features local pets in carnival theme

The St. Augustine Humane Society has launched its seventh annual pet photo contest and 2018 calendar fundraiser to support the nonprofit's mission of promoting healthy life-long pet ownership and reducing the rate of relinquishment to shelters. "The Cutest Show

on Earth" Pin Up Paws calendar will feature the winning pets and an imaginary carnival theme with the dogs and cats fitted with accessories to match their personalities.

All proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the programs and services of the St.



Augustine Humane Society. The campaign and calendar sales and events will benefit the humane society's spay, neuter and surgery clinic, along with services and programs and current expansion.

Styling and photography sessions will take place with photographer Addison Fitzgerald, who has donated his time to the humane society for more than seven years.

"Whether your Shih Tzu is just so enamored with cotton candy, or your Australian Shepherd can't wait to get a hold of a crystal ball, we'll make sure the pet's carnival activities are perfectly captured in the fun and entertaining photo sessions," said Carolyn Smith, St. Augustine Humane Society's executive director.

Local artist and graphic designer Maribel Angel will design a distinctive calendar publication and, for the third year, the humane society is receiving a promotional billboard to be donated by Clear Channel Outdoor for eight weeks along I-95 in St. Johns County.

The deadline for entries is Thursday, Sept. 7 at 11:59 p.m., and voting ends on Saturday,

Sept. 9 at 8:59 p.m. The tax-deductible entries and voting donations may be made through a secure online payment at [www.PinUpPaws.com](http://www.PinUpPaws.com).

According to Smith, the community should check out the St. Augustine Humane Society's Facebook page for updates on calendar and entry announcements along with mini contests until the final week of the main contest. Gift certificates from the Columbia Restaurant in St. Augustine will be awarded periodically to pet owners who gain new votes.

Top photos and contest winners for the calendar will be determined with public voting. Winners will be notified and asked to provide a short biography about the pet. The calendars will be available for \$10 each starting in November online, by phone or at the humane society, plus at area retail locations. The humane society is located at 1665 Old Moultrie Road in St. Augustine.

For more information, call (904) 829-2737 or email [info@staughumane.org](mailto:info@staughumane.org). Visit the contest website at [www.PinUpPaws.com](http://www.PinUpPaws.com).

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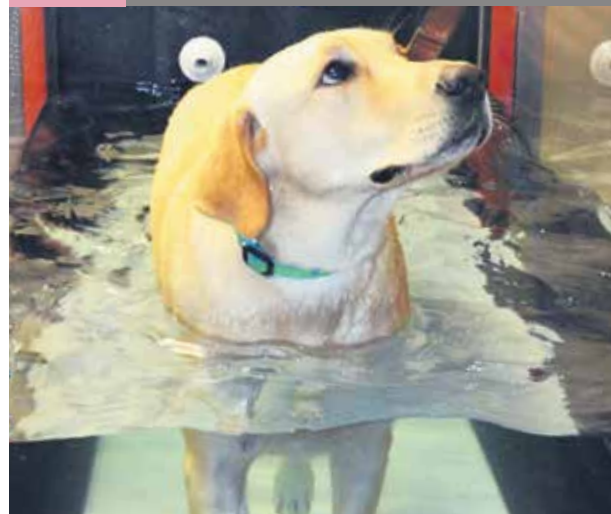


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# COA's Meals on Wheels program receives \$1,500 from Meals on Wheels America to support clients and their pets

## Funding helps keep St Johns County seniors and their pets together

The St. Johns County Council on Aging has received a \$1,500 grant from Meals on Wheels America to support its client pet-support program. Funding will be used to provide food, supplies and care for area clients with pets.

According to Becky Yanni, the executive director of the St Johns County Council on Aging, pets can reduce stress, lower blood-pressure and increase healthy physical activity. Yanni also believes pets can become a member

of the family capable of providing love and companionship.

In total, Meals on Wheels America has granted \$300,000 to 193 local Meals on Wheels programs through the "Meals on Wheels Loves Pets" initiative this year. Funding is made possible in part through a donation from Banfield Charitable Trust (BCT). To date, the grant program has distributed more than \$2.4 million in funding and pet food donations.

"While the benefits of companionship are clear, taking care of a pet can be financially and physically challenging for seniors," said Meals on Wheels America President and CEO Ellie Hollander. "Meals on Wheels Loves Pets' helps local Meals on Wheels providers alleviate this hardship and at the same time reduce the negative effects of isolation."

This donation will help the Council on Aging Meals on Wheels program continue to serve over 50 pets currently

receiving food on a monthly basis. Combining this financial support with the donations received from area veterinary clinics, St. Johns Veterinary Hospital, MuraBella Animal Hospital and Bartram Trail Veterinary Hospital will enable the organization to provide a greater amount of food each month to existing clients. Additionally, donors will insure that the Council on Aging will provide pet food to any new Meals on Wheels clients.

## Lodge & Club offers special promotion for solar eclipse

The Lodge & Club is offering a special promotion for guests looking to enjoy the next solar eclipse.

Couples can spend time on the beach while watching the moon pass over the sun with the "Solar Eclipse Romance Package," which includes one night's accommodations in an Ocean Suite, with early check-in Aug. 21 and late check-out Aug. 22; a two-hour couple's massage at the Spa; a three-course dinner at Sea View Grille; live music at the oceanfront Oasis Bar during the eclipse; and a celebratory Champagne toast at 2:49 - the peak of the eclipse.

Package rates start at \$1,045 and



include tax and gratuity.

Built in 1989, the Lounge & Club is a Four-Diamond boutique hotel with

Mediterranean-inspired architecture. The hotel includes 66 rooms and suites overlooking the beach and ocean, two

heated swimming pools, a fitness center and nursery.

## RSVP to hold summer volunteer conference

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of St. Johns County and the St. Johns County School District will host a summer education conference for volunteers Tuesday, Aug. 1.

At the conference, experts in the areas of mentoring, tutoring and school readiness will share strategies with volunteers who are currently serving and those who are interested in volunteer-

ing with the organization. The event will take place from 8 a.m. to noon at the Fullerwood Center at 10 Hildreth Drive, St. Augustine.

For registration and additional in-

formation, contact Cheryl Freeman at Cheryl.Freeman@stjohns.k12.fl.us or (904) 547-3952.



# Building commences on new elite sports training center

By Samantha Logue

Construction has begun on ABOVE Athletic Center, an elite sports training center that will lease space to several youth athletics programs in the Nocatee area.

With a total area of approximately 63,500 square feet, the sports and recreation facility will be located on the eastern side of Philips Highway, just north of Nocatee Parkway and Race Track Road. The building plan includes an indoor gymnasium with two large multi-purpose courts, six outdoor sand volleyball courts, an “airnasium” – or covered turf space – for softball and additional commercial sports space. The complex will also include a medical building that will house several health and wellness retail tenants, including a youth concussion treatment center, a physical therapist and an urgent care practice.

“It’s going to be a first-class facility,” said Jay Glatting, head of leasing and

management at ABOVE Athletics. “It’s being built and designed around youth sports programs for people committed to their training—the kids that are trying to get to the next level, whatever that level is.”

Glatting said that, as a former resident of Nocatee’s Willow Cove neighborhood and a father of competitive athletes, he recognized the potential for a sports facility in that area.

“Being so close to the Nocatee community, and with the influx of families to the area, we hope to be a one-stop shop for elite youth athletics for families,” he said. “We see an opportunity to be a leader in the more specialized, elite sports and recreation market, and hope to eliminate drive time for Nocatee families to other athletic facilities that are farther away.”

Glatting added that the centrality of ABOVE Athletics Center’s location will make it accessible to athletes in other areas of Jacksonville as well.

“It’s far enough south to serve the

northern part of St. Johns County, but it also serves the southern Duval area that is already more mature,” he said. “We recognized the tremendous growth potential and demand for these programs in St. Johns County, but it was a location that was still convenient for the areas that had already been developed.”

The inspiration for the facility, Glatting said, came to him while seeking a new permanent location for his son’s basketball coach, Jim Martin.

“It just kind of grew into a \$5.5 million project, when really we were just trying to find a gymnasium for Coach Martin to lease,” Glatting said. “I’ve watched his program grow from 50 to 500 kids, and the one thing that holds back somebody like Coach Martin – or somebody doing youth sports – from being more successful is not having a full-time location that they can run their program out of.”

Martin, who is the head varsity basketball coach at the Providence School in Jacksonville, is also the director of

Jacksonville Basketball Academy, an elite youth training program that coaches boys and girls in basketball. According to Martin, the program’s new Philips Highway location will benefit many of the kids currently in his program.

“We have a location now off Beach Boulevard, and we have a bunch of kids who travel into that location, but it’s such a long drive to get out to the Beaches area,” Martin said. “Now with this new facility, we’re going to be able to accommodate the skills development on the basketball side for the kids who live out in [the Nocatee] area. So, we’re excited to get out there, we have quite a few kids that come to us, and now we get to come to them.”

In addition to Jacksonville Basketball Academy, other programs have already signed on to operate out of the ABOVE Athletic Center, including MaxFit gym and Five Tool Softball Training. The complex is scheduled to open by the end of this year.

## Nocatee Farmers Market boasts gators, greens, more



Photos by Susan Griffin

Nocatee’s monthly Farmers Market was held July 15 at Nocatee Town Center, where shoppers were treated to a “Wild Encounters” experience, courtesy of Gatorland, in addition to crafts, produce and more from local vendors.



**OBITUARIES**



**Charlene Cosgrave**

Charlene Elizabeth Cosgrave (Musslewhite), age 65, died peacefully with her family by her side on Saturday, July 15, 2017, following an extended illness.

**COSGRAVE**

She was born in Jacksonville on Oct. 25, 1951, to the late Blondeon J. Musslewhite and Cecil M. Musslewhite, Jr. After being raised in Jacksonville, and attending Andrew Jackson High School and South Georgia College in Douglas, Georgia, she moved to the Beaches and lived in both Jacksonville and Ponte Vedra Beaches. She was a member of Christ Episcopal Church in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Cosgrave is survived by her husband, Paul J. Cosgrave, and his three children, Matthew, Vanessa and Melissa; her daughter, Marian Blair Landry (Ruhlman); son-in-law, James Landry; sister, Nan Musslewhite; brother, Dale Musslewhite and his wife Sherri Musslewhite; numerous cousins, aunts, and uncles; and her loving dog, "Rosie." She will be greatly missed by her loving family and cherished friends of many years.

She worked more than 30 years with the US Post Office, owned and managed the Red Slipper Boutique in Ponte Vedra Beach and worked as a real estate agent for Ponte Vedra Realty.

Funeral Services will be held at 11 a.m., Friday, July 21 in Christ Episcopal Church, 400 San Juan Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082.

Special thanks are extended to the nurses at Community Hospice, Mayo Clinic, physicians and friends of the family who made her last days peaceful.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society or Community Hospice of NE Florida.

Please visit the online tribute at [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com). Services are under the direction and care of Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home.



**Kira M. Sass**

Kira M. Sass, 14, died July 12, 2017. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com).

**Marie Lund**

Marie Lund, 101, died July 11, 2017. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com).

**Thomas "Mike" Newman**

Thomas "Mike" Newman, 70, died July 10, 2017. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com).

