



Construction crews hard at work in final stages
San Jose resurfacing project nearing end

The San Jose Boulevard Resurfacing project from Sunbeam Road to Cornell Road began in January 2014 and is expected to be completed by the end of this summer, according to the Florida Department of Transportation. The project cost is \$4.5 million and includes resurfacing the roadway, adding new bike lanes from Baymeadows Road to Cornell Road, replacing traffic safety railing along the bridges at Christopher Creek and New Rose Creek and repairing damaged sidewalks, curbs and drainage structures. FDOT hired Preferred Materials, Inc. of Jacksonville to construct the \$4.5 million project.

“We are replacing the railing along the bridges to bring it up to current safety criteria and not as a result of any accidents,” said Ron Tittle, Public Information Officer, for FDOT District 2.

Baptist Health leads way in adopting textile innovation

New staff scrubs and patient gowns minimize risk of infection

BY KATE A. HALLOCK
 RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Through innovative thinking, Baptist Health, Jacksonville can boast being number one in medical safety for hospital staff, patients and caregivers.

This month Baptist Health will begin distributing specialized staff garments that make it the first health system in the world to widely adopt textile technology that repel fluids and minimize the risk of transmission of organisms.

According John Wilbanks, Baptist Health chief operating officer, “It is part of a broader culture of safety...to demonstrate to our staff and our patients and the community our commitment to that safety. We’ve done any number of things to do that, but this is the latest in a series of innovations that we’re trying to do to be as safe as we possibly can.”

Baptist Health is partnering with Vestagen Technical Textiles of Orlando, a global innovator in the development of advanced textile technologies.

More than 30,000 pieces of staff uniforms, lab coats and scrub jackets for employees are being distributed in phase one and will feature Vestex® textile technology, which has a durable fluid barrier, an antimicrobial and a special breathable material for wearer comfort. Baptist Health plans to roll out patient apparel featuring the same technology in September.

Diane Raines, Baptist Health’s senior vice president and chief nursing officer, demonstrated the properties of the fabric on scrubs treated with Vestex

against an untreated portion.

“The textile has been developed for a period of years with properties – antimicrobial, fluid repellency, moisture wicking – that are already in the marketplace, but what makes it unique is that they are combined together, embedded in the fabric at the point of manufacturing,” said Raines. “Most fabrics will absorb fluids, but with Vestex the fluids stay on the surface and then rolls off the surface; the antimicrobial takes over on any that is left and destroys the cell walls of the organisms.”

Not just adoption, but active participation

In addition to being the first health system in the world to bring this textile technology into its practice of medical care, Baptist Health also actively helped to design the patient gowns.

“We are working on gown designs to make them more dignified,” said Raines. “They will wrap around and tie in the back for privacy; there are pockets in



See **TEXTILES** on page 8

Win in fight over billboard

Advocates for scenic vistas push for compliance

BY LARA PATANGAN
 RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

CBS Outdoor, an advertising company, got another sign last month that the Downtown Investment Authority isn’t buying what they are selling when CBS Outdoor’s appeal to build a new digital billboard on Kings Avenue on the Southbank was denied.

Originally rejected by the Downtown Development Review Board, CBS Outdoor appealed to the Downtown Investment Authority for permission to replace a sign known as the Ida Boyd Billboard.

But by a 3-2 vote, the DIA rejected their appeal in a fight that began long before it was brought before the DDRB or the DIA.

In 1987, a charter amendment was passed by a voter referendum, stopping the construction of new billboards, removing hundreds of others from neighborhood roadways. Governing the remaining billboards were 12 settlement agreements whose legalities are being challenged by the billboard industry.

Jim Rinaman Jr., an attorney formerly with the City of Jacksonville’s General Counsel Office, who advocated for a denial of the construction of a new billboard on Kings Avenue, said that the purpose of the charter amendment and the settlement agreements was to eradicate visual pollution.

“We’re not trying to put them out of business, we put them out of business in 1987, and they have hung on with litigation...They’ve tried the legislature five times and now they’re here trying to get this billboard created,” said Rinaman Jr. “You look at this billboard and its location along an area of Kings Road, where those houses and hotels are – this billboard is visual pollution, simple and straight and you should deny the appeal.”

CODE VERSUS SETTLEMENT

At issue at the DIA meeting is a static billboard, located on land leased to CBS Outdoor by the Ida Boyd Trust, which was removed on the north side of I-95 as part of the Overland Bridge Project. Its owner, CBS Outdoor, wants to erect a replacement billboard on Kings Avenue that could, according to opponents of the billboard, potentially mar the view of residents living in area high-rises, including those in The Strand, The Peninsula and San Marco Place Condominiums, as well as bring down property values for businesses in the area.

Business owner Jim Rinaman III, of Rinaman and Associates, asked the DIA to deny the appeal on behalf of the business owners who have invested significantly in improving their commercial properties in the neighborhood where the proposed billboard would tower.

“We’ve got a lot of hope for that development that’s on the Southbank. This is not consistent with that in any way, shape or form,” explained Rinaman III. “It’s a blight on our skyline, it doesn’t fit in with the architecture...and it does not appeal to anyone’s sense...of what might look good when they’re out walking around in our commercial neighborhood.”

Opponents of the proposed two-sided billboard, which shows an ad for Subway in the CBS Outdoor

See **BILLBOARD** on page 8

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR San Marco resident hopes noise ordinance can apply to train horns

As a long term resident of San Marco for over 40 years I was cautiously encouraged by the article in the most recent issue of *The Resident* regarding City Ordinance 2013-676-E which sets restrictions on noise decibels created by outdoor events that permeate homes.

I am hoping that this ordinance can be used to limit the noise decibels created by the increasing frequency of the trains that blast their way through San Marco 24/7. The effect is similar to if not more than the problem experienced by residents subjected, to the loud sounds that reverberate from Metropolitan Park.

The train problem in San Marco has gotten worse every day. They tie up every crossing at peak traffic times and grow

longer and louder. The worse offense is the ear piercing level of the whistle that often startles you out of your sleep in the middle of the night and can cause your house to vibrate with such force it feels like a mini earthquake and even cause items to fall from walls or shelves. I am sure that I am not the only homeowner who has experienced this.

I have written to and also met with City Councilwoman Lori Boyer asking that as our city council district representative, she use her office to address the potential of using ordinance 2013-676-E to help

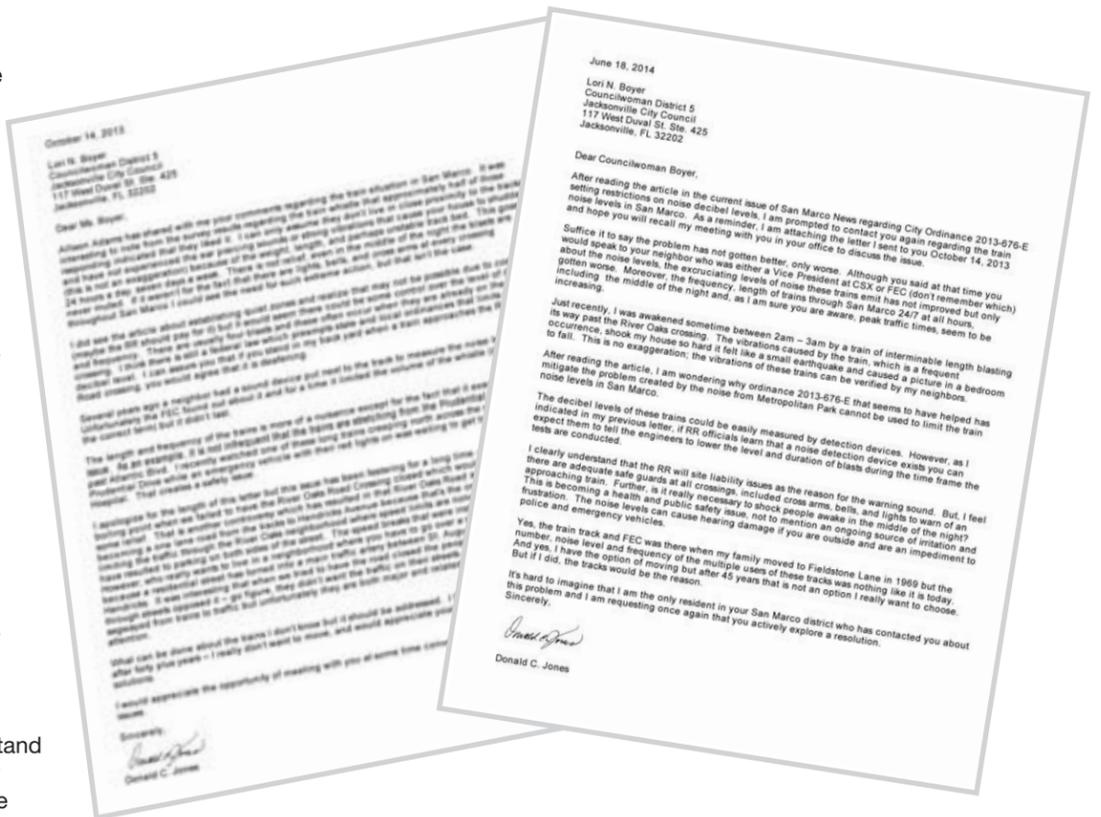
mitigate the train noise problem. As I indicated to Ms. Boyer, I clearly understand that the RR will site liability issues as the reason for the warning sound. But, I feel there are adequate safe guards at all crossings, included cross arms, bells, and lights to warn of an approaching train.

Further, is it really necessary to shock people awake in the middle of the night? This is becoming a health and public

safety issue, not to mention an ongoing source of irritation and frustration. Long term exposure to noise levels can result in hearing damage particularly when you are outside and the length and frequency of trains must be an impediment to police

and emergency vehicles. It is my hope you will use your newspaper to advocate for a solution.

Sincerely,
- Donald C. Jones



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Back in December 2012, *The Resident* explored the issue of train noise in the historic neighborhoods, at which time we reported that Federal Railroad Administration regulations dictate a 2-long 1-short 1-long horn pattern at crossings. Quiet Zone alternatives of stationary wayside horns do not project much noise beyond the crossing, but can cost more than \$100,000 per crossing. Unfortunately, such solutions must be coordinated between city, state and railroad officials.

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KNOW YOUR ZONE

Be ready for hurricane season

New evacuation zone maps affect San Marco, St. Nicholas

Summer has arrived, and so has hurricane season. Now is the time to prepare in the event that Jacksonville experiences a major storm this year. Gather your supplies and assemble your emergency kit now to keep you and your family safe during a weather emergency.

Planning is especially important this year because the City of Jacksonville has changed the hurricane evacuation zones.

In the past, evacuation zones were primarily based on the category of the approaching storm, which in turn was based only on wind speed. This year Duval County Emergency Management updated the evacuation zones to reflect new scientific data that includes other factors such as storm surge, rainfall, flood history, tides and isolation.

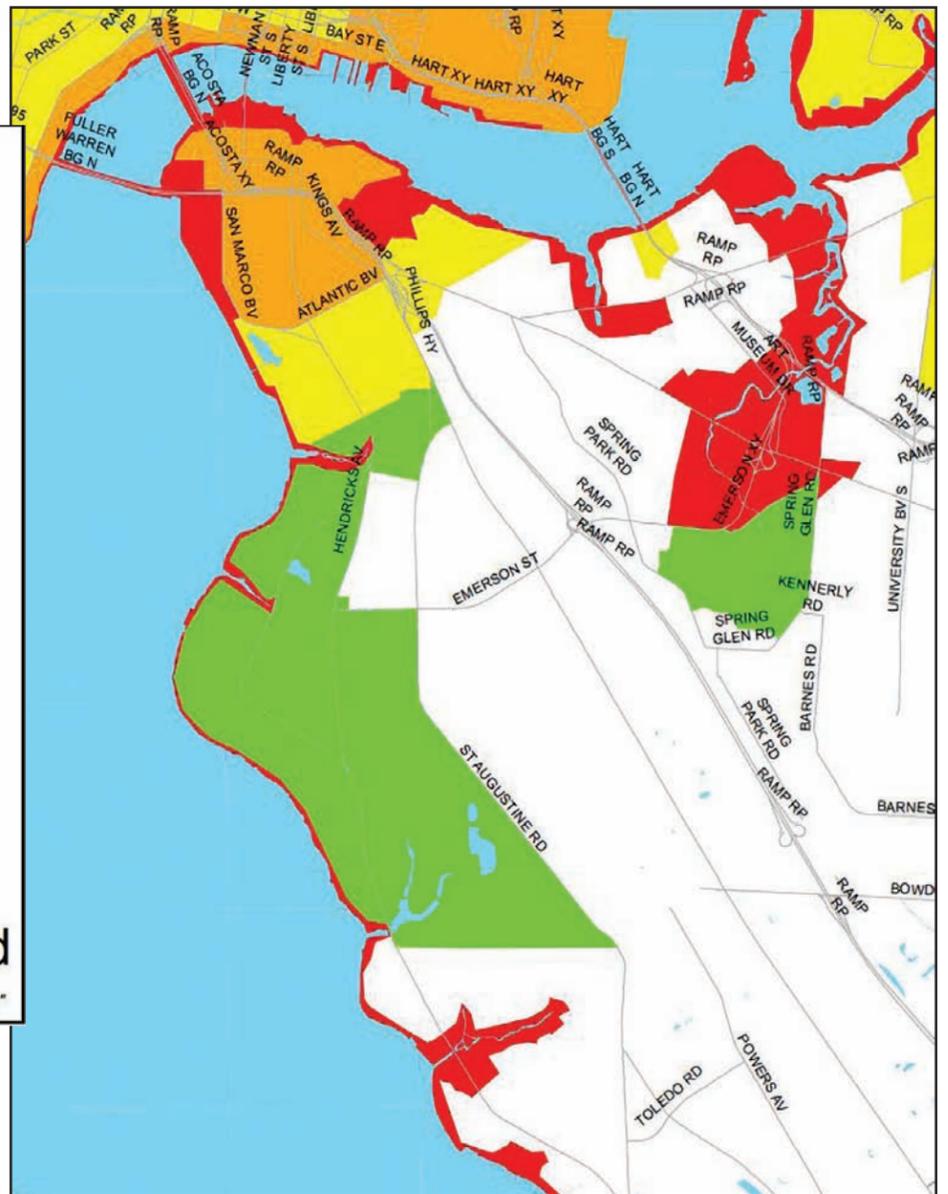
The new evacuation zones use a lettering system, with "A" representing the highest risk and "F" signaling the lowest risk.

