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# Resident

COMMUNITY NEWS



San Jose - San Marco - St. Nicholas



*Preservation society celebrates beautification awards, accolades*

San Marco Preservation Beautification Award winners: front, Dr. Michael Fox of The Antique Fox, Sarah Marie Johnston of Town Hall, Kristen and Andy Allen; back: Jay Burnett of Bold Bean, Jordan and Anne England, Terry Schneider of The Loop, Andy Baker of The Antique Fox, Edward Jones, and Chris Woolston, Beautification Committee chair. **READ MORE, PAGE 23**

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## McGala raises funds for visiting families, children

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Jacksonville has already set the date for McGala 2018 – Saturday, April 21 – but the results of this year's "Old Havana" event at the Sawgrass Marriott are still the talk of the town. Supporters generously gave from the heart to help reach the goal.

**READ MORE, PAGE 20**

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## LIFE'S LEMONS GET SWEETENED WITH FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

Jack and Jennifer Green with Holly and Jeff Tyrell were some of the many guests sporting a little – or a lot – of yellow at the Lemon Ball to benefit Alex's Lemonade Stand. **READ MORE, PAGE 20**



## ADVOCATES FOR AGING CELEBRATE LOCAL 'STARS'

Marty and Mimi Kaufman with ElderSource Executive Director Linda Levin and Dr. Ken Tannenbaum, recipient of the 2017 Delores Barr Weaver Elder Advocate Award, presented at "A Night with the Stars" June 3. **READ MORE, PAGE 21**

# Letters to the Editor

## Riverkeeper responds to JAXPORT dredging plans

The Jacksonville Port Authority (JAXPORT) recently announced a new plan to reduce the scope of the St. Johns River dredging from 13 to 11 miles. While this change would reduce the cost of the project, the Deep Dredge would still cause significant harm to our river and still require a major investment by local taxpayers. According to JAXPORT, Jacksonville would need to contribute \$47-150 million, beginning in 2020.

Unfortunately, the port also plans to begin the Deep Dredge later this year, without first seeking the consent of the City Council or the buy-in of the public. By the time the port comes back to the City Council for funding, the dredging will be well underway and the opportunity for a thorough public review of the merits of the project may be lost.

If local taxpayers are expected to help fund the Deep Dredge, then now is the time, before it gets started, to determine if this project is worth the investment of our limited tax dollars and worth the damage to our river's health.

The reality is that the Deep Dredge has not been fully vetted and numerous questions remain regarding its economic feasibility and the impacts to the St. Johns.

- JAXPORT has not been up-front about the total estimated cost to meet its growth projections. The dredging component only makes up about one-third of the total cost. According to JAXPORT's own strategic plan, the port would also need to invest nearly \$1 billion in landside improvements.
- Dale Lewis, a local logistics analyst, has conducted a comprehensive analysis that clearly demonstrates that JAXPORT's job claims and economic projections are not realistic and significantly overstated (<http://southeasternports.net>).

- The Army Corps of Engineers has not released any information updating the costs, benefits, or environmental impacts of the new 11-mile plan, while its study of the previous plan provides an incomplete assessment of the impacts to the river.
- JAXPORT still does not have a mitigation plan that would offset the significant damage that would be caused by the dredging.

There has also been no discussion about the potential tradeoffs involving essential local public services, programs and infrastructure projects that may be necessary to pay for the dredging. The City of Jacksonville already has a substantial backlog of unfunded infrastructure projects that includes streets, bridges, sidewalks, and drainage. In addition, it is estimated to cost up to \$700 million just to remove failing septic tanks that are polluting the St. Johns River and its tributaries.

By kicking the can down the road and failing to address this critical decision now, we are potentially putting our river and taxpayers at great risk.

JAXPORT has failed to clearly demonstrate that the dredging is a necessary and wise investment or to provide a mitigation plan that will actually offset the inevitable impacts to the St. Johns.

As a result, the City Council and Mayor Lenny Curry must provide an opportunity for a full evaluation of the project before the Deep Dredge is allowed to proceed. They owe it to this community, our river, and future City Councils.

Jimmy Orth  
Executive Director, St. Johns Riverkeeper

Dear Editor,

Last month in a letter to the editor, E. Rogano expressed appreciation of my condemnation of the FHCA Medicaid Nursing Home Reimbursement Plan. I'm grateful for the support.

At the same time, I was characterized as a socialist because I said the FHCA reimbursement plan boosts the profits of large corporate interests. First, I need to clarify that it isn't only large corporate interests that benefit under the FHCA Medicaid Reimbursement Plan; many small corporate interests also benefit, including some not-for-profit corporations. The providers that tend to suffer the most under the FHCA Reimbursement Plan are those that over the years have spent the most money on patient care, including some for-profit providers. Second, I'm not a socialist. I didn't support Bernie Sanders, although I was impressed by his level of support during the primaries.

Regarding Florida Medicaid. The Florida Legislature has long acknowledged that it doesn't fully fund the audited costs associated with providing care to Medicaid nursing home residents. Throughout the country, nursing home profits overwhelmingly come from other lines of reimbursement and from operating an efficient business. It's important for Floridians to understand that between Medicare, Medicaid and VA, over 80 percent of the state's nursing home care is paid for through public funds. The real issue isn't about capitalism or socialism since the private market makes up a very small portion of overall nursing home funding. So without regard to ownership type, when we talk about nursing homes we are effectively referencing public welfare programs.

What failed to occur in Tallahassee were public hearings and proper vetting of the FHCA Reimbursement Plan. There was never the first public discussion by Legislators over how welfare dollars were going to be allocated to achieve a public purpose; lobbyists, money and special interests simply overwhelmed the system. This is not a capitalist, socialist, liberal or conservative challenge; it is a direct attack to our representative democracy.

Martin A. Goetz, MS, MPA  
Chief Executive Officer, River Garden Senior Services

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# San Marco Historic District makes ‘Most Endangered Buildings’ list

By Kate A. Hallock  
Resident Community News

The Jacksonville Historical Society’s annual list of “most endangered buildings” for 2017 includes 22 businesses and residences as well as an entire historic district.

The list, presented by Dr. Wayne Wood June 15 at Old St. Andrew’s, a Gothic church serving as the society’s headquarters, located next to the Jacksonville baseball stadium, includes significant historical structures that are in danger of being lost because of neglect, development pressures and/or demolition.



This Tudor home on River Road was recently razed. (Photo provided by Jacksonville Historical Society)

This year, the historical society included the San Marco Historic District 1925-1938. The recent razing of a Tudor home, built during San Marco’s early years on River Road, in order to clear a lot for a brand-new home raised the ire of some residents and drew the attention of Wood and JHS.

The entire San Marco Historic District is on the endangered list because there were two dozen buildings that have been destroyed in one neighborhood over the past five or six years, according to Wood.

“Many of these great old mansions are being torn down to build slightly bigger mansions, and the architectural character of the neighborhood is in danger being lost...just because of the value of the river-front property,” said Wood. “We urge San Marco to consider adopting a historic preservation district ordinance like we have in Riverside, Avondale and Springfield, which has saved countless numbers of buildings.”

Each year, the society selects the most imperiled structures to increase the public’s awareness of the need for the preservation of Jacksonville historic landmarks.

Another San Marco structure that made the list for the first time is the Chart House Restaurant on the Southbank. Built in 1982 by internationally-known architect Kendrick Bangs Kellogg, it is one of Florida’s best examples of modern organic architecture, said Wood. The building was named one of the state’s top 100 buildings by the American Institute of Architects.

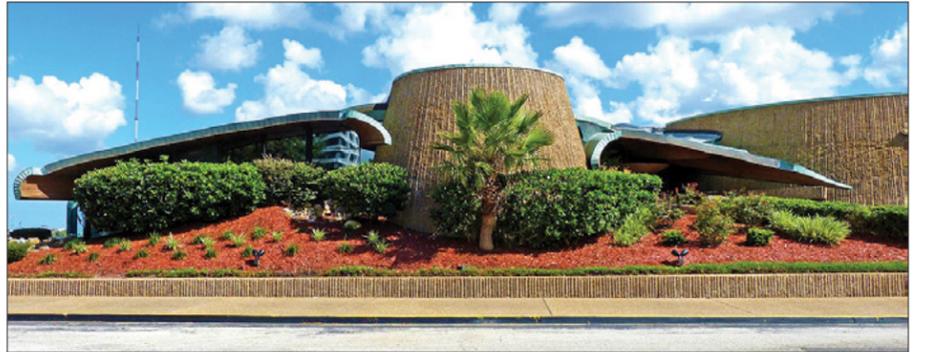
“This astonishing building has almost no perpendicular angles in the entire structure,” said Wood. “It’s flowing organic design is typical of Kellogg’s work. From the river, it almost looks like a scuttling crab.”

The building is not in danger due to any disrepair, however, it was purchased by a South Florida investor, Ramon Llorens, as part of a 6.14-acre site where Llorens is planning a high-rise development. Wood said the society is concerned about Llorens’ plans for the restaurant. “This building must be saved. It is internationally significant and known throughout the world.”

Llorens also purchased the Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant on Wamboldt Street, which also made the 2017 endangered buildings list. The 200-foot by 800-foot

*“This astonishing building has almost no perpendicular angles in the entire structure... it’s flowing organic design is typical of Kellogg’s work. From the river, it almost looks like a scuttling crab.”*

— Dr. Wayne Wood



The Chart House, a Southbank restaurant, made the Endangered Buildings list. (Photo provided by Jacksonville Historical Society)

structure built in 1924 is one of the largest industrial buildings in Jacksonville.

“It’s being used for storage. At one time it was proposed as a cruise ship terminal but that fell through,” said Wood. “It’s beautifully designed and the windows and skylights lit the building for the workers to manufacture Model T Ford cars.”

While most of the buildings added to the list are located in Downtown Jacksonville, there are also some in Springfield, Brooklyn, Riverside, and the Westminster Woods (formerly Wesley Manor) senior residence in Julington Creek, which made the list. This structure was designed by local architect Robert C. Broward in 1964, one of his most innovative designs and the largest commission of his career.



Jacksonville Historical Society Executive Director Emily Lisska, Board Member Dr. Wayne Wood, Board Secretary Maggie Means

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Sample rendering of a similar Liberty Investment Properties self-storage project

## Smaller living quarters require more offsite storage opportunities

### Philips Highway next area for redevelopment

By Lilla Ross  
Resident Community News

With all the new residential development coming to San Marco, is it any wonder that self-storage would follow? And now not one, but two companies have plans to put in self-storage on Kings Avenue.

Liberty Investment Properties in Orlando is partnering with Jacksonville-based Finley & Shell Properties to build a 700-unit climate-controlled self-storage facility at 1820 Kings Road that should be ready by early 2018.

The 110,000-square-foot facility will be three stories on 2.5 acres and will have security monitors and elevators. Estimated cost is \$9 million.

Jason Finley and Brian Shell are longtime San Marco residents.

“We recognized the need for self-storage in our area – this piece of land is perfectly suited for such a concept, and Liberty Investment Properties is the perfect partner for the job,” Finley said in a news release.

Another self-storage facility is planned for across the street at 1853 and 1877 Kings Avenue on land owned by Bee Street Investors.

NitNeil Development of Atlanta plans to put in 700 to 750 units on 1.16 acres. The four-story building would be 100,000 square feet with interior access, elevators and electronic surveillance.

Bee Street is seeking a zoning deviation to reduce the number of parking and loading spaces. The request is under review by a zoning administrator, who will issue a recommendation in July.

### Momentum on Philips Highway

The developer who wants to build a 640-unit gated community on Philips Highway near River Oaks Road got the site plan

change they wanted last month while landowners farther down Philips at Bowden Road and University Boulevard are seeking to rezone property for redevelopment.

Chance Partners plans to begin construction after the first of the year on 286 one- and two-bedroom apartments and 10,000 square feet of retail at Philips Highway and River Oaks Road.

The Jacksonville Planning Commission, at a meeting in early June, approved a minor modification, moving phase one to the north end of the 17-acre site.

Chance Partners still hasn't announced a new name for the project that is still called Jackson Square, the name of a previous redevelopment proposal that fell through.

The \$42 million project is expected to be completed by summer 2019.

Chance Partners bought the property in May for \$4.75 million from Cypress Real Estate Advisors through CR VI-Philips LP.

Chance Partners President and CEO Judd Bobilin told the commission that LandSouth Builders LLC likely will be the general contractor. LandSouth also is working on Chance Partners' redevelopment of the former Commander Apartments and St. Johns Village in Avondale.

Farther south on Philips, developers are hoping to rezone several parcels in an effort to revive an area it describes as “troubled.”

BW Phillips Bowden bought the former Frank Griffin car dealership in April and plans to build a Wawa convenience store. It is seeking to combine with a parcel owned by Burger King Corp. The 4.87 acres at 5735 Philips Highway and 4948 University Blvd. W. are zoned Commercial Community/General-2. The owners want to rezone it as a Planned Unit Development.

The rezoning request says it “will be a significant impetus for new development and reinvestment in this troubled area.”

## Charter school based on Waldorf education expands to San Jose

By Kate A. Hallock  
Resident Community News

Six years after the idea of a Waldorf-inspired public charter school was discussed by a group of parents in Atlantic Beach, the second location of Seaside Charter Schools will open this fall.

Seaside Charter Schools has leased approximately 8,000 square feet of space from Congregation Ahavath Chesed – The Temple, 8727 San Jose Blvd.

“We initially will be leasing 11 classrooms. As our lease progresses, we will be leasing a total of 21 classrooms,” said Rick Pinchot, principal. “Outside, we plan to have an athletic field, two playgrounds, class gardens, and a meditation garden.”

Administered by the Seaside Schools Consortium, the schools offer tuition-free public charter schools with a rigorous arts and science-infused, standards-based curriculum inspired by principles of Public Waldorf Education. Established in 1919 in Germany, Waldorf is based on Rudolf Steiner's theory of child development, with learning strategies appropriate to each of three stages of development. It also emphasizes the role of imagination in learning.

The original Seaside Community Charter School opened in August 2013 in Atlantic Beach with 90 children in kindergarten through second grade. In 2015, the school added a preschool and in 2016 grew to include fifth grade.

“The parents who started our first school and make up our board had always intended to open more schools in the



Jacksonville area. We began writing our application for our second charter with Duval County Schools in 2015,” said Pinchot. “Our goal was to build a school closer to downtown. We looked at locations in San Marco, downtown, Southside, Arlington, and San Jose.

“During our search, we were notified that the Temple was interested in leasing their school space. We met with the Temple and toured the facility. Some of their leaders came and toured our current school in Mayport. Both groups felt it would be a great fit.”

The charter for the San Jose location was approved on October 4, 2016 and will open in the 2017-2018 school year. Seaside Schools Consortium also offers an early learning centers for children up to six years old at each location.

“We will be starting as a K-3 in San Jose, but each year we will add a grade level to eventually grow to a K-8,” said Pinchot. “Our first year we will employ 11 classroom teachers and approximately 10 resource teachers and support staff. Two of our classrooms will be a privately-run preschool.”

The San Jose location is planning for a capacity of 182 its first year.

“Our capacity for this year at The Temple is 10 3-year-olds, 10 4-year-olds, 54 in kindergarten, 54 in first grade, 36 in second grade and 18 in third grade,” said Pinchot.

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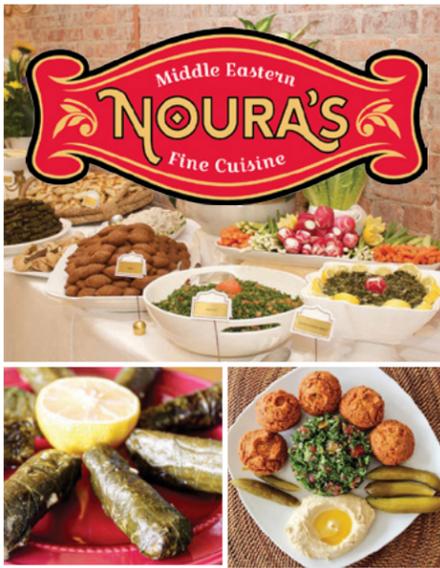
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## FDOT begins I-95/I-10 operational improvements

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) held an open house June 1 at its Training Center to share its plans for operational improvements to the interchange at Interstate 10 and Interstate 95, the Fuller Warren Bridge, and along U.S.17 between McDuff Avenue and Rosselle Street.