**SHORT TAKES**

**VBS at St. Paul's by-the-Sea**

St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church will host a Vacation Bible School from July 24-28. From 9 a.m. to noon, kids ages 4 through fifth grade will explore God's galaxy with games, crafts, music, snacks and stories. Registration is \$30 for the week for the first child, \$25 per additional child. For more information, visit [www.myvbs.org/spbts](http://www.myvbs.org/spbts).

**Pups and Sups Dog Surf Contest**

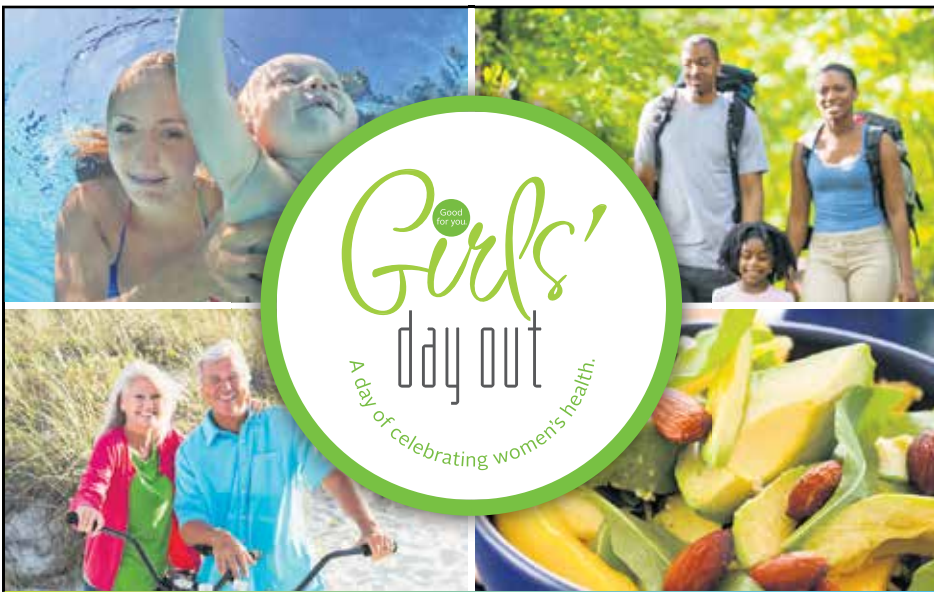
A "Pups and Sups" dog surfing contest will be held in St. Augustine Beach from 7:30 a.m. to noon, Sunday, July 30. Dogs and their owners will compete for prizes in divisions according to weight, and all proceeds will benefit K9s for Warriors. Participants can bring their own boards or borrow them courtesy of Surf Station, and no prior experience is necessary. Registra-

tion is \$40 per participant, and the contest will take place at 860 A1A Beach Blvd. For more information, visit [www.guyharveyoutpost.com/lodging/beach-resorts/st-augustine-beach/pups-sups/](http://www.guyharveyoutpost.com/lodging/beach-resorts/st-augustine-beach/pups-sups/).

**Lorrie Morgan at the Ritz Theatre**

Country songstress Lorrie Morgan will perform at the Ritz Theatre Friday, July 28 at 8 p.m. A four-time winner of the Coun-

try Music Awards' "Female Vocalist of the Year" award, Morgan released her most recent album, "Letting Go...Slow" last year. Tickets are \$44. The Ritz Theatre is located at 829 North Davis St. in Jacksonville. For additional information, visit [jaxevents.com](http://jaxevents.com).



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## LEGAL EAGLES

# SO, YOU WANT TO MOVE-AWAY

## Legal advice to consider when relocating after divorce



**By Sheryl Ellis**

Special to the Recorder

You are the majority time-sharing parent, and you want to relocate with your child.

Before you embark upon this new adventure, you need to be aware that long distance relocation is quite often prohibited, or at least well controlled by the final judgment. However, you're in luck; there is no presump-

tion in favor of or against a request to relocate with the child. The courts weigh the benefits of the move against the disruption to your former husband's visitation rights. But the ultimate decision will always be based on the best interests of the child.

The court will consider whether the relocation will enhance the overall quality of life for both you as the parent seeking the relocation and the child. The court will also evaluate if the relocation is sought in good faith. Good faith reasons for relocation are given fair consideration by the court; they may include reasons such as wanting to be closer to family to help with child care responsibilities, a new job (an actual job offer, not just looking), better cost or standard of living and continuing education. The court will frown upon and likely not allow relocation if it is sought for bad-faith reasons, such as revenge, retaliation or just to get him out of the picture.

Relocation is a big decision and warrants thoughtful consideration. The key - you must have a plan. Here are the top five things you need to consider when relocating after divorce:

1. **If you and your former spouse can come to an agreement, the entire process will be much easier.** If you are looking to move to a location more than 50 miles away, try and come to an agreement with your former husband. You can then submit your agreement to the court as a well thought-out written arrangement that specifies the time-sharing rights for both of you, and if necessary any travel/transportation arrangements. If however you are not in agreement to the move, then you, as the parent seeking relocation, must ask the court for permission to do so, and you will need to provide the court with your plan.
2. **What is your plan?** Give the court details. Do you have a job or a job offer? Have you selected a town or a home? Have you visited schools? How are you going to address the impact of the move on your child's relationship with your former husband? And what are the potential timesharing arrangements for such a long distance move?
3. **Be prepared to be generous with timesharing and contact.** If the move is allowed, visitation will be rearranged so that visitation is less frequent but lasts longer. The reduction in weekly timesharing will likely result in long summer and school vacation visits. You may find your child's visitation with your former husband will consume an entire holiday period. If your former husband can't make the trip to your new home, you will need to allow him reasonable access to your child. Significant contact may be maintained between your child and former husband using technology such as cell phone, FaceTime, Skype, text, email, etc., and you

may need to make sure that such technology is readily accessible to your child to facilitate this contact. This all costs money.

4. **Who does what and how is it paid for?** Long distance timesharing can be both time consuming and costly. How will your child get to and from visitation with your former husband? Car - who will drive? Plane - who will fly with the child? Travel expenses will be paid by one of you or shared depending on your financial situations. In addition, you must be aware that child support payments will be adjusted, according to the new living arrangements of the child. Consider as many of these things as you can, and then talk to an attorney.
5. **What to expect from your attorney...** Relocation is a big decision and a complex issue. You must be informed and prepared. The right attorney will guide you through the process and take the time not only to explain the legal issues but also assist you with setting your goals and creating a strategy to help you achieve those goals. Your attorney should guide you with regards to the petition you present to the court and the evidence you need to favorably support your petition. Your attorney should also help you with your plan and then help you achieve that plan by persuading the court that it is not only easily implemented, but that it is in best interest of your child.

*The Quick Law Group, providing divorce and family law for women, is located at 4312 Pablo Professional Park in Jacksonville. The firm works with women so they are able to gain freedom through their divorce. For more information, visit [TheQuickLawGroup.com](http://TheQuickLawGroup.com).*

# SJR State College law enforcement cadets recognized at graduation

St. Johns River State College criminal justice academy cadets were recently recognized during the college's graduation ceremony.

Held at the Thrasher-Horne Center on the college's Orange Park campus, cadets representing St. Johns, Clay, Putnam, Duval and Flagler counties received their certificates of completion for the Florida Law Enforcement Academy program.

Special recognition in the basic law enforcement class went to Timothy

Frauenhofer of Putnam County, who was presented the Highest Marksmanship Achievement award. Mason Patrou of St. Johns County received the Highest Academic Achievement award, and Clay County resident Tracy Pinson received the Medallion Award.

Law enforcement basic recruit graduates from St. Johns County include Dennis Camden, Joseph Capriglione, Brandon Cologne, Jonathan Correa, Donna Culbreth, Johnathan Guinn, Justin Mims, Justin Morrow, Patrou,

Dominic Quintieri, Heather Schott, Kurt Sellers and Jacob Sesemann.

The criminal justice certificate programs provide job-related training to prepare cadets for entry-level employment in their career fields. Cadets who complete the certificate program will be eligible to take the state certification exam. The certificates also provide credit hours to be transferred into SJR State's associate in science degree in criminal justice technology. The program is located on the St. Augustine

campus.

Applications are currently being accepted for 2017 enrollment. Evening classes for SJR State's Florida Law Enforcement Academy will begin July 31. Classes for SJR State's Florida Corrections Officer Academy are scheduled to begin in September. For more information about SJR State's criminal justice programs, call (904) 808-7490 or visit the website at [SJRstate.edu/criminaljustice.html](http://SJRstate.edu/criminaljustice.html).

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**J**anet 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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## LEGAL EAGLES

# How social media can affect a divorce case



**By Lawrence Datz**

Special to the Recorder

**Lawrence Datz**  
Guest Columnist

Social media has undoubtedly changed the way we live. About 70 percent of Americans use social media, many on a daily basis, according to the Pew Research Center. Social networks have become a place where people can share their lives with family, friends and even strangers. The proverbial “wearing of one’s heart on one’s sleeve” has gone digital, with people divulging their deepest feelings to the Internet – not to mention random commentary, photos and videos. However, once these types of personal posts are made, what happens if the poster is involved in a family law dispute, like a divorce?

Social media is a potential treasure trove of evidence for legal cases in such disputes. Just think of all the things you, your friends, relatives and friends of friends post, share or tweet. Think of what they

shouldn’t have posted, shared or tweeted. Worse, think of that stuff being read out loud or shown on a video monitor in court. My guess is that, if you’re not trembling, your attorney is doing it for you.

Social media peccadilloes might not be all that lethal, however. The law imposes a few hurdles to protect the innocent, as the famous saying goes. Before a judge reads, hears or sees evidence, it has to be obtained, and its admissibility has to be established in court.

Also, a post might not last forever. You might be sure you saw it but can’t find it. While a subpoena to the social media outlet might seem easy enough, serving a subpoena outside your state can have obstacles. The media host might not save posts. And for policy reasons, the host might want to make it difficult to obtain the post.

Even if you can get your hands on the coup de grace of incrimination, it must be admissible in evidence. Admissibility requires authenticity and relevancy. Authenticity means the post is really a communication or accurate depiction of the other party. A picture, for example, must have some measure of reli-

ability that it depicts the time, place and circumstance purported by the picture. Relevancy means the words, picture or video must have some probative value for the issues at hand. If the case involves the parties’ child or children, the evidence must show an actual or probable impact on the child. A parent having a few drinks is not a big deal. Do it when the child is in the parent’s care, and the issue might become relevant in court.

With all of this being said, the bottom line is that if you are involved in a family law case, you should carefully consider what you post or have posted on social media. Make sure what you post won’t come back to haunt you; in fact, you might imagine it being read out loud in court. A Facebook “like” or retweet isn’t worth it if it has serious legal ramifications during a divorce or childcare case.

**Lawrence Datz is a partner at Datz & Datz, P.A. with more than 30 years of family law experience. He is board certified in marital and family law, a fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers and a master in the Florida Family Law Inn of Court.**

# Stand your ground



**By Janet Johnson**

Special to the Recorder

**Janet Johnson**  
Guest Columnist

Florida is known for beaches, sun and recently as the home of the first “Stand Your Ground” gun law.

Passed in 2005 and made infamous in its role in the George Zimmerman trial, this law was made even more potent this month when changes from Governor Rick Scott that were signed into law in June came into effect.

The law as originally passed removed the legal responsibility to retreat from a dangerous situation and allowed deadly force to be used when a person merely felt greatly threatened. It requires a criminal defendant to prove, at a pretrial hearing, that he or she reasonably felt that fear. Governor Scott approved revisions to the

bill that would require prosecutors, not the defense, to shoulder the burden of disproving a self-defense claim.

