



Wilson and Cummer Museum Executive Director Hope McMath

Beaches FOCUS on Cummer

Strong support for the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens runs deep with the beaches best patrons. See more on page 27.



Striking a blow to cancer at local Bowl-a-thon

Relay For Life of Westside sponsored its third annual family bowl-a-thon Feb. 27 for the American Cancer Association. Audrianna Hurston, Lynden Hurston, Imani Griffin and Landon Evan were ready to do their part to achieve the annual \$500 fundraiser goal.

Planning Department approves proposed Roost restaurant with conditions

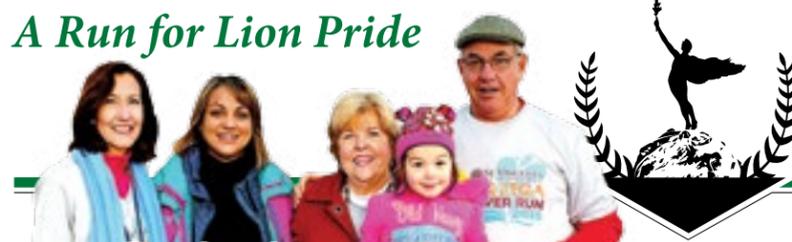
By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

The City of Jacksonville Planning and Development Department issued a report Feb. 26 approving the Planned Unit Development (PUD 2016-55), with conditions, for the restaurant known as The Roost, slated for occupancy in the former Deluxe Dry Cleaner and Launderette on Oak Street.

Planning and Development Department staff recommended several conditions throughout the report as they relate to landscaping, on-street parking, driveway access, and outside seating that will affect the design geometry of the parking lot, by either adding or deleting parking spaces in certain locations.

Continued on page 14

A Run for Lion Pride



St. Mark's Episcopal Day School hosted the 38th Ortega River Run, sponsored by St. Vincent's HealthCare. Welcoming committee included Beville Anderson, Ashley Szczukowski, Susan Kwartler, Nevee Hackett and Kevin Conklin. See page 46

Resident

Community News
Riverside — Avondale — Ortega — Murray Hill

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Fiercely Local News ... Fiercely Loyal Readers

March 2016, Vol. 10, Issue 03

New statue honors founders of St. Vincent's Hospital



Father Augustine "Aji" Jacob, Bishop John Snyder, Philanthropist and Community Volunteer Helen Lane, Honorary Board Member and Philanthropist Robert T. "Bob" Shircliff, Carol Shircliff, Jane R. Lanier, CFRE, President and System Chief Development Officer, St. Vincent's HealthCare Foundation and Father Leonard Chuwa, BCC, PhD

Local philanthropists create 'welcoming entrance'

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

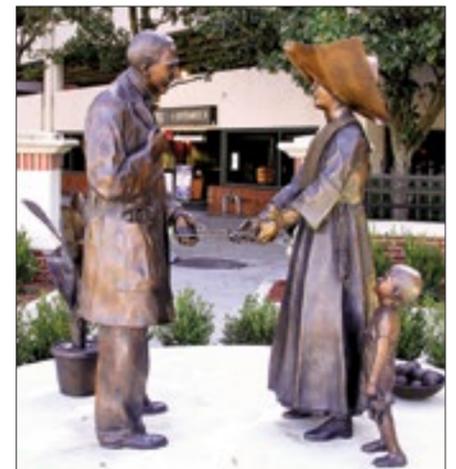
In celebration of its centennial this year, St. Vincent's HealthCare commissioned a new statute to honor its founders, the Daughters of Charity. The unveiling of the statue, donated by local philanthropist Helen Murchison Lane, took place on Feb. 17 at the corner of Riverside Avenue and Shircliff Way.

The sculpture, by 87-year-old artist Captain Robert I. Ramussen, USN, Ret., shows a young Daughter of Charity handing a

crucifix to a physician, symbolic of "passing on the Mission" of service to the sick and the poor. The child holding onto the Sister's skirt represents all in the community who hold dear the vision and mission of the Daughters of Charity. A basket of oranges and a palm tree are nearby, representing the actual gifts given to the Daughters of Charity by the Bishop of the Diocese of St. Augustine, Most Reverend Michael J. Curley, upon their arrival here in 1916.

"This is all about gratitude. Gratitude to Helen for what she has done with the beautiful piece of art for us," said Jane R. Lanier, CFRE - President and System Chief Development Officer, St. Vincent's HealthCare Foundation. "Gratitude to

Continued on page 19



This sculpture by artist Captain Robert I. Ramussen, USN, Ret., was commissioned to commemorate and honor the Daughters of Charity who have served Jacksonville for 100 years. (Photo courtesy of St. Vincent's HealthCare)



Future Marina Mile development could bring new life to Ortega River

By Kate A. Hallock, Resident Community News

Eight years ago, as the economic recession began in January 2008, a group of 20 businesses, including Sadler Point Marina and the former Pier 17, incorporated as the Jacksonville Marina Mile, hoping to promote a full-service experience for boaters in the area.

Situated on the Ortega River along Lake Shore Boulevard and Lakeside Drive, the Marina Mile offers several marinas, boat repair shops, yacht sales and similar marine-oriented businesses to local boaters, as well as

transient boaters who come north during hurricane season to use downtime for maintenance.

During the economic downturn, Sadler Point Marina purchased the storefront property in July 2010 from the former owners of Pier 17. After Pier 17's retail successor, Sailor Exchange, closed its storefront last year, Brooks Busey, owner of Sadler Point Marina, began to transform the 17,489-square-foot building for The Bridge, a center for retail and restaurant spaces.

Continued on page 13



A Night for Heroes draws dignitaries, support

Linda and Doug Baer with Abby Bean and Senator Aaron Bean, Shannon Miller and John Falconetti

See more on page 26

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Ask Allison



Q I heard something about property tax portability. I'd like to know what it is and find out if I can benefit from it. I'm getting ready to sell my house and hope I can save some money!

A Property Tax Portability is a law passed in January 2008 that was intended to help sellers "carry or port" their accumulated property tax savings with them to a new homesteaded property. To find out if you have it, look up your house on the city's website (coj.net) under the property appraiser and see if there is a difference between your Just/Market Value and your Assessed Value. The formula is (Just/Market Value) minus (Assessed Value) = (Cap Diff//Portability). Portability is also called deferred value. Not everyone has it so call me to help explain the potential benefit — it's treated differently if you're buying something MORE expensive than if you are downsizing.

Email your questions to steilberg@comcast.net



4238 LAKESIDE DRIVE, UNIT 102
ORTEGA — Asking Price \$825,000
3BR/3BA, 2,472SF, MLS #812711



2640 APACHE AVENUE
ORTEGA — Asking Price \$450,000
3BR/2.5BA, 2,453SF, MLS #812168



4935 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD
ORTEGA FOREST — Asking Price \$475,000
4BR/3.5BA, 3,432SF, MLS #812523



2865 DOWNING STREET
RIVERSIDE — Asking Price \$185,000
2BR/1BA, 1,154SF, MLS #813605



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Editor's Note

How can you not love this time of year? March holds several signs of warmer, longer days to come, beginning with the seasonal opening of the Riverside Arts Market on March 5. That same weekend, the Riverside Avondale Night Trolley begins every-weekend service, thanks to a variety of sponsors in partnership with the JTA. And as bulbs give rise to annuals throughout the neighborhood, plot holders prepare to sow the first seeds at the Riverside Avondale Community Garden.

Most notable of spring's advance is Daylight Saving Time on March 13 – don't forget to move your clocks ahead one hour. And for those feeling lucky, perhaps a dance with St. Patrick on March 17 will put a bit more spring in your step.

Two weeks later, the celebration of Easter heralds another traditional harbinger of spring. An earlier daylight also means I can soon start to set a more regular schedule for early morning bicycle riding through our historic neighborhoods.

One of many things I enjoy most about my daily forays into Riverside, Avondale or Ortega are the changes I see occur on front doors, entrances and porches from house to house, season to season. Decorations mark the movement of days through the calendar or proclaim an event important to that household.

If you're not quite ready to sweep winter off your front porch, perhaps a contest will motivate you to begin thinking about the first impression your home makes. Sponsored by Anita's Garden Shop & Design and Blend Indoor Outdoor, the Spring 2016 First Impressions contest invites homeowners to submit a photo and 100-word reason why their home should win a \$3000.00 front door makeover. Details can be found below.

Happy Easter, Happy Spring!

Kate A. Hallock

Managing Editor

SPRING 2016 FIRST IMPRESSIONS

WIN A \$3000 FRONT PORCH MAKEOVER!

Visitors to the historic districts 'ooh' and 'ah' over the charming, eclectic nature of homes in Riverside and Avondale, slowing down to catch a glimpse of decorative wreaths, plants and cozy furniture. Your front door, stoop or porch can be a show-stopper, too! Enter the Spring 2016 First Impressions Contest, sponsored by Anita's Garden Shop & Design and Blend Indoor Outdoor of Avondale for a chance to transform your home's first impression into a warm, welcoming scene.

Winner will receive a **\$3,000** front porch makeover, consisting of \$2,500 in hard goods and \$500 in design consultation, courtesy of Anita's Garden Shop & Design and Blend Indoor Outdoor. The makeover will occur during April at the mutual convenience of winner and sponsors.

1. Must be a homeowner, 18 years of age or older, residing in Jacksonville, FL.
2. Submit color photo (high-resolution, 600 dpi) along with a 100-word reason why your front door, stoop or porch qualifies for a makeover.
3. Entry must be submitted via email to editor@residentnews.net or received at 1650-302 Margaret Street, # 310, Jacksonville, FL 32204, no later than March 31, 2016.
4. Winner agrees to publication of before/after photos of home, photo of self, name, address, contest entry description, and any other details deemed necessary in *The Resident*.
5. Neither contest sponsors nor *The Resident* will be held responsible for lateness or non-delivery of entry via mail or email.

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Coldwell Banker 3610 St. Johns Avenue	Unity Plaza 220 Riverside Avenue

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WATERFRONT

4333 VENETIA BLVD - \$1,299,000
Lovely waterfront 4/5.5, 4428sf, pool/dock/lift



HYDE GROVE

6846 MONTROSE AVE N - \$184,900
Brick 3/2.5, 2010sf, Hyde Grove Acres



JUST REDUCED

3574 RIVERSIDE AVE - \$615,000
Beautiful 3-story brick 4/2/2, Historic Avondale



ORTEGA FOREST

4309 SHERWOOD RD - \$415,000
Gorgeous brick 5/3, 2924sf, huge lot



Tom Sandlin
904.237.0458



UNDER CONTRACT

2854 IONIC AVE - \$370,000
Updated 1-story, 4/2, 2642sf in Ortega



JUST REDUCED

4828 ORTEGA BLVD - \$629,000
Elegant 2-story brick traditional 4/3.5, 3068sf



NEW LISTING

6556 WHITE BLOSSOM CIR - \$165,000
Twinleaf gated 2/2 condo, 1438sf, 1-car garage



WATERFRONT

6230 PARK ST - \$235,000
Charming 3/2.5 on tidal creek, Sac lot



Alise Ferranti
904.434.0767



JUST LISTED

1374 TALBOT AVE - \$425,000
Brick 3/2.5, renovated kitchen, pool & hot tub



NEW LISTING

4621 HOMESTEAD RD - \$237,500
Adorable 3/2, updated, Stockton School Dist



SOLD

4547 ATTLEBORO ST
2008 2-story 3/2.5, open floor plan



RENOVATED

4637 HOMESTEAD RD - \$188,500
Remodeled 3/1, approx 1400sf, great kitchen



Beverly Sleeth
904.705.7414
Ken Watson
904.655.7220



ORTEGA TERRACE

4715 ALGONQUIN AVE - \$995,000
Elegant 5/3.5, fully renovated in 2006, must see!



RIVERFRONT ESTATE

4091 TIMUQUANA RD - \$1,775,000
Georgian estate, 4/3/1, 4528sf, 100'x404' lot



ORTEGA BV CONDO

4242 ORTEGA BLVD #20 - \$135,000
Very nice 2/2, second floor w/secure entry



RIVERSHORE VILLAGE

2950 ST JOHNS AVE #6 - \$325,000
Sunlit 2/2.5 townhome on the river



Fraser Bolwell
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OPEN SUN 3/27 - 2-4PM

4635 ORTEGA BLVD - \$1,499,000
Breathtaking Spanish style 4/3, skyline view



ST NICHOLAS

1328 NICHOLSON RD - \$359,000
Lovely brick 3/2.5, det garage apt



ST JOHNS RIVER

4939 MORVEN RD - \$3,100,000
Gorgeous estate-sized parcel, 5/4.5, 4556sf



HUGE LOT

1362 HAMILTON ST - \$149,000
Cute 2/1 on 149' x 300' lot, det garage



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Nathan Miller
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3925 JEAN ST - \$189,900
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POOL

5007 ORTEGA FOREST DR - \$524,900
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RIVERFRONT

5121 HARBOR POINT CIR - \$649,000
Renovated 3/2.5, 3043sf on Pirates Cove



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Lamar Roth
904.579.6606



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Letter to the Editor

Response to the Letter to the Editor in the February issue of The Resident Community News

Dear Editor,

In a letter to the editor in the February issue of the *Resident News*, a “Riverside resident” defends a proposed 150-seat bar/restaurant that developers want to build on Oak Street, at the site of the old Deluxe Cleaners (2220-2242, 2246 Oak Street).

As a member of P.R.O.U.D. (Positive, Riverside Optimized Urban Development), I respectfully disagree with a number of statements made by this resident. Furthermore, I think it’s important that other residents know what is at stake here, not just for Riverside/Avondale, but for all of Jacksonville.

Statement: The headline says, ‘Riverside resident supports new restaurant on Oak Street’

Response: Let’s be more specific.

This is not merely a “restaurant.” Specifically, it’s a 150-seat bar/restaurant with a full liquor license, outdoor seating, on-site live entertainment, and late-night hours (open until midnight with the option of staying open until 2 a.m.). It’s on a block almost entirely surrounded by historic residences, children, families, and offices. It’s out of scale, has inadequate parking, and encroaches on our fragile, historic, residential neighborhood. It’s also incompatible with our basic zoning laws, the special Zoning Overlay unanimously approved by City Council to protect our historic districts, and our city’s Comprehensive Plan. It’s also setting up a huge precedent for further encroachment of commercial development into fragile historic neighborhoods. The fact is, if this zoning change is approved, NO historic neighborhood—Riverside, Avondale, San Marco, Springfield, and Mayport—is safe from this type of encroachment. It’s a slippery slope, and has permanent consequences. Which is why the Riverside/Avondale Preservation Society is against this. Which is why the majority of the surrounding residents are against this. Which is why Dr. Wayne Wood, founder of the Riverside/Avondale Preservation Society, is against this. As he said: “To have an intrusion of this nature, where you have 150 cars several times a day going in and out of a restaurant, will just destroy that street and put us back where we were 40 years ago. This must not happen. It’s exactly the opposite of what needs to happen on Oak Street.”

Sure, in general, having a new restaurant in Riverside might seem like a good idea—until you realize that someone could be building it across the street from you.

Statement: “The project is a higher-end project targeting more upper-end clientele. This should be very good for the neighborhood.”

Response: The developers have said that this operation will provide breakfast, lunch, and sandwiches, along with coffee to go, beer, and cocktails.

This is not fine dining. This is not a place where local families will gather for hot meals at night. Instead, it will be a place where customers can perch for a few hours before driving away with a couple of cocktails under their belt. This does not draw higher-end clientele; it draws people who want to drink. This is NOT good for our quiet, residential neighborhood. Furthermore, we are a diverse residential community, and we welcome all types, not just ones with money. And, we think our real estate investment is better protected by development that meets the zoning codes outlined by the city, not development that requires a P.U.D. (Planned Unit Development) to get around a huge number of zoning restrictions.

Statement: The proposed development site building is in disrepair, and we, the residents, should count ourselves “lucky to have found an investor willing to make the large financial commitment to launch the project.”

Response: We think property owners should not be allowed to let their historic buildings fall into disrepair, subjecting the rest of us to the vagaries of random development to fix the problem.

We also think developers should develop historic buildings in accordance with the many approved uses provided by our zoning laws—like SNAP Fitness. That’s an appropriate use. The office building across the street is an appropriate use. The commercial/retail building at the corner of Oak and Osceola is an appropriate use. These are all allowable uses of the buildings according to our zoning codes, and, we are glad to have these folks as our neighbors and friends. We are asking that this site be developed in accordance with the many other possible appropriate and allowable uses for buildings in our residential neighborhood.

Statement: P.R.O.U.D. has “rallied against the existing businesses including the SNAP Fitness Gym next to the proposed project.”

Response: If we did that, we’d be rallying against ourselves.

We ARE the members of SNAP Fitness, we ARE the customers of Tenley Dietrich, we ARE the patients of Dr. Balbona, we ARE the customers of Deluxe Cleaners. These businesses have all been outstanding, respectful members and neighbors in this quiet community, and we are glad to have them—and support them in every way.

Statement: “To present that area of Oak Street as ‘residential’ is a bit disingenuous too.”

Response: Folks, we live here, so, we should know.

We have surveyed the area, and by counting the surrounding residences (and a quick glance at the zoning map for this area backs this up) we can accurately describe it as 83% residential, with a few offices and only three other very modest commercial sites. We currently have a buffer between this residential area and the other commercial zones around Margaret Street and King Street. We are trying to protect our residences and this buffer from commercial encroachment. This is not disingenuous. This is true. And while parts of the block in question have been used for commercial in the past, and the site is currently in disrepair, that’s what makes it fragile and in need of protection. The rest of the block is residential and historical. Even the property owner has said he would prefer to see residential use of this site.

Members of P.R.O.U.D. do not want to argue with anyone. We promote the following ideas:

- Engage residents in a positive, collaborative effort
- Maintain a positive approach to development of the Oak Street project
- Uphold current zoning regulations
- Stop commercial encroachment and prevent neighborhood degradation
- Maintain quality of residential life in this community
- Uphold property values and historical integrity of the neighborhood
- Create innovative win-win solutions
- Develop long-term improvements to the community

Right now, we feel like David fighting Goliath. We are mere citizens—teachers, entrepreneurs, small-business owners, retired workers, and young professionals, battling big-money development and high-profile lawyers—and, sadly, a system that seems to want to grease the wheels for this concept to be pushed through. We have nothing against the young men who want to develop this property, nor the property owner, who is, after all, a neighbor. We just hope that these developers find a better spot for their concept, in an area that can handle the scale of this project and is already zoned for cocktail bars, restaurants, and nightclubs. We hope City Council will agree.

We also hope that you will support our efforts to be good citizens and stewards of our historic community. To get involved, see the zoning maps, learn more details about this proposed development, and review our alternative development options, please visit our website: www.proudofriverside.com. While you’re there, please sign the petition to let our City Council know you are opposed to this type of inappropriate development in our historic neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Wolfe

Member of P.R.O.U.D. of Riverside

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February issue takes residents down Memory Lane

Super nice article [regarding donation of Judge Lloyd Layton's portrait to Duval County Courthouse]. Our family/longtime friends appreciate *The Resident* and what it means to us old timers. This last issue with Eleanor King, Eleanor and George Carswell, Rain-Burpee and others was most interesting.

John Layton
Avondale resident

Dear Resident,

So, another bar/restaurant wants to open in the Riverside Historic District. (The Roost in Riverside). This particular issue involves more than the sons of two powerful, influential local developer families who want to open a bar/restaurant. It involves more than a single owner of the property, family friends of one of the developers, who has deferred maintenance of the property in question and let it become a blighted building through his own neglect. It is more than the mysterious disappearance of two old residential homes on the property that the developers now want to turn into a parking lot that doesn't meet code.

The bigger issue here is whether or not the City of Jacksonville (the Planning Department, the Planning Commission and our elected City Council members) will uphold the Overlay Ordinance that was put in place about seven years ago to protect our city's Historic District from this kind of intense commercial intrusion.

Of course the residents of the single and multifamily homes that surround this property are mostly opposed. Who wants to live across the street from a busy 150-seat bar/restaurant that has the potential to be open from 7 a.m. to 2 a.m.? (The developers scaled back their initial request of 2 a.m. to 12 midnight with the caveat that they could later go back and change the hours with a simple administrative application to the City.) Then, there are people who live further away who think it might be a good idea. Lots of people like to go out and have a good time at a bar/restaurant; that is understandable. The argument will rage on.

But, what is important is the precedent that the City would

be setting if they allowed this increase in intensity of a commercial property when the Overlay says clearly that any commercial development in a Historic Residential area should be of a small scale that doesn't negatively alter the character of the area. Also, there is absolutely no provision in the Overlay for a restaurant of any size in this area.

If this is allowed to occur, despite the objections of the neighbors in the area and despite the laws preventing it, the doors are flung open for Oak Street to develop as strip of restaurants and bars from Margaret Street to King Street. Residential homes will be converted to commercial spaces as realtors have a difficult time selling homes next to and directly across the street from large commercial entertainment venues. It will surely create business income for the developer families and attorneys as Oak Street becomes a food court and residents find new places to live. Good news for developers and attorneys, bad news for families and residents.

I plan to work with the neighborhood groups opposed to this project, specifically RAP and PROUD because I believe the whole of the City of Jacksonville has too much to lose if we let our Historic Districts be overrun by large, intense scale service establishments. Surely, we will find that the chickens have indeed come home to roost as our most successful traditional neighborhoods become food courts and entertainment districts. Go to <http://proudfriiverside.com/> to keep up to date on the progress or visit PROUD on Facebook.

Sincerely,

Nancy Murrey-Settle
Riverside resident



Thank you, so much, for the supportive article "JEA tree trimming crews start process in historic district" in the *Resident Community News*. This particular article, focusing specifically on Maintenance Cycle Trimming, was brought to my attention last night by the Trees Inc. General Foreman Johnny Felker, who picked up the *Resident Community News* while he was eating at The Loop in Riverside.

My heart was instantly warmed by his enthusiasm as he proudly described the picture of the Trees Inc. trucks and read the article word for word to me – including the names of the crew members who are showing such care with the maintenance work in the neighborhood.

These are the same folks that championed such a successful and positive result from the last trim cycle completed in 2013. The general foremen/certified arborists actually physically hang door hangers on each property that is directly impacted by cycle trimming – answer questions and engage customers daily throughout the process. I love that these guys and their extensive efforts are highlighted here! Just some things that make me smile.

AND I do LOVE reading the *Resident Community News*!

Sincerely,

Kim Wheeler, P.E., C.E.M.

JEA, Manager, Transmission & Distribution Preventative Maintenance



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3 Car Garage Plus Golf Cart Garage

Last JTA workshop signals beginning of planning period

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

The Jacksonville Transit Authority wrapped up the last of 12 “MobilityWorks” community workshops, this one focusing on Philips Highway. The workshop, held Feb. 2 at Southside Assembly of God, was sparsely attended. Those who took part raised several concerns, such as crosswalks missing at intersections and the lack of sidewalks connecting to bus stops along the long corridor.

