

# Military veterans reflect on fatherhood

Front: Vernon Barefield, Bill Law, Cecil Carlton  
Back: Jack Parent, Ray Brinson, Neil Gehret, Dr. William Wooden, Wyman Hunt



From World War II to the Vietnam War era, eight men at Riverside Presbyterian House reflected on serving and fatherhood, offering up some advice that stands the test of time for today's dads.

A great-great grandfather, Cecil Carlton, served in the U.S. Army three years during the Korean War, then worked at Cecil Field for 32 years. When asked what he would share with young men today, Carlton said "Get a job in civil service. We had fantastic medical benefits." The father of four, grandfather of 18 had this to say about fatherhood: "Don't get married until you

get out of the service, so that you can be with your kids when they need you."

Neil Gehret served in WWII in the Army Air Force, as a pilot on a B-17. After the war he went back to a job as a controller for various manufacturing companies in south Florida. His advice? "Listen to each other, take care of things." Gehret has seven children, 14 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

See **DADS** .....PAGE 11

# More parking for 5 Points patrons

Late last month the Planning Commission approved an application for a minor modification that will open up a tenant-only parking lot for evening patrons of 5 Points shops and restaurants.

The application filed by Doug Skiles, CEO of Envision Design+Engineering, on behalf of Mike Shad, owner of 5 Points Theatre Building LLC, requested the creation of a cross-access driveway between adjacent parking lots behind the building

The lot on Margaret Street is adjacent to the corner lot on Post and Park streets, owned by Riverside Presbyterian Church. The proposed driveway will allow the parking lot behind the 5 Points Theatre Building to provide access to the tenant-only corner lot to be available for public parking beginning at 6 p.m. when the access control arm will be raised. Vehicles will be able to enter the lot behind the theatre from Margaret Street and then use the cross-access driveway to gain entry to the lot on the corner which has exits onto Post and Park. Four parking spaces will be removed for this one-way access from the Margaret Street lot into the Post and Park streets lot, which contains 34 spaces.

# Fire truck finds weak spot in Avondale parking lot

An abundance of yellow and red caution tape surrounded a portion of an Avondale shopping center parking lot in early May. The cautionary measures, along with large plywood sections, indicated damage and raised concerns about the integrity of the parking surface.

When JFRD's 15-ton Engine 22 made a pit stop for lunch one day recently, the firemen returned to find one end of the truck a little lower than the other. A culvert had collapsed under a wheel. According to Tom Francis, public information officer for the Jacksonville Fire & Rescue Department, the engine was not damaged although it did have to be pulled out of the culvert.

While the onsite property manager was not able to provide a statement about the hole, *The Resident* was referred to Brooke C. Klink, Palatine Capital Partners, and spokesperson for Chase Properties, who was asked what was being done about the hole. "We have engaged a civil engineer to review the issue and provide recommendations for stabilization and repair," she said. "Our property management team is in constant contact with all of our residents and tenants, and, as always, will keep us abreast of any concerns that are raised due to this, or any other issue that affects the property."



<b>Inside THIS ISSUE</b>	Community garden budding .....8	Local residents honored for accomplishments .....16	Art collectors' items on display at The Cummer .....19	United Way, Cummer lose icons .....32 & 37
				Celebrating local Dads .....47



Jameson and Andrea Rice

# Derby Day Soiree for Pine Castle

The beautiful banquet space at Timuquana Country Club played host to the 2nd Annual "Run for the Roses," raising critical funds to continue serving Jacksonville's families.

For more see .....PAGE 25

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Reader suggests speed bumps in Avondale

Regarding your article on page 12 of Volume 8, Issue 5 (May 2014) about the traffic issues on St John's Avenue.

SPEED BUMPS will slow traffic down. Signs don't!!!

They need to be "serious" speed bumps though, such as the ones on Verona Avenue in Ortega, between Ortega Blvd. & Roosevelt Blvd.

They don't need to be the "waste of money" speed bumps like the ones on Birkenhead Road, between Hamilton St. and Blanding Blvd. I know what I'm talking about. I travel that way every day and they don't slow me down one bit. The speed bumps on Verona however, will definitely slow anyone down. Try it. You'll see.

- Lamar Roth

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## ALLISON STEILBERG

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### ASK Allison

**Q:** I'm in the market for my first home but having a hard time finding something in my price range I like. If I increase my budget just another \$25,000 to \$50,000, it will make a huge difference in the kind of properties I can consider. How much more would my monthly payment be if I go up \$25,000 or \$50,000?

**A:** I consulted a mortgage lender and was told that at 4.25% interest on a 30 year loan with 20% down, your monthly payment would rise approximately \$100 per \$25,000 that you go up. Sometimes, if you're shopping in the \$200,000 price range, it's really hard to find something but if you go to \$225K or \$250K, it may be just enough to help you get what you're looking for!



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**Q.** Can you please tell me what the plan is for emergency services such as fire and rescue to reach homes along Pine Street and other narrow streets in that area. I was trying to drive down Pine Friday evening, early, and cars were bumper to bumper on both sides for as far as I could see, including Dancy and Ingleside. There was only room for my car to get through the block and as I approached Ingleside someone was trying to turn onto Pine towards me. Then someone got behind that car and it was a mess. There is no way large emergency vehicles could go down those streets to help someone. Also what are residents in that area to do for parking for any guests they may wish to entertain. Not a safe situation.

I am happy, however, that Avondale merchants are doing well and that more folks are being hired in our area.

- Jane Escobar

**A.** *The Resident* reached out to more than a few city officials to find out when planned striping for parking/no parking on one or both sides of Dancy and Pine will occur; there is no striping currently planned for Ingleside. According to an email from James Robinson, Department of Public Works Director, discussions are ongoing regarding the design and possible ordinances necessary to safely stripe roadways. "An element discussed by the Task Force, and subsequently with Public Works, was the proper access provisions for emergency vehicles," noted Robinson. More details will be forthcoming following discussions around speed limit and specific parking lane layout issues.

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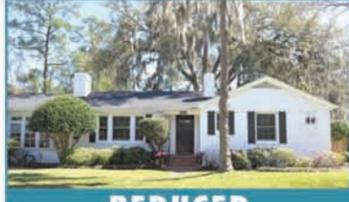
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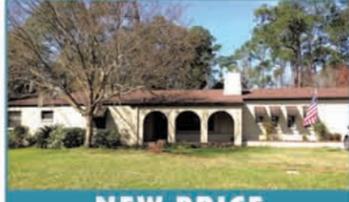
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# Update on I-10/I-95 Proposed Expansion

The wheels of the transportation bureaucracy appear to turn slowly, and that may be a good thing. It's a hopeful sign that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is taking residents and business owners seriously about concerns with the proposed I-10/I-95 interchange project.

At the early February public meeting, which approximately 200 attended, concerns were voiced about the effects of previous expansion and the potential impacts of the proposed expansion. Councilman At-Large Robin Lumb consolidated those concerns into a letter, co-signed by eight other council members, and sent it to Greg Evans, FDOT District 2 Secretary in early April.

As of late May, Lumb's office had not received a formal response to that letter, other than acknowledgment of receipt.

When asked about the progress of the proposed project, James Knight, Project Development Engineer

"The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is refining the interchange concepts and studying issues raised at the February meeting. FDOT anticipates holding the next public meeting to present updated concepts and address issues raised at the February meeting in late summer."

for FDOT, stated "The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is refining the interchange concepts and studying issues raised at the February meeting. FDOT anticipates holding the next public meeting to present updated concepts and address issues raised at the February meeting in late summer."

## • Summary of concerns

Lumb's letter to the FDOT included issues such as considering an underpass as an alternative to the proposed US-17 flyover; mitigation of negative impacts, both past and anticipated, which includes noise walls, less intrusive lights, and the elimination of the retention pond under I-95 between Park and College streets; and inclusion of a shared-use path if the FDOT deems it necessary to widen the Fuller Warren Bridge.

Stay tuned to *The Resident* and our website at [residentnews.net](http://residentnews.net) for details about the forthcoming meeting.

## More sellers entering market, homes listing at higher prices

According to the April 2014 real estate sales and activity report from the Northeast Florida Association of Realtors (NEFAR), life is getting better for single-family residential and condominium properties up for sale.

Linda McMorrow, 2014 NEFAR President, stated that "sales prices are edging up slowly but the median price is quite reasonable. In fact, more than half of the 9,656 homes in inventory are priced below \$200,000. Combine that with still low interest

rates and it's an attractive prospect for home shoppers."

As reported, the median sales price is \$154,990, up two percent from the same month last year, while year to date the median sales price is up 2.6 percent.

Although closed sales dipped 4.3 percent with 1,901 homes changing hands, year to date closed sales are up three percent.

More sellers are entering the market, with 3,185 new listings added; a 12.9 percent increase over last

April's 2,821. That's great news for first-time home buyers and, with a total inventory of homes on the market of 9,656, there are a variety of locations, styles and prices from which to choose.

For sellers, the good news is that homes are selling in an average of 90 days, but there is still a five-month supply of homes for sale, considered to be a balanced market. Even better news, 13.7 percent of homes sold for more than the listed price.

"Sales prices are edging up slowly but the median price is quite reasonable. In fact, more than half of the 9,656 homes in inventory are priced below \$200,000."

**Linda McMorrow**

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# Bomb squad called out to diffuse potential threat

Somehow the thought of cats and bombs don't easily go together, but that's what was found at an Avondale home in the 3900 block of Oak Street near Glendale Street.

After Animal Care and Protective Services was called to the home on May 12 to investigate more than a

dozen cats on the property, they also found military devices. The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office Bomb Squad was called to the scene at about 11:30 a.m.

There has been no further word from the JSO about the items removed from the house.

# Free charging stations in Water Street garage

While some doubt that gas-less vehicles are a tidal wave of the future, providing free charging may help move the needle.

The City of Jacksonville is teaming up with CSX to provide two free electric vehicle charging stations in Downtown Jacksonville. The stations will be located inside the Water Street garage, a location where several electric cars already park.

"By providing convenient access to these charging stations, we make our downtown a more inviting and welcoming place for the growing number of people who drive electric-powered vehicles," said Mayor Alvin Brown.

Through its partnership with the City, CSX will fund the development of one of the charging stations and the installation of both stations. The City of Jacksonville purchased



the second station using federal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant funds. The two stations collectively will support charging four cars at one time.

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Sixth grade students at St. Mark's Episcopal Day School put their STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) classes to work when they created a cross for retiring Head of School Cathy Hardage. The eight-foot cross will hang in the Lori Schiavone Commons, a building that Hardage helped make a reality. The students used cherry,

maple and oak veneer to incorporate meaningful symbols: Fruit, for the Fruit of the Spirit program that Hardage started; the Episcopal Shield to represent her strong faith; a lion to represent her school spirit and hearts to show Hardage's love for the students and they for her. The class presented the cross during their May 22 chapel time.



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# Repurposing a rose garden for maximum community impact

BY KATE A. HALLOCK  
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

It's been talked about for several years and is a fond wish of Avondale residents Jake Ingram and Victoria Freeman, two among many well-known gardeners. Thanks to two local groups, Ingram, Freeman and others with green thumbs will see their wish take root and, eventually, bear fruit.

Earlier this year, the Emerging Design Professionals group – a Young Architects Forum under the American Institute of Architects – approached Riverside Avondale Preservation asking whether there was a project in which the group could be involved. With the Riverside Dog Park well underway,

RAP executive director Carmen Godwin enlisted Susan Fraser, a landscape architect by education, to head up a team for a community garden.

Fraser pinpointed the Willowbranch Rose Garden, on Park Street between Mallory and Azalea, as the likely spot. "It's faded from its former glory," said Fraser, of the rose park that was established by the Jacksonville Rose Society in 1955, from a parcel of the Willowbranch Park.

Fraser said her initial thoughts were simple. "It could be an ordinary fenced lot or an arbor, but I thought, 'no we want this to be a community space.'"

Enter Brandon Pouch, president of Emerging Design Professionals, and three other landscape designers – Julia



Epstein, Dorina Bakiri and Kimberly Patrie. Fraser offered a carrot; it wasn't just an exercise in design, it was going to be built. "We want the winner to grab a posthole digger and help build it. We asked them who they would like to have judge it and they selected very well-respected people in the community," she said.

The judges were Melody Bishop, Doug Lane, Dr. Wayne Wood and Angela Schifanella, who liked all five of the designs submitted for community voting at the RAP Home Tour. "The judges said 'They all have really good pieces and we don't want to discard any of them,'" Fraser said. The judges challenged the designers to refine their designs and come back in mid-June for a final selection. The winner will see the project through, helping with the application.

• **Private investment in public space** •

The planned community garden will require a City-recognized entity to handle insurance and water bills. According to Fraser, RAP will be the parent organization, but it will be a community effort to develop and maintain the garden. "This is an investment in a public space [by private citizens]," she stated. "The members who own the plots will create the entity that manages it."

The winning design needs to be context sensitive to the historic district. The judges will make sure the designs meet all of the criteria and design regulations to get a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Historic Preservation Commission.

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➤ If we get the designs in June we think we can turn the design plans around in 30 days, then get it put on the agenda," Fraser said optimistically. "While we're doing that, I'll round up community for fundraising." The goal is to open in October for the first planting season for the winter.

She's already talked to merchants willing to donate material, paint, wood, mulch, compost and who might have a vested interest in seeing how their product holds up, such as stain or paint. Other avenues to raise funds include grants that help gardens,



Area residents review and vote on designs for a community garden proposed for the current Willowbranch Rose Garden on Park Street

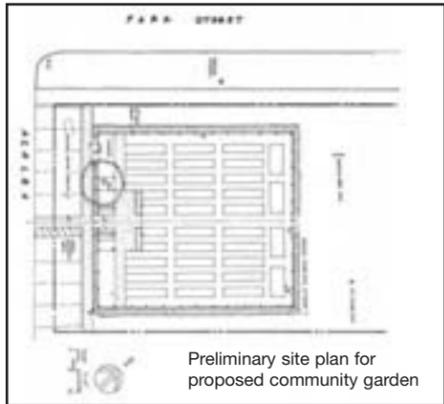
arbors, flowers; beds will be designated for certain kinds of planting, determined by the membership-driven co-op board. There will be limits on height. "We will have to ensure that someone doesn't plant something that shades another garden that needs sun."

Fraser envisions the final design will include a fence for security, ADA accessibility with higher beds for people who need to sit or stand, perhaps a common space for educational events, such as gardening tips by experts.

"So many people have gotten it to this stage," she said. "We have enough people who have joined us that it won't be just one person carrying it forward. The goal is to get people who are experts and novices in gardening."

**Next Steps**

A community meeting will be hosted later this month to reveal the winner of the garden design contest and to provide more information about the steps required to kick off the construction efforts. If you would like to be contacted by email about the meeting details, please call the Riverside Avondale Preservation office at (904) 389-2449.



Preliminary site plan for proposed community garden

individual plot fees, buy-a-brick opportunities and component sponsors.

There is no lack of interest among residents.

"We have a waiting list for people who want to have a plot, so if it becomes big enough we can make a bigger plot on the whole block," Fraser stated. It is currently planned for 40 plots, and they will not be limited to vegetables. Plots can include grape

# Tribute to 90 years fitting for Memorial Day



MPA Board Members, volunteers and military guests

Approaching the 100th anniversary of the start of World War I, The Memorial Park Association hosted a free community breakfast in the park on

Memorial Day. The Navy's Color Guard opened the day with a brief formal ceremony, followed by breakfast

treats donated by a number of the community's merchants. Keynote speaker Dr. Wayne Wood addressed the history of the park, dedicated on December 25, 1924 and the significance of "Life," the named sculpture by renowned artist Charles Adrian Pillars.

"Memorial Park is in its 90th year, having been enjoyed by four generations of families. As an Association it's our goal to continue this legacy for generations to



Board Member Susan Ober adds names to the "memorial wall"

come. This event is an opportunity for our entire community to celebrate the glorious surroundings of this six-acre

riverfront park," said Pattie Houlihan, president for the Board of Directors of the nonprofit.