Most defenses have to be proven by the defendant; this change means that the state must show by clear and convincing evidence that a person was not acting in self-defense in a Stand Your Ground hearing. And even if the state wins that motion, it still has to prove its case beyond a reasonable doubt at trial and yet again overcome Stand Your Ground.

This is again a “first in the nation” law, and it has already been found unconstitutional by a Miami judge. Judge Milton Hirsch, normally known as a pro-defense judge, sided with the state attorney who claimed that this revision forces the state to unfairly prove its case twice, making it easier for criminals to get away with murder.

Judge Hirsch ruled that the changes, made by the Florida Supreme Court and not the Florida Legislature, were a violation of the Florida constitution and the separation of powers, which would require the Florida

legislature to make such a modification to a law.

Prosecutors have applauded Judge Hirsch’s ruling, which will likely head to appellate courts and probably the Florida Supreme Court. This ruling only affects cases in Miami/Dade County, but prosecutors will likely launch similar challenges throughout the state. Attorney General Pam Bondi has already indicated she will appeal, meaning she and the state attorney, normally on the same side of the law, will be adversaries in court. And Judge Hirsch, normally the foil of prosecutors, will be their champion.

As a defense attorney, I have filed Stand Your Ground motions and have won hearings. It is a powerful tool for defendants because it not only makes them immune from criminal prosecution, it also gives them immunity from civil liability. That means they can’t be sued for monetary damages in a civil court. It is a get out of jail, and court, free card. And, this month, it just got a lot more potent.

**Janet Johnson is a criminal defense attorney in Jacksonville who practices in state and federal courts. She is rated AV Preeminent on attorney rating website Martindale-Hubbell and has been named to the American Institute of Criminal Law Attorneys’ Top 10 Best Attorneys list. Johnson is also a legal analyst for CNN and HLN.**

## SHORT TAKES

## Apex Theatre Studio Presents ‘Godspell’

Apex Theatre Studio will present “Godspell” at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall Aug. 4-5. The first show will take place on Friday, Aug. 4 at 8 p.m., followed by a second performance at the same time on Aug. 5. The musical puts a contemporary spin on the Gospel of Matthew. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased through either the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall or the St. Augustine Amphitheatre. The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A North. For more information, visit [www.pvconcerthall.com](http://www.pvconcerthall.com) or call (904) 209-0399.

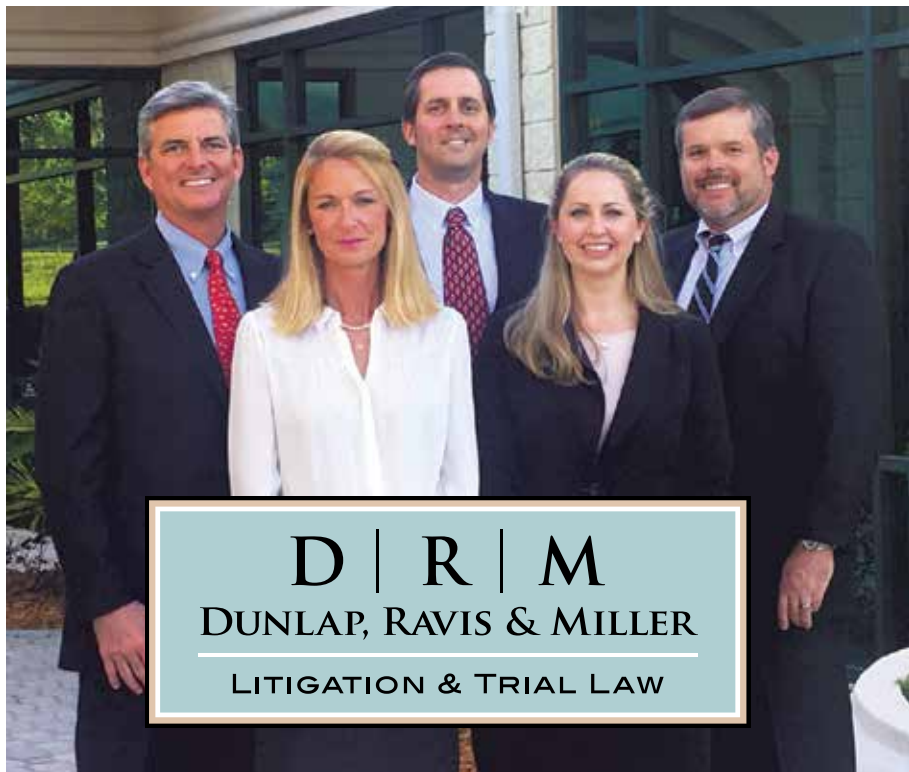
## The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

St. Augustine’s Limelight Theatre will present “The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee” July 21 through Aug. 20. The musical comedy focuses on a group of six students competing against one another in the Putnam County Spelling Bee. The first performance will be July 21 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$26. For more information, visit [www.limelight-theatre.org](http://www.limelight-theatre.org) or call (904) 825-1164.

## Ponte Vedra Auto Show

The 15th annual Ponte Vedra Auto Show will take place Sunday, Sept. 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Nocatee Town Center. Hosted by the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, the event will feature 180 collectors’ cars, including classic cars, exotic cars, trucks and motorcycles. Local food trucks and other vendors will also be onsite throughout the show. Admission and parking for the event are free. Nocatee Town Center is located at 245 Nocatee Center Way in Ponte Vedra.

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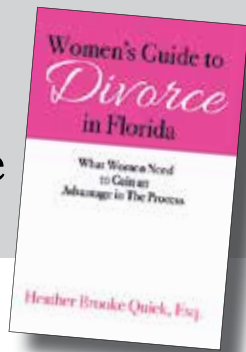
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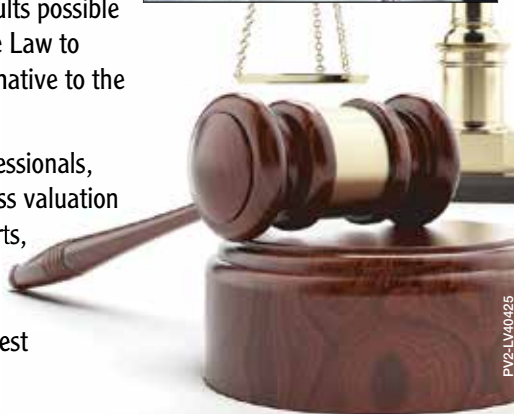
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**Malcolm Anthony** has served as the local criminal defense lawyer for Ponte Vedra and the Beaches since 1995 - after serving as an Assistant State Attorney in both Duval and St. Johns counties, a special prosecutor of economic crimes, and a general counsel for a healthcare consortium. Malcolm is a 34 year member of the Florida Bar and is AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell, the highest possible rating for both legal ability and ethical standards. He

is a member of the National and Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the National College for DUI Defense and is one of Florida’s “10 Best” DUI Lawyers by the American Institute of DWI/DUI Lawyers.

Malcolm likes to tell people he is in law enforcement. “I enforce the highest law of the land, the Constitution, and the rules of evidence, and the legal concepts of being presumed innocent, and requiring proof of guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.” Helping people when they are at their lowest is very rewarding for Malcolm. You can count on Malcolm to do everything within the extent of the law to preserve your future.

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# Wounded Warrior Project CEO provides Chamber of Commerce members with positive forecast for organization

By Jon Blauvelt

Exactly one year after driving from Arlington, Virginia, to Jacksonville to take over Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) as its next CEO, Mike Linnington told a group of local business professionals last week that he's optimistic about the future of the Jacksonville-based nonprofit organization.

"We're on the right track," said Linnington, referring to the organization's recovery from news reports claiming it took part in lavish spending outside of its mission. "We have a long way to go in overcoming that stigma. Luckily, we have a really great organization with dedicated passion and commitment to our wounded service members in trying to make a difference."

Linnington's comments about the organization were addressed to members of the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce Beaches Division and the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce at a joint luncheon held Thursday, July

13 at Sawgrass Country Club. WWP offers a variety of programs and services for wounded veterans of military actions following Sept. 11, 2001.

The retired three-star general with 35 years of military service said WWP is about 60 or 70 percent back to where it was 18 months ago, prior to the news reports surfacing. As a result of the speculation that ensued about the organization, Linnington said WWP has made it a priority to be more transparent, noting that the organization's financials are now included on its website.

"Hopefully that transparency and focus on the good work we do will start to bring back the rest of the support that's starting to come back down," he said.

When asked about the organization's vision for the next five years, Linnington said WWP will likely invest additional resources in physical health and wellness services. He said the organization's veterans who were young in the early 2000s are not so young anymore, and they're struggling with immobility,

isolation and overindulgence of medications, resulting in poor physical health.

He noted that 86 percent of the wounded veterans they provide services to are overweight or obese. Linnington said that so much emphasis as of late has been placed on mental health, implying that physical health has taken somewhat of a back seat.

The WWP CEO also provided attendees of the luncheon with a general overview of the organization's reach. He said the nonprofit, which has physical presences in 25 United States cities, serves over 104,000 wounded service members and more than 20,000 family members of those service members. More than 2,400 of the organization's warriors are located in the Greater Jacksonville area, he noted.

Linnington boiled down the organization's work to three words: connecting, serving and empowering. He said the organization connects its warriors with each other. Then it serves them through a variety of free programs and services focused on physical and mental health and wellness and economic empowerment that are provided by WWP, other nonprofits or government agencies. Linnington said these programs then ultimately empower the warriors to once again become fully functioning members of their communities.

"The WWP logo shows one service member being carried off the battlefield by another service member," he explained. "At the end of the day, we want all of our transitioning veterans to go from being that veteran carried off the battle field from visible or invisible wounds and ultimately be a warrior that's leading peer groups and being active in their communities."

Linnington added that WWP provides 100

percent of the resources required for 700 of the nation's most previously wounded individuals to help them remain in their homes. He said the nonprofit pours a few million dollars a month into these in-home services, which include physical therapy, speech therapy and respite care, among others.

Linnington also encouraged business professionals at the luncheon to keep his warriors in mind as job opportunities surface at their respective companies.

"As you see opportunities for wounded service members to make a difference in your businesses or communities, please connect with us," he said. "Just as they led in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard, they can equally lead in communities."

For more information about WWP, visit <https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/>.



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

**Wounded Warrior Project CEO Mike Linnington addresses chamber of commerce members at the joint luncheon.**



**St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce PVB Division Director Toni Boudreaux, Wounded Warrior Project CEO Mike Linnington and Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce Beaches Division Manager Kathy Sutton**

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# BayStreet Band featuring Rock Solid Law's John Miller celebrates 30 years

By Jon Blauvelt

BayStreet, a Jacksonville band that features Rock Solid Law Owner and Attorney John Miller, celebrated its 30th anniversary by performing a concert July 14 at McCue Home Services in Jacksonville Beach.

"This band has allowed me to express my creative side and enjoy it for 30 years," said Miller. "The fact that people continue to enjoy us and book us after all these years and the fact that it's meant I got to hang out with B.B. King, John Lee Hooker, the guys in Styx and a whole bunch of other people over all the years, has been a really cool experience."

According to Miller, nearly 150 people attended the concert last week, which raised over \$1,200 for Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry (BEAM).

"I've found that if you give Beaches people or Jacksonville people a good time for charity, they typically are very generous," he said.