Areas and properties along the St. John's River that are particularly prone to flooding are in Zone A, the first to leave in the event an evacuation is called. Some low-lying areas near the river have been placed in Zone B.

	Zone A
	Zone B
	Zone C
	Zone D
	Zone E
	Zone F
	River
	Duval
	Major Road

"Updated April 2014"

There are several tools available to help you find your evacuation zone. You can pick up a copy of the 2014-2015 JaxReady Emergency Preparedness guide at your neighborhood Winn-Dixie store, public library, Tax Collector's Office, Senior Center, Supervisor of Elections Office, or the American Red Cross. You can also download a copy, or view the maps themselves online at www.JaxReady.com or by using the JaxReady mobile app on your iPhone or Android device.



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The home of J. Wayne and Delores Barr Weaver, on the market for \$4.7 million and recently gifted to The Community Foundation



A 'home' for The Community Foundation

BY KATE A. HALLOCK
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Two decades after J. Wayne Weaver and Delores Barr Weaver made Jacksonville their home as owners of the then-new NFL franchise, the Jacksonville Jaguars, the couple continues their philanthropy for a community they have embraced.

Last month Delores Barr Weaver announced that they have given their \$4.7-million home in Lakewood to The Community

Foundation for Northeast Florida.

The Foundation is entrusted with selling the 14,000-square foot home along the St. Johns River, with proceeds going into the Weaver Family Foundation Fund at the Foundation to be used for grants to nonprofit organizations.

"This donation to The Community Foundation continues the Weavers' long history of philanthropy in Jacksonville and builds on their strong association with The Community

Foundation," said William Brinton, Board Chairman for the Foundation. "They currently have 33 funds at The Community Foundation, 29 of which are designated endowments that provide a permanent income stream for nonprofit agencies."

"We are extremely grateful that the Weavers have been and remain so active in supporting improvements in the quality of life in Jacksonville," Brinton continued. "Their bold philanthropy makes them an inspiration to others and has brought them national attention as well."

The Weavers had yet another surprise up their sleeves.

In order to inspire others to give back, Delores Barr Weaver announced that she and her husband were establishing a \$1 million endowment at The Community Foundation to the buyers who pay full price for the property. "It will be theirs to give grants, to name it, to pass it on to others in their family," she stated.

Weaver noted that almost 21 years ago they came to Jacksonville on the coattails of a goal to bring an NFL team to Jacksonville. "I hoped – and I believe – we have now earned our own personal consideration from this community. I hope we have proven how much we love Jacksonville and what it really means to us," she said.

Weaver noted the many events they had hosted in their home

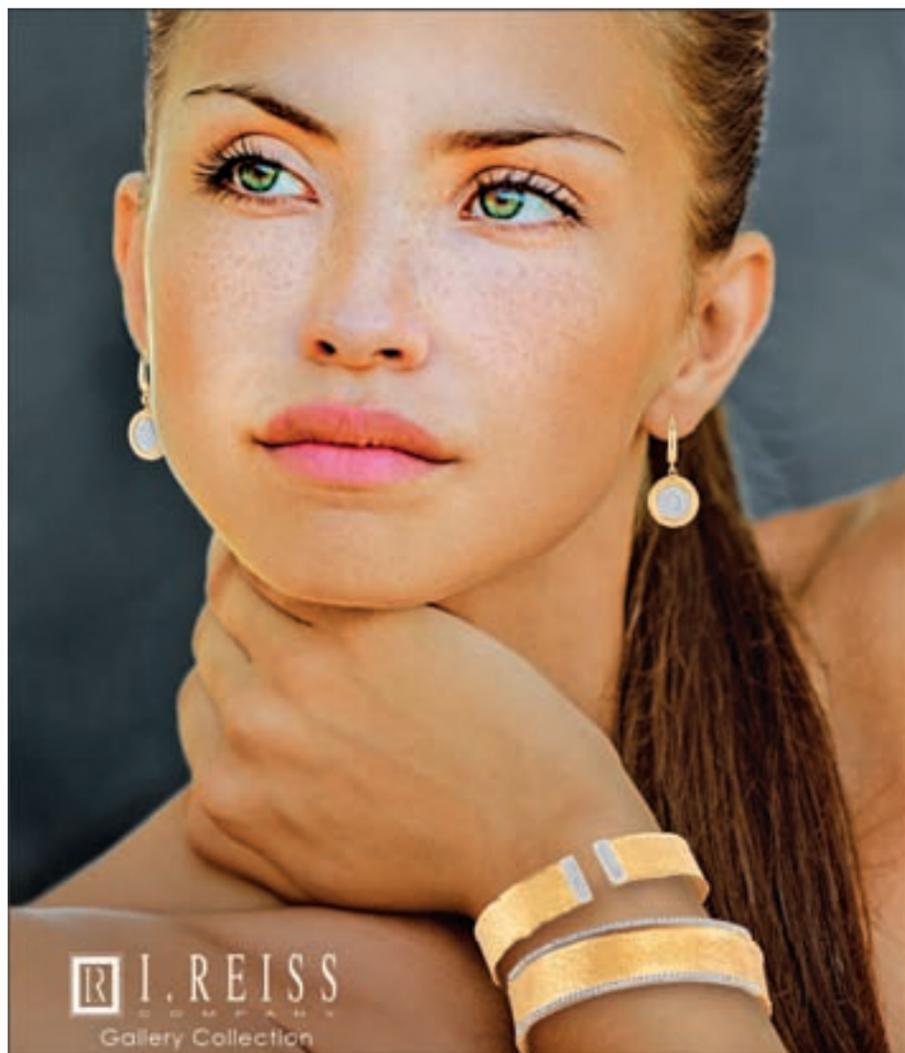
over the years for charity functions. "This is a bittersweet day. I greeted this morning with mixed emotions," she said. "I loved being able to host parties for 200."

The home sits on a wooded estate of about four acres with 243 feet of frontage along the river in the San Jose area, not far from Downtown Jacksonville.



Nina Waters, president of The Community Foundation, Delores Barr Weaver, William Brinton, Foundation Board Chairman, Grace Sacerdote, executive vice president and chief financial officer

It features a grand, two-story foyer with Italian marble, six bedrooms, six full baths, three powder rooms and a wooden walkway that leads to a boat dock and gazebo for enjoying sunsets over a wide stretch of the river.



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Builders Care makes clean water possible in Larsen neighborhood

BY KATE A. HALLOCK
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Last fall District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer spearheaded an effort to fund and install a water line on Clairmont Street to provide access to clean drinking water to the residences in the Larsen neighborhood.

According to Boyer, Clairmont Street came first because one or more homes had no water whatsoever after an unpermitted connection had been terminated. Old wells had dried up or were contaminated and new ones were not feasible. The JEA line ran down the cross street but service had not been extended down Clairmont.

“Completion of that project making clean water available to those residents was one of the things I was most grateful for last Thanksgiving,” said Boyer in a recent newsletter to her constituents.

“But the needs in Larsen are greater than Clairmont Street (and greater than just water),” she shared. “I was contacted by Greg Matovina on behalf of Builders Care with their offer of assistance late last year. They offered to donate labor, design and some materials if the City could provide funds for other materials and fees sufficient to complete water lines in the entire neighborhood [of 73 homes]. Their generosity and patience with the process can’t be overstated.”

However, Boyer’s office learned that if Community Development Block Grant funding in excess of \$800,000

were to be obtained, the project would need to be bid out and Builders Care may or may not win that bid. Further, since funding would likely not be available until late 2014 – after the new City budget is approved – to finish the work in the neighborhood, Boyer worked with Teresa Eichner in the Mayor’s Office to find an alternative source for funding to allow Builders Care to make good on its offer and finish the project sooner.

Boyer filed legislation requesting the appropriation of \$432,000 in funds that were a balance remaining from the former Water and Sewer Expansion Authority, which together with approval of an agreement with Builders Care, would allow completion of the entire project at a huge savings to the City, according to Boyer. “This legislation will be working its way through Council in the next month and hopefully these funds will be available in August,” she stated.

In the meantime, Builders Care continued its work. “Builders Care has taken it upon itself to try to get one more street completed completely

without charge,” Boyer said. “They are currently working on design and gathering donations for a line extension on McArthur Street.”

Builders Care Board Member Greg Matovina first noticed the issue when it hit local news last fall. He was motivated to get involved because “Water is a very basic human need, as basic as food and shelter,” he said. “This is kind of crazy that people living in the middle of Jacksonville don’t have water.”

Matovina said that their engineers have met with JEA for requirements and are working on obtaining the permitting for the water line on McArthur Street.

The bigger issue

In her newsletter, Boyer pointed out a bigger issue. Many older neighborhoods were developed with wells and septic. “Some function perfectly well,

present no health or environmental problems, and residents would not change to City water and sewer even if it were available,” she noted.

Other neighborhoods switched to City water and sewer years ago, some

at the expense of property owners and others at City expense. “But, in less affluent areas where residents cannot pay the cost of line extensions, we have a dilemma as a City,” Boyer wrote.

“We promised urban services to these areas when we consolidated. The lots may be too small for individual wells, some are contaminated, and in at least one case the City has funded two new wells on the same lot over the last 12 years, both of which have failed. Residents have resorted to unpermitted connections to neighboring properties that are on City water, buying bottled water, or obtaining water from the churches that offer free water for household use. We can cite these properties as uninhabitable, render more residents homeless, and create further blight, vacancy and deterioration of property values in these areas. But what do we achieve?”

Boyer noted the property tax revenue declines, large urbanized areas where the City has already invested in schools, parks and roads become increasingly less populated, and the City is full of neglected pockets. “That does not serve any of us well – all our neighborhoods and the City as a whole suffers,” she concluded. “It is so much wiser to make careful investments in infrastructure in these areas. These neighborhoods on the tipping point must be part of our vision for a vibrant Jacksonville.”

To keep informed about the issue, visit Councilwoman Boyer’s website at <http://loriboyer.org>.

“This legislation will be working its way through Council in the next month and hopefully these funds will be available in August.”

Lori Boyer

District 5 Councilwoman



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Traffic-calming solutions, costs a shared process

Saving time versus saving lives

BY LARA PATANGAN
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

A late May meeting hosted by the San Marco Preservation Society to address traffic-calming solutions for a specific San Marco neighborhood may result in solutions applicable for other neighborhoods interested in driving motorists away from residential roads.

While curbing traffic on streets surrounding the proposed East San Marco development was the focus of the meeting, residents representing Granada, Colonial Manor and River Road were present, eager to see how they could change similar cut-through traffic in their streets.

The more than 55 residents in attendance listened as Bill Joyce, City Engineer, and John Pappas, Director of Operations for the City Public Works Department, presented the required processes and potential options.

District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer said that while the neighbors surrounding Marco Place, Belote Place, Avoca Place and Mitchell Avenue were one of the first groups to contact her about zooming cars looking to circumvent traffic backups on Hendricks Avenue, there have been many other San Marco area residents dealing with commuter cut-through traffic.

“The point of asking the rest of you to come is how the solutions that Public Works and San Marco Preservation have suggested as possible solutions for this area are going to translate,” said Boyer. “Basically it’s the same toolbox.”

The problem

According to Doug Skiles, who spoke on behalf of the SMPS, the speeding traffic on residential roads is a very serious safety issue, and the potential problem-solving options available can be applied elsewhere.

“It is a city-wide issue so hopefully we can create some solutions and lay the groundwork that will be effective for the rest of the City,” said Skiles, president of Envision Design + Engineering.

Skiles suggested that it is a public perception problem as much as anything because motorists often save nominal time by cutting through neighborhoods.

But until commuters are convinced that their circuitous routes are more of a safety issue than time-saving, residents are looking for ways to re-route drivers back onto main travel arteries.

Potential solutions include use of stop signs, speed humps, reduced speed limits, street-narrowing with temporary bump-outs and changing select streets into one-way routes.

