

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF COMMUNITY NEWS



Resident COMMUNITY NEWS Riverside - Avondale - Ortega - Murray Hill



Derby Day soiree delivers big brims, fascinators

Kris Kane, Mystic Revellers' Board Member Lorine Wilson, and Evelyn Edenfield enjoyed the Kentucky Derby in Avondale with dozens of Revellers at the home of Peter and Carol Blumeyer.

READ MORE, PAGE 24

Major gift given to Cummer Museum

The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens received a \$4 million gift to name and endow the position of Executive Director. The second largest gift to the Museum since it was established in 1961 comes from The Disosway Foundation of New York, established by Dudley D. Johnson, a Jacksonville native who currently serves as a trustee of the Museum. Johnson named the gift for his grandfather, George W. Gibbs, who was influential in the development of Jacksonville during the first half of the 20th century, and his grandmother, Kathleen I. Gibbs.



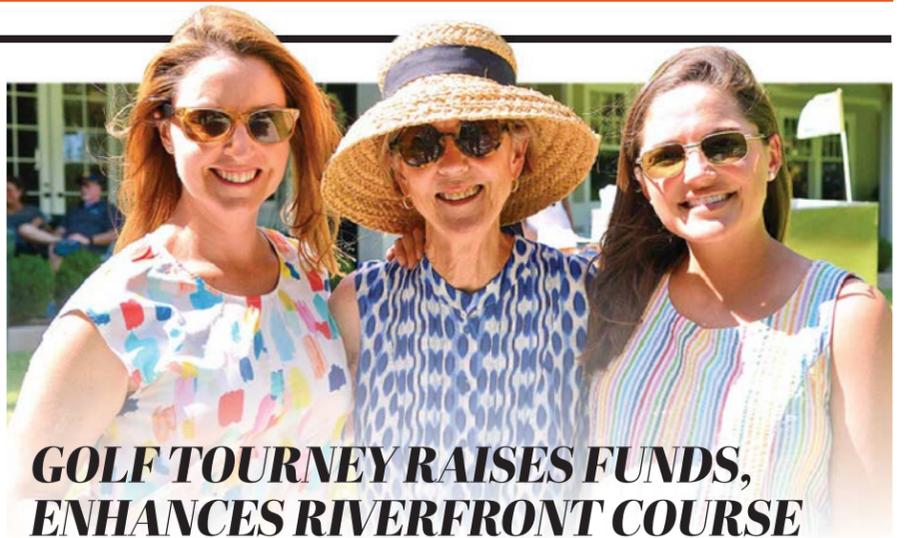
'TAKE ME TO THE RIVER' WAS THEME FOR CASUAL GALA

Hearing problems have no boundaries, so it's no surprise supporters come from across all industries and professions to raise much-needed funds for the Jacksonville Speech and Hearing Center. READ MORE, PAGE 26

Event Chairs Tom and Kathy VanOsdol, with Honorary Co-Chair, JU Alum and NBA Legend Artis Gilmore, Jax Speech and Hearing Center President/ CEO Michael Howland, Honorary Co-Chair State Attorney Melissa Nelson and her husband, Jason Nelson.

FUTURE UNCERTAIN FOR SCHOOL NUMBER FOUR

After spending nearly a decade cleaning up the former Annie Lytle Elementary School to make it more attractive for potential redevelopers, the Annie Lytle Preservation Group is not sure if the latest development in the 100-year-old school's saga is positive. The building, but not the property which surrounds it, was recently purchased at a tax auction. Members of the nonprofit preservation group, which has been dedicated to hauling debris out by the wheelbarrow-full, have been operating under hold-harmless agreements with the previous owner, Tarpon IV LLC. They are not sure if this agreement will continue with the new owner, according to group leader Patsy Bryant. "We are still in the dark on whether we will be allowed to continue," she said. "We are not giving up." READ MORE, PAGE 5



GOLF TOURNEY RAISES FUNDS, ENHANCES RIVERFRONT COURSE

Kathleen and Anne Pajcic with Helen Nicholson were among dozens of golfers and supporters of Jacksonville Area Legal Aid who came out to enjoy the 5th annual fundraiser for JALA, sponsored by Pajcic & Pajcic. The May 20 event was split between two venues this year and guests had the option of boating from one course to the other. READ MORE, PAGE 35

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SCHOOL PARTNERS ENJOY PICNIC IN THE PARK

Friends of Stockton hosted Partners in the Park, a fundraising event for the students and families, staff and faculty, as well as local community and business sponsors, of John N.C. Stockton Elementary School May 20. A portion of sales from a variety of food trucks will support the school.

Pretty in pink, Sadie Hogan and Sadie Haynes stand in front of Michelle Groff, Tessa Rasch, Betty Hogan and Danielle Groff, seated on the Hogan family golf cart.



A PROPER PARTY FOR ART SCHOOL'S LEADING LADY

Philanthropists and friends Helen M. Lane and Betsy R. Lovett flank Jackie Cornelius at a party May 13 honoring her 47 years of "dedicated service and leadership to Duval County Public Schools upon the occasion of her retirement." Cornelius, however, will be active as executive director for the Douglas Anderson School of the Arts Foundation, and has been appointed to the City of Jacksonville Art in Public Places Committee, representing the Cultural Council. READ MORE, PAGE 42

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Ask Allison



Q I recently looked at a For Sale By Owner but felt uncomfortable doing business directly with the seller so I asked a realtor to assist me with the transaction. The seller was not willing to cooperate with (pay) my realtor even at 3% which I was shocked to hear. We discovered that the seller had a large water insurance claim on their house (\$50,000) that they did not disclose on the sellers property disclosure. What kind of Disclosure Laws apply to For Sale By Owner Properties?

The vast majority of For Sale By Owners will gladly co-op (pay) half of the normal 6% commission to a realtor who brings them a buyer. They wisely recognize that most buyers are working with realtors so this seller's attitude is very unusual.

A As it relates to legal disclosures, For Sale By Owners are absolutely held to the same disclosure laws that sellers working with Realtors and Brokers are. It's illegal to withhold information you know about your house that could impact the value of the house. A \$50,000 water claim is a big issue that absolutely should have been disclosed! There are a lot of necessary legal steps in the process of buying and selling a house so you are wise to enlist a realtor to help guide you through the process!

Email your questions to steilberg@comcast.net



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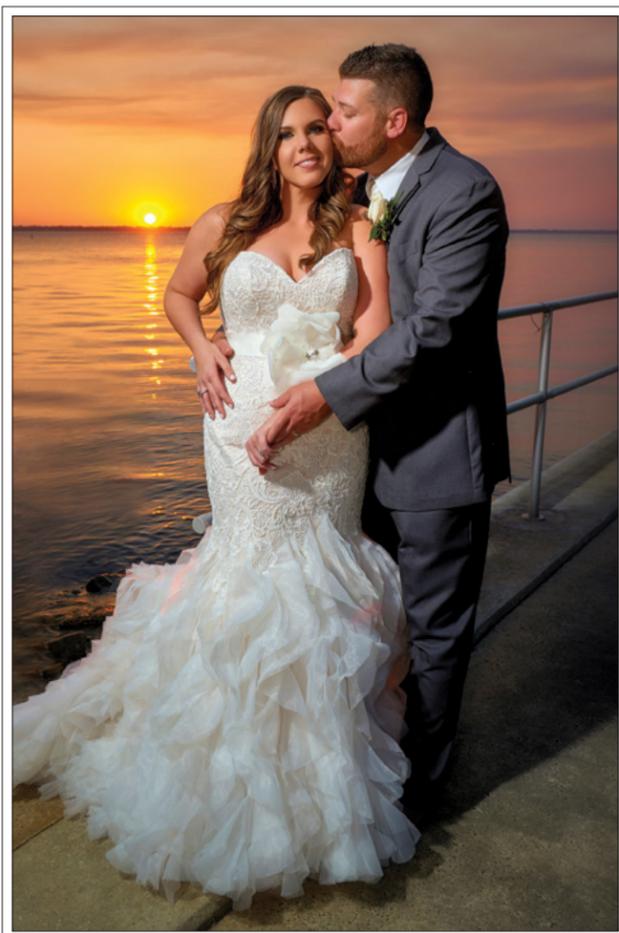


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Publishers' Note



photography by Dan Harris PhotoArt

Congratulations to Tarryn and Brandon Poling! A beautiful evening greeted our guests along the banks of the St. Johns River at Epping Forest Yacht and Country Club as we celebrated a milestone – our daughter's wedding. Close friends and family members gathered for the special day, May 7.

Tarryn Lee Bradford, our daughter, and longtime staff member at *The Resident*, married the love of her life – Brandon Ryan Poling. We welcomed Brandon as our son-in-law, as the Polings welcomed Tarryn into their family.

Elizabeth Slade was the Maid of Honor and Brandon's brother Shawn Poling was the Best Man. Longtime family friend Fred Isaac, a Lay Eucharistic Minister, officiated the ceremony and blessed our family with an outstanding service and vows for the newlyweds.

Tarryn and Brandon both grew up in Ponte Vedra Beach and attended Nease High School only a few years apart. Having never met in high school, the newlyweds met years later at the wedding of mutual friends and were engaged shortly thereafter.

We wish them a blessed, lifelong commitment to marriage and look forward to them raising a beautiful family.

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Handling of JSYO business leaves donors, students puzzled

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

For more than two decades, Scott Gregg, 51, has lifted the baton for thousands of young musicians – 2,250 to be exact – as principal conductor of the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestra.

Despite accolades from his students, Maestro Gregg, as he is called, was notified of his release from the JSYO just prior to his last concert of the season. Gregg was notified April 29 via email that his contract would not be renewed after 22 years of musical influence and impact.

The termination notice, impersonal or otherwise, struck a sour note with his current crop of students. According to Sammy Park, an English horn and oboe player since 2013, the email indicated Gregg would be retiring.

But Park, who immediately launched a petition on change.org to reinstate Gregg, indicated retirement was not on Gregg's mind. "Mr. Gregg told us the real story later that day," Park stated in the petition. "He had never planned on retiring after this concert."

The petition seeks for Gregg to continue as principal conductor of the JSYO and, as of May 30, 633 had signed the online petition.

However, according to the Jacksonville Symphony, the plan is to hire a third full-time conductor to be both principal conductor of the JSYO and work with the symphony, citing the need to have an additional qualified staff conductor.

The Resident reached out to Kathryn Rudolph, director of education and community engagement, for comment on the petition to reinstate Gregg. In response, *The Resident* received an email from Brian Aull, an attorney with Cole, Scott and Kissane, which represents

the Symphony. "The Symphony will not comment on this matter while it is under active investigation," he said.

Parents of the maestro's students don't understand the move. Abby Howard Murphy, whose son, Brendan, played with the youth orchestra for eight years, was also very much involved with the group, serving as guest actress and chaperone. Murphy said she is disappointed in symphony management.

"Until recently an ardent supporter of the JSO as a season ticket-holder, I am for the first time deeply disappointed in JSO management and pray Mr. Scott [Gregg] can continue his extraordinary leadership and expertise leading these fine young musicians professionally," she said in the online petition.

"It was always Scott's vision and devotion that made the orchestra program, and especially the two top tiers, 'world class' youth orchestras. Scott and his wife worked tirelessly getting corporate sponsorships, engaging parent volunteers, and identifying conductors for each level, keeping it a viable program," Murphy said in an email following the May 2016 Major-Minor concert. "I cannot imagine anyone else at the helm. Scott was brilliant and inspirational to so many kids who went on to study music seriously. He was credible as a great orchestra conductor and as a musician who still occasionally played violin."

Supporters of the JSYO are not happy about the termination, either. Pete Carpenter, who together with Jim Winston and Larry Zenk formed the JSYO in 1993, said this was not what you would expect from a place "where you go to feed your soul."

"Given what I know about Scott, I think the matter was very poorly handled. Having been around at the start of the youth symphony, I know how far he's taken it," said



Scott Gregg, principal conductor of the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestra, shakes the hand of the concertmaster after the Major-Minor concert in May 2016.

Carpenter. "We've been blown away by the progress he's made with the orchestra. It was a ragtag beginning, but Scott and his team were able to pull together a first-class performance. It's a major disappointment to have things handled in this manner."

Susan C. Masucci said Gregg's removal is a great loss for the JSYO.

"I think it's a very bad move on the part of the JSO to retire Scott," Masucci said. "The admiration, love and respect Scott has for his musicians and they for him is indescribable. Very sad for all involved and for our community."

Gregg and his wife, Camille, were candid about their heartbreak over the Symphony's action.

"I have been in this town for 22 years. My wife, Camille, has been in this town for 40 years. I met her at the symphony. If it were not for the symphony I would not be married," said Gregg. "We have pretty much known everybody in town for decades. It's not surprising that we have heard from many of them. They had no idea this had happened until they saw reports in the news and secondhand from the memo from the Symphony."

Although Gregg is under contract until the end of June, his last activity as JSYO principal conductor was the May 14 final concert.

"It was a complete blur," he recalled. "The kids were upset, but I wanted it to be a positive event as my last act and didn't want it to be marred by any protest."

At the very end of the concert, the members of the JSYO Philharmonic took roses they had stashed under their seats, marched to the podium and put them on the stand in front of Gregg. "That was an amazing gesture," he said.

Ironically, Camille Clement Gregg had recently established a scholarship fund in memory of her mother and launched it with nearly \$25,000 to provide \$1,000 each to the two annual winners of the concerto composition. She has concerns about the future disposition of the fund.

"I am insistent that the Symphony makes sure that every year I can give each winner a thousand dollars," said Camille, who has been a volunteer with the Symphony for decades, as well as Patron Services Manager. "My mom was always a very big donor to the JSYO; she always did that, and always sponsored retreats and would send money privately to kids who didn't have an instrument."



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Former Riverside grammar school sold for taxes again

Building achieves centennial status

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Once again, the Annie Lytle Elementary School on Gilmore and Chelsea Streets has been acquired in a tax certificate auction.

The building was purchased for \$106,800 in back taxes, according to the Duval County Clerk of the Courts, who was not able to divulge the name of the buyer.

The historic school, which is surrounded by fencing and barbed wire, went up for auction on May 17. Often violated by vandals sneaking inside to undo the progress made by the Annie Lytle Preservation Group, on May 18 it was two well-dressed men who sought to scale the fence securing the property around the former Riverside school.

The Ida Mae Stevens Foundation has owned the property surrounding the building since 1980, and access across the grounds to the school requires permission from Attorney Douglas Milne, who represents the Foundation.

Milne indicated the “vandals” were likely related to the acquisition of the former school, but did not know for certain. “A person we work with happened to see the men scaling the fence, and he said someone would get hurt. He tried to reach me and couldn’t, so he took it upon himself to cut the chain and open the gate for them,” said Milne. “Assuming they were who they appeared to be, why shouldn’t we help them?”

Indeed, Milne’s attitude about the new owner is one of cautious optimism. “My hope is they are reasonable and realistic people and we can see some type of cooperative effort with them,” he said.

The big unanswered question that always comes up with every wonderful idea is “how?” with a dollar sign, Milne said. “It’s incredibly, frighteningly expensive to consider how much it would cost to take an old building like that and make it new.” Milne said, adding Avondale architect Ted Pappas once told him it would cost about two-and-a-half times to renovate it as it would to build the same thing new.

Less than a week before the men were spotted on the fence, Riverside Avondale Preservation presented the Annie Lytle Preservation Group with a centennial medallion commemorating the former public school, Annie Lytle Elementary School, on Gilmore and Chelsea Streets.

The medallion, unfortunately, will not grace the front of the building because, as volunteer Patsy Bryant said, “If we affix the medallion to the building, it will be gone,” referring to vandalism.

Commemorating Historic Preservation Month last month, RAP staff and board members showed up on the May 13 work day to help continue the clearing out of 45 years of neglect.

“It’s in better shape now than it was when we first acquired it 35 years ago. The school board had ownership of it then and it was in a very distressed state,” said Milne. “For 50 years it’s been in a deteriorating mode, but the building is so substantial – the walls are 19 inches thick – the structure is sound and not penetrable. The question of what to do with it is one that has never gone away. There have been dozens of wonderful ideas.”

Ten years ago it was estimated it would take \$6 million to restore the Neo-classical brick building with Doric columns, but the latest “napkin quote,” according to ALPG member Paul Bremer, is closer to \$9 million.

When asked if the Foundation would ever consider selling the property around the old schoolhouse, Milne said “That’s not our intention, but it’s foolish to say anything is ‘never.’ We’ve been involved with it too long to have any considerations along those lines,” he said. “We want to protect the building as long as we can.”

The 44,000-square-foot school, Public School No. 4, was designed by architect Rutledge Holmes and constructed by the Florida Engineering and Construction Company out of concrete and steel in 1917, replacing a wood-frame school, which had been established on the site in 1891.

First known as Riverside Park Grammar School, the school was renamed after its principal, Annie Lytle Housh. The building ceased to function as an elementary school in 1960, then for 10 years served



Paul Bremer, Patsy Bryant, Tim Kinnear, Keith Holt, Adrienne Burke, and Annie Lytle Elementary School alumna Susan Davis at the May 13 Centennial Recognition event for the former public school.

as administrative offices for the Duval County Public School system.

Vacant since 1970, it was condemned in 1971, but the Ida Mae Stevens Foundation bought it in 1980 for \$168,000, with the intention of renovating the building for a senior citizens’ apartment complex, but federal funding programs for such projects were discontinued, making the project unfeasible.

In 2000, City Council approved a historic landmark designation, which included a freeze on property taxes for 10 years and, when the property is developed, the owner agrees to preserve the historic ambiance. In 2006, City Development Co. scrapped plans to buy the building, raze it and build a new 140-unit senior housing facility after City Council did not approve the developer’s request to tear it down.

As for the intentions of the newest owner of Public School No. 4, if they sought to demolish the building there are a number of hoops they would have to jump through.

“As a protected local historic landmark, anyone seeking to demolish the building would need to submit a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) application along with support documents for review by the Historic Preservation Section of the Planning and Development Department and Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission,” said Tia Ford, City of Jacksonville spokesperson. “The application would need to meet the criteria for demolition outlined in Chapter 307 of the Jacksonville Ordinance Code. It would only go to Land Use and Zoning and City Council if the COA application was denied and appealed to them.”



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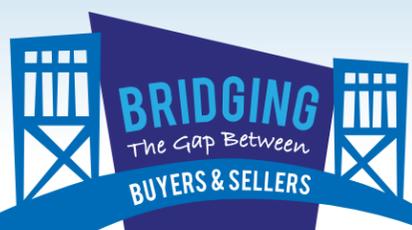
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Local preservation society donates funds to illuminate park

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Although some Ortega residents were in the dark about new lights being installed in Cortez Park, the illumination project, which was partially funded by the Ortega Preservation Society, has received mostly positive reviews by the community.

While objections came from a few residents who stated anonymously they preferred the “passive” nature of the park and said lighting would drive out night birds, others have expressed excitement over the lights as they often walk their dogs in the park at night.

“In no way to be unsympathetic to anyone that is opposed to the project, concern had been raised over the years by those that walk in the evenings as to how dark the park was,” said Harrison Conyers, a board member of the Ortega Preservation Society, via email.

According to City Spokesperson Tia Ford, the society donated \$11,000 toward the cost of the \$19,872 project. It was submitted to the City of Jacksonville approximately a year ago.

The project consists of four single-pole lights – matching the traditional lamp posts along Ortega Boulevard – to be installed along the sidewalk which bisects the circular park. According to Ford, they will be LED lights with a “soft” illumination. There will also be three small low-level bench lights installed next to each of the benches, Ford said.

The project began in mid-April and was completed about four weeks later.

This effort was not the first time the preservation group took an interest in restoring the historic community, which dates back to the time of the American Revolution, when Colonel Daniel McGirtt moved into the Jones Plantation and served with rebel troops in Georgia against the British.

“In 1999, we led a major enhancement project in Ortega Village, which was suffering from a severe case of urban blight,” said Dr. Richard Hardin, OPS president. “This cost about \$400,000. Councilman [James] Overton contributed \$100,000 in Renaissance bond money. OPS raised over \$60,000 and First Guaranty Bank matched up to \$50,000 of that \$60,000 that was raised. The remainder was given by the city and was from various in-kind contributions.”

The Village renovation was thought of as an extension of Cortez Park, said Hardin, noting they would have added period lighting in the park at that time, but because of lack of funds or resources, it was not done.

“With OPS having funds currently and no active projects, several board members thought that adding the lights to the park would finish off the project we had in the Village almost 20 years ago and would better serve the pedestrian traffic through the park



New lampposts were installed along the sidewalk in Cortez Park in Ortega.



Ground-level lighting was placed at benches in the farther reaches of Cortez Park.

on the sidewalk in the evening,” Hardin said. “The two tall street lights that light the park seemed inadequate and clearly do not fit the decor of the adjacent Village the way the new period lights will.

“This decision was not taken to the neighborhood because it was felt, after discussion with Parks & Recreation, that lighting would be improved without being too bright, and the park would better be tied to the Village with the period lights,” he said.

Cortez Park is one of four circular parks created in the early 1990s along what is now Baltic Street. The other three are Bettes Park (formerly Ponce de Leon Park), DeSoto Park, and Columbus Park.

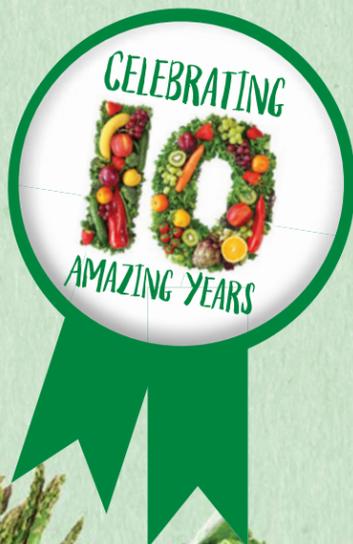
Conyers was instrumental in restoring Columbus Park 10 years ago when, as a board member of the Ortega Preservation Society, he directed the facelift. The park, which is seen by many as the front door to Old Ortega from U.S. 17/Roosevelt Boulevard, received curbing around its perimeter to prevent parking on the lawn, as well as a new sidewalk, benches, and decorative trash receptacles. In addition, a brick wall was erected at the entrance to denote Ortega as a National Historic District. At that time, the preservation society donated \$15,000 toward the \$45,000 project.