The event featured a speakeasy theme, with attendees dressed in flapper and gangster costumes. Attendees enjoyed beer and wine, a photo booth with props, a pool and foosball table and dancing, with the band playing from 7 p.m. to midnight. In addition to Miller, the band features Mike Hollingsworth, Jim Brown, Cliff Huber and Tom Haller.

Sponsors of the concert included McCue Home Services, Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate, Art Solutions, Big Fun Foto Booth, Angie's Subs and Casa Marina.

Miller said they will be presenting the donation to BEAM soon.



Geri Price and Shireen Zsomboran



The BayStreet band plays in celebration of its 30th anniversary July 14.

Photos by Susan Griffin

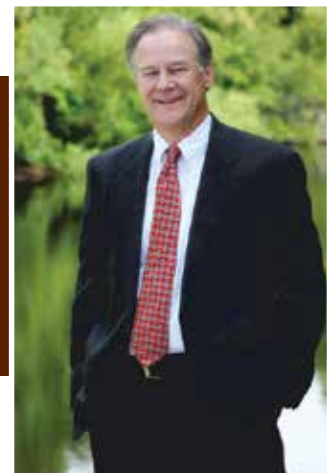


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Thursday, July 20	Friday, July 21	Saturday, July 22	Sunday, July 23
<p><b>Yoga for Survivors</b> The Y Healthy Living Center at the Ponte Vedra YMCA will host a "Yoga for Survivors" class July 20 at 11:30 a.m. Cancer patients, survivors, caregivers and others with range of motion and pain limitations are invited to join in this gentle and safe yoga practice, which is free and open to the public. Call (904) 202-5376 or visit <a href="http://www.baptistjax.com/ymca">www.baptistjax.com/ymca</a> to reserve a spot. The Ponte Vedra YMCA is located at 170 Landrum Lane.</p> <p><b>Concerts in the Plaza</b> St. Augustine's Plaza de la Constitución will host the oldest city's summer-long concert series, "Concerts in the Plaza." The series will provide free concerts featuring local musical entertainment every Thursday night at 7 p.m. July 20, the Raisin Cake Orchestra will play early 20th century jazz. All of the "Concerts in the Plaza" shows are free to attend and visitors are encouraged to bring lounge chairs for seating. Picnic dinners are allowed, but alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the plaza.</p> <p><b>Harry Potter Magic Show</b> Elementary school-aged children and their parents are invited to attend a magic show at the Ponte Vedra Beach Public Library celebrating the "Harry Potter" book series. Meant as a summer reading wrap-up event, the July 20 show will have two performances and will feature local comedian/magician Mark Alan. Performance times will be from 2 to 3:15 p.m. and 4 to 5:15 p.m., respectively, and kids are encouraged to dress up in the colors of their favorite Hogwarts Houses. The library is located at 101 Library Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach.</p> <p><b>Spider-Man: Homecoming, IMAX 3D Film</b> Watch the final showing of Spider-Man: Homecoming in IMAX 3D at the World Golf Hall of Fame IMAX Theater, North Florida's largest IMAX screen (80 feet wide and 5 stories high). Showtimes are 1:15 p.m. and 4:15 p.m. and the ticket price is \$10. The World Golf Hall of Fame IMAX Theater is located at One World Golf Place St. Augustine, FL.</p>	<p><b>Shakespeare Abridged</b> Apex Theatre Studio will present "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged" July 21-22 at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall. London's longest-running comedy, the play features three performers who weave their way through all 37 of Shakespeare's plays at breakneck speed. The opening performance will begin at 8 p.m. Friday, July 21 and will be followed by two additional performances at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. the following day. The venue is located at 1050 A1A North in Ponte Vedra Beach. Tickets are \$25 each. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.pvconcerthall.com">www.pvconcerthall.com</a> or call (904) 209-0399.</p> <p><b>Live Music at Table 1</b> Table 1 at 330 A1A N. in Ponte Vedra Beach will host live music starting at 7:30 p.m. In addition to the entertainment, guests can enjoy bar bites starting at \$7 and 2-for-1 well drinks, domestic drafts and house wine by the glass.</p> <p><b>PV Professionals Networking Group</b> The Ponte Vedra Professionals Networking Group meets Fridays at 9 a.m. at Watson Realty Corp., 615 Highway A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.pvpng.com">www.pvpng.com</a> or email <a href="mailto:pontevedrapng@gmail.com">pontevedrapng@gmail.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Coastal Wine Market Wine Tasting</b> Coastal Wine Market hosts Friday wine tastings 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><b>Curatorial's Choice Exhibition at the Cultural Center</b> The Curatorial Committee at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach has selected the works of Ronnie Burak, Helen Moody and Francesca Tabor-Miolla to be featured July 14 through Aug. 18. The exhibition will be comprised of photographs, paintings and mixed-media art. Admission is free. Located at 50 Executive Way in Ponte Vedra Beach, the Cultural Center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Discover Orchids</b> The Orchid Society of St. Augustine will host a presentation on repotting orchids on Saturday, along with a hands-on demonstration of repotting orchids under the guidance of orchid club members. The event will take place at the library on 6670 US 1 South St. Augustine. It will start at 2 p.m. and end at 3:30 p.m. There is a minimum required for registration; call the St. Johns County Public Library System's Southeast Branch at 904-827-6900 to register.</p> <p><b>Old City Farmers Market</b> The Old City Farmers Market features fresh produce, baked goods, seafood, handcrafted items, fresh seafood, plants and live entertainment. The farmer's market takes place from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every Saturday morning at the St. Augustine Amphitheater on A1A South in St. Augustine. Admission is free.</p> <p><b>"Just for Teens" Gaming Club</b> The St. Johns County Public Library System's Ponte Vedra Beach branch will host a video-game club event for teens aged 13 - 17. One Playstation 3 and two Nintendo WiiU's will be set up on three televisions for simultaneous playing of "E" and "T"-rated games. Snacks, board games and gaming books will be provided. The event starts at 2 p.m. and ends at 4 p.m. at 101 Library Blvd.</p> <p><b>YMCA Baby Shower</b> The Ponte Vedra Family YMCA on 170 Landrum Lane will host a baby shower for the littlest members of the community on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be presentations from Baptist Healthy Living Centers, local vendors specializing in childcare and youth products and the "Stroller Rollers" group. Additionally, refreshments, prizes, demonstrations, youth program demonstrations and more will be provided. Attendees can also learn about free infant membership and discounts for expecting moms.</p>	<p><b>Katz 4 Keeps Adoption Event</b> Join Katz 4 Keeps July 22-23 for an adoption event helping cats and kittens find their forever homes. The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Katz 4 Keeps facility located at 935B A1A North in Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information about this event or organization, call (904) 834-3223 or email <a href="mailto:info@katz4keeps.org">info@katz4keeps.org</a>.</p> <p><b>Sisterhood of the Traveling Plants</b> The Lightner Museum will host a floral arrangement demonstration by the local ladies of the "Sisterhood of the Traveling Plants" Sunday, July 23 from 4 to 6 p.m. Instructors Marilyn Smith and Cathy Snyder of the Garden Club of St. Augustine will educate visitors in the floral arrangement techniques of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The event will be held in the museum's East Room Gallery, and light refreshments will be served. The Lightner Museum is located at 75 King St. in St. Augustine.</p> <p><b>Life Enrichment Group</b> The Life Enrichment Group is designed for those with memory changes who want to remain mentally, physically and socially active, while giving caregivers and loved ones some free time for themselves. The program is offered daily, serving Jacksonville Beach and Ponte Vedra area. For more information call (904) 417-7354 or email <a href="mailto:life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com">life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Annie at Alhambra</b> The classic Broadway musical "Annie" continues its run at the Alhambra Theatre &amp; Dining on Sunday, July 23. The Alhambra's summer family show, "Annie," tells the story of a Depression-era orphan who is chosen to live with a millionaire for a short time. A three-course dinner will be served starting at 5:30 p.m., and the curtain will rise at 7:30 p.m. The show will run through August 13. The Alhambra is located at 12000 Beach Blvd, Jacksonville Beach. For tickets and additional information, visit <a href="http://alhambrajax.com">alhambrajax.com</a> or call (904) 641-1212.</p>