David Cain, owner of Paint Works, an automotive body and interior repair shop at 2717 Philips Hwy., was at the meeting to vent frustration with loss of on-street parking at his business after the Florida Department of Transportation created a bicycle lane during last year’s \$6.2 million repaving project.

Cain’s issue was not a result of any work done by the JTA, but he hoped to find a sympathetic ear at the meeting. Jim Hill, a member of the Southeast Citizens Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC), took notes as Cain explained he currently has no parking for his customers at the commercial property which, has been in existence since 1960. He said he would be unable to sell that property without accommodation for parking.

No sense of place

The Southside portion of U.S. 1, Philips Highway was completed in 1934 and named

after Duval County Judge Henry Philips.

“It’s a long corridor, probably four or five miles of roadway,” said William Roll, a transportation planning practice builder with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. “It has a much different characteristic from one end to the other.”

The northern end of Philips Highway has a transitioning urban cross-section, then it begins to become increasingly industrial as residential disappears, said Roll. The middle portion includes large-box retailers such as Lowe’s, a commercial corridor and commerce office parks. The southern end is comprised of undeveloped area, with no development around the interstate, other than The Avenues, a very large regional mall.

“There are no sidewalks, but there are transit stops,” Roll said. “One of the things that concerns me is the interstate is a barrier and the only way you can cross is where someone has built a crossing.”

The JTA spent the past year reviewing 14 mobility corridors with a focus on transit, pedestrian and bicycle movement within each, for future projects that may include sidewalks, bike paths, transit accessibility improvements, lighting, bus shelters, landscaping and more.

“This is a much more highway-oriented, older commercial corridor, which doesn’t have a sense of place,” said Fred Jones, senior transportation planner for JTA. “A lot of what we anticipate we’ll hear will be more of those short-term design issues, such as ‘we need a cross-

walk here or a sidewalk there.’ You’re not going to get ‘Here’s our roundabout idea,’ but certainly it doesn’t lack the need for key critical safety improvements for cyclists and pedestrians in a heavily traveled corridor,” he said.

“We have a lot of individuals who walk, who bike, who are transit riders, so some of the key things are improvements at the intersections,” said Roll. “There are often no crosswalks or where there are signals and crosswalks, the design may not be very conducive to pedestrians. When transit stops are mid-block we can expect a lot of people crossing there.”

Jones said they will wrap up preliminary planning and design with the goal of having draft reports available in mid to late March.

An allocation of \$15 million will be used for a combination of prioritized corridors/projects, including \$10 million for the Complete Streets program and \$5 million for transit amenities and ADA access (i.e., new shelters, pads, ADA access and ramps) throughout the 14 corridors, funded by the extension of the Local Option Gas Tax with \$100 million in bonds issued to cover the cost of 27 projects over the next five years.

“Obviously a lot of these corridors are quite long, and we wanted to identify places where we could potentially go in and retrofit, where we could focus our efforts,” said Jones. “All of these corridors were selected by virtue of having 15 minute or less transit service.”



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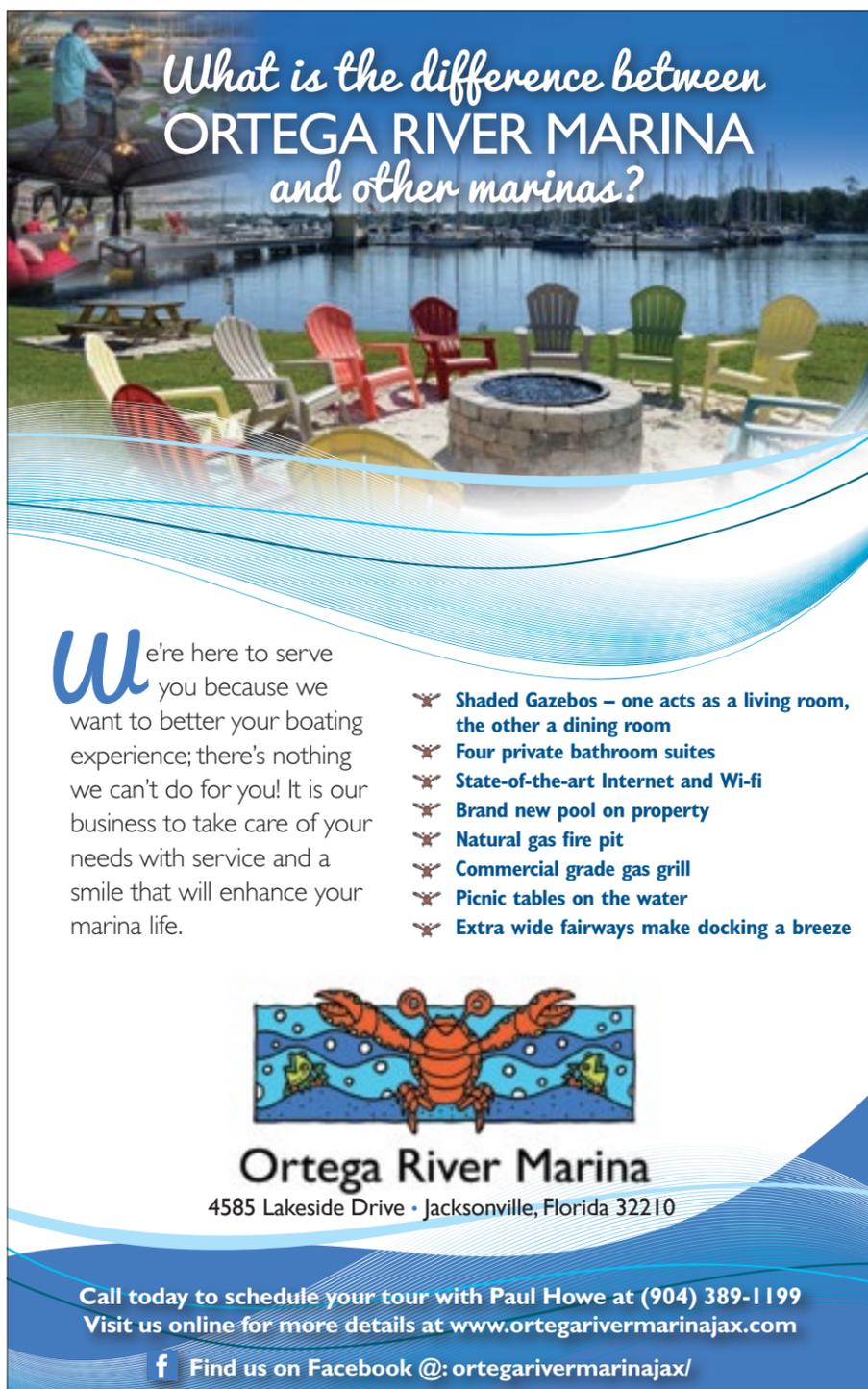
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Nominations sought for annual Keep Jacksonville Beautiful awards

Keep Jacksonville Beautiful and the City of Jacksonville are accepting nominations for the 11th Annual Keep Jacksonville Beautiful Awards through March 11. The awards showcase individuals, businesses, organizations and schools that are making strides to keep the city clean.

The awards will be presented at the Keep Jacksonville Beautiful Friend Raiser April 1 at City Hall, 117 W. Duval St.

Applications for the Keep Jacksonville Beautiful Awards may be downloaded from the City of Jacksonville’s website at www.coj.net, keywords “Keep Jacksonville Beautiful.” An application may also be

requested by email from Dan Durbec at ddurbec@coj.net.

Applicants will be judged in three areas and should demonstrate that they have made outstanding and ongoing efforts in (1) beautification, (2) litter prevention, or (3) litter cleanup in Duval County.

Applicants must submit a completed application including a summary of their achievements and any supporting documentation no later than Friday, March 11, to Dan Durbec at ddurbec@coj.net or mail to Keep Jacksonville Beautiful, Attention: Dan Durbec, 1321 Eastport Road, Jacksonville, FL 32218.



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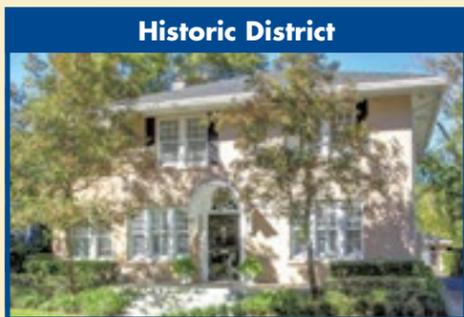
This stately home was completed in 1924 for the Lippman family who owned and operated the Independent Drug Company. The last time it was on the market was 19 years ago, but it has been impeccably maintained and improved every year during that time. It sits on a nearly half acre corner lot with attached 2 car garage, swimming pool and very private backyard. Inside has 3,764 sq. ft. of living space with 4 bedrooms and 3.5 baths. Upon entry, the foyer opens to the large formal living room and then a sun splashed family room/den with 2 sets of French doors leading to huge paver tile patio, pool and backyard. The other direction takes you to the formal dining room and beautifully updated kitchen with granite and stainless, and circles back through a wine room to the pool and patio. It is great flow for entertaining. It's a very impressive home and just a few short steps to the Shoppes of Avondale.

Wade Griffin, 904-543-0969
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Historic District

3316 Oak Street
Tripp Newsom, 904-234-6117
\$598,000



Historic District

3527 Oak Street
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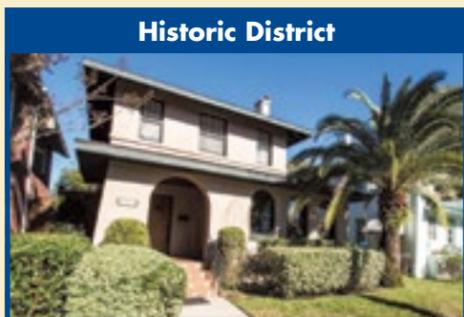
Historic District

1879 Ribault Court
Wade Griffin, 904-543-0969
\$1,075,000



Historic District

2761 Forbes Street
Lee O'Quinn, 904-742-8338
\$239,900



Historic District

2325 Forbes Street
Wade Griffin, 904-543-0969
\$339,000



Ortega

4200 Ortega Forest Drive
Amy Powell/Anne Rain, 904-472-9809
\$2,595,000



Ortega

5303 Ortega Blvd #106
Seth Kimball, 904-270-0210
\$350,000



Other Areas

171 Sea Hammock
Seth Kimball, 904-270-0210
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5300 Clapboard Creek
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Good turnout for annual library meeting in Murray Hill

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

A nice evening and a change of venue brought over 40 people out for the annual Friends of Murray Hill Library meeting. Hosted at Maple Street Biscuit Company, which opened the restaurant on Tuesday evening, Feb. 16, just for the library group, the meeting was conducted by Bill Brinton, president of the FMHL board.

Brinton introduced officials from the City of Jacksonville and the Jacksonville Public Library. Four councilmen attended, including District 14 Councilman Jim Love, At-Large Councilmen John Crescimbeni, Sam Newby and Greg Anderson, who is also City Council president. From the library were Barbara Gubbin, director; Chris Boivin, assistant director, community relations and marketing; Jennifer Giltrop, deputy director public services; Amber Holley, manager of youth services; Richard Mott, manager for strategic services; and Marshelle Berry, Webb Wesconnett Region manager.

Approximately 30 residents attended, along with Roxanne Henkel, president of the Friends of Willowbranch Library; Melvin Turnage and Sharon Coon, Friends of the Brentwood Library; Celia Miller, from the Dallas Graham Branch Library; Raymond Neal, former Murray Hill Library manager and Guy Adkins, Murray Hill's new branch manager.

The board's new goals for the neighbor-

hood library include beautification of the exterior, as well as increasing the number of sponsors, visitors to the library and items circulated. "We also want to straighten the flagpole," said Jay Stuckey, board vice president.

Brinton took the group through a stroll down the Murray Hill Memory Lane, decade by decade. Highlights included the incorporation of Murray Hill (1916) and its dis-incorporation (1925), and the establishment of Murray Hill Elementary School (1916), Four Corners Park (1927), Murray Hill Baptist Church (1935), the Edgewood Bakery (1947), the Dreamette (1948), the Murray Hill Theatre (1949), and the Murray Hill Branch Library (1968).

Perhaps the most interesting historical item shared was the role Murray Hill resident Chuck Mann played in changing the local results based on a national decision made by the United State Postal Service (USPS) in 1978. It had declared that every new development from that time on must have curbside delivery or mailboxes at a central location, but in 1992 the USPS installed 8,000 curbside mailboxes in five older neighborhoods, including Murray Hill.

Mann, who was on the Murray Hill Preservation Association board of directors, helped collect the petitions, which eventually caused the USPS to discontinue its attempt to replace door-to-door delivery in Jacksonville's older neighborhoods with curbside delivery in 1997.



District 14 Councilman Jim Love and At-Large Councilman John Crescimbeni receive a Hero of the Library award from Bill Brinton, president of the Friends of Murray Hill Library board of directors.



Friends of Murray Hill Library board members Mary Lou Sutherlin and Florence Rando (seated); Nancy Beecher, Jason Tetlak, Bill Brinton, Jay Stuckey III, Judy Klein, Elizabeth Breting

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New playground within reach for Boone Park

Community to rally for last amount needed

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Thanks to Delores Barr Weaver, children and adults who currently enjoy Boone Park South will have more fun and interaction when a new playscape is installed later this year.

There's just one small catch. Friends of Jacksonville Parks, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity that is raising community funds for the renovation of Boone Park (south) playground, must raise \$8,000 by April 1. If they succeed, Weaver has made a pledge to donate \$50,000 to the new playground.

The idea to renovate Boone Park playground came about after Kim Clontz, of Avondale, home-schooled her two daughters for three years. "As we were traveling, we were blown away at the type of playgrounds we saw in other cities such as San Francisco, Boston, Atlanta, and other places," said Clontz. "They were modern in design, challenging,

interesting and captured the attention of a much wider range of kids...not just those under 12...plus, they were just fun!"

In 2015, Clontz approached Pamela Telis with Friends of Boone Park South about the idea. Telis supported it and put Clontz in touch with Richard Skinner who, in 1995, designed and raised funds for the current playground.

"I approached Parks and Recreation and found that the existing playground equipment was on the 'chopping block' to be replaced within the next two years because it no longer meets ADA nor safety standards and requirements," said Clontz. "I asked if I helped raise community funds if it would be possible to not simply replace the equipment with typical, cookie-cutter pieces, but with something different, long lasting and that would attract a wider range of children and include exercise equipment for adults. They said yes."

Clontz conducted more than 200 surveys within the playground to find out what people were looking for in a playground and obtained quotes from four different playground vendors before approaching District 14 Councilman Jim Love. "He agreed to match community-



A rendering of the equipment proposed for the playground at Boone Park South, the portion of the park between St. Johns Avenue and Herschel Street.

raised dollars up to \$90,000 using district council bond funds. Meanwhile, Parks and Recreation allocated \$75,000 toward the project," Clontz said.

Since October 2015, the Friends of Jacksonville Parks organization has raised \$42,000 in donations from the community and, with Weaver's donation, needs to raise only \$8,000 more by April 1, for a total of \$100,000 from private donations.

Legislation for the project was filed February 17 and is slated for review by City

Council in April. The timeline for ordering the new equipment, demolition of the old and construction of the new playground could put the project at completion by late July, according to Clontz.

Recently some residents came forward with concerns about the primary colors originally selected. "To appease them, we have toned down the color palette to include earth tones...but it still looks fantastic and is going to be an unbelievable centerpiece to the community!" said Clontz.

Lakeside bridge replacement update

In the September 2015 issue of *The Resident*, a story about the Lakeside Drive Bridge replacement project indicated the City of Jacksonville anticipated construction would begin in early 2016. Current projected construction start is now expected to be early May.

Funding for the Lakeside Drive Bridge was appropriated in May 2015 per the recommendation of the Council's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Subcommittee, according to Tia Ford, public information officer for the City of Jacksonville. "The project is fully funded and design is nearly complete," she stated. "However, there are utilities attached to the existing structure that must be permanently relocated. Engineering is coordinating with the stakeholders to achieve resolution."

Every-weekend night trolley begins this month

What began in January 2014 as a once-a-month weekend service has, after two years, finally turned into a reliable alternative to the hunt-and-park method of patronizing bars and restaurants in Riverside/Avondale.

Beginning Friday, March 4, the Riverside Avondale Night Trolley will run every weekend from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights.

Thanks to a partnership with Riverside Avondale Preservation, Miller/Coors and local merchants, the Jacksonville Transportation Authority is able to put three trolleys – actually small buses designed to look like trolleys – into the loop.

The 40-minute route will take customers from 5 Points to

the intersection of Park Street and King Street, the Shoppes of Avondale, the Brewery District, the intersection of Stockton and College streets, and the St. Johns Village.

Riders can connect to Downtown by connecting to JTA bus routes 5 and 16, according to JTA spokesperson Leigh Ann Rasser. San Marco residents can make connections on bus routes 7, 8 or 17.

A new mobile app, MyJTA, will enable riders to purchase an unlimited-ride, single-day pass for \$4 online via phone. Passes can also be purchased at Walgreens, Bold City Brewery, Mellow Mushroom Avondale, Grassroots Natural Market and European Street. For those using cash, a single trip is \$1.50 with exact change.

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Drive-by absolution draws attention

Commuters on their way to work northbound on Roosevelt Boulevard may have blinked in surprise or disbelief when they noticed the sign that read "Get Your Ashes Here."

On Ash Wednesday, Feb. 10, two pastors who serve Ortega United Methodist Church took the rite of penance to the roadside as a convenience for commuters who might not otherwise find time to observe Ash Wednesday.



A commuter pulls in for a blessing and application of ashes from Pastor Vance Rains.

Pastors Vance Rains and Jason Knott applied ashes, made from the previous Easter's palm branches, between 6 a.m. and 9 a.m. "We estimated around 50 people received ashes during our drive-thru service," said Sarabeth Soule, director of communications for the church.

The church has the perfect set-up for a quick off-and-on-again detour from U.S. 17 North, allowing commuters to pull in, receive a blessing, a dab of ash to the forehead and, if they wish, a cup of coffee, before continuing the trek toward downtown.



A passer-by on foot received ashes from Pastor Vance Rains at Ortega United Methodist Church.



Pastors Vance Rains and Jason Knott applied penitential ashes, roadside, on Ash Wednesday, at Ortega United Methodist Church.

Needle moves slightly toward creek clean-up effort

It appears that the City of Jacksonville is finally moving toward cleaning up sedimentation in Willowbranch Creek, which resulted partially from work on the bridge over Riverside Avenue.

After inquiries in November 2015 from Jimmy Orth, executive director of the St. Johns Riverkeeper, and again in December from nearby resident Cathleen Murphy, the city responded to their requests for an update on the longstanding issue.

Jason Teal, from the Office of the General Counsel for the City of Jacksonville, issued this statement on Jan. 28, 2016:

The City's Environmental Quality Division [EQD] is working on a global settlement of the two separate episodes that resulted in the current sedimentation condition of Willowbranch Creek. Toward that end, the City's Public Works Department has agreed to perform work to remedy the sedimentation between St. Johns Avenue and Riverside Avenue. EQD is still in the process of finalizing additional terms of the settlement that will resolve the remaining issues to the satisfaction of the Department. It is expected that all remaining settlement terms will be negotiated by the end of next week. Once those terms are finalized, a settlement document will be drafted to outline and confirm each party's obligations to rectify this situation.

On Feb. 22, Teal told interested parties the settlement was finalized and was being circulated for signatures.

Many hands will make river cleanup light work

Florida Great American Cleanup kicks off March 19

The 20th annual St. Johns River Cleanup and Celebration, presented by the City of Jacksonville Keep Jacksonville Beautiful Commission and Keep Clay Beautiful, will be held on Saturday, March 19, as a kick-off event for the Florida Great American Cleanup.

Partnerships with Riverside Avondale Preservation, San Marco Preservation So-

ciety, Murray Hill Preservation Association and Springfield Preservation and Restoration have added dozens of new sites taking the cleanup from the shoreline to the streets to prevent trash from ever reaching the river. Nearly 50 sites can be found throughout the city and surrounding counties.

Beautify your neighborhood and streets and prevent trash from entering storm drains and making it to the river. Clean one of the many riverfront parks and shoreline of the St. Johns. Get out on the water in your kayak, canoe, or boat and help remove that hard to reach trash and debris. Get a team

together from your office, church, scouts, or civic group and join the effort. Cleanup supplies will be provided at each site.

Students can receive community service hour certificates. Advance registration is not required. Volunteers 18 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Times vary by location but are generally 8-11 a.m. or 9 a.m. -12 p.m. so check your individual site instructions. Contact Shannon Blankinship at (904) 256-7613 or Shannon@Stjohnsriverkeeper.org with questions. For a list of Duval County sites, visit www.stjohnsrivercleanup.com.

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4214 Ortega Forest Drive

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2533 River Road

Spacious 5BR/3.5BA 1930's brick two story. Updated kitchen with marble countertops, high end appliances. Living room with fireplace, formal dining room, and sunroom. 3,186 sq. ft. \$985,000



6848 La Loma Drive

4BR/2BA Traditional 2 story home in the San Jose area. Close to downtown, schools, the San Marco Area, and the many area Restaurants / Shopping. 2,543 sq. ft. \$309,000



2970 St Johns 3C

Beautiful 3BR/2BA in the Beau Rivage. The amenities are numerous, riverfront pool, fitness room, full time staff with 24 hour manned concierge. 1,822 sq. ft. \$249,900



RIVERFRONT

2148 Lake Shore Boulevard

2,513 sq. ft., 3BR/2.5BA waterfront home. Located on the Cedar River; features remodeled kitchen with granite and newer appliances, pool with guest house, bulk head, dock and boat lift, many citrus and tropical fruit trees and much more. \$449,000



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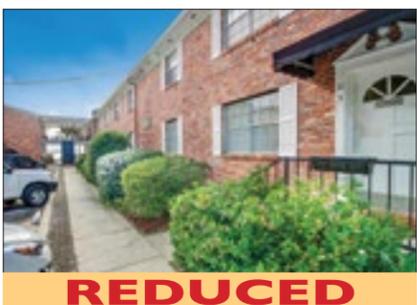
2884 Olga Place

Spacious 2BR/1BA bungalow in great walkable area near Willowbranch Park, King St. and Avondale shops. Inside utility room. Fenced yard completes the package. \$179,000



2877 Sydney Street

3BR/1.5BA Craftsman style, open & renovated kitchen with solid wood cabinetry and granite countertops, renovated bath well as a relaxing porch overlooking Willowbranch park. 1,381 sq. ft. \$229,000



REDUCED

1846 Mallory #5

This charming 2BR/2BA condo on the St. Johns River at the end of Mallory Street, River Ridge Condominium is a 14 unit all-brick enclave in a lovely, private setting. 990 sq. ft. \$152,500

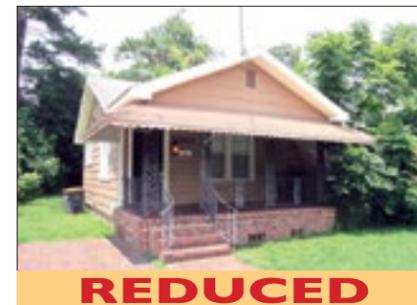


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Avondale 2BR/1BA features features a recently updated kitchen with granite counter tops and a unique wood burning fireplace in the living room as well as original hardwood floors throughout. 910 sq. ft. \$159,000



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What's that noise?