The designers, engineers, contractors and FDOT teams working to make the improvements were available to answer questions.

Improvements for the Fuller Warren Bridge portion of I-95 include widening of the Fuller Warren Bridge expanding northbound and southbound lanes from three lanes to four lanes.

A Shared Use Path (SUP) will be added parallel to the traffic lanes on the southbound side of the Fuller Warren Bridge for pedestrians and bicyclists connecting San Marco and Riverside communities. Pedestrians and bicyclists will be separated from traffic by a 10-foot shoulder and a standard three-and-a-half-foot tall barrier wall with an additional 10-foot tall fence.

Additionally, three vantage viewing points will be created along the Shared Use Path.

The I-10 improvements will include a dedicated ramp to Irene and Stockton Streets to reduce weaving traffic merging from I-95 southbound to I-10 westbound.

The overpass from I-95 northbound to I-10 westbound will be widened, allowing for future improvements along I-10 westbound.

In addition, sound barriers for residents will be built along U.S.17 between McDuff Avenue and Rosselle Street, and along the south side of I-10 eastbound between Stockton and College Streets. New monument signs will be constructed for Stockton and College Streets.

FDOT is also looking at the aesthetics of the Shared Use Path on the Riverside on-ramp to the path near Riverside Arts Market (RAM), citing inspirational and decorative earth wall designs.

Architecturally decorative lighting features along the bridge's Shared Use Path will be installed. The new bridge elements of the Shared

Use Path will mirror current bridge elements with special RAM and Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens artistic features.

The public can find more information about the project at YourI10and95.com. The site will offer an overview of various aspects of the project, ongoing updates, progress photos, maps and plans, including an option for submitting a question or comment.

The project began in May with survey work and the installation of erosion fences.

In June, construction crews began filling in the ponds under I-95 along Riverside Avenue to make way for a new public parking lot to be constructed on the west side of Riverside Avenue scheduled for completion by November 1, 2017. In early fall, bridge construction is expected to begin on the south side of the Fuller Warren Bridge.

Completion is anticipated in summer 2020. Construction costs are \$126 million. The FDOT hired Archer Western as the contractor and Construction Management Services: Eisman & Russo for this project.

## Matt Carlucci files for City Council seat

Long-time businessman and former City Council member Matt Carlucci filed June 22 to run for Jacksonville City Council At-Large, Group 4.

Carlucci, a 36-year State Farm insurance agent, previously served three terms on the Jacksonville City Council. During his time on the council, he served as Council President and twice as finance chair. Carlucci also served five years on the Florida Commission on Ethics, one year as chairman. Active in community affairs, he has served

on numerous community not-for-profit boards and committees.

"Our campaign is about all of Jacksonville," said Carlucci, a San Marco resident. "It's time to create new opportunities for citizens in every neighborhood and community."

The City Council At-Large, Group 4 seat is currently held by Greg Anderson of Ortega, who is leaving due to term limits. His second four-year term expires June 30, 2019.

Carlucci indicated the City's highest priority must be public safety.

"We must be strongly committed to prevention, intervention, and supporting the enforcement of law. It is critical that we put



Matt Carlucci, center, with sons Matt Jr. (left) and Joe (right).

an end to the fear of an unsafe city. We must stop the loss of lives, and give hope to a generation of at risk youth," he said. "This campaign is about city first, being family focused and keeping an eye on the long game, it's about Jacksonville's future."

## District council representatives given committee assignments

Immediate Past City Council President Lori Boyer, District 5, has been appointed by new Council President Anna Brosche to serve as vice chair of Land Use and Zoning (LUZ) Committee and as chair of the Waterways Commission. Boyer serves residents of San Marco, including the Southbank, San Jose, Lakewood, St. Nicholas and Empire Point.

Boyer will also serve on the following eight committees, commissions and councils: Transportation, Energy and Utilities (TEU); Finance; Tourist Development Council; Downtown Investment Authority (DIA); Downtown Vision, Inc. (DVI); Election Canvassing Board as an alternate; Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), and the Zoological Society as an alternate.

Boyer can be contacted by phone (904) 630-1382 or email at lboyer@coj.net.

District 14 City Councilman Jim Love has been appointed by new Council President Anna Brosche to serve as vice chair of the Transportation, Energy and



Lori Boyer



Jim Love

Utilities Committee. Love serves the residents of Riverside, Avondale, a portion of Murray Hill, Ortega/Ortega Forest and Venetia as well as neighborhoods south of Timuquana Road.

Love will also serve on the following four committees, commissions and councils: Neighborhoods, Community Service, Public Health & Safety; Waterways Commission as an alternate; Library Board of Trustees; and Military and Veterans Affairs.

Love can be contacted by phone (904) 630-1390, or email at JimLove@coj.net.

There are five standing committees and 40 boards, commissions, committees and authorities on which the 19 City of Jacksonville Council members serve in addition to their biweekly Council meetings.



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# Residents weigh in on Vision Zero Bike/Ped Policy

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

To eliminate bike and walking fatalities on Jacksonville streets, many bicyclists and pedestrians in the historic neighborhoods relish the idea of the City embracing a "Vision Zero Policy" – which calls for the City to take steps to eliminate all bike and pedestrian fatalities – as a fundamental part of its a new roadway master plan.

According to Christopher Burns, head of the City's Bicycle Pedestrian Action Committee (BPAC), the 2016 Alliance for Biking and Walking Benchmarking Report stated that, of the 50 biggest cities in the United States, Jacksonville is ranked worst in the whole country for combined pedestrian and bicycling deaths. In addition to this notorious distinction, Jacksonville is also the fourth worst city in the U.S. for pedestrian danger, according to the 2016 Dangerous by Design report, he said.

To address and change its dangerous reputation, the City hired Toole Design Group to come up with a plan to transform Jacksonville into a walkable, street-friendly place with a focus on being attractive to businesses and millennials. During a final presentation March 27 in the Ed Ball Building, Andy Clarke, director of strategy for Toole Design, said the crux of the 119-page master plan recommends the adoption of a bold "Vision Zero Policy" to help change the City's culture when it comes to bicycling and walking.

To increase roadway safety, Vision Zero Policy recommends the city retrofit roads and sidewalks with barriers, dedicated bike lanes, crosswalks, lane reductions, medians, and rectangular rapid flash beacons (RRFBs) to protect pedestrians and cyclists from vehicular traffic. Where it is not possible to change infrastructure, the plan recommends speed limits be significantly reduced to ensure pedestrians and cyclists survive accidents when they happen.

Dan Globus, a San Marco resident, cheered the master plan but said it may not go far enough.

"I think it's imperative for Jacksonville to implement the Vision Zero Policy, but it will certainly be a challenge for the community. With the diversity of needs and wide range of thoughts around walking, cycling and transportation, there will be inherent hurdles to implementation. This strategy will require city and community leaders to own the plan and make some tough calls that may not be popular with some residents but are necessary to save lives," Globus said.

"The plan is focused in its scope, and considering that we are at a crisis point in

terms of pedestrian and cyclist fatalities in Jacksonville, it is appropriate for addressing our city's issues. That said, I think the City must go further than the Vision Zero Policy to develop safe and comfortable walking and bicycling spaces in our historic districts that are less car-centric," he said, adding he is excited the plan focuses on a data-based feedback loop where the City will acquire the statistics it needs to identify priority projects, implement impactful solutions and justify expenditures.

## Policy implementation feasible

Burns agreed that implementation is key. "This is only a plan. It must be implemented and not sit on a shelf collecting dust. This plan only considers Mobility Zones 7-10. Its concepts must be applied by local City planners, Public Works, and City officials to our entire area. We must focus on reconstructing existing roads, and we must find funds in all areas," he said adding that the master plan has additional benefits other than safety.

"The problem is that Jacksonville is an unsafe place to walk or ride a bike. People are afraid. Walking and bicycling are good for public health, and Jacksonville does not have a healthy adult population," he said, noting that 66 percent of adults living in the city are overweight or obese. "Improving our citizens' health would lower healthcare costs for both government and private businesses providing health insurance, as well as out-of-pocket expenses for residents." Walking and bicycling are good for the economy, the environment, and real estate values because people want to drive less, he said.

Erik Anderson of Riverside agreed that dangerous public roads discourage would-be cyclists and walkers. "Right now, we have a problem with the lack of bike lanes on major thoroughfares throughout the city," he said. "Often pedestrian safety infrastructure is severely lacking. All it takes is a trip down Timuquana/103rd, Blanding, San Jose, or any other 45-mph-plus four-lane thoroughfare to see the issue. These routes have highway-width lanes that encourage fast driving, regardless of speed limits. That, combined with minimum pedestrian crossings and non-continuous or non-existent sidewalks and short crossing times at crosswalks, make for dangerous roads for both walking and cycling. Zoning and development reinforce the car-centric nature of the property along these routes," he said.

It is "feasible" to implement Vision Zero Policy in Jacksonville, said Anderson. "We have the right raw material to easily make biking anywhere in the city possible," he

said, noting the city has great weather, flat land, and is spread out, allowing easy access to multi-use paths and trails. "I believe the biggest obstacles are changing the local culture as it relates to cyclists and pedestrians, bureaucratic/political hurdles such as FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation) regulations, and negotiations with private entities for access," he said.

Teryn Romaine of Riverside, who commutes daily by bike to Stanton College Preparatory School, liked the plan but is worried about implementation. "We have seen enough things get sunken in government bureaucracy that it can feel pointless to make useful proposals," she said.

## Education necessary, missing from plan

Jenny Henry of Murray Hill, co-founder and director of JaxBike Coalition, said she was "very excited" about plans to accelerate the installation of RRFBs citywide and the new multi-use path scheduled to be built across the Fuller Warren Bridge. However she was disappointed that roadway safety instruction is not included in the plan.

"Something that desperately needs to be included is the educational aspect of change," said Henry. "All the road paint and signage in the world isn't going to save me from belligerent or distracted motorists, which happens to be an epidemic now due to mobile devices. Jacksonville motorists are not being properly educated on road sharing, right of ways, and the horrific consequences of distracted driving," she said.

"Education should include our police department. JSO needs to work with cyclists, pedestrians and people who ride the bus, not against them. The laws are not being enforced here, and the consequences for hitting a cyclist or pedestrian are nowhere near where they should be," she said.

Speeding fines and additional jail time might cause motorists to think before driving recklessly, she added. "We need to implement cultural-shifting education programs at the initial source – high school Driver's Ed class – and at the final source, law enforcement. We need funding for a true nonprofit bike/ped advocacy organization so experts can afford to educate the public fulltime and host events to raise awareness and encourage higher numbers of ridership," she said.

Several elements, which are not part of the master plan, could be added to make things safer for bicyclists, walkers, and drivers, said Romaine.

"It is great to see the multi-use path that will be cantilevered off the Fuller Warren

Bridge redo," she said. "It may be (completed) four years from now, and in the meantime, we will keep using the Acosta (Bridge)." In the shorter term, enforcement is needed on existing laws about which side of the road bikers use, the use of signals by cars and bikes, and for the motorized bikes, which go too fast for sidewalks, dart across roads, and are sometimes on highways, she said.

"We could really use some bike lanes in the Riverside/Avondale area, such as on Oak Street, and some sort of bike route with bike-able pavement and without on-street parking. That should be able to take you from Ortega to downtown," she continued. "It would be nice to have some cross-street routes like Barrs (Street). Most of College (Street) is doable, although on-street parking constricts it in places. New developments should include parking garages. I would also like to see public multi-use access along the St. Johns Northbank extending beyond the Fuller Warren."

Globus also said enforcement of road laws is important. "A 25-mph speed limit is useless if it's ignored," he said. "We need the City to demand that revenue generated from the enforcement of Vision Zero enhancements be returned from the state to the city and earmarked to continue improvements."

Steve Tocknell of Riverside said he thought the master plan was "very comprehensive and almost overwhelmingly so." Although he recognizes safety could be improved in Riverside and Avondale, it is the "underserved" and "disadvantaged" areas of the city that should be focused on first. "We have problems in Riverside and Avondale, but we don't have the fatalities they have in other parts of the city," he said.

As a pedestrian advocate, Larry Roberts of San Jose said he is happy the master plan included specific actions and projects that will enhance walking, but more is needed. "I wish the plan included more about the next steps – the process of identifying funding sources, matching specific projects to a funding source, and obtaining approval," he said. "This is a huge amount of detailed work that requires in-depth knowledge of how the system operates at the city, state, and national level."

"I can't avoid thinking that if the hundreds of millions of dollars being considered by the City of Jacksonville for its portion of the proposed port dredging project were spent instead on city infrastructure to reduce crashes, deaths, and injuries to vehicle operators, pedestrians, and cyclists, the results would be staggering," Roberts said. "The phenomenal improvement in quality of life in the city would make it a most desired place of life and work."



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# Proposed Southbank residential tower access design opposed by neighboring businesses

## DDRB doesn't agree

By Kate A. Hallock  
Resident Community News

All things considered, the road from initial presentation to development approval for a new 13-story apartment tower on a “challenging” site on the Southbank has not been a long one – until now.

Beginning in October 2016, when Ventures Development Group first presented its concepts for the residential tower to the Downtown Development Review Board (DDRB), the project has moved along at a relatively fast pace. After a November 2016 workshop, the DDRB granted approval with conditions on January 19, 2017 and then put its seal on the finalized plan June 1, but not without first hearing voices of concern.

The 2.9-acre property is located between the Acosta Bridge and the Aetna/Baptist Health building. Both Baptist Health and the Aetna Building property owner had legal representation at the hearing to address parking and traffic concerns.

Attorney Paul Harden, speaking on behalf of Baptist Health, indicated his client would be adversely affected by traffic issues due to ingress and egress from the proposed residential development.

“The project is focused on access to the river, when the real problems are access to the street,” said Harden, stating that vehicular access to the emergency rooms for Baptist

Health and Wolfson Children’s Hospital are just 25 feet from Ventures’ proposed driveway onto Prudential Drive.

This future access to the 300-unit complex runs along a narrow stretch of property parallel to railroad tracks. Seen from above, the project site is described by the applicant as “flag-shaped,” with the flag abutting the riverfront and the Aetna property, while the flagpole runs along the railroad tracks, ending at Prudential Drive.

Harden said the current access is part of Ventures’ design and therefore a self-imposed difficulty. “Over the last four months we’ve been working with Ventures on an alternative access,” said Harden. “We’ve offered to swap land, but just haven’t come to an agreement.”

Ventures’ local attorney, Steve Diebenow of Driver, McAfee, Peek & Hawthorne, said his client would be open to reconfiguring the site access to connect to Palm Avenue rather than Prudential Drive.

Harden said if access wasn’t resolved during the DDRB hearing, it would be “ratcheted up” to the DIA, then City Council and wherever it ends up past there” and become an issue down the road.

Harden also argued the reduction in required parking would affect an already “under-parked” Southbank peninsula.

“We do not believe the request meets the criteria for a deviation for parking. This peninsula is way, way under-parked,” Harden said. Baptist Health is currently constructing



Rendering for the 13-story mixed-use development on Prudential Drive in relation to the Aetna/Baptist Health tower. (Rendering by Nils Bolton Associates)

a seven-story parking garage, which will result in more than 2,250 parking spaces by January 2018.

The Aetna property owner, GV IP Jacksonville Owner LLC, was represented by Holland & Knight Attorney Daniel Bean, who indicated his client had the same concerns about access, parking, traffic and safety.

“Ventures’ traffic study concludes only 50 percent of the trips generated by the apartment complex will be made by automobile. We don’t believe that’s an appropriate representation,” said Bean. “The remaining 50 percent of the trips would be made by alternate means, such as walking, bicycling or transit, but you’re not going to the grocery store or to school on a bike. We think relying on that traffic study is ill-advised.”