Although much discussion took place, a consensus was not reached by the meeting’s end. Rather, attendees were asked to submit their preferred solution. Once that input is compiled, the Public Works Department will draw up a potential solution based on that information. The results will be emailed for further review to those who provided contact information.

Boyer did indicate that, based on the show of hands at the meeting, there was a solution which appeared to be the most popular. It involved changing Belote Place into a one-way street for one block adjacent to Atlantic Boulevard, and Mitchell Avenue one-way exiting out onto Hendricks Avenue. In addition, several stop signs would be added along both Marco Place and Alexandria Place to further deter drivers interested in traveling through those residential roads.

However, since the meeting Boyer has heard from others in the affected neighborhood who are against the proposed solution, demonstrating one of the detours that can delay implementing any kind of change.

“It is a city-wide issue so hopefully we can create some solutions and lay the groundwork that will be effective for the rest of the City.” Doug Skiles
President of Envision Design + Engineering.

Another perspective

Former Councilmember Matt Carlucci lives on Alexandria Place and is sympathetic to the issue affecting his neighborhood.

Still, he has reservations about changing roads in the neighborhood to one-way.



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Having lived in the neighborhood "all but 12 years of his 58 years of life," Carlucci is well aware of the existing cut-through traffic. However, his experience as a City Councilman familiarized him with land use and traffic calming issues.

"I've seen so many times the law of unintended consequences take over on these things," said Carlucci. "I just want people to think through drastic changes before they implement them. Once the horse is out of the barn, it is hard to get him back in. I think when the great majority begins to understand, there may be some second thoughts."

Carlucci is concerned that making part of Belote Place one-way is

going to divert traffic onto another street, relocating the problem instead of solving it. He thinks speed humps is the best way to mitigate the problem.

"Part of the beauty of living in San Marco is our mobility, connectivity and walkability," said Carlucci. "If we begin to make drastic changes, we start to lose that."

Carlucci suggests that part of the solution may also be to add traffic signs in San Marco Square indicating access to Atlantic Boulevard and Hendricks Avenue. He attributes a significant amount of U-turns on Alexandria Place to drivers who have overshot their intended route because of the lack of signage.

"I just want people to think through drastic changes before they implement them. Once the horse is out of the barn, it is hard to get him back in."

Matt Carlucci
Former Councilmember

Then, it must be demonstrated via a traffic count that there is a genuine issue with cut-through traffic. The traffic count can be conducted, depending on the complexity of the situation, by either the Department of Public Works or by an independent engineer at the neighborhood's expense.

Typically, the count is conducted between what is assumed to be the busiest drive times, 7 to 9 a.m. and 4 to 6 p.m. If volumes during those times are under 100 vehicles per hour, residents are informed that traffic calming is not warranted.

It was explained at the meeting that a certain amount of stacking is reasonable and that residential roads are designed to filter some commuter traffic.

If it has been justified that the magnitude of cut-through traffic exists to warrant traffic-calming measures, then the Department of Public Works will confer with residents and design a potential solution based on their input.

A petition signed by 75 percent of affected homeowners is required before any traffic-calming project can be implemented. Affected homeowners are considered those living on the streets that would be altered.

Once a traffic-calming measure is determined, the cost is split 50/50 between the City and affected residents, which would then be required to divide their 50 percent portion equally among themselves prior to the commencement of the project.

To give an idea of how much money the 50/50 split would be, a few examples were mentioned including \$1,200-\$1,500 per speed hump, a "couple hundred bucks" for a stop sign and, on the pricier end of the spectrum, \$400,000-\$500,000 for a round-about.

Each option has its downfalls, ranging from the annoyance of noise from speed humps to the upkeep of landscaping in any curbing that is implemented to narrow roadways.

Still, Boyer and residents surrounding the proposed East San Marco project on the corner of Hendricks Avenue and Atlantic Boulevard feel like now is the time to address current problems before they are exacerbated by further development and the completion of the Overland Bridge Project.

"My real concern for this neighborhood in particular is the point that was made that a year and a half from now we have the I-95 interchange opening up and at some point we may have this development coming on line, both of which are going to significantly add even more cars," said Boyer. "So if we have a problem today and we know we have other factors we need to get out in front of it."

The process

Regardless of the outcome for this specific area of San Marco, the traffic calming process city-wide remains the same.

In general, the process begins with someone raising a concern whether it's residents or an outside source such as the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office who may be seeing a lot of traffic accidents or speeders in a certain area.

Daily's considering San Marco site

With a slogan of "It's nicer here," Daily's stores appear to have similar feelings about San Marco while presenting to the board of the San Marco Preservation Society last month a site plan of a potential facility to be located in the historic neighborhood.

According to Mary Toomey, president of SMPS, the combination gas station and store is being considered for land on Atlantic Boulevard and Farragut Place.

Toomey said First Coast Energy, the owner of Daily's, has land under contract and that the gas station would be potentially located west of Fresenius Medical Center on Atlantic Boulevard with the gas pumps facing Farragut Place.

Other details provided by Toomey include a 5,000 square foot convenience store, sandwich shop and an outside seating area facing Atlantic Boulevard. She said it was "very pre-

liminary" since they have not closed on the land and that they seemed open to input about implementing architectural details that are in keeping with the neighborhood.

"I got the impression they are doing their due diligence to feel out the neighborhood," said Toomey who said the reaction of the board appeared favorable. "The area down there is in need of redevelopment. It needs some tender care."

When reached for comment, a Daily's representative would not confirm their interest in a potential opening in the area.

Based in Jacksonville, Daily's stores are locally owned by First Coast Energy, which owns and/or operates over 200 service stations and convenience stores throughout Florida. All Daily's stores also sell Shell gasoline and some locations are open 24 hours a day.

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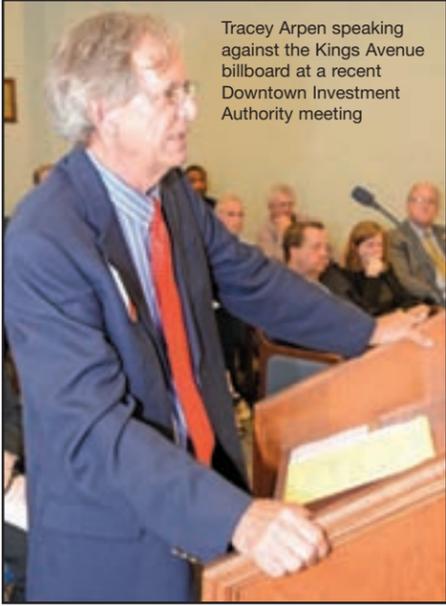
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Tracey Arpen speaking against the Kings Avenue billboard at a recent Downtown Investment Authority meeting

code, but by the terms of the settlement agreement. He pointed out the while the billboard is located in CCG-1, which limits height requirements to 50 feet, it may be increased to 65 feet if the sign is located no more than 660 feet from the centerline of an interstate highway.

Still, there were other considerations besides height limits during the two-and-a-half hour meeting.

ONE LONE BILLBOARD EXCEPTION

The land where the billboard is proposed is also subject to the Downtown Overlay Zone, the intent of which is in part to promote high density, mixed use areas as well as insure compatibility between new and existing uses and "ensure quality development that is in keeping with the traditional downtown urban fabric."

Tracey Arpen, a retired attorney formerly with the Office of General Counsel, defended the Billboard Charter Amendment all the way to the Florida Supreme Court on behalf of the City and negotiated the various settlements that followed. At this meeting, Arpen noted that the Planning Department added to the Downtown Overlay Zone that replacement billboards are prohibited.

Replacement billboards are limited to where offsite commercial signs already exist, and the proposed billboard on Kings Avenue would be approximately 240 feet from the original billboard it is intended to replace.

"Because of the Charter Amendment and those sum of agreements, what once was a row of billboards on the Southside skyline, has now been erased with one exception - that was shown to you earlier," explained Arpen. "You now have one single billboard in the Downtown Overlay Zone on the north side of 95 all the way from Channel 4 on Atlantic Blvd. all the way to the Convention Center. That's the vista that we tried to create, that's the vista that's present today."

While CBS Outdoors can still appeal the decision by going to the Jacksonville City Council, for those opponents who have worked for decades to eradicate billboards, the DIA's ruling is a welcome sign.

Alicia Grant, an Avondale resident who was one of the founding directors of Scenic Advocates for Jacksonville, is opposed to the potential billboard on Kings Avenue and Draft Ordinance 2013-493, which could reverse portions of the 1987 charter amendment.

One of the things that had to be considered was whether the proposed billboard contributed to the diminishing value of the area. Looking forward 70 years into the future, she has no doubt that the proposed billboard would be a longtime eyesore on the City's Southbank.

"I am very pleased that the DIA supported the citizens of Jacksonville in their efforts to stop the proliferation of billboards and protect the beauty of the skyline of Jacksonville," said Grant.

For more information go to ScenicadvocatesforJax.org

TEXTILESFROM 1

the front for EKG monitors or collection bags to conceal them. There's also a line of shorts that look like basketball shorts, with tops, for patients who don't need gowns."



Diane Raines, Baptist Health's senior vice president and chief nursing officer, demonstrates the properties of the Vestex® scrubs

"Protection, identification and then preservation of dignity are the features we tried to combine," said Wilbanks. "That design was actually developed by Baptist staff, who worked thousands of hours with Vestagen...to bring it to this stage."

While certainly groundbreaking, Wilbanks pointed out that use of the textile technology is not a magic bullet that will totally eradicate transmission of pathogens. "It is part of a broader culture of safety...to demonstrate to our staff and our patients and the community our commitment to that safety," he said. "We've done any number of things that do that but this is the latest in a series of innovations that we're trying to do, to be as safe as we possibly can."

"We continue to emphasize that the number one way to reduce transmissions is hand washing," said Raines. "That starts from the very basic level all the up through technology to reduce the spread of organisms."

BILLBOARDFROM 1

rendering, argued that the billboard, rising 63 feet above the ground, is not consistent with the Downtown Master Plan, which is to capitalize on the City's "scenic vistas."

Jason Teal, an attorney with the Office of the General Counsel, called attention to Subsection B of Section 656.361.14 of the Zoning Code, which refers to evaluating the height of a structure to determine what is appropriate for Downtown.

"Those criteria are requiring that the building or structure be compatible with surrounding properties - shall not have a significant adverse effect on light, air, solar, visual access to the properties surrounding the proposed site or of the river."

However, Steve Diebenow, an attorney representing CBS Outdoor, argued that the particular billboard is not regulated by conventional zoning

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Median home sale prices continue to increase

Local realtors say trends are sweet music to their ears

BY KATE A. HALLOCK
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Finally, after nearly six less than stellar years, the real estate industry is enjoying a string of successful months. Although 2014 began with a slow start in January, every month since then has seen growth in closed sales, pending sales and new listings as well as an increase in the median price of homes sold.

Local realtors are ecstatic. "Absolutely we're seeing an uptick in the market," said Anita Vining, REALTOR® at the San Marco office for Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty. "The high end market is stronger and selling to savvy buyers who have been sitting on the sidelines gauging and studying the market for a couple of years. The luxury homes [for sale] along the riverfront are minimal."

For the high-end homeowner, it sounds like a seller's market. Vining continued, "Capable buyers are looking for the perfect properties and what they view as opportunities are being bought up. Limited opportunities and great buys still exist, but savvy sellers who have staying power are holding for even better prices in next couple of years."

But for buyers looking at something more affordable, there's plenty out

there at great prices. The Northeast Florida Association of Realtors (NEFAR) May 2014 report noted that new listings increased 18.5 percent over

"We are delighted that more sellers are entering the market to help accommodate buyer demand."

Linda McMorrow
NEFAR president



a year ago, with 3,215 properties being added to the market, boosting the inventory of homes for sale to 9,860. The supply of homes for sales now stands at 5.1 months, within the five- to six-months balanced market range.

Linda McMorrow, NEFAR president, said, "We are delighted that more

sellers are entering the market to help accommodate buyer demand. Especially encouraging news is that only 23.1 percent (2,276) of the total inventory of homes for sale (9,860) are lender-mediated properties."

In May, the median sales price of a home sold was \$159,000; a 2.6 increase over May 2013 and higher than April's \$154,990 median, according to the report, which also noted that there were 2,044 closed sales in May, bringing the total sold in 2014 to 9,049; a 2.7 percent increase over the 8,811 sold year to date in 2013.

"The market is strong, with homes that are move-in ready selling very quickly, often with multiple offers," said Jon Singleton, Watson Realty.

"The loan process is grueling though, with buyers feeling a bit beat up by the closing date. Thankfully, mortgage rates are still extremely low. Homes that need updating are sitting on the market longer, and higher price ranges are slower, but both are still moving better than in previous years."

The NEFAR report concluded that homes continue to sell at a brisk pace, with the average days on market coming in at 84. While that might still be calling it a bit too close for comfort for families who move at the end of the school year, hoping to be in a new home before school starts, the good news is that the trend in number of days on the market is decreasing.

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Friends of Hemming Park win agreement to manage plaza

When you're more than a century and a half old, you need a little TLC. That's what Hemming Plaza will finally get from a new agreement between nonprofit Friends of Hemming Park and the City of Jacksonville.