Anne Wright Freeman - founder of the original Memorial Park Association

Local merchants donating food and beverages included Whiteway Deli, Publix, Whole Foods, Smoothie King, Zoe's Kitchen, Starbucks, Tres Leches Eatery, and Blue Buddha Exotic Foods, and funds were donated from Richard Skinner, Ben Davis, Jonathan Inetta, Blair Wolverton, Charlie and Robin Patton, The

UPS Store, Glenn Certain, Publix, Philips Garden Store. Regions Bank provided a new bicycle for a raffle.

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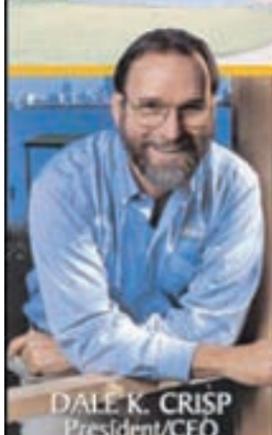
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# Food trucks win fight to stay Downtown

For all intents and purposes, the food fight is over. After five public meetings, from Feb. 25 to Apr. 7, an amendment to Chapter 250 (Miscellaneous Business Regulations) of the Municipal Code will soon be introduced to City Council that will allow "mobile food dispensing vendors" to operate downtown without excessive restrictions.

The amendment, in summary, does not prohibit food trucks from operating near brick and mortar restaurants as long as they remain at least 50 feet away, provide trash receptacles, and restrict free-standing signage to three feet in height and six square feet in area, located within five feet of the vehicle.

Food truck vendors may only operate in the Hemming Plaza area on Thursdays and Fridays (as is currently the case), cannot park in metered spaces and must obtain permission from any lot owners before setting up operations.

The amendment, in summary, does not prohibit food trucks from operating near brick and mortar restaurants as long as they remain at least 50 feet away, provide trash receptacles, and restrict free-standing signage to three feet in height and six square feet in area, located within five feet of the vehicle.

The bill will create several new subsections to what is currently a single paragraph in the Municipal Code, putting in writing the requirements for licenses, permits, indemnifications, insurance, and violations and enforcements.

# Growler bill dies in House

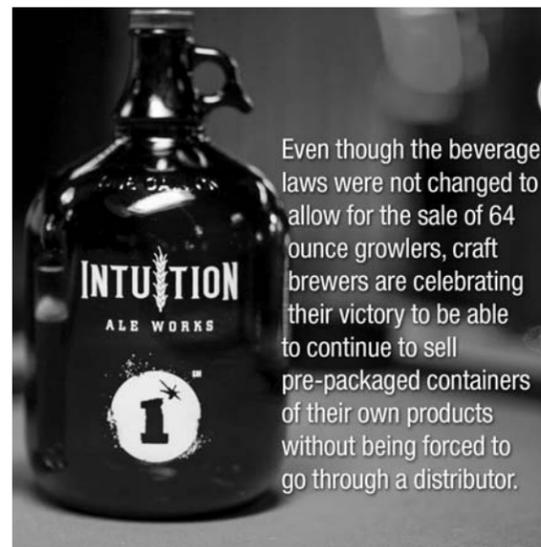
Florida beverage laws remain unchanged, thanks to the House of Representatives. Although the Senate passed its highly restrictive bill (SB 1714) 30 votes to 10 (those against included Audrey Gibson and Aaron Bean), Dana Young, the House majority whip, suggested that the bill would not be heard on the House floor in its last session – and it was not.

Even though the beverage laws were not changed to allow for the sale of 64 ounce growlers, craft brewers are celebrating their victory to be able to continue to sell pre-packaged containers of their own products without being forced to go through a distributor.

The fight, however, is most likely not over. A group of craft beer supporters have organized to educate and advocate on behalf of Florida breweries. Ben Davis, owner of Intuition Ale Works, has suggested that the Florida Brewers

Guild form a political action committee to allow non-brewery owners to support legislative efforts of the Guild.

Davis is putting his money where his mouth is. During a post-legislative session wrap-up at his brewery last month, Davis committed a one dollar donation for every pint sold that night, to benefit this political action committee



Even though the beverage laws were not changed to allow for the sale of 64 ounce growlers, craft brewers are celebrating their victory to be able to continue to sell pre-packaged containers of their own products without being forced to go through a distributor.

## DADS .....FROM 1

Vernon Barefield and Ray Brinson both served in the Navy, had one son each, and have great-grandchildren, six for Barefield and seven for Brinson, who worked for the Jacksonville Fire Department for 20 years.

Bill Law served in the Infantry with the Army in WWII in Europe. He went back to teaching elementary school in Tennessee, then got a Master's in social work, moving to Jacksonville in 1963, to work in counseling services. One child, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren later, Law shared "Patience is what I would advise; children have different needs and behaviors so you have to know how to advise them." Spoken like a true teacher.

Jack Parent, served with Royal Canadian Air Force, and just moved to Jacksonville six months ago, having lived in Orlando for over 30 years, where he owned a company in the commercial and industrial laundry business. Like Noah, Parent had

two each: children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. "Live your dream while you can," he advised.

Dr. William Wooden, a Jacksonville OB-GYN doctor, served in the Navy as a Corpsman during the Korean War, and, while assigned to the Battleship Iowa for training, held assignments locally. With two sons and a daughter, and several grandchildren, Dr. Wooden said fathers need to "set an example." Coming from a risk-taker, whose hobbies included flying an airplane, riding a motorcycle, and cave-diving, may seem like "do as I say, not as I do" advice.

Wyman Hunt, administrator at Riverside Presbyterian House, boasts of four great-grandchildren, eight grandchildren, and three daughters, and served in the Army during the Vietnam War. From Augusta, GA, Hunt has been in Jacksonville seven years; after 30 years as a hospital administrator, Hunt has worked with five senior living, assisted living and

independent living facilities. "You learn as you raise your children; I would recommend prioritizing your life as God, family, job, community service in that order," he said.

"When you have an opportunity to be involved in one of your children's activities, don't miss it. It will never be repeated and they will always remember that you missed it."

The New York Times Magazine

# photographs

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## Happy Father's Day

For me, Father's Day evokes memories of my Dad and the good ole days of summer in Ortega Forest. Life was as good as it gets. Ortega Forest hasn't changed much since then - is still one of the best neighborhoods anywhere. The long lazy days of summer can't be beat hanging out in the Forest and my memories are in synch with the memories being created by kids and Dads today. Such a great neighborhood and such great memories. Thanks for giving us the best Dad. I love you forever.

—Anne Rain

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# New Leadership Summit participants



Leadership Jacksonville, an organization that develops youth and adult leaders in Northeast Florida, welcomed 16 participants to its 2014 New Leadership Summit, a two-day program held at The Ritz-Carlton Amelia Island. Attendees included CEOs and other executives who are new or relatively new to Northeast Florida.

“The summit offered a chance for community leaders to engage in a meaningful dialogue with others in similar positions,” said Jill Langford Dame, executive director of Leadership Jacksonville. “Attendees heard from Northeast Florida decision-makers and business executives about issues of importance to our region.”

Participants included Don Baldwin, Senior VP, Chief Marketing and Strategy Officer, Haskell; Jonathan Bennett, Chief Merchandising Officer, Interline Brands Inc.; Diane Boyle, Executive Director, Ronald McDonald House; Michael Brannigan, CEO, The Suddath Companies; Don Capener, Dean, Davis College of Business, Jacksonville University; Todd Feintuch, Managing Director, Senior VP, SunTrust Private Wealth Management; Angelia Hiers, Chief Human Resources Officer, JEA; Suzanne Hudson-Smith, Executive Director, Jacksonville Public Library Foundation; Jay Levitch, Senior VP, Director of In-house Litigation, Fidelity National Financial; David Miles, Chief Financial Officer, Healogics; Tim Ryan, Plant Manager, Johnson & Johnson Vision Care; Joseph Santore, President and CEO, Opta Comp; Leslie Slover, Managing Director, Deutsche Bank; Brian Taylor, CEO, Jacksonville Port Authority; Aundra Wallace, CEO, Downtown Investment Authority, City of Jacksonville; Scott Wooten, Senior VP, CFO, Baptist Health

Participants learned about the region’s assets, institutions and leadership from key corporate, civic, nonprofit and educational leaders. The program included presentations about the area’s history, politics, economy, education system, nonprofit sector and cultural and leisure offerings.

Mayor Alvin Brown gives a thumb’s up to the International powerboat



## Grand Prix of the Sea on the St. John’s River

Riverside residents will have a front row seat for an exciting event on the St. John’s River this month, and nearby shops and restaurants will benefit from the fans who will come far and wide.

The Grand Prix of the Sea – an International Powerboat Racing event – will be held at Memorial Park the weekend of June 7-8.

It’s been nearly three decades since the first powerboat race on the St. John’s River, and the City of Jacksonville is working closely with the Fish and Wildlife Commission and Jacksonville University’s Marine Science



Paul Astleford, Visit Jacksonville President & CEO, Aaron Bowman, JAX USA Partnership vice president of business development, Mayor Brown, James Durbin, CEO of Powerboat P1, Jim Suber, City of Jacksonville dock master and waterways coordinator

Research Institute to make sure that marine life will not be harmed during the event.

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## Water quality updates available online

The St. Johns River Water Management District launched a new page on its website ([floridaswater.com/lbwqnews](http://floridaswater.com/lbwqnews)) that will provide regular updates on water quality in the Lower St. Johns River Basin in northeast Florida, including information about projects to restore and protect the river system, significant algae blooms when they occur, and links to other agencies’ river information.

For information about algal blooms from [www.floridahealth.gov](http://www.floridahealth.gov) and other resources:

- Department of Health Aquatic Toxins Program, or call (888) 232-8635 to report human illness from exposure to algal toxins
- DEP frequently asked questions at [www.dep.state.fl.us/water/bgalgae/faq.htm](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/bgalgae/faq.htm)
- FWC ([myfwc.com](http://myfwc.com)) for the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (part of FWC) technical report Resource Guide for Public Health Response to Harmful Algal Blooms in Florida or call (800) 636-0511 to report fish kills

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Mayor Alvin Brown and Councilman Don Redman lead the pack on Bike to Work Day from the Times-Union building to City Hall (Photo courtesy of City of Jacksonville)



# Rain doesn't dampen bike to work turnout

The bike ride organizers said the Bike to Work Day event on May 15 was the most successful one they've done, with over 65 riders participating, most originating as groups from bicycle shops on both sides of the river. Mayor Alvin Brown and District 4 Councilman Don Redman joined them on the ride to City Hall from the Times-Union building.

"Jacksonville is at a turning point to become a more bike-friendly city," said Mayor Alvin Brown. "Both public and private efforts are making a difference. The City of Jacksonville has hired its first-ever bike and pedestrian coordinator, Denise Chaplick, to make this a priority. With the combined efforts of all stakeholders, we can expand and improve the opportunities for safe biking in Jacksonville. It's important to our community for many reasons, from public safety to health and fitness to quality of life and downtown vitality."



David Mackinnon, Charlotte Kuhn and Alice Gould

# Avondale resident organizes Downtown community effort

Charlie Broward, of Avondale, pitched right in when Judge Mallory Cooper had a bright idea earlier this spring. Broward, the public information officer with the Duval County Clerk of Courts, organized the two-week Courthouse Neighbor2Neighbor Supply Drive to deliver 40 bins of food and supplies to six charitable nonprofits in the vicinity around the Courthouse.

"Any time you do community service and see the folks who are benefiting, it feels good at the end of the day," said Broward.

"I saw the smiles on the faces. It's a new feeling every time you go out and do something like that."

Broward said that he is hoping to do this annually, coordinating the drive with seven other entities: Cort Administration, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office's Courthouse Security Unit, State Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, Regional Conflict Counsel and Florida Guardian ad Litem Program.



A volunteer helps load and deliver food to Downtown charitable organizations.



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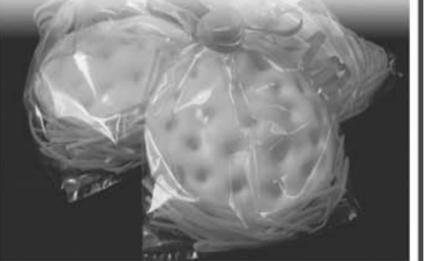
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# Wiffle golf raises funds for JALA

Steve and Michael Pajcic, along with the support of Pajcic & Pajcic, PA and The Jacksonville Bar Association, hosted their second Wiffle Golf + Happy Hour to benefit Jacksonville Area Legal Aid (JALA).

The Pajcic Firm also matched all registrations, sponsorships, and prizes during the May 16 event with an additional donation to JALA.

Guests enjoyed playing a nine-hole, "semi-professionally constructed" wiffle golf course around the home of Steve and Anne Pajcic in Avondale. According to patriarch Steve Pajcic, the course has evolved and it's been a highlight of family functions for 15-plus years, typically set up at the holidays. As of the past two years, the putting greens were added to the course – complete with pins in the holes. "It really takes you back to a time in Riverside and Avondale, it's [wiffle golf] replacing what croquet used to be," said Pajcic. Each hole included par, measured yardage, and an equivalent yardage.



Braxton Gillam with Del Wallace



Phillip Lee, Brandy Carvalho and Todd Davis

Not to be outdone by the island green at TPC, a "Dock Shot" on #6 included a \$6,000 hole-in-one prize and matching donation to JALA, upping the ante. "We've really been hoping for a hole-in-one, there have been a few within inches, but we've yet to

Bert Peters putts as Patrick and Allie Bianchi look on



have one," said Pajcic, who put up the cash prize on his firm's behalf.

Sponsors for the nine-hole course included Cole, Scott & Kissane, PA; Creed & Gowdy, PA; Harrell & Harrell, PA; Rick & Lizzy Lasseter; Judge Linda F. McCallum; Morgan & Morgan, PA; Tanner Bishop, PA; James Waters, III, PA, and two holes in memory of Joseph P. Milton and Gary C. Pajcic.

## NAMI...moving forward, one step at a time

The Jacksonville chapter of the National Alliance for Mental Illness took another step forward in the movement to bring mental illness out of the shadows. Last month at a community fundraising event at Ortega United Methodist Church, sunny weather blessed the activities which included a guided tour walk through Old Ortega, led by resident Margaret Day Julian, a children's fashion show, sponsored by Twice as Nice Boutique, music by the Ronan School of Music and Eric Wendorf, a silent auction, bounce house and many vendors.

NAMI board members: John Boggs, Officer Peter Presti, Norma Basford, Mike Farmand, Inge Neese, Linda Gregory, Ming Chan, Peggy Harrell Jennings (event coordinator), Hayes Basford. Board members not available: Ebony Benjamin, Stella Bryskin, Dick May, Carol Folsom, Debbie Monaco, Kent Rutherford



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Sharon Wagand, event chair, Wende Wilson, MOCA Guild president, Iva Larson, vice president, Maureen Hermann, silent auction chair

## MOCA Guild celebrates museum anniversary

What began as the Jacksonville Fine Arts Club, meeting in a YMCA gym early last century, went through six names before settling on the Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville in 2006. The MOCA Guild, established in 1958 as the Museum's Women's Guild, celebrated the museum's 90th anniversary at a luncheon last month at Epping Forest Yacht Club. On display were photo albums compiled by photographer Joanne Wilson, a Guild member of 30 years. Nine decades and five locations later, MOCA is a cultural resource for the University North Florida, whose partnership helps the museum flourish.

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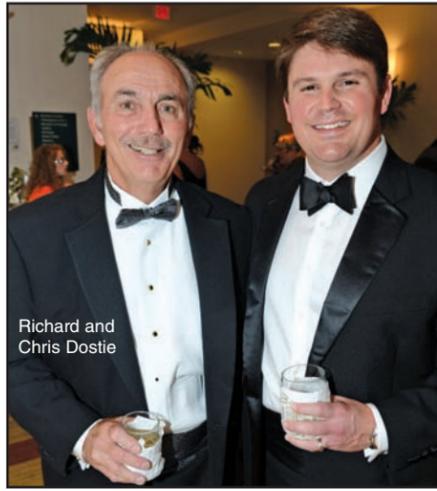
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# Great McGala a hit for Ronald McDonald House

The Sawgrass Marriott Resort in Ponte Vedra Beach was transformed into the celebratory event of the season as the The Great McGala took place May 3. The event helps to share the success stories and the role Ronald McDonald House Charities of Jacksonville has played for all of its 25 years, helping children and families who are dealing with life threatening illnesses and injuries. The ultimate goal is to provide families and loved ones the opportunity to relax, unwind and remain calm in the face of great difficulty.