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Clarification

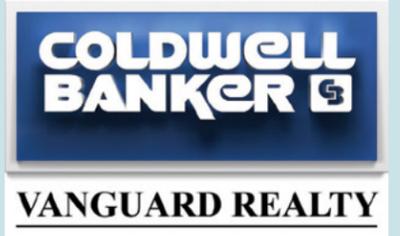
In an article about the April 5 TEDxJacksonville salon in The Resident's April 2017 issue, City Council President Lori Boyer was quoted as saying the St. Johns River was not conducive to kayaking. “I was not trying to communicate that you can't use non-motorized watercraft downtown. Of course you can,” Boyer clarified. “But for an inexperienced user it is better to locate those facilities slightly away from the Acosta-Main Street Bridge currents and further downstream or upstream, as the case may be.”

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Group denied on appeals, takes restaurant debate to Tallahassee

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Dissatisfied with a second ruling by a judge in the 4th Circuit Court, members of a Riverside neighborhood group opposed to having a restaurant put in at the location of a former dry cleaner near their homes is appealing to a higher court in Tallahassee.

Almost a year after City Council enacted a bill that will permit two local developers to build The Roost, a restaurant and bar proposed for 2224-2242 Oak Street, Judge Kevin Blazs of the 4th Circuit Court ruled against Positive Riverside Optimized Urban Development (PROUD) for the second time.

On Dec. 22, 2016 Blazs first dismissed PROUD's initial appeal against City Council's approval of the bill. Blazs had initially denied PROUD's appeal on the basis that the Rules of the City Council were not consistent with the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The jurisdictional motion filed by The Roost's attorney, Paul Harden, stated the 30-day countdown to file the appeal began on May 24, 2016 when the bill was enacted, not on the June 20 postmark when the notice of City Council's approval was mailed to all residents within 350 feet of the site.

Believing the rendition date – that is, the date which starts the clock ticking to file an appeal – to be June 20, 2016, PROUD's attorney, Barry Bobek, filed the original appeal July 25, 2016, which

was 60 days after City Council enacted the ordinance on May 24, 2016. However, appeals must be filed within 30 days.

After the Dec. 22, 2016 denial of the appeal, PROUD filed a motion regarding the rendition date of the May 24, 2016 City Council decision to approve the PUD.

On May 3, Blazs dismissed an appeal by PROUD against his December 2016 motion.

Blazs' recent dismissal means PROUD is taking the matter before the Florida First District Court of Appeal in Tallahassee, but the delay doesn't faze the developers, who began the project nearly two years ago.

"We are committed to that location and are excited to open in that neighborhood," said Roost co-developer Ted Stein. "We've had so many people behind us, we want to fulfill their trust in us. They've been behind us for so long."

The Roost is planned for 150 seats, outdoor seating and late night hours. Although parking will be provided onsite, nearby neighbors are afraid it won't be adequate for the customers. They are also concerned about noise and lights until the restaurant closes at 11 p.m. during the week and midnight on the weekend.

Stein stated that no matter how long the process takes, he and partner J.C. Demetree will open a restaurant at that location. In the meantime, they are developing a similar restaurant in Miramar called The Local.



Class Action was partially hoisted from the Ortega River before it was determined its weight was too much for the crane.

Derelict vessel removed, difficult operation completed

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

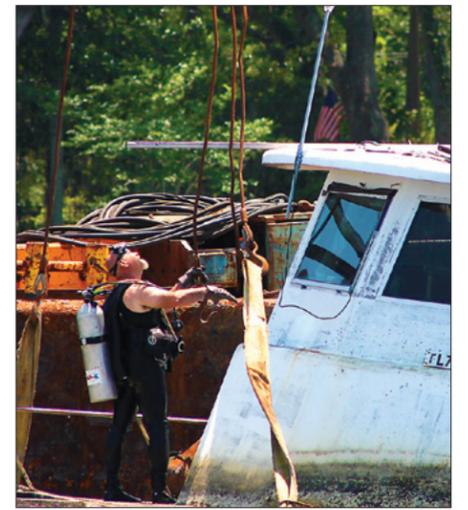
In seven hours – spread over two days – the deed was done. *Class Action* was unceremoniously exhumed from her watery grave in the Ortega River May 11-12 and toted away in pieces on a barge.

The operation began around 12:30 p.m. on May 11, as a barge operated by Salonen Marine towed a crane to a site in the Ortega River between the drawbridge and U.S. 17. After a diver slung straps under the hull in two places, the crane operator began to hoist the derelict boat from the water, but the operation was halted around 3 p.m. when it was determined the weight of the boat was too much for the crane.

The marine contractor, and the City of Jacksonville, were under the gun to get the submerged 51-foot motor vessel removed. "It has to be gone by the middle of May so the city can request reimbursement from FWC (Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission)," said Captain Jim Suber of Suber Marine Services Inc. and also City Waterways Coordinator.

The \$16,000 project was partially funded by the FWC, which granted the City \$12,000 for the removal of *Class Action*.

Class Action had been moored in the Ortega River since sometime in 2014 but in June 2016 when its operator was leaving the harbor, it lost power and took on water. Despite



A diver, working for marine contractor Salonen Marine, guides a hook onto a strap around the hull of *Class Action*.

bailing attempts, the boat sank within eyesight of homes on McGirts Boulevard. It was declared "Derelict and Not a Hazard to Navigation" in July 2016, thus initiating the process to obtain funds to remove it.

According to Suber, in addition to pumping out mud, on May 12 the contractor had to offload furniture and fixtures by hand to lighten the load. When the crane finally pulled the boat from the river, it broke apart and one of the two engines dropped off.

Finally, by noon, all the pieces that once were *Class Action* were on the barge and on the way out of the Ortega harbor.

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New playground coming for Murray Hill children

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Thanks to the efforts of a few Murray Hill residents who petitioned District 14 Councilman Jim Love for “equal time” when it comes to playgrounds, parents with young children will now have a safe, close place to take their youngsters.

For the past 10 years, Nathan and Candace White have lived a block from Four Corners Park in Murray Hill. The passive park has four quadrants created by the intersection of Lawnview Street and Lamboll Avenue. It has been the site of the annual Very Murray Christmas community picnic hosted by the Murray Hill Preservation Association.

After the Whites’ two children came along, beginning five years ago, they began taking their children to play at the Murray Hill Playground, but found that it was overcrowded.

“The neighborhood is growing,” said Candace White. “More young families are moving in, so we should have a park within walking distance.”

Additionally, Murray Hill Park, located on Kingsbury Avenue, is at least a 20-minute

walk requiring crossing at Post Street, which some residents consider dangerous.

“It is simply unsafe for any child to cross this very busy street alone,” said Jessica Zercher, in an email to Councilman Love. “I honestly feel intimidated as an adult crossing this street as the cars speed and do not stop for pedestrian cross walks.”

Zercher is one of several Murray Hill residents who wrote to Love over a year ago expressing a desire for a small playground. “I have always thought a small playground in this park would be a great way to give children a safe place to play together,” she wrote. “There is no doubt a playground will also help residents get to know our neighbors while giving our community more of a small-town feel.”

Residents met with Keith Meyerl, chief, recreation programming of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, in May 2016, at which time they indicated a preference for a small playground in a design that would fit in with the heavily wooded nature of the park.

Stacy Moseley, the Kompan representative who has worked with several community groups and schools in playground



Rendering of the proposed Kompan playground for a section of Four Corners Park in Murray Hill

renovations, submitted a proposal to include relocating the slide from Boone Park, which was saved when that park’s playground was renovated last year.

“The material selected for this playground is Robinia, which is a hardwood with a 15-year warranty,” said Moseley in an email. “It will blend beautifully with the wooded landscape of Murray Hill’s Four Corners area.”

White, who has been the community representative on the project, said she has only received great feedback about the proposed playground to be located in the northeast quadrant of the park. “It will build a sense of community,” she said.

The estimated cost of the playground is \$60,000, which was funded by District 14 bond funds. It is due to be installed early this summer.

Baker Point Park erosion resolved

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Nearly four months after reporting an issue with erosion along the bulkhead at Baker Point Park on San Juan Avenue, the City of Jacksonville Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department is closing the books on the repair.

Back in June 2015, the City replaced 4.4 miles of seawall, including the portion along the Ortega River at the park. In late summer 2016, nearby residents noticed erosion had occurred at the juncture of the new seawall and a concrete retaining wall, which runs parallel to San Juan Avenue.



A concrete spillway was installed to deter future erosion.

After repeated emails and phone calls to the City, Ronald and Carol Easter contacted *The Resident* in December, hoping to alert other residents of the potential danger. “That hole is very dangerous and if a child falls in it, the city is in for a big lawsuit,” said Carol Easter.

In early April, Parks, Recreation and Community Services filled the hole with

stones and then over-filled it with dirt to allow for settling, before re-sodding the area.

Concurrently, Public Works performed routine maintenance to repair an eroded area adjacent to a section of the sidewalk a short distance east of the bulkhead.

“Maintenance force-filled the eroded area and poured in place a short section of curb along the sidewalk, which included a concrete spillway to deter/control

additional erosion from re-occurring,” said Tia Ford, City spokesperson. “It is believed that storm water from the bridge run-off along the sidewalk contributed to the initial erosion.”

Although the bulkhead hole repair was initially expected to be completed by early February, the project was done in April. Total cost of both the bulkhead erosion and the new spillway was \$3,149.52.

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Developer appeals Historic Preservation Commission ruling

Saved from the wrecking ball twice, home's fate comes up again

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Builder/remodeler John Wells, owner of Classic American Building and Remodeling, Inc. is appealing a March 22 decision by the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission to save a house at 1423 Rensselaer Ave. in Avondale from demolition.

After the Planning and Development Department denied John Wells' request to demolish the (at minimum) 86-year-old, 477-square-foot house, the builder/remodeler appealed to JHPC to uphold his request.

Wells indicated out-of-town property owner Daina Berlin had approached him with the desire to raze the building and rebuild a new single-family residence. Although not in danger of collapsing, the house does need to be re-leveled and significant repairs made, but Berlin does not have the desire or wherewithal to renovate it, according to Wells.

"Any renovation of this shack would include a complete gutting of the interior, including the wood floors," Wells said in his application for demolition, estimating renovation would cost \$55,000 for the project.

The historic commission was not swayed, and unanimously voted to deny the application for demolition. Wells indicated Berlin would seek whatever remedies were available, including legal action against

the City of Jacksonville. Currently, a public hearing before the Land Use and Zoning Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, June 6 at City Hall.

"Tearing this house down and building a historically compatible new single family residence is a win/win for everyone concerned," Wells stated in his application. "The owner gets a reasonable return and out of the nightmare that this house has been to her. The City gets about three or four times the property taxes on an infill lot."

Age and origin in question

Although the planning staff report noted the one-story Frame Vernacular-style residence was built in 1931, the walls suggest otherwise. In fact, at least one person in the restoration and carpentry business felt it had been built sometime between 1900 and 1920, then moved to Avondale in 1931.

Historic building specialist Angel Corrales, owner of American Window Preservation LLC, toured the home prior to the hearing with Adrienne Burke, executive director of Riverside Avondale Preservation. He said the interior gave him the first clue.

"I had limited time to view but from what I saw it seemed that the interior, which is tongue and groove bead board, was used for all interior walls instead of plaster," Corrales said. "One reason for this could have been cost, but I normally see this in houses built prior to the 1920s, common in Fernandina, especially for that size structure."

The exterior of the house gave Corrales another clue to its age.

"The siding that we see from the street seems to have been placed on top of another



The house on Rensselaer Avenue came under scrutiny for demolition.

siding," said Corrales. "It appears that it has board and batten siding underneath, which is also a hint that this house could be of earlier construction than 1931, maybe 1900s to 1920s. Board and batten, very common in barns, was a way to make the house a little more airtight."

Corrales noted that if he had the time and permission to peek beneath the walls to look at the framing, it could have provided

another clue. "If it is determined that it is balloon framing, then it would for sure tell us that it's from the 1900s," he said.

The structure is listed as a contributing property in the historic district, which is one qualification to prevent demolition. However, in an email to Joel McEachin, JHPC supervisor, Wells contended since the house was not

Continued on page 11

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“site built,” it should not be considered a historically contributing property in the Riverside Avondale Historic District.

McEachin said the 1931 date in the Property Appraiser record card probably does refer to the date of relocation, not construction.

“Neighbors have shared information about the possible historic use of this structure, which I personally did not have time to work on validating, but it raises enough questions that the property should have some further research,” said Burke. “It does appear on the Sanborn map as early as 1924, predating the 1931 estimate.”

Clues for a former purpose

Another argument floated against demolition was that the house may have been a school for African-American children, either in Springfield or on the Northside, but the City has no documentation to substantiate the claim.

Robert and Tammy Stomfay-Stitz, who moved next door in 2000, indicated several elderly homeowners in the area, who have since passed away, had mentioned the use of the structure as a schoolhouse. “I was also told the story by a retired police officer who lived a block away,” said Rob Stomfay-Stitz in an email to McEachin.

In the past 17 years, the couple has seen six different tenants in the house, including singles, couples, and a retired military veteran with two boys. Mike and Denise Buda, tenants in 2013, shared a few more clues about the rumored schoolhouse.

In an email to JHPC, Denise Buda said the structure has striking similarities to the 1898 one-room St. Joseph’s Mission Schoolhouse for African-American Children at the Walter Jones Historical Park in Mandarin. “Similarities between the two include the windows, door windows, and



Interior showing bathroom added to bedroom in 1951



Walls and ceilings made of bead board

latches on the windows,” she said. Also, the front entrance awning on the structure at Rensselaer is the same as the single-room 1916 Arlington Eggleston School, Buda said.

According to Wells, the building originally did not have indoor plumbing or a kitchen. After it was moved to Avondale, a bathroom was added in the 1950s. There is no duct-work for air-conditioning; two wall units provide the only relief from hot Jacksonville summers.

The house also did not have an original fireplace or chimney, said Corrales. “If it was added later it would have had to be a wood-burning stove, however, there were no signs of a tile or stone base on which the stove would need to have been set on.”

The lack of plumbing and heating may support Wells’ contention it was never meant to be a single-family home, but perhaps was a military type barrack or bunkhouse, and likely moved to Avondale “because it was cheap or free.”

But Denise Buda disputes the claim it was a bunkhouse. “I have military experience and grew up around bases, and I would say after having lived there that it probably was not a bunkhouse. There are too many big

windows in such a small space for it to be a place to retire to for sleep,” she said. “I don’t think you would see a double window in a bunkhouse, either. Also, the size is wrong – it’s too small for a wooden bunkhouse for soldiers.”

The Budas’ year-long experiment with living “small” to save money proved to be an exercise in survival. No matter how much heat they used, Denise Buda said they nearly froze to death and still had high electric bills for such a small space.

“Although we loved the house and the history it represented, we counted the days until our rental agreement was up,” she said. “We tried to have a sense of humor about it in the meantime.”

RAP encouraged the JHPC to vote against demolition, citing the integrity of the contributing structure alone was worth saving it.

“The very size of the property also makes it historically unique,” said Burke.

A cursory review of adjacent buildings notes the next smallest property in the vicinity is 606 square feet, and there is a range from 606 to 945 square feet in the surrounding block, she said.



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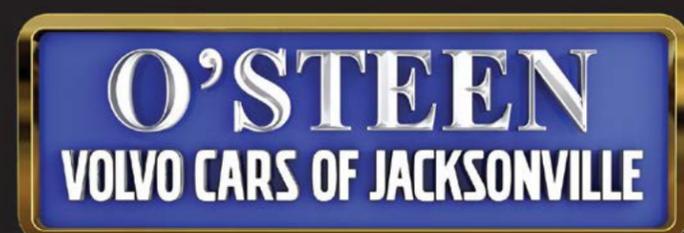
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City Council approves REV grant for Bishopgate riverwalk

Boyer shares plans for more active river lifestyle

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

When TriBridge Residential of Atlanta received Jacksonville City Council approval Feb. 28 to rezone two parcels on Bishopgate Lane for the purposes of building a new 125-unit apartment complex in Riverside, the bill for the planned unit development was passed with a contingency for an improved riverwalk behind the building, a neighborhood amenity sought by Riverside Avondale Preservation.

Provisions for paving, hardscaping, landscaping, lighting and street furniture for the 15-foot-wide easement were contingent upon TriBridge Residential obtaining a “substantial” Residential Recapture Enhanced Value (REV) grant. On April 11, Council President Lori Boyer introduced a new bill, 2017-0284, to authorize a property tax rebate in the form of the grant.

City Council approved the REV grant of \$810,610 on May 9. The bill also waives provisions of the Procurement Code in order to allow the developer – rather than bid the project – to construct the entirety of the 350-foot-long riverwalk, which will include amenities as approved by the City.

The project will be overseen by the City’s Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services.

The Bishopgate Riverwalk will be accessible to the public. The planned unit development indicated at least five parking spaces in the development’s parking garage would be allocated for public use in connection with the riverwalk.

The approval of the REV grant for the construction of the riverwalk behind the proposed apartment complex marks another step toward Boyer’s desire to see river access expanded on both banks of the St. Johns River.

At a public meeting at City Hall May 8, Boyer gave an update on plans to make

the St. Johns River more approachable. During her term as Council president, Boyer brought together a variety of committees and city and state departments to study the issue of the “stagnant” river lifestyle in Jacksonville and to change it.

Thanks to Boyer’s tenacity, the Parks and Recreation Department is exploring installation of up to 10 interactive kiosks along the river, providing information about the adjacent neighborhood; three Council subcommittees are studying new opportunities for activities on or near the river; the Florida Department of Transportation is coordinating with the City and bicycle/pedestrian advocacy groups to add new walking and biking paths.



Residents getting restless for new Loop restaurant

Shortly after The Loop erected signage along Lakeside Drive, some one questioned the veracity of the “Coming Soon” statement.

Although the corporate offices of The Loop restaurant had high hopes for opening its new Avondale location this spring, due to the unique design and location of the building on Lakeside Drive just east of Roosevelt Boulevard the permitting process had taken long than anticipated, according to a company spokesperson. River city Construction Group began the build-out the end of May. A grand opening could occur mid to late August, the spokesperson stated.

Local museum hosts CMT film crew

Civil War reenactor speaks at May program

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

A local, somewhat unknown museum was the setting for portions of a CMT (Country Music Television) documentary on the Lynyrd Skynyrd Band, which has its roots in Riverside.

The G. Howard Bryan Museum of Southern History, located at 4304 Herschel St., was host to a crew March 17, who were on site to film a guided tour of the museum.

The documentary film about the music and legacy of Lynyrd Skynyrd will focus on the life and times of Ronnie Van Zant and the early days of the band.

According to CMT’s website, the film is a story of “front man Ronnie Van Zant, his upbringing, his roots, his work ethic and his contradictory persona as both as a mythic Southern Rock poet and notorious boozed-up brawler.”

As most locals know, the band’s name was a mock tribute to a Robert E. Lee High School teacher, Leonard Skinner, who allegedly disapproved of long hair on male students.

The tour of the museum provided the CMT film crew insight regarding the depth of feelings many Floridians have about the unique lifestyle and culture of the Antebellum South – often misunderstood and misrepresented, according to the museum’s website – in the events leading up to the Civil War.

The Museum of Southern History was established in 1975 by the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Kirby Smith Camp 1209. The current location was opened in 1994 and includes a library of over 6,000 volumes written during and relating to the War Between the States era, as well as exhibits of portraits, flags, uniforms and firearms from the 19th century.

One of the flags in the collection is purported to be one of three which draped President Abraham Lincoln’s casket when it was on display in Independence Hall.

Each month the museum offers a program or guest speaker. On May 2, Leah Oxendine, a 21-year-old author and Civil War reenactor from Ocala, discussed her novel, “The Rebels of Florida,” which she began writing at the age of 11. Oxendine plays nine instruments, including the dulcimer, an instrument of the Civil War era.

On June 6, at 7 p.m., the museum has invited Noah Gengler, a member of the



Author Leah Oxendine and Ben Willingham, president of the Museum of Southern History

Civil War Roundtable of North Florida, to speak about Confederate efforts to invade the west, particularly New Mexico.

The museum is generally open Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. To arrange for a tour of the museum, contact museumsouthernhistory@gmail.com.



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Restaurateurs use rooftop, increase options in Riverside



The rooftop of the nine-story Summit Tower at Riverside Avenue and Post Street will soon be home to a new restaurant and bar, River & Post.

New rooftop bar fifth to open in Riverside area

By *Kate A. Hallock*
Resident Community News

Whether it's a sidewalk café or a rooftop bar, Jacksonville restaurant patrons love open-air dining.

In 5 Points, residents have long enjoyed sipping and supping outdoors at Mossfire Grill's intimate four-table rooftop dining or the sunset-laden rooftop bar at the Black Sheep.

Just in the past year and a half, diners have added to their list of "eagle's nest" eateries the Burrito Gallery in Brooklyn Station and Hoptinger Bier Garden and Sausage House in 5 Points. Coming this fall, yet another rooftop will offer diners and drinkers spectacular views of the St. Johns River.

After signing the construction contract in early April, partners Jeff McCusker and Bob Fleckenstein began the process to convert the ground floor at 1000 Riverside Ave. to a 233-seat dining room plus outdoor dining for 48, but the pièce de résistance will be the ninth-floor bar with 122 seats outside and 32 inside.

"The first time I visited the building, I thought 'Wow, this is a wonderful location

for a restaurant," said McCusker, who is the managing partner. "The rooftop view really makes you appreciate Jacksonville."