The city's oldest public park will reap the benefits of the public-private partnership announced last month by Mayor Alvin Brown.

Under that agreement, the city and the Downtown Investment Authority will invest \$1 million for the first 18 months of a five-year management contract, which includes \$200,000 from the City's Parks & Recreation Department budget and \$800,000 from the DIA. As part of the agreement, Friends of Hemming Park is required to raise \$250,000 for the first 18-month term.

Friends of Hemming Park will run the historic 1.5 acre public park, located in the center of Downtown. The group's key priorities will include making the park safe and inviting, beautification, and increasing and organizing events. The group's five-member board, chaired by Avondale

resident Wayne Wood, is comprised of Jacksonville leaders with extensive background in neighborhood revitalization, management and marketing.

"Hemming Plaza has been at the heart of Downtown for over 150 years, and for Downtown to be successful it must have a healthily and vibrant heart," said Wood. "We look forward to making Hemming Plaza just that, and it being the first step in revitalizing Downtown Jacksonville."

City leaders are hopeful that returning the plaza to a park will draw more residents to the area.

"A lot of our residents visit the library or the Modern Art Museum and it would be great when they're visiting those fine institutions that they or their children come out here and enjoy the plaza, get a bite to eat and have a lazy afternoon," said Oliver Barakat, DIA chairman. "Right now



District 2 Councilman Don Redman spoke at the June 18 press event announcing the City's agreement with Friends of Hemming Park to manage Hemming Plaza. "Ever since I've been in office, Hemming Park is something I saw we needed changed," said Redman.

people don't do that for various and sundry reasons, and it would be nice a year from now that this would be one stop of a multi-stop destination."

Barakat noted that a fair amount of the funds will go toward programming. "They want to make sure that there's food being served here seven days a week and there will be events here almost seven days a week, and that's where most of the resources will be dedicated," he said.

Aundra Wallace, CEO for the DIA, echoed Barakat's comments. "We're going to a seven-day-a-week program, from early in the morning to all the wee hours. There will be opportunities for people to lease the park for weddings, and so forth," Wallace said. "We want this to be a real true park, similar to Bryant Park in New York. We want people in the park enjoying the events."

Traffic signal changed at San Jose Blvd. / Beauclerc Road

Motorists on San Jose Boulevard (State Road 13) at Beauclerc Road saw a change in the traffic signal operation last month. The signal had allowed continuous travel in the right two northbound lanes, but the new signal now requires all lanes to stop when the signal changes.

The reason for this change is a safety improvement heralded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). According to FHWA, crashes increase at intersections with continuous travel lanes that are not barrier separated from other lanes. At San Jose Boulevard and Beauclerc Road, preventable crashes have occurred when traffic in the left lane switched lanes to avoid stopping at the signal.

In addition, a traditional traffic signal allows for new dual left turns from Beauclerc Road onto northbound San Jose Boulevard. The new signal will also provide a signalized crosswalk for pedestrians and bicyclists to cross San Jose Boulevard, a movement not allowed across continuous travel lanes.

The crash data for 2011 through 2013, provided by the Florida Department of Transportation indicates there were 65 crashes at the San Jose/Beauclerc intersection, many related to the confusion of the free flow lanes.

In addition to the crashes, FDOT has received numerous comments over the years regarding the free flow lanes for the following reasons:

- Vehicles stopping in the free flow lanes
- Vehicles changing lanes at the last minute when the inside lane must stop
- Left turning vehicles from Beauclerc not remaining in the inside lane (and turning wide into the free flow lanes)
- Cyclists from Beauclerc turning left being stuck in the inside lane
- Concerns from motorists turning left from Beauclerc not being able to get into the outside lane to turn onto Baymeadows Rd
- Pedestrians unable to cross the street
- Confusion of signal indications – one lane red, others green

This signal safety upgrade is part of FDOT's resurfacing project along 4.7 miles of San Jose Boulevard (State Road 13) between Sunbeam Road and Cornell Road, which began in January and is expected to be complete in mid-August. Bad weather could delay completion.

For additional information regarding this project or other FDOT projects around Northeast Florida, visit www.nfroads.com. Follow FDOT on Twitter @MyFDOT_NEFL or http://twitter.com/MyFDOT_NEFL for the latest updates.



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Redman uses discretionary funds to repair neighborhood sign

BY LARA PATANGAN
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

The concrete and glass block marker that sits in the median on Atlantic Boulevard and Kingman Avenue indicating the eastbound entrance of the neighborhood of St. Nicholas has sat broken for months with dangling letters and busted parts – more of a sign of depleted funds than of civic pride.

But, thanks to money left over from a bond fund, the art deco landmark that pays homage to its past will soon be restored for the future.

Before there was the mega strip mall known as the St. Johns Town Center, historic neighborhoods relied on their own city centers for shopping and services. In 2002 the City of Jacksonville, led by former District 4 Councilwoman Suzanne Jenkins, implemented an effort known as the Town Center Program where \$12 million was set aside to fix up older commercial areas that once bustled with commerce.

These improvements vary by neighborhood, but most included brick sidewalks, historic lighting, additional on-street parking and landscaped medians.

In St. Nicholas it was determined that an entry sign that incorporated the “Streamline Moderne” style of architecture found in several buildings in the neighborhood including Mudville Grille and Pulido’s Automotive would help create a singular identity for St. Nicholas.

The unique two-sided vertical glass block and concrete sign, located across



from the entrance of Bishop Kenny High School, was one of the architectural improvements made to the area to signify an identifiable feature of the St. Nicholas Town Center.

According to the Town Center Vision Plan for St. Nicholas, which was prepared by the City of Jacksonville’s Planning and Development Department, the program “was developed as a means of providing support to local organizations for redeveloping areas of town that have served the community and that still retain some character, historically, aesthetically or otherwise. The City also recognizes the role

these Town Centers can serve as Jacksonville grows: to provide shopping, service and entertainment alternatives, support small and local businesses and create meaningful and memorable places that define the City as a whole.”

George Kruer, a resident in the area, did not want the dilapidated sign to define the neighborhood.

“I think it reflects badly on St. Nicholas,” said Kruer. “The marker was handsome when still intact.”

Kruer contacted the City about its condition and was told that there was no money in the

Town Center Project’s funds to initiate repairs.

While the damage to the sign appears to be the result of a traffic accident by a motorist heading west on Atlantic Boulevard, Kruer said there were no police records that could be found to identify the driver responsible for the disrepair in order to go about seeking restitution.

But thankfully, District 4 Councilman Don Redman has come up with a sweet solution.

Redman has enough money left over from a “lollipop” fund to cover the estimated \$1,500 it will cost to repair the

sign. The lollipop funds originated from bond issues for city projects, and were pots of money which were once available for the 14 district council members to spend at their discretion. The funds have not been increased since 2004, and the deadline for spending the balance is this year.

While his office is taking necessary steps to restore the marker, Redman said with the construction on the Overland Bridge Project underway he is reluctant to rush repairs.

“We are hesitant to have it repaired,” explained Redman. “We don’t want to repair it and have anymore damage done, but we are going to do it.”

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Hammering home the reason for HabiJax Builders Blitz

BY KATE A. HALLOCK
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

In only six days, the 2014 Jacksonville Home Builders Blitz – the largest of its kind in the United States – helped to bring positive change to the lives of 50 families in the historic neighborhood of New Town.

The results hammered home why more than 1,500 volunteers and 30 private homebuilders and subcontractors, Habitat for Humanity of Jacksonville, Inc. (HabiJax), the Northeast Florida Builders Association (NEFBA) and NEFBA's charitable arm, Builders Care, do what they do over and over.

The completion of 25 newly constructed homes and extensive home renovations for 25 existing homes in New Town, a community northwest of Downtown, could not have been done without the countless hours of the many volunteers, including Randy Thomas, husband of a HabiJax staff member.

The Thomases moved to San Jose last fall from Naples, Fla., where Brenda was the executive officer for the builders association there. She's now development director and volunteer services director for HabiJax, but also manages fundraising and securing the sponsors for the week-long blitz. Given the magnitude of the

effort, Brenda was pleasantly surprised when she started adding up the numbers.

"There were at least 1,800 volunteers, and then if you add all of our regulars – what you would call 'Habi-holics' – we had probably close to 2,000, but that does not include the builders, contractors, subcontractors, staff and family, or homeowners or homebuyers...so, maybe closer to 3,000," she said. "And if you think about all of the corporations that donated their staff or encouraged them to volunteer and donate their time, that's a lot of volunteer hours but also lost productivity in those companies."

Even just considering a minimum eight-hour day – and plenty of workers logged more like 10 or 12 – the number of volunteer hours could have well been 25,000 or more. Brenda's husband Randy was one of those hard-working volunteers.

"Getting up at 4:30, getting to the job site by 6:30, working all day, has been grueling, but rewarding," Randy shared. "It's the first time I've done something like this for a whole week. It's a good tired."

Randy began the week by picking up supplies and delivering them to the job sites, then worked at the headquarters site coordinating the volunteer check-in each morning, distributing coolers and food, and collecting trash.

He was motivated by "the fact that I could help the homeowners get into a home that maybe they couldn't get in. Giving them a home means quite a bit to them, builds their self-esteem, they feel pride in their home, it helps not only them but whole generations of people who are going to enjoy that home."

Randy said that HabiJax is a great organization – and not just because wife Brenda is on staff. "There's great people there who have wonderful spirits about helping. I was drawn in because it's a very Christian-based company," he said. "I feel a sense of fulfillment by helping people get on their way, with their homes, their families. I just want to pay it forward."

Brenda Thomas, HabiJax development director and volunteer services director, with husband Randy, who volunteered for the six-day Builders Blitz.



"The fact that I could help the homeowners get into a home that maybe they couldn't get in. Giving them a home means quite a bit to them, builds their self-esteem, they feel pride in their home, it helps not only them but whole generations of people who are going to enjoy that home."

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Call to collectors



Seeking glass tiles fallen from library wall

For decades little glass tiles have been falling from the sky. Well, not really the sky. The tiny glass rectangles have been sliding off the sides of the former Haydon Burns Library and some passers-by have been collecting them.

Robin Rogers is one of those tile collectors and recently sold her collection of more than 3,000 to Danis Construction, the company renovating the historic building into the Jessie Ball duPont Center.

The construction company has been hunting for tiles and thus far has netted over 200,000 from onsite discoveries and harvesting the dirt in the building's garden on Forsyth Street.

If you have tiles from the Haydon Burns Library and are willing to part with them, contact Robbie Hudson, Danis Construction, (904) 654-9864 or robbie.hudson@danis.com.

Historic districts welcome M Shack

The rumors are true, according to M Shack partner Steve Schaefer, who confirmed that M Shack is coming to Riverside – to the newly renovated 5 Points Village to be exact. Schaefer, who had just finished meeting with the designers, said that the restaurant would fit in well with 5 Points. He expects to be open mid-November.

In the meantime, the M Shack catering truck is attracting new customers as it does double duty during non-catering



Tripp Goodwin, manager, and his crew serve San Marco customers from their catering truck at the corner of San Marco Blvd. and Hendricks Ave.

gigs. Parked on the site of the former Take-Away Gourmet across from Matthew's Restaurant, M Shack's food truck sells for take-out or dining on the patio. Although there is no inside seating in their food commissary, diners can use the restrooms.

A big move for O'Steen Volvo

The O'Steen Automotive Group partners celebrated the Grand Opening of the new O'Steen Volvo location at 10863 Philips Highway. Patrons were invited to enjoy hors d'oeuvres and libations while having an opportunity to greet the staff, the O'Steen family and the executive team at Volvo North America.



Helping cut the ribbon are Harold O'Steen, Tom O'Steen, Hal O'Steen, Anthony Nicolosi president and CEO of Volvo Cars of North America and Mark O'Steen. The Grand Opening celebration was held May 29, 2014.



Second Parry son wins annual scholarship

Every year since the Clay Roberts Inshore Slam began in 2008, the Parry family has participated. In 2013, Hunter Parry received the Clay Roberts Memorial Scholarship and then, unbelievably, the 7th annual scholarship was awarded to Will Parry. Even when Terry Roberts' final words before announcing the winner were "And boy, this kid really loves to fish," the Parry family didn't believe that Will would win it. "It's humbling, an honor and heart-breaking at the same time," said Lynne Parry, mother of the two scholarship winners, "that the Roberts' tragedy turned into our joy." Front, Casey Roberts, Sophia Parry, Julia Parry, Terry Roberts; back, Lynne Parry, Hunter Parry, Will Parry, Billy Parry and Gary Roberts. For details on the tournament results, visit <http://www.inriverocean.org/come-fish-with-clay/tournament-winners/>

Raneri's Gourmet Sauces are very versatile. Here are a few creative ways our customers and friends use them:
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Although San Jose Square Cleaners hasn't quite been in business 50 years, established in 1971, owner Demetrios "Jimmy" Kartsonis is being celebrated by the Office of the Mayor and the Florida Governor for his five decades in the dry cleaning and alterations business. A proclamation from the City of Jacksonville declared April 15, 2014 as "Demetrios Kartsonis Day" and Gov. Rick Scott sent a letter of congratulations to the 74-year-old Greek immigrant.

