

September Highlights

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St. Nicholas

THE RESIDENT

FIERCELY LOCAL NEWS

VOL. 6 ISSUE 6 • SEPTEMBER 2013

FIERCELY LOYAL READERS



District 14 Councilwoman Lori Boyer, with former San Marco Preservation Society board members Robin Robinson and Jennifer Newman at newly installed historic marker

New Historic markers installed in San Marco

Gives residents a sense of community

BY KATE A. HALLOCK
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Thanks to the efforts of Jennifer Newman, there are four new historic markers in San Marco. The markers are located at the San Marco Preservation Society building on Hendricks, Oriental Gardens Road at San Jose Boulevard, Davin Park on River Road and the newly renovated Balis Park on the Square.

Newman spearheaded the efforts to get the historic markers approved by the State of Florida, created and then installed by City of Jacksonville Public Works Department. She was also instrumental in the preservation and

See MARKERS on page 7

Benches installed as Balis Park begins taking shape

On a very wet Saturday, Aug. 17, members of San Marco Preservation Society and San Marco Merchants Association, many neighborhood residents and several firefighters got together to assemble 13 benches for Balis Park. Volunteers included Reese Riggle, Rob Smith, Andrew Dickson, Jacob Skiles, Doug Skiles, Tim Martin, Steve Morrill, Anthony Edwards, Valerie Ritchie, Ron Ritchie and many others. Benches can be seen and enjoyed throughout the park. Left to right; Mike Molyneaux, Steve Morrill, Reese Riggle, Doug Skiles, Anthony Edwards.

Photo Credit – George Foote

Progress made in Metro Park concert noise issue

Things are finally quieting down for the Ad Hoc Committee on Metropolitan Park as they draw closer to passing an ordinance that outlines the parameters for the park's use, including the decibel level debate that created discord between concert promoters and St. Nicholas neighbors.

See METRO PARK on page 3

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Swing Away

Heather, age 17, ziplines in Asheville, NC, where she vacationed with her family this summer.

See more photos from Jax Residents

pg. 31

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In Memoriam

HANS TANZLER, JR.

MARCH 11, 1927 – JULY 25, 2013

A Standout Player – Remembered

BY PEGGY HARRELL JENNINGS
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Hans Tanzler, III paraphrases his father’s philosophy saying, “It’s better to strive for significance and fail than to not try and be insignificant for sure!”

A Jacksonville icon, former Mayor Hans Tanzler, Jr. passed away at the age of 86 on July 25 at his son’s farm outside Gainesville.

Hans III explains that his dad, and wife Debbie’s mother Eula Mae Hazelhurst, had around the clock caretakers for the last year of their lives, dying only a few days apart. Debbie and Hans agree that, “It was a blessing in every way to have them there – it added so much joy and richness to our lives.”

As Debbie’s mother lay ill, and just days before “Big Hans” died, he came into Debbie’s mother’s room and prayed “the most wonderful, uplifting prayer.” Despite infirmities, the grandparents teased and joked together, enjoying the companionship of generational history and laughingly referring to themselves as the “Inn mates.”



The Tanzler Family - Hans III, Emily, Debbie and Hans IV Tanzler holding photo of former Mayor Hans Tanzler, Jr. in front of a portrait of Hans Tanzler I who escaped the Nazi Regime to bring his family to the US

Grandson Hans IV and granddaughter Emily, attending their granddad’s alma mater, were delighted to have him only 20 minutes away. They went over frequently to eat dinner with him, enjoy sunsets on the river and keep him company as he basked in nature (and a good cigar).

If a picture is worth a thousand words, millions of words have been written about Hans Tanzler, Junior. Almost 3,000 Google references with hundreds of photographs chronicle a life well lived. Civic Leader, Judge, Sportsman, Statesman, Family Man,

Artist, Dancer, Harmonica Player – he strived for significance and stood out in every endeavor.

A standout sportsman

Graduating in 1945 from Robert E. Lee High School, this amazing athlete lettered in football, basketball and baseball. A “Gator Great”, Tanzler was inducted into the University of Florida’s Athletic Hall of Fame – the first Florida Gator Basketball player to pass 1,000 points! He played every sport – golf, tennis, hunting, fishing – with enthusiasm and a determination to be the best. In his extensive travels, he caught fish in oceans, rivers and streams of every continent!

His son relates that until his last days he took his motorized wheelchair

out onto the dock and fished. Emily and Hans IV exhibit joyful photos of their granddaddy teaching them to fish at Marco Island. He shared his passion for fishing with stepson Robert Woodward and with step-daughter Carol Brown’s sons whose favorite memories are those special fishing trips.

When Robert was injured in a skiing accident in 1978, Tanzler was encouraging and positive. Carol Woodward Brown says, “He admired

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Michael Goldberg: Chic Web, 1979. Bronze powder and pigment with alkyd spray on canvas. 96 x 54 inches. Estate of Michael Goldberg. Photograph by Bill Orcutt.

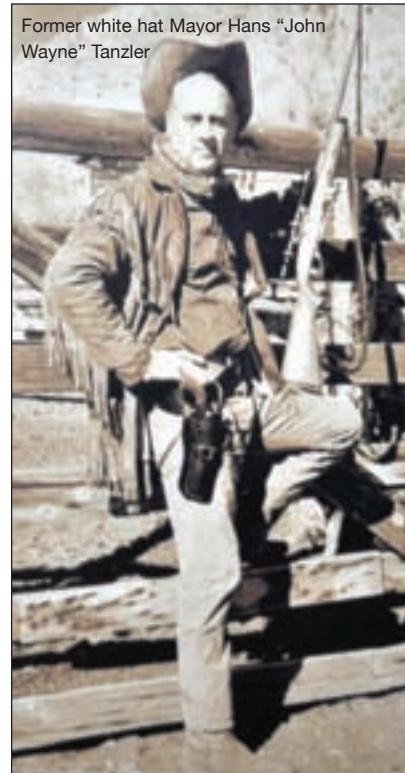
► Robert's tenacity and was proud of the fact that his disability did not define him."

Tanzler's own tenacity was tested when he suffered a blood clot and had to undergo a partial amputation of his leg. Daughter-in-law Debbie says, "We never, ever heard him complain; he adapted to life's circumstances." Hans III concurs that his dad was a "John Wayne, type of guy who had honesty, integrity and leadership qualities." Thus, his image as the "white hat" candidate for Mayor in 1967.

A standout statesman

Hans Tanzler definitely stands out in the crowd and not just because at 6'6" he is physically head and shoulders above most of those pictured. There are snapshots with beauty queens, inspecting the first rescue trucks in Jacksonville; with a Bold New City of the South sign after consolidation passed taking Jacksonville into being the largest city in the nation.

Consolidation is a big part of Hans Tanzler's legacy. Tommy Hazouri states that it "helped move the government from an archaic system to a stronger form of government with a



stronger mayor. Mr. Tanzler's dedication to ending pollution has been important in these ongoing quality of life issues."

Hans III, Executive Director of St. Johns River Water Management District, acknowledges the legacy of protecting water resources and celebrating the river he grew up on saying his father was "inspirational". Just a mouse click away is the famous photo of the former mayor skiing on the St. Johns River with the Cypress Gardens team as part of his clean river campaign!

A standout civic leader

Click again: He's serving as a Criminal Court Judge, he's

running for governor. When asked if he was inspired to seek the office of mayor because of his association with Hans Tanzler, former mayor Tommy Hazouri replies that he aspired to be mayor in junior high school.

"Not that Mr. Tanzler wasn't an influence, he was an imposing man – in looks, stature, personality – he was in good physical shape. Being about a generation apart, our relationship at that time was more from a student point of view." He laughingly

remarks, "Working in his office while I was in college, I couldn't get over looking at him as "The Judge."

There are shots of Tanzler presenting keys to the city to John S. McCain; at NAS with President Gerald Ford and Anwar Sadat; with his pal Louis Ritter; throwing the 1st pitch at a baseball game; in a Santa hat smiling broadly while ringing a bell for the Salvation Army (which he did for 20 years); with JJ Daniel burying a time capsule; promoting education and the arts. Look again. He is receiving a plaque designating the part of Interstate 295 which is named after him; there he is joking with Bob Hope! And Jack Benny! So much energy and vitality suspended in time.

At Debutante Ball; Emily says, "He was a great dancer."



A standout person

Photos may fade but time will not diminish the joie de vivre, the magnetism, the power of the man whether in sepia tones or in full color. Family members share poignant and humorous remembrances of the goose he rescued for Emily, his legacy for Debbie of true friendship and "two wonderful children and a wonderful husband." His special bond with Carol who says, "He treated me like a princess"; the loving kindness he showed to wife Mercedes during her illness.

Carol recalls him rolling his wheelchair over to her mother's bed, comforting her by playing "Eidelweiss" on his harmonica; celebrating Christmas (in his bold red jacket) by shopping personally for each and every present; dancing with Emily at her début; his striking paintings of birds and wildlife; his jokes, his way of making you feel like you were the most important person in the room; his Christian faith, which Hans III honors by wearing his father's cross saying, "He was a deeply spiritual guy."

This John Wayne tough guy with a soft heart was a man well loved by his family. Robert and Carol revel in memories and moments while boating on the St. Johns. Emily notes, "Granddad was a

man of strength, courage and spirituality." On a recent trip to Italy the Tanzlers "laughed, cried, prayed and healed" as they burned memorial candles in the Duomo Cathedral of Milan for this stand out man. Hans IV, says, "I was always in awe of my grandfather. He was the patriarch – he could do anything."

Photos of Hans Tanzler, Junior are not "pictures of a gone world" but glimpses into a lifetime of stories worth telling and retelling by those who loved and knew him best. There is not one thing insignificant about that!

METRO PARK continued from 1

District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer and Paige Johnston, an attorney with the Office of the General Counsel, drafted an ordinance that revises operation hours for concerts, appropriate times for sound checks, manners in which sound will be monitored, proposed fines for violating sound rules and stipulations that prohibit staff from waiving rules.

"We are getting really close," Boyer said.

The draft ordinance would restrict the park's use to 12 ticketed events a year which stems from an agreement made with the Federal Park Service which helped create Metropolitan Park for the purpose of public use. It defines a single ticketed event as not

lasting more than two consecutive days, with a limit of the total number of hours per year for such events.

The noise generated from these events have been of particular concern to neighbors in the St. Nicholas and South Shores neighborhood who complain of sound levels, vibrating houses, profanity and noise blasting at inappropriate hours.

Noise studies were done in the spring to determine appropriate sound levels and results from that were used to set limitations to decibel levels at the soundboard.

The draft ordinance includes a sunset provision date of Sept., 30, 2014, which permits the committee to revisit any issues that arise during the year the ordinance is in effect.

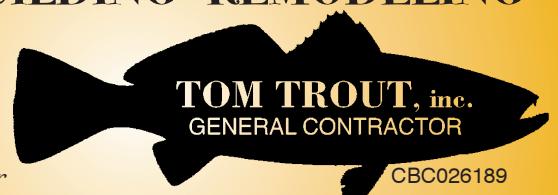
"What the sunset clause does is let us collect more data to determine decibel levels," Boyer said. "This will provide additional information that will allow further refinement of the standards."

District 4 Councilman Don Redman who heard many neighbor complaints about the concerts acknowledges that

progress has been made. "This started with me threatening to shut down events until we could find alternatives," Redman said. "The committee has been very successful and the producers have come forward to work with us. I think most people on the other side of the river (from Metropolitan Park) are happy with it."

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You asked for it!

From time to time, readers ask us to help get important questions answered. This month we have two questions about San Marco Square. If you have a question about something we can address, let us know by sending an email to editor@residentnews.net.

? Will Balis Park renovation retain the old pavers?

? Is there a more context-sensitive alternative to the bright yellow pedestrian crossing signs at the Square?

A A resident of San Marco asked "Will the original personalized bricks around the Lions fountain be re-used?" Yes, according to Reese Riggle, president of San Marco Preservation Society, all of the original inscribed pavers are being saved and reset.

A The short answer is yes, but it's complicated. The signs are part of a federal system of uniform signs throughout cities and states to ensure consistency when people travel.

Special legislation is required to change them for alternatives such as flashing yellow caution lights mounted on decorative posts or, as in the case of Park Street in 5 Points, suspended across the intersection.

Bright new caution signs bring mixed emotions

Safety trumps historic design

BY LARA PATANGAN
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

When Telfair Stockton and Company laid out plans to build the San Marco Shopping Center in the 1920s fluorescent yellow pedestrian crossing signs were not the norm, however, due to recent renovations San Marco Square now has some 21st century glow.

While some people have complained about the glaring signs in the otherwise muted historic shopping center, others contend they serve an important function.

"I think since it's a new traffic pattern, it's good to have something more bold – than something subtle," said Reese Riggle, president of San Marco Preservation Society. "I don't mind that they are nice and bright."

The signs in San Marco are standard Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), a national system used by cities throughout the country to implement uniform signs to ensure consistency when people travel. According to Doug Skiles, president of EnVision Design + Engineering who was heavily involved in the renovation of the Square, "there isn't much flexibility for local governments to deviate from these standards in high traffic areas without special legislation."

Debbie Delgado, Public Communications Officer with the City of Jacksonville, said the signs provide a safe environment for pedestrians and motorists which are important because of San Marco Square's high traffic volume in addition to the new traffic pattern.

"The general goal of the San Marco Boulevard Streetscape



Project, which includes the addition of two roundabouts, was to promote traffic calming and create a pedestrian-friendly atmosphere," Delgado explained. "For this reason the City installed the enhanced and required signage following MUTCD guidelines."

Desiree Bailey, a board member of the San Marco Merchant's Association who runs the San Marco Bookstore understands the relevance of uniformity standards.

"The SMMA is pleased that attention is being drawn to the crosswalks in San Marco. We also understand

that the uniformity of the signs is mandated by the state," said Bailey. "However, in the future, the SMMA hopes to look into finding more historically relevant crosswalk signs."

Meanwhile, the glowing pedestrian signs are serving their purpose.

"My personal experience with them is that while I agree they may not be the most attractive, they definitely work," Skiles said. "I cross the street in the Square several times a day, and find that most drivers stop for me to cross the street. Before this project was completed it was like playing a game of Frogger."

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Doll House demolished due to divine intervention...or eminent domain

BY LARA PATANGAN
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Whether it is a result of divine intervention or the Florida Department of Transportation, the Doll House, a strip club long embroiled in controversy over its proximity to a St. Nicholas church and its neighboring schools, has finally been demolished.