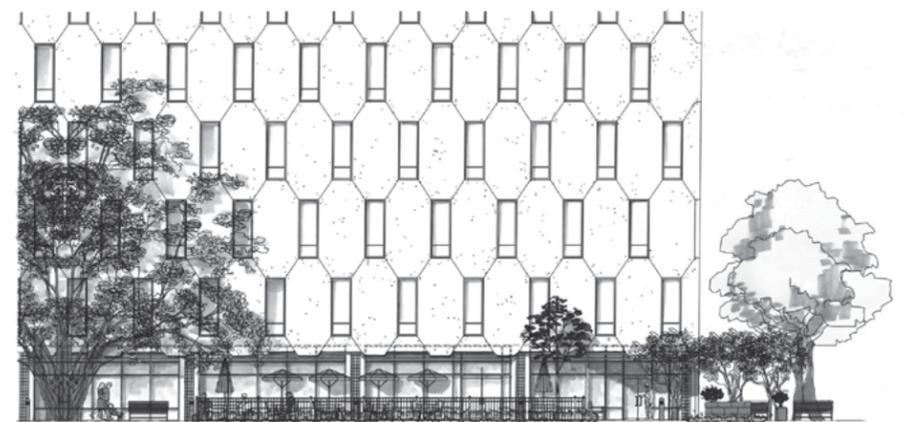
The project began when Padgett Premiere Properties, LLC received City Council approval Feb. 28 for its rezoning application of the nine-story Summit Tower to allow retail usage in the office tower.

With little opposition during public hearings, the application was granted with a minimum of conditions. The City of Jacksonville Planning and Development Department requested the 60-space parking lot across Post Street be landscaped with a continuous evergreen hedge along the Post Street and Riverside Avenue sides of the lot, reaching a height of two to three feet within three years.

Additionally, the planning staff indicated the application did not present evidence of a need for excessive signage, and recommended additional signage of two 575-square-foot wall signs and a 60-square-foot blade sign be deleted from the written description.

McCusker indicated he and Fleckenstein, who is the financial partner, will share with the building owner the cost of the parking lot landscaping.

The construction is approximately 20 percent complete, according to McCusker, who is hoping for a late September/early October opening.



Riverside Avenue view of outdoor seating at River & Post.



Post Street side of future ground-floor restaurant in the Summit Tower.

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Westside Business Leaders celebrate 40 Years, provide scholarships

The Honorable John Rutherford, Florida District 4 Congressman, was the keynote speaker at the 40th anniversary celebration of the Westside Business Leaders Association May 11 at the Timuquana Country Club.

"I always have an appreciation and admiration for my Westside and I'm proud to be representing the folks of Northeast Florida," said Rutherford.

The local business association, which promotes high school education for Westside students, continued its tradition of presenting scholarships to graduating seniors on the Westside. To date, the organization has given away more than \$150,000 in college scholarships, raised through an annual golf tournament.

Rutherford said the WBLA took up the issue of education for youth back in 1977, and noted there is an inverse relationship between the level of education to the level of crime.

Duval County Public Schools Board Member Becki Couch awarded nine scholarships to students from Baldwin High School, Eagles View Academy, Frank H. Peterson High School, Old Plank Christian Academy, Potters House, and Trinity Christian Academy. They also renewed two scholarships for students attending the University of Florida and Palm Beach University.

Additionally, seven businesses were recognized for having been in operation for at least 40 years. They include Countdown Award Shop, the former Edgewood Bakery, Murray Hill Theatre, Osteen's Pharmacy, The Carpet Tree, Thermo King of North Florida, and Weather Engineers.

As WBLA continues to celebrate its 40th year, it will honor other Westside businesses which have made contributions to the economy and civic engagement for the past four decades.

MOVERS & SHAKERS

Morning Star School welcomes two major donors for new high school campaign

Two new major donors have joined the Morning Star Circle of Friends with \$100,000 donations. Mary Pat and David Kulik, of Marsh Landing, will name the new high school wing while Patty and Rick Jones, of Mandarin, have naming rights for the new middle school wing.

Morning Star School, a Catholic special education school, is expanding in its 60th year of operation to include Grades 9 to 12. The Building a Brighter Future Campaign is co-chaired by Lou Walsh, Robert Shircliff, and Jay Demetree. With nearly \$600,000 given to date, the campaign is over one-third of the way toward its \$1.5 million goal.

While the Kuliks are still pondering names, the Jones decided to honor Sister Elise Kennedy, who is the office assistant at the school. Kennedy was similarly honored in 2014 when a pavilion was named in her honor upon her retirement as principal from St. Pius V Catholic School.

The Kuliks, who are members of Our Lady Star of the Sea, said all four of their daughters attended Christ the King Catholic School, which is located next door to Morning Star, a school that provides a Catholic education for children with specific learning disabilities, attention deficit disorders, dyslexia, and mild emotional handicaps.



Circle of Friends Donors Patty and Rick Jones and Mary Pat and David Kulik, with Capital Campaign Co-Chair Lou Walsh, and Jean Barnes, principal of Morning Star school.

"We drove past Morning Star twice a day for many years and thought this was a great opportunity," said David Kulik. "Whatever we have, God gave us," said his wife, Mary Pat. "It's not ours to keep." Two of the Kuliks' daughters are members of Assumption Catholic Church in St. Nicholas, another attends St. Paul's Catholic Church in Riverside and one belongs to the San Juan Del Rio parish in the Switzerland area.

The Joneses said they think education is important and were very blessed, so

they are giving back, but it's not the first time they have extended their generosity to the Diocese. Rick Jones is also instrumental in a \$10 million campaign at Guardian Catholic School.

There are still naming opportunities available, said Maria Johnson, director of development. The entire high school, the technology and learning center, and a playground are among a list of items that require funding. To learn more, visit morningstar-jax.org.

Men's Garden Club elects new officers

The Men's Garden Club of Jacksonville elected officers and appointed a board of directors May 1 for the 2017-2018 year.

At the installation were Robert Lowery, president; Tim Burleigh of Riverside, vice president; Jim Lewis, treasurer for the fourth year; Paul Seymore of Avondale, secretary, and Walter Bryant of St. Nicholas, immediate past president. The Board of Directors includes Sam Costello and Courtland Hunter serving their second year of a two-year term, and Board Chair Michael Robinson, Jim Fortenberry, and Jim Love of San Marco, all beginning a two-year term.



Front: Paul Seymore, Jim Fortenberry, Jim Love, Jim Lewis, Bob Lowery; back: Tim Burleigh, Michael Robinson, Sam Costello, Walter Bryant; not present, Courtland Hunter

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Fairfax resident wins \$15,000 Gladys Prior Award

James Miller of Fairfax, a social studies teacher at LaVilla School of the Arts, was one of four Jacksonville teachers who received the distinction of being named a 2017 Gladys Prior Award winner for Career Teaching Excellence.

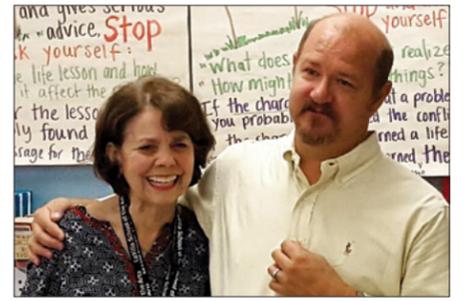
This is the 20th year the award has been given to honor inspiring teachers who have had long careers in their fields. It was established in 1998 by Gilchrist Berg, a Riverside resident, and founder and president of Water Street Capital.

"I was deeply honored. When I was a young teacher at Raines High School, two of my mentors, Margie Nolan and Kelley Ranch, were recipients. When I taught at Wolfson, my good friend Todd Tinsley also had won the award. I feel blessed to be in such good company and that I get to teach at this wonderful school," Miller said, adding that Jean Dodd of Avondale, former principal of San Jose Episcopal Day School, is his "inspiration," and was the person who nominated him for the award. "Jean's retired, but works as a substitute teacher. I met her in the teacher's lounge one day,

and it was a life-altering event. She's just a wonderful human being," he said.

Miller teaches U.S. history at LaVilla and is said to be an "infectious" storyteller, who brings history alive for his students through the use of rich images, maps, battle scenes, clips from movies, colorful descriptions and interdisciplinary projects. He also has been known to weave his enthusiasm for gardening into his history lessons, illustrating stories of families fleeing Mussolini with fig-tree cuttings from Italy. He has generously supplied his students with fig-tree cuttings from his own garden so they can plant their own trees. He also regularly attends the performances of his students and has been known to ask for their autographs afterwards.

Rounding out the 2017 Gladys Prior award winners this year were Patrice Haupt, a language arts teacher at Paxon School for Advanced Studies, Larry Knight, a language arts teacher at Stanton College Preparatory School, and Alicia Henderson, an English and literature teacher at Assumption School in St. Nicholas. Each teacher received a check for \$15,000.



Jean Dodd stands with 2017 Gladys Prior Award winner James Miller of LaVilla Middle School of the Arts during a short in-classroom surprise ceremony April 26, when UNF officials bestowed the award. Dodd nominated Miller for the award.

To date, Berg has given more than \$1 million to honor Jacksonville teachers through the award, which was named after his fourth-grade teacher at Ortega Elementary. The University of North Florida College of Education and Human Services manages his gift and coordinates the annual award competition.

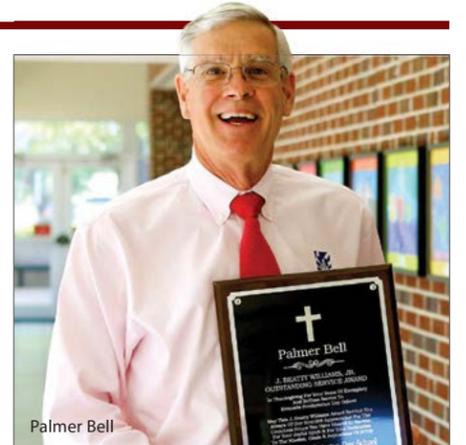
As of this year, 80 teachers have been recognized with the Gladys Prior Award, which is always bestowed in a surprise visit to the teacher's classroom.

Bell honored for service at Riverside Presbyterian Day School

Palmer Bell, Headmaster at Riverside Presbyterian Day School, received the 2017 J. Beatty Williams Outstanding Service Award, which was established in 1994 to honor individuals who have demonstrated exceptional loyalty, support and tireless dedication to the growth and development of the school. Williams was the volunteer chair of the Educational Committee 68 years ago when Riverside Presbyterian Church decided to start a day school.

Bell, who is an Ortega resident, has served the school for nine years and will retire the end of June. During his tenure, he led curriculum enhancements, as well as a heightened focus on emotional intelligence, spiritual development, service learning, and physical development in order to educate the hearts, hands and minds of the students.

Beginning July 1, Ben Ketchum will step into the position as new Head of School.



Palmer Bell

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Florida Library Association gives highest honor to Jacksonville Public Library

Among a field of more than 800 libraries in Florida, including public, academic, special and school libraries, the Jacksonville Public Library has been named the 2017 Library of the Year by the Florida Library Association.

The award, which recognizes a library that has demonstrated outstanding service to the community it serves, comes on the heels of the American Library Association's announcement that JPL Director Barbara Gubbin earned the 2017 Ernest A. DiMattia, Jr. Award for Innovation and Service to Community and Profession. The Jacksonville Public Library was presented with the Library of the Year award May 10 during the FLA Annual Conference in Orlando. The Ernest A. DiMattia Award will be presented at the ALA Annual Conference in June in Chicago.

Gubbin said the award shows how relevant the library is today in our community. With a focus on priorities for educational success, technology success and economic success, the library's innovative programs have measurable results



Ronnie King, Board of Library Trustees Chair, and Jacksonville Public Library Director Barbara Gubbin

and help change lives. She credits the efforts of the entire JPL team for winning the Library of the Year award. "This award is in recognition of our staff and what they do every day to make us a great library," Gubbin said. "It is recognition of their dedication and talent."

Historic homes renovator joins local realty firm

Longtime Riverside resident Keith Combs has joined Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty, working from its Avondale office.

Combs, who started his real estate career in 2001, has lived in the Historic District for over 30 years. He has also renovated many homes, some of which have been featured on the Riverside Avondale Tour of Homes.

Combs has a degree in accounting from Jacksonville University.



Keith Combs

Avondale resident honored for nonprofit work

Project for Healing, under the direction of Christine Rothberg of Avondale, was one of many winners at Northeast Florida's Mental Health Awareness Awards and Banquet, The Ripple Effect, held May 9 at WJCT Studios. Project for Healing was one of two groups – the other was I Still Matter – which won an Innovation/Program award.

Project for Healing began in 2011 offering pro bono counseling to refugees, asylees and victims of trafficking. After operating in borrowed office space, the project became a nonprofit in 2016 through grants from The Florida Department of Health and the Department of Children and Families.

Rothberg has worked with immigrant and refugee populations for more than 16 years, providing individual and group psychotherapy, psychoeducation, parenting classes, refugee employment services and English for Speakers of Other Languages.



Christine Rothberg

Assistant teacher receives Excellence in Education award

Lynell Johnson, pre-kindergarten assistant teacher at St. Mark's Episcopal Day School, was named the 2016-2017 school year recipient of the Nancy N. Wood Excellence in Education Award by the school and its board of trustees.

Faculty and staff nominate peers, who are then reviewed by an award selection committee consisting of Board members. Named in honor of the retirement of past Headmistress Nancy N. Wood, the award has been presented annually since 2001 to a faculty or staff member who personifies quality in their teaching and in their influence on student learning.

For nearly 20 years, Johnson has graced the St. Mark's campus with positive energy, compassion, and kindness, the press



release stated. It also noted one of her colleagues wrote that she was born with a heart to serve others.

Johnson has worked at St. Marks since 1998 as a kindergarten and pre-kindergarten assistant and has her national certification in early childhood education and development.

Local infant baptized in handmade Belgian lace

Inspired by the movie "Monument Men," where American, British and French art historians were drafted into the service of finding art stolen by the Nazis in World War II, Neill and Raya McArthur visited The Church of Our Lady on a recent trip to Bruges, Belgium.

The couple specifically wanted to see a Carrera marble statue of the Madonna by Michelangelo, one of the only known sculptures by Michelangelo not in Italy. Another Pieta sculpture next to it was adorned with a beautiful lace mantilla, which had been handmade by an artist who was tatting outside the church.

The McArthurs bought a handmade Belgian lace ensemble from the woman – gown, booties and hat in which infant Neill



Scarlett McArthur holds Mac in his christening gown made from Belgium lace.

Wade McArthur IV was christened at Ortega United Methodist Church in May.

"We were so pleased to witness the artwork and experience that part of history," said Raya. "Now our son Wade and his wife Scarlett and little Mac have a beautiful piece of history to hand down to future generations."

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4/2/1-2,190 sqft. Charm, charm, charm! This traditional colonial home is located right in the heart of Avondale close to the Shoppes of Avondale and the great merchants in Murray Hill. Downstairs is filled with natural light and features a living room with gas fireplace.



3862 ARDEN ST - \$625,000

4/3/1-3,187 sqft. Fabulous Mediterranean home in a unique enclave in the heart of historic Avondale. Arden section combines the best of both worlds with the ability to walk to the Shoppes of Avondale, parks and restaurants on St. Johns, with the seclusion and privacy.



3899 VALENCIA RD - \$270,000

3/2-1,355 sqft. Avondale park life - Enjoy the best of Avondale living from the front porch of this 1947 updated 3br, 2ba Bungalow nestled among giant oaks on a corner lot. Across the street from Fishweir Park, a block from Boone Park and just steps away from "A" rated schools.



SOLD

3843 HOLLINGSWORTH ST

3/1-1,221 sqft. SOLD by Margee Michaelis! Charming brick bungalow in Avondale on a beautiful corner lot. Relax on the front porch, enjoy your morning coffee. Traditional living & dining room. Hardwood floors throughout. Fenced yard with a patio.



3012 OAK ST - \$695,000

5/3/1-3,458 sqft. This gorgeous Avondale home has been fully renovated and has many features that are extremely hard to find in Historic Homes. The floor plan is open and filled with natural light. There's a large family room that opens to the renovated kitchen.



2111 RIVER BLVD - \$799,000

5/3-2,984 sqft. Incredible opportunity to own a well known local architect's home with amazing water views! Home is on a double lot that can be subdivided. Tucked away in Riverside just a few streets away from Memorial Park & the great shops & restaurants of Five Points.



SOLD

1339 CHALLEN AVE

3/2-1,588 sqft. SOLD by Taft Alexander! Great opportunity to purchase a brick bungalow in a charming pocket of Avondale. The home is being sold mid-renovation allowing a new owner to finish to their specs. The attic is drywalled, heated and cooled.



SOLD

1516 MALLORY ST

3/2-1,908 sqft. SOLD by Julio Mendez! Just one house from Willow Branch Rose Garden Park you'll find the most charming and classic fully updated Avondale home. PLUMBING AND ELECTRIC updated in 2000, new kitchen with granite & stainless appliances.



SOLD

4313 MARQUETTE AVE

3/2-2,162 sqft. SOLD by Taft Alexander! This is a beautifully updated 3 bed/2 bath 2162 square foot home between Avondale and Ortega. The home's exterior has been updated with Hardie plank siding and a new portico.



SOLD

3858 BOONE PARK AVE

3/1/1-1,350 sqft. SOLD by Liz Bobeck! Adorable! This craftsman bungalow is located within walking distance to the shoppes and eateries of Avondale and Park and Dancy. Casual living with all modern conveniences.



SOLD

2643 POST ST

3/2-1,336 sqft. SOLD by Liz Bobeck! Charming!!! This adorable bungalow has new kitchen and baths, hardwoods throughout, relax on the front porch or enjoy a cocktail on the back deck. The two car garage has lots of storage for all of your tools and stuff!



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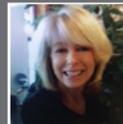
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Weise family celebrates 50 years in pharmacy service to community

By *Kate A. Hallock*
Resident Community News

Under the watchful portrait of their predecessors, Dr. Emil H. Weise and his father, Emil Weise, Sr., three generations of the Weise family – Gilbert Weise, Sr., his son, Gilbert, Jr. and granddaughter Tiffany Weise Schaible – are carrying on a family tradition in pharmacy, nutrition, and homeopathic medicine at their drugstore in Ortega.

Although Weise Prescription Shop and Natural Food Shoppe opened its doors in the Ortega Medical Arts Building on June 1, 1967, the family's roots in medicine go back decades earlier when Gilbert Sr.'s father, Dr. Emil Weise, had a compounding laboratory in downtown Jacksonville, where he was a naturopathic physician and clinical nutritionist specializing in homeopathic medicine.

Gilbert Sr., grew up in Avondale, attending West Riverside Elementary School, John Gorrie Middle School and Robert E. Lee High School. Along with his brothers, Reinold and Edmund, Gilbert Sr. attended the University of Virginia Medical School, but each focused on a different specialty.

"I always thought I was going to be a doctor," said Gilbert, Sr. After a hitch in the U.S. Army, 101st Airborne Division, serving in Germany during the Korean War, he got

a degree in psychology, then went to the University of Florida's pharmacy school, where he met his future wife, JoHelen Cheek, who also holds a pharmacy degree.

While the couple served as pharmacists for other companies, JoHelen saved \$10 from each of their paychecks until she had \$2,000 saved to open their own apothecary, joining Gilbert's brothers in the family's corporation.

Reinold's surgery practice and Edmund's pediatric practice, as well as their mother Ruth's vitamin and natural food shop, had already been established in the building located at 4343 Colonial Avenue, which was designed by their father, Emil Weise, to emulate Thomas Jefferson's Monticello. Although neither the surgery or pediatric practices remain, the building is home to three generations of family in the pharmacy and natural foods business.

"I felt like I would always be in the family business, but wasn't totally committed to it," said Gilbert Weise, Jr., speaking of his initial studies at the University of Florida. "My undergraduate classes were in architecture, but because I am a people person and really love interacting with people. I couldn't imagine myself in an office all day long every day."

Gilbert, Jr.'s, daughter, Tiffany Weise Schaible, is also part of the family business. She had majored in public relations at the



Five generations: Tiffany Weise Schaible, Gilbert Weise, Jr., JoHelen Weise, Gilbert Weise, Sr. pose in front of portraits of Emil Weise, Sr., and Dr. Emil H. Weise.

University of North Florida, but when the family business got so busy, she went to the University of Florida to become a certified pharmacy technician. "In the back of my mind, I always thought I would work in the family business," said Schaible, who has been at the pharmacy six years now.

Gilbert Weise, Sr. said he is pleased the past 50 years have provided a service for the community and, in honor of the company's Golden Anniversary, the Weise family will hold an open house Saturday, June 10, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with live music, food, beverages, and giveaways.

Baptist Health Foundation names three new trustees

Deborah Abram, M.D., Connie Hodges, and Grace Martin Sarber have been selected to the Board of Trustees of the Baptist Health Foundation.

Abram is a board-certified pediatric hospitalist with Nemours Children's Specialty Care and immediate past Chief of Staff at Wolfson Children's Hospital. The Monclair resident is also a courtesy assistant professor in the Department of Pediatrics for the University of Florida's College of Medicine – Jacksonville. A native of Buffalo, New York, she received her medical degree from Temple University in Philadelphia and has been in practice for more than 30 years.

Hodges, an Avondale resident, spent 30 years with the United Way of Northeast Florida, including 16 years as its president. A former EVE Award winner, she has served on the boards of Downtown Rotary, Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, Jacksonville Children's Commission and the Early Learning Coalition. She is currently the chair-elect of OneJax, an interfaith organization affiliated with the University of North Florida.

Sarber, a Jacksonville native and Deerwood resident, is past president of The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital, and a former chair of the Arts & Antiques



Deborah Abram, M.D.



Connie Hodges



Grace Martin Sarber

Show. A graduate of Randolph-Macon Women's College, she is a former public relations executive and consultant who now works as a freelance writer and book

editor. Sarber leads a Bible study, is passionately involved in an adoption ministry, and spends time homeschooling two of her three children.

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UF Health North cuts ribbon on new 92-bed hospital

Residents of North Jacksonville now have a far shorter commute to healthcare services as the second phase of UF Health North took another step closer to reality May 10. UF Health leaders and community members took part in a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the campus' new inpatient hospital, a 92-bed tower connected by walkways to the current medical office complex, which has been open since 2015.

"We are incredibly proud to bring another major health care resource to the people of North Jacksonville," said Russ Armistead, CEO of UF Health Jacksonville, who opened the ribbon-cutting ceremony. "The ingenuity of the building, combined with the best possible care, will further the success of this campus."