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Monday, July 24	Tuesday, July 25	Wednesday, July 26	Thursday, July 27
<p><b>Vacation Bible School</b> St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church will host Vacation Bible School starting July 24 through July 28 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The church's VBS event will focus on God's galaxy and a journey through outer space. Games, crafts and music will be provided. The cost is \$30 for the week; registering any additional siblings will cost \$25 per child. Children ages 4 through 5 are welcome. Children can be registered by visiting <a href="http://www.myvbs.org/spbts">www.myvbs.org/spbts</a>.</p> <p><b>MOSH Daily Programs</b> Join Jacksonville's Museum of Science and History for its Daily Animal shows. On Monday at 2 p.m., explore "Skin and Scales" in the Florida Naturalist's Center, during which guests learn about the cold-blooded world of reptiles and amphibians. Prior to the program at 1 p.m., museum-goers can witness the exploration of space in the Bryan-Gooding Planetarium during "Astronaut," an interactive venture lead by a test astronaut named Chad. For tickets and additional information, visit <a href="http://www.themosh.org">www.themosh.org</a>.</p> <p><b>Animal Camp</b> Animal Camp begins July 24 at Southside Baptist Church in Jacksonville. The half-day camp for kids ages 7 to 12 will feature arts, crafts, games and visits from animals. Children will learn how to interact with and care for pets. This event is sponsored by Friends of Jacksonville Animals and EPIC Outreach. Contact <a href="mailto:jessie@epicanimals.org">jessie@epicanimals.org</a> or (904) 274-1177 for any questions. Camp begins at 9 a.m. and admission costs \$35. Southside Baptist Church is located at 1435 Atlantic Blvd.</p> <p><b>'Friends for the Arts'</b> Get involved in the arts by joining a team of fellow art supporters at the Cultural Center at 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 our community. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.ccpvb.org/friends-for-the-arts">www.ccpvb.org/friends-for-the-arts</a>.</p>	<p><b>Free Admission at Cummer Museum</b> Every Tuesday, the Cummer Museum of Art &amp; Gardens offers visitors free admission to its galleries and gardens, for their "Florida Blue Free Tuesday" promotion.</p> <p><b>Sunset Rotary Club Meeting</b> 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 Cyndi King at (904) 687-8000 or email <a href="mailto:cyndiking@gmail.com">cyndiking@gmail.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Tapas Tuesday</b> The Cummer Museum of Art &amp; Gardens presents Tapas Tuesday at the Cummer Cafe every Tuesday from 5 to 7:30 p.m. View the sunset on the Cummer Cafe patio while listening to local musicians and enjoying beer, wine or artfully inspired tapas for sale at the Cafe. Reserve your table by calling (904) 899-6022. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.cummermuseum.org">www.cummermuseum.org</a>. The museum is located at 829 Riverside Ave.</p> <p><b>Prenatal Yoga</b> The Y Healthy Living Center in Ponte Vedra Beach will host a prenatal yoga event on July 25 from 6 to 7 p.m. Prenatal yoga is an exercise designed to strengthen and relax. It is gentle and safe for women in all stages of pregnancy; however, participants should get approval from a healthcare provider prior to attending. Bring your own yoga mat, towel and water. Attendees do not have to be a Baptist Health patient to participate in the class. Tickets are \$13; contact 904-202-2229 for more information. The Y Healthy Living Center is located at 170 Landrum Lane.</p> <p><b>Nature and Wildlife Exhibition</b> Hosted by the St. Augustine Art Association, this exhibition features 125 original nature-inspired works of art selected from more than 400 online entries submitted by artists from across the United States and abroad. The exhibition is free and open to the public. See it July 25 from noon to 4 p.m. at 22 Marine St. in St Augustine.</p>	<p><b>Save Guana Now Meeting</b> The next Save Guana Now meeting entitled "Meet, Greet and Sweets" will be a social gathering on Mickler Beach, with free desserts provided. The event starts at 7 p.m. on July 26. The suggested donation for the open-to-all meeting is \$5 and families are welcome. Attendees should bring their own beach chair and (non-alcoholic) beverage.</p> <p><b>Toastmasters Club</b> Toastmasters Club #5199 of Ponte Vedra Beach meets every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. at the Players Community Senior Center. These meetings will help attendees improve public speaking and gain leadership skills. The senior center is located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach. Email Carmen at <a href="mailto:carmenjsardinas@gmail.com">carmenjsardinas@gmail.com</a> for additional information.</p> <p><b>Music by the Sea Concert Series</b> The "Music by the Sea" concert series returns to the St. Johns County Pier for its 15th year, bringing free weekly concerts in a variety of genres from 7 to 9 p.m. every Wednesday. Visitors are encouraged to bring a chair or blanket. Dinner is offered for \$10 or less beginning at 6 p.m. The July 26 concert will feature R&amp;B and pop group Amy Alysia &amp; the Soul Operation. The St. Johns County Pier is located at 350 A1A Beach Blvd. in St. Augustine Beach. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.sabca.org">www.sabca.org</a>.</p> <p><b>Summer Movie Series</b> Ripley's Believe it or Not! and the Colonial Quarter will host a free showing of the film "Finding Dory" at the Colonial Oak Music Park starting at 8:30 p.m. on July 26. Ripley's Red Trains will provide free transportation from the St. Augustine parking garage and Ripley's stops to the St. George Street stop. The shuttles will run every 15 minutes from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. and will resume after the movie ends. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own seating. The Colonial Oak Music Park is located at 33 St. George St., St. Augustine. For more information, call (904) 824-1606.</p>	<p><b>Yoga for Survivors</b> The Y Healthy Living Center at the Ponte Vedra YMCA will host a "Yoga for Survivors" class July 27 at 11:30 a.m. Cancer patients, survivors, caregivers and others with range of motion and pain limitations are invited to join in this gentle and safe yoga practice, which is free and open to the public. Call (904) 202-5376 or visit <a href="http://www.baptistjax.com/ymca">www.baptistjax.com/ymca</a> to reserve a spot. The Ponte Vedra YMCA is located at 170 Landrum Lane.</p> <p><b>Concerts in the Plaza</b> St. Augustine's Plaza de la Constitución will host the oldest city's summer-long concert series, "Concerts in the Plaza." The series will provide free concerts featuring local musical entertainment every Thursday night at 7 p.m. July 27, the Dunehoppers will play bluegrass and folk music. All of the "Concerts in the Plaza" shows are free to attend and visitors are encouraged to bring lounge chairs for seating. Picnic dinners are allowed, but alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the plaza.</p> <p><b>PROPEURBS Business Workshop</b> PROPEURBS is a business workshop for creative entrepreneurs and current or prospective business owners who are looking to spark results. The two-hour event will take place at Antean Studios on 4226 Atlantic Boulevard in Jacksonville. The workshop starts at 6 p.m. and costs \$99.99 per person. Register online at <a href="http://anteanstudios.com/propeurbs">anteanstudios.com/propeurbs</a></p> <p><b>Molecular Mixology: A Gin Workshop</b> This MOSH After Dark event will allow each participant to walk away with their own gin recipe. Manifest Distilling, a Jacksonville full-scale distillery, will walk attendees through techniques and processes used to create gin. Tickets are \$25 for non-members and \$20 for members. Admission includes two drink tickets. The event starts at 6 p.m. and ends at 9 p.m. at MOSH on 1025 Museum Circle in Jacksonville.</p> <p><b>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 <a href="mailto:recorderintern@opcfla.com">recorderintern@opcfla.com</a>, post online at <a href="http://www.pontevedrarecorder.com">www.pontevedrarecorder.com</a> using the</b></p>

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# Cultural Center opens 'Curatorial's Choice' exhibit



Photo by Samantha Logue  
 Artist Francesca Tabor-Miolla stands with her work at the July 14 opening reception for the "Curatorial's Choice: Burak, Moody and Tabor-Miolla" exhibition at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. The exhibit will be on display through Aug. 18.

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# Local drama teacher to star in 'The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged'

By Jon Blauvelt

Ponte Vedra High School Drama Teacher Jason Nettle is starring in Apex Theatre Studio's fast-paced and satirical production, "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged," at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall this weekend.

Also an improv teacher at Apex, Nettle is one of three members of the studio's teaching faculty featured in the show, which weaves its way through all 37 of Shakespeare's tragedies, comedies and histories in 97 minutes. For those not itching to learn about the English playwright, Nettle emphasized that the improv-based show is not very Shakespearean at all.

"If you hate Shakespeare, you will love this show," said Nettle, who previously was a troupe member of the Upright Citizens Brigade in New York City as well as a Broadway performer. "It's just ridiculous and hysterical. My major goal is to get the audience to laugh."

Originally premiering in London, the show

became the city's longest-running comedy. In addition to Nettle, the local production of the show features Apex teachers Emily Auwaerter and Robert Reid. Nettle, who noted that he individually plays 20 different Shakespearian roles throughout the show, said all three performers have different backgrounds. He explained that Auwaerter is more theatrical-based and Reid comes from the Chicago comedy scene.

Apex Managing Director Ian Mairs elaborated in saying that the show provides the studio's students with an opportunity to watch their instructors on stage.

"At the center of our studio is a group of dynamic teaching artists," he said. "We feel it's important for our students to have the opportunity to watch their mentors in action. This show is a riot, and all three of these performers bring their considerable comedy chops into the rehearsal hall."

Also participating in the production of the show is Ponte Vedra High School rising senior



Photo courtesy of Apex Theatre Studio

Jason Nettle, Emily Auwaerter, Robert Reid and Anita Diaz (stage manager) hold up Chase Pittman at a rehearsal for "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged."

Chase Pittman, a student of Nettle who is serving as an understudy. He explained that his role is to fill in for one of the three cast members if they're unable to perform.

"It's been nothing but a blast," said Pittman. "It's been one of the more unique and creative experiences I've had the chance to work on."

The opening performance for the show will begin at 8 p.m. Friday, July 21 and will be followed by two additional performances at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, July 22. Tickets are \$25 each and available for purchase at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall and St. Augustine Amphitheatre box offices, ticketmaster.com, all Ticketmaster outlets and by phone at (800)

745-3000.

For Nettle, the show provides him with an opportunity to put down the clipboard and jump back into the limelight where he spent so much of his career.

"If you come see Ponte Vedra High School theater shows, you see shows where I have to be in charge of everything and be in control of directing, lighting, sets, administration and ticket sales," said Nettle, who also previously served as the stage manager of Alhambra Theatre & Dining. "It's finally nice for me to be on the other end and give up control and get back on stage and perform."

# Artist Dean Mitchell shares lessons learned on road to success

By Samantha Logue

Award-winning artist Dean Mitchell will make an appearance at the Cutter & Cutter Fine Arts Gallery in Ponte Vedra Beach from 6 to 9 p.m., July 21. The gallery, located at 333 Village Main St., will exhibit the painter's latest work.

Mitchell, who grew up in Quincy, Florida, has an extensive background as an artist. Known for his figurative works, landscapes and still lifes, he has been featured in several publications, including The New York Times, Christian Science Monitor, American Artist,

Artist Magazine, Fine Art International and Art News.

"I graduated from the Columbus College of Art and Design in Ohio in 1980, and I got a job at Hallmark Cards as an illustrator for a few years, which I didn't like at all, and so I ended up getting fired from that job," said Mitchell. "That was the only job I've ever had professionally, and I've been painting ever since. Since 1983, I've been on my own as an independent artist."

Mitchell said that he knew he wanted to be an artist from a young age. While his grandmother was the one to first introduce him to art

with a paint-by-number kit, his dream of being an artist was not always supported by those closest to him.

"My mother had planted different seeds in my head about the fine arts," he said. "She felt that race was too much of an obstacle to make a living selling art. I grew up in the '60s — right in the heart of the Civil Rights movement — and my mother was the first of my grandmother's four children to go to college... She was like, 'You are never going to make a living doing that as a black man. You are never going to do that in this country.'"

Mitchell doesn't fault his mother for her lack

of confidence in his ability to achieve his goal, however.

"I totally get it, why she said it," he said. "If you look at the time period, when African-Americans couldn't even sit in a restaurant, and here I am talking about how I'm going to paint some pictures that's going to hang in a museum... It's a pretty far-fetched dream."

As an African-American artist, Mitchell said he has experienced his share of prejudice, sometimes from unexpected places.

"I have been, in some ways, black-balled by some African-American curators and critics... I don't do what the art world wants, which is sometimes post-modern black, which is a body of work that deals with race," he said. "And my work, though I'm African-American, I am looking for the human condition... One of the things that I didn't want to do is get pigeonholed as some black artist. I am an American artist."

The "human condition" that Mitchell seeks to depict is that which unites all people as members of the human race.

"For example, I did paintings of my uncle who had cancer, I did paintings of a doctor who had Alzheimer's," he said. "When people see those images, they don't just see a painting of a black person, what they see is a person grappling with a certain part of life that anybody could grapple with. Is it a person of color that I painted? Yes, but they're still a human being... We've been so socially conditioned through segregation of prejudices that we can't even see ourselves as full human beings sometimes."

Economically, Mitchell said, his life may

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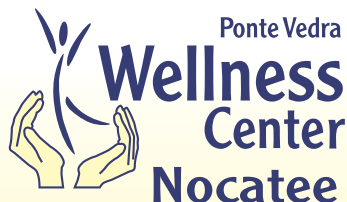
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## Mitchell

Continued from 32

seem to some like a typical “rags to riches” tale about a man whose dream was realized through the combination of hard work and ambition. According to Mitchell, the story is far more complex.

“I myself was naïve about the process,” he said. “And in some ways, I’m glad I was naïve, because I’m not sure—if I’d have known

what I know now—to be honest, I’m not sure I would have pursued it professionally. It’s been an interesting road and I’ve been successful at it, but I’ve dedicated my life to it, too, so it hasn’t been an easy road by any measure.”

According to Mitchell, one of the many lessons he has learned along that road is: “If you believe in something and you want to pursue it, a lot of times, people don’t believe in it until it actually happens. In other words, you have to believe in your own dream before other people will.”



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# Grammy-nominated reggae artist to headline concert at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

Grammy-nominated reggae artist Matisyahu, Common Kings and Orphan will present The Broken Crows Tour live at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall Oct. 20.

Matisyahu and guitarist Aaron Dugan, bassist Stu Brooks, drummer Joe Tomino and keyboardist Big Yuki will perform onstage. The band's newest album, "Undercurrent," merges instrumental improvisation sessions with lyrics and vocals.