The skies above the Ortega area were a little noisier last month. Residents spied copters overhead for a week and wondered what was going on. *The Resident* reached out to Miriam S. Gallet, Public Affairs Officer, NAS Jacksonville for some answers.

While returning home from a nine-month deployment, helicopters belonging to the 101st Airborne Division's Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB) were staging at Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax), said Gallett. The helicopters arrived via ship at Blount Island from Afghanistan, where maintenance was performed.

"I am very pleased that even during our runway construction project, we were able to support and accommodate the 101st in the staging of more than 60 helicopters on our tarmac upon their return from Task Force No Mercy," said NAS Jax Commanding Officer Capt. Howard Wanamaker. NAS Jax has provided a staging area to the 101st since the 1990s.



101st Airborne Division AH-64E Apache helicopters take off from NAS Jax for the five and half hour flight back to Fort Campbell, Ky. The helicopters are redeploying after nine months in Afghanistan. (Photo by Julie M. Lucas/NAS Jacksonville Public Affairs)

The 62 helicopters used by the 101st CAB, which are on the NAS Jax tarmac, include the AH-64E Apache helicopters, CH-47F Chinooks and UH-60M Black Hawk helicopters. They started departing NAS Jax in waves, with one group of 10 Apaches leaving Jan. 29. The last helicopters are expected to depart Friday, Feb. 5, according to Gallett.

Annual 'Blessing of the Fleet' set for March 20

What better way to enjoy the St. Johns River than from the water! Join local boaters at the annual Blessing of the Fleet, Sunday, Mar. 20, 2 p.m., presented by The Captains' Club and the Jacksonville Sail and Power Squadron.

Staging will occur at Metropolitan Park Marina and boats will hug the Southbank Riverwalk as they pass the Lone Sailor Statue for a blessing. Arrive downtown no later than 1:30 p.m. and tune to VHF Channels 16 or 72. For more information, call (904) 509-0588.

Cultural Service Grant Program Letter of Intent due March 8

Duval County arts and cultural organizations interested in applying to the 2016-2017 Cultural Service Grant Program (CSGP) need to submit a Letter of Intent to the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville by Tuesday, March 8, 2016.

The Letter of Intent form, a required first step in the grant process, is available and must be submitted online through

the Cultural Council's website at www.culturalcouncil.org/grant-programs/cultural-services-grant-program/.

CSGP awards, administered by the Cultural Council on behalf of the City of Jacksonville, are granted based on quality of programs, exploration of innovative ideas and programming, community impact, need for the organization in the

community, community outreach and service to culturally diverse populations, and management capability of board and staff.

For more information on the Cultural Service Grant Program, contact the Cultural Council at (904) 358-3600 or info@culturalcouncil.org.

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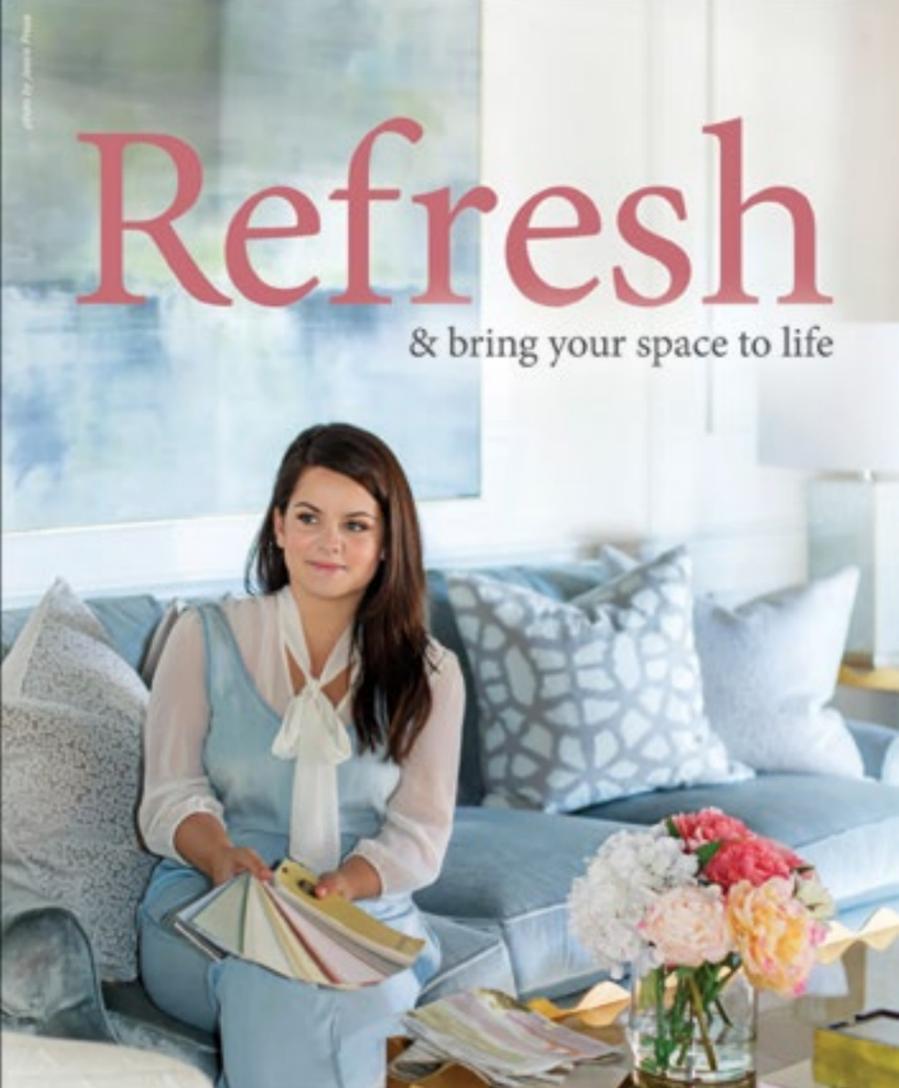
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New group crosses beautiful barrier to unite riverfront residents

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Though the river is considered by some to be Jacksonville's "great divide," for Sandra Fradd and Dorothy Merrick, the St. Johns is a means to bring together residents living in downtown condominiums and apartment buildings.

It began 10 years ago when Merrick moved to Jacksonville and, in her words, "became completely engaged with living in the urban core on the beautiful St Johns River." A member of Downtown Vision Inc. and the Urban Core CPAC, Merrick said, "I realized we are a downtown neighborhood, and we need to support our downtown businesses and attract more."

When Fradd moved to Jacksonville three years ago, she used to look across the St. Johns River from her condo in The Peninsula and wonder who lived there. "Then I attended a Downtown Vision meeting and met a man who lived in the Plaza – the condominium across the river from mine – and he told me about Dorothy Merrick, said I had to get to know her," said Fradd.

Soon Merrick and Fradd, with a few other residents, began exploring how to bring together people who live on both sides of the river.

"Back then, two years ago, we were eight people from the Plaza, Peninsula, San Marco Place, Riverwalk Townhomes, and Churchill Lofts," they said. "We hosted an invitation-only meeting at the Peninsula to see who might be interested in forming a group; 45 attended. Our speakers – Aundra Wallace,



Dorothy Merrick and Sandra Fradd, founders of Downtown Dwellers

CEO, Downtown Investment Authority and Mike Balanky, developer of San Marco Place and The District – amazed us with news of the changes transpiring in our area. At that point we didn't yet have a name."

At the Jan. 21 meeting, the group's name, Downtown Dwellers, was established.

"Our agenda is to encourage people to get to know each other and find out what's going on. We aren't seeking to be change agents," said the Downtown Dwellers co-organizers.

"Our motto is *Let the River Unite Us*. We believe the venue is an important part of the experience, a place where people can meet and chat and learn together, and maybe eat and drink," said Fradd. "Dorothy and I enjoy checking out places that will help our group become better acquainted with what's happening Downtown and the people who live there."

One of the challenges of holding a meeting is that many people work. "At the end of the day, they're tired and hungry, and maybe want a drink," said Fradd. "We tried

to accommodate those needs by holding our next meeting at Olio, 301 East Bay Street, with Jake Gordon, the new director of Downtown Vision, Lisa Rinaman, Riverkeeper, and Chris Flagg, education planner from Haskell, as speakers." Eighty people attended that meeting last September.

The group continued to grow. At its most recent meeting in January at the Hyatt Regency, more than 90 gathered to hear District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer, District 7 Councilman Reggie Gaffney, Council President Greg Anderson, and Aundra Wallace, CEO, Downtown Investment Authority.

Boyer spoke about a variety of projects on the Southbank. Included among them were the new development slated for the former Crawdaddy's restaurant site; public parking for access to the Southbank Riverwalk; and the future bicycle-pedestrian path for the Fuller-Warren Bridge access to the Riverwalk, thanks to an easement provided by Nemours Children's Specialty Care to the City of Jacksonville.

Wallace was questioned about construction progress on Berkman Plaza II at 500 E. Bay St., which has been halted since December 2007. Wallace said he is working on incentives to move it forward with the original construction company, Choate Construction Company, which bought the property in 2014. "The developer has a financial gap," he said. "There is no drop dead date, but it is a priority for City Council and the Mayor."

If you would like to be put on the Downtown Dwellers email list, contact Sandra Fradd at shfradd@gmail.com.

\$18 million capital campaign launched at Episcopal School of Jacksonville



Rob Clements, EverBank CEO and Episcopal Board Chair, with Preston Haskell, Honorary Campaign Chair

Episcopal School of Jacksonville kicked off its ambitious 50th anniversary "Lead the Way" capital campaign on Feb. 19 at EverBank Field. The Lead the Way campaign focuses on academics, athletics, and the endowment, and its goal is to raise \$18 million, of which \$13.5 million was raised during the planning phase.

The public kick-off event, with guest speaker and Jacksonville Jaguars President Mark Lamping, was the culmination of months of outreach and project development. Episcopal parents, alumni, Board members and faculty and staff attended the evening event. To date, 100 percent of the faculty, staff and Board of Trustees members have participated in the campaign.

"The Lead the Way campaign is the next great step for Episcopal, and we thank everyone who attended the kick-off event in support of this important initiative for the School," said Campaign Co-Chairs Susan Jangro and Thad McNulty. "We deeply appreciate the gifts made to-date by our generous supporters and look forward to completing these projects for the school. Over the next couple of months we look forward to giving all members of the Episcopal community an opportunity to join those who have given." Lead the Way will fund significant changes to the school's two campuses, including a new stadium and entrance at the Munnerlyn Campus and the building of an entrance and new athletics facilities on 14 acres of currently undeveloped land on its Knight Campus. The school's endowment will increase by a third and the Jacob F. Bryan III Library is undergoing major renovations.

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Godwin recognized at RAP's annual preservation awards meeting

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

The figurative gavel came down on the podium for the last time as Carmen Godwin, Riverside Avondale Preservation executive director, chaired the annual RAP Preservation Awards meeting. Godwin gave notice in December 2015, but she has agreed to lend time to finish up three projects near and dear to her heart.

While the RAP board of directors are interviewing candidates for the position, Godwin will be assisting with the completion of the John Gorrie Dog Park at Riverside Park, due for a tentative grand opening in May; the Riverside Avondale Community Garden, which opens this month; and the annual Home Tour, slated for April 16-17.

During the annual meeting on Feb. 18 at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Godwin was recognized for her years of service by Kay Ehas, who noted she had been the RAP board president when Godwin was hired eight years ago.

Krysten Bennett, director of the Riverside Arts Market, spoke briefly about changes coming to RAM this spring. Opening day, March 5, will see new vendors, including a few whose products are aimed toward men. Produce vendors will be given the option to depart the market at 1 p.m. in order to attend other area markets.

Bennett is also excited about a new website for market vendors, which will also allow RAM customers to find a vendor whose product they bought and liked, but which they can't recall. The site, Manage My Market, will include a link to the vendor's profile page. Bennett anticipates a summer launch of the site.

The new RAP board of directors, as presented by Steve Congro, were voted in by the membership. The board includes Mike Barker, Kim Clontz, Shana David-Masset, Allan DeVault, Dr. Iris Eisenberg, Cindy Guy, Jennifer Hewett-Apperson, Keith Holt, who will serve as board president, Meredith O'Malley



Amanda Bullard, RAP Volunteer coordinator; Sunny Gettinger, outgoing Board chair; Trey Csar, Stephanie Flora, Membership & Development; Crystal Floyd, financial manager

Johnson, Malcolm Jones, Jason Mehta, Daniel Miller, Meghan Moore, Nancy Powell, Dr. LaWanda Ravoira, Jason Spencer, Asghar Syed, Joy Walker, who will again serve as Home Tour Chair, Marlo Zarka and Dr. Wayne Wood.

Malcolm Jones recognized outgoing board members for their service: Steve Congro, six years; Sunny Gettinger, six years; Dylan Phillips, five years; Tempest Arant, two years; Mary Coleman, two years; and Tyler Morris, two years.

The annual preservation awards were presented by Jean Grimsley, beginning



Jean Grimsley, Carmen Godwin, Jeff Graf

with David Benfield, Volunteer of the Year; Asghar Syed, Outstanding RAP Board Member; *Jacksonville Magazine*, for Neighborhood Friendly Business; and the organizers and volunteers for the Riverside Avondale Community Garden, including Susan Fraser, Douglas Lane, Joan and Mike Sullivan, Carey Hepler, Mike Cerni, George Thurmon, Andrew Castanheira and Dorina Bakari. Lane also received an award for Neighborhood Architect of the Year.

There were three winners for the Outstanding Home Renovation award, including Bryan Gates, 2705 Myra Street; Donny Mak, 3331 Oak Street, and Bobby Handmaker, for 2136 and 2142 Riverside Avenue. Pat Gaccetta and Jeff Lane of Lane Architecture received the Outstanding Business Renovation for their office at 904 Margaret Street, a century-old former residence which had fallen into ruin.



Carmen Godwin received a framed copy of a historic Avondale real estate advertisement from Wayne Wood.

Future Marina Mile development could bring new life to Ortega River communities

FROM PAGE 1

"The conceptual name of the place is The Bridge," he said. "I've traveled to and explored other cities that make better use of their waterfronts, and I hope to bring a bit of that back to Jacksonville's Westside."

The interior was gutted, cleaned up and the façade was replaced with eight glass roll-top doors. "We tore it down to the shell," said Busey, who is waiting for tenants before applying for construction permits.

"Once we have this building established (and leased), we have plans for a new service building, new boat showroom, and parts department for the boatyard that will allow us to serve the boating community in ways we haven't yet been able to due to limitations with our infrastructure," he said.

Located on Lakeside Drive, the 52-year-old structure includes 7,023 square feet of rental units, and space for a 4,371-square-foot restaurant. Additionally, 2,491 square feet of amenities will include gallery, lounge and cafe space, plus a 532-square-foot covered outdoor patio, and space for an outdoor rooftop restaurant.

"The basic idea for the rest of the units (besides the restaurant) is a 'makers' place' – sort of a riff on the CoRK Arts District but with an emphasis on craft over art," said Busey.

Busey indicated he had several "nibbles" from potential restaurateurs, but has no firm proposals. "We're also trying to work out a rooftop venue, an open-air bar," he said.

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Spring brings movement in Avondale retail

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Just as change occurs in spring, a retirement leads the news in Avondale. Cowford Traders owner Deb Fewell, who has been providing unique local gifts and jewelry since 2003, is charting a different course in life. She shared an exclusive bittersweet announcement with *The Resident*.

“We have loved every minute of serving the Avondale and greater Jacksonville community but the time has come for our family to enjoy the next chapter of our lives,” said Fewell. “Though we are closing, our family and staff encourage our customers to continue shopping locally.”

Beginning March 1, all items in the store will be marked down 50 percent. The store will remain open until March 24, or until all items are sold. Fewell said

the Cowford Traders Facebook page will provide inventory updates.

New businesses for Shoppes of Avondale

Across the street at 3562 St. Johns Ave., Endurance House opened its doors in the former Avondale Artworks space, which had been vacant since April 2014. Owner Daniel Wilson is renting 2,400 square feet of space to provide one-stop shopping for endurance athletes as well as the aspiring young athlete.

Meanwhile, construction has been seen on the roof and soffit of the building that housed the former Ooh La La Nail Spa, and currently, Open Road Bicycles. The former nail spa space will now be occupied by Le Macaron, a French pastry shop.

According to Holt Tucker, owner of Open Road, while the landlord is sprucing up the exterior of the two shops, Tucker is putting in new fixtures and new carpet inside the bike shop.

“They [the construction crew] have been great, helping us to stay accessible to our customers while they are working on the

building,” said Tucker. Open Road will get fresh paint on the façade and a new sign. The project should be complete within a month.

New landlord on King Street

Rettner Realty, of New York, recently bought the property where the Blind Rabbit leases space, from 901 King Street LLC for \$1.3 million. The former owner, a company in Palm Valley, previously

bought the property in 2005 for \$392,000.

The almost triangular-shaped property includes four storefronts: The Blind Rabbit, Razor’s Edge Barbershop, a vacant space where Droubi’s Café and Sweets formerly operated, and Old School Electric Tattoo.

Rettner has bought several buildings in Jacksonville, including the property at 1620-1636 Hendricks Ave., which won a San Marco Preservation Society beautification award after renovations.



In the Shoppes of Avondale, Open Road Bicycles remains open for business during exterior and interior work.

Planning Department approves proposed Roost restaurant with conditions FROM PAGE 1

One condition limits the hours of operation to 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. The original PUD stated a closing time of 2 a.m. then was amended to change weekend closing hours to midnight but with a provision that hours may be changed back at owners’ discretion.

The report indicated a recommendation against outside sales or service of any kind, based on department opinion it would be incompatible with nearby residential uses. The report also recommended a minimum of three tree bump-outs along the southern property border, but the PUD currently proposes just one tree bump-out in the parking area. The Planning Department also recommends the elimination of a one-way access driveway to reduce the amount of curb cuts and increase available landscape area.

The bill is now scheduled to be heard by the Planning Commission on March 3

at 1 p.m. at City Hall, first public hearing at City Council on March 8 at 5 p.m., and by Land Use and Zoning on March 15 at 5 p.m., also at City Hall. If there are no deferments, City Council could vote on the bill at its March 22 meeting.

The application, originally submitted Oct. 18, 2015 to Land Use and Zoning Committee, was revised to include two buildings and two adjacent parcels and redefined as development of a fitness center and restaurant, outside sales and service areas for the restaurant, onsite parking, and a small ancillary office.

SNAP Fitness, currently occupying 6,588 square feet in one building, will add another 2,000 square feet from an adjoining building. The restaurant, as planned, would contain 5,128 square feet of enclosed space plus 536 square feet of unenclosed, covered

space for outdoor seating, however, the report advised against outside sales or service.

The project plans to offer 60 parking spaces including 42 new off-street spaces and 18 current spaces in the right-of-way (perpendicular parking in front of the buildings), however the report recommends converting the perpendicular parking to parallel parking to meet minimum depth requirements for a city standard space. The city follows the Florida Department of Transportation design standards of eight feet by 22 feet for on-street parking. Converting 18 perpendicular spaces to parallel spaces could result in a loss of more than half the current spaces, which is not addressed in the report.

At the time SNAP Fitness sought occupancy, an Administrative Deviation was approved to permit a reduction in the minimum required landscape buffer from 5 feet to 2.7 feet where the building was located directly adjacent to a neighboring residential property, the reported stated. “A condition of approval of the AD was the planting of 22 trees around the perimeter of the subject property. At the time of the writing of this Report, that condition for approval had not been met; there are no trees planted around the perimeter of the property,” stated the report.

Ted Stein and J.C. Demetree, as well as their attorney, Steve Diebenow, and property owner Anthony Saleeba, are keeping quiet about their efforts to move The Roost along for development. Efforts by The Resident to contact the parties have been unreturned.

In the meantime, P.R.O.U.D., the local group trying to promote what it considers a more appropriate development for the property, continues its campaign against the proposed 150-seat restaurant, gathering petitions and reaching out to members of City Council. The group provided a response to the Planning Department’s report:

“We are disappointed by the Planning Department’s lopsided report approving the proposed Oak Street PUD zoning changes. The legal ordinances of the Historical Overlay are not being applied. The report contains errors, both factual and errors of omission,” said P.R.O.U.D. in a statement. “P.R.O.U.D. is only asking for City Government officials to uphold the laws of our Historical Zoning Overlay (Sec. 656.399). As citizens, we demand that the primary objective of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan—to protect residential areas from encroachment of intensive commercial uses—is upheld. It is obvious that a 150-seat bar/restaurant does not belong in a neighborhood surrounded by single and multi-family homes.”

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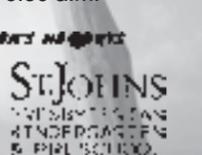
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Community garden gets helping hand from professionals

By *Kate A. Hallock*
Resident Community News

The Riverside Avondale Community Garden is ready to launch, thanks in no small part to Mike and Debi Pyne, who moved to Post Street almost a year ago.

The Pynes ran a construction company in Washington, D.C. and decided to retire to Jacksonville.

“We had visited once about 15 years ago and loved it,” said Debi Pyne. “In our travels we always think ‘Could we live here?’ We visited again in summer 2014 and that pretty much clinched it for us.”



Debi and Mike Pyne jumped into community work shortly after moving to Jacksonville last year.

Pyne said they fell in love with the area, citing the combination of the older homes with diversity, a lot of houses that need work, and a very walkable neighborhood. They bought a 95-year-old house, which they are renovating, while keeping the character of the home intact.

“We’re leaving the original windows, the original pebbly finish on the walls,” said Pyne. “We’re not tearing it down to

the studs, we’re not interested in making it look like a brand-new house. It’s almost 100 years old, and we respect that. We’ll have all the modern amenities but in keeping with the style of the home.”

Ironically, although Debi and Mike Pyne spend every weekend lending their construction skills to the building of the community garden, they do not have a plot.