The project timeline began nearly four years ago when ground was broken in August 2013 for the medical office building. The groundbreaking for the inpatient bed tower was held November 2015.

The new hospital consists of five floors, four for patients with all private rooms. There



Russ Armistead cuts the ribbon for UF Health North's new 92-bed tower as community leaders look on. From left, Samuel Newby, Armistead, Greg Anderson, Tommy Hazouri, Reggie Gaffney, Dr. Leon Haley, Dr. David Guzick, Mayor Lenny Curry

is a 20-bed unit dedicated to labor and delivery and other women's services, a 24-bed floor dedicated to intensive care, two 24-bed floors dedicated to general medical inpatients, and one floor for administrative services, a chapel, a cafeteria and more.

The inpatient hospital, a collaboration of UF Health, the architectural firm Gresham

Smith and Partners, and contractors Batson-Cook Construction and Danis Construction, is 168,000 square feet and includes many advanced architectural features, including walls of windows in all patient rooms to allow for natural light, rooftop gardens, a courtyard to give patients and visitors a place to relax outdoors, and more.

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Miller joins Community Hospice & Palliative Care

Char Miller, a Riverside resident, was named director of marketing and communications for Community Hospice & Palliative Care.

"I wanted to be part of a mission that serves our community, the one we call home," said Miller. "My father was a doctor, and I learned at a young age that serving others was the greatest gift. I've always been involved in nonprofit work



Char Miller

and even started my own nonprofit, NOLA Goes Pink, in honor of my mother, a breast cancer survivor."

Miller previously served as marketing director for Wounded Warrior Project[®], joining the organization in 2013. Her career also includes 13 years with The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company, including the Sawgrass

Marriott Golf Resort & Spa, as well as director of public relations for The Ritz-Carlton Hotels of New Orleans, Louisiana, and area director of public relations for The Ritz Carlton and Marriott Hotels of New Orleans, directing communications efforts for 17 hotel properties following Hurricane Katrina.

Prior to this, Miller held various marketing director positions with companies in Louisiana, Colorado, and Florida. Miller earned a Bachelor's of Journalism, with a minor in marketing, from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge.

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Billboard buster Brinton honored, recognized by hundreds

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

A champion for libraries and a warrior against billboards for more than 30 years, Avondale resident and Rogers Towers shareholder and attorney William Brinton was honored by more than 300 friends, family and colleagues at a luncheon May 17 at the Main Library downtown.

During the event, Sam Mousa, City of Jacksonville Chief Administrative Officer, read a proclamation on behalf of Mayor Lenny Curry, and City Council Vice President John Crescimbeni declared May 17, 2017 "Bill Brinton Day" by resolution.

The "billboard buster," as Brinton was described by Scenic America's Vice Chair Margaret Lloyd at the event, began battling eyesores along the highways in the 1980s when he founded Citizens Against Proliferation of Signs (CAPSigns) with Tracey Arpen, another local attorney.

The group's efforts led to approval of an amendment in May 1987 by 59 percent of Jacksonville voters to ban new billboards and abolish hundreds of existing ones from neighborhood roadways.

Brinton's Battle of the Billboards continued, however, when the outdoor advertising industry sued the city over that charter revision. After reaching settlements with a variety of outdoor advertising companies, Brinton's next fight was waged against breaches of those settlements for nearly two decades. Finally, in 2014, Brinton negotiated separate settlements on behalf of Scenic Jacksonville and the City of Jacksonville against Clear Channel Outdoor and CBS Outdoor, now known as OutFront Media. Overall, nearly 1,200 billboards have been removed in Jacksonville over the past two decades.

Meanwhile, other cities and other Scenic America chapters began to call on Brinton



Bill Brinton was honored by City Council Vice President John Crescimbeni with a resolution declaring May 17, 2017 as "Bill Brinton Day."

to lead their litigation against the proliferation of outdoor advertising across the country. In a testimonial video shown at the luncheon, dozens of colleagues from those chapters paid tribute to Brinton and his successes in their cities.

Although named a Florida Super Lawyer in environmental litigation, Brinton also took on term limits for elected city offices, racism, preservation of the tree canopy, litter, and library funding. Much of the petition gathering and legal work for these issues was done pro bono on his own time.

"Bill's work ethic is unmatched," said Henry (Hank) Coxe III, an attorney and director of the Bedell Firm. "Bill is what our profession likes to think we are, what we tout we are."

Coxe also addressed the personal fight Brinton is waging, saying "he is jousting at a different issue in his life, and Bill will beat that issue," referring to Brinton's battle with Stage IV lung cancer.

In honor of Brinton's fight for a more beautiful environment, a \$300,000 endowment has been established at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida to fund efforts by Scenic Jacksonville, founded 30 years ago by Brinton, and which serves as watchdog against visual pollution.

Thomas named executive director of Pastoral Counseling Services

Cliff Thomas of Ortega has been named Executive Director of Pastoral Counseling Services (PCS), a not-for-profit, interfaith service in San Marco. Thomas took over for long-time director, Rev. Louis R. Lothman, Th.D., of San Jose, who had held the position for more than 20 years.



Cliff Thomas

Lothman, who stepped down Nov. 30, 2016, is still affiliated with PCS. He said he plans to have a "phased" retirement by stepping away from administration and limiting his work counseling and consultation to his patients and clients.

Thomas, who has extensive marketing and communications expertise, was first hired in June 2016 as Director of

Development before being asked to take over the executive director position Dec. 1, 2016, due to his understanding of the organization's vision – "Enabling Sacred Transformation," and its mission, "working with people to foster healing, growth, and life-giving change."

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology from Jacksonville University and is a licensed minister. In addition to his communications skills, Thomas said he has a passion for organizational development and management, networking, interpersonal relationships, and community building. He has more than 20 years of experience working with local church congregations and companies in development, communications, and marketing. Prior to being hired by PCS, Thomas served on its board for four years. He said he feels a calling to help those with emotional barriers as in the past he was directly affected by depression and suicide when a close friend took her own life in 2010.

Thomas is married with two children and is active in his community and church congregation.

Lutheran Social Services promotes Brim

Riverside resident William Brim was promoted to director of development at the nonprofit Lutheran Social Services of Northeast Florida (LSS). Employed since 2011 at LSS, Brim oversaw the company's refugee services program, increasing refugee job placement by 51 percent this year.

In his new position, Brim will be responsible for leading LSS communication initiatives and fundraising campaigns across the region.

"Bill is passionate about the agency's mission and has in-depth knowledge of all our programs," said Mary Strickland, LSS president and CEO. "Bill drives to the goal line in each and every project he tackles."



William Brim

Two named to Wolfson Children's Hospital Board

Paula Drum and Clay B. Tousey III were selected to join the Board of Directors of Wolfson Children's Hospital May 2.

With 20 years of experience in eCommerce running various marketing and eCommerce teams, Drum has served as vice president of Marketing and eCommerce at Interline Brands since August 2014. Prior to joining Interline, she was vice president of Brand Services for Bluestem Brands, an eCommerce retailer.

Tousey, a lawyer, joined Fisher, Tousey, Leas & Ball in 2008, and became a shareholder



Paula Drum



Clay B. Tousey III

in 2011. He focuses on estate planning and general corporate representation. A native of Atlantic Beach, he graduated from Harvard University in 2002 and the University of Virginia's law school in 2005. He is a trustee of Riverside Presbyterian Church.

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Retail, restaurant businesses show signs of improving economy

By Krysten L. Bennett, Resident Community News

The first six months of 2017 saw the opening of new retail businesses and restaurants in 5 Points, Brooklyn and Murray Hill, paying proof to a strengthening economy and a growing desire for locals to eat out more often.



Troy Spurlin



Harry Colbert and Jackie Rierson

Generation Us

Calling itself a budget-friendly boutique with contemporary home furnishings that will “make your mum house proud,” Generation Us opened April 29 at 822 Lomax St. in historic 5 Points. Owner Troy Spurlin offers an eclectic variety of home decor items, furniture, pillows, books, gifts, lighting, rugs, seating, and tables.

“First off, I wanted to be able to walk to work. That’s why I moved to Riverside, so I could live in an urban, walkable neighborhood,” said Spurlin. “Being an interior designer for the past 12 years, I saw that we had no opportunity for furnishings on this side of town, so short of driving to Orange Park, Mandarin, the Town Center or the Beaches, there was nothing in the neighborhood that appealed to my urban sensibility.”

B Street Eats

One of several new restaurants in the Murray Hill area, B Street Eats is a casual Latin/South American concept offered by the Maple Street Biscuit Company corporation. The restaurant at 1179 Edgewood Ave. South opened April 6.

“Our sister restaurant, Maple Street Biscuit Company, has been very successful here,” said Jackie Rierson, co-owner, along with Harry Colbert, Jr., company community leader. “One of our company’s core values is to be a part of the community. The Murray Hill community has supported and fallen in love with Maple Street, and we fell in love with Murray Hill as well. When the next-door space became available the opportunity was just too good to turn down.”



Crystal Coombs

APB

The Jacksonville location of All Points Bulletin (aka APB) Boutique is the fourth store by the small corporation, after opening three locations in South Carolina. While sneakers dominate, the sports boutique also sells clothing in brand names such as Adidas, Jordan, Nike, and Reebok, among many others.

“We chose this area because it’s an emerging area that’s gentrifying and has cool up-and-coming businesses,” said Crystal Coombs, APB manager at the 817 Lomax St. Store in 5 Points, which opened Nov. 25, 2016.



George Leon, Justine Criolla, Robert Wilson, Vanizia Wilson

Food Addictz Grill

Family-owned and operated, Food Addictz Grill opened April 16 at 1044 Edgewood Ave. South, offering a breakfast menu, salads, sandwiches and wraps, kids menus, discounts for seniors and military. Non-meat dishes are available, too.

“We love the fact that Murray Hill is an up-and-coming neighborhood,” said Vanizia Wilson, co-owner, along with George Leon, Justine Criolla and Robert Wilson. “We felt like it was a great opportunity to start something new and to bring more life and good food into this historic area.”

The Bread & Board

Vacant space doesn’t stay as such for long in 5 Points, and it only took The Bread & Board 11 months to jump into the void left when Richard’s Sandwich Shop closed May 2016. Open April 12 at 1030 Oak St., the new eatery is the brainchild of partners Dwayne Beliakoff and Jonathan Cobbs, who returned to Jacksonville after culinary efforts on the West Coast.

“Having recently relocated from Portland, Oregon, we wanted to find a neighborhood that had the vibe and feel of a lot of the boroughs that were our favorites in the Portland area. 5 Points has continued to grow and evolve into a destination neighborhood that’s got a lot of personality, a lot of character and a little quirkiness,” said Beliakoff. “It’s definitely a fun part of town, and we think our concept is fun and appeals to a broad demographic. This area is centered between downtown and the residential neighborhoods, and it’s very



Dwayne Beliakoff and Jonathan Cobbs

convenient for foot traffic, bike traffic and automobiles. We were trying to find a place with an influx of folks who felt comfortable coming to dine and shop. Essentially, it hit on a lot of the specific parameters we were looking for.”



Rob Dixon

Hoptinger Bier Garden and Sausage House

Hoptinger Bier Garden and Sausage House first opened February 9 at the former Peterson’s 5 & Dime at 1037 Park St. in 5 Points, then opened its rooftop venue May 11.

“We chose the 5 Points area because it’s a booming neighborhood. We chose it for the culture and the people. 5 Points is very up-and-coming, and we wanted to be a part of it. The area boasts a ton of restaurants and bars that are very enjoyable for people from all over,” said Rob Dixon, assistant general manager and beer buyer. “We’re a local, Jacksonville-based restaurant group, and we love that our big city has so many diverse areas across town. We have beaches, riverfronts, a downtown district and many lovely neighborhoods all across this great city. We’re proud to be a part of the 5 Points community.”



Randy Jeppesen

Grabbagreen

Touting organic, non-processed foods with no hormones or antibiotics, the Brooklyn Station location of Grabbagreen is one of 20 stores in 10 states. Open March 4 at 90 Riverside Ave., the fast food chain, founded in 2013 by two mothers, offers healthy food, fast.

“I love Riverside, and especially this section [Brooklyn] where they’ve completely revamped. It’s brought some nice vigor to the area,” said Randy Jeppesen, owner. “I like what they’ve done, bringing great young professionals here with these apartments. We wanted to be a part of it, to offer healthy fast-food options for this young workforce that either works here, across the river, or Downtown.”

The chain is so committed to the environment it uses recycled paper products, such as take-out boxes and napkins.



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Revellers enjoy Derby at home and at Churchill Downs

While Ye Mystic Revellers were cheering on their horses in the televised Kentucky Derby May 6, two of their members actually attended the event in Louisville. Dr. Alan and Beth Weldon, of Avondale, went to the internationally-known event as guests of the daughter of Jack Van Berg, a Hall of Fame horse trainer.

In the spirit of the race, Beth sported her great-aunt's Race Day hat. In 1992, Mary Agnes "Sis" Towers Bulpitt, then 87, wore a Parisian-designed pink chapeau to the Queen's Box at the Royal Ascot. Bulpitt, who was married to an Englishman she met during World War II, then scored a larger photo than either Queen Elizabeth or Princess Diana in the September 1992 issue of Vogue magazine.

Beth's mother, Sarah Towers Van Cleve, of Avondale, was said to be "so excited to have Beth wear that hat and it was quite a hit. That's saying something when you consider the hats that were there," said Alan.

Meanwhile, back in Avondale, Peter and Carol Blumeyer hosted the Revellers' Derby Day party at their recently renovated 1927 home on Avondale Avenue.



Dr. Robert and Sarah Van Cleve



Derby Party Host Carol Blumeyer with her son Peter Blumeyer



Alan and Beth Weldon at 143rd Annual Kentucky Derby in Churchill Downs



Vogue magazine's 1992 photo of Mary Towers Bulpitt (left) at the Royal Ascot

DA honors Helen Lane for three decades of giving



Helen Lane cuts the ribbon commemorating the new Helen Murchison Lane Art Gallery at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts. From left, Barry Wilson, DA Visual Arts department head, District 14 Councilman Jim Love, DA Principal Melanie Hammer, Duval County Public Schools Board Chairman Paula D. Wright, Helen Lane, Duval County Public Schools Board Vice Chairman Ashley Smith-Juarez, Ann Hicks, Deborah Knauer and DA Foundation President Jeff Dunn

With hoopla and much fanfare, the Douglas Anderson School of the Arts Foundation honored Helen Lane's three decades of giving to the school when it held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to commemorate the Helen Murchison Lane Art Gallery at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts May 22.

Duval County Public School board members and city officials joined other philanthropists at the elegant affair which took place in the new gallery, which comprises the school's atrium and reception area adjacent to the school's front office.

DA Principal Melanie Hammer opened the luncheon festivities welcoming many dignitaries in the audience. In attendance were District 14 Councilman Jim Love, three Duval County Public School Board officials - School Board Chair Paula D. Wright, Vice Chair Ashley Smith Juarez, and District 7 Representative Lori Hershey - Jeff Dunn, president of the DA Foundation and Jackie Cornelius, executive director of the DA Foundation. Also in the crowd were Preston Haskell, Betsy Lovett, Deborah Knauer and Ann Hicks, all of Ortega, Lawrence DuBow and Linda Stein, both of San Jose, Ryan Schwartz and Gary McCalla, both of San Marco, and former School Board Superintendent John Fryer and his wife, Carol.

DA singing group The Silhouettes performed and Logan Smith, a DA senior majoring in musical arts performed a solo, "You Never Know."

Speaking at the event were Wright, Smith-Juarez, Love, and Cornelius.

"There is an old saying 'well-behaved women rarely make history.' Helen Lane is the reason they say rarely and not never. Every inch a lady, Helen is a doer and a visionary," Smith-Juarez said of the Ortega resident. "We want magic, wonder and creativity at all our schools in Duval County, but because of Helen Lane, these things are alive at DA. The seeds Helen Lane has planted here are truly a gift. She has been a permanent fixture at DA since the day it was founded and will be out into the future," she said.

Cornelius agreed. "We wanted to honor Helen's three decades of giving to support the school from her heart and as an ambassador, knowing that this program of intensive arts study truly makes a difference in our community," said Cornelius after the ceremony. "Because of her, many students, who would not otherwise have had the opportunity, are able to take part in the intensive study which this program provides."

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Joe McGhee, Tanya Nunn with Honorary Co-chairs Kelly and Erik Smith



Pine Castle's Beth Jensen, associate director of development, and Run for the Roses Mistress of Ceremonies Katie Jeffries of First Coast News Channel 12



Ronald Jones, Wynester Sherrer, John H. Carter III and Yolanda Carter



Morris Jackson, Pine Castle President and Chairman of the Board Pat Kimberly and Judy Jackson



Susan Proctor, Kim Eikner with Sondra Allen and Pamela Bundy

Things come up rosy for Pine Castle at 5th annual Derby Day event

The horse, Always Dreaming, was not the only winner on Kentucky Derby Day. Pine Castle raised \$88,000 during the 5th Annual Run for the Roses Derby Day Soiree at Deerwood Country Club May 6.

After sipping on mint juleps and looking over the silent auction items, donors placed their wagers before the 143rd running of the Kentucky Derby, which was viewed on a large screen in the ballroom. Participants also helped themselves to New York strip sirloin, ham, macaroni and cheese, shrimp and grits, vegetables and desserts at various stations as Katie Jeffries of First Coast News Channel 12 served as mistress of ceremonies.

Kelly and Erik Smith of Nocatee served as honorary chairs. Karen Friedline of Southside and Kim Fishback of St. Nicholas headed up the Silent Auction committee.



Katie Ann Sider with Patty Heard



Ken Purcell with Larry and Denise Press, Angie Koury Allen and Ehren Allen



Rocky Joseph with Mark Derubeis, Teya and Mark McDermand



Lou and Jan Walsh with Rick and Callie Patsy

Opening doors to communication for nearly 70 years

Supporters of the Jacksonville Speech and Hearing Center were treated to a beautiful night on the banks of the St. Johns River, when the nonprofit's annual Finfest, themed "Take Me to the River," was held May 20 at the Timuquana Country Club.

The co-chairs for the evening were St. Vincent HealthCare's Interim President/CEO Tom VanOsdol and his wife, Kathy, and the honorary co-chairs were State Attorney Melissa Nelson and her husband, Jason, and Basketball Hall of Fame legend Artis Gilmore and his wife, Enola.

Thanks to generous sponsors, event organizers and donations of silent auction items, the evening was a hit for the 68-year-old organization. Founded in 1949 by the Junior League of Jacksonville, the Jacksonville Speech and Hearing Center last year provided services and relief to 4,136 children and adults struggling with hearing loss and hearing impairments. In August, the nonprofit will move to its new location at 1010 N. Davis St., one mile west of its current Laura Street location.



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Cultural Council holds annual awards event at Glass Factory

The Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville hosted its 41st Annual Arts Awards May 6 at the historic Glass Factory, built in 1936 by Henry Klutho.

The awards event honored Christopher Lazzara (Robert Arleigh White Award for Advocacy); Riverside resident Mark McCombs (Art Innovator Award); Murray Hill resident Dustin Harewood (Art Educator Award); PNC Bank (Business Award); Ebony Payne-English (Emerging Artist Award); Ortega resident Diane Brunet-Garcia (Helen Lane Founder's Award), and Alicia Somers (the new Jim and Jeanne Winston Community Impact Award). Each award recipient has demonstrated the highest dedication to arts and culture in the Jacksonville Community.

Heather Moore was honorary chair and Rebecca Ryan-Gonzalez was event chair. The evening included performances by the Jacksonville Civic Orchestra, Jacksonville University's dance troupe, and the Jacksonville Children's Chorus.



Kristina Lu, Don Poag, Collin Hazelip and Jill Morrow



Elaine Ashourian, Sally Hazelip and Mike Ashourian



Michele Noel and Debbie Hicks



Georgia Winegeart with Melanie Jensen and Bert Livingston



Karen and Bill Norris with Margie and John Parr

Waterfront home is perfect vista for Under-the-Sea River Hops event

The spacious riverfront home of Granada residents Mike and Elaine Ashourian once again provided the perfect venue for the 8th Annual RiverHops fundraiser for the North Florida School of Special Education.

Delicious cocktails and a gourmet pairings dinner were on tap as guests milled around the pool overlooking a setting sun and the St. Johns River. During the cocktail hour guests had the opportunity to bid on items in a silent auction and to enter a raffle to win a fish-themed birdbath and other works of art created by students at the special education school in Arlington.

The event raised \$68,000 and was heartily supported by sponsors such as the Cowford Chop House, IL DESCO, Bistro AIX, Ovinte, Intuition Ale Works, Berry Good Farms, Atlantic Self Storage, Akerman, and Publix Super Markets Charities.

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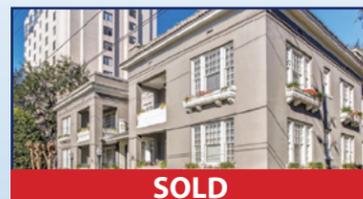
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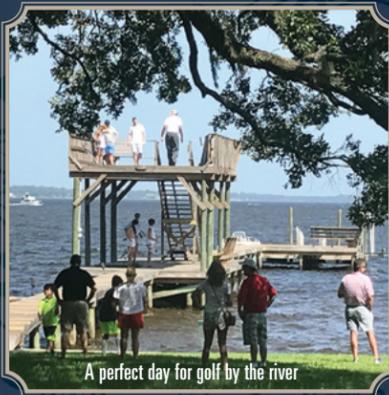
The Pajcic Firm is so thankful to all of the sponsors and supporters who turned out for our 5th annual yard golf event to benefit Jacksonville Area Legal Aid. This year we had two 9-hole courses and our signature "island green" where golfers could



Artis Gilmore tees off on the first hole



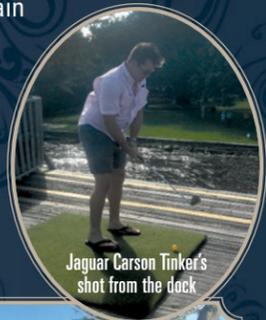
A 13-year-old gets a hole-in-one!