During the many years of service children and their families, fundraising goals have helped to provide the 'home away from home' setting, as generous donors and patrons have helped to make all things possible. Through unwavering support and community outreach, the humble beginnings on Jefferson Street in 1988 are a distant memory as the organization now boasts a 30-bedroom house at the current location on Children's Way, in the San Marco neighborhood. The mission has remained strong, illustrated by the increase in amenities, such as the Ronald McDonald Family Room at



Richard and Chris Dostie



Christina Mershell, Carol Harrison, Diane Boyle and Julie Handley



Chair Meg Kuchar with Co-Chair Emily Dostie



Heath and Jennifer Vickers with Holly and Jeff Tyrrell

Wolfson Children's Hospital and the Ronald McDonald CareMobile in conjunction with St. Vincent's Hospital, to name a few. For more information visit <http://rmhcjacksonville.org>

## Save the date for Delicious Destinations



Standing: Jean Grimsley, Neetal Oza, Lisa Quinlan, Angela Gilbert, Pilar Escuder, Jennifer Kaltman and Susan Wallis; seated: Nayla Chahlavi, M.D., Erica Connor, Charise Szwed, Debbie English, Natalie Potter and Jenny Parker

Committee members are hard at work finalizing the details about the 13th Annual Delicious Destinations culinary event to raise funds for the St. Vincent's Mobile Outreach Ministry, which focuses on the medically underserved, uninsured and underinsured. This year's gourmet food and wine event will take place Sept. 3-6 at two venues. For details, visit <http://deliciousdestinationsjax.com/>.

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# Residents recognized for achievements, contributions

## Historic Preservation Commission Awards

The Historic Preservation Commission's annual awards ceremony recognized outstanding projects and services that promote historic preservation in the Jacksonville area.

For Architecturally Compatible New Construction, a residence at 2312 River Rd. and the offices of Murphy & Anderson, P.A. at 1501 San Marco Blvd. received awards, as did the new Mellow Mushroom restaurant in the Shoppes of Avondale and the new office of Eagle Eye Care at 714 Stockton St. Awards given for

Commercial Rehabilitation included Broward Studio, 1922 Felch Ave. and Hawkers Restaurant, 1001 Park St. and for Residential Rehabilitation the winner was 3658 Riverside Ave. The Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens received the Archaeology/Historic Landscape award for the Olmsted Garden, The Rotary Club of San Jose accepted the Preservation Project by an Organization award for restoration of the San Jose Estates Gates and Dr. Keith Holland received the Preservation Service by an Individual award for the archaeological recovery and preservation of artifacts of the Maple Leaf site.



## 38th Annual Cultural Council Arts Awards

To those who recognize the value of the arts, and strive to preserve and protect the arts for generations to come, the award goes to...

Helen Lane, Lifetime Achievement Award; a generous philanthropist and co-founder of the Cultural Council in 1971 and of the Women's Giving Alliance, charter member and board appointee of the Library Foundation, former board member of the Jacksonville Historical Society, the Community Foundation and The Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens.



Advocacy; an artist in her own right, Davis has spent more than 40 years helping emerging and established artists receive recognition of their talent.

Dolf James, Art Innovator Award; co-creator, Imagination Squared; a force and/or a creative energy behind the Riverside Arts Market Art Gallery, CoRK Art Studios, and One Spark.

Jim Winston, Art Philanthropist Award: former chairman of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, instrumental in founding the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestra.

Cookie Davis, inaugural Robert Arleigh White Award for Art

Dan and Cindy Edelman, Art Collector Award; the Edelman Collection focuses on themes of the Holocaust and Jewish-Israeli identity and the couple has gifted over a dozen works of art to The Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens.

Shirley Sacks, Arts Educator Award; director, actor, creating quality theatrical experiences for children and young adults.

Photo captions, left to right, top to bottom:

D Coop (Milan Malinovic accepting) and Tenant Contractors for Compatible New Construction of Mellow Mushroom in the Shoppes of Avondale

The office of Dr. Ravi Patel, Eagle Eye Care at 714 Stockton Street, received the Compatible New Construction award

Hawkers Restaurant, 1001 Park Street, was awarded for Commercial Rehabilitation

Cindy and Doug Guy, Barry Bransford (Cappella Homes), received the Residential Rehabilitation award for 3658 Riverside Avenue renovation

The Archaeology/Historic Landscape award went to The Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens for the restoration of the Olmsted Garden

Keith Holland received the Preservation Service award for his 30-year dedication to the Maple Leaf site, the only National Historic Landmark in Duval County and the greatest repository of Civil War artifacts ever.

## OneJAX Awards

Preston Haskell, 75, founder and chairman of Haskell, a design-build firm with about 800 employees and offices in four other states and Mexico, received the 2014 Gold Medallion for Lifetime Achievement at the OneJax Institute's 44th annual Humanitarian Awards on May 22.

Haskell is trustee emeritus at the Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville, and nonprofits such as Gateway Community Services, PACE School for Girls, the City Rescue Mission and Community Hospice. He also supported the Edward Waters College's facility fund and chaired the Jacksonville Civic Council's Northbank Redevelopment Task Force.

## EVE awards nominees

On Friday, June 6, EVE turns 45 and will honor 12 finalists and announce three winners in its annual citywide recognition of women's accomplishments in education, volunteer service and employment. Thus far, EVE has bestowed 139 golden apple trophies, four EVEs of the Decade and 14 Lifetime Achievement awards.

Two Avondale residents are finalists for the volunteer service award.

Connie Hodges, president of United Way of Northeast Florida for the past 16 years, will retire at the end of the year with 30 years of leadership under her belt. She was instrumental in transforming the United Way from a fundraising organization to a community impact model. Her successful collaboration with the

community's educational partners resulted in measurable and lasting change. Graduation rates increased; Born Learning facilitated brain development during the first six years of life; and Success by 6 focused on early learning.

Marcelle Polednik has only been in Jacksonville four years, but in that short time she has led the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) to new heights, engaging young people in the experience and appreciation of art. As a result of Voice of the People, its literacy-based program with S.P. Livingston Elementary School, visitors may tour the galleries and listen to audio interpretations developed by the students. MOCA's Rainbow Artist program seeks to use art and art-making activities to help children with autism spectrum disorders.

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**SOLD**

**4997 Morven Road**  
 4/6/1-6,225 sqft. Sold by Jane Slater! This beautiful estate sold before it ever went on the market. Classic riverfront Ortega home, updated and beautifully maintained. Spectacular downtown views, large lot.



**1485 Avondale Avenue - \$530,000**  
 3/2/1-2,713 sqft. Renovated in 2008 and move in ready! This home is very spacious and includes Formal Living and Dining Rooms, a sunroom with French door to the pool and a beautifully renovated kitchen overlooking the Family Room with space for casual dining.



**LISTED AND SOLD BY US**

**4284 McGirts Boulevard**  
 5/3/2-5,408 sqft. Listed and Sold by Melissa Lewis and Marcia Simmons! A wonderful lifestyle awaits you in this spectacular waterfront home. Spread out and enjoy living on the river. Boating, outdoor entertaining, and beautiful views can be part of your life in this gracious and extremely livable home.



**4236 St Johns Avenue - \$195,000**  
 3/2-1,955 sqft. Located in historic Avondale, this charming brick home has lots of character and potential. This is zoned CRO so it's great for a business or a home. It is conveniently located to 17, 110 & downtown.



**OPEN HOUSE JUN 8TH 12-3PM**

**2967 Riverside Avenue - \$625,000**  
 3/2/1-2,700 sqft. Classic 1910 Avondale beauty in the center of the Riverside/Avondale Historic District. From the welcoming and charming wraparound porch to the beautiful Charleston gardens, you will be sure to get the feeling of being right at home!



**SOLD**

**3029 Riverside Ave**  
 4/4/1-3,354 sqft. Sold by Liz Bobeck and Josh Nugent! Looking for the best of the old and the new? You have found it in this Riverside Avenue home loaded with charm and character! Wonderful old world details abound from the huge wrap porch to coffered ceilings.



**SOLD**

**3641 Hedrick Street**  
 3/3-2,590 sqft. Sold by Anita Vining! Step into this fabulous Avondale charmer. NEW master bath is very spacious featuring raised double vanity & separate area for makeup vanity. Stand alone shower and water closet. Romantic master bedroom with original fireplace.



**4340 Galileo Avenue - \$470,000**  
 4/3/1-3,057 sqft. On a scale of 1-10, this is an 11! Few surfaces were left untouched when renovating this beautiful 3,057 s.f. four bedroom, three and a half bath home. From the moment you step through the front door you will know you have found a hidden treasure!



**LISTED AND SOLD BY US**

**5120 Charlemagne Road**  
 4/2/1-2,762 sqft. Listed and Sold by The O'Steen/Donnell Team and Jane Slater! Meticulously kept lakefront home with four bedrooms, two and a half baths in the heart of Ortega Forest ready for new owners!



**LISTED AND SOLD BY US**

**1287 Avondale Avenue**  
 3/1/1-1,674 sqft. Listed and Sold by Jane Slater! AMAZING NEW PRICE on this gem in Historic Avondale, one of the Great Neighborhoods of Jacksonville. From the upstairs balcony to the welcoming front porch this very special home is full of charm.



**LISTED AND SOLD BY US**

**5598 Fair Lane Drive**  
 3/3/1-3,414 sqft. Listed and Sold by Elizabeth Meux and Susan Touhy! Nestled on a quiet street offering privacy, this all brick home sits on a half acre lot with golf course views. Super location and endless opportunities to make this home yours.



**2358 Riverside Avenue, #1203 - \$1,595,000**  
 4/4-3,725 Sqft. Fabulous one of a kind VillaRiva two story penthouse with a rooftop terrace and 3 balconies. Custom finishes throughout include handsome built-in bookcases in library and cast stone fireplace mantel.



**SOLD**

**1481 Avondale Avenue**  
 3/2-1,978 sqft. Sold by Elizabeth Meux! Classic brick bungalow on Avondale Avenue filled with charm and character. A wonderful front porch welcomes you to this three bedroom, 2 bath home.



**2358 Riverside Avenue, #802 - \$750,000**  
 3/3-2,275 Sqft. Fabulous riverfront views from this sophisticated NY style 8th flr condo in historic Riverside. Enjoy river breezes, sunrises & sunsets, private 2-car garage, 2 storage closets & 2 balconies.

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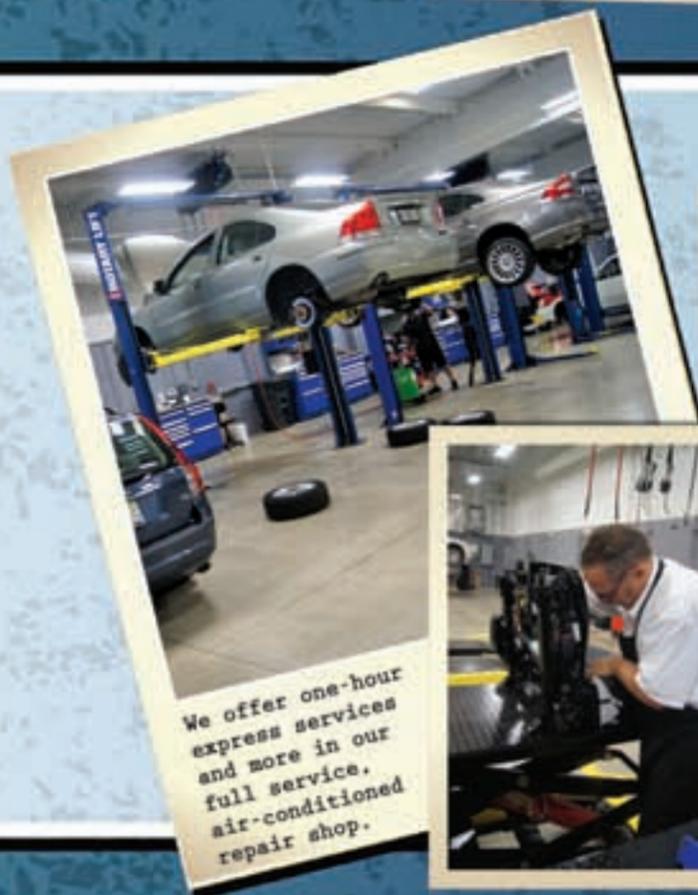
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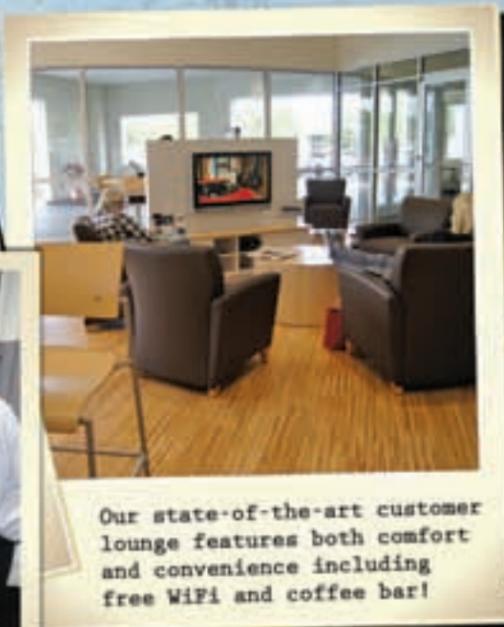
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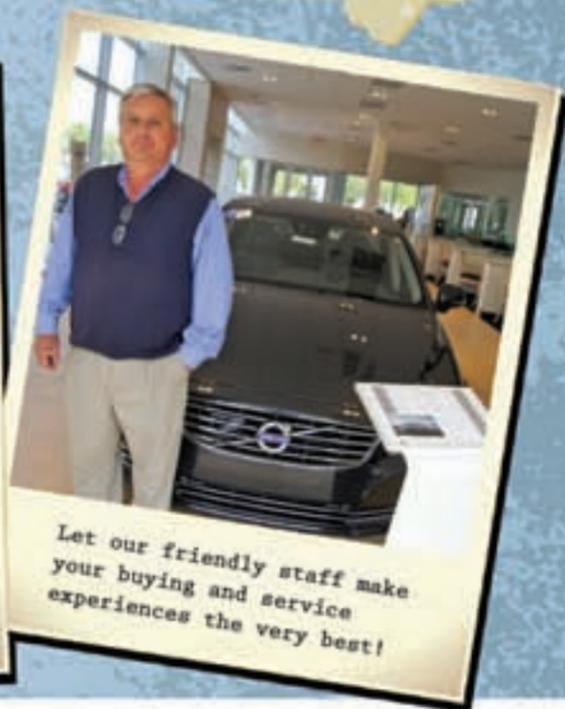
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Paula and Barry Skitsko, collectors with their artwork on display

# Collectors Choice

## A CROWD PLEASER

Area collectors are sharing some of their prized art possessions with the community during a four-month long exhibit at The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens. At a VIP reception the evening before the exhibit's launch on May 16, members of the Ponce de Leon Society enjoyed a special preview of works by nearly 30 local collectors. Each painting, sculpture and piece of furniture offers a glimpse of the story behind the collector's passion.



Vance Shrum, with a signed print from his collection



Tom and Stephanie Welchans



Collector Helen Lane, George Varn



Robin and Jim Love



Holly Keris, Chief Curator for The Cummer, and Jim Van Vleck



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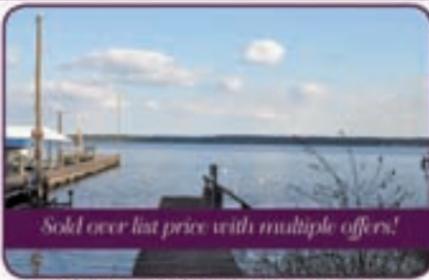
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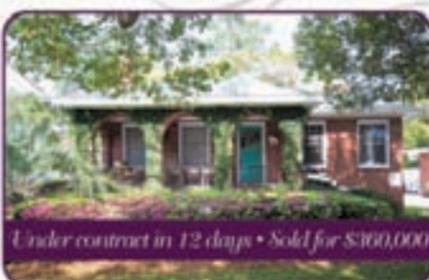


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**6233 Kingsley Lake Drive**  
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**1485 Avondale Avenue**  
Updated Pool Home • 2713 sq. ft. • \$530,000 • MLS# 715165



*Under contract in 12 days • Sold for \$300,000*

**1481 Avondale Avenue**  
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# Fashions in full swing for spring fundraiser

It was a day to celebrate being a well-dressed woman and being a patriot, as the Republican Women's Club of Duval Federated invited some topnotch women to take the stage at the 4th Annual Spring Fashion Show and Luncheon. With high-profile gentlemen escorting the models, rounds of applause filled the fashionable function at the Wyndham Riverfront Hotel Ballroom.