“We work on our house during the week, and we come and do this on Saturday,” she said. “Our interest is to help out the community. We like doing carpentry work, and it’s been helpful for us to get to know people, and it’s helpful for them to have skilled professionals actually doing the construction.”

The building of the garden has also benefited from the professional expertise of Doug Lane, from Riverside-based architectural design firm, The Lane Group. Lane, along with the Pynes, Susan Fraser, Dorina Bakiri, Joan and Mike Sullivan, Carey Hepler, Mike Cerni, George Thurmon and Andrew Castanheira, was recognized at the annual Riverside Avondale Preservation Awards meeting for Outstanding Community Service.

Following construction of the garden’s serpentine walls, seating areas, counter space, storage space, entrance and rear gates, pavers, all that remains is installation of the irrigation system and completion of the 40 beds.

After an irrigation design class on Feb. 27, the goal was to return the first weekend in March and install all the irrigation so planting can begin in early March.



Dorina Bakiri, designer of the garden, keeps the gate level as Mike Pyne attaches it to the fence at the rear of the community garden.



Carey Hepler digging post holes for the garden bed supports.



Roxanne Henkle cuts boards for the garden beds.

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West Riverside Elementary targeted for STEM lab, thanks to grant

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Thanks to a \$1.2 million competitive School Improvement Grant (SIG) awarded to Duval County Public Schools by the U.S. Department of Education, West Riverside Elementary School will be one of 11 Title 1 elementary schools in the district to receive state-of-the-art Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) labs.

“This grant allows us to bring collaborative, hands-on, project-based science and technology learning to some of our highest-need students at the elementary level,” said Dr. Nikolai Vitti, DCPS Superintendent, announcing the grant on Feb. 8 at the DCPS Administration Building.

“This is a major step forward of getting more exposure to our children in the STEM field, which is badly needed,” said Gary Chartrand, Northeast Florida Regional STEM2 Hub Board chair, at the press conference.

About a year ago, Chartrand and a group of business leaders formed a STEM Hub in Jacksonville to analyze why the schools were not producing more STEM graduates and the city was not creating more STEM jobs. “We’re working hand in hand with the district to try to expose children to computer science curriculum, coding, afterschool programs like Math Counts, and robotics,” said Chartrand.

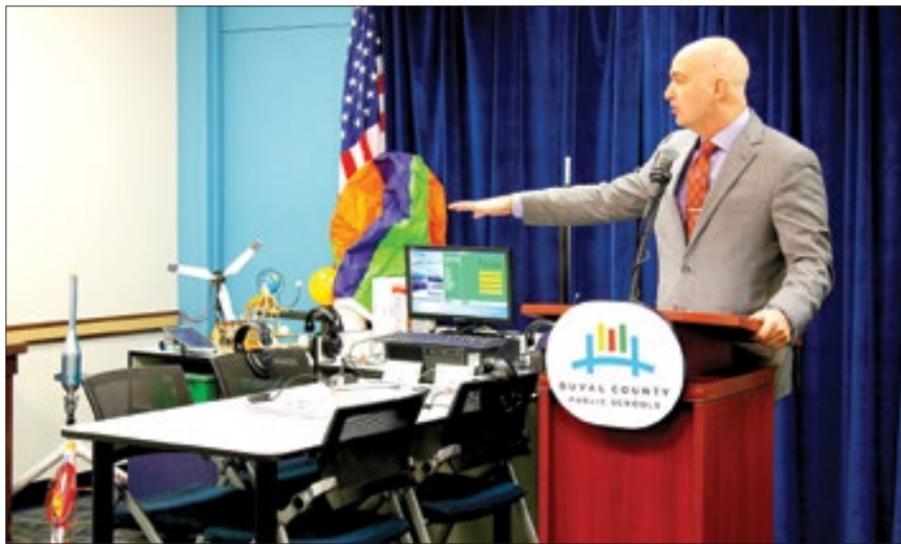
Similar SIG funds were used last year to implement STEM labs, produced by Pitsco Education, at nine lower performing middle schools.

The Pitsco STEM lab includes student-centered curriculum and activities that ignite inquiry, explains difficult concepts in simple terms, and encourages career exploration using lab tables and chairs, microscopes with tablets, probe ware, and science-based materials and supplies. To ensure the lab is maximized, educators will undergo professional development training on a curriculum that already satisfies a high percentage of Florida standards.

The other elementary schools targeted for the grant include Garden City, George Washington Carver, Long Branch, Love Grove, North Shore, Oceanway, Rufus Payne, S. P. Livingston, Stonewall Jackson and San Jose.

“This is a major step forward of getting more exposure to our children in the STEM field, which is badly needed.”

— Gary Chartrand, Northeast Florida Regional STEM2 Hub Board chair



Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Duval County Public Schools Superintendent, points to examples of STEM lab products to be used in 11 elementary schools.



Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Duval County Public Schools Superintendent, and Gary Chartrand, Northeast Florida Regional STEM2 Hub Board chair

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'Developing' news for 5 Points

By *Kate A. Hallock*
Resident Community News

It's musical storefronts for some businesses in 5 Points.

Next month Fans & Stoves Antique Mall plans to open in a new location right around the corner from its current venue on Park Street. The business, owned by Riverside resident Ruben Escajeda, will be moving into 6,500 square feet of space at 800 Lomax St., where American Access Care of Jacksonville has offices.

Escajeda, who has an option to buy the building in a year, said he is "tired of rents going up all the time," and hopes to move all but two of his vendors into the new space in April.

"It looks more daunting that it is," he said, about the interior work underway. "A few non-structural walls need to be removed, a few others put up, and the terrazzo floors cleaned. Our vendors will be able to bring in more furniture with the larger space."

Across the street, the former home for 5 Points Antiques at 1046 Park St., will again soon be home to antique dealers. Former Fans & Stoves owner Cindy Barfield, along with shop manager Heidi McMullen, plans to open 5 Points Vintage in the space which was flooded last fall during a roof replacement. The entire building, including 1044 Park St. where Birdie's is located, and 1050 Park St., location of Wall Street Deli, was bought in 2015 by John Grant-Dooley for \$500,000.

"I love 5 Points," said Barfield, who lives in

the neighborhood. "It's unique, it's the most diverse, most interesting part of town."

As 1059 Park St. is being vacated by Fans & Stoves, Miami developer Jeff Morr is in talks with several groups who are interested in leasing the 6,000-square-foot space, for retail or for restaurant. On 813 Lomax St., where Ribault Bakery, Sin City Smoke and Hair Peace have space, Morr has plans to upgrade the façade to create a new storefront.

Morr's broker, Matt Clark, said the developer is working to finalize plans and submit them to the city's Planning Department, with an eye toward completion sometime in the first half of 2017.

"I plan on continuing to improve my three existing properties in Riverside but



Formerly the site of 5 Points Antiques, this retail space on Park Street will be home again to another antiques store.



Nautical motif will welcome customers into a new fast-casual seafood restaurant later this month.

will not be purchasing more properties or bringing investors until I know that Jacksonville is a city that supports equality for all of its citizens," said Morr, referring to the Human Rights Ordinance.

Meanwhile, renovations at the former Fuel Coffeehouse, also known as Peterson's 5 & Dime, are moving along. Work is currently being done on the rooftop in the same style as that of Black Sheep Restaurant, but there is no tenant slated yet for that space, according to Steve Williams, who owns the building. Although Hoptinger's Bier Garden & Sausage House signed a lease for the ground floor, they have not opted (yet) for the rooftop space. The second floor is also awaiting a tenant.

Next door to the future beer garden, at 1043 Park St., plans are underway for Timoti's Seafood Shak, a small fast-casual restaurant, which gained popularity at its original location in Fernandina Beach.

According to contractors working in the 2,000-square-foot space which used to house The 58th Facet, the restaurant will feature reclaimed wood from more than one source, such as a river bed and a 200-year-old Georgia barn. Bryan Poynter, who runs operations of the family-owned business, indicated Timoti's 5 Points will open later this month.



Space is still available for lease on the second floor and rooftop at the former Peterson's 5 & Dime.

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ROLEX & OYSTER PERPETUAL AND GMT-MASTER II ARE TRADEMARKS.

JEA to lay new sewer main under St. Johns River

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

Over the next seven months, the JEA will install a new sanitary sewer force main 50 feet underneath the St. Johns River. The new sewer line will extend from the north bank near EverBank Field to JEA's sewer pump station on Utah Avenue in the South Shores neighborhood.

In a Feb. 4 meeting in the auditorium at Julia Landon College Preparatory School, Gregory Corcoran, JEA Manager of Community Involvement and Project Outreach, joined other project supervisors in outlining the sewer main project. Speaking at the meeting were Tom Hamilton, JEA Project Engineer/Project Manager; Andrew Sears, JEA Senior Environmental Scientist; Fred Wagner, Director of Project Development from the Haskell Corporation; Jamey Wallace, PE, Engineer of Record with Jacobs Engineering; and Robert Bradley, Project Superintendent. Also attending the meeting was District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer.

During the meeting Corcoran showed a presentation outlining the scope of the project. Sanitary sewer force mains are a critical piece of JEA's sewer collection system, said Corcoran. The system is designed to transport high volumes of wastewater to one of 11 JEA wastewater treatment facilities, he said.

The existing sewer main is still in good shape and may last another 20 years, Corcoran said. The new sewer main will be used as a backup to the existing

sewer main, which currently spans the St. Johns River 50 feet below the bottom of the river bed, Corcoran said. It will service 50,000 households in San Marco, San Jose, St. Nicholas, Southside and the Southbank, he said.

Through the \$12 million project, JEA is "proactively" upgrading the sewer infrastructure, giving it the ability to use both the new and existing pipe and to allow it to be ready for future growth in the years ahead.

The existing sewer force main was constructed by the City of Jacksonville in the early 1970s, and the existing pipe currently transports more than 10 million gallons of waste water per day. The two pipes will be able to handle up to a peak flow of 16.7 million gallons per day. The new pipe is expected to be in service for at least 40 to 50 years, he said.

The project will entail the installation of 4,200 linear feet (3/4 of a mile) of 42-inch steel casing and 36-inch high density polyethylene or HDPE carrier pipe 50 feet under the river bed utilizing the horizontal directional drilling method of construction. This kind of drilling is a steerable, trenchless method of installing underground pipes and is often used when traditional digging or trenching is not practical to install a pipe, particularly under a river.

The project began Feb. 24, when employees from the Haskell Company and Michels Corporation, contractors hired by JEA, mobilized the equipment



JEA diagram of where the new South Shores Force Main River Crossing Project will cross the St. Johns River.

and manpower required to complete the installation. The pipe is scheduled to be delivered in late March with horizontal drilling beginning in early March.

In late May, "pipe pull back" is slated to begin, creating an intense 24-hour per day construction cycle. JEA plans to have the bulk of the project complete in August with final completion scheduled for September, prior to the advent of the Jaguar's football season.

Two construction sites will be utilized – one on the Northbank at the west side of EverBank Field in Parking lots P and J, and the other at the Utah Avenue pump station in the South Shores neighborhood.

During construction, the P, J and R parking areas near the sports complex, as well as sections of Adams Street, Duval Street, East Beaver Street and Franklin Street near the parking lots, will be closed until August 4.

The closures will impact traffic flow, pedestrian access and the number of parking spaces available for events such as the Gate River Run, Armada FC and

Jacksonville Sun's games and concerts in the area. JEA intends to work closely with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and the city to seek alternatives. Ticket buyers and sports event patrons will be notified via email out changes in the parking plan or traffic patterns. Event alerts will be posted at www.jaxevents.com.

Thirty-five large tractor trailers will be used to deliver 105 "sticks" of 40-inch steel pipe. The total weight of the steel being installed is over 1,353,000 pounds. The pipe will be strung out and welded together near EverBank Field. Drilling will occur on both the north and south banks. Spoils and dirt from the hole will be loaded onto trucks before being transported out of the city.

For further information, project updates or to watch a video overview of the HDD method of construction turn to JEA's dedicated webpage located at jea.com/southshores. JEA's Project Outreach team can be contacted directly at (904) 665-7500 or reached by email at projectoutreach@jea.com.



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New statue FROM PAGE 1

Bob and Carol Shircliff, who gave the first four Daughters of Charity. When they saw what Helen was going to do, they said 'we're going to help create a real entrance to St. Vincent's for the next 100 years.'

The Daughters of Charity were founded in 1633 France by St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Marillac to care for the sick and the poor. The first congregation of the Daughters of Charity in the United States was formed in 1850 by St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Mother Seton, as she liked to be called, was elevated to sainthood in 1975, becoming the first American-born Saint. Her small company of Sisters grew to hundreds in five provinces throughout the United States.

The Daughters of Charity came to Jacksonville from the Province of Emmitsburg, Maryland in 1916, invited by the city fathers to turn around the failing DeSoto Sanatorium in Springfield. Meeting this challenge with success, the Sisters moved the hospital to Riverside and renamed it St. Vincent's Hospital.

"Carol and I are proud to have just a small part in this beautiful new presentation. It completes the welcoming entrance into St. Vincent's facility here," said Robert Shircliff, local philanthropist and St. Vincent's honorary board member. "Think of the difference the Daughters of Charity have made in our community.

Most of us here have been inspired by the 162 Sisters who have served here, not only inspired by their ministry, but by their commitment, their hard work and the living the faith they espoused when they arrived 100 years ago. Our city is a better place because they were all here."

"What makes us different is how the community supports the mission, so my gratitude is to each one of you," said Lanier in her concluding remarks. "It is all about how you helped us to deliver this compassionate care for 100 years, and 100 years to go."



Honorary Board Member Robert T. "Bob" Shircliff looks on with sculpture donor, Helen Murchison Lane, as they admired the finished bronzed memorial.



Bishop John Snyder, Rita Joost, and Honorary Board Member Robert T. Shircliff at the unveiling of the new statue at the entrance to St. Vincent's Riverside. "These statues celebrate the past but they also kick off the future. The ministry and the Daughters of Charity in Jacksonville lives on. We salute the past and we look forward to the future," said Shircliff.



Honorary Board Member J.P. "Pat" Thornton with Jackie and Jim Connors

Companies take steps to address threat of Zika virus

Local businesses and health companies are addressing the threat of the mosquito-borne Zika virus, from prevention at source to precautions against transmittal.

"The best way to avoid the threat of contracting the Zika virus is to avoid mosquitoes entirely," says John Cooksey of McCall Service, a Riverside pest control company.

Eliminating mosquitoes at their source is the most effective way to control the mosquito population in your

own yard, according to Cooksey. Although there is no absolute way to rid your yard of mosquitoes, mosquito treatments can significantly reduce the number of mosquitoes on your property and thereby your exposure to these pests and the health risks associated with them.

Mayo Clinic Jacksonville is taking precautions, preparing its clinicians to submit testing for those with symptoms. The test can be performed through an antibody test or a viral RNA test.

While testing is available, there is no treatment for the virus, which can remain in the bloodstream anywhere between three and 12 days. OneBlood, formerly The Blood Alliance, is also taking proactive steps to safe-

guard the blood supply from the Zika virus, providing donors with educational material about the risk factors and signs and symptoms of the virus, and including questions on the donor history questionnaire specific to the Zika virus.

Donors who exhibit symptoms of the Zika infection, have already been infected, or who have recently traveled in an area with the active Zika virus, are asked to defer blood donations.

Areas with active transmission of Zika are listed on the CDC website at www.cdc.gov.

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Local attorneys want to help their new neighbors, earn your trust

There's a new law firm in the neighborhood, one that's set out to change the way you perceive the experience of hiring a lawyer. Nicholas James and Jerry Snider, both seasoned attorneys, have worked for larger firms and understand why most people feel lost in the legal shuffle. It's their desire to leave the factory firm behind and deliver a more personalized approach to business [or legal representation].

Their new office, located at the corner of Riverside Avenue and Osceola Street, was a strategic move for the pair. They both agree Riverside will be a great place to help them serve a wide variety of clients, from the small business community to military service members and all walks in between. The highly visible historic property at 2288 Riverside Avenue is pronounced with signage that reads "It's Personal." The statement echoes the legal duo's preference to closely guard the lawyer-client relationship by putting a priority on patronage, not dollar figures. "I'd rather make less with this client and have three referrals to help two or three of their friends," said Snider, as he spoke of the importance of personalized care versus profit margins.

The dynamic partnership is poised to become a resource for local families, business owners

and those who wish to know their costs up front with fixed-rate representation. In many cases, discounts for veterans, advice and counsel for business owners is standardized, and many of the basic services are priced up front. The best part, you won't open your bill and be shocked at the fees for service.

Putting the Client First

It's easy for lawyers at big firms to become disconnected from the needs of a client, especially when a team of paralegals handle the bulk of each case. The lawyer obtains documents and reviews the case, glossing over the legal processes and verbiage necessary for compliance with the law. Oftentimes overlooked in the process is the client. James and Snider are out to change that perception and work closely with their clients to be sure they are looking out for each person, not just a case number.

Losing sight of the relationship forged between the lawyer and client has a tendency to diminish trust and leave people feeling helpless. "I've worked for the firm that handles several hundred cases per lawyer, per year, and that's not the way we're going to represent clients," said Snider. "We're seeking personal connections, not the disconnected conversations that are typically had with the larger firms."

Snider emphasized the importance of a strong client interaction. When they become someone that you know, it affords the ability to offer better advice. In this vein, the pair plan to host client cookouts and interactions



to continue furthering their bonds and relationships. "It helps when you get to know a client and you can relate to their circumstances," said James.

Containing Costs, Experience Saves the Day

There are certain cases where a lawyer knows their client is going to have certain procedural expenses. "We've both been doing this long enough to know, in a general sense, what costs are going to be involved in representing them [clients] properly," said Snider. "We don't bill hourly, we bill for the job."

Many of the business they help with

legal agreements and contracts are a part of their fixed-rate representation as well. "You won't have a 45-minute phone conversation and then get a bill for a few hundred dollars, that's just not the case with us," said Snider. "We're going to provide an understanding of the process before we start working for you. Oftentimes, we give an honest, upfront cost structure to many of our clients."

Give James and Snider a call today, before you have any need for a lawyer. It's helpful to seek counsel before you have a need for counsel. Email info@jamesandsnider.com to ask the lawyers a question about your circumstances.



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MOVERS & SHAKERS

From aspirin to automobiles, O'Steen family celebrates anniversary

Although the O'Steen family's entry into the automotive industry began 45 years ago when twin brothers Harold and Howard O'Steen moved from peddling aspirin to selling cars, it is the 20th anniversary of O'Steen Volvo and O'Steen Volkswagen that was celebrated on Feb. 3.

"We bought them [the Volvo and Volkswagen franchises] from the Parrish family in 1996," said Mark O'Steen, co-owner of O'Steen Automotive Group, along with his brother, Hal, and cousin, Tom. "My dad, Harold, and my Uncle Howard were pharmacists on Edgewood Avenue when they got into the car business in 1970 with Luther Coggin. Tom and I started in the automotive business 34 years ago."

The O'Steen family has been in Jacksonville for four generations and now, with Mark's son, Chip, having opened a VW-Subaru dealership in Valdosta, Georgia, three generations have been in the automotive business.

"It's an accomplishment. It's a family



The O'Steen family – Harold, nephew Tom, sons Hal and Mark – owns a Volvo and a Volkswagen dealership, both located on Philips Highway on the Southside.

business in every sense of the word," said O'Steen. "We have a lot of repeat customers; we're very fortunate, we have a great customer base. It's a real blessing."

Speaking of blessings, the O'Steen family is heavily involved with Ortega United Methodist Church. The dealerships also hold Alex's Lemonade Stand events annually for childhood cancer awareness, and

they are involved with the Rotary Club and many other organizations.

Once considered a San Marco business when the franchises were located on North Philips Highway, the Volkswagen dealership moved in 2006 to 'Auto Row' south of The Avenues Mall. Volvo moved in 2014 to a location less than a mile north of O'Steen Volkswagen.

Celebrating 15 years of good food to go at Terry's Kitchen

Fifteen years ago Terry Roberts, a mother with two middle-school children, had too much energy to stay home and clean all day. "I wanted to do something and still have the freedom to go with the kids on field trips," she said. "I found myself in the kitchen no matter what was going on in my life. So I started making a chicken pot pie that was a family recipe, taking it to people in need and everyone raved about it."

This month Roberts is celebrating her 15th anniversary as owner of Terry's Kitchen, 4218 St. Johns Ave. and although the business has taken more time and energy than she thought, she feels very blessed. "It has fulfilled me and I enjoy meeting all the customers," said Roberts. "I still have customers who were with me at the beginning."

Back in 2001, Roberts started with a

few items on her menu, including chicken pot pie, but has expanded her repertoire considerably to include more entrees, sides and desserts. "Chicken Vegetarian Queso was a customer request and has gained popularity," she said. "I also added a Brunswick Stew Pie after dragging my feet for about two years. My husband, Gary, made it first and I tweaked it. Now it's a big hit."

From an initial goal of making it five years, Roberts weathered the recession with catering and now has seen her storefront traffic pick up considerably. She still has customers who were among the first to try her home-style cooking.

"Thankfully, I've been very blessed with the customers who come in, with the people who help me. I love being around people, I still enjoy cooking," said Roberts.



Terry Roberts

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HEALTH TIP

It's natural for anyone trying to lose weight to want to lose it very quickly. But evidence shows that people who lose weight gradually and steadily (about 1 to 2 pounds per week) are more successful at keeping weight off. Healthy weight loss isn't just about a "diet" or "program". It's about an ongoing lifestyle that includes long-term changes in daily eating and exercise habits.

Area drug, alcohol treatment facility launches capital campaign

Gateway Community Services, known now as Gateway—Steps to Recovery, launched phase one of the nonprofit's \$7 million capital campaign with a mock groundbreaking on Feb. 4 at its Stockton Street campus. This is the first time the organization has launched a capital campaign.

The drug and alcohol treatment facility announced plans to raise \$3.6 million for phase one, which involves construction of a new 12,850-square-foot Outpatient Clinic to house counselors and case management offices, medication-assisted treatment as well as group meeting

rooms. Administrative offices at Gateway's Stockton Street location will relocate to the second floor of the new outpatient building, freeing up 40 additional rooms for transitional housing for patients.

"Last year, we served over 5,000 adults, adolescents and families suffering from addiction and that's not enough," said Dr. Candace Hodgkins, President and CEO of Gateway. "With the community's help, we can expand our supportive transitional recovery housing paving the way for sustainable recovery in Jacksonville."

Construction of the new building will provide valuable space to Gateway patients with nowhere to go after treatment and enable the organization to greatly increase its services throughout Northeast Florida. Phase one will also involve complete renovation of 108 rooms at the Stockton Street campus.

Since opening the gates to recovery in 1978, Gateway has evolved and expanded to



Dr. Candace Hodgkins, Richard Mullaney, Peggy Bryan

include three residential treatment locations, and six recovery housing sites. It is the only 30-bed medical and stabilization detox

facility in Northeast Florida, and operates a state-of-the-art early learning center and a growing outpatient services program.