Last month, the Doll House was stripped off the property at 2220 Atlantic Boulevard by the FDOT as part of the Overland Bridge project, currently underway to replace 2.3 miles of I-95 with a series of overpasses that carry traffic over Hendricks, Kings and Montana Avenues south of downtown.

The strip club, considered by many to be a cesspool of immorality, is one step closer to its future as a retention pond.

The Doll House had been under scrutiny for operating an adult entertainment business across the street from elementary and high school students who attend Assumption Catholic School and Bishop Kenny High School. According to Jacksonville Municipal Code 656.1103, there are specific buffer restrictions for adult entertainment businesses including one which requires them to be at least 1,000 feet from a school or church.

While the Doll House was out of compliance, they had been allowed to continue to operate because their existence predated the restrictions.

In 2005, the City Council passed Ordinance 2005-743-E which required any adult entertainment establishment that did not conform to the City's adult zoning scheme to stop operating by 2010. That's when Charlie Hartsock, operator of the Doll House

since 1986, along with the owner of The New Solid Gold Club, sued the City of Jacksonville and lost.

They appealed the decision to the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit in Atlanta. While the appeal was pending the City enacted further legislation consistent with its legal position and the appellate court upheld the decision.

The FDOT spent \$60.6 million to purchase 155 parcels of property, totaling 45.8 acres of right-of-way necessary to complete the Overland Bridge project. "We had to purchase a lot more property than we usually have to for this project because of the scale of it," said Mike Goldman, Public Information Officer for the FDOT. "We have to pay fair market value."

In a 2011 news article, Hartsock estimated the value of his land and business to be \$1.5 million; however Hartsock Enterprises was ultimately paid \$419,940 by the FDOT for the property.

City Council member Don Redman, who represents the neighborhood where the Doll House was located, said that residents are excited that it is no longer there. "I am thankful it's completely gone," Redman said. "Of course it will probably move elsewhere, but at least it won't be across the street from a church and school."

Among the rubble of disrepute there is said to be a miraculous medal which may have just lived up to its name.

Father Fred Parke, pastor of

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"I am thankful it's completely gone. Of course it will probably move elsewhere, but at least it won't be across the street from a church and school."

Don Redman
City Council member

Doll House would be demolished. When he asked her to clarify what she meant, she told him how she and the other two Sisters prayed to the Blessed Mother for it to be torn down. "Then they went to the Doll House at seven in the morning, dressed in their full black attire and lobbed a blessed miraculous medal on the roof," Parke said. "So somewhere in that rubble was the medal they threw up there."

"We were just trying to close it. I never thought it would be torn down," Parke explained. "But that's what the Sisters said, that it would be demolished."

Assumption Catholic Church, was involved in the advocacy to have the Doll House closed. At the time, the Sisters of Divine Mercy visited the parish for a retreat and heard the controversy associated with the Doll House.

Parke said that one day during their visit one of the Sisters told him the



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Rosh Hashanah.....Thursday, September 5: Children's Service 9:15 a.m. • Morning Service 10:30 a.m.

Kol Nidre.....Friday, September 13: Family Service 5:30 p.m. • Evening Service 8:00 p.m.

Yom Kippur.....Saturday, September 14: Children's Service 9:15 a.m. • Morning Service 10:30 a.m. Afternoon Service 2:30 p.m. • Yizkor 4:30 p.m.

To be or not to be (a historic district)?

Historic designation can be tough sell

BY NANCY LEE BETHEA
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

With three official historic districts in Jacksonville – Riverside/Avondale, Springfield and St. Johns Quarter – the past is being preserved for future generations.

Springfield, with more than 1,000 buildings over 50 years of age, gained the historic district distinction in 1992. St. Johns Quarter, a small area of Riverside close to the St. Johns River, earned it in 1996. Riverside/Avondale, a neighborhood known for distinct architectural styles, received it in 1998.

Two additional neighborhoods, San Marco and Old Ortega, share some of Jacksonville's rich heritage, but they are not official historic districts.

What it takes

Gaining status as an historic district is a complicated process generally initiated within neighborhoods, according to Joel McEachin, City Planner and Supervisor, Historic Preservation Section for the City of Jacksonville.

The process begins with a recommendation from the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission. Established in 1990, the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission is

comprised of attorneys, architects and educators. The Commission's goals include helping the public wade through the historic designation process and shedding light on district and state regulations, according to the City of Jacksonville's web site. In addition, the Commission strives to help neighborhood organizations protect and preserve their architectural, historic and cultural resources.

Upon acquiring the Commission's recommendation, a neighborhood must find an entity to sponsor their application to gain historic designation. Only certain entities can sponsor an application, which complicates the process even more, according to McEachin. "Sponsors are usually a council member, the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission or neighborhoods working with council people," he added.

Once a neighborhood submits its application, the City prepares the paperwork technicalities for them. Then, the City sends a report and recommendations to the Commission. If the Commission deems the application complete, they start the clock and the process begins, McEachin said.

If the application moves forward, the City notifies each neighborhood resident of hearings and meetings. The City also provides ballots to enable residents to vote on whether they support seeking the designation as an historic district.

A town meeting then takes place, and a public hearing is held before the Commission, McEachin shared.

Next, the neighborhood's application is reviewed once more, and if it is approved again by 50 percent or more of the neighborhood's residents, it heads to Jacksonville's City Council. If City Council approves the neighborhood's application, a public hearing before the zoning commission takes place. The approved application then goes before City Council and the Mayor. Finally, the neighborhood is flagged for permits, and the area's designation as an historic district begins, McEachin added.

Old Ortega and San Marco – historic or not?

Currently, the neighborhoods of Old Ortega and San Marco lack designations as historic districts, though full of rich history and architecture.

"Historic districts are important for all cities, but they have to be approved by community vote," Matt Carlucci, San Marco resident and former Jacksonville City Councilman, said.

Reaching unanimity in a residential area is difficult, according to

Carlucci, and historic districts are always a thorny issue.

"San Marco has been reluctant to impose restrictions on itself," he said. "A lot of people would support it, but more members of community feel it could be an invasion of property rights. So, it's a property rights type of issue."

"The bottom line is residents have been unable to build consensus in [Old Ortega and San Marco] to pass an historic district."

Still, in Carlucci's experience, when neighborhoods succeed in gaining historic designation, most residents are pleased they did. "Even those who were opposed to it at the beginning were glad it passed in the long haul," he said.

With easy access to the St. Johns River, ample walking spaces, unique architecture and rich culture, some may argue an official historic designation is unnecessary for Old Ortega and San Marco.

"What makes San Marco different is the architecture of the homes. When you're there, you know you're in an historic area," Carlucci said. "The same is true for Ortega and Springfield."

JCCI leaving Atlantic Boulevard for new location after 15 years

New space at WJCT centrally located for its purpose

Jacksonville Community Council Inc. (JCCI) will be moving its headquarters to WJCT Studios at 100 Festival Park Avenue by December. Space at its 2434 Atlantic Blvd. location, where the council has been for the past 15 years, is inadequate for the increasing number of large community meetings the organization has begun holding, most recently for JAX2025.

The council currently has eight full-time employees and two interns, all of whom are involved with such events. Dr. Laura Lane, JCCI vice president, recently hosted a small gathering – perhaps 35 to 40 people – at WJCT Studios for the first of six Distinctive

Neighborhoods Focus Task Force meetings. She is enthusiastic about the impending move.

"JCCI's partnership with WJCT is a really great example of moving citizen engagement into the 21st century. The projects and programs that are possible will expand JCCI's reach, and as a result, thousands more Northeast Florida residents will get involved in decisions about investments and local policy. And JCCI's local research and consensus-building will push WJCT to use its tools for better education and communication that is focused on specific positive changes for Jacksonville."

"It's where a lot of communities would like to be: developing new ways for residents to get engaged in local public policy and governance, through new media, social media, and new technologies."

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renovation of the South Jacksonville City Hall building from the application for a state grant in 2004 to the grand opening in January 2008 along with Rob Smith and Keith Kimball.

"I drove past this building for years and never knew what it was or what it stood for," said San Marco Preservation Society former board member Robin Robinson. "In 2004, Matt Carlucci

preservation commission requesting an initial \$300,000. "If it hadn't been for Lori Boyer and her political skills, going over and helping us lobby for the grant, we would never have gotten the money," said Newman.

Robinson continued, "We really stuck our necks out doing this. We operate pretty close to our budget and didn't have extra money to pay utilities and everything that goes into



Left to right: George Foote, Heather Stine, Diane Martin, Liz Morgan, Lori Boyer, Jay Robinson, Robin Robinson, Jennifer Newman, Reese Riggle, Andrew Dickson, Anthony Edwards, Desiree Bailey, Doug Skiles

[Jacksonville Historical Society Board] came to San Marco Preservation and said the building could be available, and it was about that time we realized it was the South Jacksonville City Hall."

Newman shared that the former City Hall was in a very serious state of disrepair when she was board president in 2001-2002. "The firemen's union had been in here for a number of years and it was deteriorating, the walls were falling in, plaster falling off and the windows were beyond repair." She wrote a grant to the state historic

operating a building. We took a big chance." A portion of the operating expenses is paid by Greenscape, a tenant on the top floor.

The other three markers were chosen based on what residents thought were most historically interesting to people, according to Newman.

"These markers that are all around town provide immensely fascinating stories about San Marco history," said Reese Riggle, board president. "Having those stories forever on these markers give people a sense of community."



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Four sites selected

Villa Alexandria

Villa Alexandria, built in the 1870s as the winter home of Alexander and Martha Mitchell of Milwaukee, WI, once stood near what is now Davin Park on River Road. Martha Mitchell became enthralled with this setting and purchased 140 acres that became known as Villa Alexandria.

During the late 19th century, Villa Alexandria was "the showplace of the environs of Jacksonville." The grounds featured carriage ways, extensive vegetation, a boathouse, orange groves, a swimming pool, fountains, pools and artificial streams.

Villa Alexandria was demolished around 1925 to make way for the San Marco subdivision.



Oriental Gardens

Located on San Jose Boulevard, south of Craig Creek in San Marco, Oriental Gardens charmed Jacksonville visitors and residents for nearly two decades. In 1925, George W. Clark began planting overflow from his botanical collection on a bluff that he owned overlooking the St. Johns River. This 18-acre private estate was opened to the public in October 1937 and, until 1954, was Jacksonville's major tourist attraction.

In 1954, the estate was purchased by the State Investment Company and subdivided into 33 single family home sites. Even though the gardens are gone, their remnants, such as statuary, gate posts, and the original stairs to the river, can be seen along Oriental Gardens Road which is now dominated by mid and late 20th century single family homes.

South Jacksonville City Hall

Jacksonville's Great Fire of May 3, 1901 destroyed a large part of the city and left nearly 10,000 people homeless. Numerous residents of the city relocated to other areas, including to the then remote area of South Jacksonville, across the St. John's River.

The South Jacksonville City Hall was built on Hendricks Avenue in 1915 in a masonry vernacular style, and housed city offices, as well as a fire truck. A trolley line ran in front of the building to Beach Road, now Atlantic Boulevard.

Development in South Jacksonville expanded greatly with the opening of the St. Johns River Bridge in 1921. On January 1, 1932, South Jacksonville was annexed by the City of Jacksonville. This building is one of the few reminders that South Jacksonville once was a community distinct from the City of Jacksonville for nearly 25 years.

San Marco Square

With the opening of the St. John's River Bridge in 1921, South Jacksonville became attractive to developers during the Florida land boom. In 1925, Jacksonville real estate developer Telfair Stockton began work on San Marco, an 80-acre Mediterranean-inspired community.

Unlike many earlier developments, which were laid out following a grid street pattern, San Marco shows the influence of the City Beautiful movement. Its winding streets, planted medians, and use of parks and larger lots create a varied landscape and interesting building sites.

By late 1926 the development's business district, San Marco Square, was laid out. It was inspired by the Piazza San Marco in Venice, which Stockton had visited on a trip to Europe. One of the Square's original buildings, the St. Mark's Building, built in 1927, retains an arched facade and tile roof typical of the Mediterranean Revival style of architecture.

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Biker/pedestrian fatalities help City keep unwanted rating

Overpass near recent fatal accident not ADA-compliant

BY LARA PATANGAN
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Coming in third place isn't so bad, unless it is the ranking of third most dangerous in the country for bikers and pedestrians. Tragically, the ranking was highlighted last month in St. Nicholas when a man was killed crossing the street, underscoring the need to make strides in pedestrian safety.

James Evans III, a 76-year-old Jacksonville man, died from injuries sustained when he was hit by a truck while crossing eight lanes of traffic on Atlantic Boulevard east of Interstate 95 in front of Assumption Catholic School.

There is not a crosswalk at that location, but there is a pedestrian overpass nearby. Evans did not use the overpass, which would have required huffing up 38 steps and down another 36.

The pedestrian overpass was built in 1962, prior to the 1990 implementation of the American Disabilities Act. According to Mike Goldman, Public Information Officer for the Florida Department of Transportation, there is nothing planned to make the pedestrian overpass ADA accessible and securing additional right of way would be necessary to make it ADA-compliant.



"We are looking into the details of the fatality to determine if the overpass was a factor," Goldman said. It would definitely take additional right of way to make it ADA accessible," Goldman explained. "This adds significantly to the price of the project. At least \$1 million is an unofficial safe estimate."

While that area is adjacent to the construction that is part of the Overland Bridge Project, which will ultimately replace 2.3 miles of I-95 with a series of overpasses, the crosswalk is not part of those improvements and will not be impacted, Goldman said.

A 2011 study, "Dangerous by Design," conducted by Transportation for America, studied traffic fatalities from 2000 through 2009 and gave Jacksonville's metropolitan area the unenviable ranking as the third most dangerous for bikers and pedestrians in the country. This year there have been 19 pedestrian fatalities in Jacksonville from the time period

between January 1 and August 18.

According to the meeting minutes from a JCCI JAX2025 Focus Task Force, charged with encouraging Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation, the report "cited faulty road and infrastructure design, lack of adequate spending and enforcement of laws, lack of adequate policies and government staffing, and lack of programs supporting safety as reasons for the poor ranking."

Task Force chair Michelle Tappouni said that the objective of the project is to make progress toward a more bicycle and pedestrian-friendly Jacksonville, which entails a combination of improved infrastructure and public education.

"The two things are tied together," Tappouni said and went on to ask "Do the pedestrians not know the crosswalks are there or do they not use them?"