Over 200 members and distinguished guests attended the event on the Southbank promising to raise funds for the club's "Caring for America" initiatives which include share packages to deployed military, donations to The Women's Help Center, contributions to Five Star Veterans Center, Wreaths Across America [National Cemetery], Wreaths at the Veterans Wall on Memorial Day, Young Republicans of Duval County, Justice Coalition of Jacksonville and the Donna Foundation, to name a few.

Gorgeous models took the stage fit with fashions from Patchington's of St. Augustine, strutting their stuff for a



Jean and John Thrasher

room full of supporters. The models included Jean Thrasher, Deborah McBurney, Abby Bean, Jennifer Bradley, Linda King, Glo Smith, Kitty Crenshaw, Tamara Renuart, and Peret Pass. The escorts included Senators John Thrasher, Aaron Bean and Rob Bradley; State Representatives Charles McBurney and Doc Renuart as well as Supervisor of Elections Jerry Holland, Chairman of Young Republicans of Virginia, John Scott and State Trooper (Ret.) Michael Smith.

Other distinguished guests in attendance included the former Chairman of the Republican Party of Florida Tom Slade; City Councilman Jim Love, City Councilman Greg Anderson, City Councilman Bill Bishop, State Attorney Angela Corey, Chairman Baker County Republicans, Kirk Gravelle and Neptune Beach Councilman Scott Wiley.

The club meets regularly on the second Thursday of each month at the Wyndham Hotel Ballroom. Next month's guest speaker will be Diena Thompson, Mother of Murder Victim Somer Thompson; she will speak about the new 2014 sexual predator bill recently signed into law by Governor Rick Scott.



Glo Smith models on the runway



Abby and Aaron Bean

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Historic Home in the Heart of Avondale • 1835 Van Wert Avenue

Historic home in the heart of Avondale. This 4BR/2.5BA home has updated kitchen. Generously sized family room that connects to sunroom. Spacious master BR upstairs with large walk-in closet and bathroom. 2 Additional bdms., full bath & additional room that could be used as 4th bdrm. Finished attic, detached 2-car garage with guesthouse.

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# Bootleggin' alive and well in Riverside

Reliving Avondale's "heyday" in the good ol' Roaring Twenties, the 3rd Annual Bootlegger's Ball was the hot spot to be on May 3. Though kept a secret until all partygoers had the password, Worsham Hall served as speakeasy for the casino games, live entertainment and food and libations. Coinciding with the monthly Trolley Night, partygoers arrived in flapper dress and Zoot suit style 'til wee hours of the morning. Sponsors Jax Federal Credit Union, Riverside Dental, Drs. Lanier Bowman and Associates, State Farm and Traditions helped make the evening a rip-roaring success.



Crystal Floyd with Joy Walker



Bonnie and Terry Dennis



Johnny Schaefer, Kathe Swindell and Al Fuentes of Moxie Kitchen + Cocktails



Selena Tins, Tara Bedwell, Beth Rudisille, Chris Marcolini, Lucy Schurink and Benjamin Thomson

# On the Move luncheon raises funds for MS

The annual On the Move Luncheon raised approximately \$25,000 to benefit the 18,000 people in Jacksonville and across North Florida who are affected by multiple sclerosis. Bringing families, friends, co-workers and the Jacksonville community together to help end MS forever, the gathering at the Garden Club of Jacksonville was treated to an inspiring story of friendship between Dr. Megan Weigel and Cheryl Russell, who together change the lives of people living with MS through yoga.

Erin Hagen, Carrie Inman, Margee Michaelis, Cheryl Russell, Corrina Steiger



Fred Miller Group

## Properties are Moving Quick, We Need Listings!



**1846 Margaret Street, #8A**  
2BR/1BA Riverside 8th floor condo unit on the river with 1,313 sq. ft. LR, DR, kitchen with tile floors, hardwood floors, CHA, riverfront views. \$189,900



**2769 Myra Street**  
Riverside bungalow close to shops and restaurants. Very walk able 2BR/1BA with hardwood floors throughout living space. 844 sq. ft. \$105,000



**1661 Riverside Avenue, #109**  
2BR/2BA with large den upstairs, 11ft white concrete ceilings w/ exposed duct work and dark hardwood floors downstairs as well as acid etched stained concrete upstairs. 1,843 sq. ft. \$279,900



**1602 Copeland Street**  
This 2 story has 4 fireplaces, a 2 level front porch, wood floors, high ceilings and all the charm you would expect. Currently used as a business, easily returned to your dream home. 3BR/1.5BA 2,227sq. ft. \$299,900



**3027 St. Johns Avenue**  
Main house features 5BR/4.5BA a restored lift, library, downstairs family room and upstairs family room, butler's pantry, hardwood floors, 10 foot ceilings, and windows galore. 4,317 sq. ft. \$1,000,000



**4205 Venitia Boulevard**  
Nestled on the River, this Mediterranean style Home features: 5BR/4.5BA, 3 HVAC units, Italian barrel tile, a spacious Kitchen with a large island and granite countertops. 4,928 sq. ft. \$1,299,000



**630 Willowbranch Avenue**  
3BR/2BA, living room, dining room kitchen (R.R.), CHA, approx 1472 sf, hardwood floors, washer/dryer hook-up in laundry room. Property is being sold as is. 1,514 sq. ft. \$48,500



**2579 Oak Street**  
1,720 sq. ft. Riverside all-brick office with attention to detail and quality of 1920's construction. 3 large offices upstairs, large dining room used as owner's office. \$275,000



**4566 Country Club Road**  
Spacious and light Ortega home on huge corner lot. Deck in back for entertaining, formal living with fireplace, built-in shelves and cabinets. 2,073 sq. ft. 3BR/2BA \$294,800



1046 Riverside Ave. Jacksonville, FL 32204

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Traditionsjax.com

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**3623 Pine Street**  
This 3BR/2.5BA home has 2 fireplaces, a new roof, new upstairs AC with 2,056 sq. ft. Traditional floor plan, wood floors, 9 foot ceilings, screened front porch and nicely landscaped yard. \$439,000



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**ORTEGA FOREST WATERFRONT - \$1,100,000**  
 Entertainer's dream home with unobstructed views of the Ortega River from almost every room! WINFIELD DUSS • 710-7948



**ORTEGA FOREST - \$650,000**  
 Spectacular renovation! 5BR/3.5BA, 3,082SF Chef's dream kitchen and huge new master suite. LEE NORVILLE • 707-3030



**ORTEGA - \$625,000**  
 3466 SF home with 3BR/2.5BA plus 1BR/1BA guest house on beautifully manicured corner lot! DAVID TAYLOR • 424-3946



**NEW LISTING**  
**BROADVIEW TOWERS - \$549,500**  
 Stunning river and downtown views from this 9th floor 3BR/3BA 2,365 SF condo with 2 fireplaces! DIXIE HARDMAN • 631-0975



**ORTEGA - \$439,000**  
 Two homes, one price! Charming 3/2 main house plus 2/1 guest cottage nestled under towering oaks! LEE NORVILLE • 707-3030



**ORTEGA - \$349,000**  
 New kitchen and baths, plus huge sunroom in this renovated 4BR/2BA 2,242SF charmer. WINFIELD DUSS • 710-7948



**NEW LISTING**  
**ORTEGA FOREST - \$279,500**  
 Lovely 3BR/2.5BA pool home a block away from Stockton Elementary. New kitchen, huge family room! LEE NORVILLE • 707-3030



**ORTEGA FARMS WATERFRONT - \$250,000**  
 Former fish camp, all brick 4BR/2BA home with pool and dock. Needs renovating but a great buy! LAURA MCLAUGHLIN • 294-4751



**NEW PRICE**  
**ORTEGA FOREST - \$149,900**  
 Adorable, updated 3BR/1BA, 1,178 SF home on large corner lot. Spotless condition! LEE NORVILLE • 707-3030



**NEW LISTING**  
**ORTEGA BLVD CONDO - \$129,000**  
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Scott Fortenberry



Dixie Hardman



Ann Hayman



Cathleen Lee



Laura McLaughlin



Lee Norville



Toy Scott



Linda Shepherd



David Taylor



Lisa Anthony Tucker

# Lions, tigers and squares, oh my!

The Jacksonville Artists Guild, in celebration of the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens' 100th Anniversary, created and donated 100 zoo images on 9x9 canvases for exhibition at the Palm Plaza Cafe located in the Jaguar Habitat Area. The

exhibition runs through Sept. 1, 2014. All proceeds benefit the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens. Members attended a reception in early May, which included a silent auction of the paintings.



Honey and Bob Moore, Lynn McCloy



Dorcas Tanner, Carole Mehrtens



Jane Arnold, John Bunker, Payson Tilden



Stephanie Triay, Hillary Wolski, Samantha Smid



Jan and Tim Kerr



Flip Padilla, Tony Nasrallah, John Beehner



Jonathan and Dawn Montgomery, Ken and Carol Whyrick

## Going strong after 19 years serving community

Community support continues to be strong for the Murray Hill Theatre, in its 19th year of providing an all-ages, alcohol-free live entertainment venue that features local and national Christian performers. The May 16 event featured Sheriff John Rutherford as guest speaker, five bands, a buffet, and silent and live auctions. High bidders of the live auction won performances from the featured bands.

**Helen Lane and Muffet Corse**

**Preston Haskell with Betsy Lovett**

Above: Pam Paul, President Meredith Guess, Joan Haskell, Carol Baumer and Martha Barrett

Below: Parker and Kendra McCrary, Meg Folds, Janet Reagor and Jim Folds with (seated) Julie and Gene Howerton

## Grand soiree for their big day at the Junior League

The Clubhouse Ballroom at Deerwood Country Club welcomed successful women from across the First Coast as they celebrated the 90th Anniversary of the establishment of the Junior League of Jacksonville. The mission incorporates a commitment to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers; the group showered members in attendance with thanks on May 17.

Folds, Helen Lane, Betsy Lovett, Kenyon Merritt, Pam Paul, Connie Phillips and Julie Pope.

Most recently, achievements such as the rehabilitation of the Riverside House and the 2013 year-end tally of over 48,000 volunteer hours drew rounds of applause. Current President Meredith Guess thanked the entire organization for their dedication to the mission and also recognized women who donated generously to the event as sponsors. The Host Committee was represented by Martha Barrett, Carol Baumer, Lori Boyer, Jill Dame, Meg

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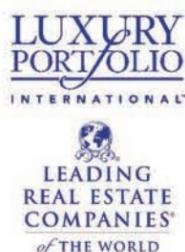


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# Derby Day

## PINE CASTLE AT TCC

The biggest day in horse racing coincided with the biggest day of fundraising for Pine Castle, as the second annual "Run for the Roses" soiree took place at the Timuquana Country Club May 3. Patrons donned their best with the ladies wearing their best Derby hats as the gents tied up bowties, some even pulled out seersucker suits for the occasion. The guests celebrated the races with traditional Derby dining options and mint juleps all while supporting the silent auction and goals of the organization.

Since 1952, Pine Castle has been enriching the lives of people with developmental and acquired disabilities by providing opportunities to learn, work and lead meaningful lives in the Northeast Florida community. Funds raised help to support the mission of the school and continue programming at the school to help nurture the spirits of those they serve.



Doug and Nora Milne



Lauri Owens with Pine Castle Executive Director Jon May



Molly and John Roberts



The Honorable Virginia Norton, Mercer Peek and Jackie Bargas



Board Members Alicia Burst and Jay Southerland



Tim and Paula Gaskin with Kathy and Brad Chasteen



CHS Executive Director Kimberly Cook with Chef Matthew Medure

## AN EVENING OF TASTE DRAWS LOCAL SUPPORT

It was an evening of fine food and libations as Matthew's of San Marco rolled out the red carpet for guests for the Children's Home Society's soiree. The 12th Annual event titled An Evening of Taste features the creations of renowned Chef Matthew Medure and his well honed culinary team. The service included the very best hand-picked menu items of fresh seasonal cuisine paired with choice wines for guests.

Live entertainment, the aroma of freshly-muddled sangria and an excellent array of live and silent auction

items lined the tables, setting the stage for generous patron participation.

The Children's Home Society helps provide safe, stable and nurturing homes to some of our community's most fragile children. The donations will go a long way in helping fund programs that work to break the cycles of abuse in more families, heal the pain for traumatized children, guide teens to successfully transition into adulthood and create strong, loving families through adoption. The event took place April 27, just off the San Marco Square, at 2107 Hendricks Avenue.



a and Joe Wood



Georgia Winegart and NFSSE Director of Development Melanie Jensen

## RIVERHOPS SUPPORTS NFSSE, CELEBRATES A MILESTONE

Patrons at the North Florida School of Special Education's annual fundraiser were blessed with beautiful weather, a stunning location and gourmet pairings sure to please any palate. Guest chefs Matthew Medure and Steven Schaefer teamed up to provide the evening's menu as guests enjoyed the experience of two seasoned chefs as they plated the fine cuisine.

The 5th Annual event, part of a continuing series, was held May 17 at the home of Dr. Abhijit Deshmukh along the banks of the St. Johns River in the San Jose area. Funds raised from the event help to foster growth for the school as they work to improve the lives of students with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities through the achievement of academic, vocational, and social skills.



Vinod and Sunanda Deshmukh with Naum and Susanne Schuenke



Beville and Greg Anderson with NFSSE Executive Director Sally Hazelip



d Nunn, Sue Kowalewski, Annie and Tim Howe



Carol Grimes, Doug and Mary Coleman, Wilf and Tassie Cameron, Dan and Donna Hardy, Jane Condon

## GALA SHEDS MOONLIGHT ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Black Tie and Blue Jeans was the order of the evening on Apr. 3 as guests enjoyed an evening at The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens in support of the North Florida Land Trust. The Moonlight on the River gala offered an evening of dinner, dancing and auctions to benefit the conservation of local natural areas.



and Ian Mills, and a Frick



Alex Coley, Melissa Beaudry, Jennifer Jones

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BUSINESS PROFILE

# An approach to cleaning that considers household health

If you've never met Rebecca Ramsdell, then you've never been blessed with the level of care, compassion and courtesy with which she goes about her daily routine. Those who have come to know her understand that her work is her passion and that her passion may just make your life a lot simpler— and safer. By caring for all things both great and small, her goal is to leave the least amount of impact. This means that she lives by the “Clean Green” mantra of working with the best products that leave you living in a clean environment, not a chemical heavy home.

Unmatched in her attention to detail, Ramsdell has been taking care of some of the finest homes in Jacksonville, as her work ethic has earned referrals for

years. By utilizing products that leave no lasting residue and toxins, safety for toddlers and elders, including your pets—is paramount. “The bottom line is that what I use in cleaning your home is not harmful to any living thing. I've always cared for the smallest living things, even roly poly bugs.”

If you think she'll leave a stone unturned, you will be pleasantly surprised. Ramsdell has been known to wipe down shampoo bottles in order to be sure you're not slipping on soap or having household hazards in atypical places.

Beginning in the spring of 2002, Ramsdell spent several months testing products to find the best and then started Clean Green that July. “I wanted to spend my working hours making a small difference in the health of people, the community and the environment,” she said. “It started by making the homes I clean more pleasant with the products and scents I use.”

Ramsdell said that she was “green” before green, and believes that she was the first environmentally-friendly house cleaner in Jacksonville, and maybe in Florida.