A perfect day for golf by the river

win \$6,000 with a hole-in-one. A 13-year-old managed to ace it this year. The Pajcics match every donation dollar for dollar.

We are especially proud that the event raised well over \$80,000 for JALA, which provides certain civil legal services for those who can't afford them. This year we had a few celebrity guests including Carson Tinker and



Jaguar Carson Tinker's shot from the dock

Jason Myers of the Jacksonville Jaguars and former NBA great Artis Gilmore. Start sharpening your whiffle golf skills for next year!



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THE PLAYERS vision van joins St. Vincent's mobile fleet

Optum donation comes as surprise

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

When St. Vincent's top brass, Jane Lanier, president and system chief development officer of St. Vincent's HealthCare Foundation, Tom VanOsdol, interim president and CEO of St. Vincent's HealthCare, and Huson Gilbertstadt, M.D., St. Vincent's chief clinical officer traveled to TPC Sawgrass May 3, they knew they were about to take possession of a new,



Tom VanOsdol, interim president and CEO of St. Vincent's Medical Center in Riverside, sits in the driver's seat of the new state-of-the-art mobile medical and vision unit, which was donated by THE PLAYERS Championship May 3 at TPC Sawgrass.

state-of-the-art mobile medical unit, which THE PLAYERS Championship had donated to St. Vincent's HealthCare, part of Ascension, the nation's largest Catholic, nonprofit health system.

But what Lanier and her contemporaries didn't know was that Optum, one of three Proud Partners of THE PLAYERS Championship, had kicked in an extra \$50,000 surprise donation.

"Thank you to THE PLAYERS for this wonderful gift. What a great day for our community," said Lanier, an Ortega resident. "And I was totally surprised. I had no idea we would be receiving this from THE PLAYERS Proud Partner, Optum. These gifts will help to provide immunizations, school and sports physicals, vision screenings, and glasses for those who are struggling within our community."

The new mobile unit, valued at \$500,000, is the first in Northeast Florida to be specifically equipped to offer vision exams. It joins a stable of five mobile units that are part of St. Vincent's Mobile Health Outreach Ministry.

"THE PLAYERS Championship is committed to giving back to the Northeast Florida community, and we're thrilled that money generated from the tournament goes to such worthwhile and much-needed causes like St. Vincent's HealthCare," said Jared Rice, executive director of THE



Surrounded by volunteer leadership from THE PLAYERS Championship, Jane Lanier, president and system chief development officer of St. Vincent's HealthCare Foundation, Tom VanOsdol, interim president and CEO of St. Vincent's HealthCare System, Jared Rice, executive director of THE PLAYERS Championship, and Vito Augusta, Client Account Executive for Optum hold a surprise donation of \$50,000, which was given to St. Vincent's by Optum, a Proud Partner of THE PLAYERS Championship.

PLAYERS. "Our 2,000-plus volunteers, tournament staff, Proud Partners and fans should be proud to see the Mobile Health Outreach Ministry on the road, knowing that thanks to their support of the tournament, our neighbors in need are being helped in countless ways."

The St. Vincent's Mobile Health Outreach Ministry, which began in 1991, brings

fully staffed vans – essentially doctors' offices on wheels – to areas where medical services are most needed in five counties in Northeast Florida. The vans provide medical care to the underserved and uninsured in rural and urban communities as well as children in area middle and high schools. Most recently, St. Vincent's added a mobile dental unit to its fleet.

A Century to be Celebrated

Milestone moment for JU's Kinne

When Jacksonville University President Tim Cost received his diploma in 1981 from President Frances Bartlett Kinne, he most likely didn't think he would have to recall the words she whispered to him 36 years ago, but the 100-year-old educator challenged his memory May 23 at her birthday celebration.

"Do great things?" he responded. "I told you 'Go out and change the world,'" she said, chuckling "But I said that to everyone."

One year prior to Cost's graduation, Dr. Frances B. Kinne was inaugurated as the seventh president of Jacksonville University in 1980, having served one year as interim president. She was also the first woman president in the state of Florida and the second in the nation. Kinne was also the first female president of the Jacksonville Rotary Club, first female member of the River Club and



Dr. Frances Bartlett Kinne, with Linda and David Stein at her 100th birthday celebration

winner of the first Jacksonville EVE Award and its first EVE of the Decade (1970-1980) winner.

A Florida Women's Hall of Famer, Kinne's list of achievements reflect the values the university tries to instill in its students, said Cost at the former president's centennial celebration. Persistence, optimism, respect and teamwork took Kinne through some of the 20th century's worst

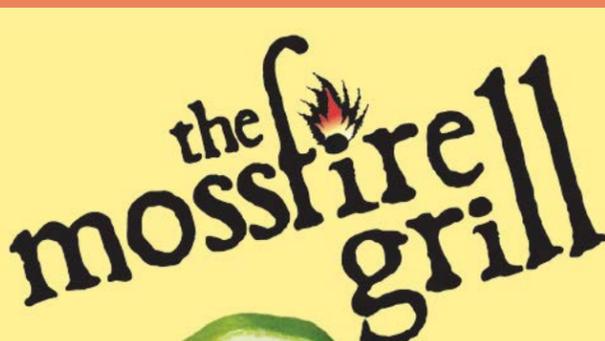


JU Alum and NBA standout Artis Gilmore joins JU President Tim Cost, his wife Stephanie Cost and Senator Aaron Bean as they share a copy of Jacksonville University's WAVE publication. The campus magazine dedicated a portion to Kinne's story in its editorial lineup, to include the cover shot.

moments, including the Great Depression and World War II, when she worked as a U.S. Army hostess.

JU's legendary lady never stopped smiling as four hundred friends and fans gathered in the lobby of JU's Howard Administrative

Building to toast the indomitable petite powerhouse. Wearing her signature red, Kinne went for the laughs reminiscent of the ones she once shared with Bob Hope and Jack Benny when she brought them together to the campus in 1972.







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OneJax honors Riverside residents with OneJax Humanitarian Awards

Three residents from Jacksonville's historic neighborhoods – David A. Stein of San Jose, Dr. James B. Crooks of Riverside, and Sabeen Perwaiz Syed of Riverside – were honored during the elegant 2017 OneJax Humanitarian Awards dinner April 27 at the Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center.

OneJax seeks to create opportunities for diverse groups of individuals to learn about themselves and one another by reducing stereotypes and bias, and developing community awareness and understanding about the critical social issues facing Jacksonville.

Stein, former Chairman and CEO of Southern Industrial Corporation, the original franchisor of 36 Burger King restaurants in three Northeast Florida counties, was awarded the 2017 Gold Medallion for Lifetime Achievement. Active with numerous local nonprofit organizations, Stein has provided scholarship endowments at the University of North Florida, Jacksonville University, Florida State College Jacksonville, the Jewish Community Alliance, and the Greenwood School, where he spearheaded a capital campaign to provide the school's permanent home.

Professor Emeritus of History at UNF, Crooks was recognized with a Silver Medallion for his outstanding dedication and community service. As an activist historian, Crooks has worked hard to improve race relations as chairman of the Jacksonville Human Rights Commission and has served on many boards and community initiatives.

Receiving the 2017 Acosta-Rua Young Professionals Award was Syed, who serves as executive director of the Florida Nonprofit

Alliance. She has served as co-organizer and executive producer of TEDxJacksonville.

Also among the honorees was Jean Ludlow of Atlantic Beach, a retired insurance executive and former Trustee of the Jessie Ball DuPont Fund, who received the 2017 President's Citation, which is awarded to the humanitarian whose efforts and vision have resulted in positive local and national changes in one or more areas. Rodney L. Hurst, a civil rights activist and author, and Shah Faisal Sayed, executive director of Muslim American Social Services, joined Crooks in receiving 2017 Silver Medallions for community service.



One Jax honorees Sabeen Perwaiz Syed, Rodney L. Hurst, Sr., Dr. James B. Crooks, Jean Ludlow, David Stein and Shah Faisal Sayed



Leigh Ann Rassler with Jessica Shepler



Dr. James B. Crooks and his wife, Laura, with granddaughter Emma Flaire and daughter, Sarah Crooks-Flaire



Amy Davis with John McIlvaine



Connie Hodges with Anne Mackey, Nancy Chamblin and Sharon Clark



Bill Hodges, Jan Lipsky, Betty Gwynne, Ted Powell, Connie Hodges and Rev. Emily Knight



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June 21 at 6 pm

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Monique Burr Foundation for Children Founder Edward E. Burr accepts a check from the women at the University of North Florida's Kappa Delta Sorority.

Night at Roy's bash celebrates Monique Burr Foundation's 20th anniversary

Edward E. Burr wiped a tear from his eye as he listened to a surprise toast from his sons, Austin and Garrison. The boys lauded their father as he celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Monique Burr Foundation for Children, a nonprofit named for their mother that provides comprehensive, research-based, primary prevention programs for bullying, cyber-bullying, child abuse, child exploitation and other digital dangers.

The well-attended Night at Roy's celebration raised \$55,000 and took place at Roy's Restaurant in Jacksonville Beach May 16. In the audience were Mayor Lenny Curry and his wife, Molly, of San Marco, as well as former United States Congressman Ander Crenshaw of Riverside and his wife, Kitty.

As guests noshed on Hawaiian-influenced cuisine offered by James Beard Award winning chef Roy Yamaguchi, the women of Kappa Delta Sorority at the University of North Florida presented Burr with a check for \$17,517. Also speaking at the



Jeanne Miller and her mother, Jennelle Craddock

fundraiser were Institute for Responsible Online and Cell-Phone Communication (IROC2) Founder Richard Guerry, and Lt. Lakesha Burton of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, a sexual abuse survivor.

Mistress of Ceremonies for the event was Channel 4 Anchor Mary Baer. Entertainment was provided by Kurt Stevens and Colleen Orender.

Caped crusaders carry banner for families in need

Thanks to generous supporters encouraged by caped crusaders Captain Underwear and Commander Current, the Downtown Ecumenical Services Council raised \$38,000 after expenses in the 3rd Annual Great Electric Emergency fundraiser April 25, which will keep the lights on in 154 homes.

The event, held again at Mellow Mushroom in the Shoppes of Avondale, brings the community together for an opportunity to donate funds, which will help families on the brink of homelessness pay the rent and keep the utilities on. In addition to donations by supporters, the restaurant donated a portion of the tabs.

"While raising awareness is important, helping others who are in emergency situations is most important," said San Marco's Shay Hill, event co-chair with his wife, Theresa Bennett Hill.

Presenting sponsors were the Hall-Halliburton Foundation and Mary Virginia Terry of Ortega. Although the Gold sponsor choose anonymity, Silver sponsors were John and Jean Grant-Dooley of Riverside and Robert and Barbara (Bobbie) Gittings of Ortega.



Captain Underwear (aka Robert Reid) with Commander Current (aka Sam Mitchell)



Mary Virginia Terry, Anna Moulder, Bettye Barnes



Great Electric Emergency Co-Chairs Shay and Theresa Hill



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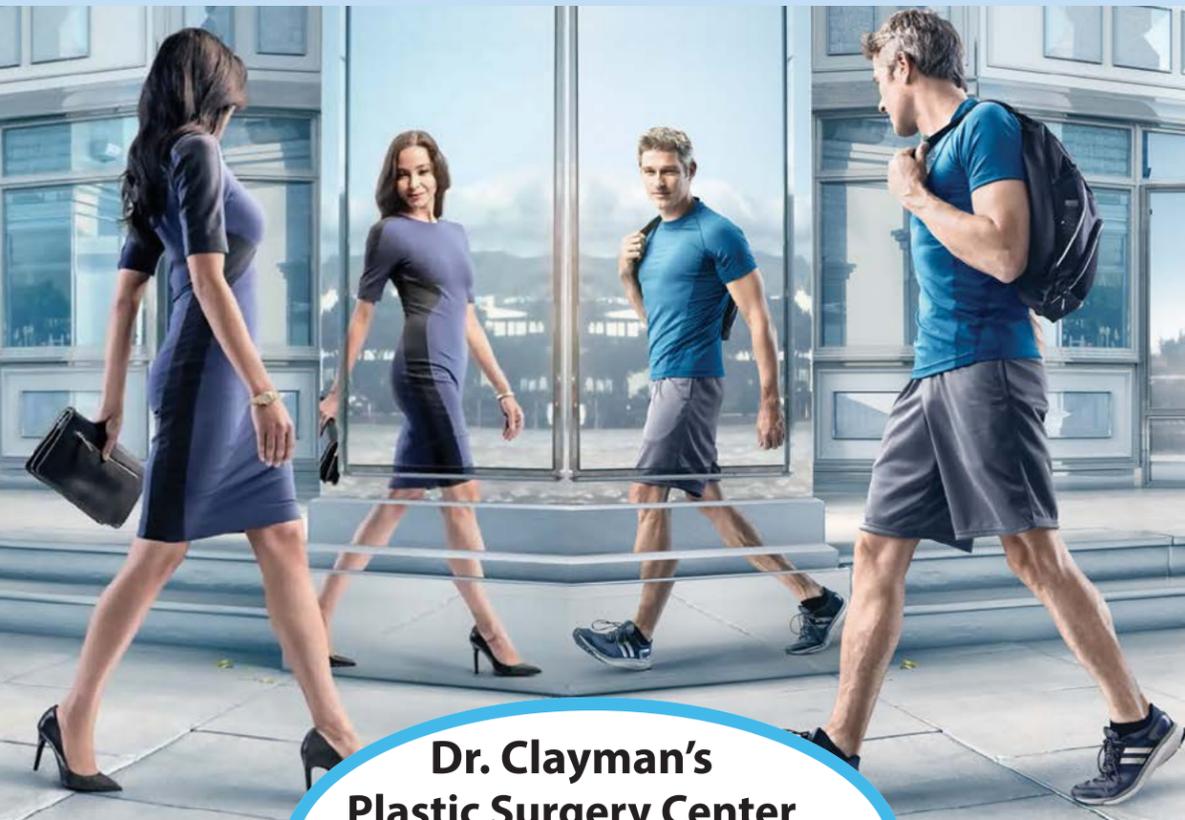
16 WEEKS AFTER CoolSculpting® session
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BEFORE



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Photos courtesy of A. Jay Burns, MD



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15 WEEKS AFTER CoolSculpting® session
Photos courtesy of Scott Gerrish, MD



BEFORE



20 WEEKS AFTER CoolSculpting® session
Photos courtesy of Brian Biesman, MD



Jerry Ferguson, Margaret Chesser, Dot Johnston, Fran Root, Darby Campa, Brenee Cummings, Laura Crooks, Brenda DeVoe, Kanani Wilson, Alyssa Henniger

Woman's Club of Jacksonville celebrates 120 years by awarding scholarships

In celebration of 120 years of service to the Jacksonville community, the Woman's Club of Jacksonville awarded six \$2,000 scholarships to women hoping to further their careers with higher education during a special luncheon May 10 at the San Jose Country Club. The club also gave a grant to the Fletcher High School music program so it would have funds to purchase sheet music and organize special activities.

Receiving scholarships were Darby Karessa Campa of Riverside, Brenee Cummings of the Westside, Brenda DeVoe, a Northside resident, Alyssa Henniger of St. Johns, Kanani Wilson of the Northside and Kayly Transue, who receive a scholarship but was unable to attend the meeting.

Campa is a graduate both of Robert E. Lee High School and the Young Women in Leadership Program, which is sponsored by the Women's Club of Jacksonville. She attends Florida State College—Jacksonville (FSCJ) while working fulltime for Citibank, and her goal is to achieve a Ph.D. in Human Services Administration. In the past, she has served as a Rethreaded volunteer, a tutor at the ARC of Jacksonville and has helped out with JASMYN.

A graduate of Lee High School, Cummings also graduated from the Young Women in Leadership program. She is a student at

FSCJ working toward an Associate of Arts degree and hopes in the future to obtain a Bachelor of Science and Ph.D. in Physical Therapy. In college, she is listed on the President's List.

DeVoe has worked for UF Health for 25 years and is currently majoring in Patient Relations with a minor in Human Resources at FSCJ. She is the first in her family of seven siblings to attend college and attain an Associate Degree as well as an Office Support and Office Specialist certificate. This spring she was initiated into the "Kappa Beta Delta International Honor Society."

Wilson, a graduate of Lee High School and the Young Women in Leadership program, is majoring in nursing at FSCJ. Her goal is to become a critical-care nurse. Henniger, a Criminal Justice major at the University of North Florida, has the long-term goal of interning with the FBI and becoming involved in law enforcement. She has volunteered at the Jacksonville Historical Society by helping to archive Woman's Club of Jacksonville records dating back to 1897.

Transue, also a student at UNF, was unable to make the luncheon. She plans to enroll in the Biomedical Science program this fall with a goal of eventually becoming a Doctor of Optometry at Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tennessee.

Local clothing designer holds fashion show, announces relocation

Over 300 guests enjoyed a high-fashion runway experience at the Garden Club of Jacksonville May 4. Drinks and hors d'oeuvres catered by Black Sheep Restaurant, music by Classern, a string quartet, seven handbags given as door prizes, as well as a year of MOMNI Boutique VIP status for every guest, simply added to the excitement.

The 2nd Annual MOMNI Fashion Show introduced a total of 80 outfits from four summer collections by local designer Joy Lee, who announced a relocation – the second in two years. Lee anticipates moving in June to 1132 Edgewood Avenue South, a 1928 house which the boutique purchased.

MOMNI stands for MOM aNd I, after Lee and her mother, who runs the alterations side of the business.



MOMNI Boutique Owner Joy Lee, Mara Strobel-Lanka



Model wearing the Alegra-Printed Skirt with Alexis Everyday Blouse



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JAPA awards scholarships during luncheon

Four graduating seniors from Jacksonville's historic neighborhoods have been named lucky recipients of the 2017 Jacksonville Alumnae Panhellenic Association (JAPA) Founders Scholarship.

The winners, who will receive a \$1,250 scholarship, were celebrated during a JAPA luncheon at San Jose Country Club May 20. The girls were selected based on recommendations, their grade point averages, high school activities, community involvement and financial need, said JAPA President Paige Hayes, noting that each recipient had to be sponsored by a current JAPA member who had known them for at least one year.

Brianna MacLean, a senior at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, was sponsored by Barbara Turner, a JAPA member from San Marco. She plans to attend the University of North Florida in the fall.

Donna Libal, Kathy Lechner, scholarship winners Patricia Montgomery and Brianna MacLean, Barbara Turner, Peggy Bennett and Paige Hayes

She is the daughter of Alicia and Mark MacLean of San Marco.

Patricia Montgomery, a senior at St. Johns Country Day School, was sponsored by Donna Libal of Orange Park and Kathy Lechner of Riverside. She plans to attend Auburn University in the fall. She is the daughter of Dawn and Jonathan Montgomery of Ortega.

Other scholarship recipients who were unable to attend the luncheon were Lillian Pittman and Katherine Britt, both of San Jose. Both girls are seniors at Episcopal High School, which was holding its commencement ceremony the same day.

Pittman, who plans to attend Furman University, was sponsored by Martha Van Der Mallie of San Marco. She is the daughter of Laura Jane and Buck Pittman of San Marco.

Britt, who plans to attend Stetson University Honors College, was sponsored by Peggy Bennett of San Jose. She is the daughter of Father Stephen and Carol Britt of San Jose.



Teresa MacGregor with Yvonne Gilberson, Annie Rini and Dana Preston

Journey2Kindness Suitcase party raises funds to end bullying in public schools

Guests at the American Civility Association's Journey2Kindness Suitcase Party not only enjoyed the chance to meet former Jaguars quarterback Mark Brunell, but they also got to hear about how the nonprofit's Kindness Literacy Education program is working to root out a culture of rudeness, bullying and meanness at two schools in Northeast Florida.

The fundraiser, held May 11 at San Jose Country Club, exceeded expectations, both in the amount of money raised and by the progress that was reported by several who spoke at the event, said American Civility Association President Amy Barnett of San Marco.

"Our goal is to get our message out of how our programs are transforming the school climate of bullying in the schools in Jacksonville, Clay County and St. Johns County," she said, noting that all proceeds from the event support programs in Jacksonville.

"We exceeded our goal, but we still need to raise more," Barnett said in a phone interview. "Our goal is to raise over \$1 million. In the Duval County Public Schools, it costs \$12 per child for our kindness literacy program and there are 128,000 children in the schools. We still have a long way to go," she said.

As guests noshed on heavy hors d'oeuvres, the group named Brunell its 2017 Kindness Hero of Year. In addition, School of Kindness Excellence Awards were bestowed on West Riverside Elementary School Principal Shawna White, and Cynthia Williams, principal of St. Johns Technical High School in St. Augustine, which serves students from 8th to 12th grade.

In her remarks, Williams said after initiating the Kindness Literacy Education at her school two years ago, discipline referrals dropped from 400 per year to 48, and as of April, only two suspensions had to be made this year. "It's a whole different culture, a culture of helping each other. When we promote gratitude we can eliminate rudeness, violence, bullying and meanness on our school campuses."

Also, receiving recognition were Logan Franks of San Marco, who was named



American Civility Society President and Founder Amy Barnett, with 2017 Kindness Hero of the Year, former Jacksonville Jaguar quarterback Mark Brunell



Bonnie Henry with Julie Phillips

Kindness Student of the Year, the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens, which received a Workplace Kindness Excellence award, and the after-school program K-Club (Kindness Club) at Hendricks Avenue Elementary, which also received Excellence in Kindness laurels. The K-Club is sponsored by Southside United Methodist's Hendricks Avenue Partnership Initiative (HAPI), which is headed by Tina Joel of San Marco.

The Suitcase Party was named as such because the American Civility Association has also collected 45 overnight suitcases and duffle bags for foster children at the Children's Home Society. The suitcase initiative honors Barnett's daughter, Angie, who was adopted 20 years ago out of foster care at age 9 by Barnett and her husband, Bill.

Having a proper bag to keep belongings together is very important to foster children, said Barnett. Many children only have garbage bags to use for their belongings when they travel from foster home to foster home and this works against their self-esteem, she said.