Common Kings, an Orange County rock-reggae outfit, joins Matisyahu in support of its debut album, "Lost in Paradise," released on Island Empire Records. The album features collaborations with songwriters and producers such as Pooh Bear, Justin Bieber, DJ Flic and Dwayne "Supa Dups" Chin-Quee. The tour also marks the appearance of Orphan, a new Matisyahu-produced project.

"Orphan is a band I signed currently living and making music out of my home," said Matisyahu. "All three core members, Menachem, Nissin and Chaim, are sons of Lubavitch Rabbis and met in Yeshiva. They formed a bond around my release at the time Live at Stubbs 2 and began to study the sounds of Dub Trio. These 22-year old boys manage to retain the spirit of their Lubavitch heritage while creating music with a fresh Brooklyn edge that is an outgrowth of the Matisyahu sound. I am proud to introduce to you Orphan. The soundtrack to a generation who never met their rebbe and have had to blaze a new trail."

Tickets for the event will be available for purchase at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall and St. Augustine Amphitheatre Box Offices, online at [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com), all Tick-



Photo courtesy of Nechama Leitner

etmaster outlets and by phone at (800) 745-3000. Prices range from \$35.50 for advance purchase general admission standing to \$38.50 for day-of-show general admission standing. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Fans can also purchase access to the Matisyahu VIP Soundcheck Experience and Post-Show Kickback Experience, which will

provide access to the pre-show soundcheck and merchandise. Common Kings is also offering a special VIP experience featuring a closed-access pre-show performance and autographed merchandise. VIP tickets are available online at [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com).

For more information visit [www.matisyahuworld.com](http://www.matisyahuworld.com) or [www.pvconcerthall.com](http://www.pvconcerthall.com)

# Author to provide a guide to writing historical fiction



Robyn Gioia

Author and teacher Robyn Gioia will attend the FWA Ponte Vedra Writers meeting Saturday, July 22 to present a discussion on historical fiction entitled, "Teleporting Readers into the Past: A Guide to Writing Historical Fiction." The meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library.

Gioia's presentation will cover the world of writing historical fiction and what it

takes to transcend centuries of history. She will discuss the importance of research, where to look, how much to use and how to bridge the gap between modern times and the old world. She will talk about the importance of emotion and explain how to weave historical detail into a story and develop believable characters.

After working in both public and private schools in the U.S., Gioia ventured overseas to teach in the United Arab Emirates, Puerto Rico and Seoul, South Korea. During a two-year assignment in Japan, she worked as an international school principal and an IB/PYP teacher.

Her new middle grade novel, "Under Siege!," is set in St. Augustine and based on a true event. Gioia's controversial history book, "America's REAL First Thanksgiving, St. Augustine, Florida, Sept. 8, 1565," was featured on the front page of the USA Today Life section, and it continues to be a topic of conversation during the holidays.

The Ponte Vedra Writers chapter is one of over 50 writers groups affiliated with the Florida Writers Association, a non-profit membership organization with nearly 1,500 members. Visit [www.floridawriters.net](http://www.floridawriters.net) for more information. The meeting is not limited to FWA members.

# Limelight Board Member Lorna MacDonald awarded 2017 Gus Craig Award

Limelight Board Member Lorna MacDonald, who is the owner of Raintree Restaurant in St. Augustin, has been awarded the 20th Annual Gus Craig Award by the Salvation Army of St. Augustine.

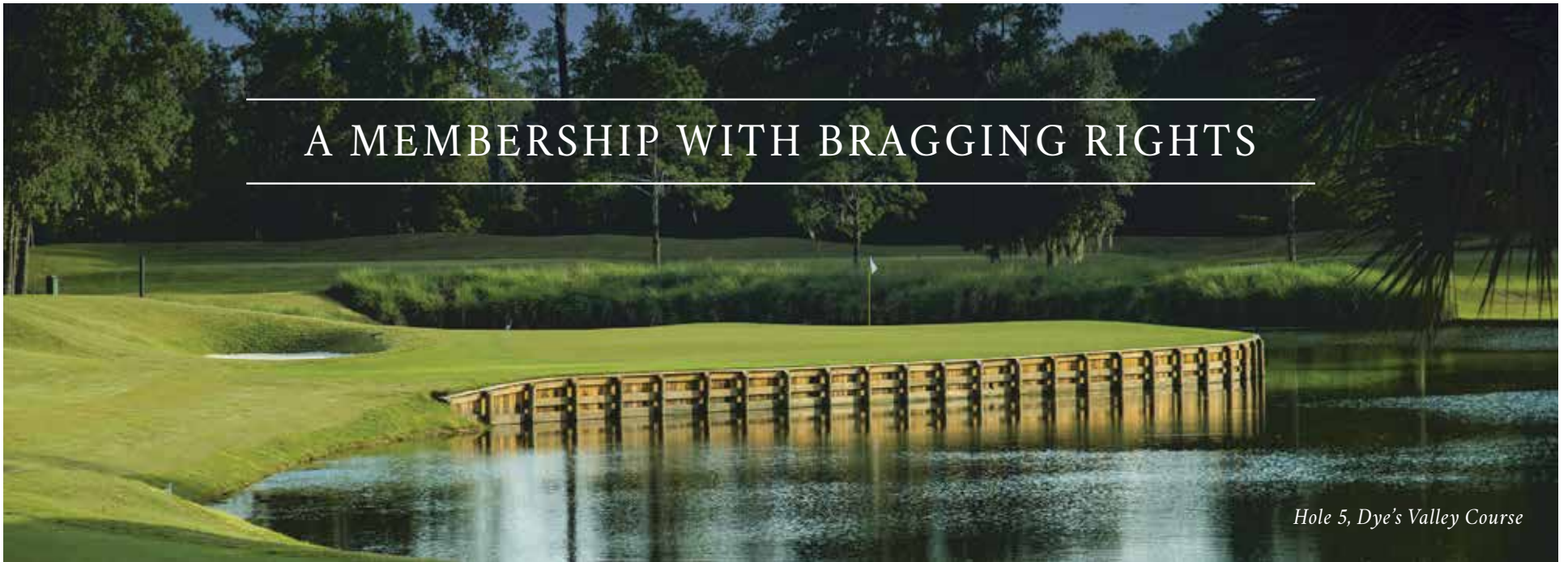
MacDonald is a community volunteer and philanthropist, serving as former president and on the board of EPIC Behavioral Healthcare; as founding president of the St. Augustine Independent Restaurant Association (SAIRA); and on the Board of Directors at Limelight Theatre, St. Augustine's community theatre. She provides cuisine for the Limelight Gala and for a special opening night

event for each new Limelight season.

The Salvation Army introduced the Gus Craig Award in 1998. The award recognizes longtime residents who have contributed to the community and upheld the ideas and morals of the Salvation Army.

Before his passing in 2008, A.H. "Gus" Craig, Jr., past owner of Craig Funeral Home, was a passionate supporter of many local causes and organizations. In the early 1990s, to honor Gus Jr., the Salvation Army created the Gus Craig Award to recognize longtime residents of the community that give selflessly to others.

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## BHGRE Lifestyles Realty opens new Nocatee office

By Samantha Logue

Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Lifestyles Realty has joined the ever-growing list of businesses to migrate into the Nocatee community. The company celebrated the opening of its new office with a ribbon-cutting ceremony July 10.

“Everybody knows the name ‘Better Homes and Gardens,’ and they usually know it from the magazines and the cookbooks, but

we really want people to be thinking of us as a solution to help them out with more things in their life,” said Daniel Lewis, a broker associate at Lifestyles Realty.

With other offices located in Jacksonville and Jacksonville Beach, Lifestyles Realty’s Nocatee office is its third branch. According to Lewis, the company’s name is derived from its mission to help families find not only the homes that they want, but more importantly, the lives that they want.

“We don’t want to find out from people just how many bedrooms and bathrooms they want,” Lewis said. “We want to find out what

it is they do in their life and match them up with a place that they’re going to be able to

BHGRE continues on Page 39



Photo by Susan Griffin

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# So easy, but yet so hard!



**By Harry Pappas**

Special to the Recorder

**Harry Pappas**  
Columnist

When you listen to the financial news commentators, it can feel as though financial markets and investment decisions are unpredictable and subjective. Over the short-term, that might be accurate; however, over the long-term, there are universal investment principals that should govern our success along with guiding our investment decisions. Moreover, adhering to principals such as balance, consistency and courage helps keep us on course while providing a buffer from the constant drone of crisis and fear promoted by the majority of the news and media outlets.

Our investments float in the ocean of history and are affected by the winds of economics, politics and human nature. In a culture that arguably does not study history or economics as much as it should, these insights can provide a much-needed long-term perspective in a world of “breaking news.” History has repeatedly proven that we, as the United States of America, have extraordinary resiliency, creativity and innovation, which have propelled our stock market higher over time regardless of the current crisis.

During my 32 years as a financial advisor, it has been my experience that the vast majority of people are pessimistic when it comes to the economy and the stock market. I find this notion remarkably counterintuitive because it rests on the concept of insoluble crisis, which just does not square with the facts. If humanity has shown one aptitude, it is the capacity to adapt and to learn. Compare our response to the financial crisis of 2008 to our response in 1929. Human ingenuity, technological innovation and the inherent limits of long-term forecasting are never factored into the “crisis” debate.

I suggest that one of the most powerful and pervasive principals in business and life is consistency. Ironically in today’s society, I argue that it is the most violated principal. Doing the right thing occasionally normally ends poorly. Think of all the things in our lives in which we underachieved or failed due to a violation of this simple yet profound principal. Consistency requires the support of two other principals: patience and persistence. Remember that anything valuable in life takes time to manifest. This is as true for our investment performance as it is for good health, a fulfilling marriage or raising wonderful children. In other words, there are no quick fixes. We simply must stay the course.

In closing, I put forth that there are two ways to journey through the wild volatility of the stock market: succumb to “fear” or have “faith” that the stock market climbs the wall of

worry and eventually sets new highs over time. Perhaps like you, I have always selected faith over fear. Sure, I get nervous and concerned when we witness the eventual gut wrenching declines. However, I will not allow my emotions (fear) to dictate how I manage my portfolio. Instead, I stay the course and have faith that it will only be a matter of time before the stock market bottoms and then begins its march to new highs. Yes indeed, I steadfastly argue that having faith is incredibly more productive than being fearful and more importantly acting on our perceived fear. Nuff said: cheers to faith!

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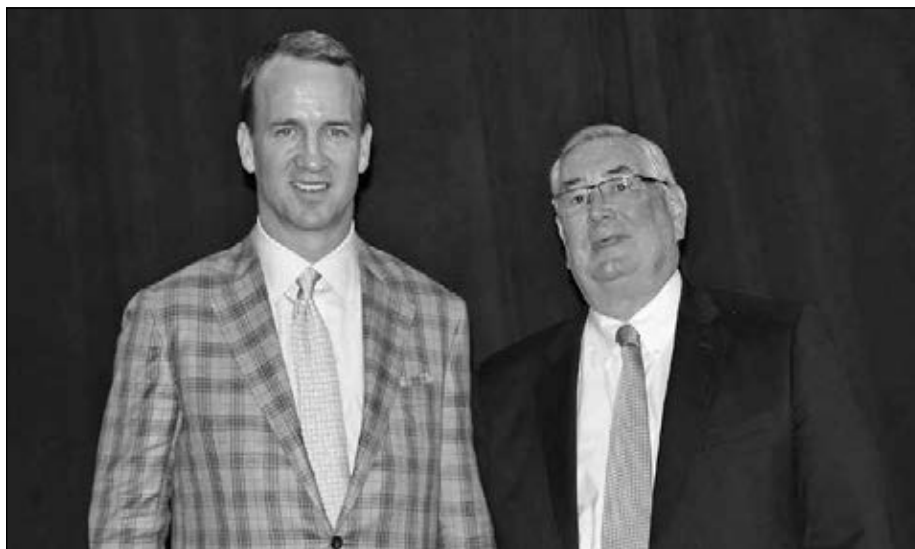


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**Peyton Manning, who made a special appearance, joins Lee Whittaker (right), president of MDM Healthcare, at the Premier Breakthroughs Conference Awards Ceremony.**

## MDM Commercial receives Supplier Legacy Award

Ponte Vedra Beach-based MDM Commercial Enterprises, Inc. has received the Supplier Legacy Award from Premier Inc., a leading healthcare improvement company.