She shared that in the early years she used to be focused just on getting the job done well and less on the client experience, but a recent near-death experience from an allergic reaction to a smoking



*“My vision is more about service with love and compassion for the families I take care of, their pets, the community, all living things.”* **Rebecca Ramsdell**

## the “GREEN” Way to clean...

*Ramsdell said that she was “green” before green, and believes that she was the first environmentally-friendly house cleaner in Jacksonville, and maybe in Florida.*

cessation aid gave her a new perspective on life. “Everything is here for a reason and everything we do is for a reason, even if we don't know what that is.”

“My vision is more about service with love and compassion for the families I take care of, their pets, the community, all living things,” said the gregarious small business owner, who also provides pet- and house-caring services. “I care deeply for all living things, especially those closest to me. My clients are family to me.”

Most of her business comes through word of mouth because clients are eager to offer a referral, but she's not going to go out and sell her services. “I'm very honest, I have high integrity. My clients tell me I have an extremely high work ethic,” Ramsdell said. “I was raised to

believe that even if you have a menial job you can be the best at it... and that's what I do.”

Ramsdell likes to leave little surprises for her clients, such as fixing things that she knows the homeowner would like to get to at some point, leaving flowers or small gifts, especially new green things or organizing something; it's these touches that separate her from the rest of the crowd. “I care about how clean the house is when I'm finished,” Ramsdell said.

The Clean Green business owner is hopeful about growing her company and wants to bring on people who want to be part of a team that gives back to the community. She is proud of her service to clients and looks forward to celebrating Clean Green's 12th year in business.



Contact Rebecca Ramsdell for a clean, green housecleaning estimate today. Rebecca can be reached at (904) 535-4194 or [icleangreen@comcast.net](mailto:icleangreen@comcast.net).

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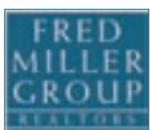
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To our beloved clients, past, present and future -  
My daddy had a vision many years ago that I should, to my apprehension, open my own salon. I had started as a hairdresser in Avondale at age 18 and was introduced to a world I had never dreamed of. During those years my education came from the most respected people in this area - you know who you are! Thank you to my friends and mentors for having faith in me and sticking with me through the years.

So it's been 25 years this month that I took that dive into my daddy's vision and I'm glad I did. These have been the best years of my life as a hairdresser - but retirement is not in my future! Along with my grandchildren, fishing and tennis, my work brings me great happiness. Life is good!  
I count among my family my co-workers Mykal, Susan, Rebecca and Amber - who call me Mom. They are the best! Each one has a unique talent and is the best at being a professional in their practice. They are all highly recommended to give you the utmost individual advice and attention for the perfect hairstyle for your needs.

If you haven't already become one of the family, we invite you to visit our salon and join us. For those who have been part of us for years, thank you for making us so successful. We could not have done it without you.  
Sincerely and gratefully,  
Tania



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# MOVERS & SHAKERS

## Nursing professor a Leader of Leaders

Avondale resident Dr. Judy Comeaux, UNF assistant professor of nursing in the Nursing Flagship Program and faculty adviser for the UNF chapter of the National Student Nursing Association, was awarded the Leader of Leaders Award, presented each year to an outstanding dean, faculty advisor or state consultant who has provided exceptional commitment to his or her students and to NSNA.



Comeaux received the award during NSNA's 62nd Annual Convention in Nashville in April.

"I was thrilled and honored to have been selected for the Leader of Leaders Award. I told the students it was equivalent to receiving an Oscar. At the airport the day we left for the conference, they actually presented me with an Outstanding Teacher 'Oscar,' said Comeaux. "I love my job as an UNF nursing professor. One of my greatest joys is serving as the Student Nurses' Association's faculty advisor. I am very fortunate to work for an outstanding university with wonderful students and faculty."

## Shelor receives Excellence in Education Award



Maria Shelor, Ortega Forest resident and fourth grade teacher at St. Mark's Episcopal Day School is the 2013-2014 school year recipient of the Nancy N. Wood Excellence in Education Award. Her nomination stated that Shelor truly exhibits all the qualities and characteristics of this award: "She is loyal and dedicated to the school, and is always professional and positive in her interactions with parents, colleagues, and most importantly students." Shelor began teaching at St. Mark's in 1999, and before teaching fourth grade for the past three years, taught a variety of ages in the Early Learning Program, Pre-Primary Department, and Science Department.

## "Happy place" for dogs a game-changer

Lisa Fine and Jack Bobeck, co-owners of Happy Hound Dog Resorts, say that their new dog daycare center is more than just a drop-in business. "It's a game-changer," said Bobeck. The dog resort also offers grooming, training and boarding, as well as facilities for local vet visits. "We want this to be a one-stop shop for dog owners," he stated.



Located in a former grocery store at 4603 Shirley Avenue, Bobeck and Fine renovated the space to accommodate leash-free play time and cage-free boarding, along with kennels for dogs that are more

comfortable in a closed environment. Visits are encouraged and you can call (904) 527-3893 for more information.

## Two new shops share the rent in Avondale

Online entrepreneurs Renee Fields and Sharon Goodrowe share more than a friendship - they share the rent for business at The Shoppes of Avondale.



Renee Fields

Fields, who owns Kennedy's Closet, was formerly at Roosevelt Square Mall and said she couldn't pass up the opportunity to get into Avondale at a nice rent. But she had more space than she needed for her custom monogrammed children's clothing line and offered a portion of the space to Goodrowe.

Goodrowe, along with her daughters Jamie Spicer and Jenna Stover, runs The White Chandelier, a boutique focusing on women's jewelry and clothing.



Sharon Goodrowe

Both boutiques are open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 3622 St. John's Avenue. For more information, call Kennedy's Closet at (904) 551-0214 and White Chandelier at (904) 318-9285.

## St. Vincent's gets "A" Hospital Safety Score

The Leapfrog Group has awarded St. Vincent's Southside and St. Vincent's Riverside "A" Hospital Safety Scores, the highest grade in patient safety. The Leapfrog Group (Leapfrog), an independent industry watchdog, designed the Hospital Safety Score to rate how well hospitals protect patients from accidents, errors, injuries and infections.

"Leapfrog began reporting these ratings several years ago. St. Vincent's HealthCare worked with Leapfrog to understand their areas of focus, and we are thankful that our tireless focus on patient safety has earned this top-score and recognition, and more importantly, has saved lives," said St. Vincent's HealthCare CEO Moody Chisholm. "I am extremely proud of our associates and talented team of health professionals for doing this for our patients every day."

To view the scores online, visit the Hospital Safety Score website at [www.hospital.safetyscore.org](http://www.hospital.safetyscore.org).



Michael Lunsford CSXT, Clayton McKendree and Chris Durden CSX Intermodal Terminals Inc.

## Family plumbing business wins coveted award

When CSX Transportation and CSX Intermodal Terminals Inc. honored its best performing contractors at the annual CSX Public Safety, Health and Environmental Technical and Safety Conference in February, McKendree's Plumbing & Heating was recognized with the CSX Public Safety & Environment Contractor Award of Excellence for 2013.

"We work very hard every day to ensure our services add value to our clients operations with quality performance, responsiveness, and with a detail to safety and the environment," stated Clayton McKendree, Vice President of McKendree's Plumbing & Heating. "We are a family-owned company so receiving such an award from a company like CSX is very humbling."

The local firm, located at 4248 Lenox Avenue, has provided Plumbing, Mechanical, General Construction and Industrial Maintenance operations since 1961.

"It's nice to see our dedication to these values acknowledged by another company who is known for the reliability, customer service and commitment to the environment like CSX," said McKendree.

## Traditions Realty welcomes Whicher

Tom Whicher, a Riverside resident, has joined Traditions Realty.

Previously in the real estate business for eight years in Iowa, Whicher specialized in leasing, management and sales of investment property as well as listing and selling homes. He also served as the operations manager for a 1,200-unit real estate investment trust.

Whicher relocated to Jacksonville in 1996 to establish a local office for PRP Wine International, where he worked for over 18 years before returning to the real estate



industry. Whicher said he always wanted to get back to real estate and believes the timing is perfect to enter into the Jacksonville market.

Whicher has been a member of the Southside Business Men's Club for more than 10 years, and served for three years on its board of governors. He served for three years as bar committee chairman of the Ortega River Club, formerly the German American Club, and is also a member of the Cedar River Club and the American Legion Post 137.

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# The Way we Were

## Lois Price

BY SUSAN D. BRANDENBURG  
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Lois Price is highly respected in her Murray Hill neighborhood. Lois is known as an encourager; a lady with a positive attitude, strong Christian faith, and a keen sense of humor.

That humor is immediately apparent when Lois recalls her childhood in Florala, Alabama. "In case you didn't guess, Florala is right on the Florida-

Alabama line," she said, adding that names have always intrigued her. "I'm the youngest of the five Allen children," she noted. "My older sister was named Ruth Cleo, and my brothers were Edward Mayo, Harold Leo and Clarence Theo. I was named Lois Henrietta (after my grandmother). I always wondered why they dumped me and I didn't get an 'O,' too!"

Still speaking of names, while Lois's parents liked "O's," her mother's family named their girls after states. "I had a cousin named Georgia and another named Florida. Mama's name was Texas Ella Henderson Allen," she recalled. "She was a beauty, and my father, George Allen, was a strong quiet man, tall and slim with a ruddy complexion and jet black hair. He had Indian blood and stood straight as an arrow."

Graduating third in her class from Covington County High in 1945, Lois won a scholarship to Massey Business College in Montgomery, Alabama. It was there that she met a young former Marine named Robert E. Price, whose family lived in Jacksonville. "Bob and his brother worked for the railroad and lived in the same boarding house where I lived," said Lois. "We ladies were upstairs and the men downstairs. We could only meet in the living room, but that was all it took for us to fall in love." They met in January, were engaged in April and were married on May 13, 1946 by Pastor Robert Whitty at Baptist Temple on Nira Street.

Having been discharged from the Marines, Bob joined the Florida Air National Guard and, in 1949, he and



1946 wedding photo

Lois also bought a house on Prunty Avenue in Murray Hill. In 1950, the Georgia and Florida Air National Guards were activated and transferred to California. Lois and two other young wives traveled by train to San Bernardino, California, while their husbands pooled their money, bought a little car and rented a home for the three couples.

"None of us had children," she recalled.

"We were young, on a budget, planning meals together."

Lois was six months pregnant when Bob got transferred overseas.

She went to stay with her mother and brother in Mobile, Alabama until the baby was born. Bobbette (Bob wanted a boy) was born at Brookly Air Force Base in Mobile, and Bob didn't see her until she was nine months old.

Lois remembers their first days as a family in their little Murray Hill neighborhood as very special. Most of their neighbors were young, had children, and attended Murray Hill Methodist Church. Bob didn't go. "I've been made to go to church all my life," he said. Rev. Churchwell, a dignified man with snow white hair, came for a visit. "Young man," he told Bob, "You've got a little girl here. You get yourself to

church!" That was 1953, and Robert Price, who became the father of two more, Rebecca and Robert, was an active member of Murray Hill Methodist Church until he passed away in 2008. During his lifetime, Robert worked with the Naval Air Station for 39 years and served with the Florida Air National Guard for 36 years as a Master Sergeant. He was chosen Airman of the Year in 1970.

"All three of our children went to Upson Elementary, Lakeshore Junior and Lee High School, where their father and I were always active in every PTA," said Lois, adding that her children all chose to pursue higher education, have become quite successful adults in the public health field, and have given her six grandchildren (five girls and one boy).

Still active in her church, Lois has been President of United Methodist Women, a Sunday school teacher and a charter member and past president of the Young At Heart Senior Citizens Group. Lois has been a member of Murray Hill Preservation since the 1970's and remains active on the Board of the Murray Hill Friends of the Library. "It is wonderful to see the purpose and drive of young people who are taking leadership roles in these organizations now," said Lois, noting

that Four Corners Park and the businesses along Edgewood Avenue are attracting a new generation of residents to the area.

"When we bought our little brick dream

house, there was nothing on our lot but the house. We worked hard in the yard and the thing we loved most was the little strip of Edgewood from Roosevelt to Lenox that was so close by. We could walk to Toy Town, Tot N' Teen, Thomas & Padgett Grocery Store, Woods Drugstore, the Murray Hill Theatre, the Vogue Dress Shop, Edgewood Bakery and Dreamette Ice Cream Parlor...there were no malls back then. I love my neighborhood. I'm still close to my church, my doctors, my grocery store and St. Vincent's. Murray Hill is a unique little place - not perfect, but I'm so proud of it."



Celebrating Lois Price's 85th birthday at the Edgewood Bakery

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Whether you're in the elegant living room or the cozy media room, friends will gather in the morning for a cup of coffee or later watch the evening news together over a glass of wine. On a nice day, bask in the sun in the courtyard to the soothing sound of water falling softly from the fountain.

But don't sit too long! Studies indicate that sedentary behavior is a major risk factor for future physical disability. Get off the comfy couch and get moving in a variety of activities, choosing a different one each day to keep your mind and body alert.

Start with a walk along the perimeter of the property or visit the Wellness Center for a mild aerobic workout. After a therapeutic massage or a soak in the specialized Harmony Day Spa, drop in at the library to read or work a puzzle, or visit the game room for a rousing round of your favorite board or card game.

The best thing about The Windsor is that your voice matters. If you don't see an activity

that suits your lifestyle, suggest it at the weekly Corner Talk with the director, Jennifer Stratton. But chances are you'll find there aren't enough hours in the day to take advantage of all the great programs.

When you move into The Windsor, you will partake in more activities and classes than you've ever done. When you were married and bringing up a family, it was all about the children, the house or the many other responsibilities. Now your new lifestyle allows it to all be about you, your grandchildren and making new memories!

If you've always been competitive in nature, there's opportunity to win some bragging rights when you join the Wii Bowling Tournament. Perhaps movies are your passion and the older, the better! Grab a plush theater seat and a bucket of popcorn for a Wednesday matinee or

an evening at the movies in Oscar's Theater.

But don't worry about losing touch with family and friends; they are all welcome at The Windsor, from your best friend to your favorite grandchildren, the amenities cater to visitors. Reservations for use of the private dining room or the Country Kitchen – both ideal for family celebrations – to the charming bistro, open 24 hours a day, where guests can help themselves to coffee or a cappuccino while you get ready for



your visit, there are many comfortable places to entertain.

For family who live farther away, stop in at the Computer Center and chat online with friends and family. The Windsor staff will help you learn about social media, set up a Facebook account or initiate a Skype chat session – a live conversation on the computer with relatives and friends.