Riverside man added to Jacksonville Symphony staff

The Jacksonville Symphony added two new positions to its full-time staff, hiring Tony Nickle as Director of Orchestral Operations and Kyle Enriquez as Patron Engagement Manager.

Nickle, who comes to Jacksonville from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, will oversee many aspects of each event, such as back of house production management, including the coordination of venue, production equipment, guest artists, orchestra personnel, library and stage crew.



Tony Nickle



Kyle Enriquez

Enriquez, a resident of Riverside, will oversee giving initiative communications, and work with the marketing department in social media and online efforts. He previously worked for the Riverside Fine Arts Association as a social media administrator and Project Listen outreach coordinator.

Clients pampered at upscale Riverside salon

After first announcing his intent a year ago to open a high-end salon in Riverside, Scott Redfield finally threw open the doors to Redfields Hair Salon Jan. 5, 2016, with stylist Tiffany Newman.

Redfield, who is a local resident, said he has an intense love for the Riverside/Avondale neighborhood. "I have always loved 5 Points and its entrepreneurial spirit, but I fell in love with the view of the Riverside Presbyterian Church," said Redfield. "The fact that the building housed former salons added good energy to the space in my eyes, however, did not help in the buildout process at all." Redfields Hair Salon ties the roots of Southern charm and sophistication to an industry of modernism and stainless steel, said Redfield.

The ultra-chic salon is located at 820 Post St. For hours or to make an appointment, call (904) 355-7333 or visit www.redfieldssalon.com.



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Community First Credit Union opens new branch in 5 Points

Community First Credit Union opened its Riverside branch in January in 5 Points Village, located at the corner of Margaret and Post Streets. The office is the credit union's 18th branch and its first in the growing Riverside neighborhood.

The Riverside branch is the organization's first location with sustainable or recycled floors and surfaces, and features

a relaxation zone, interactive tablets, transaction counters without barriers, and advisory stations.

"We think the retail experience inside the branch will provide the best service through improved human interactions and the use of cutting-edge technology," said John Hirabayashi, CEO and president of Community First. "Members will

notice a difference from the second they step foot in the branch."

The Riverside branch also features the organization's first "community room," an area for small businesses, organizations, nonprofits, clubs and other groups to hold meetings, give presentations, and use as a co-work space or facilitate workshops.



Joined by staff and community leaders, Bill Permenter, Chairman of the Board, and John Hirabayashi, CEO and president of Community First Credit Union, cut the ribbon for the 18th branch office Feb. 3. Front: Jimmy Lovelace, Susan Verbeck, Bill Permenter, John Hirabayashi, Bettie Adams, Sam Inman, Roger Rassman, Tim Simpson; back: Autumn McDonald, Branch Manager; Rick Jarrar, Davis Johnston, Elvia Williams, Michael Franz, Chantelle Quick, Tracy Mann

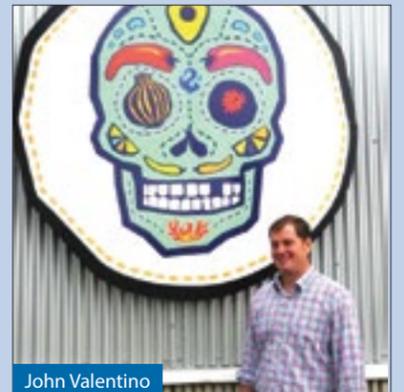
MOVERS & SHAKERS

Jacksonville's 'best burrito' now available in Brooklyn/Riverside

Burrito Gallery opened its newest location late in January at Brooklyn Station on Riverside.

The 3,500-square-foot restaurant with a 1,400-square-foot rooftop bar and dining area is the latest of several new restaurants to open in Brooklyn within the past year. Its vibrant design, as well as Riverside artist Shaun Thurston's colorful mural on the building's exterior, makes Burrito Gallery stand out in the crowd.

This is the second restaurant in the Gallery Restaurant Group, with number three set to open in Jacksonville Beach sometime this summer. Partners John Valentino and Shawn Lednick plan to franchise the popular "Jax Mex" eatery.



John Valentino

Historic Sash Restoration

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MOVERS & SHAKERS

Local realtors sit on NEFAR Board of Directors



Sally Suslak



Clark LaBlond

The Northeast Florida Association of Realtors (NEFAR) installed its 2016 officers and directors at an Installation of Officers and Awards Gala on Jan. 20 at the Jacksonville Marriott. The 2016 leadership team consists of Terrell Newberry (Century 21 Atkins Realty), president; Marc Jernigan (Watson Realty Corp.), president-elect; Charles "Ben" Bates (Coldwell Banker Ben Bates), treasurer, and Jeannie Denton-Scheck (Watson Realty Corp.), secretary.

In addition, local realtors Sally Suslak (Traditions Realty) and Clark LaBlond (Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty) are on the 14-member NEFAR Board of Directors. Suslak is immediate past-president of NEFAR.



Dan Wilson

New business caters to athletic lifestyle, endurance athletes

A new shop dedicated to the athletic pursuits of the multi-sport athlete has arrived in Avondale. The unique concept in the city's retail landscape now fills a need, and a niche, for athletes in Northeast Florida. Endurance House is primarily committed to the endurance athlete, yet owner Dan Wilson welcomes everyone from the frequent walker to the individual that's never pursued a competitive sport. "We're thrilled to be here in Avondale,

things have gone phenomenally well. Our opening was fantastic...a lot of traffic, a lot of energy, a lot of volume. People are excited about a multi-specialty shop in the region, but also a running and cycling shop in Avondale," said Wilson. The shop is located between Biscottis and the Polish Pottery boutique at 3562 St. Johns Avenue and can be found online at endurancehousejax.com. The store officially opened its doors Feb. 19.

Crenshaw helps secure WWII medals for local family

United States Congressman Ander Crenshaw recently helped secure World War II Army medals for San Marco resident Mary Summerfield, daughter of the late Army PFC Arthur Jakubcewicz.

Crenshaw met with the Summerfield family in his Jacksonville office on Jan. 21 and released the following statement:

"It's a wish come true for Mary Summerfield, and I couldn't have been more pleased to help make it happen! Now that Mary has received her late father's World War II service medals, she'll be able to pass along a piece of history to his grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and beyond," said Crenshaw.

"On her behalf, I recently reached out to the Army to help secure medals that Army PFC Arthur Jakubcewicz did not receive following World War II. On January 21, Mary and her family told me how much they appreciated having Arthur's World War II Victory Medal and the Honorable Service Lapel Button - WWII.

"Arthur Jakubcewicz, who served in Italy and Africa, passed away in 1959, and



Ryan Spohn and his wife, Donna, who is granddaughter to Arthur Jakubcewicz, Gabriel Spohn, great grandson of Arthur Jakubcewicz, Congressman Ander Crenshaw, Mary Summerfield, who is Arthur Jakubcewicz's daughter, and her husband Ronald Summerfield.

his daughter later pursued the medals. Now, thanks to Mary's efforts, current and future generations of the family will be able to share how our nation honored his contributions to our country."

Crenshaw is Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government and Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense.



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Hirabayashi appointed to Federal Reserve Bank board

Community First Credit Union CEO and President John Hirabayashi has been appointed to serve on the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta's Jacksonville branch. Hirabayashi was appointed and approved by the Fed in December along with Dawn Lockhart, president and CEO of Family Foundations of Northeast Florida Inc. Both will serve the Jacksonville branch through December 2018 and a potential total of six years of service if reappointed.



John Hirabayashi

This is the first time Hirabayashi has served the Federal Reserve Bank. He has been CEO of the Jacksonville-based credit union nearly 20 years and has served on many boards of directors locally and regionally.

"John has a long history of community and industry service," said Community First Board Chairman Bill Permenter. "We are very proud that he will lend his service to the Federal Reserve Bank. He is truly committed to community-focused fiscal policies and practices that contribute to a healthy economy."

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LISTED AND SOLD BY US

1630 MAYVIEW RD
3/2-1,827 sqft. SOLD by Melissa Keys, Liz Bobeck, and Josh Nugent. Lovely one story home in desirable Fairfax Manor. Excellent floor plan, beautiful hardwood floors, large formal living and dining rooms, spacious eat-in kitchen.



4521 SUSSEX AVE UNIT #1 - \$225,000
2/2-1,542 sqft. ONLY Pirates Bay Town-home unit available with 2 bedrooms and 2 full baths on one level. Very private location with spectacular wide views of the river from living/dining room and kitchen. Beautiful open unit.



4384 ROMA BLVD - \$675,000
5/3/1-3,643 sqft. Wonderful opportunity to live in this stately brick home built in 1996 offering 5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths and situated on a quiet cul-de-sac street. Great design with one bedroom downstairs, and open kitchen and family room.



LISTED AND SOLD BY US

4517 WATER OAK LN
3/1-1,469 sqft. SOLD by Leslie Fraleigh and Susan Tuohy. Completely renovated home with wonderful curb appeal! Located in the A-rated Stockton school district. A large backyard with a tool shed.



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Leslie Fraleigh
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Laura Wesson
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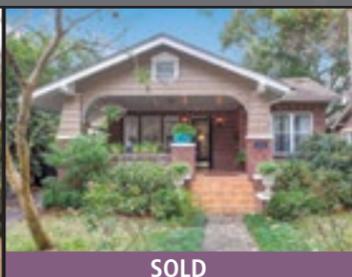
Claire Franson
REALTOR®
(904) 923-5331



Joy Walker
REALTOR®
(904) 699-4417



4454 ORTEGA FOREST DR - \$1.395MM
3/3/1-4,776 sqft. This spectacular Mediterranean contemporary home is a landmark on Ortega Forest Dr. The entrance features a 1 bedroom 1 bath carriage house over the two car carport which provides an additional 720sf for guests.



1342 WOLFE ST
3/1/1-1,642 sqft. SOLD by Elizabeth O'Steen and CeCe Cummings. What a charmer! This is the ultimate Avondale bungalow overflowing historic character. Large front porch and amazing back yard!



4651 BLOUNT
2/1-981 sqft. SOLD by Shannon McKinnon and Nelson Higgins. Great bungalow with many features: Glassed front porch with new tile. Kitchen has granite counters and SS Appliances. Bathroom has new tile, granite top and new cabinet



2865 DOWNING ST - \$185,000
2/1-1,154 sqft. Absolutely adorable bungalow with updated kitchen and bath! Recently re-finished hardwood floors, clean white bath and huge master bedroom with walk in closet. Large area behind the kitchen is great for storage.



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Nelson Higgins & Shannon
McKinnon, REALTORS®
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Susan Tuohy
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2884 SELMA
3/2-2,002 sqft. SOLD by Shannon McKinnon and Nelson Higgins. Classic all brick bungalow over 2000 sqft. Features beautiful updated kitchen with recessed lighting, shaker style cabinets, glass front cabinets with lighting.



3852 ST JOHNS AVE - \$459,900
3/2/1-2,385 sqft. An entertainer's dream, this classic two story brick home is nestled in a lush, tropical oasis and located just three blocks from the shops of Avondale. Ample windows provide natural light throughout the home.



1846 MALLORY ST 12 - \$150,000
2/2-990 sqft. Location! Location! Location! Wonderful riverfront 14 unit complex nestled between the Shoppes of Avondale and Five Points in Riverside. This affordable, quiet, private upstairs flat boasts wood floors in living areas.



1371 BELVEDERE AVE
2/2-1,417 sqft. SOLD by Josh Nugent and Dee Burnett. Bungalow Beautiful in the Heart of Avondale! So much curb appeal and charm in the gorgeous move-in condition home on one of the neighborhoods most desired streets.



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Leighton Tesche
REALTOR®
904-608-5481



Melissa Keys & Bronwen
Kozze, REALTORS®
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(904) 616-6523



Kathy Suber
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4238 LAKESIDE DR 102 - \$825,000
3/3-2,472 sqft. Ortega Landing - what an incredible spot to call home. Imagine the finest waterfront living possible and you'll know this is the one! The largest terraces of any condos in the area, gorgeous views and tall ceilings.



2923 DOWNING ST
3/2-1,134 sqft. SOLD by Camilo Ramirez. Extremely charming bungalow with all the Avondale charm. Beautiful arches between living and dining areas, lots of light, wood floors, deck in the back area, and 2 car detached garage.



4935 PRINCE EDWARD RD - \$475,000
4/3-3,432 sqft. Lovely two story Ortega Forest Pool Home is ready for its new owner! Starting with the wide entry foyer, this home has some very lovely features including a downstairs master suite with two huge walk in closets.



2640 APACHE AVE - \$450,000
3/2/1-2,453 sqft. Wow -- dreaming of a totally turn key home in the heart of Old Ortega? Now's your chance! Brought back to the studs in 2006, this home has it all! Huge front foyer, gleaming hardwood floors, and huge living room.



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Helping to HEAL autistic families, growing initiatives

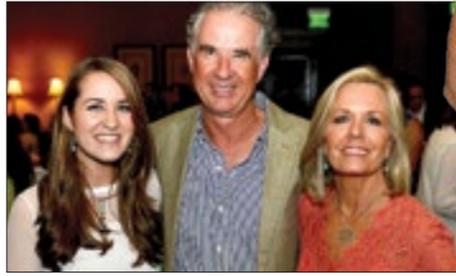
Advocates and passionate supporters of The HEAL Foundation were out in full force for this year's big gala. The TPC Clubhouse played host to the nonprofit organization's

Valley of Dreams Gala, delivering an outstanding event for patrons. For families living with Autism Spectrum Disorders, the funds raised at the event are crucial. The annual fundraiser helps to provide relief and support by providing outings and event programming,

campus tailored to the needs of the Autism Community, educational seminars, classroom enhancements for parents, teachers and therapists and so much more. For more about HEAL and the impact fundraising dollars can have for families, visit www.healautismnow.org.



Ben and Brooke Bishop with Daniel and Kim Blanchard



Haley Weed with her parents, HEAL co-founders, Bobby and Leslie Weed



Ruthie Neville and Juliet Doll

SOCIAL R

Late Bloomers get groovy for Greenscape

Get Groovy, Get Dirty was the 1960s theme of the 9th Annual Root Ball, presented by The Late Bloomers Garden Club, and sponsored by Greenscape of Jacksonville. Held Feb. 19 at WJCT Studios, over 250 guests arrived garbed in their hippy best to support peace, love and trees, dancing the night away with the Twist, the Bump, the Shag and the Mashed Potato.



Anna Dooley with Richard Skinner



Dick Pierpont w



Karla Newton, Cyn



Bruce a Mary Piet



Masey, Melissa and Mark and Markayla Taylor and family friend Ashton Willis. Mark Taylor was the honoree for the evening.

A big night for UF Health's Heroes

Thanks to a big turnout for this year's Night for Heroes Gala, outcomes will be bettered at our region's top trauma center, right here in Jacksonville. The Hyatt Regency Riverfront played host to a conscientious group that helps to further the mission of UF Health and TraumaOne. The big financial injection brought by auction bids, donations and sponsorships by area donors and corporations will help to support the region's only adult and pediatric Level I trauma center.

In 2015, the signature gala raised over \$190,000 for the teams that make survival possible for victims of trauma throughout Northeast Florida. Alongside an honored patient each year, heroes recognized include a team of University of Florida physicians, UF Health nurses, TraumaOne flight crew, fire rescue and police, rehabilitation specialists, and many more along the spectrum of care. Held in February each year, the event took place Feb. 6 and is the top fundraiser for the hospital system.



Gala Chairs David and Amy Meyer with Tracy and David Williams, Blair and Zachary Sherman



Wayne and Colleen McCall with Steve Gormley and Ana Stewart



Todd and Haley Russell, Dr. Kenneth Ngo and Monica Alexanderson



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REGISTER

"Once again, the Late Bloomers Garden Club outdid themselves. No detail was spared in taking guests back in time to the era that they dubbed Peace, Love and Trees," said Anna Dooley, Greenscape executive director. "Producing the 9th Annual Root Ball to benefit Greenscape of Jacksonville is a great gift to all of Jacksonville. The funds raised are devoted to Greenscape's mission to plant, protect and promote trees in our great city."



Jan and John Hirabayashi

FOCUS on the Cummer, Celebrating 20 Years

It was 20 years ago that a loyal group of Beaches residents realized the value of their city's greatest arts institution, The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens. The group titled

FOCUS, or Friends of the Ocean Communities United to Support the Cummer, has been behind the growth and initiatives of the museum for over two decades.

The 20th Anniversary Gala was held at the TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse in order to thank supporters both

past and present. The spectacular evening included cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, dinner and dancing, it was held on Jan. 30 in Ponte Vedra Beach. The evening's entertainment was provided by The University of North Florida Music Department under the direction of Dr. Krzysztof Biernacki.



Marty Jones, Joe Hixon, Carolyn Lindsay, Renata Hixon, Josh White, Ambassador Nancy Soderberg and Nancy Soderberg



Bill Olney and Diane Jacobsen with Rick and Amy Morales



John and Dottie Nutant



Debbie and Steve Melnyk



Honorary Chairs Sally and Frank Surface



Terri Schmidt, Meg Commander



Susan Andrews, Courtenay Wilson

Honoring the past at the Red Rose Ball

The 35th Annual Red Rose Ball's theme, Remembering our History, Embracing our Future, drew patrons to the sold-out event of the social season. Each year, the ball raises money for various projects administered by St. Vincent's HealthCare, a member of Ascension, the nation's largest Catholic and non-profit healthcare system. Last year, the event raised almost \$400,000.

This year, all proceeds raised at the gala will benefit the St. Vincent's Mobile Health Outreach Ministry, which provides free medical care to those who are struggling the most, including uninsured or under insured men, women and children throughout Northeast Florida. The ball was held at the Jacksonville Marriott at Southpoint, Feb. 12.



John and Patty Otterson with Dr. James Schumacher



Claire and David Heekin



Terry Lastichen with Sam Jacobson, Jan and Joe Beough, Jack Slaughter



Steve Terbrueggen, Marc and Susan Helmick and Lisa Terbrueggen

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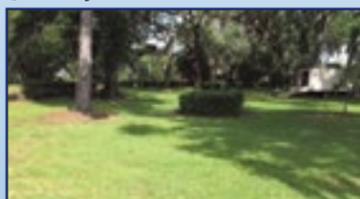
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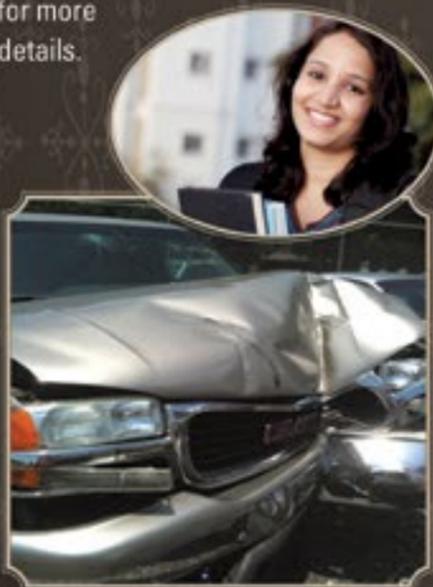
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The Law Firm of Pajcic & Pajcic is thrilled to announce another scholarship opportunity for high school seniors looking to continue their education. This new essay contest invites submissions on the subject of "Distracted Driving" a national epidemic, and something that has impacted so many of our clients. The grand prize is \$10,000 in college tuition, second place earns \$5,000 and the third place essay winner will receive \$2,000. If 100 students submit entries, there will be a second set of awards for the same amounts. You can visit our website at www.pajcic.com for more details.



The Pajcics are avid bike riders so when they heard about seven JSO officers participating in a 250 mile ride for fallen officers, they didn't hesitate to pitch in.

The law firm donated \$7,000 for the Police Unity Tour.



The charity event honors officers who died in the line of duty. It takes place this spring where police from across the country will ride from Virginia to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. The Pajcic Firm also gave reflective bike helmets to each officer. The JSO officers then gave a special Thin Blue Line flag to the law firm as a symbol of fallen officers. One of the officers told reporters this bike ride gives them the opportunity to represent and honor all 61 JSO officers who have died over the years while protecting our community.



We must do all we can to give at-risk youth opportunities to overcome obstacles and achieve their dreams. Those are the sentiments of Steve Pajcic and his reason for giving a donation to The Bridge of Northeast Florida. The charitable agency provides structure and programs for young people from Jacksonville's most impoverished neighborhoods. CEO Shariffa Spicer was on hand to accept the \$10,000 donation from Pajcic & Pajcic and Steve & Anne Pajcic.



Pajcic & Pajcic has eleven AV rated "preeminent" attorneys and is one of the few firms on Martindale-Hubbell's list of Top Ranked Law Firms in the Southeastern United States to receive the perfect 5.0 rating in client satisfaction.



Annual Heart of the Runway attendance doubles



Sally Hazelip, Dina Fetner, Linda Cunningham

Guests enjoyed bellinis among ball gowns on Feb. 11 at Linda Cunningham designer boutique for the 3rd annual Heart of the Runway fashion show and luncheon to benefit North Florida School of Special Education.

With 160 in attendance, more than double the prior years, guests dined al fresco in the courtyard or sat cozily amid racks of Cunningham's designs. Catered by the school's own Berry Good Farms, the event included a parade of models, students and parents of the school. Fashions were provided by Dillard's, which offered discounts to the student models.

"The fashion show luncheon at Linda's is one of our annual favorites. We were

thrilled to have such a huge turn-out! New this year was the addition of our elementary students modeling clothing from Dillard's," said Sally Hazelip, NFSSE executive director. "It was an all-around lovely day showcasing NFSSE students and parents, our culinary team, one-of-a-kind artworks from our art program, beautiful spring clothing from Linda Cunningham's and Dillard's, and having the opportunity to share the North Florida School of Special Education story with our guests."

Gross results from the show were over \$12,000 and Linda Cunningham will donate 10 percent from all sales that day, according to Melanie Jensen, NFSSE development director.



Little models Luke Steinkamp, Alanna Elizondo, Ali Reid, Reed Veres



Kit Thomas, Connie Hodges, Anne Lufrano



Joan Refosco, Melanie Bevill, Susan Wadley, Bernadette Moran



Belle on the Blvd and Bourbon e³ Boweties



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Dedicated day of service transforms city

Generation WORKS, a dedicated day of service led by women and girls, was held Feb. 6 at a variety of venues throughout Jacksonville. Men and boys were welcome, too, at the projects which helped transform the city for the greater good.

Working with Greenscape, several groups came together at Boone Park, near the tennis courts, to plant 25 new trees, prune others, and clean up dead brush.