MDM was recognized for its long-standing support of Premier members through exceptional local customer service and engagement, value creation through clinical excellence and commitment to lower costs.

“We are extremely proud to be selected for the Supplier Legacy Award for our work in the healthcare industry,” said Lee Whittaker, president of MDM Healthcare. “This honor spotlights how MDM customers feel about our hard work for the past 26 years. Our team strives every day to provide products and services that make healthcare facilities feel like a home away from home.”

Legacy Award winners have tenure of more than three years as a Premier contracted supplier. MDM accepted the award at Premier’s 2017 Breakthroughs Conference and Exhibition on June 29.

“MDM has been supporting Premier members for years, offering valuable products and services that help to lower supply chain costs and improve operating efficiencies,” said Dural R. Gilbert, president of supply chain services at Premier. “They’ve also supported alliance members during periods of increased need at a local level. We’re honored to recognize them as a Legacy Award recipient.”



Photo by Susan Griffin

**St. Johns County Chamber members Toni Boudreaux, Ed Mercel, Sarah Alexander and Dr. Erika Hamer**

## Berkshire Hathaway hosts Chamber networking event

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty hosted a “before hours” networking event July 12 for the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce.

Chamber members gathered at the real estate company’s Ponte Vedra Beach office for conversation and a continental breakfast. The event was sponsored by Sarah Alexander, the incoming secretary of the Ponte Vedra Beach Division Board of Directors. Door prizes were given, and coffee and pastries were provided by Trasca & Co Eatery.

# Bill Hughes named regional director of operations for TPC Network

The PGA TOUR recently appointed Bill Hughes as the new regional director of operations for the TPC Network. Hughes has served as the general manager of TPC Sawgrass since 2006.

In his new role commencing in October, Hughes will have regional club oversight and will spearhead the TPC Network's diversity initiatives, including recruiting planning and overall cultural enhancements.

"Bill has served in the network for over 20 years and has contributed a great deal to our industry through his work with the PGA of America, community service and overall passion for golf," said Alex Urban, communications manager for the PGA TOUR. "He has managed four TPC clubs during his tenure, and we look forward to leveraging his experience and commitment to excellence at the network level."

The PGA TOUR is currently in the process of selecting Hughes' replacement at TPC Sawgrass.

## BHGRE

Continued from 37

achieve the lifestyle that they want to live." Lewis said that Nocatee – with its many

luxurious amenities – seemed an ideal location for such a business, and he is looking forward to showing the local residents everything Lifestyles Realty has to offer.

"We want to intertwine ourselves with the community and really feel like we're supporting that community," he said. "Right

now, we're only the third real estate company in all of Nocatee... We feel like we're a breath of fresh air from all of the things that people are more used to, and we're opening up a lot more resources in every facet to be the real estate company of the future."

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# Watson Realty associates named among 'America's Best Real Estate Agents'

Twelve sales associates and ten teams at Watson Realty Corp. were named among Florida's most productive sales associates as a part of REAL Trends' 2017 "America's Best Real Estate Agents" report, sponsored by Zillow Group.

The report ranks over 12,600 residential real estate professionals solely based on their excellence in real estate sales during calendar year 2016. All production numbers are independently verified by a third-party to ensure accuracy and report integrity.

"This group of highly successful real estate sales agents represents less than one percent of all real estate practitioners in the United States," said Steve Murray, publisher of the "Best Real Estate Agents" list and president of REAL

Trends. "To qualify for inclusion, an individual agent must have closed at least 50 transaction sides, or \$20 million in sales volume in 2016. For real estate agent teams, the minimum is 75 transaction sides, or \$30 million in closed sales volume. The individuals ranked in America's Best Real Estate Agents had an average of 73 transaction sides and an average sales volume of almost \$37 million. Teams... had an average of 144 sides and an average sales volume of almost \$61 million. This ensures that only the best of the best are included on the prestigious list.

"The average residential real estate agent in the United States closed 8.6 transactions in 2016 and had less than \$1.3 million in sales," added Murray. "To say that Watson Realty

Corp. is an exceptional real estate company is an understatement. To attain this level of sales is truly outstanding."

Watson Realty Corp. President Ed Forman said these achievements represent the service the company's brand offers to its customers every day.

"We are proud of each associate for earning this well-deserved recognition," he said. "In addition to their impressive sales, their unparalleled ambition and customer support truly sets them apart in the real estate industry."

For specific information on the associates and teams who received this recognition, visit <http://www.americasbestre.com>.

## Toll Brothers promotes Netro

### Netro to oversee home building across Florida, lead statewide growth



Photo courtesy of Toll Brothers

Greg Netro

Toll Brothers has promoted Greg Netro to group president of the Florida region.

Netro will oversee all Florida home building operations and lead the company's statewide growth efforts. Toll Brothers is actively building new home communities in Central, Northeast, Southeast, and West Florida.

Most recently, Netro served as Toll Brothers' Northeast and Southeast Florida division president. He joined Toll Brothers in 2001 as an assistant construction manager and worked for the company in Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida.

He was promoted in 2007 to senior project manager; in 2011 to assistant vice president; and in 2012 to vice president, all in the Northeast Florida division. In 2013, he was promoted to division president, and in 2014 his responsibilities expanded to include the Southeast Florida division.

"Throughout the years, Greg has provided outstanding leadership while heading Florida's Northeast and Southeast divisions," said Toll Brothers Regional President Rob Parahus. "We are committed to continue growing our presence across the state, and Greg's expertise will be instrumental to successfully carrying that out."

Netro was a Jacksonville Business Journal "40 Under 40" honoree in 2014 and a South Florida Business Journal honoree in 2016. He is passionate about contributing meaningfully to the lives of others, holding leadership roles in various charitable organizations. Netro is a founder and chairman of the board of Tiny Hope Children's Home, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing assistance to Jamaica's orphaned and abused children. He also supports Habitat for Humanity, Mission House and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

A graduate of James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, where he was the College of Business' top financial student in 2000, Netro is a member of the Florida Builders Association and its Sales and Marketing Council.

For more information about Toll Brothers, visit [TollBrothersFlorida.com](http://TollBrothersFlorida.com).

## Toll Brothers offering home buyers special incentives as part of national sales event

Luxury home builder Toll Brothers is holding a national sales event through Sunday, July 30 that offers home buyers exclusive, money-saving incentives and low interest rates.

Toll Brothers Northeast Florida communities that are hosting the event include Coastal Oaks at Nocatee, Julington Lakes and Toll Brothers at Atlantic Beach Country Club.

Incentives will vary among communities and will consist of a package of savings created specifically for this event. Buyers should contact their community of interest and speak with a sales representative to learn more.

To take advantage of the opportunity, buyers must make a deposit by July 30. For more information, you can also visit [TollSalesEventFL.com](http://TollSalesEventFL.com).

## St. Augustine Distillery appoints new general manager

St. Augustine Distillery has appointed Matt Stevens as general manager to oversee the day-to-day operations of the facility, including tour operations, the distillery's on-site retail gift shop and guest experience.

"We are excited to welcome Matt to our team," said Philip McDaniel, co-founder and CEO of St. Augustine Distillery. "His management experience and knowledge of the hospitality industry coupled with a vibrant passion for our community is the perfect recipe for success."

Born and raised in St. Augustine, Stevens spent seven years in management roles at Momentum Aviation Group in Tucson, Arizona, and six years as manager of A1A Ale Works in downtown St. Augustine. His responsibilities at the distillery will include all tour and retail operations to enhance the experience of the 150,000 guests who visit the distillery each year.

"I join an already passionate team of 45 employees who have helped build this company from the ground up," said Stevens. "When you focus on team building and



Photo courtesy of St. Augustine Distillery

Matt Stevens

creative thinking within a passionate group of people, the sky's the limit."

St. Augustine Distillery is housed in the historic FP&L Ice Plant, which dates back to 1907. The facility produces bourbon, rum, gin and vodka on-site and is a contributing building to the Historic Lincolnville Neighborhood, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The company has hosted over 500,000 visitors since opening in March 2014 and was recently named "Florida Whiskey of the Year" by Whisky Advocate. To learn more about St. Augustine Distillery, visit [www.staugustinedistillery.com](http://www.staugustinedistillery.com). To take a virtual tour, visit <https://goo.gl/ujjASn>.



# PGA TOUR unveils upgraded performance center at TPC Sawgrass

By Jon Blauvelt

The addition of a second story, two new hitting bays and a new training and fitness room are among the enhancements to the PGA TOUR's Performance Center at TPC Sawgrass that instructors of the facility unveiled to media last week. The performance center reopened to the public in late May after being closed since May 2016 for renovations.

"We have all the things we need to help people improve," said Director of Instruction Todd Anderson, who is considered one of golf's top teachers. "We're excited to get this started and build a tradition here at TPC Sawgrass."

Located on the facility's new second story are a putting lab and the new training and fitness room. The technology used by staff in the putting lab measures more than 20 parameters of the putter head and ball, including the direction of the putter head and backstroke/forward stroke timing. The lab also utilizes cameras that are placed around the room to provide instructors with varying vantage points of their students' short game. Whereas the center's previous lab only utilized TaylorMade putters, the upgraded facility has expanded to Titleist, Callaway and Ping.

Anderson explained that the new training and fitness room will help golfers improve the way their body functions during

their swing. If a student has tight shoulders or hips, he said they can now send him/her to the center's fitness specialist, Alex Bennett, who can perform an assessment to determine which exercises or stretches need to be completed to correct the problem. Included within the room are various weight lifting and cardio machines and exercise equipment, including medicine and physio balls and balance boards.

A club fitting bay and adjacent club fitting equipment room, which features upgraded equipment and additional shaft partners, are located on the first floor. Instructors here use TrackMan and GCQuad-Foresight technology to determine optimal club and ball data for each individual player. Adjacent to the club fitting bay are instruction bays where instructors work with students to improve their technique.

Outside of the building, the performance center's practice grounds consist of a grass fairway floor in the shape of an "X" to allow shot variations from the teeing ground; five Tif-Eagle target greens with two built to USGA standards; a center wedge target green; a chipping/bunker green and a putting green. The practice grounds also feature the traditional Pete Dye design element of the railroad bulk head.

In addition to Anderson and Bennett, the center's staff includes Jordan Dempsey, who specializes in helping students with



Photos by Ryan Young, PGA TOUR

The performance center's hitting bays feature state of the art technology to help students improve their game.

their short game; Andrew Lanahan, who teaches many of the center's junior and mid-level students; Josh Gumlia, the center's club fitter; and Joe Rocha, the facility's manager. Anderson emphasized that each one of the staff members has a different area of expertise and knows what it takes to succeed at the highest level.