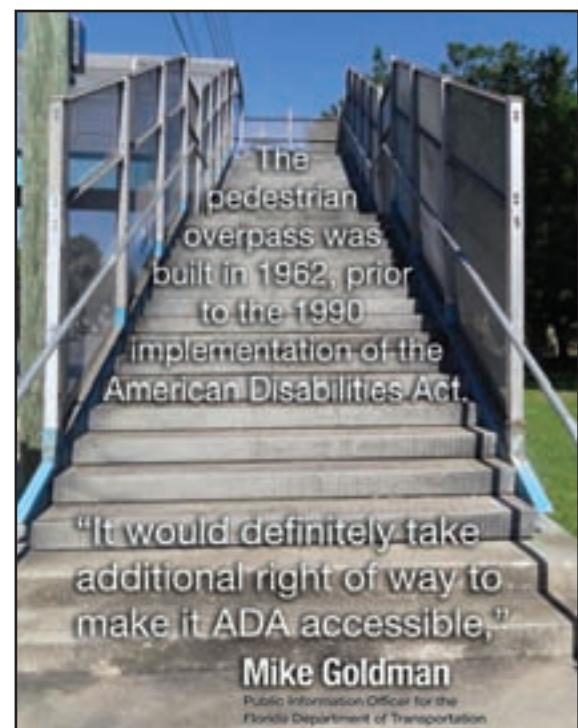
Goldman said that there are many cases where they build crosswalks and overpasses and people ignore them.

District 4 Councilman Don Redman, an avid cyclist who serves on the task force, agrees that education remains a critical component of improving pedestrian safety. Redman

knows first-hand how dangerous Jacksonville is, having been hit four times on his bike, one by a hit-and-run driver who left him on the side of the road unconscious. "I am very concerned about the number of fatalities," Redman said. "We need to make sure people are properly educated and that police are writing tickets to speeders and jaywalkers."

Redman hopes the appropriation of money in the City's budget for a full-time Bike/Ped Coordinator will be a step in the right direction. The position is expected to be filled by September.

According to Tappouni one of the best things about the task force is that it involves people who can implement change. The committee is made up of those involved in transportation, pedestrian safety and greener communities.



Mike Goldman

Public Information Officer for the Florida Department of Transportation

"We have reality sitting at the table," Tappouni explained. "The people there can say what's in their budget, and what the federal guidelines are. They are the people who can make it happen."

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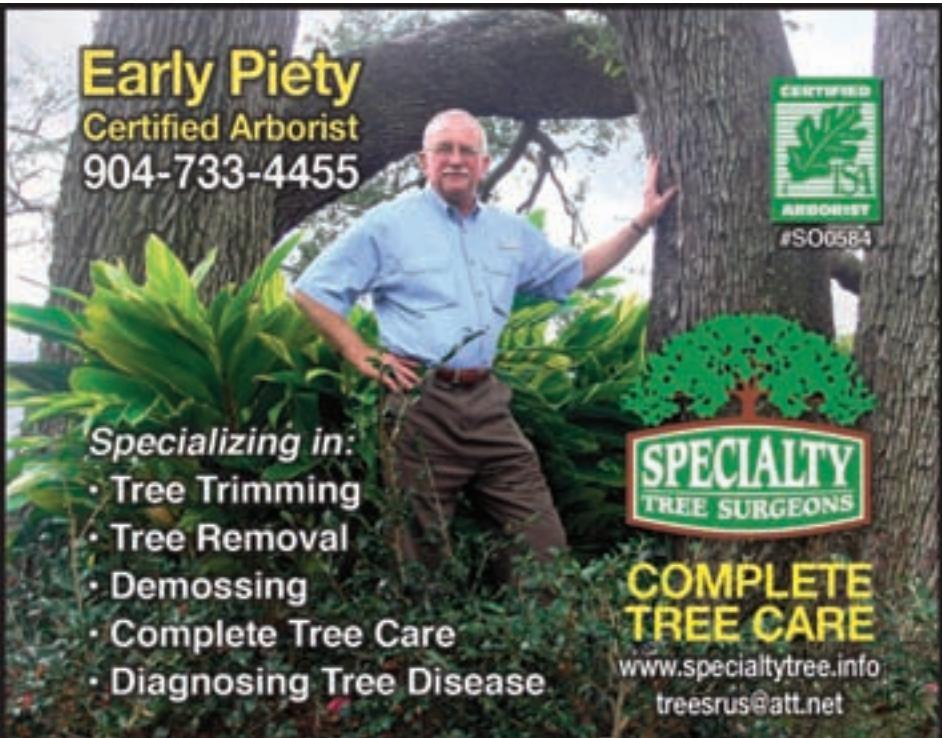
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Realtors face fines for sign placement

New ordinances to remove limiting restrictions

BY LARA PATANGAN
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

If the real estate agent you hire doesn't bother to put a for sale sign in your yard, it could be a bad sign. Or, it could be that they are just following the law.

According to section 656.1306 of the Zoning Code, real estate signs have to be set back 10 feet from the property line which sometimes means behind a fence, hedge or other obstruction that makes them obscured.

Jon Singleton, an agent with Watson Realty, has sold real estate for 11 years. While the law is nothing new, he has never seen it enforced until recently. He was surprised to receive three \$55

citations for having a for sale sign in a client's yard.

He didn't remove them either. "With the way the City is applying the code (requiring signs to be 30 feet from the center line of the street), makes it impossible to adequately market and sell homes," explained Singleton.

If all goes well, Singleton shouldn't have to risk the fine much longer.

District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer has drafted ordinance 2013-486 that "allows placement of a real estate sign advertising the sale or lease of a residential property between the edge of pavement and the lot line of the property."

She expects it to pass in the beginning of the month. "It's just one of those things that you are surprised it's some other way," Boyer said. "It's like motherhood and apple pie."



Affair on the New Square

With the addition of the benches to the newly renovated Balis Park, the fun begins this month with a "soft opening" on Thursday, Sept. 19, 6-9 p.m. The San Marco Merchants Association will sponsor an evening of hospitality and entertainment. A band will set the light-hearted mood as shopkeepers open their doors to visitors on the Square. Stay tuned next month for details on the park's grand opening.

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Misinformation on residential hens threatens the success of legislation

BY LARA PATANGAN
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Hen advocates are pecking through misinformation that threatens the flock of single family homeowners crowing for the right to have backyard hens.

Last month the City of Jacksonville Planning and Development Department denied the recommendation of the draft ordinance 2013-415 which would allow single family homeowners to have up to four backyard hens. Reasons for the denial include noise, loose hens, property values and code enforcement.

Genora Crain-Orth, a Riverside resident who has been involved in the campaign to legalize backyard hens was frustrated with the report's lack of factual information. "There is not a single reference cited in the planning document."

Advocates in Sarasota, FL who have been successful getting hens legalized in their city, echoed Crain-Orth's assessment, criticizing the Planning Department for its lack of sources to support the reasons for the denial. They wrote on their blog site Sarasotacluck.blogspot.com about the denial, lack of citation and even refute some of the concerns cited with information published by the Environmental Law Institute in Washington, D.C.

Lauren Trad, a San Jose resident who started hensinjax.com, a grass roots group trying to change the existing ordinance to legalize backyard hens, was disappointed that the

Planning Department did not reach out to the councilman sponsoring the ordinance or to any supporters to "to verify the scope of the report."

Still, she thinks it's important to recognize the wide variety of support they have to counter "the same three to four people who speak out against it," Trad said. "They never seem to have substantiated facts, just misconceptions."

Trad said they have had a cross-section of different supporters who have spoken in favor of the ordinance including a mother whose child has food allergies, an education expert from the zoo, grandparents whose grandchildren come over to care for their hens, and even a 12-year-old San Marco girl who stood before the City Council asking for its passage.

A 2012 Urban Agriculture Survey conducted by Riverside Avondale Preservation found 91 percent of respondents in favor of residential hen ownership.

One of the bill's co-sponsors, District 4 Councilman Don Redman, said there is a lot of misinformation about owning hens including the fact that the draft ordinance only refers

to female chickens, not their noisy mate, the rooster. Roosters are not included in the draft ordinance.

Still, he is optimistic that the draft ordinance will pass. It is expected to go in front of the full Council this month. "We are going to have to make some changes to the legislation, but I really think it's going to pass."

Changes may include requiring chicken owners to get a permit and take a class on the proper care of chickens. Crain-Orth is also willing to make necessary modifications to move the legislation forward. "We

are willing to make changes to the ordinance as it has been drafted," Crain-Orth said.

District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer's concern with the draft ordinance is code enforcement. "If a homeowner has a complaint, there is no mechanism in place to document it," Boyer explained. "Code-compliance can't enter a fenced yard to investigate a complaint. If people don't comply, we have to have a way to remedy that."

Boyer also suggested a pilot program may be the best way to introduce residential hen ownership to quell concerns.

Meanwhile, Trad said they have received letters from other communities within the state "showing that they have had no negative impact to code enforcement or animal control by allowing hens on residential property."

Countering concerns against the draft ordinance, Redman offers his own personal take. "I was raised on a farm," Redman said. "A chicken is easier to keep than a cat or dog."

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outlook **Bright** for condo ownership in Older Neighborhoods

BY LORRIE DEFRAK
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

High demand for and low inventory of condominiums in Jacksonville's Historic Districts and older neighborhoods seem to be strong indicators of an economic upturn.

The current bright status of the condo market contrasts the gloom of just a few years ago when prices plummeted, homeowners associations struggled with deficits, sellers battled desperation and buyers wallowed in remorse.

Now, the allure of a relatively maintenance-free lifestyle in the walkable, exciting neighborhoods of San Marco, St. Nicholas and San Jose plays a major role in boosting sales, prices and optimism.

A Northeast Florida Association of Realtors' (NEFAR) condominium market analysis that compares the first

"Prices are slowly and gradually coming back..."

Anita Vining

Realtor, Prudential Network Realty's San Marco office

eight months of last year to this year shows the following average improvements in the combined areas of San Marco, San Jose, St. Nicholas, Riverside, Avondale, Ortega/Venetia and Murray Hill:

- Total units sold: 45.5 percent more
- Median sale price: 4.5 percent higher
- Percentage of list price: 0.5 percent more than asked
- Days on the market: 14.7 percent fewer days

"Our resale market has been on fire, for single family homes and condos," said Anita Vining, Realtor, Prudential Network Realty's San Marco office. "Prices are slowly and gradually coming back, not as fast as they went up in 2006 but as inventory gets lower, it's causing prices to rise gradually." She attributes the condo turnaround to "great interest rates, great prices and limited inventory."

"Decent value, low prices and good area" make it a smart time to buy condos in the Historic Districts, concurred Umesh Patel, mortgage originator for Jax Federal Credit Union on Park Street. He said interest rates for condos, which usually are a quarter percent higher than those for a 30-year fixed single family home, jumped a whole percent in June to 4.875.

Patel acknowledged that condos are generally still harder to finance than single-family residences.

Considerations include the ratio of renters to owners, solvency of the homeowners associations' reserves, and location. For buyer protection, he strongly advises potential buyers to have the association complete a condo questionnaire that provides the lender information such as number of units, percentage of owners, delinquency rates and snapshot of the financial situation.

Financing easing up

As more homeowners opt for condos, lenders become more willing to finance them.

"The problem has been getting financing. We had a flurry of rental apartment properties that went condo and investors flocked to them for little or no money down. Then the value fell

and there were a lot of defaults, short sales and foreclosures. Associations were sitting there with people not paying fees and they were trapped for cash. It was a terrible situation," said Linda McMorrow, broker owner, The Legends of Real Estate, and president elect of NEFAR. "We are slowing clawing our way back from that."

In addition to a significantly more favorable owner-renter ratio, which plays a major role in securing financing, McMorrow said an overall improvement in the Northeast Florida housing market that is allowing people to sell their big houses is "probably the single most prominent factor that has loosened up the condo market."

For example, availability of condos at Epping Forest in San Jose decreased from nine to four from the beginning of the year. "We are definitely seeing a market improvement in higher-end condos," she said. "People don't want to have to care for yards. They want to lock up and go away for extended periods of time and, in the case of Epping Forest, enjoy the amenities."

A big change is the health of condo associations, echoed Jim Branch, consumer lending production manager/vice president, Regions Bank. "Lending is restricted any time 15 percent of condos are behind on dues," he said. "Now we are able to lend on condos we were not able to lend on before. Another thing is the levels of investor concentration have decreased dramatically. Mortgage lenders

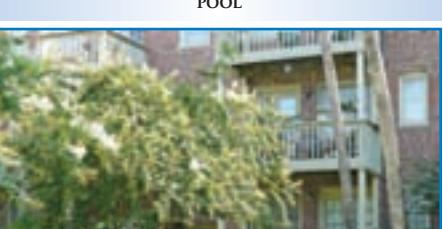
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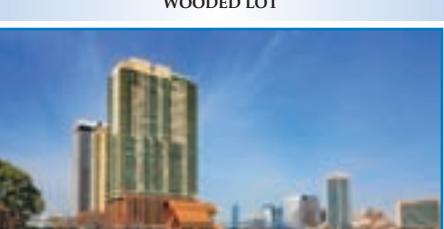
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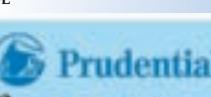
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► want to have at least 50 percent owner-occupied units before we make loans."

"Eventually the ratio of investor to owner-occupied has become more owner-occupied," said Charles Boyett, director of market development, Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty. "And living in the Historic District is just cool. No matter what age or walk of life, you've got the flavor of old historic homes with trendy new vibes."

Location is key

Developer Michael Balanky, president/CEO of Chase Properties Inc., agrees it's all about location. "We're not getting back to 2004 through 2006 prices any time soon, if ever, but for the right location, there certainly is a market," he said. "People enjoy the condo lifestyle – lock the door and leave."

The Mediterranean-style luxury condos in the 21-story San Marco Place, which he developed in 2005 on the southern banks of the St. Johns River, are 100 percent occupied, he said.

"Eventually the ratio of investor to owner-occupied has become more owner-occupied."

Charles Boyett

Director of market development, Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty

With its mix of residential, commercial and high-rise office buildings, "San Marco's got a great feel to it. It's very vibrant and gets better every day," Balanky said. "As long as the market continues to grow, downtown will evolve and the more its periphery will evolve, and vice versa. Rates are still historically low. Even though they spiked recently, they are expected to stay low for the next year or two."