Women Writing for a Change, led by Jennifer Wolfe, were joined by employees from Enterprise Car Rental to plant trees in the park. Students from Westside

High School also wielded shovels for this Greenscape project, presented by Day of Difference, a nonprofit founded by Jill Auld to connect companies, communities and volunteers with opportunities for individual and group volunteering.

Other venues and projects included a painting party at Hubbard House Outreach Center; cleaning and organizing the Rethreaded warehouse; laying sod and sealing a fence at Angelwood; repairing four Habijax homes; inspecting, sorting and packing food for distribution through Feeding Northeast Florida; and sorting new clothing at Dignity U Wear. Several schools had courtyards cleaned, picnic tables assembled and a vegetable garden planted.



Enterprise Car Rental employees planted trees in Boone Park as part of Generation WORKS Day of Service.



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Local law firm helps police meet fundraising goal

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Seven officers of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office are training to participate in the Police Unity Tour®, a national 250-mile bike ride to raise money and awareness for officers who have died in the line of duty. To support the cause, the Law Firm of Pajcic & Pajcic donated \$7,000 to be used toward each rider's \$2,000 minimum fundraising goal. The firm also bought each rider new helmets.

"We ride in honor of the 61 police officers killed here in Jacksonville and in honor of the nearly 20,000 nationally who were killed in the line of duty."

— Kevin Munger, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office



Michael Pajcic, Curt Pajcic, Seth Pajcic, Steve Pajcic, Robert Crotty, Chris Brown, William Irvin, Kevin Munger, Curry Pajcic, FOP vice president Randy Reeves

"It goes to a good cause," said Curt Pajcic, a member of the firm. "We're happy to support this cause for our fallen heroes and for the bike ride. As we help people with our business, we're fortunate enough to be able to help causes like this with some of our profits, and to support the community in general."

The Pajcics presented the check to the Police Unity Tour riders and support team on Feb. 10. In return, the law firm received a Thin Blue Line flag as a keepsake, representative of fallen police officers.

"Myself and my brothers are all very close to JSO," said Pajcic. "We were all prosecutors before we started doing this, so we really appreciate all they do for our community."

Kevin Munger, a patrolman on the auto burglary task force in Riverside, will be riding for the 7th year and was overwhelmed by the donation.

"It's huge. I've never gotten a donation as much as we got today," Munger said. "It's incredible that they did this for us. We can't thank them enough. We ride in honor of the 61 police officers killed here in Jacksonville

and in honor of the nearly 20,000 nationally who were killed in the line of duty."

The Police Unity Tour is the largest private sponsor of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. and has been run since 1997, which began with 18 riders in New Jersey and raised \$18,000. The ride begins in Portsmouth, Virginia, on May 10 and ends at the memorial May 12.



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Laura McLaughlin



Lee Norville



Toy Scott



Linda Shepherd



David Taylor



Deborah Travis



Lisa Anthony Tucker

Cancer fighter takes page from father's book

Finds silver lining in storm clouds

By *Kate A. Hallock*
Resident Community News

For more than two years, Lisa Lampe Rogers has looked for – and found – the good side of living with cancer.

“What has been so amazing about living with cancer, rising to the occasion, is that I’ve found my purpose and my voice,” said Rogers, an Ortega wife and a mother of three diagnosed in December 2013 with Stage IV colon cancer. “I want to educate everyone who will listen that there is more than the ‘pink’ ribbon cancer. There are cancers I’ve never heard of which need a voice to push for research and proper funding to continue to give those living with cancer and their loved ones one simple thing – hope.”

Initially, Rogers’ symptoms were minimal and subtle. Bleeding, cramping and fatigue were all explained away and treated with pain medication and an antidepressant.

The reality, she shared, is that all of these symptoms can be symptoms of hemorrhoids, pre-menopause or over-extending herself with job, family and community.

However, they can also be symptoms of cancer. “My final push in discovering my diagnosis was by telling the doctor that I don’t know what is wrong with me, but I know something is not right,” said Rogers, 48.

Surgery for a tumor on her right ovary led to the discovery of cancer, which had spread outside the colon, engulfed her appendix, spread to the ovary growing a tumor, and was scattered through her peritoneum and pelvic floor.

Two years ago, in January 2014, Rogers began fighting her cancer and living a new life.

“Part of my personal treatment was to be able to find the good side of everything, the silver lining in the storm cloud. This is what led to Cancer Perks on my Facebook page,” said Rogers. “My perks are just merely a perspective on life, knowing that everyone of us has limited days on earth. It is a perspective that grew from my poor prognosis after my diagnosis. It is a chance

for me to encourage others to see their blessings in the everyday life. When you are given X amount of years to live you begin to see things in a different light. And in some cases truly begin living.”

Through her Cancer Perks she encourages people in similar situations to ‘live in between’ – in between the bad days, the doctors’ appointments, the bills, the school projects, making dinners, running errands, and the treatments.

A 1985 graduate of The Episcopal School of Jacksonville, Rogers also participated in a live-stream Classes Without Quizzes event in January to share her story.

During the ESJ class, Rogers told viewers, “If we really think about it, we are all going to die at some point, but we don’t really consider it until a doctor tells you you only have so many months left. It’s as if we are learning this for the first time that we are going to die, when actually that has been the plan all along. Just not your plan.”

Allen Ginder, a 1985 classmate, told Rogers that because of her, he has become a nicer person. “That one really blew me away! That I can make that much of a difference to someone who will then spread it to those he loves and knows,” said Rogers. “It was a very powerful moment to hear those words.”

Hang in, hang on

Well before her diagnosis, Rogers was an advocate for cancer research, co-chairing the American Cancer Society’s 2010 Cowford Ball. Her father, Walter Lampe, had been battling prostate cancer for 17 years at that time. When he passed away in July 2014, she was on a two-month break from chemotherapy. It was from her father that Rogers gets her inspiration.

“Dad was always a fighter. He never quit and always put family first,” she said. “He had several sayings that I hang onto most days: ‘Nothing to it but to do it,’ ‘Hang in and hang on’ and ‘Life is for the living.’”

Because of her cancer and her father’s, Rogers encourages everyone to go get the exams “we all hate (rectal exams, colonoscopies, mammograms). Since my diagnosis I can think of close to 40 friends who have told me they got a colonoscopy,” she said. “And for some, it was performed just in time.”



Lisa Lampe Rogers with daughter Garland

Her support group includes her husband, Nathan; mother, JoAnn Lampe; and best friend Sharon Buttner, all without whom the journey would be more bumpy, she said.

Rogers is currently undergoing what she calls a last-ditch effort on a recently approved oral chemo for an undefined amount of time. “A problem with colon cancer is that there are few lines of treatment for Stage IVb/end stage,” she said. “There is not enough research being funded or perhaps there is not as much interest because of the poor prognosis.”

Despite that prognosis, she remains positive. One of her favorite quotes comes from the late Stuart Scott, an ESPN sports announcer who passed earlier this year from cancer. “When receiving the ESPY (Excellence in Sports Performance Yearly) award he said, ‘When you die, it does not mean you lose to cancer. You beat cancer by how you live, why you live, and in the manner in which you live,’” said Rogers, who is sharing her story this month for Colon Cancer Awareness Month.

Dress in Blue Day, March 4

Annually on the first Friday of March, the entire colon cancer community nationwide unites around the color blue. Similar to breast cancer’s pink ribbon, the nationally-recognized blue star represents the eternal memory of the people whose lives have been lost to the disease and the shining hope for a future free of colon cancer.

Colon cancer is the third most common cancer in the United States and the second leading cause of cancer death. But it doesn’t have to be this way; through screening, it is one of the most preventable diseases. By rising up to knock out colon cancer, you can make a huge impact. Visit dressinblueday.org for information.

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Holland & Knight helps women network, strengthen bonds



Suzanne Crittenden with Stephanie Durham, Steffani Fletcher, Joanelle Mulrain and Chris Schwing

Local female business professionals came out for an engaging evening of socializing and networking during the Holland & Knight Women's Initiative Fifth Annual Chocolate & Wine Pairing event Feb. 11. The event draws a crowd of like-minded professionals in order to share their goals and carve out local connections in business and nonprofit pursuits.

The tasteful affair paired all-natural chocolates from local confectioners with carefully selected wines during the annual February function. Holland & Knight invited the guests to join their team of female lawyers and played host to the event at their offices in the Bank of America Tower at 50 N. Laura St.



Angela Budd with Dustina Colley

5th Annual Mardi Gras fundraiser authentically fun

Jacksonville has its own annual Mardi Gras tradition – a fun-filled fundraising event for Community Connections of Jacksonville, a nonprofit which helps provide housing, among other critical services, for impoverished families.

This year's party, held Feb. 4 at the Garden Club of Jacksonville, featured authentic Cajun food with oysters and hors d'oeuvres, an open bar stocked with beer from Intuition Ale Works, a Hurricane Daiquiri Bar, live music performed by Mondo Mike and the Po Boys with Spice. New this year was Bourbon Street tasting and City Park Cigar sampling.



Florida Blue volunteers Tracy Jackson and Linda Wright



Steven King and Mike Alancourt



Robert Arleigh White, Tom VanOsdol, Virginia Hall, Lelia Duncan

Upcoming Events
at the Florida Theatre

Chris Botti
March 13 at 7:00pm

Merle Haggard
March 11 at 8:00pm

Get the Led Out
March 17 at 8:00pm

IL Volo
March 3 at 8:00pm

Herb Alpert & Lani Hall
March 4 at 8:00pm

Sinatra Sings Sinatra
March 9 at 8:00pm

Peking Acrobats
March 18 at 7:00pm

Bob Saget
March 24 at 8:00pm

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Peyton receives Beman Award at annual Celebration of Golf banquet

Jacksonville's 4th annual golf banquet drew a record crowd as 225 turned out Feb. 3 at Timuquana Country Club to honor local entrepreneur Herb Peyton with the Deane Beman Award.

Peyton, owner of the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club and annual sponsor of the Gate Invitational and the Gate Senior Invitational, commented he only began playing golf late in life.

The award is presented to a person or organization that has made significant contributions to golf in the area. The banquet is a joint effort of the Jacksonville Area Golf Association and the Northern Chapter of the North Florida PGA. Former U.S. and British Amateur winner Steve Melnyk was the guest speaker.

The past chairs of the Players Championship were represented by Anne Nimnicht, Theresa Greene-Hazel and Wayne Waters. Nimnicht holds a Tour distinction as the only person to have chaired three events on the PGA Tour (Players,) Champions Tour



San Jose Country Club pro Rhonda Ferguson with former PGA Tour executive Duke Butler



Herb Peyton, left, accepts the Deane Beman award from PGA Tour Commissioner Deane Beman.

(Legends of Golf) and Web.Com Tour (Web.Com Championship). Bob Dolan, golf pro at the Columbia Country Club in Chevy Chase, Maryland, presented a portrait to Bill Hughes of the TPC Sawgrass, the 2015 Strausbaugh Award winner. This major PGA award is named after Columbia's late pro, Bill Strausbaugh.

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Cultural Council preps for 40th Arts Awards



Director of Development, Ryan Ali, Executive Committee Chair, Franklin Danley, Executive Director, Tony Allegretti, Honorary Chair Molly Curry and Chair Rebecca Ryan-González

It's a big year for The Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville, as the organization celebrates its 40th birthday. The plans are grand and the gatherings of top donors continue to generate energy for the upcoming gala, *Boundless 40 Years. 40 Icons*.

Most recently, a private home in the Granada neighborhood played host to a meeting of the minds, Feb. 9. By bringing gala chairs, host committee members, and other arts advocates together, the night was fit for a toast to progress in our city's arts scene. Executive Committee Chair Franklin Danley, of Regions Bank, greeted guests and later spoke of the impact of the arts in Jacksonville. With over 27,000 people employed in our city by this sector of the economy, Danley emphasized the need to support and advocate on behalf of artists and the 'creative class.'



Renee Parenteau with Charles and Elli Zimmerman



Dottie Nutant, Ward Lariscy, Betsy Lovett and Dave Faliszek

Pat Boone headlines gala for City Rescue Mission

With a nod to nostalgia, City Rescue Mission brought entertainer Pat Boone, a Jacksonville native, to perform at its 70th Anniversary Gala on Feb. 4. The mission also brought back Donald Moody, its second executive director (then called superintendent), to celebrate seven decades of providing help to the homeless and the needy in Northeast Florida.

CRM was established in 1946 by a group of Christian businessmen who saw a need to help alcoholics in the Jacksonville area through "soup, soap and salvation."

The shelter, which was housed for a time downtown at 700 Laura Street, was almost totally dilapidated when Moody and his family moved in. He devoted his first several months on the job to repairing



Arthur Crofton and Penny Kievet, City Rescue Mission executive director, with entertainer Pat Boone

it. After a fire bomb destroyed the mission in 1981, CRM rented space until New Life Inn was opened in 1984 on State Street. The LifeBuilders addiction recovery and job-training program is run from the McDuff Avenue campus, purchased in 1998.

Last year the mission provided more than 250,000 meals, over 85,000 nights of shelter, nearly 500 free dental services and almost 1,500 free medical visits for homeless people, with an annual budget of \$5.4 million that primarily comes from contributions and grants.

In front, **Surf and Turf Roll** - Crispy fried soft shell crab, asparagus, filet mignon roll with sliced avocado wrapped and steamed shrimp, salmon roe and micro greens.

In back, **Crazy Salmon Roll** - Chunk fresh salmon with hot sauce, kimchi sauce and mayo, onion, sesame oil and avocado topped with seared salmon, salmon roe and chopped parsley.

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Traditions of Ye Mystic Revellers run strong

This year marked the 90th Anniversary of the Pageant and Coronation Ball on behalf the social club, Ye Mystic Revellers. This year's themed Masquerade Ball told the history of the Mardi Gras, Part Deux.

Originally the brainchild of the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, the idea for such an occasion was borne out of a need to drive commerce by way of an annual festival. As New Orleans famously profited from its annual Mardi Gras, Jacksonville's leaders looked for an equivalent for the economic benefits. Leaders fashioned a similar event, complete with a city-wide celebration full of parades, street dancing, contests of all kinds and much more. It was officially created and held annually in April, starting in 1923, coined "April Follies."



Mike Muldoon with Bert Ralston

Over the years, it has grown to incorporate several private, social clubs and organizations. One particular social group, Ye Mystic Revellers, has continued the legacy from the original 53-member invitation, representing a deck of cards and 'the joker.' The story lives on and the invitation-only crowd enjoys camaraderie dating back many generations from its roots.



Traci Mayfield, Robert Pavelka, Ruby and Harold O'Steen with Mike and Loretta Cotten

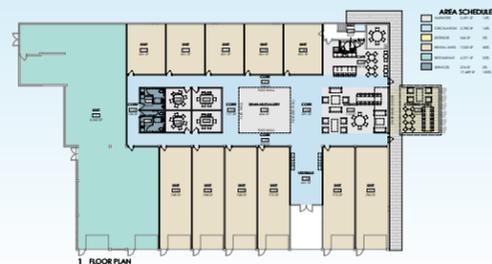


Reinvigorating Jacksonville's Marina Mile

If you have driven by Sadler Point Marine Center on Lakeside Drive recently, you may have noticed our renovations of the old Pier 17 building. An all new storefront including beautiful roll up glass bay doors add a clean new modern look to this one of a kind structure. Inspired by coastal New England, the owners of Sadler Point have a vision of reinvigorating the Ortega River's original working waterfront.

New renderings of the 18,000 square foot building reveal the opportunity to create a unique, shared and affordable space for a diversity of tenants, anchored by a restaurant concept. Our waterfront location in the heart of Jacksonville's Marina Mile serves a large demographic of active boaters in close proximity to the Roosevelt Square Mall and other established merchants, including Chamblin Bookmine, West Marine and many popular restaurants.

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WOMEN WHO STEPPED 'OUT OF ROLE' SERVED CITY AND ITS CITIZENS WELL

Long lasting benefits from five who didn't accept 'no'

By Lorrie DeFrank
Resident Community News

These days, it's not unusual to find women in every profession and civic endeavor. Not so in the last century. However, Jacksonville's history boasts strong and successful women who significantly contributed to the fabric of our society. In observance of Women's History Month, this feature spotlights five accomplished women who have made huge impacts in humanitarianism, philanthropy, politics, architecture, beautification and culture. Because of their determination, persistence and talents, they serve as timeless role models for today's women.

'Steel Magnolia' remembered through park

Residents of Jacksonville have a perpetual and lovely reminder of an influential woman who represented Jacksonville citizens passionately at local and national levels. Just down the road at 7000 Roosevelt Blvd., Tillie K. Fowler Regional Park was named for the woman who pushed to develop the 507-acre tract that had been leased from the U.S. Navy, for which she was a strong advocate.

After serving on Jacksonville City Council from 1985 to 1992, Fowler was the first Florida Republican woman elected in her own right to the U.S. House of Representatives, where she served four terms. The only Republican woman on the House Armed Services Committee, she was nicknamed "Steel Magnolia" for her solid

Exquisite Riverside museum, gardens a gift from one resident to all

With her love and knowledge of horticulture and art, Ninah Cummer was a major force in creating and preserving Jacksonville's cultural identity. The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens on Riverside Avenue is on the land where she lived with her husband, Arthur Gerrish Cummer, in a large English Tudor Revival house. The lumber baron family's compound included two other homes and expansive gardens that Cummer cultivated through the decades and that continue to amaze visitors today.

An avid gardener who collected European treasures that included Old Master portraits, Cummer willed that her home and gardens be turned into a museum.

Born in 1875 in Indiana, she met her future husband at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. The couple married in 1897 and settled in Jacksonville. Cummer was involved in the city's reconstruction efforts following its devastating 1901 fire and was active in the Woman's Club, Children's Home Society and Red Cross. In 1922 she organized the Garden Club of Jacksonville.

Holly Keris, the museum's chief curator, said that although the Cummer family's contribution to Jacksonville often focuses on the founding of the museum, their true legacy touches many aspects of the community.

"Perhaps less well known is Mrs. Cummer's incredible commitment to the beautification of Jacksonville. Her personal gardens are a tangible example of her desire to see beautiful spaces peppered throughout the city," Keris said. "Through the trial and error efforts on her own property, Mrs. Cummer built a deep knowledge of Florida horticulture, which she shared locally and across the state. In this community, she was an active advocate for the preservation of public green spaces and the creation of public parks, most notably Riverside's Memorial Park, founded and developed by a citizen's committee as a World War I memorial. Mrs. Cummer worked with the Olmsted Bros. firm on the particulars of the park, including the plant choices. In her will, she noted her desire to create 'a center of beauty and culture' for the benefit of



Ninah Cummer (Woodward Studio, Ninah M. H. Cummer (1875 – 1958) in her garden, c. 1929, gelatin print, The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens Archives)

'all of the people.' Although she specifically was referring to the museum itself, Memorial Park certainly is another outstanding example of her continuing imprint on our city."

A current exhibit at the Cummer Museum is devoted to the civic advocacy of Ninah Cummer, who died in 1958. "Conservation, Beautification and a City Plan: Ninah Cummer and the Beautification of Jacksonville" will run through Nov. 27.

"As a member of the City Planning Advisory Board and chairman of the Special Garden Club Committee, Mrs. Cummer was instrumental in conserving, preserving and developing Jacksonville's green spaces," Keris said. "Using materials from the Cummer Museum, Florida Times-Union, Jacksonville Historical Society, University of North Florida and others, the exhibit explores her impact on the beautification of Jacksonville."

support of the military—largely because of its huge presence in Jacksonville—and opposition to cuts in defense spending.

Congressman Ander Crenshaw, chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, said, "I was honored to call Tillie Fowler one of my closest friends. Remembered for putting the needs of Northeast Florida first, she upheld our region's strong Navy heritage, represented the needs of individuals and families with an incomparable work ethic, and played a key role in making our nation a better place. We can all learn from the exceptional example of public service she set and pay her tribute by carrying that out today and in the years to come."

Born in Milledgeville, Ga., Fowler attended law school at the urging of her father, longtime Democratic Georgia State Sen.

Culver Kidd who recognized his daughter's persistence and outspokenness. After graduating from Emory University in Atlanta in the mid-1960s she worked as a legislative assistant to Rep. Robert G. Stephens Jr., a Florida Democrat, because no Atlanta firm would hire a woman litigator.

After moving to Jacksonville in 1971 with her husband of three years, attorney L. Buck Fowler, she became active in the community, including serving as president of Junior League where she garnered considerable political support. In a show of her well-known determination and to her father's dismay, she switched party affiliations to Republican.

Before her death from a brain hemorrhage at age 62 in 2005, she was a Washington-based partner in the law firm of Holland & Knight and continued to lobby on behalf of Jacksonville on military issues.



Tillie Fowler (Photo courtesy of Jacksonville Historical Society Collection)

A year before she died Fowler told *Florida Times-Union* writer Judy Wells that "no" to her always meant you had to get more creative; there's always a way to do something.

Former school teacher turned wealth manager extraordinaire



Jessie Ball duPont (Photo courtesy of Jessie Ball duPont Fund)

Philanthropist extraordinaire Jessie Ball duPont grew up in a family still struggling financially from the devastation of the Civil War in northern Virginia, where at age 14 she met multi-millionaire Alfred I. duPont who was there on a hunting trip. After marrying him in 1921 at age 37, the couple lived on his estate in Delaware where she began a financial venture that has funded hundreds of worthy causes in Northeast Florida for decades.

Based in Jacksonville, the Jessie Ball duPont Fund is a national foundation that makes grants to organizations whose eligibility is determined exclusively by her personal philanthropic decisions. Its grant making totals \$12 million to \$18 million a year, mostly for community service projects.

Previously a school teacher in Virginia, she moved in 1908 with her parents to San Diego, where she became an elementary school principal and saved her money to award college scholarships to needy

students. In 1920 she reconnected with duPont, an industrialist and philanthropist whose wealth she eventually wisely managed, with the help of her brother Edward Ball, to assist generations of people.

After living in Delaware for six years, the duPonts moved to Jacksonville where they built a 58-acre estate they named Epping Forest on the St. Johns River. When Alfred died in 1935 his wife assumed control of his business enterprises and became principal trustee of his estate. One of the foundations she created in his memory was to build a children's hospital, now the Nemours Foundation. In her later years she moved back to the Nemours Estate in Delaware, where she died in 1970 at age 86.

"Jessie Ball duPont was a woman of great conviction and independent spirit at a time when women were not encouraged to be strong leaders. But it is her thoughtfulness in the disposition of her estate that I reflect upon most often," said Sherry P. Magill,

president, Jessie Ball duPont Fund. "She cared about particular places, and she cared deeply about the people who lived in those places—rich and poor, educated and uneducated, black and white. She structured her legacy to be lasting, but not rigid, and, as a result, the Jessie Ball duPont Fund can be responsive to the needs of a 21st Century world."