Bill Schilling, a member of the DDRB, spoke on behalf of Baptist Health as an expert on traffic issues, stating access to the Ventures site is a flaw in the design and will present an issue in the future.

“In 350 feet you have an active railroad crossing, you have the proposed project driveway and you have a mid-block crossing [on Prudential for Aetna employees] that doesn’t see just 50 or 100 pedestrians in the morning and the afternoon, it’s measured in the hundreds,” said Schilling. “Now is the time to work out the access while we’re in the design review stage.”

Despite the opposition, the DDRB voted 4-1 to give Ventures its five requested deviations, including the reduction in required parking spaces from 559 to a minimum of 337 spaces; altered landscaping along adjacent railroad tracks at the east end of the development to provide a buffer; an increase in the allowed building height from 60 feet to 190 feet; reduced setbacks or “build to” lines due to site constraints, and reduced setbacks from the riverfront bulkheads in certain areas from 50 feet to 25 feet.

If Harden does “ratchet up” the proposed project as he indicated, the road just got longer and perhaps bumpier.

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# Riverplace ‘road diet’ gains final approval

By Lloyd Lemons  
Resident Community News

As you travel north on Hendricks Avenue and reach the intersection of Prudential Drive, you will soon be greeted by what appears to be a new neighborhood. A large new sign will proclaim “Southbank.”

From your vantage point at the stop light it will look like nothing you’ve ever seen in Jacksonville’s urban core, or perhaps anywhere in the city. It will, of course, be the same Southbank neighborhood it’s always been, but it will have a new level of neighborhood aesthetic and opportunity.

Since the idea was presented to the public in September 2015, the project has been called the Riverplace Road Diet plan. After much discussion, design work and consultation with City of Jacksonville and infrastructure officials, the Downtown Development Review Board (DDRB) unanimously voted June 15 to approve the design, right down to the color of the concrete pavers used in the sidewalks.

The new project will transform the 2000-foot Riverplace Boulevard, between Main Street on the west and Prudential Drive on the east, from a wide and unwieldy expanse of well-worn pavement, into a 21st-century neighborhood corridor (albeit a short one) that will efficiently and effectively accommodate motor vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians.

*“One aspect is the public safety aspect... the other aspect is the economic vitality of the whole area. If you go down there at night right now, it is dead on Riverplace Boulevard. That’s what we want to change.”*

— Lori Boyer, District 5 Councilwoman

The goal of the “road diet” is to better serve diverse groups of people with different needs. To that end the plan includes the following:

- reduce the travel lanes to initiate “traffic calming”
- landscape the corridor for a more attractive streetscape
- create protected bicycle lanes
- large delineated crosswalks and lighting for pedestrian safety
- street furniture for relaxing and socializing
- create better access to the Southbank Riverwalk
- improve accommodations for public transit
- 36 on-street parking spaces
- improved wayfinding signage

The Southbank has a long history as a vibrant waterfront. In the 1920s, it was comprised of a working-class neighborhood, with grocery stores, parks, churches, pubs and industry. Residents lived close to their work. In the 1960s the area transitioned into single-use office buildings, and workers drove in from the suburbs, which necessitated more of a highway system to get people in and out of the city. In the ‘90s the Southbank changed again with expanding medical facilities and fewer residents. At the time the city consciously dismantled the waterfront with its “close-in” residential neighborhoods, and effectively turned the Southbank into a land of parking lots. Even today you can still see remnants of the evolution of the Southbank over the past 90 years.

The Riverplace Road Diet will provide welcome relief from the Southbank’s busy and diverse past. It’s a change in purpose. A change from moving cars and trucks, rapidly and in bulk, to providing safe efficient mobility for pedestrians, bicycles, and to a lesser degree motor vehicles. The redesign of Riverplace Boulevard will make it easier and safer for residents of The Strand and The Peninsula high-rises to cross the road. The growing interest in bicycling will be served by having a dedicated bike lane that is removed from the street and protected from parked cars.



Rendering of proposed enhancements for Riverplace Boulevard

This people-friendly design is expected to bring in more retail and restaurants along the street, said Lori Boyer, City Council immediate past president, who also represents District 5 in which the Southbank is located.

“One aspect is the public safety aspect,” Boyer said. “The other aspect is the economic vitality of the whole area. If you go down there at night right now, it is dead on Riverplace Boulevard. That’s what we want to change.”

Nick Mousa of GAI Consultants, the company that designed the project, noted several features of the new construction that will offer significant neighborhood improvements, including installation of new signage directing people to a public access point for reaching the Riverwalk, which Mousa said ties in with getting more active use of the river; new bike lanes (which don’t currently exist) that will tie-in with the bike lanes coming off of Hendricks Boulevard, and tighter driveways from the existing establishments with clear demarcations.

This new design is a real-world application intended to safely accommodate the needs of people today, said Mousa.

The changes to the road reflect the wide variety of development that is emerging on the Southbank. It offers the waterfront, a renowned medical district, proximity to

the historic neighborhood of San Marco, the advent of The District and other planned residential developments close to Riverplace. The area will soon have all the elements to attract residents looking for restaurants, biking and walking, in a people-friendly neighborhood with a modern, welcoming look and feel. It is hoped that Riverplace Boulevard will lead the way to pedestrian and bicycle safety in other areas of Jacksonville, and be the first step in the process of how the entire area will evolve.

It should be a restorative time for the Southbank. It will provide residents with a sense of order, and visitors a sense of arrival. It’s the beginning of an infrastructure overhaul, a sustainable model where residents will be drawn to amenities and activities of the day. It is hoped to lead down a road toward long-term success on the Southbank Riverfront. Where once was a dated Southbank thoroughfare where cars, people and bicycles seemed to meander about without much concern for lanes or boundaries or rules, there will soon be a clean, modern, 21st-century urban transportation corridor that works efficiently for motorists, and safely and comfortably for pedestrians and bicyclists.

The Riverplace Road Diet plan now goes out to bidding, contracts and finally construction.



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Ann McCullen

### UNF names San Marco woman development and alumni engagement vice president

Ann McCullen, of San Marco, is the new vice president for the University of North Florida Development and Alumni Engagement. She began her new position May 20 after most recently serving as associate vice president of development and campaign director, where she secured a \$7 million gift to create the Hicks Honors College, the University's sixth college.

She will also serve as executive director of the Foundation, working closely with the UNF Foundation Board and will be responsible for the supervision of approved Foundation activities.

McCullen joined the University 14 years ago after serving as major gifts director for Habitat for Humanity International in Americus, Georgia. She began her work with UNF as the director of development in the College of Arts and Sciences, where she served for four years. During this time, she obtained the University's largest gift annuity and exceeded annual fundraising goals, averaging \$1.5 million per year.

She went on to serve as the assistant vice president of development and campaign director. In this position, McCullen directed the campus-wide \$130 million The Power of Transformation Campaign and led eight fundraisers in all five colleges. Between 2013 and 2014, McCullen served as interim vice president of development and executive director of the UNF Foundation.

McCullen has been very involved in the community, serving as a mentor in the Association of Fundraising Professionals, First Coast chapter and recently serving on the board of the World Affairs Council, Jacksonville. She also previously served as an evaluation team leader with the Women's Giving Alliance, The Community Foundation, and as a board member with The Sanctuary on 8th Street for six years.

# MOVERS & SHAKERS

## PB & J donated to downtown nonprofit

FirstAtlantic Bank, celebrating 10 years in Jacksonville, held a food drive for two weeks in May to collect peanut butter and jelly from customers and employees to be donated to Downtown Ecumenical Services Council (DESC). Exactly 350 containers of peanut butter and jelly were collected and subsequently presented to DESC on June 14 at the bank's San Marco headquarters at 1325 Hendricks Ave.

Present at the donation event were Dena Kapperman, FirstAtlantic Bank Marketing Director; Tiffany Peacock, FirstAtlantic Bank Commercial Banking Administration, Bank Officer; Beth Hood, Director of Operations, DESC; Clay Meux, Chairman of the Board of Directors for DESC.

DESC was founded in 1981 by churches in urban Jacksonville to provide food, clothing and financial assistance to those in need in Duval, Clay, and Nassau counties. DESC provides groceries for a three- to five-day food emergency, including canned goods, milk, bread, cereal and much more.



Tiffany Peacock and Human Resources Director Kelly Nelson, both of FirstAtlantic, DESC Board Chair Clay Meux, FirstAtlantic Bank Marketing Director Dena Kapperman, Theresa Bennett, FirstAtlantic Bank and DESC Board Member



## Salvation Army 'nets' more than \$2,000 from tennis tourney

The second annual Salvation Army of Northeast Florida's LOVE LOVE Tennis Tournament held May 26 at the San Jose Country Club was a smashing success for the nonprofit's Child Development Center. The women-only round-robin style tournament saw 20 players raise more than \$2,000 for the center located at 318 N. Ocean St.

Front: Ann Tiefenthaler, Betsy McLaughlin, Kimberly Maxwell, Lauren Lee, Donna Stevenson; middle: Shirley Lane, Tournament Director NeeCee Lee, Anne Le, Indu Agarwal, Judy Tygart, Diana Gardner, Renee Brust, Michelle Kalil; back: Dottie Gandee, Nina Strickland, Shariffa Spicer, Nancy Simmons, Cindy Johnson, Suzanne Vandekamp, Debbie Fleming, Lisa Simon

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# Chair announced for River Garden Silver Anniversary gala

Twenty-five years after the brand-new River Garden Foundation hosted its first fundraising gala, the Foundation is pleased to announce third-time chair and Foundation president Jeanine Rogozinski will kick off the Silver Anniversary Gala, Shimmer & Stars.

Appropriately, the 25th anniversary gala will honor Barbara Parker, who co-chaired the first gala in 1993 with Rochelle Proctor. Parker also chaired two more galas back to back in 2005 and 2006.

The black-tie event sponsored by SunTrust Bank will take place on Saturday, November 18, at the Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa.

Over the past 24 years, \$3,550,798 (net) has been raised to benefit River Garden

residents, enabling the senior facility to earn the Governors Gold Seal Award for Excellence in Long-Term Care an unprecedented eight consecutive times.

During the past two dozen years, the River Garden gala has been chaired six times by one person, 10 times by female co-chairs, six times by a couple, and twice by a committee.

Philanthropic support from the community helps residents to be able to enjoy their lives with a sense of caring and dignity. River Garden is firm in its commitment to admit individuals for care without regard to race, religion, national origin, ability or disability, when their assessed needs can best be addressed by the care programs of River Garden.



More than a dozen of the 26 women who have served as River Garden Foundation gala chairs and co-chairs over the past 25 years gathered at a private home recently for a photo op.

## Delicious Destinations in excellent hands for 16th annual event

Three couples share the honor of chairing the 16th Annual Delicious Destinations culinary event Sept. 7-9 to raise funds for the St. Vincent's Mobile Health Outreach Ministry, which focuses on the medically underserved, uninsured and underinsured.

Amy and Steven Wacaster are honored to be a part of Delicious Destinations and St. Vincent's efforts in providing medical outreach to the greater Jacksonville community. Steven is a Partner with Warren Equity Partners, a private equity investment firm that he founded in 2015. Amy is an active volunteer in the community, currently serving on the boards of the Christ Episcopal Church Foundation and Preschool and Beaches Episcopal School.

Dr. William E. "Billy" Sumner III is a Board Certified General Surgeon who also completed a Fellowship in Surgical Oncology in 2006. He has been practicing with North Florida Surgeons for eight years at St. Vincent's Riverside and Clay campuses. Billy's wife, Mollie, has served on many committees for St. Vincent's and the American Cancer Society. Billy and Mollie believe the St. Vincent's Mission goes beyond caring for those who are in the hospital and they are honored to support the outreach programs that serve so many in need in the community.



Top, Mollie and W.E. "Billy" Sumner III, M.D.; middle, Amy and Steven Wacaster; front, Sala and Ash Pradhan, M.D.

Ash and Sala Pradhan moved to Jacksonville in 2006 after they were married on Amelia Island. Ash had just finished his residency at Duke University Health System and Sala had finished graduate school at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. Ash has practiced Neurosurgery for 11 years with the Spine and Brain Institute at St Vincent's

Medical Center Riverside. Sala worked at Mayo Clinic and Volunteers in Medicine as a nurse practitioner for seven years. Delicious Destinations has always been their favorite fundraising event in Jacksonville and Sala and Ash are grateful for the opportunity to serve as repeat chairs of the 2017 event.

## New San Marco marketing boutique offers workshops



Rachel Roberts, Libby Jennison, Wesley Jennison

Oyl + Water, a new marketing boutique for beauty and lifestyle brands, recently launched a new small batch beauty line called Wild Taproot, created by Libby Jennison. Libby, daughter of Beth and Wesley Jennison, is a master formulator, herbalist, yogi and doula. Located at 1626-A Hendricks Ave., Oyl + Water, founded by Rachel Roberts of Miramar, hosts beauty and lifestyle pop ups monthly, as well as Tuesday evening mindfulness classes and monthly Saturday workshops. For more information, visit [oilandwater.com](http://oilandwater.com).

## Cohen promoted to managing broker for Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty announced the promotion of Josh Cohen to Managing Broker of the Avondale-San Marco offices.

Cohen succeeds Sheron Willson, who has been accepted into candidacy for ministry in the local United Methodist Church. Willson will remain at Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices leading the company's training and coaching programs.

For the past seven years, Cohen has worked with the company's Relocation and REO division, managing REO relationships, cultivating new REO accounts, closing more than 960 transactions and completing in excess of 2,000 Broker Price Opinions for various financial institutions and servicers. He joined the firm in 2004 as a Realtor.

Cohen's achievements include closing more than \$17 million in sales in 2013, ranking in the Top 10 for residential units among all Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices affiliates in 2014 and achieving the coveted "Legend" designation in 2015.

Company leaders are appreciative to have Willson continue at the company as she transitions into a new calling.



Josh Cohen

"Sheron Willson's influence on this company and nearly everyone in it for more than 21 years has been tremendous and we appreciate her dedication, expertise and caring heart," said Christy Budnick, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty Broker/Executive Vice President.



Sheron Willson

Willson also will work with Cohen as he transitions into his new role.

"My commitment to this company is very solid," said Willson. "The company and agents are a priority to me and my family. Over the past few years, I have been going through some amazing changes in my life. My spiritual life has paralleled my real estate career."

## Morton's The Steakhouse exceeding expectations in new location



Katie Mitura, Denise Brillli and Jenn Cook

Morton's The Steakhouse is open for business at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront Hotel. Just one year shy of celebrating 40 years serving prime-aged beef to customers in 74 locations worldwide, the well-known restaurant opened its Downtown Jacksonville location June 23.

Owned by Landry's, Inc., a Houston-based multinational, diversified restaurant, hospitality, gaming and entertainment company, the famous steak restaurant offers handcrafted and high-tech cocktails in a sleek, sophisticated atmosphere.

Morton's The Steakhouse is located at 225 E. Coastline Dr., open every day. Visit [www.mortons.com](http://www.mortons.com) for more details.



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**909 ORIENTAL GARDENS RD - \$550,000**

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**1117 RIVIERA ST**

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**6730 EPPING FOREST WAY 105 - \$650,000**

2/2/1-2,660 sqft. Welcome to one of Jacksonville's most beautiful communities of Epping Forest. The Woodford Building originally built and every unit designed by each home owner is truly one of the most elegant and well built condo buildings available.



**3135 WALTHAM SQUARE - \$695,000**

5/3/1-3,006 sqft. Stately all brick home in gated community just minutes from San Marco Square & A+ rated elementary school. Kitchen boasts granite counters, stainless steel appliances, gas range, and wine chiller



SOLD

**1025 ORIENTAL GARDENS RD**

4/4/1-4,168 sqft. SOLD by Anita Vining and Lynne Ferguson! Stainless steel appliances, breakfast bar, granite counters, & cabinetry. Large bonus area w/ separate designated office space. Bright sun room overlooks beautiful park-like backyard & brick patio.