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Legal aid nonprofit biggest winner at annual Pajcic golf event

Each year the annual Pajcic Yard Golf fundraiser to benefit Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, Inc. gets bigger and better, and 2017 was no different. The 5th Annual Yard Course & Back 9 was a two-venue event, held at the Avondale homes of Steve and Anne Pajcic and Michael Pajcic and Katy DeBriere, and raised more than \$80,000 for JALA.

Players showed off their prowess, attempting to make a hole-in-one from the infamous Dock Hole, and were roundly beaten by a 13-year-old, who won a \$6,000

cash prize for his efforts. JALA was the bigger winner, as Pajcic & Pajcic ponied up the same amount for the nonprofit, which also benefited from matching donations, hole sponsorships and registration fees.

Celebrity golfers included Basketball Hall of Famer Artis Gilmore, Jacksonville Jaguars Carson Tinker and Jason Myers. While the golfers took their best swings, the children enjoyed a bounce house, face painting and balloon animals. Boat rides between the venues were available – just the ticket on a hot day.



Host and tournament founder Steve Pajcic tends the pin for Jacksonville University alum and NBA standout Artis Gilmore, as he approaches the green on Hole No. 5.



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Professional advice about Formosan Termites prevents disasters

Knowing the difference can help homeowners, businesses

After a long period of hot dry weather, the rain showers in the last several weeks have sent a signal to many insect pests to spread their wings and fly. Social insects like ants and termites have a division of labor within their colony. The queen controls the activity of all members. When it is time for the colony to grow she signals the reproductive members (alates), swarms to depart on flight in search of a mate. Due to this occurrence, we are currently having swarms of Formosan subterranean termites (Coptotermes formosanus) in Riverside, Avondale and the San Marco and San Jose areas.

These large swarms consist of many winged insects that can cause a nuisance, as they are attracted to any bright light. Formosan subterranean termites usually swarm in the early evening hours around dusk from late April through July. These winged reproductives do not eat wood, will not bite, and will die without access to moisture [ie. contact with the soil].

The Formosan Termite Task Force which was formed by a partnership between the University of Florida, Duval County Extension office and the Mayor's office is currently conducting a trapping program. The program's purpose is to determine how widely dispersed the Formosan termites have spread.

Identification of Formosan termites have been confirmed from Orange Park to the Westside. The main center of activity appears in Riverside. In addition, the teams have confirmed identification from San Marco to Mandarin and into the Arlington/Fort Caroline area. We also have many species of ants that are swarming. Ants and termites can be differentiated by the fact that ants have three distinct body segments and their antennae are elbowed where termites are straight.

If you find these winged termites on the exterior of your home or business it in-

dicates that a colony is somewhere in the neighborhood. Formosan termites infest living trees as well as homes. Many laurel oaks in Riverside have visible mud tubes on the exterior of the trunk, although some may be hidden behind the bark. Finding large numbers of insects inside indicates that your home may have an infestation. The winged insects can be vacuumed up easily and the contents of the vacuum disposed. Prior to vacuuming we recommend that you collect samples in a zip lock bag so that your pest management professional or County Extension office can positively identify them.

Do not panic, there are several treatment options available for treating homes and trees.

The Sentricon Colony Elimination System® with Always Active® bait was developed by Dow AgroScience to successfully treat Formosan termites in Hallandale, FL, where they were first found in 1980. This treatment includes the installation of in ground stations with Recruit HD (high density) bait. These stations are installed around the perimeter of structures

and trees. As the termites feed on the bait, they consume the active ingredient Noviflumuron, an insect growth regulator that prevents molting of the termites and subsequent control of the entire colony.

Additionally, liquid termiticides such as Termidor can be injected into the soil around the perimeter of structures and trees. If you wish to work with a company that can handle these issues, call us today.



George Richardson, Technical Director for Peninsular Pest Control, analyzes and inspects an infestation in an oak tree.



Formosan termite infestation

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Have your home annually inspected by a licensed pest control company.
- To reduce moisture, extend gutter and drainage systems at least 1 foot away from your home.
- Keep gutters clean and well-maintained.
- Do not stack fire wood next to your home
- Direct sprinklers away from the house.
- Repair any leaks in or around your home immediately.
- Eliminate wood-to-soil and stucco-to-soil contact.
- Keep plant material away from the exterior and foundation of your home.
- Repair cracks in your foundation and around your home's exterior. Formosans can use cracks the thickness of a credit card to invade.
- Take care not to disturb the termite treatment around your foundation.
- To avoid attracting swarms, turn off porch lights or use a yellow bug light.

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Despite unseasonable heat, supporters walk the oval to eradicate cancer

More than 250 participated as registered walkers in the annual Relay For Life of Riverside April 29, but many more came out to support the American Cancer Society and enjoy the festivities at Memorial Park in Riverside. The kid-friendly event included food, entertainment, live music, a bounce house, a dunk tank, and a soap bubble display from Bubbles Are My Superpower.

The cancer society raised nearly 70 percent of its \$100,000 goal through the relay. Top fundraiser San Jose Episcopal Church Livin' Lodge raised \$7,741 against a goal of \$7,500. Also surpassing team goals were The John Gorrie Condominium (goal: \$1,000; raised \$3,568) and Riverside Park United Methodist Church (RPUMC), which raised \$2,872, beating its \$1,500 goal.

RPUMC was one of 36 teams and also manned the luminaria booth for the candle-lighting ceremony later that evening. The church's minister, Rev. Emily Knight, provided parish members with a chance to dunk her in the dunking tank. Connie Hodges, former president of the United Way and a cancer survivor, succeeded in sending her pastor into the tank.

Donations will continue to be accepted through August 31 at www.relayforlife.org/riversidefl and during the last week in July, residents can support the American Cancer Society by participating in the Stick a Fork in Cancer campaign at local restaurants.



Survivors Julie Pickren and Sally Alston, Caregiver Ashley Alston, Survivor Sharon Joos and Caregiver April Joos, Caregiver Liza Klosterman, Survivor Bridget Anderson and Caregiver Brandea Anderson were on the Riverside Park United Methodist Church team.



Former United Way President Connie Hodges scores to dunk Rev. Emily Knight, pastor of Riverside Park United Methodist Church, in the dunking tank.



Renee Dumlao and Susan Burns wait for reinforcements at the Fishweir Elementary School booth.

Elegant fashion show provides funds for Foster Closet

It was a fashion show Holly Golightly would love.

With glamorous foster kids and staff from the nonprofit modeling Foster Closet's finest, guests adorned in pearls and tiaras were thoroughly entertained during the nonprofit's Breakfast at Tiffany's Fashion Show and Silent Auction May 6 at Southside's Emmaus Church.

Local musician DeSean Kirkland sang and played tunes on his electric piano as guests enjoyed an elegant buffet luncheon. Romney Smith of Action News Jax served as mistress of ceremonies during the event, which raised \$16,000 for the organization that serves more than 800 foster children per year.

A free resource for Northeast Florida's foster parents, relative and non-relative caregivers, Foster Closet seeks to provide immediate assistance to families by supplying free clothing, children's accessories, toys, and children's furniture without complicated procedures.

The nonprofit's program, The Pathway, helps teens who are leaving the foster care system to begin their independent lives by providing anything they need to start life on their own, including furniture, kitchen supplies and other household items.

Models Jamyah and Alayshia with Nichelle Kimbrough, Family Services Counselor Supervisor, Jewish Family and Community Services



Foster Closet Founder Tammy McGuire with Event Chair Cyndi Voytko and Alice Wilson



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THE WAY WE WERE: ANIS IRA DALEY AND BARNEY DALEY

By Peggy Harrell Jennings
Resident Community News

When Dr. Gordon H. Ira Sr., bought a parcel on the Black Creek in the 1950s, his daughter, Anis Ira Daley, an Ortega resident, never dreamed five generations of her family would still enjoy the rustic retreat more than 60 years later.

Even compared to a hang-gliding trip in New Zealand and a fly-fishing trip in Canada, the Black Creek farm was the place the Ira and Daley families most loved to go. It also has served as a refuge for Anis' husband, Barney.

"I would get home from work – I was gone a lot – and I would be dog tired," said Barney, an outdoor advertising executive. Anis agreed. "Yes, it was a way to get him away from work!" she said.

"My family bought the property in the 1950s. They had the pines milled," Anis continued. "My grandfather helped build it – floors, beds – everything. My brothers built the ski jumps, and Barney loved to fish there. One year Barney gave me a tennis court at the farm."

Now the Daleys' four daughters – Muffet Rhyne, Cameron Crowe, Susan Hamner, and Annie Pajcic – along with their sons-in-law, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren (with a third on the way) enjoy the Black Creek retreat as much as Anis and Barney did.

Divided by U.S. Route 17

Anis Ira and Barney Daley grew up not too far from each other, and both graduated from Robert E. Lee High School – Anis, Class of 1954 and Barney, Class of 1952 – but, surprisingly, had never met.

Barney's (real name Barnwell Roy) childhood home was in Lakeshore, west of U.S. 17, and he attended Bayview Elementary. When he was nine years old, his father was killed in an automobile accident. An only child, Barney roamed the woods, fished in Cedar Creek, camped out and enjoyed the bag swing at Clay Bluff with his pal, Emsley Cobb.

"It was right where you go into Ortega Forest now – that was part of the golf course and part of the old Florida Country Club," he said.



Barney on his home-built unicycle, 1951

"One afternoon when I got home from school, in about the 5th grade, my grandmother, who lived with us, said she heard a big crash," Barney said, recalling one of his many adventures. "I saw smoke, so I went to my friend Emsley Cobb's house. We got on our bikes and rode over to the crash site of a PBY twin engine Navy reconnaissance plane, which had clipped the chimney of Bayview School. It was in a field where all the streets ended near Lakeshore Boulevard. That area was called Splinterville.

"On the way home we found a .50 caliber machine gun. I don't know how we did it



Muffet Rhyne, Cameron Crowe, Susan Hamner, Anis and Barney Daley, Annie Pajcic

but we got it home and decided to mount it in the garage behind Emsley's house. We hoisted it into the window and were all ready in case the enemy came. This was right after the war. About two days later all these military people piled out of their cars with their guns (they didn't know we didn't have any bullets) and that was it for our machine gun."

Barney's mother was determined that her only son would be a doctor so Barney entered Oxford College at Emory University in Georgia, as a pre-med student. However, eventually the dean called Barney's mother and said, "He is just not cut out for it." This assessment was based on the fact Barney had fainted three times at Grady Hospital while viewing surgery. "I didn't want to be a doctor when I went in, and I didn't want to be one when I got out," he quipped.

He completed a degree in business in 1956 at Emory, where he was a member of Kappa Alpha fraternity, as well as editor and illustrator of his college annual. Coincidentally, Anis was yearbook editor at Salem College, in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where she earned a degree in sociology and a minor in Elementary Education.

Anis and her family, including brothers Gordon Jr. and Stewart, lived on Challen Avenue in Avondale, east of U.S. 17, also called Roosevelt Boulevard. It was the only house she had lived in until she married.

Her adventures were somewhat tame compared to her husband's. While he was riding his bike in Lakeshore, fishing, and exploring in the woods, she was riding her bicycle to West Riverside Elementary. "We were very upset that we didn't get to go to John Gorrie until 8th grade," she said.

Looking back, Avondale was "a real community," Anis said. "We would go door to door doing scavenger hunts – no one ever locked their doors. There was a bike shed from Park Street to Oak Street so kids could park their bikes. The moms set up booths under the shed for Halloween. We all went to Mrs. Baggs' Studio in Riverside for ballroom dancing, and there was a May Fete sponsored by Good Shepherd with a King, Queen, and Court. It was a kiddies' Mardi Gras! Of course, we attended Sunday School at Riverside Park Methodist Church and loved feeding the ducks across the street at the park.

"There were tea dances on the old Ortega Pier every Saturday and Sunday afternoon," Anis continued. "I went to the Canning Kitchen with my mother on the Prison Farm. My father was a doctor, and many of his patients paid him with produce, so we put up string beans, tomatoes, and jellies with help from the trustees in their blue-striped pants."

Although they grew up relatively close in proximity, Barney and Anis did not meet until they found themselves on a double date while they were home from college on summer break. Anis was on a blind date with Barney's cousin. "I could tell quickly that she was the lady I wanted,"

said Barney. "She had the greatest personality. Nothing fazed her, and she was very attractive, of course."

"The next weekend Barney called to ask me out," Anis laughed. "I said, 'I can't go out with you – you're dating somebody else!'"

Although she had committed to go to Sara and Bob Van Cleve's wedding that didn't stop Barney. He bought a tux ("I must have known she was going to be expensive.") and escorted her to the wedding as their first date.



Army Reserves, Ft. Jackson 1957

During their courtship, Anis rode the train from Winston-Salem to Atlanta to attend Old South Ball at Emory. "Mother made my dress and the parasol," she said. They joked about spending a lot of time enjoying the beautiful view in the Moravian Cemetery in Winston-Salem because Barney did not have a car. His roommate at Emory would drop him off so he could stay at a professor's house while visiting Anis at her school.

Growing a family, several businesses

"I went to work for [the Jacksonville office of] General Outdoor Advertising at 1 Riverside Avenue on my birthday, June 18, 1956," said Barney. "It was the largest agency in the world at the time. All of a sudden, I get a draft notice. That was just what I wanted to do – be in the U.S. Army as a private," he said sardonically.

"I joined the National Guard, did six months training and had a commitment for several years. I went to Officer Candidate School and achieved the rank of 1st Lieutenant and Company Commander, then spent summers in Ft. Stewart," said

Barney. "That \$100 a month was well appreciated when we had children – it bought some diapers!"

After their July 26, 1958 wedding at Anis' home church, the Daleys set up housekeeping in their \$13,250 home in Westfield.

In 1962, Barney started his own business, Daley Outdoor Advertising, by "building one billboard at a time" and then bought another company in Key West. Anis said she and the girls loved going to Islamorada to play while Barney worked. They stayed at Jerry's Sunset Inn in trade for advertising, Barney said. "They were one of my clients, and they were big on signs, but small on payments," he laughed. In addition, he owned a printing and bindery company, and a shoe store.

"We enjoyed fantastic trips to New York to buy shoes for our store in Lakewood – Christopher's Beautiful Shoes," said Anis. "It was wonderful. The runway models would walk down wearing two different shoes. Our store manager would look at the shoes and Barney would look at the girls."

Anis stayed busy with their four daughters and managed Anis Daley's Interiors on Talbot Avenue for 25 years. Their artistic gifts – Barney has created an impressive collection of watercolor paintings and their lovely home reflects Anis's eye for beauty and comfort – have been passed on to the next generations. Their daughters' talents and accomplishments are many and varied.

"Growing up, we let our girls be themselves, and they are all accomplished and artsy. They are the pride and joy of our lives," said Anis. "We always told them 'Don't do anything halfway. If you don't have time to do it right the first time, when are you going to find the time to do it over?'"

"All four of our daughters were married in my home church – Barney grew up at Trinity Lutheran – and Muffet and Annie wore my dress, which we bought at Furchott's Bridal Salon downtown. I think it was around \$500. I remember Mama thought it was awfully expensive," Anis recalled.

The Daleys have been active at Ortega United Methodist Church for over 50 years and have contributed abundantly to the community. Anis taught at John Stockton (1958-1960) and Ortega (1966-67) Schools, and served as president of the Children's Museum when it was on Riverside Avenue. She was instrumental in forming the first Nutcracker Ballet with Thelma Baggs and Mervyn Rickard. She has been active in Garden Circle, Tale Spinners Book Club, and the Colonial Dames of Florida.

Barney served on the Board of Directors of Methodist Hospital and St. Mark's Episcopal Church, where the couple was instrumental in founding St. Mark's Episcopal Day School. They agree that it is a highlight of their many endeavors. In true "Let's put on a show" fashion, Anis described establishing the school as "the greatest thing – so exciting. People were painting and putting down carpet." Barney added, "Bill Montgomery had a fire escape, I had cranes – so we put it up. I wasn't too sure about permits."

Together nearly 59 years, Anis said, "It has never been dull. We like each other and have fun together. Barney is the best storyteller, and he has story after story."



Anis Daley hang-gliding in New Zealand

– In Memoriam –
William Delavan Baldwin II
 March 25, 1927-March 18, 2017

By Peggy Harrell Jennings
Resident Community News

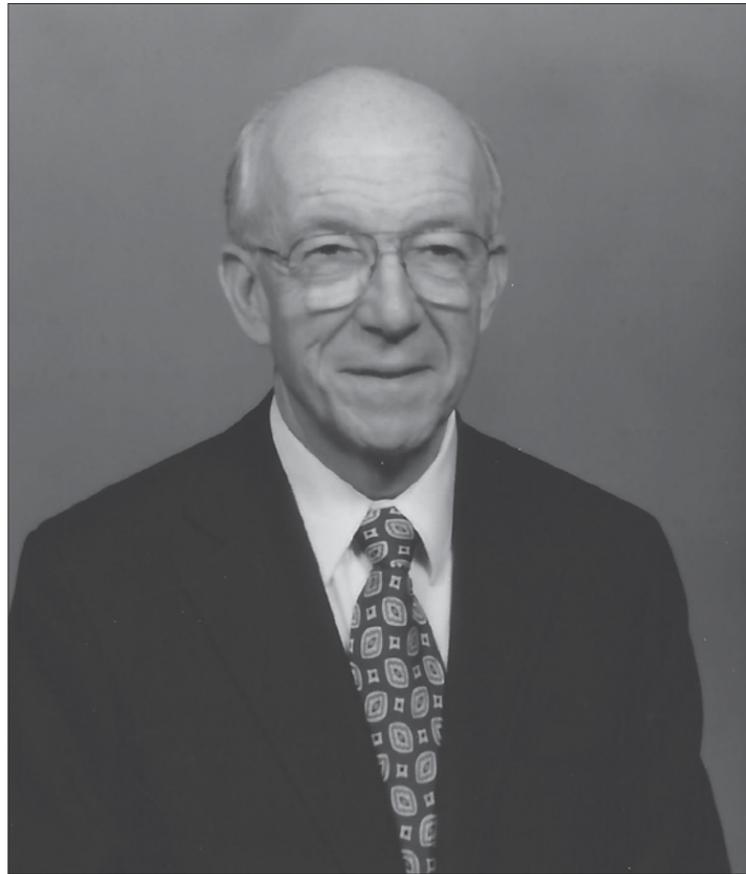
One week before his 90th birthday and one week after completing his autobiography, former Ortega resident William Delavan Baldwin passed away. For over eight years, Baldwin and his daughter, Sara Baldwin Flynn, got together every Sunday to work on recording events in his long life.

“Dad was a stickler. We re-read the first 100 pages about 10 times,” said Flynn. “He would agonize about decisions concerning the book, but when I asked him what he would call it, he joked, saying, ‘The Autobiography of William Delavan Baldwin II, of course!’”

Baldwin was born at Riverside Hospital, grew up in Avondale on Montgomery Street, attended Fishweir Elementary, The Bolles School (Class of 1944), University of Virginia (1950) and did his graduate work at the Wharton School of Business and Finance at the University of Pennsylvania.

He served in the U.S. Naval Reserves as a hospital corpsman and pharmacist mate at a Bethesda, Maryland, hospital during World War II. After returning to Jacksonville to work at Security Federal Savings and Loan Association, Baldwin became president and managing officer, then served on the finance committee for Florida Federal Savings and Loan until 1982, when he transitioned to St. John’s Episcopal Cathedral as Property and Finance Administrator, as well as directing the Cathedral’s ministry to the poor until 1994.

Part of her father’s business genius was hiring smart, competent people, said Flynn. Many of his past employees celebrated his life at a recent reunion. “Some of them were people he had hired over 50 years ago at Security Federal Savings and Loan. He was a serious person, yet very extroverted and concerned about everyone. He wanted



William Delavan Baldwin II

people to be all they could be. He was a really good friend.”

Her father “always had something compelling going on. Being with him was like being with Madonna – he had an unusual name and you couldn’t go anywhere without someone yelling out, ‘Delavan! Delavan!’” Flynn said.

“He was a real people person. He never met a stranger. A waitress at Angie’s Sub Shop, which he frequented since moving to Ponte Vedra from Ortega, was having difficulties recently so he said, ‘Let’s go out to the parking lot and pray.’ He was a lay

evangelist up until the moment he died and was very focused on his faith,” she said.

The list of Baldwin’s contributions as employee and church member of the Cathedral includes a ministry to AIDS victims and coordinator of Faith Alive Weekends across the South. In addition, he served as a lay reader and usher, was president of the Church Alliance of Greater Jacksonville, and served on a diverse number of boards of directors, including The Bolles School, Children’s Home Society, American Cancer Society and Jacksonville Symphony Association to name a few.

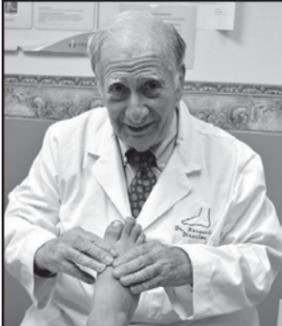
He held memberships in The New York Genealogical Society and The Society of Mayflower Descendants, among others. He was also past captain and King of Ye Mystic Revellers, a member of Ponte Vedra Inn and Club, a former member of The Florida Yacht Club and Timuquana Country Club.

Flynn said her dad loved Jacksonville and would never leave it. “He had so many great Jacksonville stories and memories. He swam a mile a day in Ponte Vedra until in his 80s,” she shared. As he was an avid swimmer, she remembered he was upset years ago when they allowed women into the YMCA, where he had begun swimming daily in his 30s. “He said, ‘Now I’ll have to wear a bathing suit!’” she recalled.

Baldwin and his former wife, Katherine Arnold Baldwin, had four children: William Delavan Baldwin III (Lychel), Sara Baldwin Flynn, Arnold Sullivan Baldwin (Lisa), and Charles London Baldwin (Adrienne), 11 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

After he and Katherine divorced, he met a young widow, Sally Smith, on a genealogical research trip in 1996. When he called her after the trip was over she said, “Oh, I guess you’ve found some information about a fantastic ancestor,” but he wanted to ask her to a movie. They married six months later and he gained two stepchildren and later four step-grandchildren.