Magill said Jacksonville has clearly benefited from that legacy. Since its inception, the Fund has invested more than \$76 million in Jacksonville, not including \$26 million for the repurposing of the former Haydon Burns Library into the Jessie Ball duPont Center.

The Fund owns the center, a gathering place for philanthropy and nonprofits that opened last year in the former main library building at 40 E. Adams St. It houses a dozen nonprofits, including the Fund, United Way of Northeast Florida, Non-profit Center of Northeast Florida and the Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center.

City's first female architect a 'trailblazer'

Way back in the early 1900s, when for the most part women were nurses or teachers if they worked outside the home at all, Henrietta Dozier was designing buildings in Jacksonville and directing contractors on how to construct them. A trailblazer for sure, she was the city's first female architect.

In a 1939 interview for the Federal Writers Project, a government project to fund written work and support writers during the Great Depression, she said, "I do not know whether my life history will be of any interest but, believe me, I have always lived! I love life and I want to live just as long as I can be of any use."

Feisty and accomplished, especially for her time, Dozier, who was born in Fernandina Beach in 1872 and died in 1947, indeed is remembered for her exceptional talent and her creative structures that remain today.



Henrietta Dozier (Photo courtesy of Jacksonville Historical Society Collection)

Her designs include St. Philip's Episcopal Church at 801 N. Pearl St.; the Old Federal Reserve Bank Building at 424 N. Hogan St.; Lampru Court Apartments on Boulevard

Street; and residences at 1819 Goodwin St. and 1814 Powell Place. She also designed the impressive former residence that now houses the Deas Law Firm at 2215 River Blvd. in St. Johns Quarter.

"I am a huge fan of her work," said Richard Skinner, president of Richard Skinner and Associates, an architectural firm at 2245 St. Johns Ave. "There was always a unique feature in her architecture that was subtle. Never ostentatious, always elegant."

In addition to the simple elegance of the house on Goodwin Street, Skinner said his favorite Dozier design is "a sweet little house on Hedrick between Van Wert and Shadowlawn that is very unassuming ... a beautifully designed house with a unique entrance on an inside corner. It stands out."

Skinner said it's important to note that architecture was largely a man's profession back then, yet Dozier was designing beautiful buildings and getting them built. "Having clients who believed in her was a testament

to her skills, not to mention dealing with the contractors," he said. "She broke new ground. Graduating from MIT was also a testament to her will and commitment."

Of the three women in her class at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, she was the only one to graduate—with an advanced degree in architecture in 1899. After working in Atlanta for 13 years, she moved her practice to Jacksonville in 1914. During World War I she worked for the city's Engineering Department.

"I have been a 'lone wolf' right along," Dozier shared in that 1939 interview. "I have never had any woman associate in my work, and so far as I know have never had any competition in this line in Jacksonville. I have always had to compete with men, yes. In submitting designs, plans, bids, I have never asked any consideration at any time because I happened to be a woman; I put all my cards on the table in fair and honest competition, and ask only consideration on the same basis."

Clara White founder 'did good' just about everywhere



Eartha White (Photo courtesy of Jacksonville Historical Society Collection)

An adopted daughter of former slaves, Eartha Mary Magdalene White left a humanitarian and philanthropic legacy that continues to touch thousands of Jacksonville residents. A shrewd businesswoman who gave her fortune to the less fortunate and said she was too busy helping others to marry, White founded the Clara White Mission in 1904 to carry on the charitable work of her mother, its namesake. Today, the mission on West Ashley Street serves 400 meals daily, houses 32 homeless veterans monthly and provides a multitude of other services for the needy.

"A lot of her programs still resonate with society today," said Ju'Coby Pittman, the mission's president and CEO. "From an economic standpoint, we have been able to not only feed people but also train and employ them. People who have not had jobs in some time are now tax-paying individuals. Miss White developed sustainable programs that we are able to continue. We're proud to be able to pick up where she left off. It wasn't about color for her. It was about customizing programs that will transition people to the next part of their life journeys."

"The Great Fire of 1901," co-authored by Wayne W. Wood and Bill Foley, recounts how White saved the records of the Afro-American Insurance Company from the blaze that destroyed much of the city. She was its first woman employee, moonlighting as a secretary to the business manager.

The book calls White's multifaceted career "so rich and full that no other person in this town has ever equaled it."

Following graduation from Stanton School in 1893, White toured the country and abroad as a soprano with an African-American opera company. After returning to Jacksonville in 1896 and receiving a degree from Florida Baptist Academy, she pursued entrepreneurial and humanitarian efforts that earned her numerous awards and honors, including appointment to President Richard Nixon's National Center for Voluntary Action and a visit to the mission from Eleanor Roosevelt.

A teacher for 16 years, she operated a dry goods stores, janitorial service, taxi company and steam laundry. In addition to the mission, her charitable impact includes establishing a hospital, boys' club, home for unwed mothers, orphanage, childcare center and rehab program for released prisoners.

In a 1982 *Florida Times-Union* story then-Mayor Hans Tanzler called her "irrepressible and undeniable." White lived on the second floor of her mission from 1932 until her death at age 97 in 1974, and was instrumental in starting a nursing home at age 89.

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– Eartha M.M. White



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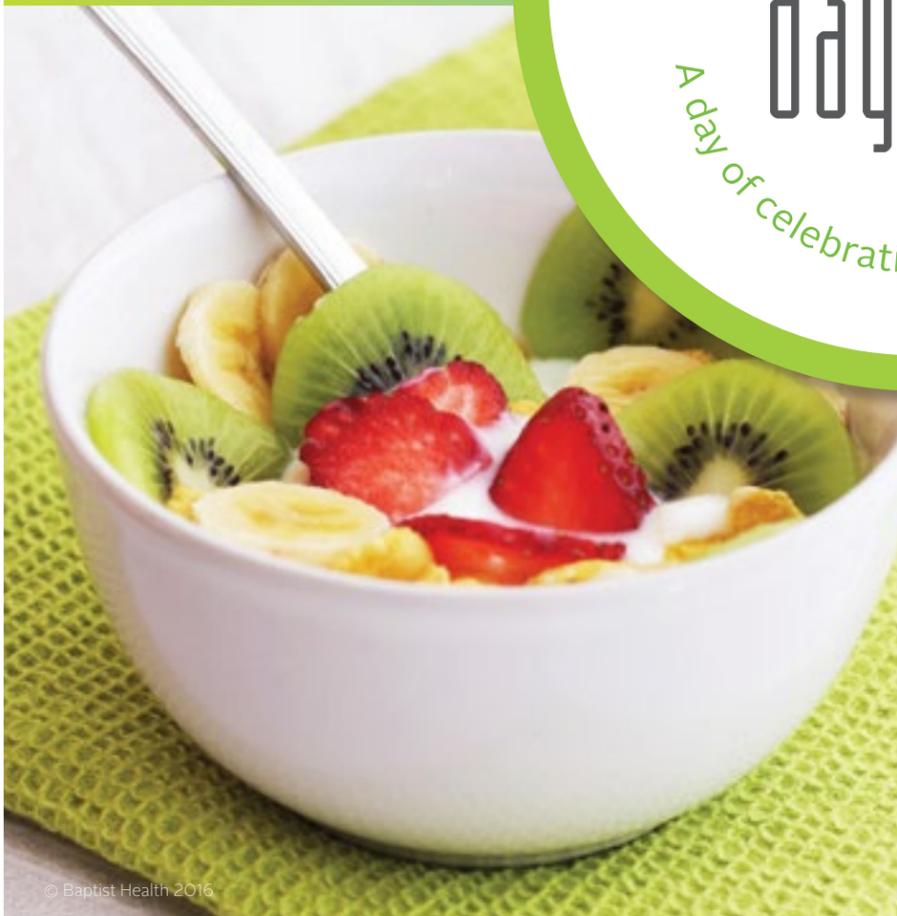
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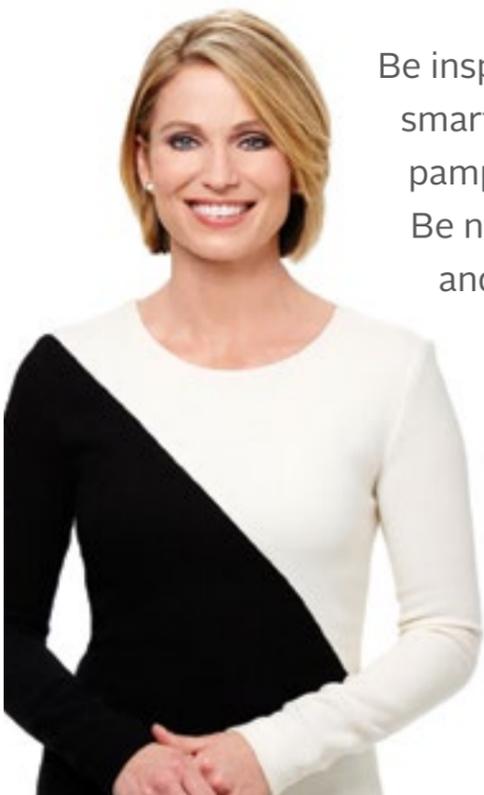
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Kid's action figure toy a successful tool in therapy

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Though launched with the goal of inspiring creativity in children and encouraging them to “do good,” a chance encounter at a booth at One Spark 2015 has led to another application for the fledgling company, HeroMe.

“I ran into Peggy Bryan outside the HeroMe booth at One Spark. She was so passionate about HeroMe, it made me want to learn more,” said Courtney Hunter, philanthropy director at Children’s Home Society of Florida, Buckner Division (CHS). “I introduced myself to Annie [Bryan] at a Women’s Giving Alliance Social that evening at One Spark. I thought this would be great to use on campus with our kids who come through the therapy program.”

Coincidentally, HeroMe founders Josh and Annie Bryan had begun thinking about how the action figures could be used therapeutically.

“We’ve heard anecdotally from parents that HeroMe has been a great tool to help their children communicate and tell stories about their lives,” said Annie Bryan. “As a result, we’ve been pursuing partnerships to quantify the impact that HeroMe can have on a child beyond just developing creativity and story-telling skills.”

The collaboration process with Josh and Annie Bryan took about four months to work out.

“We had quite a few ‘get-to-know-us’ meetings at CHS,” said Hunter. “We wanted Annie and Josh to really understand what our clients and their families were going through, as well as see how much this could help our therapists in their work. We wanted this to happen gradually so that both parties were seeing the benefit and had input on what was done next.”

The pilot program to use customized action figures for therapy sessions launched in September 2015 and already has seen some outstanding initial results.

“The response has been tremendous. The kids’ enthusiasm for the action figure really promoted client engagement,” said Jessica Henderson, CHS clinical supervisor. “Additionally, trauma therapy can initially be intimidating and scary for young children. Having their own special hero provided a source of comfort.”

CHS therapists selected 15 children to participate in the initial pilot program, for which HeroMe donated customized action figures for each participant’s use during therapy sessions. The children in the program create their own 12-inch heroes by choosing a head, one super-powered arm, and one super-powered leg, and giving the HeroMe a name, personality and story. The HeroMe is the child’s unique creation, and once they are discharged from therapy they keep their action figure and receive a matching cape.

Over the course of 12 weeks, CHS therapists used the HeroMe Action Figures to encourage dialogue and reinforce therapeutic concepts both during therapy sessions and once the child was at home.

The therapists experienced breakthroughs for children for which conventional play



Children use customized action figures in therapy at Children’s Home Society.

therapy hadn’t made much of a difference.

“We have had children who were initially very resistant to the therapeutic process. With Hero Me, the clinicians were able to build on the child’s excitement and interest in their action figures as a means to engage them in their counseling services,” Henderson said. “Moving forward, clinicians were able to deliver interventions and more complex therapeutic concepts in

creative and fun ways with more interest and engagement from the child.”

Caregivers also have been receptive to HeroMe therapy. “We have utilized various hero-based therapy interventions to promote the use of therapeutic skills at home and in school,” Henderson said. “Many of our caregivers have reported seeing positive changes associated with this project.”

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Arts, crafts integral to foster buddies' relationship

By Peggy Harrell Jennings
Resident Community News

"Everything is exciting when you're experiencing it with a child," said Sara Green about her volunteer experience as part of the Family Support Services of Northeast Florida (FSS) Foster Buddy program. "I'm learning new things and having lots of fun."

Green, 27, mentors 9-year-old Takeria, and there are a lot of adventures, learning opportunities and just plain old good times when these two get together for a couple of hours each week.

"It has really worked out that we both

like art and doing girly things," said Green, who works for Federal National Financial. The company accommodates and encourages employees to give back to the community, according to Green, also a volunteer with Changing Homelessness, formerly the Homeless Coalition.

FSS matches mentor and child based on a questionnaire of interests. "Mentors receive training and commit to one year," she said. "Finding the strengths of the child and nurturing those interests is important."

Green has a degree in psychology from University of Central Florida and a background of work experience at an Intensive Residential Treatment Center for children and adolescents with emotional, behavioral, intellectual and developmental challenges. Her past experience gives her insight in a child's need for consistency and affirmation, which foster children often find lacking.

The foster buddies love arts and crafts and are currently exploring those types of media from around the world. Each month they immerse themselves in their chosen country through reading, exploring and creating artwork, sampling cuisine at various restaurants and even have the flag of their focus country painted on their fingernails.

They have studied Japan, Greece and France, which is Takeria's favorite country so far. "I like the Eiffel Tower," said Takeria, and was impressed with a dessert where "the little cup was made of out chocolate. You could eat it."

The onion volcano at a Japanese restaurant was a big hit. "We sat with total



Foster child Takeria poses next to the fish tile she created at the Cummer Museum



Sara Green with her foster buddy, Takeria, make art at the Cummer Museum

strangers," said Green. "Everyone had a great time watching Takeria experience things for the first time."

On a recent trip to the Cummer Museum, Green encouraged Takeria as she journeyed through the art timeline, painted at the interactive studio, strolled the gardens and was wowed by the St. Johns River.

They have learned Japanese origami.

"Takeria makes some awesome dogs," said Green, but laughed about their flying birds. "They wouldn't fly - they kept coming back to us." Since their current focus is Hawaii, the buddies are learning the hula.

Green said her passion for giving has a rebound effect. She gets back the joy she gives and her generosity touches a young child in immeasurable ways.

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The Way We Were - William and Olga Joos



Bill Joos, early 1940s



Olga and Bill Joos, 2016



Bill's grandparents Mary and Fred Joos, 1892 wedding photo

By Julie Kerns Garmendia
Resident Community News

William "Bill" Joos, 75, grew up the adopted son of Louis "Lee" and Genevieve (Raynor) Joos of Murray Hill. His parents, devout Catholics, adopted Bill from the Sisters of St. Joseph in St. Augustine shortly after his birth in 1940. He laughs about his childhood nickname, "Carrot-top," which perfectly described the curly red hair he had until age four or five.

The Joos family name hails from Alsace-Lorraine, France and is French/German. Joos' relatives immigrated to the U.S. in the 1800s and traveled by covered wagon to Millerville, Minnesota where they settled.

Joos' father, Louis "Lee" Joos, was a quiet man who survived smallpox and returned from World War I deaf in one ear. From Minnesota, he worked in Canada and left a depressed economy to relocate to Jacksonville in 1915. He worked in real estate development.

Joos' mother Genevieve moved with her father, Alfred D. Raynor, from Brooklyn, New York to West Virginia after the deaths of her mother, Cecilia (Smith) Raynor, and grandmother. Genevieve relocated to Jacksonville when a friend moved here and loved it. She lived at the downtown YWCA, was a member of the Women's Lifesaving Corps at Jacksonville Beach, rode and showed horses. She worked as a secretary for the Fleming Law Firm in the Barnett Bank building until she met Louis Joos, fell in love and married.

The Joos family lived at 1127 Wolfe Street where Bill attended Ruth N. Upson Elementary School through second grade. The family moved to 2609 Herschel Street one block from St. Paul's Catholic Church and School. At that time, Bill entered third grade at St. Paul's.

"It was convenient to be closer to St. Paul's for my mother to attend daily Mass," Joos said. "My sister and I walked to school against the flow of students catching the bus on Post Street, so it looked like we were skipping school. Later we caught the bus at St. Paul's to attend Bishop Kenny High School." Joos graduated from Bishop Kenny in 1958 and later attended Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., graduating in 1962 with a degree in government.

After ROTC in college, Joos was deferred to attend law school at the University of

Florida. He graduated in 1965. He then served in the U.S. Army. He spent two years at Fort Bliss, Texas, before being transferred to Korea as a Hawk Missile Battery Commander. The end of his service was spent at Fort Benning, Georgia.

In contrast, Joos wife, Olga Martin-Ballestero, spent her childhood in Europe. She was born to Luis and Olga (Hernandez) Martin-Ballestero, a prominent Spanish family from the Basque Country where Luis served as governor of Vitoria.

When Olga was 11 they moved to Zaragoza, Spain, where she attended School of The Sacred Heart, studied ballet, music and fencing. When she was young, Olga lived and traveled extensively throughout Europe and is fluent in four languages.

Olga graduated from the University of Zaragoza with a social sciences degree in 1970. She worked two years as a dental assistant at Zaragoza U.S. Air Base and learned English before relocating to Orlando.

Bill met Olga while visiting mutual friends in Orlando and said it was love at first sight on his part. He proposed while they were sitting on the dock at the Florida Yacht Club. The couple married in 1973 in Calatayud, Spain.



Olga and William Joos on their wedding day in 1973

Olga completed her teaching degree from UNF and was a French and Spanish substitute teacher at Bolles. She taught languages at Douglas Anderson for five years and at Episcopal four years. In 2000 Olga retired from teaching and volunteered as a docent leading children's tours at the Cummer Museum.

Joos has been a partner in the law firm of Duss Kenney Safer Hampton & Joos, PA on Jacksonville's Southside since 2000. He specializes in real property law. Earlier he



Olga and Bill Joos

worked with Watson & Osborne PA, for five years. His first position after law school was with Boyd Jenerette PA, where he spent 30 years in practice. The Diocese of St. Augustine has been his client for 43 years.

The Joos first apartment was in Avondale on Pine Street close to Bill's widowed mother on Herschel Street. In 1975 their first child, Catalina, was born. Soon after her birth, the family moved to River Road in San Marco where they lived for 26 years. While living on River Road, three more children were born into the family.

The Joos family includes a daughter Catalina Vergara and her husband, Julio, of Los Angeles, and their two daughters, Paloma and Mattea; a son Louis Joos and his wife, Samantha, of Mandarin and their four children, Sophia, Louis, Jr., Leon, and Henry; a daughter Olga Joos-Mahoney and her husband, Nicholas, of Bethesda, Maryland and their two children, Penelope, and Felix; and a son, William, who lives in New York but is planning to move to Los Angeles.

In 2001, Joos and his wife moved from River Road to a home on Lakewood Road where their love of flowers is evident from their beautiful, blooming yard, which is colorful even in winter.

"I call us 'Camellia Nuts.' We have 40 varieties of camellias, even some brought from California," Joos said. "We enjoy visiting plant nurseries wherever we are and bringing home new varieties."

Music has always been an important part of Joos family life. His mother, Genevieve, served as Friday Musicale

president 1962-1964. She sang contralto in St. Paul's Choir and at Basilica of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church on Duval Street. Bill studied piano in grade school through high school with Genevieve McMurray who lived in Springfield and taught lessons in her home. McMurray was Immaculate Conception Church's organist.

Bill continues to enjoy playing classical piano and organ music by Beethoven, Chopin and Mozart. He has served as interim organist for St. Paul's Catholic Church. He plans to play more in the future after retirement. All of the Joos children and grandchildren love music, play piano and other instruments, he said.

In 1981 Joos was honored to be asked by Jeanne Donahoo, founder of the Cummer Museum Music Committee, to join that group. The music committee sought to bring the finest national and international classical musicians to perform in Jacksonville, Joos said. The Cummer Museum's free concerts were a highlight of Sunday afternoons in Riverside for many years. Joos served on the music committee and as its chairman until 2012 when it disbanded.

These days, the Joos family surround themselves with music, art, books, friends and family. They look forward to attending classical music performances and Live at the Met broadcasts at Tinseltown Movie Theater. Bill wants to improve his Spanish and travel more with Olga. Olga takes UNF Continuing Education classes, is learning the tango and recruiting friends to join her.



Bill Joos teaches a granddaughter to play the piano

You're Never Too Old...

Thanks to healthier lifestyles many seniors have the energy to explore new activities and hobbies, often taking up something secretly yearned for earlier in life. *Never Too Old* takes a look at senior residents who are thinking out of the box and stepping out of their comfort zones. If you know someone who has a similar story to share, send information to editor@residentnews.net.

Former surgeon peels layers from home, self in dual restoration

By Peggy Harrell Jennings
Resident Community News

Since his retirement a year and a half ago from Baptist Hospital, Dr. John (Jack) Crump has been busy reinventing himself.

“Most doctors are afraid of retirement, wondering, ‘Now what will I do?’ but life changes – you change,” said Crump. “Once you retire it opens up your mind to new possibilities. Who knows what is next? It’s exciting and freeing.”

As he peels the layers of old paint and paneling from his recently acquired 93-year-old Avondale home and restores it to its original beauty, this former surgeon said he is also removing personal layers, in the process of discovering and restoring himself.

“God has allowed me to have a wonderful profession. I now have an opportunity to right some of the wrongs in my own think-

ing and behavior,” Crump mused. “I’m more humble. More grateful. Not in such a big hurry. As a doctor I realize how delicate we all are and that time just vanishes so quickly.”

In retirement, Crump now spends his time creating artwork based on studies of his brain, working on a program to “recycle the wisdom of retired doctors,” dusting off his guitar, or exploring friendships that are not based on doctor-patient bias. Crump embraces change at age 64. He said he is changing his philosophy, his residence, his associations, his creative pursuits and his health.

Most days Crump can be found at the YMCA doing Power Yoga or aggressive spinning. At home he is polishing brass door knobs or overseeing the workers in the house restoration. Sometimes he is studying and learning something new.

“As a surgeon – like most doctors – we had secretaries. A lot of guys my age aren’t as good as they’d like to be with computers,” said Crump. “Part of my re-invention is learning computer technology, texting – all that. It’s a great tool for staying in touch with the kids.”

Crump also said his children and their activities inspire him. Will, a junior at



Dr. John Crump contemplates artwork created from studies of the human brain.

Florida State, aspires to be a doctor and Carly, a freshman at University of Florida, was the inspiration for Crump’s latest activity – ballroom dancing.

“During a yoga class at the YMCA I met John Glessner. He and I were talking about reinventing ourselves and he suggested I take a class at his studio, Ballroom Bliss, in Murray Hill,” related Crump. “Then Carly returned from Stockholm as part of a delegation of young people at the Nobel Prize Awards where she learned to waltz, and said ‘Daddy, dance with me.’ I thought well, it’s a wholesome, aerobic activity so now I’m taking classes three times a week.”