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**3643 CATHEDRAL OAKS PL N - \$650,000**

4/3/1-3,856 sqft. Exceptional Family home in fabulous riverfront neighborhood of San Jose. Incredible detail and finishes found throughout inside and out. Formal living room offers wet bar and fireplace setting the mood for perfect entertaining.



**1431 RIVERPLACE BLVD 1808 - \$325,000**

1/1-1,123 sqft. Amazing Eastern St Johns River Views! Italian cherry kitchen cabinets and KitchenAid appliances. Beautiful Italian marble baths. Includes 1 assigned, covered parking spots, 1 assigned storage locker.



**2319 SEDGWICK PL - \$615,000**

5/3/1-3,525 sqft. Perfect family & entertaining home that looks and feels like a model home. Entry door w/ pretty sidelights & Glass leads into foyer and opens into formal living room and lovely family room.



SOLD

**1431 RIVERPLACE BLVD 1204**

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SOLD

**1431 RIVERPLACE BLVD 1002**

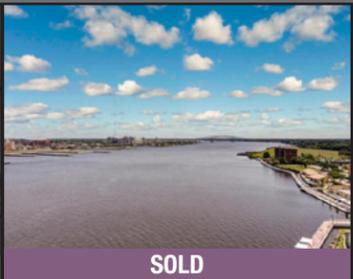
2/2-1,151 sqft. SOLD by Josh Nugent! CATCH THE BEST PRICE WHILE YOU CAN!! Beautiful 2/2 with DEN!! Rent on this beauty would be appx. \$1900 - HOA - taxes = apprx. \$900 per month PROFIT, thus GREAT investment.



SOLD

**948 OLD GROVE MANOR**

4/4-3,722 sqft. SOLD by Anita Vining! Walk inside this Perfect Family Home and make it your own. Spacious Foyer opens to formal living room. Family room features brick fireplace, wet bar, and sliding glass doors to beautiful patio and landscaped backyard.



SOLD

**1431 RIVERPLACE BLVD 1410**

3/2-1,878 sqft. SOLD by Josh Nugent! 7 units CLOSED @ the Peninsula by me in 60 DAYS! If you are thinking of selling or buying a condo call me today. Inventory is at an all time low and the market is rapidly changing.



SOLD

**7917 NARANJA DR WEST**

4/2-1,467 sqft. SOLD by Billie Bernhardt! Don't miss this adorable, WELL MAINTAINED, home in convenient San Jose close to schools and shopping! Nice kitchen with breakfast bar and dining area.



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### Birdies guessed for River Garden Senior Services

The 21st Annual River Garden Classic to raise funds to benefit the Albert Z. Fleet Geriatric Training School received an indirect boost from another local golf tournament.

At River Garden's April 25 tournament at Deerwood Country Club, sponsored by Janne and Jody Brandenburg of Hardage-Giddens Funeral Home – Dignity Memorial, Gerry Bettman made his guess for the number of birdies to be made during THE PLAYERS Championship (TPC) tournament, which was held May 9-14.

Birdies for Charity is a fundraising program sponsored by THE PLAYERS for nonprofits in Northeast Florida. Donors, such as Bettman, designate donations to their favorite charity to qualify for a chance to win a \$5,000 grand prize.

Bettman guessed the exact number of birdies made at the TPC and had the closest answer to the tiebreaker question – the number of balls hit into the water at Hole No. 17 –

from among 9,192 entries. Bettman donated his \$5,000 prize to River Garden on behalf of Gerald Bettman and Lawrence Gendzier in honor of Alois Gendzier and in memory of Irwin Gendzier and Miriam Ehrlich and the Honorable Raymond Ehrlich.

The Albert Z. Fleet Geriatric Training Center is an on-site post-secondary training school established in 1995 on the River Garden Campus. The school provides greater learning opportunities by providing both initial and continuous training in our quest to provide the finest care for residents at River Garden.

## First Tennessee Bank donation a lifesaver for Volunteers in Medicine

Concerned that having only one EKG machine could cause unnecessary delays in treatment and unexpected additional expenses for Northeast Florida's working uninsured families if the machine ceased functioning, Volunteers in Medicine reached out to longstanding supporter and community partner First Tennessee Bank to secure funding to help purchase a new EKG machine.

"Without an EKG machine, our practitioners would have to refer our patients to our hospital emergency rooms for this very basic, but critical procedure," said Mary Pat Corrigan, CEO of Volunteers in Medicine.

"First Tennessee's donation was truly a lifesaver. The EKG machine plays a critical role in the treatment and diagnosis of our patients because every new patient we see over the age of 50 is given an EKG test to establish a baseline and to screen for cardiac disease," said Victoria Findley, M.D. and Medical Director of Volunteers in Medicine.

First Tennessee executives emphasized the bank's commitment to helping improve life for Jacksonville residents.

"For more than 150 years we have strengthened communities by collaborating with nonprofit, community development and civic



Cory Meyers, VP Risk Management, Patient Safety and Privacy, Baptist Health; Cheryl Barnett, Sr. VP Private Client, First Tennessee Bank; Dr. Victoria Findley, Volunteers in Medicine Medical Director; John Schmitt, First Tennessee Bank Market President, and Volunteers in Medicine CEO Mary Pat Corrigan

partners to meet community needs, encourage growth and support sustainability," said Cheryl Barnett, Senior Vice President of First Tennessee Bank. "We are proud to partner with Volunteers in Medicine to help provide for an EKG machine that will benefit people in our community."

### Greenscape honors Zoo's Chabot at annual meeting

The Greenscape Annual Meeting and Luncheon June 6 celebrated its relationships with several like-minded nonprofits, including a long-standing relationship with The Late Bloomers Garden Club, with which they share many mutual members.

In addition, members of Scenic Jacksonville were present as were representatives from various "green" groups, including the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens.

Greenscape's relationship with the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens, specifically Bob Chabot, was given even more reason to acknowledge his service. Chabot, the Zoo's director of horticulture, facilities and exhibits, is taking a new position in Boston, so he was honored with a special handmade wreath of various woods and lauded by the entire assembly with comments and accolades.

New trustees were presented at the meeting and include Diane David, Julie Ferguson, Valerie Herrmann, and Sally Baker Lee.

Executive Director Anna Dooley gave a State of the Urban Forest address, summarizing the trees attributed to the organization for the past fiscal year.

Dooley also announced Greenscape was awarded the Florida Urban Forest Council award for Most Outstanding Project in a



Courtenay Wilson, president of The Late Bloomers Garden Club, Alice Coughlin, Anna Dooley, Greenscape executive director, Gabriele Dempsey, Susan Caven, president of Scenic Jacksonville, and Neely Towe

statewide competition for their Fresh Food Forest. They installed 74 fig, persimmon, citrus and pecan trees throughout A. Philip Randolph Heritage park in October 2016, courtesy of a grant from TD Bank.



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### Church member ordained

Mark Richardson was ordained as a Deacon of the Episcopal Diocese of Florida by Bishop John Howard on June 4 at All Saints Episcopal Church in San Marco.

Richardson had served as a Deacon intern since fall 2016 and, upon ordination, will be the first Deacon in the parish in more than a decade. Following the evening Rite of Ordination by Bishop Howard and other clergy, the All Saints Vestry and the Daughters of the King hosted a reception for Richardson and his wife, Diane.



Mark and Diane Richardson

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### Mendelson to serve as president for The Temple

Brian Mendelson, of Deerwood, has been elected president of Congregation Ahavath Chesed The Temple after serving one year as President-Elect. Mendelson replaces Brian Bialik who completed his second, non-consecutive two-year term.

Mendelson and his family moved to Jacksonville from Houston, Texas in 2004 in a transfer with his former employer, Interline Brands. Since 2010 Mendelson has been employed as vice president of sales and marketing at The Parts House, a supplier of aftermarket automotive parts

with over 40 locations in the Southeast. "When my family was looking at relocating, The Temple put us in touch with a member who really helped teach us about Jacksonville," said Mendelson. "I remember they invited my kids to swim over a Memorial weekend house hunting trip. We immediately felt welcomed."

Mendelson's son graduated from The Bolles School, where his daughter is a rising senior.



Brian Mendelson

### Local Knights of Columbus Council presented state award

The Knights of Columbus Bishop Kenny Council 1951, located on Hendricks Avenue in San Marco, received statewide recognition for outstanding community service from the Florida State Council of the Knights of Columbus. The Bishop Kenny Council was named winner of the Community Service Award for the 2016-2017 year, selected from among 350 Knights of Columbus councils in Florida.

The award commends the local Knights of Columbus for its volunteer efforts supporting Dream Nights, an event for area special needs children and their families held at the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens.

Their work included recruiting volunteers from other Knights of Columbus councils in Jacksonville and coordinating the volunteer efforts of 40 Knights who cooked and wrapped 3,500 hamburgers, and bagged the burgers with chips, fruit and cookies for distribution to Dream Nights guests. They also arranged for the donated use of large grills for the event.



Bill Kelly, Jacksonville District Deputy, Dick Collins, Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus Bishop Kenny Council 1951, and Don Goolsby, State Deputy, Florida State Council of the Knights of Columbus

"Our true reward for this project was seeing the joy and excitement on the faces of each child and their families as they enjoyed this special event," said St. Nicholas resident Dick Collins, Grand Knight of Bishop Kenny Council 1951.

The Knights volunteered 300 hours to make Dream Nights a success.

### MOSH names Amy Chamberlin new communications chief

St. Nicholas resident Amy Chamberlin has been appointed director of communications and marketing of Jacksonville's Museum of Science & History (MOSH), Northeast Florida's only science and history museum.



Amy Chamberlin

Chamberlin most recently served as communications specialist at Community Hospice & Palliative Care, where she directed several patient and staff outreach and communications projects. Prior to that, Chamberlin was associate director of

marketing at the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens, where her accomplishments included media and community partnerships for The Cummer's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year and the Olmsted Garden Restoration and Landscape Enhancement Project.

During her 18-year tenure in the nonprofit sector, Chamberlin served in key positions in public relations, media relations, strategic communications and marketing and brand management. She graduated from the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Science in public relations and a minor in business administration. She is a member of the Public Relations Society of America and a life member of the University of Florida Alumni Association.

## Berry Good Farms opens new café at The Arc Jacksonville Village



Debbie Johnson, Arc Jacksonville Board Member and interim Vice President of The Village, with Sally Hazelip, North Florida School of Special Education executive director, at the Berry Good Farms Café at The Arc Jacksonville Village

The Arc Jacksonville and North Florida School of Special Education (NFSSE) entered into a new partnership June 5 with the opening of the Berry Good Farms Café at The Arc Jacksonville Village.

The Café, an NFSSE program, will run the dinner service for Village residents Monday through Friday, offering meals for \$6 and discounted meal plans. The dinner preparation and service will engage students from the school and Village residents. Monthly family nights are planned to help connect families and residents, and a culinary day training program will be incorporated, beginning this fall.

"Our organizations have worked together in many ways over the years, and we are thrilled to begin this new partnership with

North Florida School of Special Education," stated Jim Whittaker, President and CEO of The Arc Jacksonville.

Berry Good Farms Café will incorporate the organic fruits, vegetables and herbs grown at the farm into the meals served each day. Students and residents will learn how to plan and prepare healthy meals, helping them to gain more independence and strengthening their social skills.

"It has been a dream of mine to for the residents and children from our school to run the kitchen at The Arc Jacksonville Village," said Sally Hazelip, Executive Director of North Florida School of Special Education. "I really want to help continue to develop a sense of community at The Village."

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# Florida Forum announces 2017-2018 chairs, series speakers

Ortega residents Katherine Forrester and Jane Loop Pomar will chair the 2017-2018 Florida Forum, the 26th annual series of speakers presented by The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital.

Since its inception in 1992, the Florida Forum has been honored to host some of the most influential world and business leaders and celebrated personalities of our time. The 26th annual series is no exception.

The 2017-2018 Florida Forum line-up includes Tom Brokaw, Theo Epstein, and Ambassador Caroline Kennedy.

The series opens Wednesday, Nov. 8, with legendary news journalist Tom Brokaw. The series continues on Tuesday, January 16, 2018 with Theo Epstein, president of 2016 World Series winning Chicago Cubs and will conclude Monday, March 5, 2018 with diplomat Caroline Kennedy.

The series is presented by The Women's Board's long-time partners Wells Fargo, Florida Blue and Landstar. The Florida Forum will be held at The Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts. Subscription packages are available with options to meet the speakers at private receptions. Purchase subscriptions online at thefloridaforum.com or call (904) 202-2886.

Pomar has been a member of The Women's Board since 2008 and serves on the Executive Board. She co-chaired the Florida Forum's sister event, the Art & Antiques Show, in 2014. She is a deacon at Riverside Presbyterian Church where she serves on the Youth Advisory Committee and the College & Young Adult Council. Pomar is a retained executive search professional



Katherine Forrester and Jane Loop Pomar (Photo by Amy Ploss-Samson, Figure 8 Studio)

and a partner with JobPlex, a DHR International Company, and a Leadership Jacksonville alumni, Class of 2001.

Forrester has been a member of the Women's Board for 21 years, serving on the Executive Board for the past eight years, and co-chaired the Art & Antiques Show in 2013. She is a member of Late Bloomers Garden Club. "I am passionate about Wolfson Children's Hospital, witnessing both my father, former medical director, and my mother, a Women's Board member, show me the need and great purpose of helping children in our community," said Forrester.



Hunger Fight Team Leader Sally Suslak of Traditions Realty (back row, center) recruited members for Team Historic Area Council in a meal-packing event.

## NEFAR packs meals for hungry families in Northeast Florida

Demonstrating that NEFAR (Northeast Florida Association of Realtors) Realtor and business partner/affiliate members do much more than engage in real estate business, 200 NEFAR members came together on May 11 to pack more than 50,000 meals for hungry children and families in Northeast Florida. NEFAR members also raised more than \$12,000 to buy the meals, which were distributed to multiple agencies and schools

throughout Northeast Florida that serve the hungry.

The Hunger Fight fundraising and meal-packing event was conducted through the efforts of Don Mullinax, NEFAR's Community Affairs chairman and vice-chair, and Garry Watson. These leaders, along with 11 additional team leaders, were instrumental in recruiting volunteers and raising the money to fund the food.

## Local pet food bank benefits from annual dog wash

Native Sun Natural Foods Market hosted its fifth annual Charity Dog Wash June 17 to benefit First Coast No More Homeless Pets. The dog wash, held at all three Native Sun locations, gave Jacksonville dog owners the opportunity to bring their dogs for a bath, and make a recommended \$10 donation for First Coast No More Homeless Pets. Thanks to a lot of "dirty dogs," the market was able to donate \$800 to FCNMHP.

Native Sun team members and volunteers from First Coast No More Homeless Pets soaped up the dogs as local pet vendors offered samples at the event. Native Sun gave away free gifts to each freshly washed pup.



Meghan Fiveash, Native Sun Natural Foods Market director of marketing, presents an \$800 check to Pete Kimmel of First Coast No More Homeless Pets.



Even dogs who don't like baths enjoyed cooling down on a hot day at the Native Sun Charity Dog Wash.

First Coast No More Homeless Pets is a local registered nonprofit that seeks to reduce euthanasia rates in Northeast Florida. Since 2002, the organization has facilitated more than 170,000 pet sterilizations in the First Coast area and has seen an overall reduction in shelter pet intake, as well as a 90 percent-plus decrease in the number of animals being euthanized.

Native Sun also serves as a drop-off location for the FCNMHP Jacksonville Pet Food Bank, which opened in March 2010, giving qualified low-income families pet food so they may keep their pets in this challenging economy. Since then, more than 700,000 pounds of food have been distributed to more than 7,500 pets.

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# Yoga 4 Change receives business grant

Kathryn Thomas, Navy veteran and military spouse, as well as CEO of Yoga 4 Change received a \$3,000 grant as a second place award from the StreetShares Foundation's Military Spouse Veteran Small Business Awards.