"Everything that I have, came from this business," said Kartsonis. "I came from Greece with two dollars in my pockets."

His son Tom, also in the family business, said "He's been here for so long and so many people know him; he gives his heart and makes me give my heart. Day in and day out he comes to the store; he knows 95 percent of the customers by name – generationally he knows them."

Located at 5039 San Jose Blvd., the shop is affectionately known by local residents as "Jimmy's Cleaners" and enjoys the distinction of having been toasted at a wedding for emergency cleaning of water-soaked garments just hours before the ceremony.

40-year coaching career honored

Students, faculty, friends and family at San Jose Episcopal Day School (SJEDS) joined together on May 15 at a special assembly and reception to celebrate the 40-year career of Coach Scott Gilbert. Gilbert, who began teaching physical education at SJEDS in 1974, recently announced his retirement effective at the end of this school year.

"Coach Gilbert has touched the lives of thousands of students at SJEDS. He will leave a last-



Coach Scott Gilbert with his wife Debbie

ing legacy and will be missed by all," said Lori Menger, Head of School at SJEDS.

Dozens of stories and well-wishes flooded the school from all over, coming in as far away as New Zealand. To honor his 40 years of dedication, the Coach Gilbert Award was created and will be given out annually. The award will be given to a boy and a girl that demonstrates superior teamwork and cooperation.

Baptist Medical Center nurse receives national recognition

April McNally, an inpatient wound care nurse at Baptist Jacksonville, was one of 20 nurses selected as finalists for the national 2014 Nurses' Choice Awards.

McNally, who has been a nurse for almost six years and was the only finalist from Florida, said she was honored to be chosen as a finalist.

"Caring for patients and their families is



rewarding in and of itself while working next to a great team of clinicians," McNally said. "With the support and positive feedback from our leadership team at Baptist Jacksonville, it makes it very easy to become involved in the many programs and committees the organization offers."

McNally has been an active member of the Excel Nurses program for more than three years, which encourages career development and excellence in clinical education and leadership. This year, she stepped into the role of co-chair for the Shared Governance Committee for the Baptist Jacksonville campus.

Allegretti adds another board role to busy schedule

Downtown Vision, Inc. welcomed six new leaders to the Board of Directors, among them San Marco resident Tony Allegretti, the executive director of the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville. He also serves on the board of the Downtown Investment Authority and the Downtown Marketing Collaborative, and is a partner in The Gallery Restaurant Group.

The other new Board members include Keith Brown, real estate/joint use development officer responsible for Jacksonville Transit Authority's (JTA) Transit-Oriented Development

and comprehensive real estate development initiative; Jed Davis, an active participant in the Davis Family Office serving as employee, officer or director of the operating entities administered by the Davis Family Office; Teresa Durand-Stuebben, director of business development with Auld & White Constructors; Burnell Goldman, general manager at the Omni Jacksonville Hotel, and Traci Jenks, senior director of office of brokerage services at Cushman & Wakefield.



Epping Forest resident joins NAI Hallmark Partners

NAI Hallmark Partners announced that Eddie Salem has been hired as a broker focused on sales and leasing of office, industrial and retail properties. Salem, a Jacksonville native who recently moved back after completing his Masters in International Business from the University of Florida, resides in Epping Forest. As a student he also served as a Consultant with Gatornest Student Consulting. Salem received his undergraduate degree in Finance from Florida State University. He has completed internships with the State Attorney's Office of Jacksonville and Northwestern Mutual.



Local attorneys honored for 50 years of service

The Florida Bar honored 203 attorneys for 50 years of dedication to the practice of law during a luncheon at The Florida Bar's Annual Convention at the Boca Raton Resort & Club on June 27.

Among those honored were attorneys who live or have practices in the area: Rudolph J. Inman Jr., Andreas R. Shaaber, Isaac L. Levy, William O. Birchfield and John B. Kent.

To be recognized, attorneys must be members in good standing of The Florida Bar and attain their 50th anniversary of admittance to the practice of law in 2014.

"Ten Years of Terry" celebrated at Lakewood Presbyterian

Lakewood Presbyterian Church (LPC) recently celebrated the 10-year anniversary of Senior Pastor Rev. Terry Lucarelli. On May 18, with over 240 people in attendance, the congregation and special guests relived special memories during a program of skits, video presentations, and songs. Tributes came from the Montgomery Conference Center, Lakewood Presbyterian Preschool, LPC's Presbyterian Women, PEPS Seniors group, the Chancel Choir, Praise Band, the Troupers drama group, and United Community Outreach Ministry (UCOM).

The afternoon program was concluded with the presentation of two special gifts. The first was a stole that was hand-stitched by many within the LPC family. The second was a donation to the UCOM Capital Campaign in Rev. Lucarelli's honor. The LCP congregation raised over \$6,000 to help UCOM make vital repairs to its building.

Rev. Lucarelli joined LPC in April 2004 as Senior Pastor and Head of Staff. Since his ordination in 1982, he has held pastorates in Colorado and Oklahoma and his native Ohio. He

served as Senior Pastor and Head of Staff for Goodyear Heights Presbyterian Church in Akron, Ohio, for 13 years before coming to Lakewood.

UCOM is one of Rev. Lucarelli's passions. He has served as president of this agency's board of directors for three years. UCOM is a not-for-profit charitable organization that is locally based in the Southside of Jacksonville serving residents south of Beach Blvd. Lakewood Presbyterian Church has supported UCOM since its inception 35 years ago. In addition, Meals on Wheels is currently operated out of the kitchen at LPC.



Elaine Thompson, LPC member and UCOM volunteer, Terry Lucarelli, LPC Senior Pastor and President UCOM Board of Directors, Heather Mauney, Executive Director of UCOM, and Cathy Barnwell, LPC member and UCOM volunteer

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FDA-cleared for commercial use in 2010, Soleve® is manufactured by its parent company, Nervomatrix, Ltd., and was originally established in Netanya, Israel in July 2007.

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resistance of the skin at multiple points in the back and applies therapeutic electrical stimulation to targeted tissues and nerves without entering the skin or using drugs. The noninvasive method helps provide soothing relief

to sufferers from lower back pain by reducing or eliminating pain entirely.

The recommended regimen of treatment is twice a week for three weeks (six 30-minute treatments), although Dr. Shaw has seen patients get positive results in as few as one or two treatments. In fact, since installing the Soleve® system about ten months ago, Shaw has achieved remarkable success in relieving the back pain of many patients who were at the point of considering surgery or had suffered failed back surgery and are now pain-free.

"For patients with chronic intense lower back pain and fibromyalgia, this procedure provides a natural path to pain relief without habit-forming drugs, steroids or surgery," said Shaw. "When we first saw the demonstration of Soleve®, we knew it was something we wanted to offer our patients. It matches our constant commitment to stay ahead of technology and give our patients the best."

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A BIG NIGHT FOR THE GATE HOSPITALITY GROUP, RIVER CLUB



Above: Janne and Jody Brandenburg with daughter Lorelei

Right: Clayton Riley and Connie Rodante



The River Club's first female member; Chairman Emeritus of JU, Dr. Frances Bariett Kinne is presented roses and a warm reception



Elliott Horne, Wayne Brooks, Wallis Brooks, Will and Wendi Howard, Jason and Tierney Stone

The River Club, one of a number of clubs under the umbrella of the Gate Hospitality division of the Gate Corporation, celebrated a milestone for the iconic "club in the clouds". Corporations and building titles have come and gone, but one thing has remained constant – the River Club presence on the top two floors. The River Club has occupied Suite 3500 at 1 Independent Drive in Downtown Jacksonville since 1954, when it was the city's premier destination to enjoy a great culinary experience.

Today, it is still sought after for dining, and it's still highly touted as one of the greatest views of the entire city. The views are only rivaled by the interior beauty which consists of glistening chandeliers, warm woods, rich fabrics and a world class art collection. A grand staircase affords an elegant ascendance to the 13,000 square-foot second floor of the Club. The 60th Anniversary Celebration was held May 30, 2014 honoring the earliest members and celebrating the future growth of the club.

Jacksonville ANNUAL GUILD ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Guild of the Jacksonville Symphony Association meeting and luncheon at San Jose Country Club. In addition to the installation of board members for the 2014-15 season, the Guild honored the many Guild members who have volunteered their time and hours to benefit the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra. Symphony Guild President Allene Groote presented a "big check" in the amount of \$60,000, representing the proceeds from The Guild's fundraising events during the past season. Guild members volunteered their time for a total of 6,436 hours. The luncheon also featured solo performances by Jessye Thacker on viola and Connor Monday on French horn. The two young musicians are members of the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestra and recipients of the Symphony Guild 2014 Performance Scholarships.



Scholarship recipient Connor Monday, with mother Linda Monday,

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The Symphony

Mary Love and Sandra Pawek, seated;
Wendy Catucci, Jane Estes

held its annual
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Jessye Thacker, with sisters Melissa and Lindsay and mother Dawn Thacker. Jessye is a recipient of a Symphony Guild 2014 Performance Scholarship

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The home of Steve and Diane Halverson became the epicenter of an ensemble of talent and guests who appreciate the sound of music. As the only all African-American Chamber Music Society in the United States, The Ritz Chamber Players are a unique asset for the city. Jacksonville is blessed with this cast of outstanding, talented musical characters who play throughout the world.

"Terrance brings them all back, he's the route to Jacksonville," said host Steve Halverson, as he showered praise upon the founder and artistic director of the group. Halverson mentioned a staggering statistic in his remarks; that, of all the symphony players around the world, less than %1 are African American. The Halversons lead by example and encourage others to provide financial support in order to help strengthen the musical talent pool. Halverson recognized Delores Barr Weaver, who couldn't be present, as she has pledged to match the dollars that are raised for the organization.

The Ritz Chamber Players were founded in 2002 by Terrance Patterson, a clarinetist and talented organizer of the eclectic group. The Ritz Chamber Players perform a landmark subscription series at the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts in town. For more information or to show your support visit www.ritzchamberplayers.org



Morgan and Samantha Orender with Katy Debriere and Michael Pajcic



Steve and Diane Halverson with Ritz Chamber Players Artistic Director Terrance Patterson



Velma Monteiro-Tribble, Sandra Brooks, Jim Murphy, Anna Brosche, Ritz Chamber Players Artistic Director Terrance Patterson and Melissa Adams



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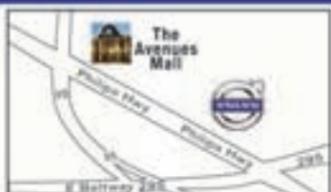
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Delicious Destinations Plans Revealed, Underway

In local culinary circles, when the phrase “Delicious Destinations” is mentioned, there is a momentary hush. Supporters of St. Vincent’s Healthcare Foundation smile as they savor the memory of exquisite food and wine experiences they’ve enjoyed in the past at Delicious Destinations, a fabulous four-day annual fundraiser for St. Vincent’s Community Outreach Programs.

“Top chefs from across the nation come here free of charge and contribute their time and talent year after year,” said Jane R. Lanier, CFRE, President and System Chief Development Officer of St. Vincent’s Healthcare Foundation. Now in its 13th year, Delicious Destinations has indeed become the Southeast’s premiere destination for scrumptious cuisine, with four days of fine wine and delectable dining flavored by philanthropy that lasts all year long.

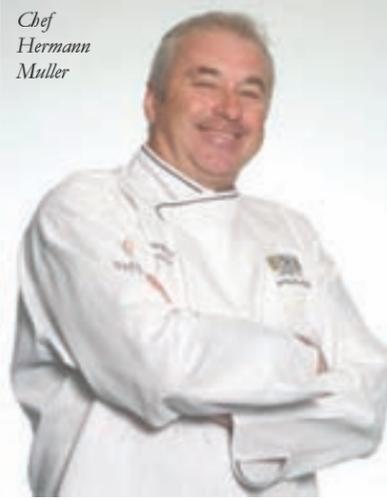
Led by event partners, The Ponte Vedra Inn & Club and Southern Wine & Spirits of North Florida, Delicious Destinations benefits St. Vincent’s Mobile Health Outreach Ministry, Faith Community Nursing, School Nurse Program, Seton Center for Women & Infant’s Health, Mobile Mammography, Emergency Pregnancy Services, Good Samaritan Fund, Kids Together Against Cancer (KTAC), and more.

The annual combination of cuisine and charitable giving has inspired some of the nation’s finest chefs to create a marathon of marvelous dining experiences, and this year is no exception. “There is a soft

spot in the heart of every chef,” says the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club’s Executive Chef Hermann Muller, noting that “the opportunity to give back to the community and showcase what you do best—is irresistible.” Hermann Muller, Host Chef and one of the founders of the fundraiser, along with Jane Lanier, annually coordinate the chefs and the menus. “Years ago, I called fellow chefs to participate. Now they call me,” Muller said.