Carol Grimes, a professor of public speaking at Florida State College at Jacksonville who recently moved from a townhome on the Southside to a condo at San Marco Place, said living near downtown fulfills her desire to be more involved in the city and close to its cultural attractions.

"Condo living allows me to be high up and have a sweeping view of the stunning river and the beautiful skyline of downtown Jacksonville," she said. "Also, it's safe, clean and convenient. I can walk to my bank and take the river taxi to the symphony and other events."

"A year ago, people did not even try to sell homes. Now they are able to sell their houses and downsize into condos."

Gil Pomar

Market president, Northeast Florida Region, CenterState Bank

I've always been attracted to the Historic District but didn't want the responsibility of a historic house to take care of. Here I have a modern, maintenance-free building and feel I am part of the historic neighborhoods. Everywhere I go I walk or drive through them."

Professionals such as Grimes, including an increasing number who are moving to Jacksonville for employment opportunities, are buying new and

old condos on both sides of the St. Johns River near downtown.

Demographics also include empty nesters and others who are downsizing as well as young families starting out who prefer the carefree lifestyle that condo living affords.

"People like that urban look and aspect where they can walk to restaurants and shopping and coffee shops and be where the action is," said McMorrow.

Luxury condos are hot

The Peninsula on the Southbank, now sold out, stands as a testimony to the condo resurgence.

"It's a huge success. We saw the best and worst of times," said Nicole Dana, special agent for The Peninsula and Realtor for Prudential Network Realty, Avondale.

Built in 2004, the 37-floor, 234-unit luxury high rise was sold out by 2006 but had a 30 percent fallout by 2008, when the economy soured. "Then we sold only 10 to 12 units per year until

2011 when we remarketed and took the prices down," said Dana, who continues to service resales and rentals in The Peninsula. "All of a sudden people are doing better. The higher end market on waterfront homes started to move. People wanted to downsize but because high end was not moving, it was not possible to purchase a condo. That directly affects how condos are selling."

Dana has seen condo pricing come down 50 percent then stabilize at about 20 percent less than original costs. About 15 units are available on the resale market in The Peninsula.

She often receives as many as 15 calls a day from out-of-towners. "The job market is hot in Jacksonville. People are rapidly moving here from other metropolitan areas. They want to live in upscale high rise living downtown. And as the residential market has picked up, we are seeing the retail market follow suit," she said.

Likewise, around the bend of the St. Johns River, the luxurious Old San Jose

on the River condos are sold out. On the site of the former River Reach Apartments and following a failed tower endeavor at the location, Old San Jose – midway between San Marco and Epping Forest – quickly sold out after the developer bought it from a bank, according to Victoria (Vikki) Robbins, owner, Victoria Robbins Realty, Inc., which is responsible for sales there.

"The condo market has come back. Starting with the holidays in 2012,

"Now we are able to lend on condos we were not able to lend on before."

Jim Branch

Consumer lending production manager/vice president, Regions Bank

prices escalated considerably," she said, adding that she gets numerous calls from developers interested in duplicating the success of Old San Jose.

For the most part, lenders burned in 2008 remain reluctant to make commercial loans for condo construction unless developers have considerable cash and units sold, according to Dawn McGovern, Lakewood branch retail executive, BBVA Compass.

"Developers are applying for loans to develop in the San Marco and Riverside areas but the amount of cash flow they have to put in is more than they have available," she said.

However, retail lending for buyers such as first-time homeowners and empty nesters is easing up, "depending on the customer, credit and amount of money they are putting down," she said, cautioning "if you don't know how much you can afford, come in and ask. People get their hearts set on something they can't afford, then get disappointed."

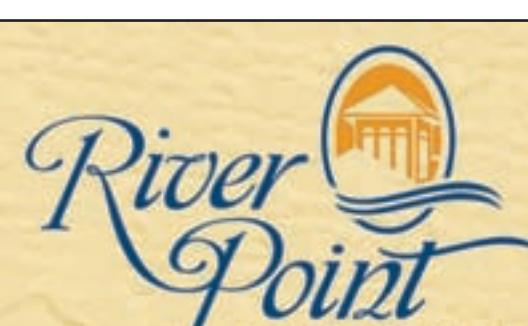
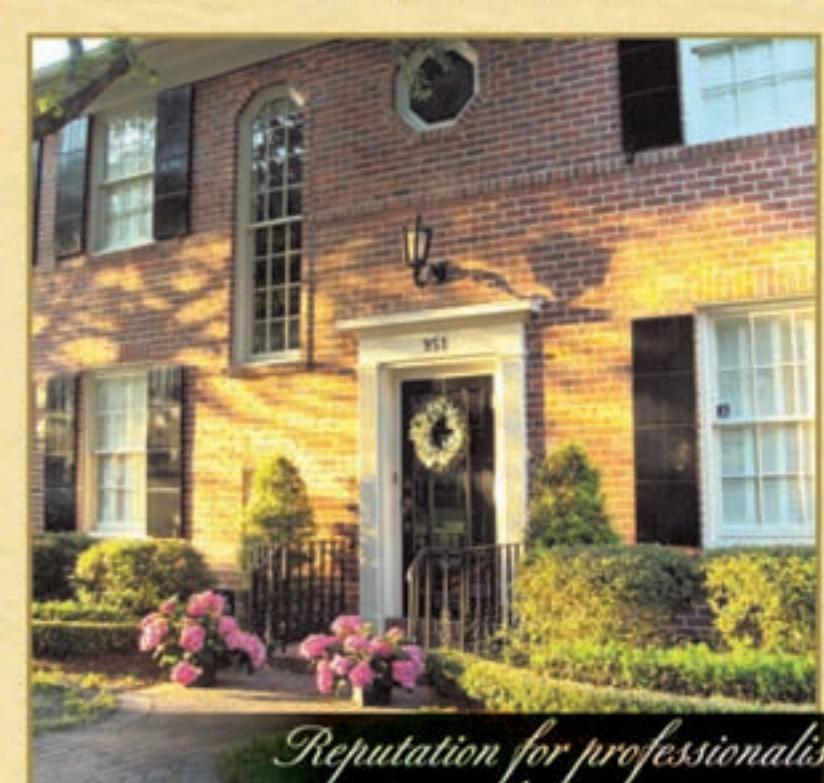
Gil Pomar, market president, Northeast Florida Region, CenterState Bank, said with the market improving he wouldn't be surprised to see new condo development in the Historic District, depending on availability of funding and land.

Pomar is optimistic about the condo market as long as prices and rates stay low. "A year ago, people did not even try to sell homes. Now they are able to sell their houses and downsize into condos," he said.

"If anyone comes out of the ground with new waterfront condos, they would be a gold mine," said Suzanne Cash, adding that buyers have not been craving condos like this since 2006.

Cash is a Watson Real Estate agent who exclusively represents La Terrazza, where all of the constructed villa homes – similar to condos on a ground floor – are sold. Four are under construction with more to be built. The luxury Mediterranean-style development on Goodby's Creek near San Jose and San Marco also features townhomes, which are sold out, too, she said.

Although condo inventory is down in the Historic District, real estate experts concur that units remain available in new and old buildings to buy or rent. With prices and interest rates creeping up, most agree this is a good time to buy. "You can get a condo from under \$100,000 to more than a half million, depending on where it is and the features," said McGovern.

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MOVERS & SHAKERS

Prudential Network Realty adds Dylan Rigdon to team

Dylan Rigdon is the newest member of the Prudential Network Realty team in the San Marco office of Prudential Network Realty. Rigdon, formerly with EXIT Realty, brings over two years' experience in real estate. Rigdon specializes in For Sale By Owners and feels one of his biggest strengths is his knowledge of the area he lives and works in, the ability to understand contracts, social media and his relationship skills.



having Dylan's talents in our office and expect him to be a superstar."

Rigdon is a supporter of Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) and Jacksonville No More Homeless Pets. When asked why he chose Prudential, Rigdon stated, "I felt the owners are very classy, ethical and the name recognition could not be matched." Broker Sheron Willson states, "We are extremely excited about

Alan Harmon installed as FMA president

The Florida Medical Association installed San Marco resident W. Alan Harmon, M.D., FACP, as its 137th president during the 2013 FMA Annual Meeting in Orlando. Dr. Harmon is known among his colleagues as a dedicated physician leader who has made many contributions to organized medicine.

Board certified in internal medicine and gastroenterology,



Dr. Harmon practices with the Borland-Groover Clinic in Jacksonville. He graduated with honors from the University of Florida College of Medicine in 1976, and he completed his residency in internal medicine and a fellowship in gastroenterology at the University of Alabama in Birmingham.

Jewish Family & Community Services appoints new director



Jewish Family & Community Services (JFCS), a full-service social service agency serving both the Jewish and non-Jewish community, appointed Mandarin resident Marie Gabbamonte as the agency's Director of

Development and Marketing.

"Marie brings a wonderful perspective to this position, as she has many years of experience at community organizations," said JFCS Executive Director Colleen Rodriguez. "She is very familiar with the needs of those we help – children, families and seniors – and

is well-connected throughout Northeast Florida. We look forward to having her as part of our team."

Gabbamonte brings 20 years of non-profit experience to the position. Throughout the course of her career, Gabbamonte has achieved success managing database systems, annual appeals, special events and capital campaigns.

"This is a wonderful time to be coming on board at JFCS," said Gabbamonte. "JFCS has an amazing history in Jacksonville, and it is about to celebrate its 100th anniversary year [in 1917]. It is exciting to be a part of an organization that is committed to the well-being of the whole community."

For more information about JFCS, visit www.jfcnjax.org or call (904) 448-1933.

Johnson out, Johnson in at Bolles School



Bradley R. Johnson, Class of '79, was unanimously selected as the School's interim president and head of school by The Bolles School Board of Trustees.

"Johnson is the embodiment of the Bolles values. He attended middle and high school here and brought Bolles' traditions of courage, integrity and compassion to tremendous success in work, family and community life," said Bolles Board of Trustees Chairman William "Bill" Lynch (Class of '77). "Johnson also has been committed to our School since his graduation, having been an active Board of Trustees member, parent and fundraiser. We are pleased to have him at the helm, guiding and representing Bolles."

The Board of Trustees had announced late last month that former President and Head of School Brian Johnson left his position effective July 24. The departure was the mutual and amicable decision of Johnson and the Board

of Trustees. After six years at Bolles, he plans to pursue other opportunities in education.

A highly respected local attorney and father of three current Bolles students, Bradley Johnson assumes the position immediately. Johnson is a partner in the law firm Taylor, Day, Grimm, Boyd & Johnson where he has represented employers in litigation and similar proceedings.

"This is the opportunity of a lifetime and I am deeply humbled and pleased to accept this role," stated Johnson. "Bolles is a truly remarkable place, and I am committed to taking it forward with the assistance and ideas of the outstanding faculty, administration, parents, alumni and community."

Johnson will serve The Bolles School and will handle the day-to-day management of all four campuses as the Board begins its official search for a permanent head of school this month.

New priest at All Saints Episcopal

All Saints Episcopal Church, 4171 Hendricks Avenue in San Marco, welcomed The Rev. Donavan Cain as its new priest in charge. Fr. Cain, a native of Kentucky, was called to lead the historic San Marco church in mid-July and will be assisted by The Reverend Christopher Martin.

"We are absolutely thrilled Fr. Donavan has accepted this position, he is the right leader for our little church at just the right time – a blessing and answer to prayer, without a doubt," said Susanna Barton, senior warden of All Saints Episcopal Church.



Fr. Cain, an accomplished musician who has twice toured Ireland with a bluegrass band from Berea College in Berea, KY, comes to All Saints after serving as Rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Paris, KY and serving as Associate Rector for two years at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Ortega.

"I already feel right at home at All Saints and am excited about my future with this vibrant parish, there is a lot of good work ahead of us spreading the good news of Jesus Christ here in our community and in Jacksonville," Fr. Cain said.

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business profile

Team approach leaves clients with satisfying experience

At Mary Airheart, a private hair and skin salon, the big news is all about teamwork. The salon is pleased to announced that Beverly Ginn, former owner of Skin Fixx by Beverly, is now on staff at Mary Airheart Salon.

"When you schedule with us, you get the whole salon," said Mary Airheart, proprietor of the intimate salon at The Lofts San Marco. "Many clients enjoy a facial and make-up application, hair experience, gel manicure, or the whole package."

Ranging in age from 20-something to 60-something, the carefully selected team of hair, makeup and skin care professionals guarantee forward-thinking beauty trends for women of all ages in the Jacksonville area.

"We now offer full skin care treatments...full time," stated Airheart. "The four of us [Airheart, Beverly Ginn, Jessica Lovingood and Lisa Vanni] work as a team, picking up where one leaves off."

"Even though we're smaller, because we work as a team we're able to accommodate more clients in a timely fashion," Airheart explained. During the back-to-school rush, we had six people here at one time, got them out on time and they did not feel rushed."

After hair, it's all about skin. Airheart and her staff of three go through continual training at state-of-the-art schools such as the International Dermal Institute for expert certification in skin care and therapy.

"We're now offering shorter micro-zone treatments for people who might be on a budget, intimidated by the thought of skin treatments, or are in a hurry," she said. "Anything you do with skin has to be maintained; once you stop, you lose the results. We want people to understand how affordable skin care is."

The ideal skin care program is to come in for the full treatment so that the staff can get to know your skin,



and then put you on a maintenance program, tailored fit for you and your pocket book.

The salon also books group events, offering hair and makeup parties for birthdays, weddings and other special occasions. "For a prom, we provided a teen buffet, played their music and made it into a pre-party. It was a huge hit," shared Airheart.