Thomas served in the U.S. Navy for seven years as a pilot, a dream of hers since she was 11. She injured her ankle while deployed, which led to other injuries and medical retirement. To recover, Thomas turned to yoga.

She founded Yoga 4 Change, a nonprofit that brings a purpose-driven yoga curriculum to veterans, incarcerated individuals, vulnerable youth and those suffering from substance abuse.

"It doesn't matter if someone was incarcerated or struggling with PTSD," Thomas said. "If someone has gone through a certain path, he or she doesn't have to repeat it."

Yoga 4 Change has served more than 20,000 individuals all over Jacksonville. The



Kathryn Thomas

12 yoga instructors teach at different facilities such as correctional facilities, prisons, outpatient clinics, schools and halfway houses. Duval County judges are incorporating Yoga 4 Change into prisoners' rehabilitation program.

"Instead of sentencing them to domestic violence or anger management courses, they're being sentenced to Yoga 4 Change classes," Thomas said. "We'll be teaching

*"We'll be teaching people who are going to be released in the next six months, positive ways to deal with depression, anxiety and substance abuse."*

— Kathryn Thomas, CEO, Yoga 4 Change

people who are going to be released in the next six months, positive ways to deal with depression, anxiety and substance abuse."

StreetShares Foundation, located outside Washington, D.C., is a nonprofit whose mission is to inspire, educate, and support veterans' business ownership. Cash awards are given monthly to veteran, current reserve, active duty members and military spouse business owners.



Alan Pickert

## St. Nicholas man named 2017 Lawyer of the Year

St. Nicholas resident Alan Pickert was named the Jacksonville Bar Association's prestigious 2017 Lawyer of the Year award, chosen from among 2,200 lawyers who practice in North Florida.

Pickert, formerly a longtime resident of San Marco, has received numerous legal awards including being named as one of the top 20 Asbestos lawyers in the nation, top one percent of lawyers in Florida, Top 100 Trial Lawyers by National Trial Lawyer, Super Lawyer and Legal Elite, to name just a few.

Outside the courtroom, Pickert has been heavily involved with ALS (Evan's Hope for ALS), HEAL (Healing Every Autistic Life), Special Olympics, the Sulzbacher Homeless Shelter, Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, the Mentoring Program and served as the Yates YMCA Campaign Chair. He also has served on the Jacksonville Ethics Commission for many years.

## Two realtors joins Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices

Miramar resident Katherine Wohlers and Deerwood resident Beth Chesak have joined the San Marco office of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty.

Following a career in orthodontics, Wohlers became a Realtor after moving back to Jacksonville with her husband, Scott, and two children.

"It is an honor to assist my clients in finding their dream home – that they

entrust me with helping them during one of the most important decisions of their lives is why I'm a Realtor," said Wohlers.

Chesak spent more than 20 years in corporation relocation, citing that experience gave her an eye for staging, curb appeal and renovation potential.

When not working, Chesak enjoys tennis, bicycling and traveling with her husband, Randy, two Shih Tzus and, when they are able, her two grown children.



Katherine Wohlers



Beth Chesak

## Olivia Bush recognized by Florida's First Lady for community leadership

Accompanied by her son, Charles, Miramar resident Olivia Bush was an honoree at the annual Community Leadership Dinner, sponsored by First Lady of Florida Ann Scott at the Governor's Mansion in Tallahassee January 31.

The event recognized Floridians who have demonstrated leadership in their communities, state, and the nation. Bush is director of charitable gift planning at Fleet Landing. She has also worked in publishing with the Jacksonville Business Journal and the Ponte Vedra Recorder.

There were approximately 20 honorees and their guests in attendance. Like similar events hosted by the Scotts, those recognized included a mix of public officials, political appointees, and community



Charles Bush, Ann Scott, Olivia Bush

leaders. The honorees were asked to introduce themselves and speak about what they do that shows their commitment to Florida and leadership, whether through their career or in volunteering.

## Local bar association president passes gavel to neighbor

Geddes D. Anderson Jr. has passed the gavel of president of the Jacksonville Bar Association to an old friend, T.A. "Tad" Delegal.

Not only are they San Marco residents who live near each other, they have law degrees from the University of Florida and worked in the State Attorney's Office before going into civil litigation. Delegal specializes in employment law; Anderson in business litigation.

They've served as co-counsels on several cases, including a couple of "big wins."

And they occasionally get in nine holes at San Jose Country Club.

"We're closer than most presidents passing the baton," Anderson said.

But the odds of the Jacksonville Bar president living in San Marco are pretty



Tad Delegal and Geddes Anderson

high because a lot of lawyers live in the San Marco area, Delegal said.

"It's a nice neighborhood and it's five minutes from the courthouse," Delegal said. "When you work as many hours as lawyers do, you don't have time for a commute from the beach."

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# Real estate firm rebrands to meet market demand

## Company now referred to as First Coast Sotheby's International Realty

The real estate market is moving at a brisk pace in Northeast Florida with growth and change around every corner. For one local real estate company, formerly known as Manormor Sotheby's International Realty, that pace is fueling a complete company rebranding and strategic investments to serve more buyers and sellers across the region. While maintaining the global connections the Sotheby's name delivers, the local leadership team is moving full speed ahead and will now be referred to as First Coast Sotheby's International Realty.

The firm has seen a consistent level of growth, and maintained the same level of outstanding service, while expanding from one office to four within seven and a half years.

"We've been incredibly fortunate over the last several years, increasing our footprint to serve more buyers and sellers in North Florida," said Managing Broker and Principal Jeff Chefan. "Not only can we leverage our strength in the local market, we offer a

unique worldwide exposure to the luxury buyer and seller – one of the many benefits to being affiliated with Sotheby's."

Chefan has been connecting extraordinary people with extraordinary properties for decades, having built luxury homes for 25 years before becoming a managing broker on the sales and marketing side of real estate.

"It's an exciting time for us. We're serving more buyers that look to our area to grow their real estate portfolios, and relocation to the market has been on the rise as well. More buyers are discovering North Florida and we're excited to help them discover the best properties, while catering to their needs with the best service in the industry," said Jane Chefan, Jeff's wife and partner and one of North Florida's leading agents.

The timing for the rebranding has been carefully designed, as the relocation of offices and the growing presence on Amelia Island has been in the works for years. The new locations will help further the company's reach, while maintaining impeccable service to clients.

"We've relocated to a well-appointed new office space near Ruth's Chris Steakhouse and Restaurant Medure in the Veranda Building in Ponte Vedra, having moved recently from our Marsh Landing Parkway office," said Jane. "We're also excited to open

our newest location in the Ritz-Carlton hotel on Amelia [Island]."

The real estate firm will build on its strong representation along the Florida coastline from Amelia Island, south to the beaches of Ponte Vedra and St. Augustine, to the riverfront estates along the St. Johns River and equestrian properties westward of the city.

With a shared vision and goal to serve the entire region, strategic office locations serving each part of North Florida have been relocated, renovated, and leveraged to gain more visibility to continue offering

the best service in the industry. "We're poised for continued growth and we'll always strive to serve our clients," said Jeff. "Our outstanding team of agents – across the board – bring to every relationship an emphasis on exceptional service and a practiced eye for recognizing the unique value of a home. At heart, we are a company that treasures the uniquely beautiful and the simple joy of presenting to clients not just a house but the perfect home."

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*Not only can we leverage our strength in the local market, we offer a unique worldwide exposure to the luxury buyer and seller – one of the many benefits to being affiliated with Sotheby's.*

— Jeff Chefan, Managing Broker and Principal

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It is always great to see professional athletes giving back to our community. That's why the Pajcics support Jacksonville Jaguar receiver # 88 Allen Hurns and the charity his mother founded called 88 Blessings. The group assists single mothers and families as they deal with their struggles and challenges. 88 women were honored at a recent gala event.



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**'A Night in Old Havana'**  
brings out McGala guests

The mission of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Jacksonville was celebrated by 500 supporters and community patrons May 20 in "Old Havana" style at the 2017 McGala, complete with antique automobiles, a cigar rolling station, bongo music and a mojito bar.

Held at Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa, the evening included a delicious dinner, live entertainment, a fabulous silent and live auction, dancing, and a heartfelt program which raised \$300,000 to help the families, programs and services provided by RMHC of Jacksonville.



RMHC of Jacksonville Executive Director Diane Boyle, Development Director Carol Harrison, McGala 2017 Co-Chairs Gina Fishman and Shannon Connell

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Sarah Olson with Sheila Cribb and Sheena O'Connors



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Marie O'Keefe with Chris Kuhl and Beth Briand

Molly and Bill Hug



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Local financial firm supports

When tasked with taking lemons and making lemonade, patrons were happy to oblige the request at the Lemon Ball, a recent fundraiser to help battle childhood cancer. The efforts and monies raised on behalf of Alex's Lemonade Stand, a nonprofit dedicated to funding research, delivering financial assistance and relief of side effects of treatments in children, were spearheaded by brokers, staff and friends of the local and regional Northwestern Mutual offices throughout the Southeast.

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## childhood cancer initiatives

Strong support from the local Jacksonville office, headquartered nearby on Riverside Avenue, was shown during the festivities. Alongside Northwestern Mutual, donors showed up from other industries and related partners got dressed up in their best lemon-yellow attire to help accelerate the search for a cure to pediatric cancers. Hosts of the June 15 event at the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens were Bill and Denette Koch.



Donna Melogy, Carol Tannenbaum, Julie Ferguson and Jessica Royer



Bryan Hensley with Sherrill Smith



Julie Ferguson and the Honorable Emmet Ferguson



Sisters Rebecca and Naomi Levin help to sell vintage, limited-edition bangles during the silent auction.



David Pickard trying to keep up with poker star Odette Struys who stacked up chips quickly during their friendly competition on the card tables.



Andrea Spencer with Jalyne Santiago and Liz Morgan

## Rat Pack-era celebrated at ElderSource gala

“A Night with the Stars” was the theme of the recent gala that gathers supporters of ElderSource and Friends of ElderSource. The nonprofit acts as a resource for those living with age-related difficulties and disabilities, many requiring assistance and ‘hands-on’ help.

With the goal to empower individuals to live independent, dignified lives, the agency supports seniors who are seeking resources and assistance to live life to their fullest. Many seniors in our community, over 60 million living within a seven-county service area, depend upon the guidance and provisions provided by programs offered by the institution. Some are close to having their lights turned off, many need repairs to their homes, and many require meal assistance and delivery of resources to live day-to-day.

Support from the local community and donors help to deliver these much-needed services. Special thanks went out to Senator Aaron Bean and Emcee Nicky Kimbleton for sharing their talents alongside the Crescendo Amelia Big Band.

Dr. Kenneth Tannenbaum of Avondale was awarded the 2017 Delores Barr Weaver Elder Advocate Award. “It’s overwhelming and I’m very flattered,” said Tannenbaum, who plans to maintain his advocacy for the aging in Northeast Florida.



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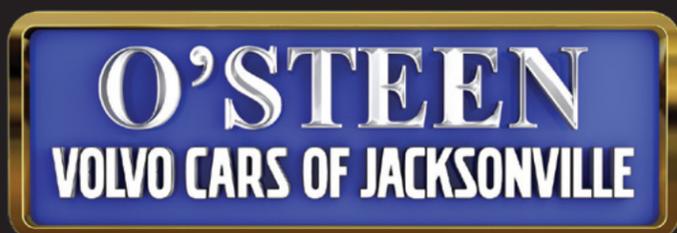
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# Lemonade War teaches economics to HAE third grade

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

This year Wolfson Children's Hospital was the beneficiary of what has become a right-of-passage for all third graders at Hendricks Avenue Elementary School.

On June 1, Alex Osbourne, development coordinator for Wolfson Children's Hospital, was presented a check for \$1,557.02 from third grader Katherine Cumbow, the spoils earned from the students' annual "Lemonade War," which took place May 22-27 at the school.

This spring all 116 students in the third grade took part in the economics lesson that was created four years ago by Tracy Langley of San Marco, a third grade English/Social Studies teacher at the school.



Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry and his daughter, Brooke, stopped by The Elemonator's table to donate to Wolfson Children's Hospital and enjoy a cup of lemonade during the third grade Lemonade Wars in May.

To make those lessons more understandable, Langley had her classes read "The Lemonade War" by Jacqueline Davies, the story of a brother and sister who make a wager about who can sell the most lemonade in the last five days before school starts.

Chapter by chapter, the book covers basic economic concepts such as underselling, value added, partnership, and competition. After her class read the book, it decided to hold its own lemonade war, with the children using the different concepts to market lemonade and raise money for charity.

To decide what kind of store-bought lemonade they needed to use for their war, the third graders used a blind taste test. "We use Simply Lemonade, canned lemonade, and Country Time powdered lemonade. Then we do a cost analysis to see how much a cup of each will cost. They usually figure out that Country Time is the cheapest and the sweetest so they vote for that. As a teacher, I want them to realize Simply Lemonade is expensive. We talk about that in economics class," Langley said.

Langley's class had so much fun the book was added to the curriculum with the entire third grade eventually taking part in lemonade wars, where the students work to attract customers among their schoolmates and parents during awards week in late May.

After selecting appropriate names such as "The Elemonators" or "Luscious Lemons" for their classes, the students create flyers to market their lemonade throughout the school. Tables are set up in the school courtyard during lunch over three days, and some students dress as lemons, blow bubbles, or give away little treats, such as Lemonhead candy, to entice customers to their tables. They even have a cheer and a dance, started by Langley's former student Campbell



Alex Osbourne, development coordinator of Wolfson Children's Hospital, holds a check for \$1,557.02 with Katherine Cumbow, as third-grade teacher Tracy Langley looks on during a school assembly in the courtyard at Hendricks Avenue Elementary June 1.

Scharer and passed down to the students, to draw customers in: "Lemonade, crunchy ice, sip it once, sip it twice."

"We have a joint venture with all the different classes. We battle for customers through donations. [The Duval County School Board does not allow students to raise money through selling items this way at school.] Then we pool our money, and the kids give the funds to a charity of their choice," she said.

Over the past three years the students have given to The Humane Society; Trevor Moore, a former HAE student who suffered a severe brain injury, and to former HAE student Logan Franks, who raised money last year to purchase water filters for a needy

Guatemalan community. This year Katherine Cumbow pitched the idea of Wolfson Children's Hospital, thereby being selected to present the check to Osbourne during the school assembly.

"Wolfson Children's Hospital was honored to be chosen as the beneficiary for Hendricks Avenue Elementary's third grade class fundraising project," said Alexandra Osbourne, development coordinator for Baptist Health Foundation and Wolfson Children's Hospital.

"It's a craziness that ends up being a good learning experience," said Langley about the annual event. "It's loud. We're lucky the principal lets us do it, but it will be the favorite thing of all the students for the whole year."

## Preservation society FROM PAGE 1

By Lilla Ross  
Resident Community News

The San Marco Preservation Society said farewell to one president, hello to a new one, got a sneak peek of its redesigned website and honored three homeowners and five businesses for their renovation projects in the historic district this past year.

The highlight of the May 31 meeting at Preservation Hall, the last before its summer hiatus, was the presentation of the annual Beautification Awards by Chris Woolston, chairman of the beautification committee. Homeowners were presented potted begonias and business owners received a plaque.

Winner in the Homeowner category include Anne and Jordan England, 936 Arbor Lane;

Kristen and Andy Allen, 1014 Elder Lane, and Edward Jones, 2014 River Road.

Business winners are The Antique Fox, 3216 Hendricks Ave.; Bold Bean Coffee Roasters, 1905 Hendricks Ave.; The Loop, 2014 San Marco Blvd.; Town Hall, 2012 San Marco Blvd., and Dancing Elephant, 2006 San Marco Blvd.

The new website, which features a bolder look with a large image of the San Marco Square Lions, was unveiled by Liz Foraker-Klein of the electronic media committee. It will be launched in the coming weeks. A new logo is in the works, too.

