

THE Resident

RIVERSIDE • ORTEGA • AVONDALE • MURRAY HILL



Cecelia Hetzel, Emma Hilpert and Charlotte Buttner

Angels smiled on annual festival

The annual Festival of Flight, begun as an Eagle Scout project in 2011, has grown into Angels for Allison Foundation's largest source of revenue. The family fun event held last month at Memorial Park featured live music, games and food trucks. In three years the foundation has provided assistance to 65 families with more than \$115,000 in funeral grants by selling more than 5,000 angels, holding two annual fundraisers and receiving donations from 12 school clubs.



A sign of the times for economic growth

The Resident captured this image of the sign installation at the Fresh Market Aug. 27, as crews were hard at work putting the pieces together on the site. The opening of the store was made official at an early morning "Cracking of the Parmesan" ceremony, Sept. 24, a few weeks later.

The Riverside Avenue corridor has been front and center, as the opening of the Fresh Market puts another feather in the downtown development cap. As new amenities are unveiled in the commercial portions of projects, residential components are slated to follow suit. There is no sign of a slowdown, as plans to break ground on other pending projects remain - some yet to be announced.

From improvements to the grounds of The Cummer

Museum of Art & Gardens to the success of the Riverside Arts Market, the build-out of 220 Riverside and nonprofit plans for the adjoining event space at Unity Plaza, there is no shortage of new growth. A future groundbreaking at the YMCA, construction of the high-end condominium project, Beacon Riverside, and another residential development behind Fresh Market will continue to pique interest in the area. *Read more on pages 8 and 9.*

A big night for equal rights



Committee Member Brent Vance, Committee Chairman Dan Tice and Emerald Sponsor Glenn Certain

The Florida Yacht Club played host to the Equality Florida Jacksonville Gala and awards banquet Sept. 27. Equality Florida CEO Nadine Smith, alongside local leaders, praised the efforts of honorees who stand strong in the political arena and the business community. Atlantic Beach City Commissioner Maria Mark, former Jacksonville Mayor and current UNF President John Delaney, along with Chair and CEO for Florida Blue Patrick Geraghty were presented awards for their leadership efforts on behalf of the LGBT community.

Derelict boat a hot potato with enforcement authorities

Business owner frustrated with finger pointing

BY DOUG MILNE
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Because of an abandoned boat, Jamie Smith, president of Tidewater Boat Works, is learning firsthand that derelict boats are bad news. Not only does his story validate the cause for concern over derelict vessels, but it speaks volumes about the lack of understanding and education among even those seemingly most in the know.

For a long time, Smith had been aware of the sunken boat at a residential dock near his Blanding Blvd. business. He'd spied it countless times. Frustrating and unsightly as it was, he did his best to keep it off his mind and out of sight. But, at the end of September, the vessel re-surfaced - quite literally - right in front of him.

"The owner somehow managed to get the boat back afloat," Smith recounted. "He gave it to a homeless guy to live on if the guy would get it away from his property. When I heard that, I bet an employee \$5 that thing would be tied up at my dock Friday morning." On Friday morning, Smith was \$5 richer.

Almost completely submerged, Smith pumped the boat out to avoid it sinking on his property. After threatening to call police when the boat's new "owner" refused to leave, Smith got the wheels in



motion with a call to the Coast Guard. "They were initially responsive, because it was sinking and there was someone on board." By the time the Coast Guard called him back, however, the drifter had paddled the floating fiasco

See **BOATS** on page 11

Pumpkin brigade welcomes fall

Ortega United Methodist Church members of all ages pitched in to unload more than 43,000 pounds of pumpkins from New Mexico. The youth group will sell these, along with a second full trailer-load of pumpkins, throughout October to raise funds for youth missions.



Ashley Eller, Katie Montgomery, Peyton Philips

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Letters to the Editor

Charter Billboard Amendment in danger Support current law against new billboards

In 1987, the citizens of Jacksonville voted overwhelmingly to restrict off-site outdoor advertising by prohibiting new billboards from being built in Jacksonville



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Publishers

Seth Williams
seth@residentnews.net

Pamela Bradford Williams
pamela@residentnews.net



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Editor — Kate A. Hallock
editor@residentnews.net

Editorial

Julie Kerns Garmendia
Robin Robinson
Nancy Lee Bethea
Peggy Harrell Jennings
Lara Patangan
Garrett Frye

Design Production

Joe Birch
Danielle Smith-Boldt

1650 Margaret St. #310, Jacksonville, FL 32204
Phone: 904.388.8839 • Fax: 904.388.2209
www.ResidentNews.net

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and added a Billboard Amendment to the City Charter.

As a result, over 1,000 billboards have been removed from our roadways, and billboards are not allowed on some existing and/or new local roads built since the Charter Amendment such as JTB, 9A and 9B (I-295), First Coast Expressway (formerly Cecil Commerce Center Parkway and Branan Field/Chaffee Road), Wonderwood Connector, new portions of Baymeadows, Gate Parkway, Southside Connector and many others. Today, four states do not allow any billboards and, in Florida, 287 cities and towns have completely banned billboards.

Since then, the Billboard Industry has lobbied hard and spent great sums of money trying to undo or change this voter-mandated law. This is a very serious attempt by the outdoor advertising industry to nullify the action of voters and drastically alter the visual landscape of Jacksonville.

Bill 2013-493, written by lawyers for Clear Channel Outdoor, one of the world's largest

billboard companies, is now before City Council. It would override the existing law, ignore the clear will of the people and allow new, larger, flashing and distracting digital billboards on our highways and neighborhood streets, even those currently without billboards (and within 200 feet of residences).