"Anybody from a beginner to a tour player, we feel like we can help," said Anderson. "When everybody works together, it's a really, really powerful way to teach."

The performance center is open to the public for appointments Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The full rate cost of instruction ranges from \$200 to \$475 per hour depending on the instructor. TPC Sawgrass members and staff, as well as PGA Tour players, executives and junior players are eligible for discounted rates. Club fitting ranges in cost from \$125 to \$450.



The PGA TOUR's Performance Center at TPC Sawgrass now features a new fitness and training room.

Anderson, who has previously instructed at other training facilities, believes the sky is the limit for the upgraded center at TPC Sawgrass.

"This is the best one I've been involved with," he said. "I feel like we have all the components here to make it one of the best in the world."

# First Coast runners participate in 33rd Annual Bridge of Lions 5K



Polly McDonagh and Justin, Jason and Sacha Ballard



Traci Akers, Jennifer Czebotar, Erika Bjork and Beth Durling



Liz, Lilli, Ren and Eva Morrison

Photos by Jon Blauvelt

By Jon Blauvelt

Runners from up and down the First Coast flocked to St. Augustine July 15 to participate in the 33rd Bridge of Lions 5K.

The race started at the historic Castillo de San Marcos, with participants then running across the Bridge of Lions and through St. Augustine's Davis Shores neighborhood. The 5K concluded at Oglethorpe Park, where runners

enjoyed post-race refreshments and snacks and received T-shirts, finisher medals and goody bags.

17-year-old Sean Snyder of Palm Coast ran the race's fastest time at 17:15.



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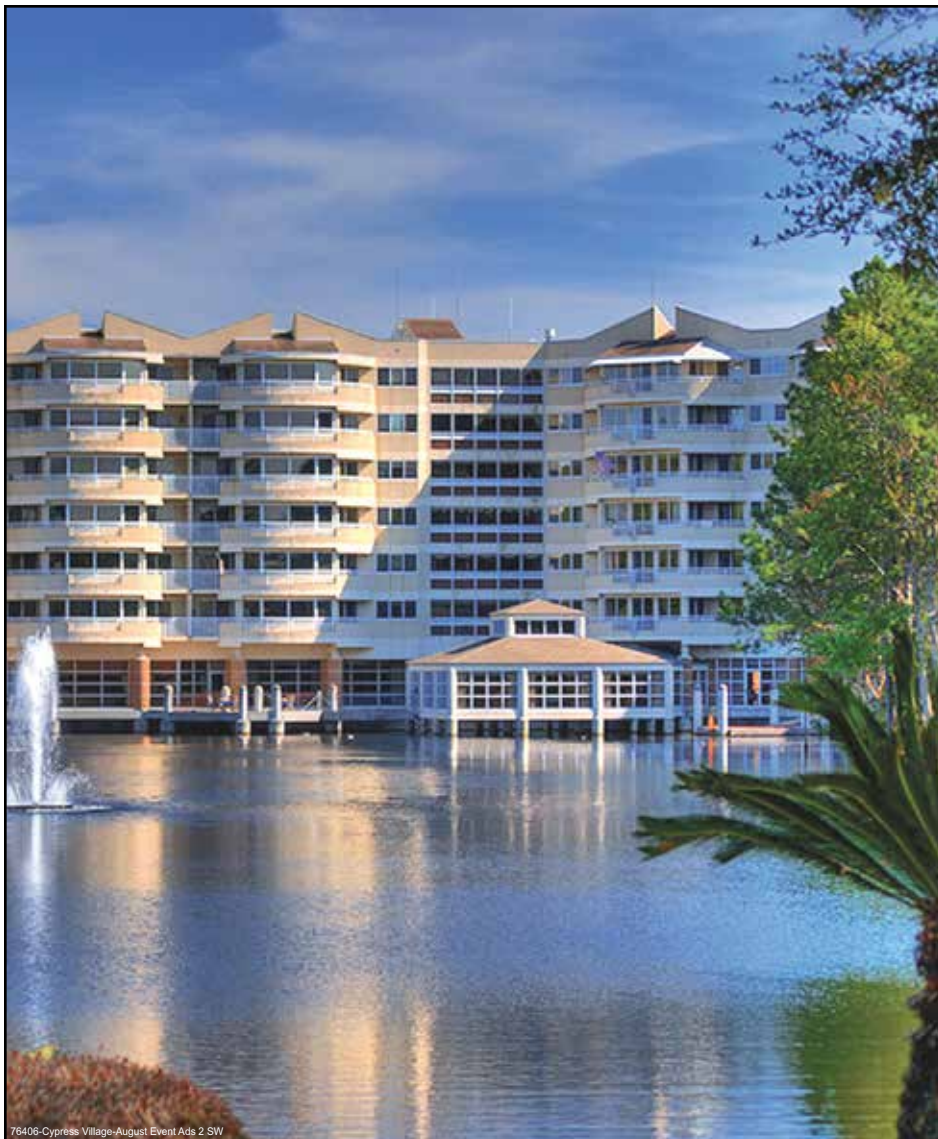


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PV2-LV40386

# Ponte Vedra native wins gold at World Maccabiah Games

Ponte Vedra's Hannah Berman recently won a gold medal as part of the United States women's golf team at the 20th World Maccabiah Games in Tel Aviv, Israel.

The U.S. team defeated the Israeli squad on its home course, the Pete Dye-designed Caesarea Golf Club. While the games ran July 5-17, the golf championship was held July 11-13 on the 6,100-yard course, about 45 minutes north of Tel Aviv. Shooting a U.S. team-low over 54 holes (79-73-76/228), Berman took the silver individual medal.

"My only dream going into these games was to win a team gold medal," said Berman, who is a 2016 graduate of Ponte Vedra High School. "To come home as the low American and with a silver medal is beyond my imagination. I am humbled and honored to be part of the history of the Maccabiah. The entire experience changed my life in so many ways."

Berman's U.S. teammate Marni Murez of UC Santa Clara took Bronze (231). Her other U.S. teammates were

Boca Raton native Alexa Popowitz (Georgetown), who finished fourth; Julie Steinbauer of Palm Beach (Rollins College); and Julia Hyman (Georgetown) of Allegheny, Pennsylvania.

"We had a strong team, as did the Israelis," said Berman, who is transferring from University of West Florida to Jacksonville University in the fall, "and it was a test for us on their home course. I think they knew every blade of grass. So, it was a big win for us."

Often called the Jewish Olympics, the Maccabiah Games rank as the world's third largest participatory sports event behind the summer and winter Olympics. More than 12,000 athletes from 80 countries compete in 43 sports. With a dual mission of bringing people to Israel to celebrate their faith and connecting them through sports, the U.S. delegation brought 1,150 athletes to the games, the largest delegation it's ever brought and second only to host-nation Israel with a delegation of 2,200 athletes. The



Hannah Berman enjoys the opening ceremonies of the 20th World Maccabiah Games in Tel Aviv, Israel.

U.S. delegation finished second in overall medals with 90 to Israel's 281. The U.S. team has been training in Jerusalem, Netanya, Haifa and Tel Aviv since the end of June, mixing in practice with seeing the touchstone sites of Israel and conducting mission work.

In an Instagram post just before the opening ceremonies, Berman called the opportunity an experience of a lifetime.

"I am so grateful to be in this beautiful country with nations around the world, all celebrating one thing," she wrote.

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30. Old master print maker
35. Getting warm
37. Knicks' competitor
39. Finnish steam bath
40. Hipbones
41. Derive
43. Membranophone
44. Fixin' to
46. Saudi Arabia's neighbor
47. Acid gritty-textured fruit
48. Iroquois tribe
50. Chills and fever
52. Prefix for "new"
53. Place for a house plant

55. Registered nurses' org.
57. \*Sean Penn in "Fast Times at Ridgemont High"
61. \*Oliver Stone's Oscar winner
65. Fire in one's soul
66. "\_\_\_\_, humbug!"
68. Canine skin infection
69. Famous person
70. Freudian topic
71. Beyond suburb
72. Hightailed it
73. Computer network acronym
74. Destruction of cells, pl.

**DOWN**

1. Resembling wings
2. Apple variety
3. It shall, for short
4. 12 \_\_\_\_ of AA
5. Stonehenge stone
6. Clarified butter
7. "Days of \_\_\_\_ Lives"
8. Olden day calculators
9. What to do with a shrew?
10. Copycat
11. Kids' building block
12. "Ocean Spray" \_\_\_\_-Apple juice
15. Celestial body with a tail, pl.
20. Absurd
22. Card with one pip
24. \*Robert Redford's "The \_\_\_\_"
25. \*Montoya's first name

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26. Honeydew, e.g.
27. Founding Father Thomas
29. \*Returned in 1983
31. Not gentlemen
32. Second-largest Great Lake
33. Accustom
34. \*Main character in "First Blood"
36. #28 Across' daughter
38. Heroin, slang
42. Artificial sweetener brand
45. Not absorb, nor repel
49. Have a cold, e.g.
51. Canine's coat
54. Denigrating statement
56. Muscle control problem
57. Puch-shaped structures in animals or plants.
58. \*Like "Dead Poets Society" school, e.g.
59. Opposite of busy
60. College girl
61. Sound unit
62. Cross to bear
63. Mythological hominid
64. Snouts or beaks
67. \_\_\_\_ Khan

# Ponte Vedra CLASSIFIEDS

## CLASSIFIED RATES 2017

All Line Ads are 4 lines,  
20 to 25 Characters Per Line.  
\*Additional Lines Can be Purchased  
\*All Rates Are NET

Message to Advertisers:  
All ads are non-refundable. Please check your ad copy the first week of publication. We will only apply credit for the first run and credits are subject to approval by the Publisher. If ad is cancelled prior to first insertion, cancellation must be made by the classified deadline of Wednesday by 3pm. Ads must comply with Federal, State or local laws. We are not responsible for ad content. Ads are subject to approval by the Publisher.

<p><b>Private Party Line Rates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$14.00 1 week • \$23.00 2 weeks</li> <li>• \$31.00 3 weeks • \$37.50 4 weeks</li> </ul> <p>Add lines \$2.15 each</p> <p>(Couches, TV's, Beds, Household Items, Etc.)</p>	<p><b>Commercial Line Rates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$22.50 1 week • \$39.00 2 weeks</li> <li>• \$55.50 3 weeks • \$70.00 4 weeks</li> </ul> <p>Add lines \$2.15 each</p> <p>(Animals, Cars, Renting or Selling a Home or to Advertise Your Business or Services)</p>	<p><b>Employment Spotlight/Real Estate</b></p> <p>1x2 (2"x2") \$40.50/1 wk • \$70.00/2 wks. • \$100/3 wks. 1x3 (2"x3") \$61.50/1 wk. • \$112.00/2 wks. • \$150.00/3 wks. 2x2 (4"x2") \$82.00/1 wk. • \$153.00/2 wks. • \$200.00/3 wks. 2x3 (4"x3") \$123.00/1 wk. • \$225/2 wks. • \$300/3 wks.</p>	<p><b>Business &amp; Worship Directory</b></p> <p>1.5 x 2 \$55.00/month 1.5 x 4 \$96.52/month 1.5 x 6 \$149.52/month</p> <p>Rate Guide for: The Recorder</p>
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www.pontevedrarecorder.com

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