Crump said his favorite dances are the waltz and swing. “It’s hilarious, I’m terrible. John sends me the algorithms for the steps, and I watch a video of him and a partner demonstrating so I can practice. It’s fun, and it’s all about trying something new. I love the diversity of the people. When Ginger (Carly and Will’s mother) died in 2008 everyone had advice. But a friend said, ‘Turn down no invitation.’ I’m smart enough to listen to my expert friends.”

“We all want to do something altruistic, something fulfilling,” he said. “I view this as an interim step to something new and exciting.”

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– In Memoriam –
Erolyn Thomas Church

October 31, 1920 – February 8, 2016

*By Peggy Harrell Jennings
 Resident Community News*

The oldest founding member of Ortega United Methodist Church, Erolyn Thomas Church, passed away last month. She was 95 years old.

Pastors Vance Rains and Jason Knott delivered Church's funeral homily at Ortega UMC on Feb. 13, and former Pastor Dan Casselberry returned to sing one of her favorite hymns, "His Eye is on the Sparrow."

Church was described in her Celebration of Life as a woman who "loved without boundaries, never cursed or spoke ill of others, a woman who could be trusted and lived with grace," according to her daughter Gayle Lacey. Many others only had praise for the woman whose daughters, Lacey and her sister Barbara Burns, described as a loving, devoted mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, who never held a grudge.

"She put her family first and wanted those left behind to know 'I loved my God and I loved my girls,'" said Garnet Shepherd, a good friend.

Nancy Schwanback, a friend of 50 years, remarked Church was a great prayer warrior. "She was always thinking of others and did many kindnesses but didn't want everyone to know," said Schwanback.

Her grandson, Jeffrey Lacey, said, "The best way to honor and remember her would be to live in such a way as to make her proud." Great-grandson Bryce Virata, 12, said, "She was the best lady I ever met – she was very caring."

Church, a 1938 graduate of Robert E. Lee High School, fur-



Erolyn Church

thered her education at Jacksonville Business College in accounting, which served her well as bookkeeper for Thomas & Padgett.

Her prowess with figures was also evident in her love for canasta. "She was a dedicated card player, very competitive; she had a sharp wit and a good sense of humor," said Schwanback. "She was remarkably independent. You always knew where you stood with her."

**A party, 50 years
 in the making**



It's been nearly 50 years since the Class of 1966 graduated from Robert E. Lee High School. To celebrate, class members will be holding a reunion during the weekend of May 27 and 28 at the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club.

Included in the festivities will be a Friday night "Meet and Greet" from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., where "Tom and Julianne" (www.tomandjulianne.com) will provide music popular during the 1960s while classmates enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. A tour of Robert E. Lee High will be provided Saturday morning if there is enough interest and a buffet dinner and dance will be held at the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club Saturday evening. During the evening celebration, a "virtual tour" of the school will be shown as well as a special video presentation, which will include an "In Memoriam" presentation to recognize classmates who have passed away as well as those who were lost during military service.

For more information contact Bill Olive at bolive@osteenautomotivegroup.com or go to the reunion website at blueandgray1966.com.

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Popular author delivers inspirational message to Christian women

The 31st annual Women for Christ luncheon, held Feb. 9 at the Prime Osborn Convention Center, featured guest speaker Margaret Feinberg, a cancer patient who shared her strategy for overcoming a daunting diagnosis.

“We can all learn to ‘Fight Back with Joy’ by celebrating more, regretting less, and overcoming fears,” said Jennifer Sherman, Publicity Chair, Women for Christ, in reference to the guest speaker’s battle with cancer.

Over the past three decades the women’s group has provided women in the Jacksonville community the opportunity to hear outstanding Christian speakers, such as Jill Briscoe, Carol Kent, Jan Karon, Dee Brestin and Liz Curtis Higgs.



Front: Peggy Allcorn, Susie Marshall, Caroline Toole; back: Dianne Diffenderfer, Rosanne Ennis, Punky Bethea, guest speaker Margaret Feinberg, Christine Hughes, Gael Coleman, Christy Mobley, Jennifer Sherman



Seamark Ranch volunteers Pat McFarland and Maggie Lazuka (seated); Dawne Sutton, Allene Zvara, Mary Knight and Corla Niesen



Seated: Marjorie Kinney, Pat Johnson, Carolyn Toole and Kris Fletcher; standing: Gael Coleman, Kay Hazelhurst and Susan Abernathy



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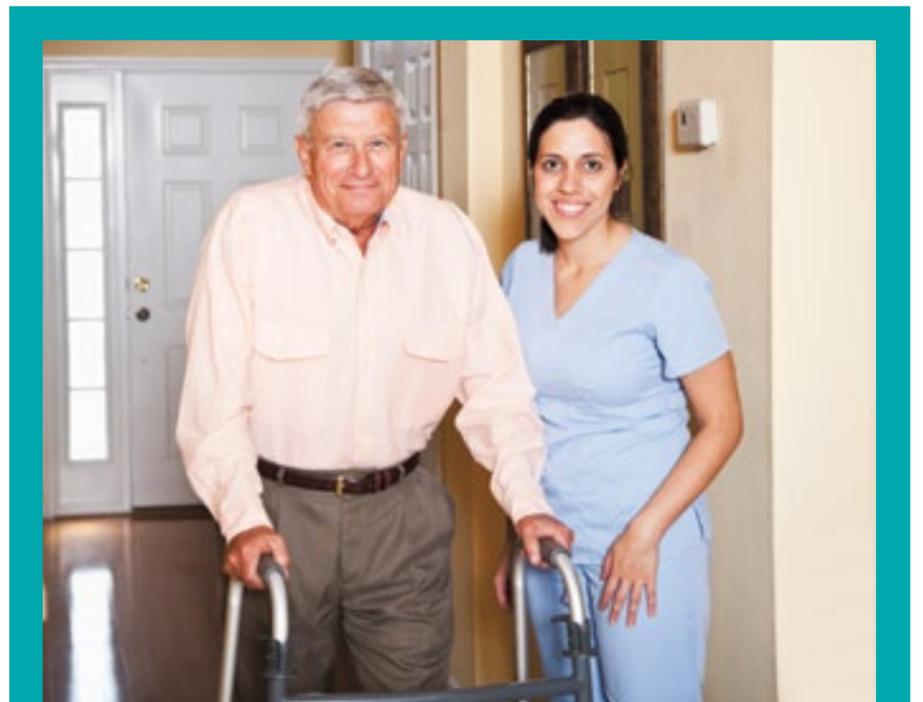
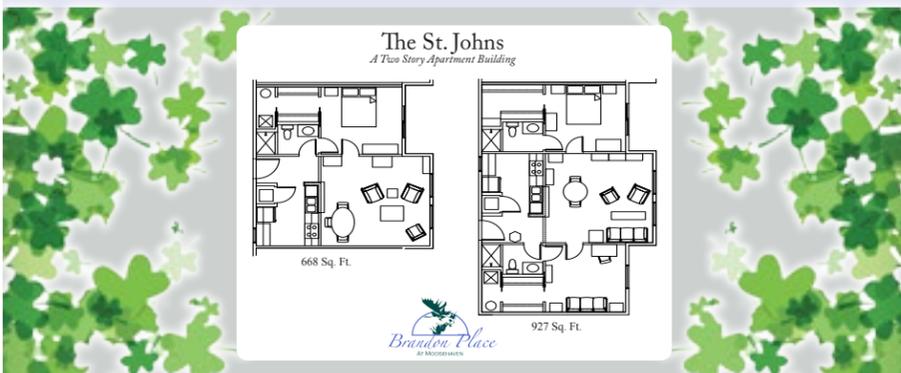
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Former residents take hard-hat tour of Lane-Towers House construction

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

Members of the Lane and Towers families had the opportunity to visit their former home Feb. 4, when current owners John and Yvonne Hove invited them to tour the ongoing restoration of the historic Lane-Towers House in Avondale.

Although the house, listed in the National Register of Historic Places, is in the midst of reconstruction, the former residents of the elegant riverfront mansion braved pouring rain to view interior changes to the structure, which is regarded by local historian Wayne Wood as “the most spectacular example of Tudor-Revival style architecture in Jacksonville.”

Included on the tour were Helen Lane, daughter-in-law of original owners Edward Wood Lane, Sr. and his wife Anna Taliaferro Lane, who built the house in 1928; Jean “Pokey” Towers Lyerly, widow of William Towers, who bought the house in 1969; Lyerly’s two daughters, Elizabeth “Betsy” Towers and Agnes Towers Morrissey, both of whom grew up in the house; and Lyerly’s sister-in-law, Sarah Towers Van Cleve and her husband, Dr. Robert Van Cleve, Sr., who live in a riverfront home on the opposite end of Richmond Street.

Also joining in were Hove’s Arlington neighbors, Iva Nathanson-McCarthy and her husband, Bernard; Richmond Street neighbor Sylvie Galbraith; long-time friends Petra Calvaruso and Helena Norden as well as several members of the Lane



Iva McCarthy, Elizabeth “Betsy” Towers, Agnes Towers Morrissey, Sylvie Galbraith, Helen Lane, Jean “Pokey” Towers Lyerly, Yvonne Hove, John Hove, Dr. Robert Van Cleve, Sr. and Sarah Towers Van Cleve (front).



Lane-Towers House owners John and Yvonne Hove

Group including architect Doug Lane, Daniel Greer, Samantha Spaniak, general contractor Charles Scaff, structural engineer Tamara Beaker and Beaker’s mother, Dr. Bonnie Davis. The group was treated to a catered lunch after the tour.

“It’s wonderful to see a man who loves the house and is so knowledgeable,” said Lane during the tour. “The house is saying ‘thank you.’”

Betsy Towers agreed. “I’m speechless,” she said. “The number of construction details the Hoves have addressed is overwhelming.”

“I’m so glad John’s an engineer,” said Lyerly, noting he is ideally suited for the challenge of refurbishing the large historic home from the ground up. Hove owns an

international company, which manufactures and distributes intermodal hardware products to the transportation industry including desiccant humidity absorbers for shipping containers. His hobby is to restore pre-World War II automobiles.

Towers agreed. “Most people would not know these are problems,” she said referring to humidity and mold, which required special treatment. “They would just think of how much it is going to cost. Because of his background, John knows why it is necessary to do this. It’s just delightful to see how well they are taking care of the place.”

Although Edward Lane built the house to last, sections of the house were “on the brink” and required a complete over-

haul, Hove said. Renovating it in such a thorough way has been three times more expensive than to build a similar new house from scratch, he said.

Graff said the entire project is a third of the way finished, while the wall surrounding the property, which is comprised of more than 140,000 bricks, is 90 percent completed. Also beginning to take shape is the garden folly, which has a foundation and new wall.

“It’s a real gift to the neighborhood that this house will be here for another 100 years or more,” said Sarah Van Cleve. “Richmond Street wouldn’t be Richmond Street without this house.”

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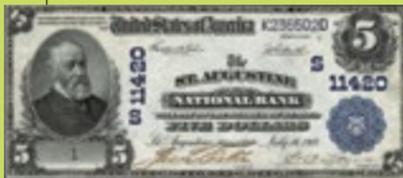
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Maryann Jimenez, Principal, Assumption Catholic School



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St. Vincent's HealthCare sponsors Ortega River Run

The 38th annual Ortega River Run, considered a training run for the Gate River Run, was held at St. Mark's Episcopal Day School Feb. 27. Despite temperatures hovering around 40 degrees, over 1,400 men, women and children showed up to run the Grand Prix-sanctioned race, which benefits the financial aid and scholarship program at the school. Title sponsor was St. Vincent's HealthCare.

The benefit run began in 1978 when six men, dedicated to the mission of St. Mark's Episcopal Day School, organized a 5-mile race and a 1-mile novice run. Around 1,500 runners participated that year and Mike Yarbrough won with a time of 26:33. This year's winner was Tyler O'Brien, 21, with a time of 25:11.



FOCUS Therapy's Scott and Eliza Crawley



Russell and Marcela Beard, Russell (#2039), William (#2038) and Virginia



Brianna Delet, Reilly Shapiro, Bella Bryan, Ella Ogletree, students at St. Mark's Episcopal Day School, sang the National Anthem prior to the start of the Ortega River Run.



Sophie Busker, Annie Afflick, Bella McQuade, Sarah Magevney, and Abby Magenvney couldn't resist the powdered sugar doughnuts.



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New 'reverse inclusion' club at St. Johns County Day School

The first meeting of The Spartan Scene Club took place at St. Johns County Day School on Jan. 30, according to freshman Danielle Fetner. "Ten students from the North Florida School of Special Education and nine St. Johns students joined together to have fun and sing songs," she said.

The purpose of this new club is to give kids with Down syndrome, autism, and other developmental challenges a chance to spend time with kids from St. Johns Country Day School and to be a part of a drama club while making new friends.

"This process is called reverse inclusion," Fetner said. "The day was an amazing success and both groups of kids blended together to create a special afternoon. We all had so much fun singing, playing games, and even a little rapping."



Students from North Florida School of Special Education join drama students from St. Johns Country Day School in a new club.

Jr. Residents

Child's Day Out mixes fun with learning

Dr. Jila Mahajan, Kids First Dentistry, visited CDO (Child's Day Out) to talk to the children about dental health and teach them that establishing a good oral health routine at an early age will help maintain beautiful smiles for a lifetime.



Youth brightens seniors hearts with Valentines



Lucrezia Gowdy, Bea Croft and Adrienne Logue from the American Heritage Girls troop visited residents at Riverside Presbyterian House on Feb. 13, delivering handmade Valentines and playing Bingo with the seniors.

RPDS student to take state geography bee test

Riverside Presbyterian Day School 4th, 5th, and 6th Grade students recently participated in the National Geographic Geography Bee. In the final round of competition, Thomas Gibbs outlasted Collin Poe by answering the following question correctly, "Yellowstone National Park is located in Wyoming, Montana, and which other state?"

By providing the correct answer of Idaho, Gibbs now moves closer to winning a \$50,000 college scholarship and will try to advance to the national finals by completing the state test.



Top Geographers Thomas Gibbs and Collin Poe



Olivia Raker and Amelia Williams take a little break during Breakfast at CDO, an annual family affair where parent volunteers make a delicious breakfast and enjoy a special time with the teachers and their children. "Bringing families together is a primary focus at CDO and we take every opportunity to be creative and come up with ways to accomplish that," said Cindy Lawrence, director.

Bolles beats Providence in overtime

At the Independent Middle School Conference (IMSC) Championship game Jan. 29 at The Bolles School Bartram Campus, the eighth grade boys' basketball team beat Providence School of Jacksonville by one point in overtime. Bolles won the championship in 2015 also. Other schools in the IMSC include Trinity Christian School, Episcopal School of Jacksonville, Christ's Church Academy, St. John's Country Day School, and Eagle's View.



Simon Brackin, Justin O'Leary, Ross Candelino, Grant Shepherd, Bobby Crouch, Richie Rosenblum, Henry Li, Liu Rothschild, Charlie Bernhardt, Chris Commander, Nolan Zaepfel, Chance Moore, Dawson Carpenter, Ethan Strickland, Trey Zaccour, Jeremiah Johnson, Head Coach Sean Mullings, Asst. Coach Andrew.

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Budding gardeners may be budding birders

Hoping to inspire budding ornithologists, the Garden Club of Jacksonville's Garden Divas Circle sponsored a Budding Gardeners camp called "Our Fine-Feathered Friends."

The program, held Feb. 6, offered 14 young participants four learning stations. The outdoor station taught campers how to use binoculars and identify birds. One of three stations inside was nest making, placing dog hair, yarn, Spanish moss and feathers into a mesh bag. At another station, campers made suet cakes and each took home a cage for their suet. The last station was an art project involving a bird-themed Valentine's card.

The youth were encouraged to participate in the annual Great Backyard Bird Count, Feb. 12-15. Presenter Connie Long showed pictures of her favorite backyard birds and shared some of their bird songs and habits.

The Budding Gardeners' next camp will be Saturday, May 7, 10 a.m. at the Garden Club, sponsored by the San Marco Circle. Campers will learn about butterflies and make a gift for Mother's Day. For more information, contact Aline Clement at alineoclem-ent@comcast.net or call (904) 251-3353.



Abigail Maierhoffer and Josie Dinkins use binoculars to identify birds at the Garden Club.



Dru Verge at the nest-making station



Nickolas Hardman makes a valentine with Jayne Maierhoff.

Five from St. Paul's joins Honors Choir



St. Paul's Catholic School was the only Riverside school which participated in the annual Jacksonville Children's Chorus Honors Choir. Kayla Shanks, Carolina Baldwin and Charleigh Kahler were among five from St. Paul's who joined the 13th Annual First Coast Honors Choir of 200 voices with guest conductor Christina Kalliaridou from Corfu, Greece.

Spelling champ goes to District Bee

The 2016 Riverside Presbyterian Day School Spelling Bee Champion, Grady Gillam (6th Grade), passed the written portion of the District Spelling Bee and participated in the Duval County District Oral Spelling Bee, where he tripped over the word 'conglomerate.' The school is proud of Gillam's showing and representation of RPDS.



Grady Gillam

Teen Art Contest deadline is March 30

Budding artists, age 12 to 18, are encouraged to enter The Jacksonville Public Library's Teen Art Contest through March 30. Accepted artwork will be exhibited in a show in the Main Library Teen Gallery in April.

Art will be judged for skill, originality and "WOW" factor. The winner receives a \$30 Reddi Arts gift certificate and a solo art show in the Teen Gallery in May. The winners will be announced at 5:30 p.m. during a reception in the Lounge @ 303 North at the Main Library on Art Walk night, Wednesday, April 6.

All mediums and forms of visual art accepted including photography, drawing, painting, illustration, and sculpture. Most sizes will be accepted with the possible exclusion of extremely large pieces. Submissions will be displayed at the discretion of the library. Entry forms can be obtained at any JPL location, where a maximum of three entries may be submitted.

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Bolles tracksters head to Ohio for indoor meet

Five members of the Bolles girls' track team competed at the MileSplit Scholastic Showcase Feb. 13 at the SPIRE Institute in Geneva, Ohio. The meet included elite high school runners from several states and Canada.

Suzanne Dannheim of Ortega joined her teammates Ally Hajda, Rachel Shapiro, Mackenzie Wilson, Brittany Wilkinson and Coach Tony Ryan at the indoor meet.

Hajda finished 10th with a time of 5:08.76 in heat one of the 1600-meter race. Racing in heat two were Shapiro, who finished 16th in 5:12.22 and Dannheim who placed 19th in 5:15.45.

Wilson and Wilkinson competed in heat one of the 3200-meter race. Wilson was 10th in 11:13.37, while Wilkinson came in 20th in 11:49.79.

Hajda, Shapiro, Wilson and Dannheim placed third in the 4 X 800-meter relay, an event Bolles has won in recent state meets.

Earlier in the year, Bolles female distance runners finished the cross country season where the team won its fourth consecutive state title.



Rachel Shapiro, Mackenzie Wilson, Suzanne Dannheim, Ally Hajda, Brittany Wilkinson and Coach Tony Ryan (Photo courtesy of Sue Hajda)

Jr. Residents

Will the real Charlotte Nolan please stand up?



Honorable Mention



Charlotte Nolan was one of two Honorable Mentions in the Junior Resident's portion of *Why I Love My Neighborhood* contest in February. A fifth-grade student at Riverside Presbyterian Day School, Charlotte's poem was inadvertently submitted under her sister's name. English teacher Fran Wulbern has taught both girls at RPDS and Charlotte's mother, Dana Nolan, said "We have been lucky for our two kids to have been taught by Mrs. Wulbern."

Talent on display at annual school art show



Gavin Horst, 5th grade

Parents of St. Matthew's Catholic School were proudly led through rows of framed and matted artwork on exhibit at the annual art show Feb. 4, stopping to admire the artistic efforts of their sons and daughters.

Under the instruction of art teacher Kathy Strandes, students designed pieces to meet the Diocese of St. Augustine Art Standards and grade level skills, and to use diverse art media. Although no set theme was presented throughout the art show, the exhibit shared the talents of each grade level and the students' exposure to art history and specific artists.

All kindergarten through eighth grade students enrolled at St. Matthew's Catholic School participated in the show with three pieces of artwork.

100 days of school celebrated at Central Riverside

Students and faculty at Central Riverside Elementary School chased away winter doldrums by celebrating the 100th day of school in costume. With no disrespect intended, participants traversed the halls with canes and walkers, perhaps borrowed from grandparents or elderly relatives. Every year students look forward to commemorating this academic milestone as there remains just 90 more days in the school year.



Deaf and hard of hearing students Zion Mendez, Jamorian Scott and Faith Ward dress up for Central Riverside Elementary School's 100th Day of School.

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Jr. Residents

Bolles runners qualify to compete in New York City

Several Bolles runners competed at two different national indoor track meets. Entry into both meets required the runners to register times within elite qualifications.

Chase Rivera of San Jose and Charles Hicks of Ortega, both freshmen at The Bolles School, qualified to compete in the freshman mile at the New Balance Nationals indoor track meet, to be held March 11-13 in New York City.

Both runners posted qualifying times at the Jimmy Carnes indoor meet in Gainesville Feb. 6. Rivera placed seventh in the mile with a time of 4:32. Hicks placed eighth in 4:33.



Charles Hicks and Chase Rivera on the cross-country trail earlier this year.

Main Street parade adds color to Springfield

Assisted by University of North Florida Kappa Delta sorority and Alpha Tau Omega fraternity members, dozens of children at the Sanctuary on 8th Street paraded on Main Street in Springfield dressed in colorful Mardi Gras costumes.

Led by trumpeter Emmanuel Orr, a sixth grade student at LaVilla School of the Arts, the boys and girls walked three blocks to a Popeye's fast food restaurant for a treat before returning to the Sanctuary for tutoring. The parade, in its fourth year, was again

organized and led by Liz Adams and her daughter Louise, members of South Jacksonville Presbyterian Church, with an assist from Wendi Orr, director of Children's Ministry and Caleigh Bartlett, youth director.



Children at Sanctuary on 8th Street pose in Mardi Gras regalia before parading down Main Street.

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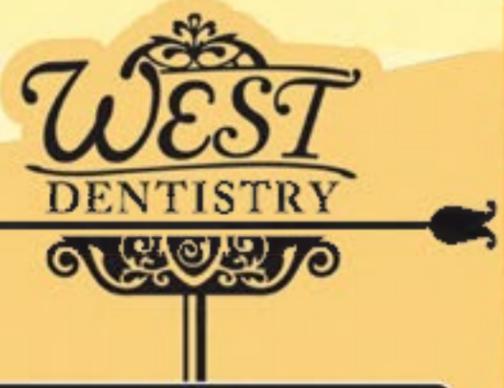
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