Baldwin was a member of St. John’s Episcopal Cathedral for more than 60 years. His wife, Sally, said a recent sermon by The Very Rev. Dr. Kate Moorehead, was particularly meaningful because it discussed talking to God and reaching out to loved ones who have died. The devotional on Baldwin’s computer the day he died read: “Your relationship with your loved one has changed, not ended,” Sally said, adding that after reading this both she and Sara felt he had left them a personal message of encouragement.



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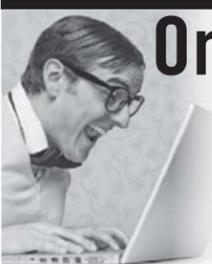
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DO SOMETHING

Want to get involved in the community? Sometimes it just takes a little push to do something, from the smallest gesture to the grand donation. Get ready to get nudged.

BY MARIAN JOHNS, RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

An inspirational saying notes that flowers feed the soul and that's exactly what Bouquets of Kindness volunteers accomplish with every floral delivery. The simple gesture of giving a bouquet of brightly colored flowers makes people feel that they are special and, most importantly, it makes them feel loved.

The nonprofit Bouquets of Kindness takes donations of flowers from weddings and other events, florists and local grocery stores, then delivers refreshed arrangements to area hospice patients, hospitals and long-term care residences. According to founder Lisa Kirkwood, as many as 150 arrangements can be delivered in a week depending on donations.

"The joy flowers bring to each resident is apparent when they receive them," said Anna Bowmen, Resident Program Coordinator at Brookdale Avondale, one of the facilities where Kirkwood and her volunteers are able to deliver flowers. "Each of our residents no matter woman or man...love the gifts of flowers. They feel honored and loved by the gifts," Bowmen said.

"Each of our residents no matter woman or man...love the gifts of flowers. They feel honored and loved by the gifts."

— Anna Bowmen, Resident Program Coordinator at Brookdale Avondale

Donate: Although floral donations and volunteer delivery persons are an ongoing need, the immediate and greatest need is for a delivery van. The van would be used for deliveries as well as for pick-up of the floral donations which they receive. You can give monetary donations to help fund the purchase of a van, or to help with the organization's operating expenses, by visiting their website at bouquetsofkindness.org. All donations to Bouquets of Kindness are tax-deductible.

Volunteer: Bouquets of Kindness continues to organize its calendar for 2017 pick-ups and deliveries, so volunteers are needed to help with arranging of bouquets and for deliveries. Individuals, church groups, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and home school groups are always welcome to help Bouquets of Kindness.



Lisa Kirkwood presents a bouquet to Susan Boxx

Lisa Did Something

Although Lisa Kirkwood, the founder of Bouquets of Kindness, gives the recipients of her floral arrangements a reason to smile, it's often Kirkwood who has the biggest smile on her face.

"Seeing the joy on their faces when we visit and bring flowers and giving them a reason to smile, telling them that they matter and that they are important and have not been forgotten...that's what really drives me," said Kirkwood.

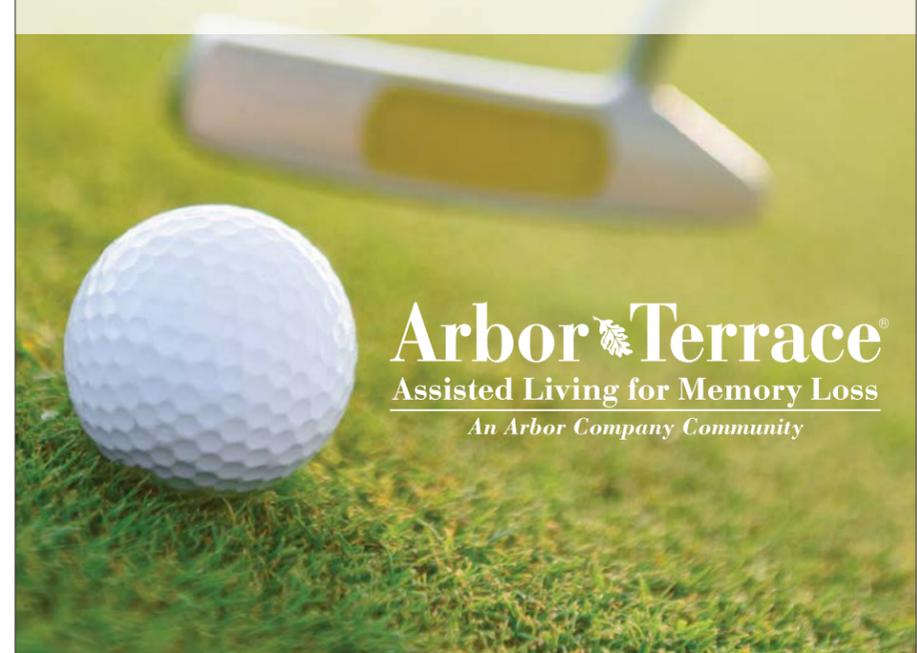
"From tears of joy to warm hugs" is the reaction Kirkwood said she receives from her deliveries. "The recipients share stories of their lives and wedding photos. They will tell us about the gardens they have had at their homes or the flowers they once painted," said Kirkwood. "Sometimes we come with unarranged flowers and help them make their own 'bouquets of kindness' as therapy. It's great to see that creativity doesn't have to be limited by age."

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Retired DA principal continues to feel love from the community

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

Although Jackie Cornelius officially retired as principal of Douglas Anderson School of the Arts with great fanfare in April, she was still feeling the love from the city and her former school in May.

On May 9, the Jacksonville City Council adopted Resolution 2017-338-A, honoring and commending Cornelius, a San Marco resident, for her 47 years of “dedicated service and leadership to Duval County Public Schools upon the occasion of her retirement.”

Cornelius began her tenure in Duval County first as an English teacher and Dean of Students at what is now Westside High School before moving on to Douglas Anderson, where she spent 29 years of her career, first as its arts director and vice principal, and then as principal. During her term as principal, she spearheaded two major expansion projects on campus, each costing \$13 million.

Under her leadership and guidance, DA received numerous national recognitions and awards and is considered one of the finest academic high schools as well as art schools in the country. “Douglas Anderson’s success is credited to Jackie Cornelius’ diligent and tireless determination to create an environment for the students to grow, engage, and excel,” stated the resolution.

Although she has retired from her role as DA’s principal, she will continue to be a fixture on the school campus in her new role as executive director of the Douglas Anderson School of the Arts Foundation.

Cornelius has also been pegged by Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry to become



Jackie Cornelius with her daughter, Amber Amerson

a member of its Art in Public Places Committee, replacing David L. Engdahl as a Cultural Council representative. Resolution 2017-366, introduced at City Council May 9 and sponsored by City Council President Lori Boyer at the request of Curry, seeks her appointment, which should be confirmed by the Council at a future meeting in June.

To honor Cornelius and the invaluable role she has played both at Douglas Anderson and within the city’s arts community, Nina Waters, president of the Community Foundation of Northeast Florida announced the creation of the Jackie Cornelius Artist-in-Residence Program at DA on May 13. The program has been fully funded for its first year to the tune of \$250,000. Water’s announcement came by way of a letter read by San Jose Philanthropist Lawrence DuBow during a retirement party for Cornelius at the Granada riverfront home of Gary McCalla.

“The program will provide endowed funds for a three-month residency for one artist or one-month residencies for three artists so they may share their creative gifts with the students of DA,” said Waters in the letter. “The program will be a dedicated endeavor for the DA Endowment, which has been housed at the Community Foundation of Northeast Florida since 1989. We are honored that the DuBow Family Foundation and the Douglas Anderson School of the Arts Foundation Advisory Board have fully funded the endeavor for the 2017-2018 school year,” Waters said.

The DuBow Family Foundation donated \$50,000 toward the artist-in-residence program with the DA Foundation Advisory Council kicking in the balance.

“Your contribution to DA can never be repaid,” said DuBow to Cornelius after the announcement. “We believe this is a fitting tribute to the culture you have created, where excellence and talent are celebrated and nourished.”

At the party, Cornelius seemed awestruck by the Community Foundation’s gesture,

saying that her first goal as executive director had been to seek funding for the Artist-in-Residence program and that she was thrilled to discover it already had funding for the next school year.

In a phone call prior to the party, Cornelius said she was “honored” to be considered for city’s Cultural Council position. “I am very humbled and very touched by this gesture of our city leaders,” she said. “I am thrilled with the possibility of being on the Art in Public Places Committee. It should be a great learning experience for me. I was taught to always give back, and I was brought up to believe that the more you empower others, the more you give through your career and personal life. I will certainly be working to be deserving of this distinguished honor in my future public service,” she said.

“Public art is important for the city because it speaks to the essence of who we are as human beings. It speaks where words fail about our essence as human beings and in ways we are unable to express in words,” she said.



Barbara Kokos with Sandy Henson, Rose Stone and Pam White



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Jr. Residents

Big day for Upson Elementary students May 19

Students at Ruth N. Upson Elementary School didn't get much classwork done May 19 during the 2nd Annual Career and Safety Day and the 1st Annual Spring Music Performance and Art Walk, featuring a combination of music and a showcase of student art.

Celebrating its 100-year anniversary this year, the Murray Hill school held its popular Career and Safety Day in the morning, a meaningful and exciting experience for the students to learn about different professions, with hands-on demonstrations and exhibits in Murray Hill Park.

Representatives of JEA, Jacksonville Fire and Rescue, the Florida Highway Patrol, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Manatee Rescue, Florida Department of Poison Control, and Sotec Fire Protection Equipment helped students understand what they do and how they accomplish their work.

Later that evening, music was performed by all the grades under the direction of music teacher Scott Shores. Beginning with kindergarten and first graders on the front steps of the historic school, the performances continued with second and third graders in the courtyard and the finale featured the school's chorus and percussion ensemble, comprised of fourth and fifth graders, in the auditorium.

Student artwork was featured in the library and in the hallways. Art teacher Kimberly Hamby had classes display an assortment of their creative art work, ranging from



Kindergarten and first graders singing in front of school as part of the Spring Music Performance.



Nathan Dixon (left), Matt with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, Noah Riley and Henry Massey as Lauren Olvera's second graders learned about manatees.



Kindergartner Daniel Decker wields a fire hose

Mardi Gras masks to art representing the solar system to young artists showing their work in a variety of formats.

Scout youngest ever in Troop 26 to earn Eagle rank

Daniel DeLong, of Avondale, is the youngest member in the history of Troop 26 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Ortega to earn his Eagle Scout rank. At age 12, he has spent two years of hard work and education to advance seven ranks and earn 29 merit badges toward his goal.

DeLong, who plans to continue to work on obtaining the remaining 108 badges, said his favorite so far was the Aviation badge, which gave him the opportunity to fly in a six-seat plane. He said he didn't think he would enjoy earning his Geology badge, but said it resulted in useful information for his seventh-grade Earth and Science class at The Episcopal School of Jacksonville.

He was also recently inducted into the Scouts' National Honor Society, the Order of the Arrow, and plans to earn the 23 Bronze,



Frank DeLong grabs his son's hand in congratulations after Scoutmaster Matt Morgan presented Daniel DeLong with his Eagle Scout award.

Silver and Gold Palm awards as he continues in Scouting.

DeLong's father, Frank, was his Cub Scout Den leader and has remained active in Boy Scouts, attending Troop campouts and other activities with Daniel. According to DeLong's mother, Kim, her son and husband deepened their relationship through the experience.



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Amelia Kathryn Dickson
Margaret Anne Fackler
Daniel Davison Gallagher
Julian Walker Galpin
Anne Catherine Grimes
Adriana Michelle Habashi
Grace Harper Hartley

Andrew Kurt Heck
William Arthur Heck
Gertrude Leigh Hetzel
Jacob Gamble Holyer
Brian Harris Jackson
Savanna Nicole Lyles
Kevin Coleman McAfee
Benjamin Charles McCormick
Isabella Rose McQuade
Elizabeth Townsend Munda
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Arts magnet school hosts Centennial Celebration

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

It was standing room only in the Fishweir Elementary School auditorium May 19 as alumni sat elbow to elbow with current students, faculty and supporters in celebration of the 100-year-old neighborhood school.



Betsy Ross and Benjamin Franklin (aka Betsy Ross Lovett and Mark Cruickshank) made an appearance at Fishweir Elementary School's Centennial Celebration May 19.

After Principal Kimberly Dennis opened the program, a Mayoral Proclamation was delivered by Dr. Charles Moreland, director of community affairs. The Dance and Drama Ensembles performed excerpts from the period-appropriate musical "The Music Man" under the direction of Cecilia Futo and Claire Futo.

Guest speakers included former Principal Andrea Akers, former Congressman Cliff Stearns, Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission Supervisor Joel McEachin, and Scott Adams, manager of Willowbranch Library. Betsy Ross and Benjamin Franklin also made guest appearances, courtesy of Betsy Ross Lovett of Ortega and Mark Cruickshank, Fishweir fifth-grade teacher.

The program ended with a ribbon cutting by School Board member Lori Hershey and Superintendent Dr. Sheree Cagle commemorating the new tile mosaic wall across the school's front lawn. Under the direction of Art teacher Maria Escriba, students and staff created clay fish, then

placed them in grade-level "schools" so that each student could easily find their own fish. A time capsule was buried under a marker for the mosaic wall, which took over four months to complete.

While Fishweir alumni checked out the Archives Room and picked out their class photos, Amanda Royce shared the story of her family's four-generation attendance at the school.

"My grandmother, Faye Murray Armes, who is 90, graduated in 1939 from Fishweir," said Royce. "My parents, Bruce Armes and Marci Fowler, met here in first grade and graduated in 1961."

Although Royce did not attend Fishweir, her brother, Matt Armes did for a year or two. Her children, Alicia (5th grade), Bo (4th grade) and Ethan (3rd grade) all attend the school where she works as Fishweir Volunteer Liaison. "I was the only one in four generations who did not go here," she said, noting the family had moved around a bit during her elementary school years.

Lee seniors celebrate Signing Day, scholarships

The Academic Signing Day event held at Robert E. Lee High School May 4 was, by all accounts, a huge success. The Class of 2017 celebrated receiving over 500 college admission/military enlistment letters and earning over \$5.5 million in scholarships.

Prior to Signing Day, to celebrate the scholarship success Principal Scott Schneider promised the senior class when they reached \$5 million in scholarships, he would do yoga with them. On April 28 at the Yoga Den in Mandarin, Schneider was front and center on his mat, joining students, faculty and staff in a Toga Yoga party. The yoga center also held a Suitcases for Seniors fundraiser, collecting dorm room supplies, toiletries and donations for college-bound seniors.



Julia Bruemmer, Jacksonville University Admissions Officer for Athletics Kree Clark, Jonah Rameriz



Brandon McCray, Jesus Hernandez, Christian Holland have committed to serving our country.

Avondale resident named semi-finalist in national Shakespeare competition

Performing a Shakespearean sonnet and monologue, Libby Kellmanson of Avondale, a student at Episcopal School of Jacksonville, was named a semi-finalist in the 34th annual English-Speaking Union (ESU) National Shakespeare Competition in New York City.



Libby Kellmanson

The competition was held on the stage of the Mitzi Newhouse Theater at Lincoln Center May 1. A total of 54

semi-finalists competed from many ESU branches nationwide.

More than 20,000 high school students from throughout the United States participated in the 2017 ESU National Shakespeare competition at local, regional, and national levels. Kellmanson won the ESU Jacksonville Branch competition.

This year actors Kate Burton and Dana Ivey served as judges.

The ESU competition is a school-based program designed to help students develop their speaking and critical-thinking skills as well as an appreciation of literature as

they explore the language and timeless themes in Shakespeare's works.

The ESU provided all semi-finalists with two days of educational and cultural activities in New York City, including an exclusive acting workshop by the faculty of the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University.

Founded in 1920, the ESU is a non-political nonprofit that promotes English as a shared language to foster global understanding and good will by providing educational and cultural opportunities for students and educators.

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Siblings lead Episcopal in state tennis competition



Siblings Evie and William Murray

William and Evie Murray of Ortega, both students at Episcopal School of Jacksonville, helped lead the Eagles through the district and regional scholastic tennis tournaments to secure a berth in the Florida High School Athletic Association State Tennis Championships at Red Bug Lake April 24-25.

The Murray siblings, who are children of Rev. Tom Murray, rector at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Ortega, played competitive tennis in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, prior to moving to Ortega in 2015.

"William and Evie have been welcome additions to our tennis programs over the last two years," said Episcopal Athletic Director Andy Kidd. "Transferring from another school and program can have its challenges, but William and Evie have been nothing short of exceptional additions to our boys' and girls' tennis programs."

William, a senior, is the top player on the boys' varsity team. He finished the year

with a personal record of 21-7, including six consecutive wins during postseason play to lead the Episcopal boys to their first state tournament since 2013. The Episcopal boys' team finished the year as regional champions and state quarterfinalists.

Evie, a junior, plays at No. 3, on the girls' varsity. She finished the year at 18-5 in singles and 17-2 in doubles, and won five of six matches during the postseason. Evie's victory in the state quarterfinals clinched a spot for the Lady Eagles in the state final four for the second year in a row. The girls' team finished the year as district and regional champions and state semifinalists.

School halls made splendid with student art

Central Riverside Elementary School held its 4th Annual Art Walk May 11, with more than 400 pieces of art on display, lining the school halls. Every student entered at least one piece, said Avondale resident Terry Woodlief, art teacher and coordinator of the annual event.

Proud parents and grandparents were encouraged to purchase the artwork as a fundraiser for the school. Following the exhibit and sales, the guests were treated to a string concert by the Cathedral Arts Project students.



Kindergartener Noah Jones and his sister, Lydia, Grade 2

Six Troop 2 Scouts earn Eagle rank



Wade Hampton, Alex Woodward, Pete Woodall, Christian Glover, Patrick Woodward and Davis Hodge

Six Boy Scouts from Troop 2, which is based at St. John's Presbyterian Church, received their Eagle Scout awards May 7 at Riverside Presbyterian Church. The young men's projects served a variety of community needs.

Christian Glover built a wheelchair-accessible garden box for Alzheimer's patients at Brookdale Assisted Living facility to earn his Eagle rank. Glover, a Bolles School graduate, currently attends Florida State University and is a member of Avondale United Methodist Church.

Wade Hampton built a picnic table, benches and a bike rack for Riverside Park United Methodist Church. Hampton wanted to do something to honor his grandfather, also an Eagle Scout, who passed away four years ago, and to help with the needs of his grandfather's church, too. He is a graduate of the Episcopal School of Jacksonville, currently attends the University of Alabama, and is a member of Riverside Presbyterian Church.

Davis Hodge built and installed a boardwalk spanning marshy areas on the running trails at the University of North Florida. A graduate of The Bolles School and a member of Ortega United Methodist Church, Hodge attends the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Pete Woodall's Eagle project was building and expanding a learning garden for KIPP Impact Middle School on McDuff Avenue, to enable the students to grow their own produce. A graduate of Bolles, Woodall is a member of Riverside Presbyterian Church and attends Virginia Tech.

Alex Woodward, a graduate of Episcopal, and his brother, Patrick, a rising senior at Episcopal, worked on projects to benefit the North Florida Land Trust. Alex, who attends the University of Florida, cleared two miles of heavy brush to blaze a new trail as well as existing trails of fallen trees or other debris, then built two 8-by-8 wooden camping platforms, using only hand tools.

Patrick was asked to build an additional camping platform, a fire pit and continue with trail maintenance and trail blazing on the island, which was greatly affected by Hurricane Matthew in October 2016. The Woodward brothers are members of Riverside Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Kevin Hunger was the guest speaker at the ceremony. Alan Wilson, the Scoutmaster for Troop 2, and John Glover, the Committee Chairman, also presided over the Court of Honor Ceremony.

Catholic school campus prepares for medical situations

Through the Michael A. Namey AED Initiative, St. Matthew Catholic School students in grades six through eight and teachers were trained May 5 in the use of AEDs and hands-only CPR. St. Matthew's hopes to purchase three AEDs to place around campus in the event someone on the campus should suffer sudden cardiac arrest, which is different than a heart attack.

The initiative was formed last year after University of Central Florida student Michael Namey of San Jose, a Bishop Kenny graduate, died after suffering a sudden cardiac arrest on campus. Namey's mother, Connie, her close friend, Dr.



Sylkia Martinez, and the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation joined efforts to ensure school campuses are trained in CPR and the use of AEDs.

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Scout earns Eagle Award

Max Edgar, an Avondale resident, is proud to be a Boy Scout and prouder still to earn his Eagle Award.



Max Edgar

"I've accomplished something not a lot of people have accomplished," he said at his Eagle Court of Honor April 29 at The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd. "I persevered where many only get about halfway through Scouts. The Eagle Award means I've done my best for something I love to do."

Edgar's Eagle project was the refurbishing of the church's wooden entrance doors on Forbes Street. He managed a team of six Scouts during the summer of 2016 to complete the stripping, staining and varnishing project. Good Shepherd, where Edgar attends, is the charter congregation for Troop 7.

A junior at Frank H. Peterson High School, where he is going through the automotive program, Edgar said he has loved cars since he was a child. "My grandfather has taken me to the Concours d'Elegance since I was three years old," said Edgar, whose personal favorite is an early 1970s Renault Alpine. "He said I was very respectful of the cars even then."

Edgar, who sported 37 merit badges on his sash, would like to be an automotive body man. He is the oldest of four children, with two sisters and a brother, who is a Cub Scout. Their grandfather, Lee Edgar, also of Avondale, is the Troop 7 Committee Chair.

Miracle babies beat odds, now college bound

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Born prematurely at 28 weeks the day before Thanksgiving in 1997, Ortega triplets Jake, Caroline and Robert Still graduated from The Episcopal School of Jacksonville last month having beaten the early odds of survival nearly 20 years ago.

"They truly are our miracle babies, born on Nov. 26, 1997 at just over 2.5 lbs.," said their mother, DeAnna Still Hawthorne. "They were whisked away at birth without a glimpse. It was 12 hours later before I was able to see their tiny bodies, all three intubated with feeding tubes and IVs in every one of their limbs, including the side of their heads. Even their eyes were covered as they struggled to breathe. It was touch-and-go for several days, especially with Caroline's collapsed lung."

They stayed in incubators until late December. "We were not able to hold them all at once until Christmas day," said their father, Dr. Robert Still.