With this year’s theme, “Beach Life”, and the inviting bywords Rejuvenate, Relax, Renew and Refresh, the first event will be a “Wine Dinner ‘Fit’ For the Stars” created

Chef Hermann Muller



by renowned Chef AJ (Abbie Jaye) from Los Angeles, California, and Executive Chefs Johnny Vines and Jason McDonald of FreshJax. Author of the book Unprocessed and a contributor to the #1 New York Times Bestseller, Forks Over Knives, Chef AJ and Chefs Vines and McDonald will present a brand new plant-based menu where “good taste meets good health” in a

unique wine dinner at Epping Forest Yacht Club at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 3rd. The flavorful dishes are guaranteed to delight every palate.

On September 4th, the Celebrity Chef Reception and Luncheon by the Sea at 11:30 a.m. at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club

will feature honored guest Daniel Zeal, chef de cuisine at the Georgian Room, the signature restaurant at The Cloister at Sea Island. A Jacksonville native, Chef Zeal is passionate about farm-to-table ingredients and was instrumental in The Cloister earning the coveted Forbes Five-Star award. With Chef Zeal’s impressive talent and the pairing of fine wines and fresh ingredients, this luncheon promises to be both memorable and meaningful.

Executive Chef Kevin Sbraga, winner of Bravo’s Top Chef (Season 7) Washington, D.C., and chef-owner of Sbraga, a modern American restaurant on the Avenue of the Arts in Philadelphia, will be the guest of honor at the Sponsors’ Private Reception with the Chefs on Friday, September 5th, 7 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club. Sbraga and other executive chefs from world-renowned resorts and restaurants will mingle with event sponsors (\$2500 and up) while sampling culinary masterpieces prepared by Executive Chef Hermann Muller of the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club.

The main event, Delicious Destinations – A Gourmet Food and Wine Tasting on Saturday, September 6th at 7 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, will feature creations by more than a dozen fabulous chefs paired with fine wines provided by Southern Wine & Spirits of North Florida. The intimacy of Delicious Destinations, as the chefs share their stories, their secrets and their talent, is unforgettable. The benefit to St. Vincent’s Healthcare Outreach Programs is priceless.



To become a sponsor of Delicious Destinations or to make reservations for any of the events, please contact Angela Gilbert in the St. Vincent’s HealthCare Foundation Office at (904) 308-7306 or Angela.Gilbert@jaxhealth.com.

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Flying Club Maintenance Officer Dan Woods checks the status of the aircraft



The Navy Flying Club uses a Piper Archer and a Piper Arrow for training and for rentals



Instructor John Nayfack, of Ortega Forest, with Commercial student pilot Bill Derr

Navy Flying Club flying more than 50 years

BY JOHN BARNARD AND JIM OVERTON

With your trusty Cessna 172 aligned to the runway, you add full power and take off from Runway 28 exactly like thousands of Naval Aviators dating back to WWII. A few seconds later, you are climbing over Roosevelt Boulevard. To the right is the Timuquana Country Club golf course, then the Florida Yacht Club and the Ortega River are in view. Turning north you see Downtown to your right and Ortega directly below you. Your flying partner spots his house. At 2500 feet the tower says you are clear of their air space. You are free to fly.

HISTORY BEHIND THE CLUB

The Jax Navy Flying Club offers an incredible opportunity for qualified local residents to experience flying out of NAS Jacksonville. The Club is part of the Moral, Welfare and Recreation Department, one of many supportive programs for personnel at NAS Jacksonville. Club Members can learn to fly as a hobby or as preparation for a career in aviation. Membership is open to all active and retired military, and members of the Civil Air Patrol.

Originally, the southern part of what is now NAS Jacksonville Station was Mulberry Grove Plantation (a real plantation) which was developed into Fort Johnston in the 1920s for the Army and National Guard to prepare for World War I. In 1944, land was added to establish NAS Jacksonville, a training and maintenance facility for the U.S. Navy. Runways 28/10 and 14/32 are the same runways used by aviators preparing for World War II and every conflict since then.

A group of military pilots started the Flying Club in 1962, operating out of Herlong Airport. It was moved to NAS Jax in 1980 and peaked in the 1980s with 14 airplanes and 200 members. After 9/11 the Club relocated back to Herlong Airport, but then returned to NAS Jax in 2005. Club membership now stands at 115 members and is located on the north side of the airfield near the southern border of Timuquana Country Club.

The Flying Club currently maintains four aircraft for use by its members including two Cessna 172s, one Piper Archer and one Piper Arrow. The Club's staff includes a manager, mechanic, and four instructors. The instructors are all retired military aviators with years of valuable experience. The airplane rental fees are affordable and instructors are easy to schedule. Since Jacksonville enjoys some of the best flying weather in the country, the Club operates nearly every day of the year.

Flying general aviation aircraft is an incredible experience by itself, but if you add that your home base is NAS Jacksonville that experience becomes intense. Membership in the flying Club is truly the easiest and most affordable way to fly for qualified residents. As neighbors of NAS Jax, we residents are very fortunate to have the opportunity at our doorstep.

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BUSINESS PROFILE

SUPERCUTS®—A great experience at a very good price

There are so many great reasons to visit Supercuts – especially the new location at Lakewood Colonial Promenade Plaza – that you'll wonder why you waited so long.

Right off the bat, you can't beat a good haircut at a \$15 price point. Add to that a great experience from the moment you step into the salon –no appointment necessary – and you'll walk away a very satisfied guest.

For Supercuts franchise owner Tom Janning, the Lakewood store is his second opening in a year. His first location is in St. Augustine, but the San Marco resident enjoys living close to his salon. After a career in newspaper distribution and circulation, Janning wanted to do

something completely different.

"Supercuts appealed to me because it's an experienced franchise," said Janning. "And I didn't want to sit at home at a home-based business. This is the sort of business that you can't outsource, you can't do it online. You have to put someone behind the chair."

Supercuts has one of the strongest brand recognitions in the industry, according to Janning, who noted "You will get a great experience at a very good price."

His team of seven stylists range from two who are recently out of school to a veteran stylist with 20-plus years' experience. "We have a good, wide range of experience," he said.

The franchise's reputation precedes



it. "As we were building the store and doing the training, we had people walking in a month ahead of time," Janning shared. "They thought we were already open."

The spacious, 1700 square foot salon offers haircuts and shampoos now and soon will offer color services. "We don't do perms or relaxers, nothing that uses chemicals or something harsh in the hair," the owner explained. "We use Paul Mitchell products, and also offer them for sale, along with Redken, Big Sexy, Biolage, American Crew, Designline, Matrix and others."

While the business model is based on walk-in customers, Janning plans online, same-day bookings. "It helps me schedule staff to ensure that customers aren't kept waiting," said Janning. "It's just good business to offer the same day booking option."

Although Janning himself is not a stylist, he does plan to have a daily presence in the salon. "My job is bringing in the customers, my stylists' job is to keep them coming back," he said. "I'm looking forward to serving everyone in this market."



The Supercuts team at Lakewood salon

Supercuts is open seven days a week, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Stop by the salon in Lakewood Colonial Promenade Plaza, 5627 San Jose Blvd. or call (904) 300-3413. Walk-ins always welcome!

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GO GIVERS

Getting to know Dan Daly



Dan & Sheri Daly

BY JULIE KERNS GARMENDIA
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Dan Daly spent years with JEA in dangerous high voltage work before his retirement. Accustomed to meeting all kinds of people through his job, he found himself deeply affected by visiting homes where it was obvious that families were scraping by or going without necessities. Daly tried to find ways to help the poor families he met and after retirement he expanded those efforts.

"I want to provide food to anyone

who needs it. A friend who works for Publix helped me work out a pick-up of date-expired bakery goods that can be picked up after the store closes at 10 p.m. two nights each week. We often drive until midnight delivering the food quickly to needy families," he said. "People give me names or addresses or call me for help...I don't even know how they get my phone number. I can't stop doing this because there are too many people

"When I deliver food, I see other needs and learn about their lives so we can help them in other ways. My heart goes out to those who have suffered losses."

who need help.

He has also begun to collect and store donated, unwanted or discarded furnishings and clothing that he can deliver to those in need.

"When I deliver food, I see other needs and learn about their lives so we can help them in other ways," he said. "I met a woman while restoring her power. She had a son with Down syndrome. She had formed a group called Ben's Place, for others like her son to gather and socialize. I was able to get my church to let them meet there for a few years and we helped her obtain 501(C)(3) charitable status. Now Ben's Place has its own meeting place where they can play games,

newly discharged military. He has found hundreds of jobs for the unemployed and has taught many how to fill out applications in person or online. He teaches them how to dress and behave during interviews in order to make a good first impression on prospective employers.

"I can help find almost anyone a minimum wage job at places like the Beaver Street Fisheries, Walmart stores, University of North Florida janitorial jobs, at restaurants, laundromats, dry cleaners or doing yard work," he said.

Daly has done everything from Salvation Army disaster relief aid, repairing and re-building homes in Haiti after the catastrophic 2010 earthquake, to responding after mud slides in Kentucky and Hurricane Sandy in New York in 2012. He travels with a disaster response team from his church, San Jose Baptist.

"Because my career was restoring power after storms, it's a great feeling to respond to disasters and help however I can. My heart goes out to those who have suffered losses," he

said. "My wife Sheri shares those feelings and helps me with anything I ask her."

The couple has been married 35 years, have three grown children and six grandchildren. They are happily awaiting the birth of their seventh grandchild.

make popcorn and enjoy a normal outing. That's what I like to do...find a need, organize others to volunteer, get it going and then allow them to continue that effort so I'm free to address other community needs."

Daly also helps or finds jobs for those who want to work, especially



Everyday victories.

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Vaqar Ali, MD, FACC, FSCAI, FABVM
Sumant Lamba, MD, FACC, FSCAI
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Alumni share fond memories of St. Joseph's Academy

One of the last graduating classes (1949) of St. Joseph's Academy recently celebrated its 65th reunion at a luncheon at the Ramada Inn-Mandarin. The white brick school shut its doors when Bishop Kenny High School opened, but the Class of '49 has faithfully gotten together on a regular basis.

Betty Altee, who was featured in the Way We Were column of the May issue of *The Resident* (San Marco edition) shared many memories of the school, which opened in 1906 at the corner of 7th and Market streets.

The high school was closed in 1952 and the grade school in 1956. Before a fire destroyed the vacant building in 1981, it was the site of Massey Business College and Technical Institute, and then was used for a short time as a drug rehabilitation center.



Seated: Joyce Fielding Dyess, Ama Jean Dean McDonald, Beverly Sallas Brown, Rita Cunningham Sallas, Queen Betty Altee, Madeline Smith Martin, and Sigurd Haughdahl. Standing: Lucy B. "Sandy" Jensen, Ken and Nancy Arnold Wright, Adrienne Flynn Hollis, Joan Myniham Dismore, Raben and Neena Graham, Gloria Lantz, Buddy Antone, Roland Martin, Marie Shashy, Mary Ann Maxwell Lee, Don and Miriam Lantz Burkhart, Pat Bianco and George Ossi

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The Way We Were

BY LAURA JANE PITTMAN
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Her Grandparents' Story

Adrienne Flynn Hollis is the granddaughter of St. Elmo Acosta, the multi-talented statesman and city advocate who helped bring about the first automobile bridge over the St. Johns River in 1921. Hollis grew up with Florida history right in her living room. She was born at St. Vincent's in 1931 (as were all seven of her children, she points out), and her parents lived with her maternal Acosta grandparents for several years in a house at 3rd and Liberty streets in downtown Jacksonville.

"My grandfather came down through Don Pedro Menendez, and at one point the family owned the Oldest House in St. Augustine," Hollis stated matter-of-factly. "His nickname was Chic, and all the generations named after him have had the same nickname."

Her grandfather, she remembered, was very much ahead of his time – predicting and advocating for such things as underground electricity and sewer services. He established a "city nursery" that was staffed with men from the prison farm, and the plants, trees and shrubs that were raised were given away and also used to landscape city parks and public places. The two years he spent with the Florida Legislature were expressly for the purpose of advocating for a bridge, Hollis said. Then he came back to the city that he loved and served as City Parks Commissioner.

Acosta told people that he considered the St. Johns River Bridge one

Adrienne Flynn Hollis

of his greatest accomplishments. It was later named the St. Elmo W. Acosta Bridge and still bears his name, even though the original bridge was demolished in 1991 and replaced with a new span. His grandchildren, however, have a different favorite accomplishment.

"One of the neatest things he did was to raise money for an elephant at the Jacksonville Zoo by taking up pennies from schoolchildren," said Hollis. "I remember how exciting it was when she finally arrived. The zoo named her Miss Chic, after my grandfather."

The Acostas owned 20 acres where the Episcopal School of Jacksonville is located today – on the banks of the St. Johns – and they used to summer there before eventually moving there for good in their later years.

"We used to climb on the Great Oak and swim in their pool," recalled Hollis. "After my grandfather died, my grandmother had their large kitchen knocked off and a little bitty one put in the home. I think she was sick of all the cooking and work she had done in there over the years."



Hollis children then

Her Parent's Story

Hollis's father was a "Mandarin Flynn," whose father died at 32 of typhoid fever in the 1911 epidemic that struck the Jacksonville area. His

mother tried unsuccessfully to continue the family grocery store at the corner of Flynn and Loretto roads. But eventually she gave up and moved to San Marco to work at Furchgott's Department Store. Hollis's father dropped out of school after 6th grade and went to work to help his mother. He was the third child and baby boy of the family. Her father's sister worked for Colgate-Palmolive in the First Federal Building right across from the George Washington Hotel.