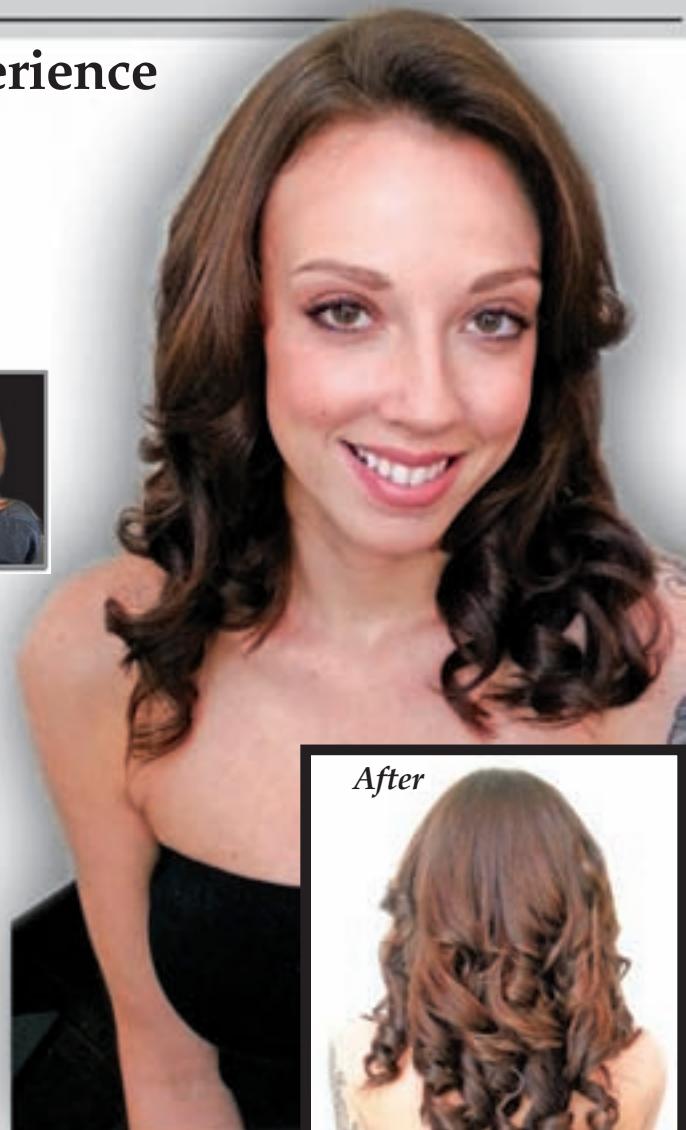
Vanni also offers make-up lessons, mostly one-on-one, although she will do two or three at a time.

Hair extensions are hot right now, and they're fun and affordable, too.

"Back in the day, you were looking at extensions that cost up to \$3,000.00, but they were a more permanent fixture in the hair," noted Airheart. "We do tape-in extensions, and the biggest investment is buying the hair for around \$200-300. We can pop out a full head in 20 minutes."

Extensions can be used for an event, or you can wear them for up to six weeks, then come in and have them readjusted. "We can make them fun, with funky fashion colors, for a night. We need about 10 days' notice to order the hair and we'll also store them and keep them in good condition," Airheart said. "It's not just for adding length, it's for making your hair a little fuller and giving yourself a different look instantly, especially for parties."

The salon has an upscale feel at affordable pricing. "It's a nice upscale salon, but it's for everybody," said Airheart. "We want people to walk in and feel like it's a good place to be. A lot of my clients say, 'this is my refuge'."



While 60 percent of Airheart's clients are women, more and more men come in for skin care. "They don't have to walk into the salon, they can go right to the treatment area. Saturdays are quiet days, so we try to target quiet, relaxing facials then," Airheart concluded.

New clients are being accepted at this time at Mary Airheart Salon, 1450 Flagler Avenue, Ste. 14, Jacksonville, FL 32207. Call or text (904) 434-9664 or email MaryAirheartSalon@gmail.com. Like them on Facebook to get their weekly "chalkboard" specials.

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New business update in San Marco

Finance

A high profile Chase bank, under construction since mid-June at the corner of San Jose and University boulevards, is tentatively scheduled to be completed in early October, according to a site supervisor for Ecker Construction out of Atlanta.

Chase has earlier announced that it was continuing its Florida expansion, with plans for more than a dozen branches in the area.

The new branches will feature the most innovative technology from the bank, offering convenience, efficiency and access for customers around the region, according to a news release.

Chase is already one of Jacksonville's largest employers. Approximately 4,000 work for Chase at its Deerwood Park and Baymeadows campuses, supporting its national mortgage company.

Meanwhile, First Citizens Bank expects to open its two-story, 7,200-square-foot regional headquarters, at the intersection of San Marco

Boulevard and Cedar Street, in late June 2014. A groundbreaking is planned for this month.

Food

Residents will be in for an early holiday treat when a new, authentically Napoleon pizzeria opens in December. Ridge Sink, owner and builder, is planning to convert a former Duron Paint store on Hendricks Avenue at Nira Street into a pizza bakery with communal seating.

"It will be a good place for people to interact with each other again, instead of with their iPhones," said Sink. The former joint venture partner of 14 area Outback Steakhouse restaurants had three 6600-pound wood-fired brick ovens made in Italy by a fifth generation company and they are currently being shipped to Jacksonville. Veloce Pizzeria Napoletana will be open for lunch and dinner, seven days a week, serving pizza, salads, cannolis and a limited selection of Italian wines.

Taverna expands its location

Down in San Marco Square, the buzz is all about the planned 1,500 square foot expansion to Taverna into the space next door. The space was formerly Mimi Kersun's antiques and kitchenware shop,

which closed the end of February after 28 years.

Taverna's owners, Sam and Kiley Efron, also plan to renovate the existing dining room while they build out their new space.

Historical church home for local food pantry

Local CROP Walk to benefit UCOM food pantry

What better place for a food pantry than a church? But, how much more interesting when it was built circa 1887 as the Old Philips Congregational Society church?

The first

African American church in the community was later bought and converted into a private residence and was also once used as a preschool. In 2001 the City of Jacksonville purchased it to house the United Community

Outreach Ministry (UCOM) food pantry and offices. "Many long time area residents still refer to it as the little red school house," said UCOM director Heather Mauney.

Joyce Hanson, a member of Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church, is a volunteer driver for UCOM's Meals on Wheels program. Her husband Malcolm also drives for Meals on Wheels and he volunteers in the food pantry every week.



When CROP began in 1947, the acronym stood for the Christian Rural Overseas Program. Its primary mission was to help Midwest farm families share their grain with hungry neighbors in post-World War II Europe and Asia. The first CROP Walk started in 1969. CROP Hunger Walks are interfaith hunger education and fundraising events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by local offices across the United States.

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ROTARY CELEBRATES ATTENDANCE, WELCOMES JAGS PRESIDENT

The South Jacksonville Rotary Club welcomed Jaguars President Mark Lamping and honored members who have served the club with outstanding attendance. Rotary clubs in District 6970 have once again partnered with The Jaguars in order to heighten attendance for the home game. Purchased tickets for the matchup against the Buffalo Bills at 1 p.m. on Dec. 15 will benefit the district clubs collectively. The club also raised the bar by announcing plans through the Community Project Team to serve dinner to approximately 500 resident and non-resident men, women and children of the Sulzbacher Center on August 22.



William Jaycox with Judge Tyrie Boyer



Chris Bonton and Lynn Betros



President Harlan Bost and Jaguars President Mark Lamping

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WOMEN'S CENTER CELEBRATES WOMEN, SUFFRAGE

It was an evening dedicated to the 93rd anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, a major victory for women's rights. The 18th Annual Celebration of Women held a fitting tribute, as The Women's Center of Jacksonville recognized those who continue to improve the lives of women through advocacy, support and education. The passage of the amendment gave women equal representation through the ratification of voting rights - it was passed August 18, 1920.



Bobbi di Cordova-Hanks and Jerry Hanks



Darryl Wise, Catherine Duncan and Board President Alicia Grant



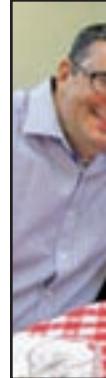
Cheryl A. Williams, Dwayne Austell and Amber Williams

BLUE JEANS 'N BAR-B-Q S

Congregation Ahavath Chessed, The Temple, celebrated Shabbat and the opening of school with a Blue Jeans 'n Bar-B-Q Shabbat on Aug. 16. The Friday Night Live Band, a group of 16 Temple members who are musicians and vocalists, provided the music for the worship service and had everyone clapping and tapping their toes. Cara Jackson and Hallie Wright, two teenagers who became B'nai Mitzvah in August, led a campaign to collect school supplies for the foster children whose care is provided by Jewish Family & Community Services. The Temple is committed to worship, lifelong learning, social action and community; the congregation embraced each aspect of Temple life in one evening.



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TOAST TO THE ANIMALS 'PAW'-SITIVELY FUN

The 5th annual Toast to the Animals was the perfect soiree for soft-hearted lovers of dogs and cats. Donors, volunteers and friends of the furry were on hand Aug. 16 at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront to raise a glass of wine or beer for the purr-fect cause and beg for treats from Sweet Pete's, Espeto Brazilian Steakhouse and Whole Foods Market.



Mary and Michael Swart, Dr. Meredith Swart, veterinarian for The Humane Society and Jacob McCrea



Billy Cesery and Sherri Meadows



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HABBAT



The Pargman Family

RESIDENTS SUPPORT CAUSE FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

San Marco residents gathered to support the Habitat for Humanity of Jacksonville (HabiJax) fundraiser on Aug. 14. Firehouse Subs on the Square donated 20 percent of proceeds to the worthy cause. "We are thrilled that Firehouse Subs chose to partner with us," said HabiJax president and CEO Mary Kay O'Rourke. "We are so grateful for the ongoing support the community shows us and we thank everyone who came out for an evening of fun and good food."



Jon Crouch, Brian Wilson and Michael O'Neal



Alex and Paula Collett, Angie Leatherbury and committed volunteer Donna Read of HabiJax



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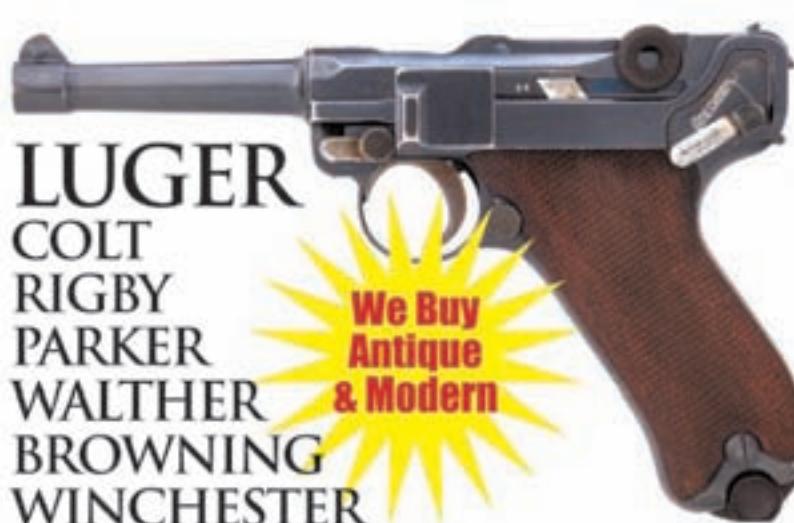


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The Way we Were

Landon High School Class of 1963

BY LAURA JANE PITTMAN
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

As area schools gear up – and fill up – for another year, we wanted to do a special Back to School edition of the column. The Class of 1963 of Landon Jr./Sr. High School just celebrated its 50th anniversary in the spring. Contributing writer Laura Jane Pittman sat down with reunion committee members and Jacksonville residents Julie Brannam, Lynne Bellamy Faust, Lynne Cooper Greene, Dale Harris, Beverly Richman Henderson, Marsha Wilson Banks and token male Lonnie Turner to share stories and laughs about their six years as a Lion.

Favorite teachers and administrators included Ora Eastburn, dean of girls, Mrs. Alexander for French, Barkey for history, Mrs. Bryant for Spanish, Hunter Perkins for English, Memphis Woods for art and Mrs. Morton for algebra.

"Algebra was my worst subject, and Mrs. Morton really worked with me so I ended up with a B," remembered Julie. "She died in a Delta plane



crash in a swamp in Louisiana."

Some of the favorite hangouts that came up in conversation were Fox's Diner, Texas Drive-In for lime freezes and Abe Lavert's Records, where the kids could go listen with headphones to sample 45s.

The Krystal on Atlantic Boulevard had 10-cent burgers. "We would order French fries and ketchup, drink water, and hang out there for a long time," remembered Leone.

And the St. Nicholas Lounge – well, let's just say it was a frequent hangout that parents didn't condone. "We would go after the games to buy beer," recalled Lonnie. "As long as we had money, the school janitor would buy it for us."

In San Marco, there was Boling's Dress Shop and Sibyl's Hair Style, where people came from all over to get hair done at the 40-year-old establishment.

Favorite shoes in high school were Weejuns and Capezio. Boys wore Gant and madras shirts, and John Mayer shirts and sweaters and Villager dresses were most fashionable for girls.

"If you were poor, you owned one of each and just rotated them out," said Julie.

The years from 1957 to 1963 saw their share of catastrophes, including two different snows – a rarity for Jacksonville. And everyone remembered the Flood of 1957. "We waded in waist deep water, and I remember having

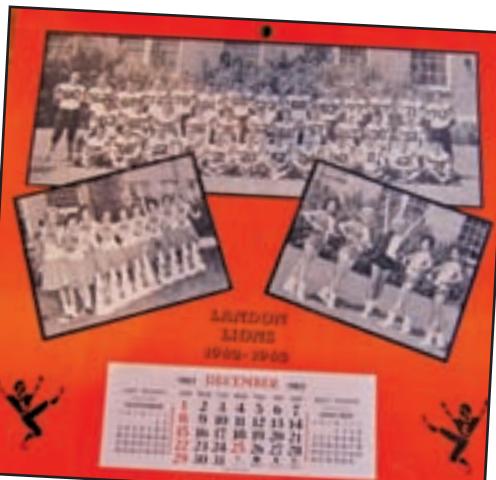


Beverly Richman Henderson, Lynn Cooper Greene, Lonnie Turner, Leone Bellamy Faust, Marsha Wilson Banks, Dale Harris, Julie Brannam

to put towels against the door of my mom's beauty shop to keep the water from coming in," said Dale.

But it was the random school memories that were the most fun to talk about:

• "We cheerleaders would cram into a Jeep, which had no doors and no



seatbelts – all nine of us," laughed Marsha. "We would literally be driving around hanging out of it."

• "The gym teachers insisted that we had white tennis shoes," recalled Lynne. "We would put shoe polish on them." "And they would feel your back after you got out of the shower to make sure you actually had gotten wet," added Leone.

• There were three sets of twins in their class, Leone and her sister Laura being one of them. And everyone pretty much went to the Baptist church or South Jacksonville Presbyterian if they weren't part of

the large Jewish contingency.

• In 7th, 8th and 9th grades, "poster parties" were the big thing – so named because the hosts would make big posters to hang and advertise the event.

• "We lost every single football game our senior year," recalled

Lonnie. "We only had one player over 200 pounds. But we had a great basketball team."

• A classmate named Harley Woods had tattoos. The group shared many laughs remembering how everyone

thought he must have been from prison.