In her last remarks as SMPS president, LeAnna Cumber said she is proud of the upgrades to several parks in the district, especially Davin Park on River Road, which

*"We have all the tools we need to be successful."*

— Bryan Mickler, partner with NAI Hallmark

has new lights and Whatley Park, which has new lights, trees, benches and ironwork.

Efforts are also under way to make improvements to the playground at Southside Park, behind the library, while SMPS has partnered with the San Marco Garden Club to beautify Landon Park with improvements to its playground, as well as a walkway and picnic table.

Cumber also said she was pleased that SMPS has had a voice in the new developments

in the district such as the Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center and Jackson Square.

Cumber welcomed the new officers, President Bryan Mickler, a partner with NAI Hallmark, Treasurer Rick Kohn and Secretary Debra Pataky.

Mickler praised Cumber for handing over a "smooth-running machine."

"We have all the tools we need to be successful," he said.

The next meeting will be in the fall.



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# San Marco chess coach endeavors to teach more than a game

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

George Foote of San Marco can't pinpoint exactly when he started teaching chess after school to students at Hendricks Avenue Elementary, but suffice it to say it has been more than 20 years.

In the intervening years, Foote's chess club has grown so it now incorporates 90 children at four levels – experienced, kindergarten, grades 1-2, grades 3-5. Both competitive and instructive, it has allowed HAE to take home more than a dozen Jacksonville City Chess Championships and for some students to compete on a national level.

"It wasn't something I've been keeping track of over the years, but we've won at least 12, maybe more," he said. "We're not trying to be a chess engine. We're just trying to enrich kids."

While continuing the chess class at HAE, Foote has expanded his reach in chess over the years to include past programs at Julia Landon College Preparatory School, Stanton College Preparatory School, Beauclerc Elementary, and various home-school groups, as well as a current program at St. Mark Lutheran Church's Ark Preschool in San Marco.

Foote is also endeavoring to grow the Jacksonville Chess Club's scholastic program with club head Kevin Pryor. Foote said he and Pryor are also currently in discussions with School Board Chairman Paula Wright about training teachers at six Jacksonville elementary schools to teach the game and set up a similar program to the one he runs at HAE.

"I'm still working with the school board about opening it up at six schools on the



George Foote

Northside," said Foote. "I think Paula is interested in the cause and effect (gleaned from the game)," he said.

"It's like [former World Chess Champion] Emanuel Lasker said, 'When you find a good move, wait and look for a better one.' I think that's advice for life," Foote continued. "Chess teaches kids to think ahead, such as 'If I do this what will happen?' versus 'This looks like fun. I'll do it.'"

As a chess "enthusiast" since he was 10, Foote is a long-time certified United State Chess Federation Coach, who is proud to have once lost a game to American-born Hungarian Grandmaster Susan Polgar in 35 moves. He learned the game early from a babysitter who bought him the book, "Bobby Fischer Teaches Chess." Later his brother bought him a stone-carved chess set from Mexico, which is one of 20 unique sets he treasures.

Foote started the HAE club so it would be available to his children, Joseph, Garrett, and Regan, and has continued it after they moved on. "It's good for all kids," said Foote. "How I got started is that I read some stories about how chess helps kids with concentration, analysis, and sportsmanship. They get better test scores, and, for the kids, they are just playing a game."

Today he undertakes to make the instruction fun by holding bring-your-own-chess-set days, challenge pyramids, or setting up correspondence competitions with scholastic competitors in California or Japan. His program teaches children the basics of the game, chess notation, the use of chess clocks, and provides opportunities for local inter-scholastic competition.

"I think it gives the kids an opportunity to do something fun that makes them better in a lot of ways. There's a broad spectrum in Chess Club. Some kids don't want to compete because it scares them, and I'm happy if someone wants to just come and play and be social with their friends, but I also want to give the opportunity to someone who wants to be a competitor," he said.



Bring Your Own Chess Set Day at HAE with Garland Glasheen, Katherine Cheshire and Betty Leuthold

"Going to the National Tournament is a great experience. You walk into a ballroom and there are 2,000 kids. You can hear a pin drop. They are all serious, and you can hear them concentrating."

Also important is teaching children to win and lose gracefully, he said. "You learn more from a loss than you do from a victory, typically," Foote said, noting his coaching philosophy is to accentuate the positive. "I try to shift the kids around so they always play at the edge of their limit. I don't want someone to win all the time or get beat all the time. I want them all to grow."



HAE's first team to win the Jacksonville City Chess Championship in 1997: Standing: Aaron Stephens, Chris McCaffery, Madison Cheatwood, Taylor Blackburn, Max Higgs, Michael McCaffrey and Joseph Foote. Kneeling: Stuart Smith, Garrett Foote, Joanna Truett, Beau Cheatwood. Not pictured: Jessica Roberts.

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# Food, Fun and Philanthropy done well at 16th Annual Delicious Destinations

Billed as “Jacksonville’s Premier Food & Wine Event,” the 16th annual Delicious Destinations culinary celebration of gourmet food and wine does more than bring together some of the best chefs in our nation.

The epicurean event said to be “the most looked forward to” also serves to create a better future for the communities served by the St. Vincent’s Mobile Health Outreach Ministry. “St. Vincent’s HealthCare is the only health system that provides comprehensive mobile care to our city’s children and adults,” said Jane R. Lanier, CFRE, St. Vincent’s HealthCare Foundation President, noting proceeds will benefit community health outreach programs, whose daily operations include primary care, school physicals, immunizations, vision, dental and hearing screenings.

“We greatly appreciate the time and resources these top chefs donate to this worthy cause,” said Lanier. “Their culinary talents and comradery are essential to this event. They enjoy returning each year and in doing so encourage guests to attend year after year.” Last year, Delicious Destinations raised more than \$300,000 for community outreach programs.

The fabulous three-day fundraiser will bring cuisine and charitable giving together in a luxurious setting at the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club, kicking off on Thursday, Sept. 7 with the Celebrity Chef by the Sea Luncheon at 11: 30 a.m.

Guests at the luncheon will be “culinarily wowed” by the menu prepared by Chef Lior Lev Sercarz, also known as “The Spice Guru.” Chef Lior is the chef, spice blender and owner of La Boîte, a biscuits and spice shop in New York City. Time spent in South America served to develop a passion for cooking and world cuisines, at which time



Chef Lior

Sercarz enrolled in culinary school at the Institut Paul Bocuse in Lyon, France.

Chef Lior is also an author, producing a cookbook titled “The Art of Blending,” in 2012 and following it up four years later with “The Spice Companion,” a guide to 102 spices based on 30 years of experience.

“It is a great pleasure and honor to participate in the annual, charitable event, Delicious Destinations that raises awareness for St. Vincent’s community outreach ministries. These ministries provide free healthcare access to our most vulnerable citizens—the poor and disadvantaged, the underserved, and the uninsured -- I feel incredibly lucky that I can lend my support to such an inspiring and impactful organization,” said Chef Lior.

Friday evening, Sept. 8, major donors and sponsors will be treated to a private preview reception beginning at 7 p.m. They will meet the weekend’s culinary stars and

*“I feel incredibly lucky that I can lend my support to such an inspiring and impactful organization.”*

— Chef Lior, a.k.a. “The Spice Guru”

enjoy masterpieces created by Executive Chef Hermann Muller and his team of top chefs at the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club, a founding partner of the event.

Chef Muller has the distinction of having frequently worked at the White House where he prepared meals for state dinners and other political events and has partnered with Delicious Destinations since its inaugural year.

The piece de resistance is, of course, the Gourmet Food and Wine Tasting event on Saturday, Sept. 9th, which showcases the talents of our nation’s premier chefs, who will prepare offerings to be paired with exceptional wines contributed by Southern Glazer’s Wine & Spirits.

The chefs include some notable names in gourmet dining. Among them are Chef Hermann Muller, Ponte Vedra Inn & Club; Chef Steve Mengel, The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, WV.; Chefs Aaron Fuller and Bogdan Boerean of the Mar-a-Lago, Palm Beach; Chef Garrett Gooch, Ritz Carlton, Denver; Chef Nathan Beriau, Montage Palmetto Bluff, Bluffton; Jacksonville native Chef Daniel Zeal, The Lodge, Sea Island; Chef Darin Sehnert, Darin’s Kitchen Table, Savannah; Chef Dusty Grove, DeSoto Hotel, Savannah; Chef Mitchell Pagan, Mariner Sands, Stuart, FL; Chef Daniel McCathern, The Hilton, Atlanta; Chef Chris Pickren, The Lodge & Club, Ponte Vedra

Beach; Chef Tim Turner, Epping Forest Yacht and Country Club; and Chef Darek Stennes, The River Club.

The Saturday evening gala on Sept. 9 begins at 7 p.m. and includes live and silent auctions, plus drawings for spa and restaurant gift certificates, catered dinners, weekend getaways and more.

The intimacy of Delicious Destinations, as the chefs share their stories, their secrets and their talent, is unforgettable. The benefit to the St. Vincent’s Foundation is priceless.

To find out more about attending the event, becoming a sponsor, or donating auction items, visit [deliciousdestinationsjax.com](http://deliciousdestinationsjax.com).

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# Jessie Ball Regatta puts women on the water

By Kate A. Hallock  
Resident Community News

Six boats competed June 2 in the second of four sailing events sponsored by the Women's Sailing Series. Hosted by Epping Forest Yacht and Country Club, the Jessie Ball Regatta included three performance boats with all-female crews and three cruisers with mixed crews.

In the spinnaker performance category, first place went to Team Quicksand, a J-24 skippered by St. Nicholas resident Jodi Weinbecker, who is sailing director at Florida Yacht Club. The team finished the 2.8 nautical mile course at 15:10:39.

First place in the cruiser category went to Team Bernoulli, skippered by Brittanie Holtz on a Pearson owned by Allen Jones, which finished with a time of 15:10:44 for the 2.09 nautical mile distance. Milky Waves, a 38-foot Beneteau owned by Victor Barbe was skippered by Neena Guidi of San Marco, and came in second with a time of 15:11:45.

"It was a beautiful day to be on the water racing sailboats with some of my favorite ladies," said Weinbecker. "The breeze was very light at the start so the race committee postponed the start. When the wind filled in we had a gorgeous afternoon of racing on the St. Johns River."

The first race in the series was hosted April 9 at Florida Yacht Club. The third will be sponsored by the North Florida Cruising Club on Saturday, Sept. 23 and the last will be held Saturday, Nov. 4 courtesy of The Rudder Club of Jacksonville.



Team Bernoulli: Brittanie Holtz, Brigitte Hoey and Allen Jones



Team Milky Waves: Neena Guidi, Victor Barbe, Kathy Tuerk, Jan Reeder, Phil Sullivan, Dennis Guidi



Team Quicksand: Christina Di Loreto, Angela Lambert, Jodi Weinbecker, Julie Long, and Deb Fellw



Team Quicksand (Photo by Robert Knox)

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# Women's Sailing Network celebrates 20 years

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

It's been 20 years since a "motley crew" sat down at Neena Guidi's dining room table in San Marco to devise the purpose statement for the Women's Sailing Network (WSN) of Northeast Florida.

Led by Guidi and fellow sailor Terry Osman of St. Simons Island, the women created the loosely-formed organization that established a racing series for females (Women's Sailing Series of Northeast Florida) on the St. Johns River and would help educate women in the fundamentals of safety, sailing and racing as a sport.

"We call it a network because we're really not a club," explained Guidi, a longtime member of Epping Forest Yacht and Country Club (EFYCC) and owner of "Keep the Faith," a Catalina 25. "We don't have a president or a secretary and all that stuff."

"Our purpose statement is 'to provide a network among women with or without sailing experience to allow us to grow in sailing knowledge and ability through sharing sailing experiences, educational sessions, teaching others, and sailing together,'" she said.

"A lot of women wanted to participate in competitive sailing, and they wanted to gain experience in learning how to participate in races on the river," explained Osman. "We wanted to start it up because it was fun. We were interested in learning more about our boats and to help others. We love the activity, and when you are in love with an activity, you want to do it a lot. There was no other source to get women together," she said.

Although Guidi and Osman were the group's original sparkplugs, joining them around the table were Tina Brady, Evelyn Tovar, Allison Crews, Penny Edwards, and Jacquie Welti of Riverside, with Welti designing the network logo, said Guidi.

Also, instrumental in the early days of WSN were Helen Sullivan, Marianne Gruber, Kim Brew, Denise Smith, Debbie White Fewell, Pam Merser, Laura Peirana, Julie Runfeldt, Linda Jones, and Donna Mohr. A few supportive men – Allen Jones, George Alston, Tom Davis, Terry Brady, Dave Kyser, Skip Canfield, Dick Allsopp, and Doug Rosen – offered their boats to the women to race, gave advice, and assisted by teaching workshops, she said.

Prior to the advent of WSN there were only two competitions that featured women racers on the St. Johns River – the Bikini Race sponsored by the North Florida Cruising Club, and the Rudder Club's Women on Water race. Eventually the Bikini Race transformed into NFCC's

Hands-on-the-Helm Race, which the WSN used as a full-blown fundraiser for Hubbard House. Later, the network decided to simplify by raising money strictly through donations, said Guidi. "It was too much manpower. It was just as profitable to turn it into a donation-type race," she said. "Our ladies wanted to be sailing, not doing on-land stuff."

In the early days, WSN was a two-pronged organization – sailing education and racing.

In charge of the racing aspect, Guidi canvassed yacht clubs to sponsor races, and struggled to insert women's competition on the already crowded First Coast Sailing Association men's schedule. Agreeing to host races were the Rudder Club (Women on Water), Navy Jax Sailing Club (WAVES Regatta), Epping Forest Yacht Club (Jessie Ball Regatta) and North Florida Cruising Club (Hands on the Helm) allowing for two regattas in fall and two in spring. Later, when Navy Jax Sailing Club dropped from the racing scene, Florida Yacht Club, under the leadership of sailing coordinator Jodi Weinbecker of St. Nicholas, sponsored the WAVES Regatta.

In the early days, the network had an email list of 203 female sailors, and 24 to 26 sailboats competed in the races, said Guidi, noting in the past few years the races have only attracted six to eight boats.

Meanwhile, heading up the education arm of the network, Osman planned free educational workshops, utilizing volunteers from the Power Squadron, Coast Guard Auxiliary, yacht brokers, and experienced sailors from area yacht clubs to teach safety, and seamanship skills.

"There wasn't anywhere to get basic ongoing training that women would not feel stupid," Osman said. "Formalized classes were out there, but they were largely for youth, couples getting ready to go cruising, or for certification. What we offered was different, it was for learning the sport of sailboat racing," she said.

"We thought the strength of the network was being educational and for encouragement and comradery. Our value was to be continuously learning and to bring opportunities in sailing to women who didn't have those opportunities. A lot of women joined who didn't have access to boats or if they did, it was only with their husbands, which was fine but didn't meet all their needs," she said.

In the early years WSN hosted Adventure Sail, a program to introduce young girls to sailing, which was sponsored by the National Women's Sailing Association (NWSA). WSN invited the group Big Sisters to attend a morning educational workshop and an afternoon on-the-water sailing experience



Neena Guidi, Terry Osman and Marianne Gruber

at the Rudder Club. Guardian Ad Litem donated money to help the club cover expenses, and NWSA supplied T-shirts and flyers, said Guidi. "It was a great charitable involvement by the Rudder Club. It was wonderful for them to offer their dock and facilities for the whole day," she said.

The Jessie Ball Regatta, sponsored by EFYCC on June 3, was the second race in WSN's racing series this year and signaled a change to encourage more participation. In the all-female class, for mechanical and safety reasons, male boat owners are now allowed to accompany their boats, which are crewed and skippered by women. For the race to count, the men could not touch the helm or rigging during the race, said Guidi, noting that in all classes of WSS races women need to be at the helm at all times. "By allowing the owner of a high-performance boat to be on board, we hope to get more participation," explained Guidi. "For insurance reasons and otherwise, not many men will allow their high-performance boats to go to a bunch of girls, especially with half of them having no experience."

Meanwhile, in the mixed-crew class, the owner of the boat can be male or female and men are allowed as crew provided there are not more men than women on board and 50 percent of the crew are women.