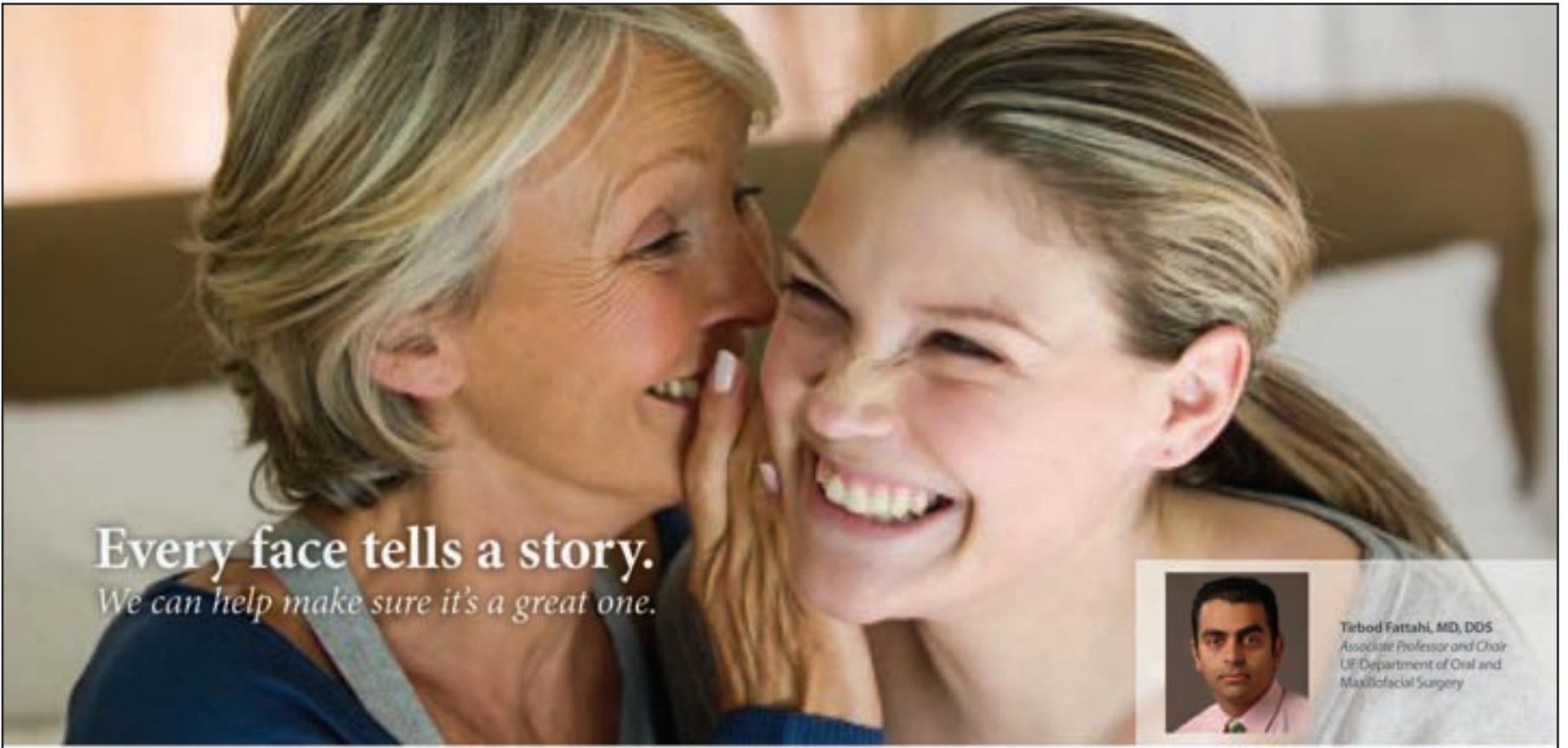
When you're worn out by the activities you've enjoyed, retire to your well-appointed apartment to put your feet up for a brief rest before dinner in the restaurant-style dining room. The executive chef, Anrique Narciso, will have several freshly prepared entrees

from which to choose, including heart healthy options.

If this sounds like the lifestyle you've been planning on for your Golden Years, The Windsor welcomes you. Once you move in, be sure to volunteer for the Ambassador Program. You can be part of The Windsor welcome wagon, event planning committee, or participate in community outreach activities for opportunities to give back, continuing your life's purpose or developing a new one.



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# Losing a precious piece of museum history

*The Cummer says farewell to Vance Shrum*

BY KATE A. HALLOCK  
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

There's so much history in there. From the first contemporary exhibit in The Lane Gallery, to the birth of Art Connections, the expansion of gallery space into an award-winning museum and education center, to exhibition settings for artifacts and frescos from Roman villas and for Egyptian objects on loan from the British Museum, to the complete overhaul of The William and Betsy Lovett Gallery for the Ralph and Constance Wark Collection of Early Meissen Porcelain, there's more knowledge in one head than you can imagine.

When Vance Shrum retired last month as exhibition designer for The Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens, a lot of that knowledge walked out the door. Shrum had seen and heard more

in those gallery walls than any other employee, volunteer or visitor in its history.

Museum employees will miss Shrum's great sense of humor. "By two years I am the longest lasting employee. Not only do I know where the bodies are buried, I buried a couple," he said.

The art major never intended to make a career of The Cummer. "I was only supposed to be here a year or two until I became a famous artist," said Shrum. "That was in 1979, 36 years ago, quite a few pounds, a lot of gray hair and one new knee."

Shrum had previously worked as a gallery attendant hanging exhibitions at the University of South Florida, gaining a good background in museum procedures.

As registrar at The Cummer, Shrum had also helped the museum through its early foray into database technology, having put the collection records on his home computer in the early 1980s.

"Seeing how we used this data han-

dling, David Hicks, CEO of Computer Power and Cummer Trustee, gave us two IBM XT's," he said. "We are now wired, networked, hosting our own web site, and have several wireless access points."

The long-time exhibition designer has been at The Cummer for all but the first Ball and Auction gala fundraiser in 1978.

When Shrum told Lisa Kaspar, the museum's human resources director, that he planned to retire in mid-April, Museum Director Hope McMath asked him to design the Collectors' Choice exhibit, thus postponing his retirement by a month. He is weaning himself from the museum, having agreed to help turn one of the changing galleries into a semi-permanent gallery of modern and contemporary work.

"My plans are to sell my house here and build on Black Creek in Middleburg and do as much world traveling as I can," shared Shrum. "After 36 years in a job in which I was told I would never last, it is time to leave."



Photo by Ingrid Damiani

For someone who, as a junior high school art student, thought the early Cummer was old and stuffy from the beginning, Shrum can be proud of his forward-thinking designs, especially in the Lovett Gallery. "I made transparent shelving allowing children and people in wheelchairs to see everything in the cases. I made paper cutouts of every Meissen piece to design the lay out of every case," Shrum explained. "I am most pleased with the Lovett Gallery?"

## Sassy Tappers bring Showboat to seniors

Just 12 years in existence, Sassy Tappers have danced their way into the hearts of northeast Florida and southeast Georgia. The group of two dozen, more or less, has tapped for former Mayor John Delaney and at the Capital for the Council for Aging, and has performed for countless groups of seniors, for church groups and schools, averaging about 35 performances annually.



Terry Criss has tapped with the Sassy Tappers for seven years and Barbara Maluchnik for 10 years

Last month, the toe-tapping women – and one man, Dapper Tapper John Goodling – performed for residents at St. Catherine Laboure Manor. Their current show, *On the Riverboat*, evoked songs and tunes from popular musicals and had the audience clapping their hands in time. Directed and choreographed by Patty Zipperer, the show was sponsored by residents of VillaRiva Condominiums.



Barbara Maluchnik (rear, left) and Terry Criss (front, right) dance in the opening piece for the Showboat themed program at St. Catherine Laboure Manor



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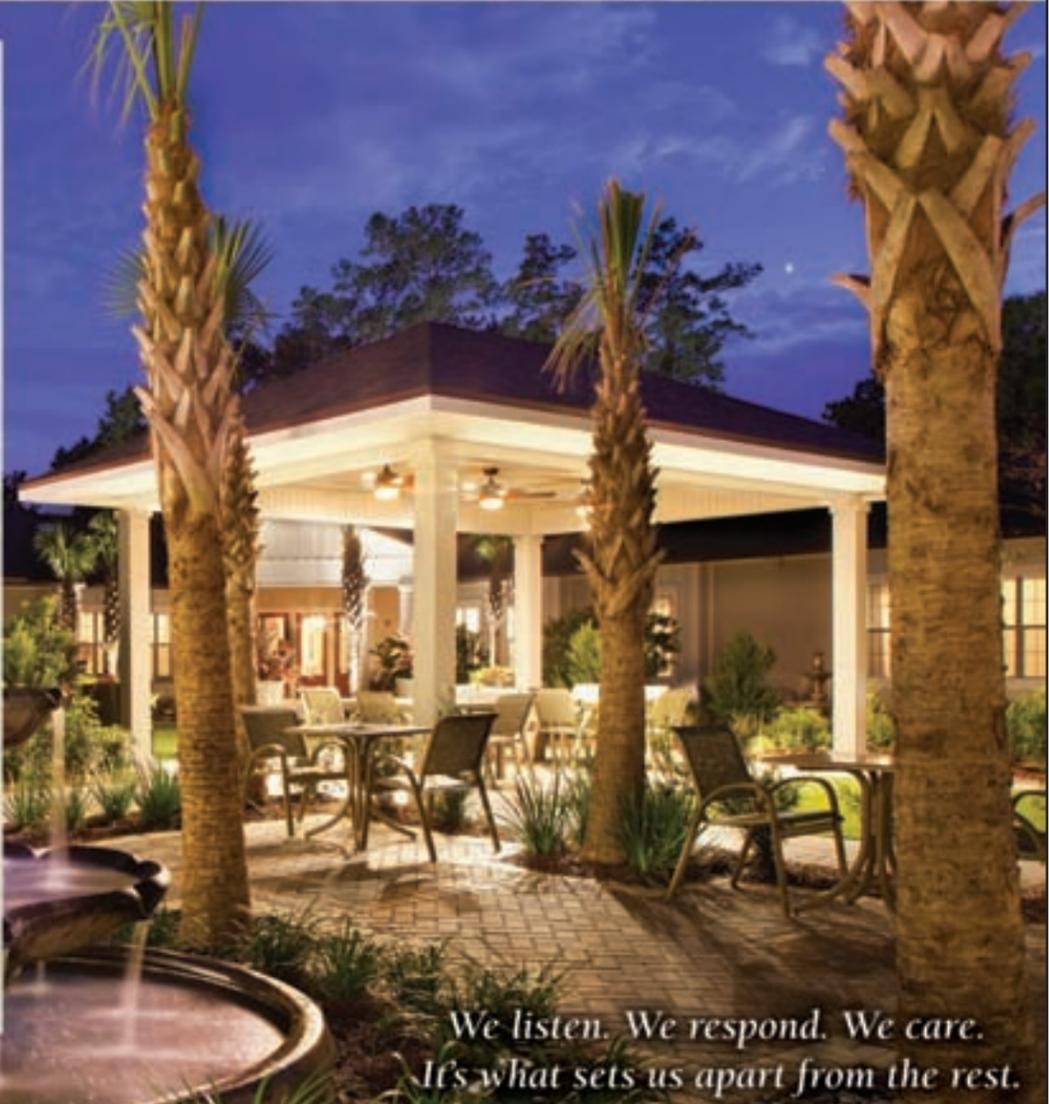


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# Fresh food and family a winning combination for longevity

Born 100 years ago on April 30 on a farm in Ossian, Iowa, Myrtle Nessel attributes her longevity to genes and to fresh, healthy food.

“Growing up on a farm I always had fresh food available to me. I wasn’t even aware that I was eating ‘healthy.’ Those eating habits have stayed with me,” Nessel said. “In Jacksonville, [her late husband] Arnold had a large garden, pecan and fruit trees, blueberries and more. We shared the bounty with many of our friends and neighbors.”

A college graduate, Nessel taught school in a one-room schoolhouse before marrying Arnold in 1938. Her husband was in the Navy, so they moved every three year and finally moved back to Jacksonville in 1953, where she raised her family and taught at the Spurlin School. “I still get cards from some of my students even those I taught 74 years ago,” she shared.

A longtime member of Trinity Lutheran Church on McDuff Ave.,



Mary Kay Hill (daughter), Natalie Twombly (granddaughter) holding Chloe Soleil Twombly (great-granddaughter), Myrtle Nessel

Nessel and her husband had joined it in 1949, and that’s where some of her three children, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren were baptized. When Myrtle celebrated her 100th birthday in April, friends and family came from all over for the celebration at Trinity.

“I have been blessed with a good life and good friends that I cherish. My church has been a big part of my life,” Nessel said.

Her advice for mothers today: Give your children as much love and time as possible. Nessel travels frequently to



visit family in Montana, Atlanta, Santa Rosa Beach and at age 99 went to England to spend several weeks with grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Nessel still maintains an independent lifestyle, now in a St. Augustine condo with her cat, Bella, and lives close to her newest great-grandchild, Chloe.

*“I have been blessed with a good life and good friends that I cherish.”*

**Myrtle Nessel**

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# Seniors enjoy tunes from the past

Members at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Ortega gathered for a delightful luncheon and musical performance by brothers Fouad and Karim Zabaneh, who family was ousted two years ago from their home in Egypt. Fouad accompanied on the piano while Karim sang oldies from the '40s, '50s and '60s. With eyes closed, the 85-plus seniors, staff and volunteers in attendance could swear they were listening to Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Louis Armstrong and others from that era.



Above: Martha King, Claire Nielsen, Julia Baldwin and Caroline Burroughs



Left: Mary and Bob Miller, Mary Lane Hartshorn and Helen Adams

# Blessed with years to be a blessing to others



St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Oxford Avenue in Ortega, is richly blessed with many nonagenarians. Sharing their stories, taking part in church gatherings, these eight women provide a collective wisdom for successive generations at the church. Standing: Roxie Merrill, Kak Davidson, Virginia Dell Hobbs, Avice Leynes, Jean Murray, Mary Love Strum; seated: Betty Malone, Helen Adams

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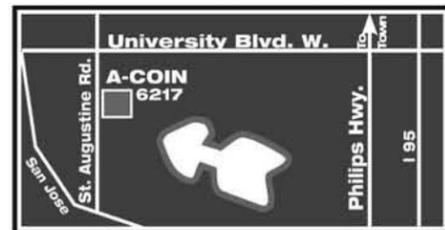
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# United Way president to retire

*Passion for community outreach remains active*

BY PEGGY HARRELL JENNINGS  
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Connect Midwestern candor with Southern charm; connect wit, wisdom and sensitively chosen verbiage with an uproarious throw-your-head-back laugh; connect a passion for community outreach with 30 years of service with United Way (16 years as president ) and you're charged with just a bit of the energy which vibrates in a charming 5'2" dynamo named Connie Hodges.

"Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm" is Hodges' credo and after an hour connecting through courteous conversation, a pat, a hug (she's a Southerner now), one is plugged into her infectious "can do" spirit.

Lisa Daniel, Vice president of Marketing and Communications concurs, "Connie is definitely enthusiastic, dedicated and passionate!"

Hodges relates, "It's difficult to separate myself from my work. I'm so grateful that I found this career because I love it so much. It has been my dream job. I've had opportunities to learn from the giants of our community; I've grown from learning different approaches to leadership and I'm so proud that we have attracted experienced and talented staff. Our strength is in our volunteer commitment. Such rich and wonderful experiences. We've grown from fundraising to examining root causes to Community Impact to being community stewards."

When asked how she feels about retiring at the end of the year she explodes joyfully, expressive eyes sparkling, hands thrown into the air. "Happy! I'll always be interested in United Way and by the time that last day rolls around I'll have explored other ways to be involved and engaged in the community."

A career highlight was chairing the National United World Wide Community Leaders Conference two years ago and speaking before 2,000 people. Is this self-possessed, confident leader intimidated by public speaking? "There is always some sense of trepidation when speaking before a crowd" she laughs.

"I don't sit around and think about how I'll be thought of after I retire but some kind statements from staff members have really touched

my heart." Hodges acknowledges that her expectations of staff are high – that she is "upfront and frank – people know where I stand on issues" but smilingly confesses that she has adopted some (subtle) Southern mannerisms. "I haven't written Act 2 Chapter 1 of the next phase of my life yet – that's still to come."

If her next chapters are as intentionally planned as Act 1 Chapters 1–30, this will be a best seller. Hodges changed career paths in her early 30s to return to school and complete a Master's degree in Social Work – Administration and Planning. After three weeks as an intern at the local United Way in Michigan she knew it was her life's work. "It's the bridge between nonprofits and the corporate world. United Way touches the broader breadth of the community."

Setting her sites on becoming a United Way president she moved from two feet of snow in Michigan to Jacksonville, met and married her "younger man" husband – a humorous and romantic chapter in itself – settled in Avondale, had two sons, and has come full circle to phase two of her life. When asked what she will do that first day of retirement there is a pause in the rapid fire conversation. "I look forward to exploring opportunities and new paths. I used to play bridge! I was physically active in my youth, I took dance lessons, (here she pauses to execute a pli ) I love to read and walk on the beach."

Traveling is part of her plan as is reconnecting with family and friends



"I'll always be interested in United Way and by the time that last day rolls around I'll have explored other ways to be involved and engaged in the community."

all over the country. And, look out world – tap dancing!

Hodges' energetic outlook lights up the world with vibrancy, joie de vivre and the electrifying expectancy of her star shining in new and unexpected ways.

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# Getting to know Meg Gaffney

## GOGIVERS

By JULIE KERNS GARMENDIA  
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Meg Gaffney of Murray Hill loves the outdoors and was a committed volunteer working with the Jacksonville Arboretum almost from the beginning of its conception. Later she began helping Greenscape. In 2011, when she and husband Bruce Cooke welcomed their first child, Mina, now 3 and then James, 2, she scaled back her volunteer efforts but has returned to helping Greenscape.