"My father's family rented a house on Hendricks and he first went to work for a local grocery store. But eventually, he worked his way up and became a superintendent at JEA," she shared.

Her Story

When Hollis's parents married, they lived first with her grandparents at 3rd and Liberty. When Hollis was four, they moved to Pearl Street, in an area known as North Shore. Her father was only working two days a week, sharing split shifts with other workers, because it was the Depression. He hunted and fished to keep the family fed, and they had a garden and chickens.

"I remember the chickens running around the yard without a head, and I learned how to skin quail, squirrel and all kinds of things," said Hollis.



Engagement photo

"We would go shrimping off Heckscher Drive with big nets that we would bait with fish-meal. At 14, I bought my own net and my friend Betty Altee and I would fish at the bulkhead on Dancy Street, near where she lived."

Hollis attended St. Joseph's Academy from kindergarten through 12th grade, and the trip to get there required several bus changes.

"We caught a little 'peanut bus,' which only held 10 or 15 people," she recalled. "We would

get to Brentwood, sit on a bench, transfer to 7th and Pearl Streets, then walk the five blocks to the school at 7th and Market. I can't believe my mother let me do that at such a young age."

When she was 12, her mother worked at Carleton's Drugstore in the cosmetics department – and Hollis got a job there as a "soda jerk." She worked two nights a week for 25 cents an hour. On Saturday, she answered phones for a



High school graduation



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▶ refrigerator repair service, and also helped with the day nursery that the wife of the repairman ran. In 10th grade, Hollis worked after school from 2:30 until 6 p.m. at a shop on Main Street that sold clothing and lingerie. School didn't get out until 2:30, and since she ran all the way to work, she was consistently 10 minutes late. Then, after work, she would run back to Kirby Smith for basketball practice, which started at 6 – again arriving usually a few minutes late.

"I do remember two highlights of my teen years," said Hollis. "One was the day a girlfriend and I took a bus ride into Jacksonville to Cohen Brothers where the first escalator was installed. We couldn't believe it! We rode up and down for a good half hour. Another time we went into town and walked down to the old train station, which was still running at the time, to see the very first TV. It was tiny and mounted high in the air. We just stood there in awe. Couldn't believe a picture could come through a wire."

Hollis graduated in 1948, a few years before the school closed, she thinks because a child about 13 or 14 fell off a third floor balcony and died. The school became Jones Business College, and the building eventually burned down.



Mr. Flynn



City Light Company, 1930, where Hollis' father worked



House on Cottage Street



1952 shack where Austin and Adrienne Hollis lived

Their Story

"My husband was a great man, and that is why I have great kids," Adrienne Flynn Hollis said of Austin 'Bud' Hollis, Sr., the man she fell in

love with while he was in Jacksonville on military discharge. "We were on a double blind date, each with another person, but obviously, our other dates didn't work out. We were married for 61 years, and I was the happiest person in the world."

Bud passed away four years ago, but he left behind six children (a seventh died as an infant), 24 grandchildren and 32 great grandchildren – with the 33rd and 34th, a set of twins, about to be born. Hollis remains very close to them, and she has great memories of raising the children in the two-story house she and Bud built (completely by themselves) on Mina Road in Mandarin.

"We paid \$1,100 for two and a



Hollis children now

half acres of beautiful land, and then we read books about how to build a house and figured it all out. It took about two years to finish it and cost us \$18,000. We moved the family in when there was only subflooring, brick on the walls, and no ceiling – and a tarpaper roof. We borrowed \$1,000 from our son's savings from his paper route, put particle board over the floor and slept in three rooms until the rest of the house was livable. We made an outdoor toilet with a hole and concrete blocks and cooked on a camp stove. It was the happiest time – the kids had their horses and they played on the land. We would build a fire in the yard and the children from next door would come over to play."

Hollis would go on to raise quail, open Heritage Realty with her husband, become a nurse at age 50 (inspired by her experience with her baby daughter Trecie who died as an infant) and become a Master Gardener. Today at 83, she is just as happy and active with sewing, painting, gardening, getting together with school friends and helping with family, but she still relishes those days when she was "poor but didn't know it," raising her children simply and happily.

"I wish I could go back and be young for one day and see all my children at the same age while they were still little," she said as she smiled. "I've had a beautiful, beautiful life."

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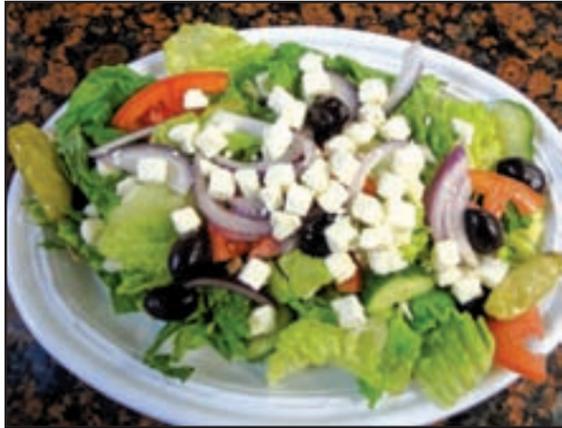
REFRESHING DISHES FROM THE KITCHENS OF LOCAL CHEFS

For a twist on summer fare, local chefs offered up salad recipes that can stand alone or work as a delicious side to a grilled entrée.

GREEK Salad

Chef Blake Allen,
The Olive Tree Mediterranean Grille

Romaine lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, red onion, Kalamata olives, pepperoncini, feta cheese, and The Olive Tree's homemade Greek dressing.



TAVERNA BEET Salad

Chef Sam Efron,
Taverna on the Square

Ingredients and directions to make 4-6 salads –

1 to 2 large beets or a couple handfuls of baby beets roasted in the oven or boiled to make soft. When beets are fully cooked, peel off the skin and dice the beets into bite size pieces. Set aside in a bowl to marinate.

1 or 2 oranges – zest oranges with a microplane over the beets. Peel the oranges and cut out segments to garnish salad with later. Squeeze out remaining orange juice from leftover body of orange after cutting out segments, squeeze juice over the diced beets.

Season the beets with salt and pepper, and coat with some olive oil. Toss and let marinate for 10 minutes; will hold for at least 2 days refrigerated.

Make a salad with baby arugula and Belgian endive. Toss with some fresh lemon juice and extra virgin olive oil, salt and fresh cracked pepper.

Garnish salad with marinated beets, orange segments, goat cheese, Marcona almonds, and orange zest.



TEXTURES OF HAMMOCK HOLLOW FARM CARROTS Salad

Chef Alexander Yim, Matthew's Restaurant

Marinade and Dressing:

1/4 teaspoon kosher salt, 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground pepper, 4 cups lime juice, 2 teaspoons sugar, 1 clove garlic, minced. Combine lime juice, sugar, garlic, kosher salt and pepper in a large bowl and whisk until blended in to a dressing. Set aside 1/2 cup of lime dressing to serve with finished product. Using the remaining dressing mixture, marinate six ounces beef sirloin under refrigeration overnight.

Vegetables:

Sauté until transparent 1/2 cup yellow squash, 1 small green bell pepper, 1 small red bell pepper, 1/2 cup red onion. Add 1 cup rice noodles, 1/4 cup lightly packed fresh cilantro and 1/4 cup lightly packed torn fresh mint and simmer for 10 minutes to cook the noodles and then let cool.

Mold Prep: Prepare one package unflavored gelatin according to directions and immediately cover the shaped food with a light glaze so the food holds its shape. Allow to chill for at least two hours before serving.

Beef Prep:

Pull marinated beef and cook thoroughly and allow to cool. Using a grinder, blend in beef, sautéed items and noodle mixture, along with 1/2 cup cucumber, 1/4 cup mandarin oranges, 1/4 cup apricots and 1/2 cup shredded coconut; grind in to a large bowl. Add 1/2 cup panko breading to the ground mixture and mix together by hand until evenly distributed. Form the mixture in the desired shape and place on a wax paper-lined sheet pan.

Plating:

Using one cup broccoli slaw mixture, line the base of the plate to use as the "nest" – can also use shredded lettuce. Place the chilled formed food mixture on the plate and garnish with fresh sliced mango. Place the reserved lime dressing in a ramekin on the plate. Serve immediately.

Nutritional information per 10 oz. serving: 150 calories; 3 g fat; 18 mg cholesterol; 16 g carbohydrates; 15 g protein; 3 g fiber; 460 mg sodium.



SUMMER MELON & GRILLED SHRIMP Salad

Chef Michael Isacco, The Wine Cellar

Sherry Lime Vinaigrette

1 Tbsp. drinking sherry
2 Tsp. honey
1/2 Tsp. lime zest
2 Tbsp. lime juice
1/4 Tsp. fresh black pepper
1/2 Tsp. kosher salt
2 1/2 Tbsp. olive oil

Method:

Whisk all of the vinaigrette ingredients except olive oil together until salt is dissolved. While whisking slowly, stream in the olive oil. Refrigerate.

Whisk all ingredients except shrimp together until salt is dissolved. Marinate shrimp for no more than 30 minutes, salt and pepper the shrimp then dress with olive oil and grill. Variations on this dish can include creating a classic Ceviche instead and or adding Scallops.

Marinated & Grilled Shrimp

1 lb. peeled and deveined shrimp
1/2 bunch cilantro, chopped
1 shallot, finely chopped
3 limes, juiced
1 orange, juiced

To plate, choose ripe summer melons, such as Cantaloupe, Honey Dew, and Papaya and Mango also work well. Do not peel. Core and slice into 1/4 to 1/2 inch slices, then using a vegetable peeler, peel the inside flesh of the melon into long thin strips. Arrange on plate and dress with a julienne of fresh mint and the Sherry-Lime Vinaigrette. Variations include adding slices of avocados, orange and grapefruit segments.



ENLIGHTENED SPINACH Salad

Chef Tyson Gerhardt, Mellow Mushroom

Fresh spinach topped with dried cherries, apples, homemade candied pecans and feta cheese.

Performance opportunities for every child

The talented students at The Performers Academy, 3674 Beach Blvd., performed *From the Street to the Stage: A Musical Revue* in front of a packed house on May 15. Musical numbers included *Holding Out For a Hero*, *Let it Go*, *You Can't Stop the Beat*, and *Ease on Down the Road*.

The Performers Academy provides a synergistic, creative environment for performers and instructors, teaching acting, dance, voice, musical theatre, instrumental and recording arts.

"We employ many teaching artists and staff members through our work and we are a key

component for neighborhood revitalization," said Jeff Smith, artistic director of the St. Nicholas-based company. "We will be working on a new mural to beautify our building and the neighborhood."

This month the Academy will conduct a Summer Musical Theatre Camp for two age groups, beginning July 14. Each camp concludes with a showcase of the "best of Broadway" selections, conducted by veteran performers and directors, as well as the students. For information call (904) 322-7672 or email infor@theperformersacademy.com.



Photo by Gray Quetti

Recognizing the top 5%



Six 5th grade students from Hendricks Avenue Elementary received the Top 5% Student Recognition Award in Duval County Public Schools. Principal Lacy Healy poses with William Berry, Cooper Hayman, Davis Ellis, Reagan Sheffield and Jo'elle Copeland; Jack Bogan was unavailable for the photo. The award is based on the students' FCAT scores, academic scores, participation and citizenship.



Winners all around

San Jose resident Dr. Erlinda Perez, shown here with Dr. Mel Barros, president of the Philippine Medical Society of Northeast Florida, was the winner of the \$14,000 raffle held to raise money to build a village in the Philippines for victims of Typhoon Haiyan. The bigger winners are, no doubt, the beneficiaries of the 22 houses that will be built with the \$87,000 raised. Dr. Perez went from winner to being on a winning streak when she donated back \$3,500 to build another house in the village. Dr. Francis Ong, also of San Jose, organized the fundraiser in conjunction with 18 Filipino American Community Associations of Northeast Florida. Money is still being collected for medical missions in the same area. To learn more go to <http://pmsjax.us>

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Resident decreases drowning risks with gift

Twice as many kids receive free swimming lessons

Thanks to a \$25,000 donation from attorney Wayne Hogan, a San Marco resident, Waterproof Jacksonville will provide double the number of opportunities for kids to receive free swimming lessons this summer.

Hogan is funding a pilot project with Duval County Public Schools to teach swimming lessons to every student enrolled in summer school at Woodland Acres Elementary School, which includes at least 400 children. In addition, 150 military dependents will also receive free lessons. Other program partners are sponsoring lessons and providing free swimming lessons too.

"We live in a beautiful city, surrounded by water, our beaches, the St. Johns River, with pools and creeks and lakes and ponds throughout our neighborhoods. Sadly, Florida keeps getting ranked number one in

drowning deaths for young children. Two-thirds of those tragic losses happen between May and August," Hogan said. "Teaching kids to swim can change those statistics, but this is not about numbers. This is about each child we can reach, each child we teach. A life lost because a child doesn't know how to swim is a family and a community tragedy."