In 2004, WSN hit rough water when Hurricanes Charley, Frances, and Jean took a heavy toll on the sailing community. Four

years later, the downturn in the economy also forced many boat owners to sell their craft, said Guidi.

"The hurricanes hit the whole sailing community. People lost their boats and docks were damaged. It was awful. Frances lasted five days, and Jean came across from the Gulf Coast and tore up all the docks on the east side of the river. After that we lost quite a bit of sailing momentum," she said.

"We've been holding on for 20 years, and I'm really proud of that," Guidi continued. "I have to take a little ownership because there were times when nobody else would do it. In the interim, I streamlined it down to a database, and I kept in contact with people by shooting a few emails about upcoming races, but that was it. We struggled for about five years or so, but now, thanks to Jodi Weinbecker and Susan Grich, we have a Facebook page. Susan and Jodi have really promoted this sailing series. I credit them with the revitalization of the group. They've done so much to resurrect women's sailing on the St. Johns River," she said.

Osman said WSN is as relevant now as it was in its early days. "The network provides a lifeline for sailing women and a way to keep connected," she said. "Whether you are going sailing for fun or for racing, you need to know what you're doing. The network helps women become educated in the sport. It creates competency on the water and that equals safety."

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# Miramar family takes bird-watching to next level

By Lilla Ross  
Resident Community News

The Audubon prints in the dining room are a giveaway. Scott Pearson likes to watch birds. And, now his daughter, Lucy, does, too.

In January, the Miramar father and daughter watched the Steve Martin movie, "The Big Year," which is a real-life story about the competition among three birding enthusiasts to see how many species they could see in a year. In the movie, the North American record was 748. It's now up to 750.

After watching the movie with her dad, 9-year-old Lucy wondered how many she could see. And since the year had just begun, Scott and Lucy decided to find out.

Lucy thought 100 sounded like a good goal. Scott thought 200 was doable. As of June, they've seen 93. And that's before a family vacation to Colorado.

This is a father-daughter adventure. Mom, Cindy, and sons, Andrew, 13, and Page, 11, think it's kind of cool – sometimes.

So far, Lucy's favorite bird is the American bald eagle, which she saw at Hendricks Elementary School, where she will be in fourth grade this fall. It so happens that the eagle is the school mascot.

The Pearsons use the Kaufman Field Guide to confirm their sightings and then record them in a wire-bound notebook.

Many of the birds on their list they've seen on walks around San Marco and in a field off San Jose Boulevard near the baseball practice fields.

Scott said he didn't realize how many kinds of birds were in the neighborhood, where they've lived for five years, until he started using a binocular.

"I've watched birds for many, many years. Little birds that look the same 20 yards away are entirely different when you see them through the binocular," he said.

That's how he discovered a blackpoll warbler, which migrates from Brazil, in his backyard. And then there was the summer tanager he saw in a field near his church, Mandarin Baptist.

"I thought it was a cardinal at first, but then it lighted about 25 yards away," he said.

Though they haven't taken any trips just for birding, there have been plenty of family excursions:

- A trip to Cocoa for a baseball tournament came with the opportunity to stop at Canaveral National Seashore where they saw a Florida scrub jay and a glossy ibis.
- Lucy's class went on a field trip to the Alligator Farm where she saw a roseate spoonbill along with egrets and herons.
- A spring break trip to Blue Springs near Deland was rewarded with sightings of a Sandhill crane and wild turkeys.
- Wakulla Springs added lots of water birds to the list.

The summer trip to Colorado, which will include a visit to Poudre Canyon, has all kinds of opportunities. Scott hopes to see hummingbirds found only out West like the broad-tailed and Rufous. Lucy wants to see a road runner.

"We've had a lot of fun," Scott said. "And we could see all kinds of migrating birds this fall."



*"I've watched birds for many, many years. Little birds that look the same 20 yards away are entirely different when you see them through the binocular."*

— Scott Pearson

Scott and Lucy Pearson

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# San Marco elementary students come back to HAE 50 years later



Hendricks Avenue Elementary Class of 1967 Reunion

By Lilla Ross  
Resident Community News

The yellow school bus pulled into the circular drive at Hendricks Avenue Elementary School, just like it did 50 years ago, and about 20 graduates of the sixth-grade Class of '67 walked up the steps and into a building full of memories.

The reunion on June 17 was the first time some of them had seen each other in 50 years. Others still live in the neighborhood and see each other from time to time.

"No one had changed that much," said David Zavon, one of the organizers. "It was amazing. They looked the same with an extra 50 years."

In some cases, they had gone to the same school for 12 years – from Hendricks to Landon Middle School and then Wolfson High School.

Zavon, who still lives in the neighborhood, said he liked the idea of an elementary school reunion, because the class was so much smaller.

"There were probably 600 in my graduating class at Wolfson and I doubt I would remember many of them," he said. "But Hendricks was different. There were probably 100 students and you knew everyone. The bond was much stronger."

The ones who had stayed in touch put out the word via social media and set up a Facebook page to help reconnect.

Ellen Copeland drove down from North Carolina, bringing a stack of old black-and-white class photos that were passed around, people trying to put names with faces.

One of the old photos was of the TOTs – Teachers of Tomorrow. Five of them made it to the reunion and posed for a photo.

The old school hadn't changed that much, said Robert Bethea, who lives in Miramar. The big change? Air conditioning. Back in the 1960s, every classroom had fans.

One of Bethea's favorite memories was serving on the School Patrol, which meant riding his bike to school so he could be at his station when the carpools started arriving.

Serving on the School Patrol also meant going to Washington, D.C. It was a trip of firsts for Bethea – his first ride on a train, visits to all the important places in the capital and his first major league baseball game, Senators vs. the Red Sox, where he saw Carl Yastrzemski hit a home run.

Before they adjourned to Intuition Ale Works for dinner, they gathered in the auditorium, site of so many school assemblies and school plays, for a group photo on the stage.



Teachers of Tomorrow 1967



Teachers of Tomorrow 2017, front: Susan Price Jan Mizrahi, Melanie Jennings, Marcia Hunter; back: Peggy Marcum, Ellen Copeland, Kathy Ellmaker, Carole Jackson and Glenda Greene

And everyone noticed something very strange – the once huge auditorium had gotten small. When did that happen?

## San Marco attorney takes first in National Senior Games



Don St. Denis

San Marco resident Don St. Denis had a lot to celebrate last month. St. Denis was among more than 870 athletes over the age of 50 from the State of Florida to compete in 19 sports in the 2017 National Senior Games in Birmingham, Alabama.

St. Denis, who has been swimming since he was four years old, celebrated five years of being free from thyroid cancer by swimming – and winning – the men's 50-meter freestyle race in the 55-59 age group.

One of 18 Jacksonville residents who attended the games, St. Denis qualified by placing first at the city level in October 2016, then won at the state level in Clearwater. There were no others from Jacksonville who participated in swimming events.

St. Denis swam for The Episcopal School and also when he attended the University of Arkansas, where he was an academic All-American, then took off a year from law school to train.

The father of five also celebrated his 25th wedding anniversary to Robin St. Denis on June 20.

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**- In Memoriam -  
Evangeline "Angie"  
Kay Vannatter**

November 18, 1950 - May 26, 2017

Evangeline "Angie" Kay Vannatter was, among many other good things, a positive change agent.

A Women's Digest article titled "Searching for Solutions," written about 15 years ago about Vannatter quoted her as saying, "I get tired of hearing complaints about education, traffic, pollution, government - on and on - from people who aren't searching for solutions. You may be the one person who can change things."

When Vannatter passed away just recently, she left a void within her community as much as within her family.

"Angie was the original champion of St. Nicholas throughout the city. She was for years the mover and shaker for the cemetery cleanup and maintenance," said Beth Pavlicberry of St. Nicholas. "She represented us in the hallways of city government to keep our streets clean, our public spaces safe, and our public celebrations vibrant."

Vannatter served several terms as president of St. Nicholas Area Preservation (SNAP),

while overlapping those duties with her service as the Southeast Citizens Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) chair. Not content to be a mover and shaker on the local level, Vannatter served on the Citizens Advisory Committee for Better Jacksonville, was co-chair of the Citizens Health Advisory Committee and the JTA Transportation Alternatives Study Group. Vannatter was also actively involved with the Jacksonville Community Council Incorporated (JCCI).

For her committed service to community, Vannatter was honored in 2001 as a winner of a Neighborhood Award, presented by the City's Neighborhoods Division.

"Angie Vannatter brings a cohesiveness to any organization of which she is a member," said John Curtain, Neighborhoods Division chief at the 2001 awards. "She is an enthusiastic leader who inspires those around her."

"It is noteworthy that during her time of community involvement Angie was on a first name basis with former Jacksonville Mayor John Delaney," said Rev. James Smith during the Celebration of Life held June 3.

One of her greatest joys was serving as the chair of the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens Volunteers. "She loved animals; dogs, cats, gerbils, fish, and turtles, just to name a few, and they always inhabited Jimmy and Angie's home," said Smith.

Vannatter, 66, was born in Coshocton, Ohio, and traveled the state participating in singing competitions. She met her husband, Jimmy, at the University of Akron, where they both earned teaching degrees, before moving to Jacksonville in 1984. In addition to her husband, Vannatter leaves behind her mother, Jocelyn Atterholt, and two brothers, Rick and Michael Moyer.



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# Flashback

to the 1940s

Jacksonville's Main Street Bridge opened 76 years ago, in July 1941. This view shows the north end of the bridge with a view looking north on Main Street. The bridge served the city as its second bridge crossing the St. Johns River, and at the time, most people simply referred to it as the "new bridge" or the Main Street Bridge. In 1949, the bridge was renamed for longtime Jacksonville Mayor John T. Altop. The top of the Roosevelt Hotel can be seen in the distance. The hotel was originally known as the Carling Hotel, today the site of the Carling Apartments. (Photo courtesy of the Jacksonville Historical Society, from its archives. To learn more, visit [jaxhistory.org](http://jaxhistory.org) or call (904) 665-0064.)



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– In Memoriam –  
**William D. Brinton**

September 19, 1952 – June 19, 2017



The country lost a real champion when William “Billboard Buster” Brinton of Avondale passed away at age 64 after a brief but fierce battle with lung cancer.

Just a month prior, 300 friends, family, colleagues and clients had gathered to pay tribute to Brinton for his decades-long efforts in helping many cities across the United States develop local legislation to remove outdoor advertising from their highways and byways.

Many of those same admirers – and then some – show up for his funeral service on June 22 at St. Matthew’s Catholic Church. More than 350 gathered to hear Father Jose Kulathinal, pastor at St. Matthew’s, and long-time friend and colleague Graham Allen celebrate Brinton’s life.

“When I was thinking about what to say, reading all the articles about Bill, I said to myself, ‘Jose, you would be here for at least two hours,’” said Kulathinal, who also related that Brinton’s wife of 36 years, Kathy, said she wanted Bill to be remembered as a man of simplicity, integrity, and who always asked, “What can I do to help?”

Brinton fought for the helpless, was a voice of the voiceless, and was generous

with everything he had, said Kulathinal. “He wanted to live, to love, to learn...and to leave a legacy.”

The legacy he left behind includes the establishment of the Scenic Jacksonville Endowment to Protect and Enhance Scenic Beauty in Jacksonville. The endowment, held at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, will eventually provide perpetual funding for civic engagement, advocacy and education.

During his eulogy, Allen, who met Brinton in 1976, noted that all of Brinton’s awards would not fit in his office, but “he was proudest of his family. They were truly his life.”

Allen also recalled Brinton as a staunch friend and ally who had others’ backs, even while so many people had Brinton’s back for many years in his fight against major billboard advertising companies. “You don’t do what he did, accomplished what he accomplished and take on what he took on without people shooting at you right and left. He was fearless.”

“It was a wonderful ride, old friend. Rest in peace and I’ll see you on the other side,” concluded Allen.

**Gubbin retires from Jacksonville Library**

After serving 12 years as Jacksonville Library Director, Barbara A.B. Gubbin retired in June, but not until she was properly honored by more than 100 friends, co-workers, Library trustees and Foundation board members June 15. Among the many gifts Gubbin received was a lifetime membership to the American Library Association. Read more at residentnews.net



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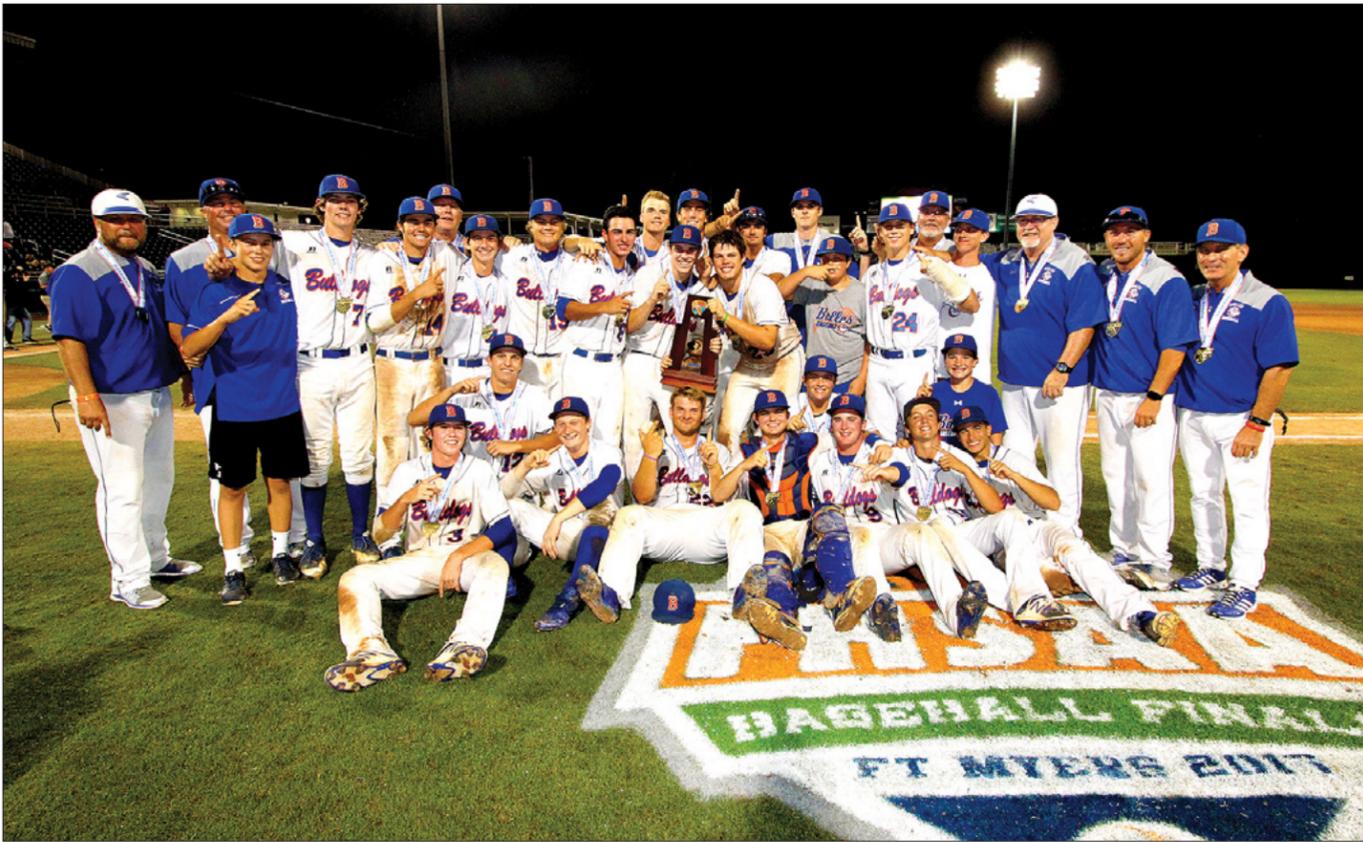
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# Jr. Residents

## Back-to-back state wins for Bolles Bulldogs

The Bolles School Bulldogs baseball team won back-to-back state titles for the second time in program history with a 7-2 win over Bishop Moore in the 2017 Class 5A State Final in Fort Myers. The state title is the eighth overall in program history. Additionally, Bolles Coach Mike Boswell has been

named 5A Baseball Coach of the Year for the second year in a row in the 2016-17 Florida Dairy Farmers Sports Awards. He is a finalist for overall coach of the year among all classes to be announced following a final round of balloting by coaches and media.