Gaffney is a landscape architect with Basham & Lucas Design Group. Bruce, a Jacksonville native, is a



website designer for Citibank. Gaffney describes her husband as her partner in volunteer efforts and an awesome dad to their children. "The Arboretum is truly a diamond in the rough and I was able to be involved almost from its concept. I really wanted to use what I know about landscape to help develop that park for the community. Through that experience I was introduced to Greenscape, a wonderful group of longtime dedicated volunteers who want to protect the local tree canopy and beautify Jacksonville through tree plantings," she said.

Gaffney said that her children are already little gardeners and planters who love to be outdoors planting flowers and picking blueberries in their yard. As a supporter of community gardens, Gaffney and her family

enjoy growing vegetables in the Murray Hill Community Garden at the corner of Hamilton and Longview.

Their friend Tina Veach, who enjoys dog walks with them through the neighborhood, said Meg's children and Veach's five-year-old son love the community garden so much they beg to go play there. She called them a wonderful family who thoroughly enjoy planting and harvesting their own vegetables.

"We just finished our winter garden of kale, carrots, onions, lettuces, cabbage, broccoli, spinach and strawberries and are now ready to buy seeds for the summer garden of beans, tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchini and squash," Gaffney said.

The family enjoys walking their big rescue dog Kramer, visiting the zoo or spending time in neighborhood parks and playgrounds. Grandparents Phil and Helen Cooke of Ortega are nearby and always enjoy getting together, as does Bruce's sister, Allison Cooke, a kindergarten teacher at Stockton Elementary. Meg's parents live in Naples and the families visit back and forth.

"I love Jacksonville. It's beautiful and there is so much land to enjoy and improve so more people can easily reach a park," she said.

"Volunteers are important, whether they suggest initial ideas and promote new parks like the Arboretum, or just help maintain these public protected areas. There is always a way to help give back to the community while enjoying nature."

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## Greenbacks for greenery

The Garden Club of Jacksonville, Inc. supports Jacksonville community civic projects and recently presented a check for \$1,100 to Bob Chabot, Director of Horticulture and Facilities for the Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens on May. Presenting the check to Chabot is Lavonne O'Shields, Chairman of Civic Projects for the Garden Club.

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BUSINESS PROFILE

# Happy pups make happy customers

Americans love their pets and it shows, as the pet services industry is the seventh largest retail industry in the U.S and pet care is the fastest growing category in retailing, according to *Forbes Magazine*, *BusinessWeek* and the American Pet Products Association.

In fact, according to *Entrepreneur Magazine*, in tough economic times, pet owners might scrimp on toys and other products, but they will spend money to ensure that their pets stay healthy and happy. Companies – such as Happy Hound Dog Resorts – which offer training, day care, grooming and boarding are miles ahead of the pack.

What puts Happy Hound Dog Resorts heads and tails above other dog resorts is the philosophy of owners Lisa Fine, Brian Dineen and Jack Bobeck, who have set up their dog resort in a much different way than the norm. For Jacksonville – which was rated the top city for pets by Movoto Real Estate – this new facility just proves the point.

“The standard has been, essentially, to warehouse dogs. The dog goes in a kennel, stays in a kennel and comes out about three times a day to go potty and then they’re back in a crate or kennel,” explained Fine, who has spent more than 30 years working with animals.

Her degree in psychology, with a focus in behavioral psychology, was invaluable when it came to designing the resort space and its services. “Dogs need a lot of social interaction, people interaction. If you’re just boarding them in a kennel where they are in lockdown, it’s not good for them. They’re not

happy; there’s a lot of anxiety. I wanted to create a great place for dogs and provide better services for what a dog needs,” said Fine.

For instance, most doggy daycares have a concrete floor that’s sealed – making it easier to clean up – but playing dogs run the risk of slipping and getting hurt. Happy Hound Dog Resorts’ rubber floors reduce that risk of injury. Made of recycled tires, the floors are easy to clean and help reduce microbes and sanitation issues.

For boarders, Bobeck and Fine designed kennels from a high quality recycled plastic material, with solid doors three quarters of the way up. Each kennel has a raised bed, a blanket, and a one-inch thick foam mat to prevent slips on spilled water. Each boarder has a scorecard which lists all services and interactions, providing accountability among the staff.

The closed kennel provides privacy when dogs are resting and relieves anxiety, according to Bobeck. “Most dogs, when sitting down, don’t want to see other dogs, unless they are family. We don’t want to create animosity or anxiety among the boarders.”

Not every dog needs to be in a kennel, even for overnight boarding. Happy Hound Dog Resorts offers indoor cage-free boarding with sofas, chairs, toys, beds, a television, water fountain, and a climbing hill. The room is large enough to create separate areas for smaller dogs.

“Kennel boarding includes playtime and treats, and lots of human interaction. On average, they will be out about three



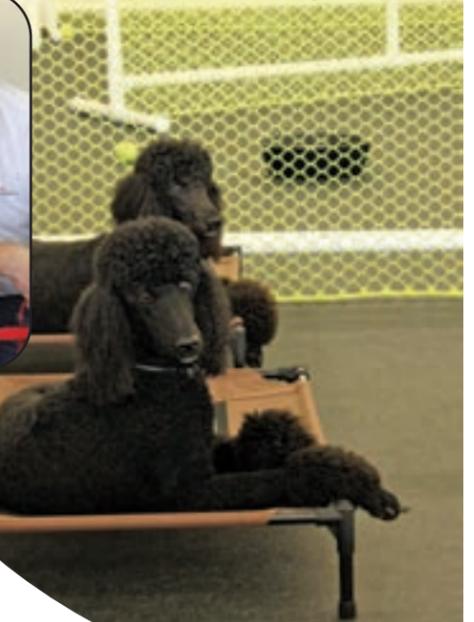
hours each day, playing and engaging,” Fine noted. “We have 40 kennels; and we can fit two small dogs in one kennel. Some are family kennels – with pass-thrus that can be closed off during feeding time.”

Fine put her education and her experience to work when designing the bathing stations. Each sink has a sturdy set of wooden stairs for large dogs to walk up and into the sink. For smaller dogs, an enclosed tub keeps them secure. After a “no tears” shampoo, long-haired dogs move to the drying table with blower to ensure that the pups don’t get a chill while there are ventilated air-drying cages for short-haired dogs that don’t need a blower.

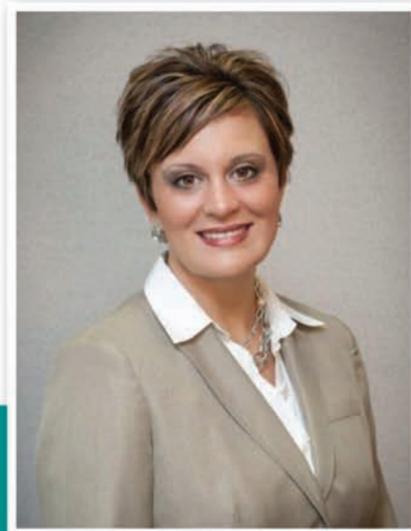
The 24/7 dog resort offers grooming and spa services, Canine Life and Social Skills training classes, educational courses for dog owners, and has offices set up for local veterinarian visits, making it a one-stop shop for the discerning dog owner.

“We’ve tried to design this around what dogs need. I won’t do anything to your dogs that I would not want done to mine,” Fine concluded. “We want clients to know their dogs are safe, playing, having a really good time. I don’t want their dogs to be anxious; I want them to enjoy themselves.”

*“I wanted to create a great place for dogs and provide better services for what a dog needs.”*



**Happy Hound Dog Resorts is a 15,000 square foot facility located at 4603 Shirley Ave., just off Blanding Blvd. You can check them out online at [happyhounddogresorts.com](http://happyhounddogresorts.com), but better yet, drop in with your dog and leave it for a brief stay while you run errands. Call (904) 527-3893 for more details.**



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# Jr. Residents



## Avondale resident named Soccer Player of Year

Sue Anderson, a senior at The Episcopal School of Jacksonville, has been named the Times-Union All-First Coast Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Anderson, who has committed to Elon University, N. Car., is hoping to win a starting position there her freshman year. The Avondale resident had represented the North squad at the Florida Athletic Coaches Association All-Star Game in March, where she was named MVP.

## Two local soccer players on Team USA in Spain

Two Westside Soccer Club Academy players, Giuseppe Carr and Noah Eaton, played on Team USA in the Global Coerver Cup Tournament in celebration of 30 years of Coerver® Coaching. Carr and Eaton joined eight other soccer players from Orlando, Tampa and Miami, representing Jacksonville, Florida and the United States to play teams from 30 countries in Madrid, Spain in mid-April. The U.S. team beat Spain, Tunisia and the Republic of Ireland on the first day, lost to England on the second day, then played Tunisia again to advance to the semi-finals, finally coming up against and losing to Madrid South in the finals.



Carr



Eaton

## Fishweir students enjoy unusual concert



Jenny Ohayon, Michael Fisher, Charles Ohayon, Linda McLucas Fisher, Mike Fisher, Charity Fisher, Mandie McKenzie, of Friday Musicales

Thanks to a grant from Linda McLucas Fisher and Michael Medill Fisher, the fifth grade class at arts magnet Fishweir Elementary School enjoyed a Friday Musicales presentation last month by Moroccan-born musician Charles Ohayon. He played the oud – or lute – while singing a selection of songs in French, Hebrew, Arabic, Spanish and Greek. Following his concert, the very attentive 50+ students asked some insightful questions and gave Ohayon a rousing round of applause



## St. Mark's Episcopal Day School welcomes second generation

St. Mark's Episcopal Day School's annual alumni (parent)-legacy (children) photo includes 59 alumni parents with their 89 legacy children who account for approximately 22% of all students. In addition to these numbers, there are five married couples where both parents are alumni of the 43-year-old school in Ortega.

## Theatre student goes for gold with uplifting after-school program

In pursuit of the Girl Scouts of America Gold Award, Ortega resident Peyton Hager, a 10th grade theatre student at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, takes the bus after school back to school.

Since last fall Hager has been leading a team of Douglas Anderson theatre students who have worked closely with her to implement her "Express Yourself" theatre program for the Extended Day students at Ortega Elementary School.

"I chose to create "Express Yourself" for the children at Ortega Elementary School because it gives me a chance to give back," said Hager. "Ortega is my alma mater, and I have had fun recruiting my friends, who are also theatre majors at Douglas Anderson, to be a part of my Gold Team."

Hager and her team have been teaching the after-



school children about impromptu, acting, script writing, blocking, voice projection and more. The end of year project was the creation of hand puppets and was performed for the entire Extended Day group as part of their culminating event.

"It has been a wonderful way for me to share my love of the theatre, but the greatest reward has been in seeing the children blossom as they have gained confidence and self-esteem over the year," Hager shared.

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# Zoo animals visit a local preschool

Students at St. John's Presbyterian Preschool were treated to a visit from the Jacksonville Zoo. Emily Cunningham, who regularly visits schools, brought an armadillo, alligator, opossum, snake and a skink to the preschool on May 9, teaching the children about the animals' behavior and their habitats.



Lilly and Trey with the Jacksonville Zoo's Emily Cunningham

# Avondale resident tries out for Jr. Jeopardy



## First Person Account by Reed Miller

(age 12, 6th Grade, James Weldon Johnson)

When I first got there, my dad and I rode on an elevator to the 14th floor. The Westin was super fancy, so it was cool to be there. I was on the elevator with five other people: My dad, two moms, one boy who was probably a year younger than me and one girl who was most likely my age. Everyone was thinking it, and finally the little boy's mom broke the silence. "So are we all here for Jeopardy?" I nodded, and so did the other girl, whose name turned out to be Holly Ann.

When we got off the elevator, my dad and I walked over to a table to get our supplies. One sheet of paper numbered 1-50, one really cool Jeopardy pen, and two pieces of cardboard. We walked into another room and sat down with a different girl and her mom. The people explained what we would be doing then took the kids into another room to sit down. I sat by the same girl as the last room, who was also in sixth grade and named Olivia. There were probably about 20 kids there, 10 girls and 10 boys.

The lady at the front of the room explained

what we would do. First we would practice answering questions in the correct format. Then we would take a 30 question test. (Then why was it numbered 1-50?) They projected the questions on the wall for eight seconds, which was the amount of time we got to answer. When the test was over, they collected all our supplies and told us what we would do next. We would be called up in groups of three, and then we would have to pretend like we were on TV and answer questions.

Olivia was in the first group, and she did really well. I finally got to go after about three more rounds. I was up against two other girls, and they were both pretty good. We didn't get to know our points, but I probably got 1st or 2nd out of the three of us. Then the people asked us questions like "Where are you from?" "What school do you go to?" and things like that. Then we sat back down and more groups went. After that, it was time to go. They gave us a Frisbee that said "Jeopardy!" on it, and then we left. I said goodbye to Olivia and went back down on the elevator. Holly Ann told me I was really good, so I told her the same. After my dad and I got off the elevator, we walked back to our hotel. I never found out what the two pieces of cardboard were for.

# School hosts inaugural Art Walk



Above: Trey and Maggie Curry, Terry Woodlief, art teacher, Morgan Helsabeck holding nephew Canon Curry Below: Jill Kalish, interpreter, with Jordan Williams

More than 450 pieces of original student art were on display at Central Riverside Elementary School's (CRES) inaugural Art Walk last month. The featured artwork was created by the school's deaf and hard of hearing students. With QR codes and smartphone technology, visitors viewed a video of students sharing their artists' statements - not with their voices, but with American Sign Language. The funds raised from the event will fund an art mural project for the school's cafeteria next year.



Duval County 2014 Teacher of the Year finalist Iris Carol uses sign language to teach students. Caro is one of three teachers, paraprofessionals, and interpreters who work with children in the school's Total Communication Program.

# Students take sports to the next level



Four local seniors from The Episcopal School of Jacksonville will pursue athletics at the colleges and universities of their choice. From Avondale, Tucker Van Cleve will play soccer for Catawba College, Salisbury, NC; Maggie Ely will also play soccer for Centre College, Danville, KY; and Henry Wilson will pursue swimming at Swarthmore College in Swarthmore, PA. Alexandra Shapiro, of Ortega, will row for the Minutewomen at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

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# Ruth N. Upson holds first annual Arts Extravaganza

Art teacher Jacqueline Bauer



Ruth N. Upson Elementary School's last family night of the school year was one to remember. An Arts Extravaganza on May 22 was well attended and a tribute to the hard work of faculty, staff and students. The school became an art gallery for the night under the direction of art teacher Jacqueline Bauer. Attendees could purchase student art work on display throughout the school and also witnessed the children's technology prowess in individual PowerPoint demonstrations.

The evening kicked off with a performance by violin students led by teacher Ariadna Perez. Guests listened to K-5th Grade students perform musical and rhythmic selections on stage throughout the evening organized by music teacher Margaret Curry. Special guest included

Nature photographer Carol Graham Fryer shares some of her work with pre-K student Henry and 1st grader Charlie Massey.



artists from the Murray Hill Art Center, who shared their talent and creativity in print making, photography, ice sculpture, music making, face painting and balloon making.



4th Grader Kiarra Hernandez shows off some of her work during the Arts Extravaganza



Speech language arts therapist Susan Morrow – a featured face painter



A performance by violin students kicked off the day

## Stockton student wins district science fair

The Duval County Public Schools Science Department held its first District Science Fair last month, with 106 schools competing with top science projects for grade three through five.

John Stockton Elementary School student Eli Miller of Avondale submitted a project called "The

Electrifying Truth about Fruits and Veggies." In his experiment he tested the voltage output of different fruits and veggies by using a voltage meter. Miller's hypothesis was that the lemon would have the highest voltage but it turned out that the apple had the highest voltage.

Teachers at Stockton Elementary chose his project, along with a 5th grader's, to submit to the district fair. The science department then chose four finalists from each grade level for a panel interview. Miller won the grand prize for the 3rd grade and his trophy is half as big as he is.



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# Bolles Buddies program reaps unexpected results

## Givers become receivers

It's a nice turn of events when the givers of community service become the receivers while serving others. That's what seems to happen over and over for Bolles School students who join the Bolles Buddies Club.