After seven weeks in the Baptist NICU, Caroline came home first on January 22,



Robert, Caroline and Jake Still

1998, their father's birthday, followed two days later by Jake, and two more days later by Robert.

"Just as I felt I might be getting the hang of caring for a preemie, another one would come home," laughed Hawthorne.

The triplets attended St. Mark's Episcopal Day School through third grade, before transferring to Beaches Episcopal, where Caroline was sixth-grade class valedictorian. Described as competitive and a perfectionist, but humble and thoughtful, she is the ESJ senior class salutatorian and plans to attend the University of Virginia's Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy.

Jake, whom Hawthorne describes as laid-back and hard to rile, is also going to UVA and plans to enter the McIntyre School of Commerce for business, while Robert will be attending The United States Military Academy at West Point, have received his appointment from Senator Marco Rubio.

The triplets were all active in sports and student government, serving as Eagle Ambassadors, which welcome incoming students to Episcopal. Additionally, Jake was a member of Youth Leadership Jax and is a group leader for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Caroline was the Daniel Club president at ESJ for two years and a Daniel Kids summer camp volunteer. Robert, whom his mother describes as a thrill-seeker, was a participant at Boys State and has helped establish it at ESJ. He loves sky diving, scuba diving, hunting, and diamond double black snow skiing, she said.

"We are a bit proud of them and somewhat biased, but I have to say they are great kids and I think DeAnna will agree that having them all leave next year is going to be tough," said their father.

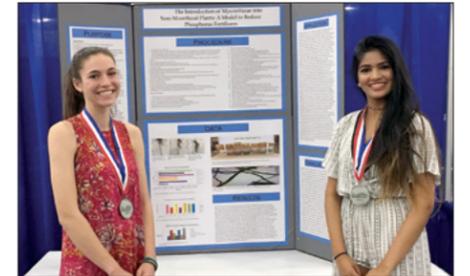
Avondale student takes home silver in international science fair

Ann Maris Walton of Avondale and her science partner Sneha Reddy of Southside brought home a silver medal from the International Sustainable World Engineering Energy Environment Project Olympiad (ISWEEEP), which was held in Houston, Texas, May 3-8. The girls, both juniors at The Bolles School, competed against competitors from 63 countries around the world.

The girls' project was entitled, "Introduction of Mycorrhizae into Non-Mycorrhizae

Plants: A Model to Reduce Phosphorus Fertilizers." They competed in the senior category of Environment-Management & Pollution, and were one of 23 teams from Florida to qualify for the prestigious contest.

It was not the first time that Walton and Reddy medaled at ISWEEEP. Last year, they were the only gold medal winners from Northeast Florida, and one of only two projects from the state to win gold medals at the international level.



Ann Maris Walton and Sneha Reddy

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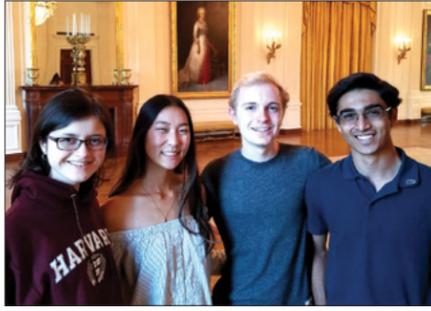
Stanton team competes in national competition

Two local students in a team of four from Stanton College Preparatory School competed against 46 other teams and placed seventh in the annual Academic WorldQuest National Competition April 29 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

Academic WorldQuest, hosted by the World Affairs Councils of America (WACA), is a team competition testing high school students' knowledge of international affairs, current events and foreign policy topics.

Stanton's team, "Who's Your Baghdadi?" was represented by San Marco resident Ashlie Malone and Riverside resident Walker Miller, along with Arvind Sommi and Haley Lee, and was coached by Frank Bunton. The team scored 80 out of 100 points.

This year's trivia questions focused on topics such as Peace and Conflict in Today's World, Combating Infectious Disease, the European Union, Countering Violent Extremism, Turkey, Global Megacities, China, Women in Technology and current events.



Ashlie Malone, Haley Lee, Walker Miller, Arvind Sommi tour the White House.

The World Affairs Council of Jacksonville began its local competition in 2005. Last November, Stanton's team beat 50 teams from 23 area high schools to advance to the national level. The four Stanton students competing in Washington were among the 188 finalists from more than 4,000 students that competed in regional qualifier competitions hosted by local World Affairs Councils, from Alaska to Florida.

The next local Academic WorldQuest competition will be held on Thursday, November 16, 2017 at the University of North Florida's Adam W. Herbert University Center.

Second generation pose for family portrait



St. Mark's Episcopal Day School alumni with children currently attending the school pose for the annual "legacy" photo. (Photo by Alex Horton of Illytronic Films)

Nearly 20 percent of students attending St. Mark's Episcopal Day School are second generation "legacy" students. During the 2016-2017 school year, 52 alumni parents enrolled 78 children at St. Mark's. The group of parents and students gathered April 26 for a fun family portrait to celebrate.

"We are so honored to once again have so many parents choose to return and

give their children the same education they received," said Kevin Conklin, Head of School. "As we look ahead to our 50th anniversary in just a few years, it is incredible to see the leaders in our community that grew up at St. Mark's, and that they are remaining in their home neighborhoods to raise their families."

Cummer hosts annual Very Special Arts Festival



Deaf students from Central Riverside Elementary School place their hands on Ryan Sinclair's drum to "hear" the music.

Nine deaf students, along with faculty and staff, from Central Riverside Elementary School attended the 2017 Very Special Arts Festival May 3 at the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens.

The Museum is home to the Jacksonville affiliate of VSA, an international organization providing opportunities in the arts to individuals with disabilities. Each year thousands of students visit the Cummer Museum during this four-day Festival. For many of these students the Festival is the only time during the school year

they have exposure to the arts and access to art materials.

The students engaged with art in the Galleries, movement and music offered by Stringed Instrumentalist Arvid Smith of Murray Hill and Master Drummer Ajamu Mutima of Neptune Beach, and art-making activities throughout the entire Museum and gardens.

This year's Festival reached nearly 2,400 students, teachers, and guardians with the help of 1,300 volunteers, including docents such as Dita Domonkos of San Marco and Richard Birdsall of Mandarin.

Stockton shines at district math competition

Two John N.C. Stockton Elementary students shone brightly at the Duval County Public Schools Elementary Mathematics Competition May 11. Second through fifth grade students from all over the county competed in the final round in four categories: Problem Solving, Computation, Number Sense and Overall Winner. Noah McDonald, fifth grade, won the Problem Solving competition for his grade level, while Emran Elias was the Overall Winner for third grade.



Emran Elias, Noah McDonald

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Front, Daisy Hardaker, Elizabeth Croft, Graziana Gowdy, Kate Peters, Bea Croft, Izzy Meiller, Leader Maria Croft; middle: Leader Tanya Hardaker, Lily Hardaker, Sophia Terrebone, Lucrezia Gowdy, Lauren Logue; back: Cecilia Croft

American Heritage Girls earn badges, do charity work

The Avondale chapter of American Heritage Girls held its annual Court of Awards ceremony May 4, at which girls were awarded badges in Gardening and Plant Science, Ancestor Detector, Creative Crafts, and Scrapbooking.

This year, Troop 611 performed a Boone Park trash clean-up, collected over 100 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, volunteered to beautify the grounds of Holy Trinity Anglican Church on Eloise Street, made “Magic Reading Carpets” and collected books for local nonprofit Books A Go-Go!

Over the summer, the girls will have a pool party and work on their Swimming Badge. The troop will meet again every other Thursday starting September 7.

Stockton Capital Campaign goal nearly doubled

John Stockton Elementary School and the Friends of Stockton engaged the community, business partners and Stockton families, in the High Five Capital Campaign to raise funds for additional student laptops for the school. The Friends of Stockton set a goal of \$10,000 and in just two weeks, \$18,860 was raised – well over the goal.

The two students raising the most money were awarded the privilege of taking over the school for the day. Kindergartner Sadie Hogan earned the title of “Principal for the Day” by raising \$920 and third grader Paige Beardsley was “Assistant Principal for the Day” by earning \$450. On May 8 the two students shadowed the administration and took over duties, such as making school announcements, conducting a fire drill and even meeting with district Regional Superintendent Dr. Sheree Cagle.



Principal Stephanie Brannan, Sadie Hogan, Vice Principal Scott Walker, Paige Beardsley

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Drama company puts new twist on old fairy tale

By *Kate A. Hallock*
Resident Community News

In an adaptation of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, playwright Jeff Hess of Avondale takes the bears on a family vacation to the Caribbean, where they encounter “a pesky intruder, a trio of zealous designers, a capricious TV judge, and a bumbling animal researcher.”

“It’s fairy tale meets reality TV – all G-rated, of course, said Hess, about the latest in nearly two dozen plays put on at Riverside Avenue Christian Church. Hess and his wife, Suzanne, are directors of the 18-year-old Riverside Drama Company, which produced “The Caribbean Cabana, The Story of Some Vacationing Bears and a Wandering Girl” on April 27.

By day, Hess is Dean of Communications at Florida State College Jacksonville, while Suzanne is a professor of English, also at FSCJ. After hours, they take on multiple roles within the Riverside-based theater arts education program open to children age 5 to 15.

During dress rehearsal April 26, cast and crew shared some thoughts about the production.

Tommy Holt, aka Papa Bear, has acted in six plays, beginning at age 7. The fifth-grader at West Riverside Elementary said the club is “really fun.”

Audrey Elsner, of Ortega, is a home-schooled fourth-grader. In her second play, the 10-year-old plays a home designer named Weiling. One of her favorite lines in the play is “Yes, it’s hideous,” a proclamation about a chair she didn’t design.

Magnolia Stewart, a pre-kindergartner at Ortega United Methodist Preschool, is a Jamaican singer. “I like being on stage,” said Magnolia, 5. “I always wanted to be on the stage and be a character.” Her brother, Cash, plays an astronaut in the play. His first time in a play, the 7-year-old homeschooled student’s favorite line is “Holy cow! She needs a bib! Chowing down in the great Caribb!”

To help the cast with lines, Suzanne Hess enlisted the support of next-door



Jane Mammalfinder (aka Ava Hoyer) hides under the table as Papa, Mama and Baby Bear (aka Tommy Holt, Emma Cate Hurd and Andrea Harrold) eat breakfast.

neighbor, Parks Easter, 17, a junior at Stanton College Preparatory School. An actor in the company’s previous plays while in middle school, Easter said it was interesting to see how excited the kids got. “They are really into it,” he said.

The drama company produces two shows a year. If your child is interested in getting involved, visit www.riversidedrama.org for details.

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 Ali, Ysabel Maria
 Allen, Eric Alexander ■
 Alt, Randi Victoria ◆◆■
 Alteus, Preslen
 Andrews, Tierra Maria
 Ange, Dylan Thomas
 Ashley, Chelsea Leah ◆■
 Baldwin, David Dietz
 Banish, Madison Nicole
 Barger, Victoria Ashton
 Barta, Kaitlin Marie ■
 Batten, Amy Elizabeth ◆◆■
 Beadle, Tatum Marie ◆■
 Becca, Zahira Kalien Alaiah ◆■
 Bell, Lauren Caroline
 Benjamin, Jacob Alexander
 Benjamin, Kiara Nicole ■
 Berger, Maya Justice Symons
 Biastre, Emalee Jane
 Bing, Germaine Robert
 Bisel, Victoria Daniela Santos ■
 Blackwell-Warfield, Connor Jacob ■

Dickie, Carter Raelynn
 Diller, Sarah Irene
 Dioneda, Jonathan Abner
 Dorsey, Madison Rachel
 Duguid, Jadynd Kendall
 Duncan, Amy Marris
 Dzierlatka, Alexandra
 Etienne, Myamyckel Shyrece ■
 Feimi, Mary Jete ◆■
 Fernandez, Andrew
 Fields-Reynolds, Tela Cheyenne ■
 Flakowicz, Erica Jane ◆■
 Flores, Cesar Andres
 Foreacre, Kenneth Charles
 Fox, McKenzie Josephine
 Foxglove, Ozni Raina
 Fyfe, Mason Joseph
 Garrigan, Joseph Leo Jr
 George, India Alexis ■
 Gibson, Gabrielle Lynn
 Goldsworthy, Eryka Hope
 Goodman, Stella Louise ◆■
 Gordon, Jennifer Rachel ●
 Gozar, Seth Barba ■
 Grab, Ryan Fletcher
 Gregson, Jordan Hough
 Griffith, Kyara Nicole ■
 Guiry, Mackenzie Kaitlin
 Guthrie, Howard Andrew
 Hackney, Holden Marshall
 Haigley, Zachary Arden
 Haley, Jessica Lynn ●
 Hall, Kennedy Irene
 Halsema, Lauren Taylor ◆■
 Harmon, Juliette Rose
 Harrison, Natasha Jade ■
 Hartless, Elizabeth Lynn
 Hatcher, Victoria Lynn
 Henshaw, Kianna Rosalyn
 Herndon, Katherine Leila ■
 Heylock, Gena Carroll ◆◆■
 Hidalgo Rivero, Aymara
 Higgins, Emily Adele ◆■

Leonard, Roudy Daniel ●
 Lewis, Julia Elizabeth
 Lewis, Manasseh Cresent
 Lineberger, Caroline Elizabeth
 Lott, Iyanna Jennae ◆■
 Lovera, Mauricio
 MacLean, Brianna Lee
 Maduro, Andrea Balaz
 Manyak, Matthew Gene
 Marchany, Gabriela
 Marek, Dennise A ◆◆
 Marlowe, Zarra Thalia
 Marshall, Makobi LaiJamar
 Masters, Sarah Bridgette

Scott, Adia Vernice
 Serrao Urbano Guillermo Andres ◆◆
 Sheffield, Tristan Reed ■
 Shepherd, Reagan Caroline ■
 Sheppard, Dylan Brooke
 Shields, Ethan Drew
 Shook, Keimon Jammae Allan
 Shuman, Breanna Rose ■
 Sikes, Bailey James
 Sims, Jacob Hart ■
 Smallwood, Katelyn Kelly
 Smiley, Madison Danyelle
 Smith, Charles Logan
 Snyder, Mikayla Dawn
 Spates, Aaliyah Faith
 Srihir, Asia Hope ◆◆
 Steele, Mackenzie Leigh
 Stone, Jacqueline Rose ◆■
 Stuart, Alexis Kennedy
 Sullivan, Paris Brenae ■
 Switzer, Haley Elizabeth
 Taylor, Sheridan Michelle
 Thomas, Tyler Stephen
 Thompson, Aaron Joseph
 Thrift, Dalton George

98%
 of the 272
 graduates will attend
 colleges, universities
 and conservatories

Boatwright, Alexandra Danielle ●
 Bolden, Darien Karlton Jr ■
 Borrero, Isabella Giovanna ■
 Bowman, Kayla Orlanda
 Briggs, Regan Louisa ◆■
 Broussard, Lauren Ansley
 Brown, Courtney Anne
 Brown, Zeotavia Taylor
 Buffington, Chloe Ann
 Byrd, Andrew William
 Calderwood, Madison Briana
 Camargo Delgado, Arelys ■
 Caplette, Cole James
 Carter, Zoey Alexis
 Castillo, Jade Alexis
 Celestine, Lauryn Kyana ■
 Celino, Vanessa Biocarles ◆■
 Cerda, Jayleen Zoe
 Chalk, Jessica Lynn ■
 Christenson-Sullins, Gabriella Monet
 Cobas Bravo, Elena Cristina
 Colson, Morgan Ashley
 Combs, Elise DiLyn
 Cordero, Mary Joyce
 Covart, Anna Leigh ◆■
 Cox, Madison Ashton
 Crabtree, Dalton Christopher
 Craig, Mia Margaret Diane
 Craven, Ross Hamilton Baker ■
 Crawford, Bailey Duncan
 Crespo, Olivia Grace ◆◆■
 Cruess, Jessie Elizabeth
 Cruickshank, Jillian Ivy ■
 Cuff, Cameron Tyler
 Darrow, Justin Richard
 Davitt, Hunter John
 DeCerce, John Giacomo
 Dedic, Jenny
 Dees, Vivian Grace ◆◆
 Delassus, Christian Lee
 Delegal, James Carter ◆◆
 Dennis, Derek Shyhiem La'Mar
 Derbecker, Morgan Ann ■
 Deyo, Anna Olivia
 Diaz, Anita Josefa ◆◆■

71%
 of graduates were
 awarded college
 scholarships

Hightower, Timothy Elijah Jr
 Hillyer, Isabel Fox
 Hiltz, Jennifer Larson Zou ◆
 Holt, Elena Mae
 Hopkins, Madison Rose
 Howard, Ari Noah ◆◆■
 Hueck, Hannah Elizabeth
 Hughes, Winter Marie
 Hunt, Charles Andrew
 Hurst, Heath Louis
 Huskey, Nicole Marie ■
 Ivey, Kiara Nicole
 Jennings, Gregory Ira Jr
 Johnson, Elijah Mackenzie
 Johnson, Joshua Kenneth Allan
 Jones, Haley Elizabeth ◆■
 Jorn, Amelia Helen ◆
 Keller, Joseph Brian
 Kelly, Kayleigh Erin
 Kobylarz, Chase Edward
 Konetzni, Jacob Kyle
 Kramer, Carly Angel ■
 Kutsch, Julia Addison
 Lamb, Jackson Paul
 Lang, Vanessa P ◆■
 Layug, Ruben Geslani III
 Le, Kayla Ngoc-Nhi
 Leake, Ashley Anna

Matusko, Kyle Bryan
 Mayberry, Kaira Ambria ◆■
 McCray, Kenya Elijah Jr.
 McGovern, Morgan Christina ◆■
 McLeod, Savannah Carol
 Medders, Kaitlin Alexandria
 Mikhedok, Kasiya
 Miller, Dalton Elizabeth ●
 Miller, Shannon Michelle
 Mills, Samantha Noelle
 Minkley, Madison Marie ■
 Mitchell, Jaime Katherine
 Mitchell, Jaydin LaTroy Harvey
 Monday, Logan Keith ◆■
 Monds, Logan Suzanne
 Monroe, Alexis Jerrae'
 Montgomery, Bailey Milton ■
 Moody, Samantha
 Moorhouse, Gracen Elizabeth
 Morgan, Madison Rae
 Newton, Halie Jo
 Nolan, Skyler Evan
 O'Brien, Cristina Theresa
 Orozco, Margarita ◆◆
 Padilla, Lauren Leigh ◆■
 Parker, Matthew Patrick
 Parrish, Amanda Michelle
 Patterson, Jeremiah Jacob
 Peavie, Kaylin Ciera
 Pendarvis, Savana Corrine
 Person, Taurien Reece ■
 Petter, Justas Lee
 Pierce, Erol Sebastian
 Porter, Frances Odessa
 Pulley, Sonya Veronica
 Puthusseril, Jason Joseph ◆◆■
 Rabon, Benjamin Foster
 Ravnell, Gregory Geordan
 Redenius, Isabelle Faith ■
 Reeves, Hannah Grace
 Reid, Destiny Nicole
 Reznicek, Trevor Buckley
 Rhoades, Catherine Maureen
 Riggins, Kyle Matthew
 Rink, Isabelle Avery
 Rodgers, Genesis Marisela ◆◆■
 Rodriguez, Angeliz
 Rodriguez, Zelina Michelle ■
 Rowan, Macey Lauryn ●
 Samuels, Madison May
 Sanacore, Christiana ●
 Sandler, Elan Binyamin
 Santiago, Ashlie Mae ◆■
 Savage, Jillian Marie ■
 Schmid, Natasha Renee Vaicus ◆◆■
 Schuster, Chloe' Jo
 Scinicariello, Alexa Nicole

51%
 of graduates will
 pursue college
 degrees in the Arts

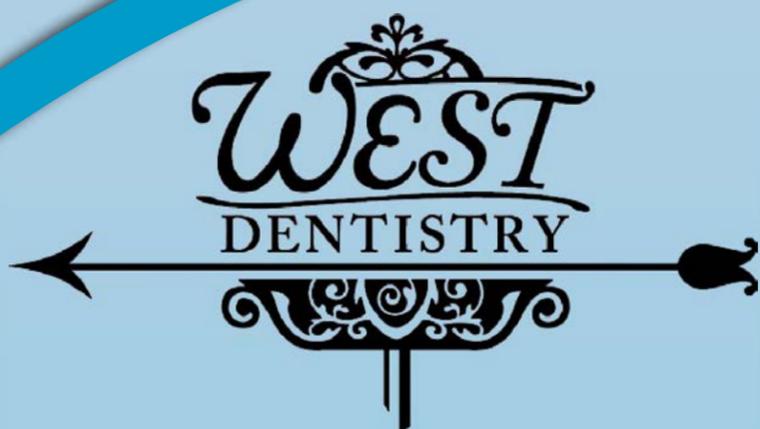
graduates have
 been offered
 scholarships totaling
\$12.3
 million

Toledo, Julieann Grace Tiamzon
 Ton, Ivy Huynh
 Torres Martinez, Andrea Nicole
 Troche Martinez, Ignacio Andres
 Trombley, Sydney Cameron
 Tucker, Jamaine Anthony Jr. ■
 Turk, Jude Ryan
 Turner, Wendy Rhiannon
 Ubas, Marisa Jacell
 Vazquez, Taleah Celine
 Velez, Andre David
 Ventriglio, Traivonn Deevoy
 Vidal Rivera, Samantha Michelle
 Wang, Zilin
 Washington, Dejah Symone
 Washington-Smiley, Neaje Nicole
 Watkins, Kameron Sean Robert ●
 Watkins, Nyla Monee ●
 Webber, Emma Grace ●
 White, India Davesha
 Wilkerson, Krysten Dore
 Williams, Allyson Catrice ■
 Williams, Dorothy Alexis
 Williams, Korri Leticia ■
 Williams, Louis III
 Wirsansky, Liam Jared ◆■
 Wise, Gabriel Lee
 Wise, Sierra Nicole
 Witt, Kimberlee Ann
 Wojtyla, Megan Kathleen
 Wong, Sage Claire
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