The lessons are part of a unique expansion of Waterproof Jacksonville made possible by Hogan's donation, which will help pay for the JaxParks Summer Night Lights program as well as enable JaxParks to double the number of free swim lessons provided this summer.

The Police Athletic League is also funding swim lessons for 200 PAL participants. JaxParks, through funding assistance from Safe Kids Northeast Florida, is offering lessons for about 450 youth. The YMCA will provide lessons for another 300, including 50 military dependents.



Timothy Feagins, Principal Woodland Acres Elementary; Charity Stephens; Jabrirea Baker; Mayor Alvin Brown; attorney Wayne Hogan of Terrell Hogan; Council member Bill Bishop, City Council District 2.



Head of School Brad Johnson with Emily and Kayla Fender, Roland Johnson, Bentley Forrester and Jasmine Maina

Bolles sophomore receives President's List medal

Head of School Brad Johnson, a 1979 Bolles graduate, applauded the service of several Bolles students during the recent fourth quarter convocation. In addition to their community work, students must hold high academic standing and exemplify the Bolles Value Statement.

San Jose resident and sophomore Roland Johnson received a President's List medallion for his work with the middle school crew program. Following an injury that kept him out of organized upper school crew activities this spring, Johnson took on the responsibility of serving as a

volunteer assistant coach for the Bolles middle school crew program. The group is one of the largest crew teams in the history of the school. Johnson attended three to four practices a week and shared his skills and enthusiasm with younger students.

The other students who received President's List medallions included freshmen Emily and Kayla Fender, sisters from St. Augustine, Ortega student junior Bentley Forrester, and Jasmine "Cricket" Maina.

Brothers write to win

Brothers Edwin Trenton Orr and Emmanuel Joseph Orr carry a common gene: the ability to write prize-winning essays. The San Marco residents recently participated in different essay contests and both of the boys won.



Trenton Orr, a sixth grade student at Alfred I. duPont Middle School, was named the boy winner of the 3rd Annual Jacksonville Wi\$e Money Essay Contest. His essay focused on a financial mistake that he made by not selling Boy Scout popcorn and how he corrected his mistake by opening his own businesses, a snow cone stand and a dog walking service with his brother. Trenton was awarded a college scholarship for \$2,500 as a prize.

Emmanuel Orr is a fourth grade student at Hendricks Avenue Elementary School and won an essay contest sponsored by the Dairy Council of Florida and Fuel Up to Play 60. Emmanuel's prize-winning essay was about the importance of eating a good breakfast and being physically active. The prize enabled Emmanuel to take three friends and an adult to EverBank Field for breakfast with the Jacksonville Jaguar's Coach Gus Bradley.

Young entrepreneurs give proceeds to Humane Society

Third grade students in Tracy Langley and Virginia Smith's class at Hendricks Avenue Elementary got down to business the last week of school, the lemonade business that is. As a culminating activity to their novel study on "The Lemonade War" by Jacqueline Davies, students were on a mission to create the perfect lemonade stand.



Each group of six students completed a business plan that included many of the items and terms that they had learned about in their social studies unit on economics. Groups decided on a name for their business, a location, responsibilities for each group member, and a list of supplies needed.

They also figured out how to draw customers to their stand through advertising and giveaways.

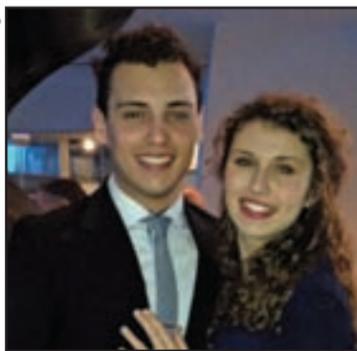
To decide what type of lemonade to offer, the class participated in a blind taste test of three different types of lemonade. Country Time won by a landslide! When they figured out how much it would cost they found that Country Time was also the most economical to produce in large quantities. Signs were made, supplies were donated and purchased and the Jacksonville Humane Society was chosen to receive their "profits."

After three days, 43 gallons of lemonade, and over 550 glasses served students counted their donations. They were surprised and excited when they realized that they had a total revenue of \$534. When the cost of supplies was subtracted they had a profit of \$450. Dr. Meredith Swart, a veterinarian with the Humane Society attended the last day of school flag raising to accept a big check to help the animals. According to the young business developers it was a perfect way to spend the last week of school.

This family's got talent

San Marco siblings Nicholas (Class of 2012) and Katie (Class of 2014) Sacks are blazing a dramatic trail through the Douglas Anderson School of the Arts. Both students were selected as one of just a handful of theater students across the country to participate, two years apart, in the prestigious Young Arts Salon Series in Miami, Fla.

While a senior at Douglas Anderson, Nicholas was chosen out of 5,000 applicants to take classes and workshops from famous mentors,



including Robert Redford. This year Katie won a coveted spot out of 10,000 applicants and was able to work under actress Rita Moreno. Both received scholarship awards and now Nicholas is a junior at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Penn. studying theater. In the meantime, Katie has a major role in the Theater Jacksonville's production of *Les Miserables*.

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Second grader wins 2nd place in writers contest



Ben Greer, San Jose Episcopal Day School second grade student, recently won second place in the PBS Kids Writers Contest. The contest, a national-local contest designed to promote the advancement of children's reading skills through hands-on learning, encourages children in grades K-3 to celebrate the power of creating stories and illustrations. Greer's comic book submission, "Super Cave Man," was one of more than a hundred submissions to the contest.



Coach Brandon Foster and Coach Sean Abbey with Sixth Grade Class

Bears champs in their soccer conference

The sixth grade soccer team at San Jose Episcopal Day School (SJEDS) fought hard to win the championship game against Beaches Episcopal School as part of the North Florida Independent Athletic Conference on May 16. SJEDS had two co-ed soccer teams during its inaugural season for grades four through six; both teams were coached by faculty member Brandon Foster and parent Sean Abbey.

Lacrosse summer camps offer quality fun and exercise

More than 300 children from the San Marco, Southside, Avondale and Ortega areas attended a free Learn-2-PLAY clinic hosted at The Episcopal School of Jacksonville. As a result of the overwhelming response, First Coast Lacrosse will host two Learn-2-PLAY summer camps for elementary and middle school children.

"We are so excited to bring lacrosse to Duval County," said Sara Brackin, Duval County Clinic and League Supervisor. "The more high quality, well organized, developmental sports we can provide for the children and their families increases the quality of living in Jacksonville. It also provides a strong platform and fan base for collegiate and professional level sports currently being

played here and coming in the future."

Camp days are Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Knight Field, 6757 Atlantic Blvd., July 7-10, and at Sacred Heart Catholic School, 5752 Blanding Blvd., July 14-17. Snacks and water will be provided, but children should bring a lunch and a water bottle to fill up during the day.

The non-contact skills camps will have a ten-to-one camper/staff ratio, allowing boys and girls grades three through eight to focus on lacrosse fundamentals, play small sided games and participate in agility drills.

For more information, visit www.firstcoastlax.com or email firstcoastlax@gmail.com.



Coach Brock Armour works the lacrosse clinic at The Episcopal School.

Boys learn life lessons through Team Focus

That old adage "Father knows best" doesn't mean much if you don't have one around. But thanks to a group of local residents who act as father figures to young men, nothing but the best is being brought out of everyone.

Team Focus is a national organization started by Mike Gottfried, an ESPN sportscaster who knew what it was like to grow up without a father. The former football player and coach started the organization in 2000, with the goal of providing leadership skills, guidance and Christian values in a continual relationship with a mentor to young men who don't have a father figure in their life.

Locally, San Marco resident Ben Woods heard Gottfried speak at an event about this ministry to create solid young men and was inspired to start the program in Jacksonville.

"Mentoring is something I can do with my free time," said Woods. "It's just something that God put on my heart. From a Christian point of view, I think we are all called to do something like that."

The program meets year-round, but one of the most-anticipated events is an overnight summer camp held on the campus of Jacksonville University. Boys from ages 10 to 18 participate in sports, Bible studies and mentorship in everything from manners to how men treat women with respect.

Of course, there are the little things that dads teach their sons - like how to tie a tie correctly, and they teach that too.

But they don't stop there.

One of the key components of the camp is participation in a series of mock job interviews. The top boys are selected for a final round and interview again in front of their peers and mentors. The winner is announced at the awards lunch hosted by Ruth's Chris Steak House.

"This is one of the most prestigious awards that the boys win, but is also one of the most valuable real-life experiences that we can expose these young men to" said Shane Sheffield,



a San Marco resident who has been involved with the camp since its inception. "You never know how rubbing shoulders with these boys...may light a fire or spark, some imagination that may impact them as they mature and find their way."

The camp doesn't just teach these men how to interview for a job, it also hosts leadership lectures where people from different industries speak about their career. Topics include how they became interested in their field; who the people are that helped them along the way; what gifts contribute to their success; and suggestions for the boys to discover their own gifts and how they can use them to apply them towards a career.

The organization is supported by the Jacksonville Quarterback Club and is the only Team Focus affiliate that runs itself solely off private funds.

"This is truly a community-wide effort," explained Sheffield. "I am humbled every time I am around Team Focus...These are people who are truly making a difference in the lives of

these young men. I have been blessed to watch many of them grow up over the last six years and it is tremendously rewarding to see how many of these young men have matured and knowing that we all had a small part in their development from boy to young man."

Woods, a pilot with FedEx, is living a long way from San Marco now and from the program he created locally.

His wife and two children temporarily moved to Hong Kong for their own adventure, leaving the program at the helm of Steve Dickson, the youth minister at Southside United Methodist Church.

Although Woods can't participate right now in the weekly Bible studies or monthly outings, he did fly halfway around the world to make sure he was there for this year's camp.

"At some level, all of these men have been let down by a male," said Woods. "I don't want to be another male that stepped out of their lives. That's a commitment I make to them."

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UNDERWATER Beauty

Residents get hooked on diving

BY LARA PATANGAN
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

School may be out for summer, but some local residents are diving into the books to become scuba-certified.

Delaney Rose, a 12-year-old St. Nicholas resident, has spent the first part of her summer studying so that she can finally join parents, Teresa and Chris, on a dive.

"The first time we both went diving was on our honeymoon in Curacao and we got hooked," said her mom, Teresa Rose, fully intending the pun.

But it's no joke that their daughter is getting certified this month.

Safety is something that the Roses, who are both certified in Advanced Open Water and Rescue Diving, take very seriously. They had Delaney read the book *Diver Down*, written by Michael Ange, who chronicles true stories of diving disasters and how to avoid them so she fully understood how important it is to obey rules and procedures.

They think the lessons taught to ensure safety are lessons that translate to life. "If you follow the rules, usually everything is fine," said Rose.

However, it's not the what-ifs that the Roses concern themselves with – it's the wonderment of the sea that they are eager to share with their daughter.



Teresa and Chris Rose on a dive trip at Samantha's Reef in Marathon, Florida in January



Foster teens participating in Family Support Services of North Florida's SPLASH program

"I feel like we are giving her a gift," said Rose. "It's such an amazing experience. It's very freeing. You just forget everything."

Delaney, who has been snorkeling since she was six years old, looks forward to diving deeper into aquatic life.

"When you snorkel you can see fish, but you can't go down there," explained Delaney. "I think it will be really cool to be down there and watch them enjoy their life while I enjoy mine."

For Heather Mark, a San Marco resident, becoming a certified scuba diver is as much about conquering her fear so she can accomplish a greater goal – to

enjoy life to the fullest.

For years she simply snorkeled as her husband, Scott, an avid scuba diver, plunged beyond the water's surface.

"I love snorkeling. It's such an amazing experience to see this world underwater, but you have to come up for air," explained Mark. "So it's frustrating."

While Mark is nervous about being claustrophobic when she is submerged, she can no longer ignore the siren of the sea.

"I finally got up the nerve to do it this year. I don't want fear to keep me from doing something that I know I am going to love," said Mark. "So, I am just going to take the dive."

Mark looks forward to sharing the experience with her husband who is going to accompany her on her certification dive this month.

Both Rose and Mark are enrolled in an Open Water Dive Course with the Professional Association of Dive Instructors (PADI). They will have to pass a written test, a confined water dive – which is completed in a swimming pool, and finally an open water

test before they are certified for fresh and salt water open water dives down to 60 feet.

Also taking the plunge this summer are two San Marco foster teens who are participating in Family Support

Services of North Florida's SPLASH program.

SPLASH, an acronym for Scuba Promotes Life goals And Supports Healthy Living, is an award-winning program

developed by FSS to develop goal-setting, trust, confidence and valuable life-skills.

"FSS developed SPLASH as a creative way to engage foster children in life experiences and challenges that inspire and excite them," said Lee Kaywork, CEO of FSS. "Scuba diving opens a new world to the teens and helps them learn teamwork, respect and decision-making skills."

This is the fifth summer that FSS has offered this program to teens and uses it to focus participants on career opportunities and job skills in scuba diving and related industries.

The foster teens will travel to the Florida Keys to earn their scuba certification and their freedom into the underwater world.

Mark can't wait to experience the kind of freedom that has lured her to shed the snorkel and go below the surface.

"I am really looking forward to this part of my life," said Mark. "It will be such a freeing experience to just be able to explore."



Below: Heather Mark, right, with her daughter Addison

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