Hunter Cabi, of San Jose, got involved in the Bolles Buddies club through his friend, Mikenzie Buchanan, the current club president. Buchanan, in turn, had been introduced to the program through a friend, who was the former club president.

"She told me how fun it was and how great the North Florida students were and convinced me I would love it," said Buchanan, an Avondale resident. "I love kids and she said that, although the students range in age from the teens to 20s, they have child-like, playful spirits."

Bolles Buddies Club fosters relationships with students from The North Florida School of Special Education, as students participate in monthly after-school activities and other events.

Buchanan and Cabi, along with classmates Natty Spadaro and Ashlyn Knight, were willing to share with The Resident their thoughts and experiences about being Bolles Buddies.

Cabi said, "What motivated me was seeing the kids having a great time at every event, which kept me wanting to come back. I had a lot of fun and got to meet a lot of really cool, funny and nice people."



Mikenzie Buchanan with her Buddy Dickson MacDonald

Some of his favorite activities with Buddy Joe Oswalt include playing basketball, dodge-ball and building gingerbread houses.

For Buchanan, the experience leaves her feeling that NFSSE students "are so happy all the time, it's contagious. I love being around them because they're always laughing and having fun and being kind to one another," she said. "Almost nothing in the world is bad to them, so they give you a more

positive attitude about life. It's hard to categorize Bolles Buddies as a community service because they're really doing the service to those around them."

Buchanan has a wide range of favorite activities, among them scarecrow-making, kickball night, gingerbread house decorating, bracelet-making, a sock hop and the Walking Tree event, a one-mile run/walk with their buddies.

Spadaro, a San Marco resident, noted that he joined because many of his friends were joining, it was recommended by older kids, and it seemed like a lot of fun. "I really wanted to help out and wanted to connect with people of all different backgrounds," Spadaro stated, saying that what he takes away from the experience is an act of kindness and a new outlook on life. "We usually talk and hang out with them or do activities like making bracelets or playing kickball. Before every meeting, we always eat with them, too, so we can get to know them even better."

Knight, who lives in Ortega, said that she joined because friends who were involved in the club told her how much fun it was. "They told me it was a great experience and that I should definitely join the club," Knight shared. "I went to the first meeting and heard about all the great stuff they did with the school and I instantly was inspired to start being involved in the club."

For Knight, the experience is inspiring. "Going to the events and seeing how happy it makes the kids is one of the best feelings I have ever experienced," she said. "It inspires me to help out more often due to how fun and great it is every time."

One of Knight's regular buddies is Carson, with whom she has played dodge-ball, made bracelets, constructed gingerbread house, assembled a scarecrow, designed angels and shared S'mores.



Hunter Cabi and his Buddy Joe Oswalt

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Local SPORTS

# Sailing instructor's legacy moves FYC into future

BY LARA PATANGAN  
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

When Jabbo Gordon leaves the helm of his position as the Sailing Director of The Florida Yacht Club for the shores of retirement, he has no plans to drift away from the sport that has sustained his love for the sea.

Gordon, who had a career in the Navy, has been teaching kids to sail for almost 20 years. But it was his own childhood, growing up in Dunedin, Florida that anchored him to maritime life.

That's where Gordon learned the ropes of sailing from Clark Mills, who designed the Optimist Pram, which is still the vessel used today to teach beginning sailors all over the world.

Teaching others to sail was Gordon's way to give back.

"People took a lot of time with me when I was a kid. Clark was like a surrogate father to me. Sailing kept me out of trouble," explained Gordon.

"It was the answer for me."

There is no question that his enthusiasm for sailing has caught wind with a whole new generation of sailors, such as 12-year old Alexander Bryan.

"Jabbo taught me how to sail," said Bryan. "He has told me things that were going to happen before they did and he was always right."

Besides his propensity for being right, Gordon credits his patience with his success of teaching a crew of kids to man their motor-less vessels while relying on the trinity of wind, tide and currents.

"I have learned to be patient with the kids and it has paid off," said Gordon. "If you keep working with a youngster you will eventually be rewarded. That's what I have learned most from the kids."

Gordon, who estimates he has taught around 1,000 boys and girls the joy of sailing, said what has been most satisfying is seeing many of them become sailing instructors themselves.

Gordon's legacy harbors an unquenchable love for the sport of sailing. One that Past FYC Commodore



Tom Bryan says will inspire a new generation of sailors.

"Jabbo Gordon has played a pivotal role in reviving the great tradition of competitive sailing at The Florida Yacht Club," explained Bryan. "In addition to being cited in numerous books and having a regatta named in his honor, his legacy is the many outstanding young sailors he developed who carry forward

a love for sailing for decades to come."

While the tides are favorable for Gordon's retirement, they will not prevent him from maintaining course and speed from his involvement in the sailing community.

"My intentions are to help as much as I can," said Gordon. "Anyway they need me, I am willing to aid and abet."

# Fishing tournament celebrates legacy on Father's Day weekend

A tradition for the fishing community on Father's Day weekend, the 7th Annual Clay Roberts Memorial Inshore Slam Fishing Tournament is scheduled for June 14. This is the second year for the Junior Anglers Division, open for children ages four to 15.

The tournament will be held at Beach Marine, located at 2315 Beach Blvd. at the Intracoastal Waterway. Beach Marine provides ample space and parking for on-shore activities and participation from the community.

All proceeds from the tournament are used to fund the Clay Roberts Memorial Scholarship at Bishop Kenny High School.

**Entry Fee/ Registration:** Entry Fee is \$110 per boat prior to June 1, 2014, and \$210 per boat through June 13. Registration closes at the end of the Captain's Meeting scheduled for Friday, June 13, 7 p.m. at the Mudville Grille, 3105 Beach Blvd.

**Tournament Schedule:** The tournament begins at "safe light" on Saturday, June 14, and weigh-in will be 2 to 4 p.m. and is open to the public. Food and festivities begin at 3 p.m. and awards ceremony at 5 p.m. Weather date will be Sunday, June 15.

**Tournament Awards:** Prizes will be awarded for 1st through

3rd place on a slam of all three species (Redfish, Speckled Trout and Flounder) as well as 1st through 3rd place for each individual species, for a total of \$10,500 in prizes.

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# Smooth sailing for Cowford Cup

BY LARA PATANGAN  
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Columbus may have sailed the ocean blue way back in 1492, but a whole new generation is learning to sail in a regatta that promotes local history as it steers youth toward the future.

The Cowford Cup, hosted by The Florida Yacht Club, has become one of the largest youth regattas in the Southeast attracting children from Charlotte, North Carolina to Southwest Florida.

Sixty-five kids, ranging in age from eight to 18 competed in six races during the weekend-long event that celebrates Jacksonville's own history.

The regatta's name pays homage to the grand history of Jacksonville back when it was still called Cowford. The

area of downtown was once a popular crossing point of the St. Johns River for ranchers and their cattle herds due to the narrow width between sides.

Organizers wanted to recognize the city's original name while emphasizing the importance of the river, which was significant long before the City became renamed after Andrew Jackson.

Tim Monahan, an Ortega resident and the regatta chairman, said they decided to start the event in an effort to grow youth sailing and make regattas more accessible in the region.

"We wanted a signature event in Jacksonville," said Monahan. "Youth and scholastic sailing is growing all over the country and we wanted our kids locally to experience that."

Monahan likes that sailing teaches youth to be independent thinkers and competitors as well as have a healthy



Austin Ando, Overall Optimist Champion for the third consecutive year, with Regatta chair Tim Monahan



The Green team – the beginner fleet – with their awards of participation in the annual Cowford Cup regatta at Florida Yacht club

respect for the water and the elements.

"The main thing is it teaches them to be independent," explained Monahan. "It's like you are on an island by yourself – success or failure is up to you."

Jabbo Gordon, who was the head coach for this year's Cowford Cup, thinks the regatta's future will be smooth sailing because it has the perfect conditions to make it a winning event.

"It's a great youth regatta for Northeast Florida...it could be one of the best youth regattas in the general area," said Gordon, explaining that the event met all three of his key philosophies as an instructor. "Safety first; you learn best by doing; and the third is to have fun. The Cowford Cup met them all."

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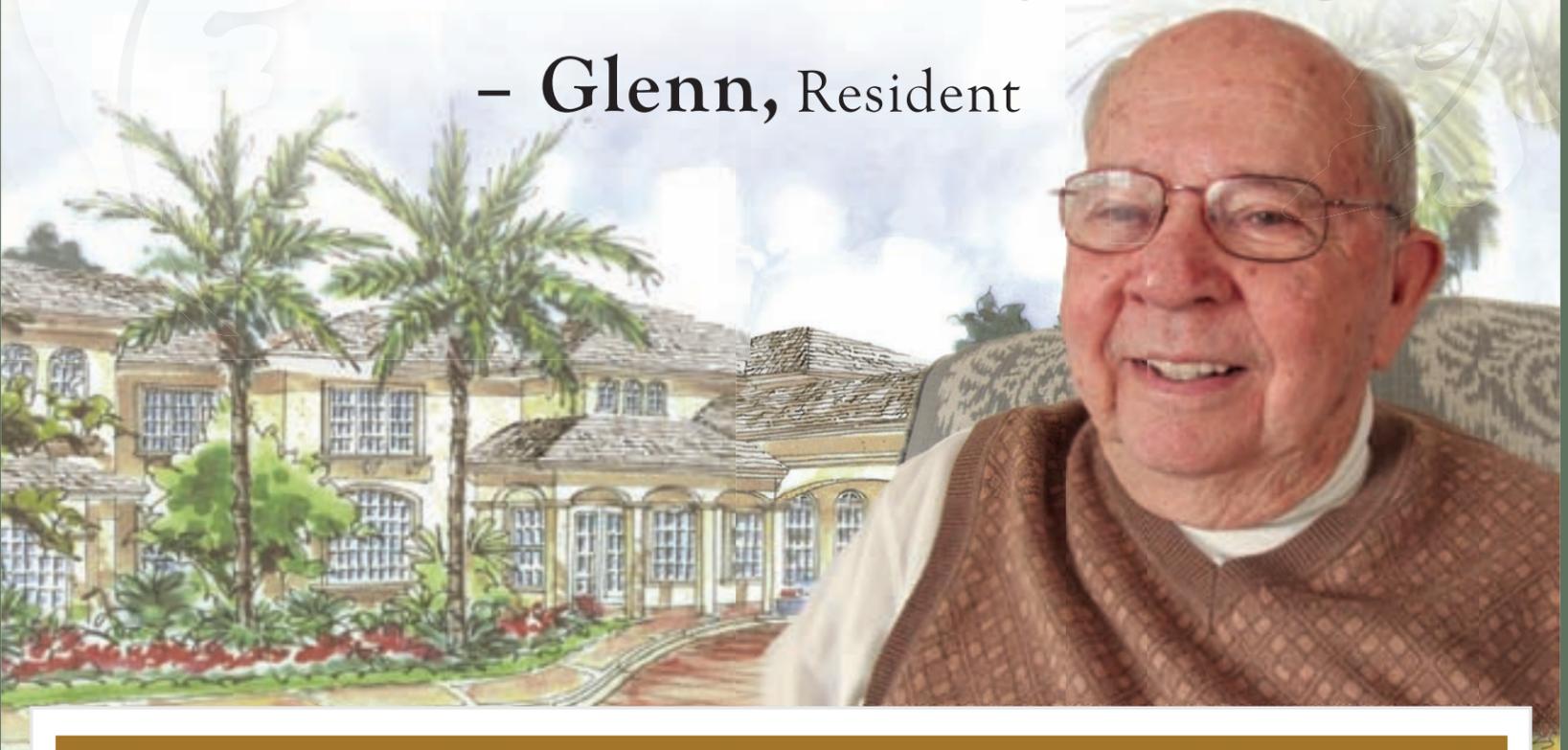
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# Frank Cope – everyone’s dream grandparent

BY PEGGY HARRELL JENNINGS  
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

“Adventures with Papa,” a book for Frank Cope on his 85th birthday by granddaughter Sarah Cope is a testament to the “hands on daddy, granddaddy and great-granddaddy” that Frank is.

Proverbs 13:22 says, “A good man leaveth an inheritance for his children.” His children’s inheritance will be his legacy of wisdom, patience and fun. A loving, devoted family man, Cope does everything from changing his granddaughter’s car battery in the rain, building furniture, baby sitting toddlers and dogs, advising on investments and finance, listening, consoling, teaching, hemming granddaughter Carolyn’s dress and sewing the seams on daughter Susan’s cherished nightie made by her mother who passed away in 2007.

When Frank and Bonnie married they moved briefly from Jacksonville to Ohio to help his parents. He says she was a reluctant bride since she was leaving her parents behind.

In Ohio Bonnie had nothing much to do so Cope decided to teach her to sew by making her a skirt (even though he had never done it himself). He laughingly relates, “I never finished that skirt but Bonnie went out and got a pattern and material and learned to sew. She sewed up all kinds of great clothes for the girls (daughters Susan Smith and Janet Drew). He modestly says “All I can do is hem pants and sew up a few things for the girls now and then.”

This father of three, including son Michael, grandfather of six and great-grandfather to two, says he would never have imagined himself as a father or grandfather when he was in the Navy and stationed at NAS JAX from 1950 to 1954.

“After I met Bonnie, the sweetest woman who ever walked this earth, that all



changed. We were married for almost 55 years. Now I luck out and get to keep the great-grandbabies sometimes. It’s great, plus,” he laughs, “I don’t have to get up with them at night like I did with my own.”

The siblings agree that it is wonderful living in Ortega Forest and being able to walk, bike or push the baby stroller over to each other’s houses. Janet says, “We’ve always been a close family. We stick together. When we were little we went to the beach, the mountains, everywhere...we still do. We rent a cabin in Gatlinburg every year and have a ball; we look like the Beverly Hillbillies with Michael driving his old Suburban. With the (grand) kids scattered – Carolyn, Sarah and Catherine in Jacksonville, Melissa in Gainesville, Alan at Robbins Air Force Base, and sadly, Jeffrey passed on in 2012 – it’s been harder to get everyone together but we just had a family get together at the beach for Daddy’s birthday.”

Susan and Janet have fond memories of their dad making them fried egg sandwiches when they were young adults and rode to work or school with him in the mornings. “Susan says, “Nobody can make those sandwiches like Daddy.”

As vice president at Gulf Life Insurance

Company Cope, with Bonnie accompanying him, went out of town once a year to a business convention. Otherwise, Cope says, “If the kids couldn’t go we didn’t go.”

He doesn’t understand the fuss about Father’s Day, saying “I’ve been blessed. I’ve got everything. I see my kids almost every day. I’m spoiled rotten. Whoever came up with this Father’s Day stuff? We all have a heavenly father.”

The grass doesn’t grow under this Papa’s feet because he is busy mowing it, cruising around in his pristine red 1972 Oldsmobile Delta 88 convertible or answering texts: “Papa, want to go on a date?”

On being technology savvy at age 85 he explains, “You have to be. All of a sudden no one is calling...if you can’t fight them, join them.” Meeting family members for lunch or breakfast, singing in the choir at Ortega United Methodist, fixing something, helping someone – this busy man is what Sarah calls the “dream grandparent” including lots of hugs and “I luv u” s .

His family agrees that Frank Cope is “a godly role model, generous, kind hearted, funny, everything good you can think of – he’s always been there for us and even now he can run rings around us!”

## Sons celebrate father’s retirement from Navy



BY TREY DUBNANSKY, THIRD GRADE,  
RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN DAY SCHOOL

“Our dad has been in the Navy for 20 years now. We’re happy that it’s over! My little brothers love him so much because when he was gone, we knew that he was coming back and that he would let us on the submarine (and that was super cool!). My little brother, Myles, loves his daddy because he was protecting the United States of America and that “he was keeping the bad guys away.” I love my dad because I missed him, but I knew he was protecting us and that he was the “big cheese.” When our dad was in the Navy, it took was a long rollercoaster ride for mom too. I remember one time when the roof fell down, but we got it fixed. That was our life when Richard Dubnansky, our dad, was in the Navy..”

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Reviewed by Brian B.

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