## 10th Annual Clay Roberts Memorial Scholarship granted to Bishop Kenny student



Gary Roberts, 10th Annual Clay Roberts Scholarship winner Jack Waitrovich, Terry Roberts, and daughter Casey Roberts.

Jack Waitrovich, Bishop Kenny High School Class of 2017, was named the 10th recipient of the Clay Roberts Memorial Scholarship, which is presented annually by the family of Clay Roberts. The scholarship celebrates the life of Clay Roberts, a member of the Bishop Kenny High School Class of 2007, who passed away during his senior year.

This renewable scholarship is presented to a male or female student who has participated in varsity athletics, has maintained a strong academic and extra-curricular record, and has demonstrated the qualities of fair play and team spirit. A pool of nominations is submitted to a committee for consideration and selection. The presentation plaque applauds the winner for making a positive difference in the daily lives of others through words and actions.

In addition to a commemorative plaque, Waitrovich received a renewable, four-year scholarship with a value of up to \$4,000. Dr. Gary Roberts, owner and operator of Roberts' Southbank Pharmacy, along with wife Terry, owner of Terry's Kitchen on St. Johns Avenue, and their daughter Casey, BK Class of 2010, presented the scholarship at the annual Senior Awards Ceremony held at the University of North Florida in May.

The scholarship is funded by the annual Clay Roberts Memorial Inshore Slam Fishing Tournament, held Saturday, June 17. For information, visit [inriverocean.org](http://inriverocean.org).

## Stanton valedictorian sets sights for Harvard Medical School

With a class rank of one out of 327, a 4.0 grade point average, and perfect scores on both the SAT and the PSAT, Ashlie Malone graduated as valedictorian at Stanton College Preparatory School May 25.

Malone's valedictory speech was retrospective, appreciative and positive. "My topic was about reflecting on our time in high school, being grateful for it and for those that supported us along the way, and looking toward the future with hope," she said. "I really enjoyed the experience as a whole, especially being able to get to work with such amazing teachers and peers."

Malone's awards and honors include first places in History Bowls, Brain Brawls, Academic World Quest, membership in the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society, and National Honor Societies in History, English, Science and Spanish. She was president of Stanton's

Community Arts Service Club and the American Red Cross Club.

In the community, Malone taught English and math to refugee children through World Relief Jacksonville, taught Spanish and grammar to students at San Jose Elementary School, volunteered in the Cardiac Care Unit at UF Health Jacksonville and at the Women's Health Center translating for Spanish-speaking patients, and participated in Crescent City Farm Workers Ministry, collecting shoes and clothing for Hispanic farm and migrant workers and their families.

The daughter of Southbank residents Mike and Maria Malone, Ashlie is looking forward to starting classes in Human Developmental and Regenerative Biology at Harvard University in August, with the intention of going on to medical school.



Ashlie Malone



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### Wolfson football scores new head coach

Chad Parker has been named new head football coach at Samuel W. Wolfson High School.

Previously at Bartram Trail High School, Parker was the running backs coach, the slot back coach, the long snappers coach, the college recruiting coordinator and the head wrestling. He stated that because of his success in previous programs working with coaches such as Danny Green, Rodney DuBose and Darrell Sutherland, he is one-hundred percent ready for the challenge of taking over the Wolfpack.

"I've always wanted to be a head football coach, ever since Day 1," said Parker. "That's been a dream for me, something I wanted to do...and now I am ready for it."

During the transition, Parker plans to bring two Wolfpack alumni with him - Jasper Sasser and Rodney Gnat. Both have also



Chad Parker

had noted success both playing and coaching at the next level.

Wolfson is making a transformation change from a neighborhood to a dedicated magnet program only, offering Honors/Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate classes. Because of this program change, Wolfson is moving from Class 5A to 4A. If you are interested in hearing more about the "new" Wolfson, contact the school at (904) 739-5265.

## Local school wins Florida wildflower grant



Flower beds previously planted on the JCDS campus

Jacksonville Country Day School has been chosen as a grant winner of the Florida Wildflower Foundation's 2017 Seedlings for Schools program. In September, JCDS will plant a wildflower garden as part of a new Outdoor LearningScape at the school. An assortment of 12-15 native wildflowers will be chosen specifically for the school's northeast region of Florida.

Kindergarten teacher Rose Ennis wrote the grant, with help from administrators Christy Maurer, Tonya Elstein of San Marco, and Rebecca Schwam. "This grant will help increase our student's awareness of North Florida's unique plant life," said Elstein, Director of Education.

"We can't wait to see the flowers bloom this fall," Curriculum Coordinator Christy Maurer said. "The grant dovetails with our focus on learning from nature and the Outdoor LearningScape that is being built on our campus this summer."

The grant will offer students more nature to explore on the school's campus



Tonya Elstein, Christy Maurer and Rose Ennis

and promote outdoor learning experiences for students. Through school gardens, according to the Florida Wildflower Foundation, "Students can become active participants and gain an understanding of plant and animal life cycles, ecosystems, and appreciation of nature."

The wildflower garden at JCDS will provide hands-on learning about biology, conservation, weather, ecosystems, natural history, insects, and wildlife. It will also offer a deeper connection with nature for students.

### Woman's Club grants three scholarships

The 105-year-old Southside Woman's Club of Jacksonville granted three Duval County high school seniors with \$1,500 scholarships each, according to Sandra Marshall, president.

The recipients are Sarah Shiell, a graduate of Stanton College Preparatory School, who will be attending the University of Central Florida; Mandarin High School student Brooke Marshall will attend the University of Miami; and Bolles School



Sarah Shiell

Brooke Marshall

Karina Bautista

student Karina Bautista plans to go to the University of South Florida.

Recipients of these scholarships were selected on the basis of scholastic achievement, community service, school activity participation, and displays of leadership along with letters of recommendation.

### Jaguars mascot surprises students at end of school year

Jaxon de Ville, the iconic mascot for the Jacksonville Jaguars, made an appearance at San Jose Episcopal Day School to lead students in song, dance and games focused on getting everyone out of their seats and having active fun. Students and faculty alike had the opportunity to talk to and take pictures with the "Cool Cat" as part of the "mystery event" the last week of school.

"It was a really fun way to say 'thank you' to our students and faculty for reaching our goal of 100 percent annual fund participation," said Mandy Intravia, director of development and marketing. "Jaxson showed up big time and was a big hit with students of all ages and our faculty."

The Fund for San Jose is the school's year-long fundraising effort to provide financial support for every aspect of student



Kai Winchester tries to catch Jaxson de Ville in a Marco/Polo type game. The other students made a circle and tried to tell the Winchester which way to turn to tag Jaxson.

life. With the gifts provided through this fund, students have access to better technology, additional resources for artistic education, higher quality facilities, and an overall exceptional learning environment.

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# Summer camps keep students stimulated

Children starting at Pre-Kindergarten age 3 through sixth grade enjoyed a wide variety of specialty camps for three weeks at San Jose Episcopal Day School.

Teachers, staff, vendors and even three former students serving as junior counselors offered sessions in engineering, basketball and chess camps, among others. The 25 different full and half-day sessions also included the 19th Annual Art Camp, Lego WeDo, an American Girl inspired camp, Tugboat Geo, a campout at SJEDS, and two STEAM classes.

Allison Weaver's "STEAM-ing into Summer" class studied the science of the water bottle flipping phenomenon, made their own fidget spinners that had to fly 10 feet with a load of cargo.

Dawn Encarnacion's "Campout at SJEDS" offered PreK students a camping adventure that included a tent, stories around the campfire, flashlight scavenger hunt, making their own fishing poles, and S'mores, hot dog and firefly crafts.



Kaitlin Cobbin handles the ball during basketball camp



Reilly Clarke, Elizabeth Stovall, Ashlyn Laurie and Averie Pyron with handmade fidget spinners



Nick Barker celebrates Water Day



Junior Counselor Anna Baumeister, an SJEDS grad, with Quinn Edwards, Reese Luker, Julia Magee during American Girl camp



Campers and helpers at the All Saints Episcopal "Fun Factory" Vacation Bible School

## *Fun Factory program offers message of love and purpose*

All Saints Episcopal Church provided a Vacation Bible School program, Fun Factory, for 61 campers and 32 teen/youth volunteers. According to VBS Chair Hillary Citrano, 46 of the participants were on scholarship and five of those were special needs adults from the Early Learning and Community Care Center.

Citrano gave a shout-out to Renae Black, Rick Johnston, Kim Fishback, Michael Mastronicola, Marla Anderson, David Dufresne, Carl Simmons and Julie Sisson. She also noted Kim Fishback and Daughters of the King jumped at the opportunity to provide discrete homemade love lunches for each family of the adult campers, as well as goodie bags for their caretakers.

## Students enjoy robotics at San Jose Catholic camp

Students kicked off the summer with Lego Robotics and STEM activities at San Jose Catholic School's annual camp. Middle School teacher Carol Turner worked with the students on programming EV3 Lego robots while Patrick Madigan taught them how to make solar ovens for the final day lunch feast.

The 21 students and seven student volunteer helpers enjoyed various activities that combined engineering design, Lego building, basic robotics, and time on Carla Chin's flight simulators. Each day was broken up into segments to allow the students time to engage in three different activities and have some fun with each other in the process.

"Science is about learning through doing and making mistakes along with way," said Chin, "which then leads to a better understanding of the concepts being introduced. Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math are the tools not just for today, but for the future."



Claudia Naddaf, Michele Jones, Tabitha Dooley



Annabelle Naddaf and Rebekah Jones with solar oven



Cole and Cameron Hawkins, Joseph Naddaf, Patti Elmore

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Drama with David Dawson, Aidan Mitchell, Raven Ellis and Lisa Wetzel

## Kids learn they can be a Superhero

“Hero Central” was the theme of the Lakewood Presbyterian Church Vacation Bible School June 5-9. More than 120 children and 70 volunteers attended the weeklong event, where they learned how everyone can be Superheroes for God. The children gathered in the sanctuary each morning for the opening program, then enjoyed drama, music, crafts, recreation and fellowship. The closing program included a song presented by each class and a review of the lessons learned earlier in the week. The final activity included a free hot dog lunch in the fellowship hall attended by over 200 people.



Miles Mendheim and Cammie France display some of their crafts

## Bevy of beauties presented to Jacksonville Society



The 2017 Debutante Coterie season opened on June 9 as 15 young ladies were introduced to society during the Magnolia Ball at the Timuquana Country Club. The debutantes will take their final bow on Saturday, Dec. 23 at the annual Commodore's Ball held at the Florida Yacht Club.

The coterie includes (front row) Julia Katherine Madison, Katherine Peyton

Hager, Emily Lynne Hawkins, Shannon Eilish Read Phelan, Daley Anne Pajcic, Emily Grace Studstill, Emma Reeves Hilpert; back: Meredith Ann Wills, Grace McLane Fewell, Katherine Amelia Grich, Laurel Anne Lee, and Mary Isabelle Milne. Not Pictured: Grace Emily Egan, Neely Margaret Egan, and Caroline Grace Skinner. (Photo courtesy Janet Masterson Photography)

## Bishop Kenny alumna performs with Jacksonville Symphony on campus

St. Nicholas-based Bishop Kenny High School played host to one of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra's Mayo Clinic Community Concerts. An estimated 400 guests attended the May 27 "Patriotic Pops!" performance, held in the Carla Harris Performing Arts Center at the school.

Ileana Fernandez, a graduate of the Bishop Kenny High School Class of 1971 and principal pianist of the Jacksonville Symphony, was among the 55 musicians who performed under the direction of Nathan Aspinall, the 25-year-old assistant conductor of the Jacksonville Symphony. Aspinall led the musicians in a program of all-American pieces with an emphasis on patriotic music, including "The Star-Spangled Banner," "76 Trombones," "Stars and Stripes Forever," and more.



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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

With so many worthy charities to which you can donate time or money, sometimes it's hard to decide which one to support. These featured causes were the recipients of local school service projects.

## Purple Pinkie Project

**Volunteer/Donate:** Help sponsor a fundraiser at your school, club or place of business such as a “wear something purple day” or a “dye your hair or beard day” to help rid the world of polio, a signature Rotary International effort. Visit [www.purplepinkie.com](http://www.purplepinkie.com) for more ideas on how you can help.



Natalie Rabil

## Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS)

**Volunteer:** Support patients through the society's patient services and family support groups, help out at fundraisers or become involved with advocacy to local legislators. Call (904) 332-6414 for more information.

**Donate:** Give a financial contribution to help the society advocate and work toward cures for blood cancers such as Leukemia, Hodgkin, Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma, and Myeloma. Donate online at [www.lls.org](http://www.lls.org) or send donation to LLS Donor Services, P.O. Box 4072, Pittsfield, MA 01202.

*“It makes me feel happy knowing that I am using my extra time to help others in the community.”*

— Natalie Rabil, sixth grade student at RPDS

## These Kids Did Something

When your children whine “We’re bored, there’s nothing to do,” let them take a lesson from these kids who worked together to do good for a variety of worthy causes.

One might wonder why The Bolles School Interact Club members would want to dye their fellow student's pinky fingers purple. As it turns out, this unique fundraiser helps children all over the world.

The club conducted “The Purple Pinkie Project” to raise funds for a Rotary International project where volunteers worldwide administer a polio vaccination to children in underdeveloped countries. Once the child is vaccinated, their pinky finger is stained with Gentian ink as an indication the vaccination has been given.

Bolles Interact Club members hosted a fundraiser for The Rotary Club of San Jose with funds being donated to Rotary International for their Purple Pinkie Project. Students and visitors who donated got their pinky finger stained and also received a glow bracelet – purple, of course.

The Rotary Club of San Jose, which sponsors the Bolles Interact Club, has a motto of “Be the good you wish to see



Bolles Interact Club members Libby Levin, Sarah Kate Levin and Hannah Mendelson at their Project Pinkie fundraiser.

in the world” and there is no doubt the students at Bolles are following that motto.

Bolles School Interact Club leaders are Hannah Mendelson, Sarah Kate Levin and Co-presidents Alexander Kostandarithes and Libby Levin.

“When life gives you lemons, make lemonade” is not just a popular adage when faced with trouble, it's also an inspiration for students at Riverside Presbyterian Day School. Making lemonade is what several students did to raise money for those affected by blood cancers. In addition to the school-wide drive, which raised \$10,998 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, several students also set up lemonade and treat stands as part of the fundraising campaign.

“It makes me feel happy knowing that I am using my extra time to help others in the community,” said RPDS sixth grader Natalie Rabil, who set up one of several lemonade stands. “Knowing that I am helping someone else and putting a smile on their face motivates me.”

“I feel special because not everyone gets a chance to help these kids and since



Own Finn, Tripp Kilma, Jack Jones and Evan Finn

I do, it makes me feel really good,” said Aubrey Finn, also a sixth grader at RPDS.

“It makes us feel amazing to help other people,” said students RPDS students Owen Finn and Tripp Kilma.

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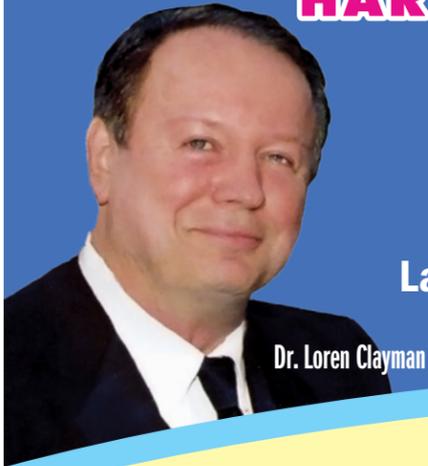
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