Being a part of Landon High School was special – and it is a testament to its positive environment that the Class of 1963 has remained so close, and that so many of them still live in Jacksonville. It was an exciting time and an exciting place to be.

"When I was little, I used to see football players from Landon walking through San Marco. They were larger than life," said Beverly. "My mom used to say, 'You're going to go there some day.' And sure enough..."

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BY JULIE KERNS GARMENDIA
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Married 69 years (70 in December 2013), it's no wonder Perry (91) and Shirley (89) Cohen finish each other's sentences, energetically debate details, but settle things quickly and amicably.

Perry defers to his petite dynamo of a wife; Shirley's sharp memory is computer quick. Activities focus now on enjoying home, friends and their beloved family of four children and seven grandchildren whose photos fill the house and accomplishments bring them joy.

Just after family, conversation easily turns to pride in the retail business they built together over 60 years. Their Riverside Gown Shop, a landmark originally located at 1021 Park Street, moved to Mandarin in 1992. At that time the Cohens shifted from moderate clothing to exclusively bridal gowns. They sold the shop in 2005; it closed in 2011.

The couple met in 1942 while students at the University of Alabama. Perry was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, Dec. 10, 1943. The couple married two days later in the Belvedere Avenue home of her parents. The Cohens honeymooned in Miami Beach one perfect week, recalled Shirley.

In August of 1945 Perry was training in Brownwood, TX to leave for the Pacific, but VJ Day (Victory Over Japan) ended WWII and he was discharged from the military in 1946. He continued to serve several years in the military reserve.

After he left the service in 1946 Perry went to work for his father's import/export business in New York with an office at 320 Broadway. However, not long after they had moved to New York, Shirley's mother was diagnosed with cancer and Shirley returned to Jacksonville to help her father. Perry soon joined his wife in Jacksonville where they lived on Parrish Place in Avondale.

Shirley's parents, Hugo and Carlye Mark, owned Mark's Dress Shop downtown at Laura and Monroe Streets for years before moving it to 38 W. Duval Street in 1944. Shirley and Perry helped at the store until her sister Paula Lerner took it over. Mark's was a Downtown institution carried on by three generations of the family for 73 years. By 1948 the Cohens were managing a small outlet clothing store Shirley's father owned at 1021 Park Street, which would become Riverside Gown Shop.

In 1955 they built a home on Alhambra Drive West, where they've lived 58 happy years. Shirley raised their family there with the help of her housekeeper Cleo (last name one of the few things Shirley has forgotten), who spent 41 years with the family. Shirley also helped Perry with the

shop when possible during those years. She and their eight to 10 employees worked even harder when Perry began to travel throughout Florida, Georgia and Alabama selling Syd of Chicago dresses and Jack Winter Sportswear lines to earn extra income for his growing family. He traveled for 27 years and had major retailers including Macy's and Burdines among his clientele.

In 1985 Shirley was diagnosed with breast cancer and completed her final treatment in 1990. A breast cancer survivor, she sums up her bout with the disease in her matter-of-fact way, "...I'm just fine." A Jacksonville native, Shirley has many lifelong friends here, some she has known since the first grade.

"Having close friends your whole life, for that long, is such a special thing...thank goodness we still can get together. We love to go out to dinner in the evenings," she said.

Their children are Mark, a periodontist in Los Angeles whose daughter Amanda is 11. Son Rick works in



a local printing business. Son Danny is a Miami spinal surgeon with four children: Alexa, 25 and Erin, 24 completed their first year of medical school, and 19-year-old twins Brianna finished her first year at Northwestern University and Josh completed his first year at Vanderbilt University. The Cohen's only daughter Marjie is a Miami attorney. She and husband Tom Nealon have two children, Alex, 21, who finished his second year at Georgetown University and Carlye, 18, a Gulliver High School senior.

Perry and Shirley worship at Congregation Ahavath Chessed and support the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association and American Macular Degeneration Foundation

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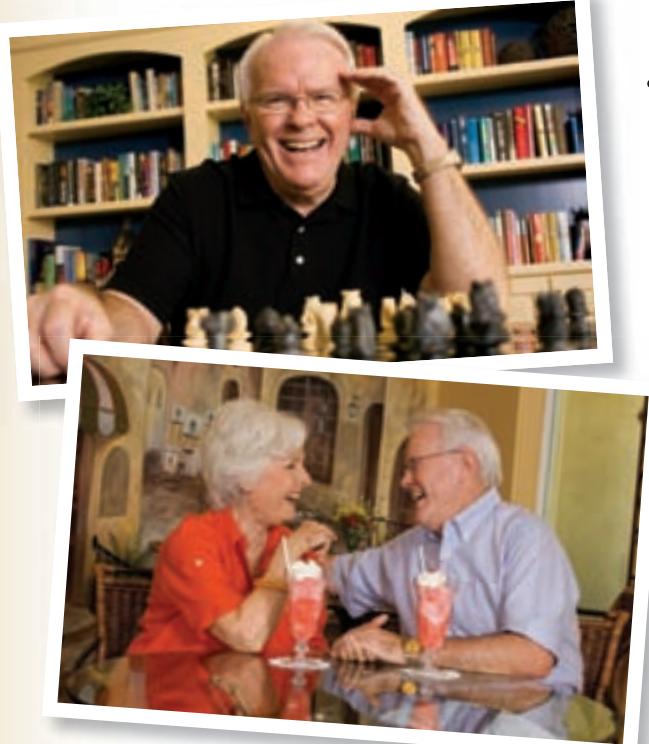
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Local couple provides lifelines for families

Crisis intervention a tense topic for many

BY PEGGY HARRELL JENNINGS
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

When frustrated, lonely people call the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Helpline desperate for a glimmer of hope and help for themselves or for loved ones who are ill, the gracious Southern voice of Norma Basford is the voice of reason for many.

Norma, team leader for Jacksonville's NAMI Helpline, is also a support group advisor and advocate for all things helpful relating to mental health issues.

Norma, and her husband Hayes, actively promote awareness and understanding of mental illnesses throughout the community, in addition to providing lifelines for individuals and families who find themselves helpless and hopeless in dealing with mental illness.

Through the Family to Family classes which the Ortega resident has taught for over eight years at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Norma educates people who have reached the end of their patience and understanding in dealing with loved ones with mental disorders.

Since taking leadership of NAMI Jacksonville in 2010, Hayes has generated new membership and enthusiasm for the organization through countless hours of setting up programs, contacting speakers, organizing volunteers, hosting promotional events, and meeting with board members and civic leaders in the community to promote understanding and fight the stigma concerning mental illness.

Along with NAMI Board members Hayes toured the facilities at CNS Healthcare Research Center, meeting psychiatrists and case coordinators. Then, in order to better understand the role of the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), Hayes spent a night shift with Officer Peter Presti of Zone 4 of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office.

"We covered a lot of miles," Basford remarked about that night. "It was an eye opening experience although I was bleary eyed by the time we got home. Pete is a great guy. We are lucky to have him involved with CIT and NAMI."

NAMI is taking a leadership role in offering educational opportunities for the public and those who deal with mental health issues and co-existing substance abuse.

Hayes presided over a NAMI education meeting at Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church where Officer Presti explained the policies and procedures dealing with persons with mental disorders during a crisis situation.

The CIT, a nationally recognized model for law enforcement officers, is a partnership with law enforcement, fami-

lies, medical professionals and individuals with mental illness. CIT training is mandatory for all JSO officers and many are pin-wearing CIT officers, designating them as having volunteered to be a primary responder to calls for police service involving individuals with mental health issues.

If a person finds himself in a crisis situation and needs to call the police, that person can ask specifically that a CIT trained officer respond. Officer Presti has been a CIT officer since 2004, is the CIT

training officer and program director, and also serves on the Board of Directors of NAMI Jacksonville.

At the NAMI meeting a father questioned the police policy of handcuffing his son when called in a crisis situation. As he related that the incident exacerbated his son's distress, he wondered if handcuffing was really necessary and

that it seemed to be excessive force. Officer Presti responded that when officers arrive on a scene they

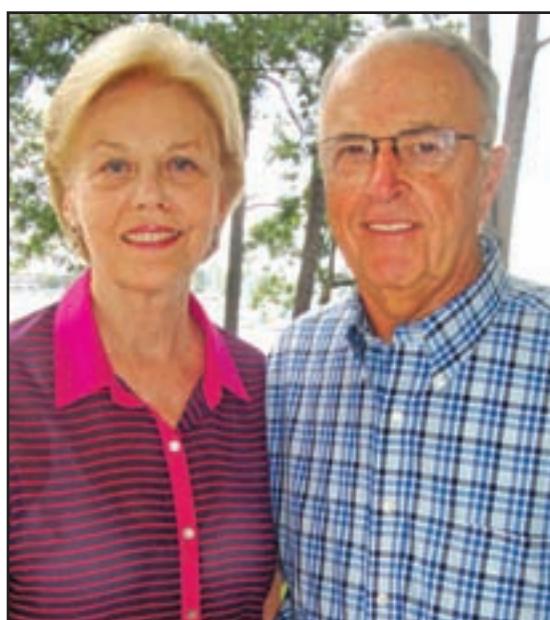
do not know the potential for violence. They explain to the person that they are not under arrest but are being taken to a facility to get help. However, policy dictates that all persons apprehended must be restrained. Giving an example from personal experience, Officer Presti shared that he was injured and out of work over 30 days due to an alterca-

tion with a mentally ill person and, as he put it, "It did not end well for either of us."

The CIT officer related that the use of restraints is necessary for the

protection of the officers as well as the person being detained; handcuffing the person can help avoid a situation where more excessive force may be necessary. One goal of CIT is to prevent or reduce injury to both individuals – the officer and the individual with mental illness – as well as help families with community resources

NAMI Jacksonville education meetings are held quarterly in various parts of town and are open to the public. Guest speaker at the Sept. 16 meeting will be Clay Meux, Rogers and Towers Attorneys at Law, speaking on Medicaid, trusts and wills. The meeting will be held at RiverPoint Behavioral Health, 6300 Beach Blvd. Check out www.NAMIJacksonville.org to find out about future meetings and support groups. The NAMI Helpline is (904) 724-7782.



Norma and Hayes Basford

NAMI is taking a leadership role in offering educational opportunities for the public and those who deal with mental health issues and co-existing substance abuse.



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River Garden Gala honoree and chairs named

River Garden will honor Lilo and Harry Frisch at its 2013 River Garden Gala.

More than 65 years ago in what was then British Palestine, a young couple met, married and began to create a dynasty. They were married in 1948 and left everything behind to immigrate to the United States.

Together Lilo and Harry have worked with four generations of their family to build Beaver Street Fisheries from a small seafood store into a half-billion dollar sales company, employing hundreds in Jacksonville and the Bahamas. They have both generously supported countless community non-profit organizations with their time, talent and resources.

River Garden CEO Martin Goetz



said, "They are the quintessential community leaders – they embody all that is good, kind and compassionate in Jacksonville. As champions of our Jewish communal agencies, they have together modeled for us what it means to create and nourish a caring community. River Garden is extremely grateful to the entire Frisch family for



River Garden Gala chairs Arlene Adelson and Diane Rothstein

sharing our vision of the future for the River Garden Home with their generosity and loving support."

Arlene Adelson, of Mandarin, and Diane Rothstein, San Marco, will chair the 21st Annual River Garden Gala, to be held Nov. 16, at 7 p.m. at

Renaissance Resort at World Golf.

Adelson joined the Gala committee after her mother spent time at River Garden recovering from surgery. A native of Detroit, she and her husband Dr. Tony Adelson moved to Jacksonville four years ago. She is especially excited about this year's theme "Anita and Her Motown Review." Rothstein, a registered nurse, has owned and managed businesses over the years and currently is the practice administrator in husband Dr. Mitchell Rothstein's medical practice.

For reservations call Michelle Branley (904) 886-8431 or email MBrany@rivergarden.org.

Local medical centers ranked high by U.S. News and World Report

Baptist Medical Center and UF Health Shands among Best Hospitals

Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville and Baptist Medical Center South, which share a license, were again ranked No. 1 among metro Jacksonville hospitals in the U.S. News and World Report annual Best Hospital rankings. The hospitals also ranked

fourth in Florida, up from fifth last year.

University of Florida Health Shands Hospital was recognized among the nation's best hospitals in five adult medical specialties, according to the same report.

U.S. News evaluates hospitals in 16 adult specialties. In most specialties, it ranks the nation's top 50 hospitals and recognizes other high-performing hospitals that provide care at nearly the level of their nationally ranked peers.

Baptist Jacksonville and Baptist South were recognized in 11 of those 16 specialties, earning a national ranking in Diabetes and Endocrinology.

UF Health Shands Hospital's highest national ranking came in urology, which rose two places to 18th nationally. The hospital also had the state's highest ranking in urology as well as in neurology and neurosurgery, which was 37th nationally. It was the fourth year in a row that urology was UF Health Shands Hospital's highest-ranked adult medicine program.

Of the more than 4,800 hospitals evaluated, only 147 were nationally ranked in one or more specialty. Only three percent of hospitals were nationally ranked in any of the 16 specialties and only 15 percent of hospitals are listed as high-performing.

"We pride ourselves on innovating to offer the latest evidence-based care for our patients, connecting them to all of the services they need and coordinating everything seamlessly to provide the best patient experience," said Michael Mayo, hospital president, Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville. "These rankings are again a reminder that we are truly changing health care for good in Northeast Florida."

In addition to UF Health Shands Hospital, UF Health Jacksonville also was recognized as one of the best hospitals in North Florida.

"The U.S. News rankings reflect the fact that UF Health is an academic health center in which the extraordinary quality of care we provide attracts outstanding faculty with nationally recognized expertise," said David S. Guzick, M.D., Ph.D., senior vice president for health affairs and president of UF Health. "In turn, faculty contribute new knowledge to their fields that improves patient care even more. It's a virtuous circle that grows to incorporate not only faculty but students, residents, fellows and our dedicated staff."

U.S. News publishes Best Hospitals to help guide patients who need a high level of care because they face particularly difficult surgery, a challenging condition, or added risk because of other health problems or age. Objective measures such as patient survival and safety data, the adequacy of nurse staffing levels and other data largely determined the rankings in most specialties.

The rankings have been published at <http://health.usnews.com/best-hospitals> and will appear in print in the U.S. News Best Hospitals 2014 guidebook.

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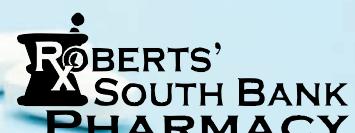
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Caped canine superheroes enhance lives

BY PEGGY HARRELL JENNINGS
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

From litter mates to help mates, the specially bred Labradors and Golden Retrievers of the Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) are ambassadors of good will wherever they go.

The graduates of CCI advanced training serve their humans in a variety of ways as skilled companions, hearing dogs or as facility dogs. Way beyond "Roll over, Rover," they respond to around 40 different verbal commands – the larger dogs even moving wheelchairs or turning someone over in bed.

Volunteer puppy raisers Tonda and Lee Hoyt of Ortega Forest have raised six dogs for the California-based nonprofit, four of them graduating to full service. Lee said that Labs and Golden Retrievers are the only breeds used since they do not have aggressive tendencies and "Labs are so willing to please and to learn."

After a year or so of loving care and socialization, the doggies are "turned in" to the equivalent of doggie boot camp, a nine- to 12-month specialized training program.

Tonda explained that turning over the first dog is the most difficult but it is also "the most gratifying experience to raise a puppy and hopefully see him go on to graduate to full service."

The connecting threads of the dogs run all over the country as they are carefully paired with their human companions and rarely stay in the same town where they were raised.

Bennie, raised by the Hoyts, fields the ball for his best friend Ashlee Rigsby during a Pensacola Miracle League baseball game so Ashlee can remain in her power chair and throw it to the pitcher. Gloria, Ashlee's mom, says, "When we met the Hoyts at the graduation ceremony, we realized what a gift of love we received. When not playing baseball, Bennie opens and closes refrigerator doors, turns lights on and off and performs innumerable tasks to help Ashlee. He is her best friend."

Dawn Antill, one of Tonda Hoyt's students, feels the same way about her dog Woody that she received in May. Grandmother Barbara says that Dawn "is so happy that Woody goes to doctor and hospital appointments with her, sleeps with her, stays by her side."

In the case of Ashlee and Dawn it's not diamonds that are a girl's best



Ashlee Rigsby, with brother Andrew, and Canine Companion Bennie at a Miracle League baseball game



Tonda Hoyt and Canine Companion in training Holly



Woody and Dawn Antill

friend but their faithful dogs.

Socializing includes taking the dogs just about everywhere. Lee Hoyt takes Taz to work with him and Tonda, a teacher at North Florida School of Special Education, uses their current puppy Holly as she works with autistic children. The Hoyts tell the story of being in a restaurant with their dog Lockwood when a family came in with an autistic child who, as children will, started poking at the dog. After assuring the mother that it was okay, the poking continued with the good natured pup "smiling." Lee recounts that the mother "just started bawling when the child who had not spoken before, piled on top of Lockwood and started talking."

Tonda's students can earn the reward of brushing Holly's teeth and coat or walking her. "It is good for the chil-

dren's motor controls." Reading to the dog is a favorite activity. As one little boy said, "Bennie don't care if we read good or not!"

Joanne Cellar, a puppy raiser in the Lakewood area, is preparing to turn over her fourth and latest dog Banjo and says laughingly, "No one in my family will go to the turn-in with me. When we turned in the first dog we raised we all cried. It was mess. There's always a little piece of your heart that goes with the dogs but you know the potential for the next phase of their training, so it makes it a little bit easier."

When puppy raisers pick their little bundle of fur up at the airport from the California breeders, they can be assured that the pup has been carefully screened for medical issues, temperament and willingness to learn. The pup

arrives tattooed, numbered and named based on an alphabetical listing available to the breeders.

Joanne continues, "I actually won the right to name a dog at a fundraiser. It took months of waiting for the Bs to come back around as choices for names before we got to name Bolles. We wanted to raise a puppy to heighten understanding of the disabled community with our boys and the other kids at The Bolles School."

Bolles, now a facility dog in the Colfax, LA courts, helps victims of crime and abuse recount their stories by offering unconditional love and support, being a calming influence and often accompanying the victim to the witness stand.

When not in their working attire, gentle leader harness and "super dog" cape, these puppies are just like any other frisky pooches, chewing favorite boots until they look like "sling backs", romping around, digging and playing. As typical puppies they have mishaps, sometimes in public places. Tonda tells the story of a dog who overheard the command word for potty and did exactly as he was told. Unfortunately, it was at a busy airport!

People will be "crying all over the place" at the next matriculation ceremony at Busch Gardens as puppies are turned over, dogs graduating are reunited with their puppy raisers for the first time in nine months who then get to pass the leash to their exceptional person who is weeping with joy and love at receiving their new helpmate.

Sixty percent of the dogs do not make it through the extensive training phase. These highly trained dogs become specialists in their own areas, sometimes as police dogs or therapy dogs. Often they are adopted by their puppy raisers or another family with a need for cuddling and companionship.

Christine Clark, also a local puppy raiser, states that you could not pick better friends than the people in the Jacksonville puppy raisers group.

"They are a great group of people."

The CCI slogan states "Exceptional Dogs for Exceptional People" and, we might add, "Raised by Exceptional People."

Bring Rover along to meet the CCI dogs at Dog Fest Walk 'n Roll at the Riverside Arts Market on Saturday, Nov. 23 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. He just might learn a trick or two.

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BY STEPHEN KINDLAND
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

More than 60,000 fans hear his voice when the Jacksonville Jaguars play at home, but San Marco resident Kevin Peffer doesn't think that makes him a celebrity.

"When you're a PA announcer, you're just a voice," the unassuming, 30-year-old Jacksonville native says.

Peffer is one of two public address announcers recently hired by the Jaguars, an NFL team that new owner Shad Khan has given a makeover while injecting renewed hope within a community that hasn't witnessed a winning season since 2007.

"I think they liked my energy – and my voice," Peffer said after beating out 200 other applicants for the job he shares with Anthony

San Marco's Kevin Peffer 'just a voice' for 60,000 Jaguars fans

Bellino of Michigan.

Peffer says he feels honored to work alongside Bellino, a veteran announcer who also is the voice for the University of Toledo in Ohio, triple A baseball's Toledo Mud Hens and the Toledo Walleye, an affiliate of professional hockey's Chicago Blackhawks and Detroit Red Wings.

"He's a true professional," Peffer said. "I can learn a lot from him."

Home is where his heart is

After graduating from Sandalwood High School, Peffer joined the Army and was stationed in Italy before serving in Iraq, where he drove fuel trucks on combat missions for more than a year. He left the

Army in 2004, and stuck to his plan of returning to the city he loves.

Peffer earned a bachelor's degree in communication from the University of North Florida before working at WOKV-AM/FM Radio, giving live traffic reports and coordinating promotional events.

He is now a loan processor for PHH Mortgage Company, and his job at WOKV was pretty much all the experience he had when the PA announcer applicant field was whittled to 10 finalists. The list included former Jaguars announcer Scott Thomas and Jack O'Brien, another Jacksonville native who has been the voice of the Florida Gators for the past decade.

"Those guys are crazy talented," Peffer said. "It was pretty intimidating."

But the decision to co-hire Peffer didn't surprise Brett Barley, a member of the Teal Street Hooligans, a tailgating group that has aligned itself with the more formal Bold

City Brigade support club. Peffer served as a DJ for the Hooligans during tailgate parties, and always made sure the group got more entertainment than was asked.

"His enthusiasm is infectious," Barley said. "It's never about the money with him."

Barley says it was Peffer's affable nature that helped create a groundswell of public support as the search for a PA announcer unfolded.

"We even made up tee shirts," he said. "I don't think they could have picked a better person."

First-game jitters are just part of the job

Peffer, whose resonant voice can be as commanding as it is reassuring, says he'll never forget his first game behind the microphone. It was Aug. 9, and the Jags were playing Miami in their first preseason game of 2013.

"It gives me goose bumps just thinking about it," Peffer said. "It's very powerful when you hear your voice through those speakers. Then it's like,

'Whoa, this is fun.'"

Peffer's dedication – evidenced by his collection of 40 Jaguars shirts, including one his mother bought him at age 10, when the Jaguars officially entered the NFL – is as strong his work ethic.

"Fans have no clue how scripted and planned out game day is," he said. "Everything gets scripted right down to the second. I have to be there at 8 a.m. for a 1 p.m. kickoff."

Peffer's preparation includes memorizing rosters and pronouncing difficult names that

have been spelled phonetically, but there's an equal amount of improvising once he dons his headset in a surprisingly small booth with Bellino and another spotter.

"Yeah, you get butterflies," he said. "The countdown clock starts 90 minutes before game time, but once you start talking into the microphone, it all goes away."

"Afterward, like when you're on your way to your car, that's when you let it all soak in."

Some referees are quick to turn on their PA microphones to announce penalty calls, and the guys in the PA booth need to be careful not to interrupt them or cut in ahead of their calls.

"And then there's other things, like someone might say [into my headset], 'Hey, the national anthem is running long, so make it quick,' or 'Keep it under 10 seconds,'" he said.

"But I got used to that doing traffic reports," Peffer said. "You take your cues from all the resources you have. You can't get too animated; you have to be steady and matter-of-fact. Don't waste words."

Though he denies having celebrity status, it might be just a matter of time before Peffer is signing autographs and answering questions from strangers on the street. After all, it's early in the season – and Peffer's new career is just beginning.

"Who knows what doors this might possibly open," he says with a look of determination. "Even if it's only for one season, I can say I'm one of

[very few] people in the nation that are doing this."

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Getting to know... Cheryl Olson

Q. Something very special awaited you in Jacksonville besides a new job?

In 2011 we moved to Bartram Road when my husband Kris accepted the pastorship of New Journey Church on University Boulevard South. What we did not know was that we would learn about foster parenting and realize our dream of becoming parents. In January 2013 we welcomed home our two precious foster sons Avian, 8, and Avon, 3.

Q. How did you meet Tammy McGwire of the Foster Closet and become a volunteer?

The Foster Closet provides free donated clothing and other necessities to foster families...I was a chaperone for our youth group the day they went to volunteer organizing clothing at the Foster Closet. I met the founder and president, Tammy McGwire. She talked to us about what Foster Closet does for foster parents and kids and explained that many foster children arrive at their new foster home with the clothes on their backs and nothing else. In 2005, Tammy and her husband John and their two biological children had less than 48 hours' notice to prepare for the arrival

of their foster children: a newborn boy and his 13-month-old brother. She saw firsthand the many needs of foster children and began collecting clothing and other items in a closet. The clothing soon outgrew the closet; to date the Closet has helped more than 3,400 foster children and approximately 250 Independent Living Teens.

Q. Is that volunteer experience how you learned about foster parenting?

Yes. We had hoped to have children and had considered adoption. We learned about the Family Support Services of North Florida, Inc. (FSSjax.org) and about how to become a foster parent. There is an application, screening process and classes, with many children waiting to be placed into a foster home. We made some of our closest friends while attending the classes and we stay in touch, helping each other. There is such a need for foster parents who will love and care for the children as if they were their biological children, not foster kids.

Q. Why do you volunteer for the Foster Closet and encourage others to help?

The Foster Closet, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, all-volunteer organization helps so many foster children with immediate needs. It's a free resource for Northeast Florida foster parents (relative or non-relative) and Independent Living Teens to obtain free donated clothing for every age, size and shape, children's accessories, supplies and toys, furniture and other necessities for newborn to 18 years. Donated items are provided by a

network of volunteers and generous donors who help in many different ways. Their website (fostercloset.org) lists ongoing needs, volunteer and donor opportunities for individuals or groups. The organization will hold its Grand Opening & Open House at its new location, 8307 Beach Blvd., across from the Jacksonville Humane Society, on Nov. 2.

Q. You want to be part of positive change in your community and beyond – how are you doing that?

The best way we can make a positive change in our community is to become a foster or adoptive parent and help these children who must deal with grown-up issues and trauma far beyond their years. They need loving families where they can be taught life skills necessary to graduate from school and build happy, productive lives. We need to help break the cycle of children raising children that stretches through generations in some families.

We must provide education and support to parents who are hurting and who do not have the skills to parent. Volunteering to help our local charities is another important way to do our part.

Q. Any other volunteer activities you do, now that you are busy parents?

I am a volunteer tutor at Mandarin High School in the Avid Program teaching study skills, note-taking, time management and tutoring all academic areas. We support global mission work through Global Outfitters. The organization seeks to spread the gospel and train volunteers to meet the practical needs of people in their own communities or elsewhere in the world.

Q. Other hobbies or interests?

We are a musical family: I play piano and sing and Kris teaches youth guitar. We read, hit the gym and enjoy riding our tandem bike – we plan to try to bike to St. Augustine!

GoGivers



BY JULIE KERNS GARMENDIA
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

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Junior resident's first foray into politics on behalf of hens

BY LARA PATANGAN
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

It's Dr. Seuss meets flash mob as Katie Watrel, a 12-year old San Marco resident, organizes a group of hen advocates to sing for the legalization of their feathered friends in an event they have dubbed "Flock Aid 2013."

Supporters of the draft ordinance to allow homeowners the right to own up to four backyard chickens gathered in Memorial Park last month to sing their

a persuasive letter, and do public speaking as well," Watrel explained. "If you don't say anything, you can't complain."

Katie, who said she has never spoken publicly "in front of anyone important before," has a pet-sitting business where some of her clients own chickens. "I think they make great pets," Katie said. "I don't think they are smelly, noisy or dirty at all. They clean themselves all the time...and only say peep, peep, peep."



harmonious pleas for peeps.

Using the theme song, "Let it Grow" from the movie The Lorax, an adaptation of the same-titled book by beloved children's author Dr. Seuss, Katie and other volunteers crowded to the catchy tune originally sung by five-time Grammy Award nominated, Ester Dean, for the right to "Let them Roost."

Verses were customized for volunteer vocalists, such as the event's organizer who sang:

*"My name is Katie and I am twelve.
And I would like to raise four hens.
I would love and take care of them
So I say legalize."*

Katie also said legalize when she spoke in front of the entire City Council and the Land Use Zoning Committee last month. In her first foray into local politics, Katie, who is homeschooled, decided to get involved when her mother, Kathy Watrel, assigned her the task of writing a persuasive letter. "I told her, here is a chance to write

The group plans to record their melodic song and put it on YouTube. Watrel said it is a light-hearted rendition of the movie's theme song, which chronicles the plight of the environment as imaginary town folk decide to change the course of the devastation of the Truffala tree by planting its very last seed.

The movement to pass the ordinance has grown from a tiny seed into its own music production that advocates think parallel the movie. "I watched The Lorax with my family. It's about a boy who had no trees, just like we have no chickens," Katie explained. "He had this seed and sang this song about wanting trees. Everyone joined in and it was kind of this flash mob thing."

Katie and her mom hope the message will help people understand the benefits of allowing the backyard birds. Advocates should know sometime this month whether the song's plea to legalize hens ends with a standing ovation.

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Sunshine Group Soccer wins bid for NASL expansion team

New franchise owner talks about soccer in Jacksonville

BY STEPHEN KINDLAND
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

After a 31-year hiatus, outdoor professional soccer is returning to Jacksonville.

Mark Frisch, head of Sunshine Soccer Group in Jacksonville, learned recently that his bid for a North American Soccer League expansion franchise had been granted. Dario Sala, president of SSG, will be in charge of team operations.

Though the yet-to-be-named team won't begin play until April 2015, there already are signs that the Frisch's team will receive the fan support it will need not only to survive, but thrive in what will be a 14-team league – including three in Florida – that is considered one step below Major League Soccer. Oklahoma City also was awarded a franchise in July by the NASL's board of governors.

Frisch, who owns Pele's Wood Fire restaurant in Riverside and is executive director of Beaver Street Fisheries, has traveled extensively since he got the news while attending an NASL announcement ceremony in Dallas with Alan Verlander, executive director of sports and entertainment in the City of Jacksonville's Office of Economic Development.

The July 25 announcement re-ignited local interest in a sport that recently has drawn record crowds for U.S.

men's and women's team matches at EverBank Field. More than 42,000 fans attended the U.S. men's game again Scotland in May of 2012, and nearly half that number – a Southeast Region record for women's soccer – showed up when the U.S. women's team played Scotland in February.

Adding evidence that Jacksonville can support a professional team, more than 800 people responded to Frisch's invitation to join him in the club suites at EverBank Field to help Frisch celebrate, and to watch the U.S. men's team defeat Panama for the CONCACAF Gold Cup title.

Despite his busy schedule, Frisch took time for a Q&A session with The Resident. Here are his thoughts on landing an NASL franchise, Jacksonville's first since 1982, when the Jacksonville Tea Men folded after two seasons in the NASL.

Q. What did it feel like, and what were your thoughts, when you learned in Dallas that you had landed an NASL franchise?

A. It was a rewarding feeling. A lot of hard work had gone into securing a franchise for Jacksonville. A lot of people put in a lot of time. To finally hear the official word was just amazing. I kind of just blacked out when the commissioner stuck his hand out to shake mine and say congratulations.

Q. How long had you spent preparing for that moment?

A. Close to two years; I began thinking and dreaming of the moment about two years ago. The hard work and effort had been about the last eighteen months when I knew this was something that could happen.

Q. What does landing this franchise mean to the Jacksonville soccer community, and to the city in general?

A. For the soccer community I think it is pretty self-explanatory. We now have a pro soccer team that those players and families can go watch compete on a very high level week in and week out. Hopefully, lots of players will have dreams of playing for our club

right here in Jacksonville, and we certainly look forward to the opportunity to see those players try out. For the city in general it is another thing to do – more entertainment for our great city. A lot of people love sports. They love having something to do. Hopefully this provides a good outlet for that for many people in Jacksonville. Also, I think it helps promote our city nationally. We will travel to many cities in the USA, Canada and elsewhere around the world. We will always be talking up our great city on all these stops.

Q. You've mentioned that your games likely will be played at EverBank Field or the University of

North Florida, but you've also expressed an interest in building a "soccer specific" stadium in Jacksonville. Can you elaborate on that in terms of possible locations or a public/private partnership with the City?

A. We would love to figure out a partnership with the City. That is something I look forward to talking to them about. I haven't had much time in town since the announcement, but I plan to have those initial conversations soon. In terms of locations, there are many great options, such as Downtown, the I-295/JTB area and St Johns County.

Q. Obviously you believe Jacksonville's fan base is adequate to support an NASL franchise, but what would be considered a "sustainable" attendance figure?

A. 7,000-8,000.

Q. Will the Sunshine Soccer Group offices be located at the Wells Fargo Center on Independent Drive, or have those plans changed?

A. We still will be. We will be moving in soon.

Q. Have you thought about what to name the new team, and do you plan to invite suggestions from the public?

A. Suggestions are welcome, but we are not going to have a name-the-team contest per se. A lot of people have been sending in suggestions via Twitter, email, etc. I love reading them. I love talking to people who give me name ideas. I have some thoughts. I don't go a day without thinking about a name and look.



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Jr. Residents SUMMER WRAP UP

What summer fun is all about!

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Bringing "abroad" home to Jacksonville

Rather than going abroad, the Enoch family brought Spain into their home for the month of July. Through Education First (EF) Homestay, 150 middle and high school aged students studied English with EF teachers at the Episcopal School of Jacksonville and attended organized field trips around Jacksonville each day. The students came from all over the world (Spain, France, French Guiana, Russia, Denmark, Germany, Asia) to live with families in Jacksonville with the goal of speaking English better and making lifelong memories. The Enoch family enjoyed hosting students, learning about new cultures and sharing some of Northeast Florida's summer fun.





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Never a dull moment at EFYC summer kids camps

There was no time for boredom at the Epping Forest Yacht Club this summer. EFYC offered kids camps for tennis and sailing, and held themed weeks for general summer camp. The Sport and Fitness Camp had a "Games to You" day, from a company that offers fun activities for kids of all ages, including a gigantic hamster ball and laser tag. During Art Week the club invited Doing Dishes Pottery out to help the children make their own canvas art.



Games of laser tag were on the agenda



When not sailing, campers tried their hand with a paddle



Artistic campers enjoyed their lessons



Sailing campers took to the water



Tennis campers had a ball



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SUMMER WRAP UP.....

Just plain havin' fun



Lily, 14-year-old daughter of Resident News writer Laura Jane Pittman, ziplines in Asheville, NC

Jr. Residents



The McGhee family enjoyed their trip overseas as evidenced by their happy faces



Lauren Marr (left) and Suzi Airheart (right) spent time with family at Ponte Vedra and shared crawfish at Palm Valley Fish Camp

Going abroad for the first time

Over the summer, my mom's side of the family took a family vacation. In the past, we have gone to places around the U.S. like the Rocky Mountains, Lake Winnipesaukee in New Hampshire, and hiking trips in Virginia. However, this year, we went to London and Brimpton in England. I loved all the other trips too, but this one felt special to me because it was the year I graduated from my elementary school and home away from home, San Jose Episcopal Day School. My grandparents took me over there before

everyone else and we went to Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, The Tower of London, et cetera. Then all the other family arrived and everything became a little bit hectic, as is normal with Parks family vacations. We all had an amazing time, even my little one and a half year old cousin, even if he was just running around yelling about ice cream and big rocks. Submitted by Riley McGhee, whose mother Paige Parks McGhee is a curriculum and integration specialist at San Jose Episcopal Day School.



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Virginia Smith in the mission field in Alajuelita, Costa Rica



Sally Van Cleve with orphans at Hogar de Ninos in San Cristobal

Resident worked at NASA



Griffin McCutcheon

Griffin McCutcheon of San Marco and former Bolles School student spent the summer working at NASA's Ames Research Center in Mountain View, CA conducting synthetic biology research for use in future space missions.

McCutcheon, the son of Jeff and Lisa McCutcheon, was also named to the Dean's list for academic excellence for the spring 2013 semester at The Johns Hopkins University. To be selected for this honor, a student must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale in a program of at least 14 credits with at least 12 graded credits. He is majoring in chemical and biomolecular engineering and will graduate in May 2014.



Pierce & Wallace Stine enjoyed time on the windswept dunes of Jekyll Island this summer



Seven-year-old Quinn is up to his neck in fun on the beach in Santa Cruz, CA

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Nathan Rovick, SJEDS Class of 2007, was named Episcopal School of Jacksonville's Class of 2013 Valedictorian. He will attend Notre Dame in the Fall.



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Mission trips lead young women to value life differently

Virginia Smith, of Ortega Forest, and Avondale resident Sally Van Cleve, both 2013 graduates of the Episcopal School of Jacksonville (ESJ), gave up their summer – willingly.

Smith spent six weeks working in Alajuelita, Costa Rica as a staff intern, where she led U.S.-based church groups ranging from 10 to 50 high school stu-

dents, college-aged students, or adults each week.

Van Cleve went on the ESJ service trip to the Dominican Republic, to Hogar De Ninos, a boys' orphanage in San Cristobal (a province outside of Santo Domingo). She was there for three weeks and served as a chaperone and head translator for the ESJ mission teams.



Taverna takes a vacation

Sam and Kiley Efron, with Dillon, reminiscing on vacation at the Claremont Hotel in Oakland, CA, where they were married

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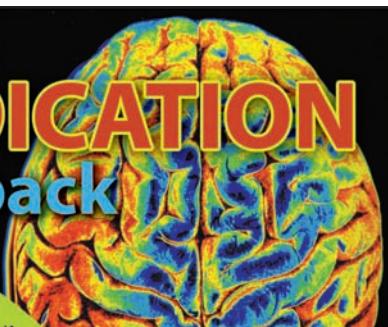
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Young Life actively involved in area's young lives

BY NANCY LEE BETHEA
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

With crud wars, pizza nights, beach days and Bible studies, the Young Life organization strives to spend time with teenagers and impact their lives for Christ. Started in Texas in 1941, Young Life now works with teens in more than 60 countries. Locally, the organization hosts clubs and events throughout city.

Young Life in Jacksonville provides four programs for teenagers. The first, Young Life, is geared to high school age teens. Young Life hosts meetings for students from The Bolles School and Episcopal School of Jacksonville on Monday nights at Southside United Methodist Church on Hendricks Avenue. Meetings are held at other locations for students from Stanton College Preparatory School, Paxon School for Advanced Studies, Raines High School and Fletcher High School.

Wyldlife is the organization's program for middle school students. Currently, Wyldlife meets at Landon Middle School at least once a month. Other Wyldlife meetings are held for students at Eugene Butler Middle School and James Weldon Johnson Middle School. Wyldlife meetings are also held for private school students and for students living at the

beaches. In addition, Wyldlife hosts city-wide meetings twice a month at various locations.

The third program, Capernaum, is Young Life's outreach to disabled teens. By offering ways for teens to make friends while having fun, Young Life staff and volunteers show Christ's love to special teens by spending time with them. An all-city Capernaum Club will host its first meeting of the year on Sept. 12 at Christ's Church in Mandarin.

The fourth program, Young Lives, is the organization's ministry to teen moms and moms-to-be. Local meetings are held at The Potter's House on Jacksonville's North side once a month. Young Lives staff and volunteers provide love, advice and care for teens struggling with the demands of being a kid and a parent at the same time.

San Marco resident Rose Shabaya has worked as a Young Lives coordinator since 2010. Helping teen mothers build self-esteem and set up goals for themselves is part of what she does. She also models Christ's love with the girls. "I try to be an adult friend they can share with," she said.

"Some of these girls are the first ones in their families to graduate from high school or the first ones to go to college," Shabaya said. "I want to help them make better choices

Left to right: Cole Scott, Charlie Cellar, David Bast (back), Bender Middlekauff, Davis Conolly (back), Craig Johnson (checkered shorts), Thomas Brooke, Paul Garson (kneeling front row), Tim Gonino (red shirt), Aaron Gregory (far right)



going forward," she added.

With a mission to introduce teens to Jesus Christ and help them grow in their faith, Young Life staff and volunteers work with teens in all parts of the city.

In August, a group of Jacksonville teens attended a Young Life camp in Saranac, New York. "Over 20 became new believers in Christ during their week at camp," David Bast, Young Life's Metro Director for Jacksonville, said.

One high school student posted her 'say-so' for her more than 11,000 social media followers to read after returning from Saranac,

Bast shared. "I wanted to tell you that while at camp, I made a decision to surrender my life to Christ," her Instagram post read. "I realized I was living for society, not for Him. I found freedom in Christ. He sent His only Son to die for me in order to save me from my sins," she added.

Investing time, energy and resources in kids is what Young Life has been doing for six decades.

"We always need volunteer leaders," Bast said, "so if anyone is interested in sharing their life and the Good News of Jesus Christ with teenagers, please email me at davidbast@me.com."

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Flashbacks

Local history closely connected in more way than one by the building of bridges

ROBIN ROBINSON, PRESIDENT,
JACKSONVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Governor Fuller Warren, with his wife Barbara, attended the dedication and renaming of the Acosta Bridge in August, 1949. The first bridge for vehicular traffic across the river and the first lift bridge in the state of Florida, it opened with great fanfare on July 1, 1921. It was originally called the St. Johns River Bridge. Once it was built the bridge opened up the East coast of Florida to increased development and was dubbed "Duval County's Gift to the State of Florida." It was renamed for St. Elmo "Chic" Acosta in recognition of his actions in the legislature to bring about construction of the bridge.

Following the construction of the Main Street Bridge in the 1940s and the Matthews Bridge in 1953, a bridge was built in 1954 and named for Governor Warren. Fuller Warren was elected to the Florida Legislature at the young age of 21, served in World War II, served on the Jacksonville City Council and became Florida's governor in 1949.

Recognition of laborers and their working conditions caused concern in the early 1900s when many children were drawn into the labor force. Working conditions were not always the best and it deprived the children of obtaining an education. The Jacksonville messenger boys show here in 1913 were typical child laborers putting in long hours with little pay. This photo was taken by Lewis Wickes Hines, a New York City schoolteacher and photographer who felt so strongly about the issue that he quit his job teaching school and became an investigative photographer for the National Child Labor



Committee. Photographs such as this were instrumental in calling attention to child labor problems and bringing about child labor laws in the United States. Legislation was passed and resulted ultimately in the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 protecting workers of all ages.

Labor Day is a celebration of the American worker which began in the late 1880s and is observed today to acknowledge the vital force labor has contributed to the economic well-being of our country. It became a Federal holiday in 1894.

*Governor
Fuller Warren,
with his wife Barbara,
attended the dedication
and renaming of the Acosta
Bridge in August, 1949.*

Photo credit: Florida Archives:
Florida Memory Project

This photo was taken by Lewis Wickes Hines, a New York City schoolteacher and photographer who felt so strongly about the issue that he quit his job teaching school and became an investigative photographer for the National Child Labor Committee. Photographs such as this were instrumental in calling attention to child labor problems and bringing about child labor laws in the United States.

Photo credit: New York Public Library Digital Collection, Lewis Hines, photographer



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