This bill asks the City Council to simply nullify the billboard law already approved by the people of Jacksonville. It would eliminate the right of citizens to bring lawsuits to enforce the Billboard Charter Amendment and eliminate the \$500/day fine for illegal billboards.

The Jacksonville Charter billboard amendment has been an outstanding example of how to control billboards for communities across America. Many view northeast vistas as one of our greatest assets for attracting businesses and tourists. Roadways filled with advertisements do not reflect well on our city and visually pollute the skyline.

Surveys show that large, flashing, brightly lit billboards create safety concerns, are unsafe and contribute to an increase in the number of traffic accidents, some resulting in fatalities.

National billboard companies make

great profits every month from billboard advertising in our community. They have, therefore, the incentive to invest heavily in lobbyists and local and out-of-town lawyers whose sole purpose is to persuade our City Council members to overturn Jacksonville's effective law.

If this bill passes through City Council in any form, all the efforts of the past are lost and the advertising industry has successfully struck a fatal blow to controlling billboards in Jacksonville. The powerful billboard companies will take home huge profits, Jacksonville's citizens will be robbed of their democratic process, and our city will have gained nothing except more and bigger digital billboards everywhere.

Please consider contacting all the City Council members and encourage them to **KILL THE BILL** by voting on Oct. 14 against passing this legislation (Bill # 2013-493) written to nullify the voter-approved Charter Amendment. Should the Bill pass, contact the Mayor to VETO it.

Contact your City Council members!
A fast and easy way to send your message:
www.scenicadvocatesjax.org/take-action.html

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The candidate must have a valid driver's license, reliable transportation and the availability the first five days of every month to deliver papers to Riverside, Avondale, Ortega and Murray Hill area businesses and the San Marco, San Jose and St. Nicholas area businesses. A solid work ethic and reliability are necessary, send inquiries for consideration to seth@residentnews.net or call 388-8839 x-101.

Ask Allison

Q: I've heard that the supply of riverfront homes under 1 million has really dwindled - is that true?

A: Yes, the vast majority of low priced riverfront real estate in our area is gone. I call it the "low hanging fruit" — and it's been mostly picked! In 2013, there were 12 riverfront sales under \$1 Million. So far in 2014, there have only been 5 sales and as of today, there are only 5 homes left on the river under \$1 million. My listing at 5135 Pirates Cove Road is one of the 5 and offers a great value at only \$850K (MLS # 710549) — call me today to come have a look!

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4953 APACHE AVE – \$479,000
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2 WATERFRONT LOTS

5119 YACHT CLUB RD – \$449,000 EACH
Each lot \$449K for your Pirates Cove dream!



5BR POOL HOME

4624 LANCELOT LN – \$599,000
Gorgeous 3571sf home near Stockton



Ted Miller/
Nathan Miller
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NEW LOW PRICE

3570 HEDRICK ST – \$649,900
Beautifully renovated 1922 home, 4/3, 2532sf



RIVERFRONT

5015 ORTEGA FARMS BV – \$885,000
Breathtaking 3/3.5, 4354sqft, 112' x 446' lot



RIVERFRONT

5043 ORTEGA FARMS BV – \$699,000
1-story 3/3, 2649sf, views!



REDUCED

1852 TALBOT AVE – \$649,000
Elegant Historic 4/2.5 w/garage apt



Tom Sandlin
904.237.0458



NEW LISTING

4211 GARIBALDI AVE – \$219,000
Updated Venetia 3/2, 1611sf, large lot



SOLD

6242 PARK ST – \$179,900
Creekfront bungalow w/boat slip



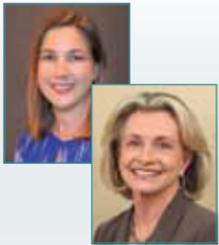
RIVERFRONT LOT

5 JUDSON CIR – \$1,499,000
5.2 acres on the River in Orange Park



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2397 S PONTEVEDRA BV – \$1,900,000
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STOCKTON DISTRICT

4625 LANCELOT LN – \$369,900
Ortega Forest 4/2.5, 2300+sqft



GUEST APARTMENT

1927 WOODMERE DR – \$649,000
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WATERFRONT LOT

ORTEGA ISLAND DRIVE N – \$649,000
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CHARMING

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Yulia Pulido
904.707.2475



HISTORIC CHARM

1224 HOLLYWOOD AVE – \$219,900
Adorable, updated 3/2, det garage



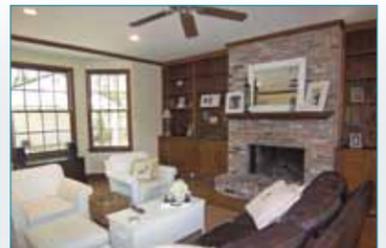
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5303 ORTEGA BLVD #202 – \$239,000
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RIVERFRONT ESTATE

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FEC Railroad Bridge goes to limited opening schedule

Early last month, two main gears became disabled on the FEC Railroad Bridge across the St. Johns River, temporarily prohibiting boat passage. The Florida East Coast Railway has made temporary repairs and has returned it to safe operations.

However, the bridge is on a limited opening schedule to ensure that it continues to function properly until an additional, permanent repair is made in eight to 10

weeks, according to Debra Phillips, vice president of corporate communications for the Florida East Coast Railway.

The bridge will remain open to navigation from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Friday, and from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., and from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. At all other times the bridge will be closed to navigation. ❖

Joint website for leading independent schools

Fifteen of the leading independent schools in the Jacksonville area have created a tool for parents looking to find the best independent school for their child's educational needs.

The website, jacksonvillefcis.org, is a one-stop shop with information about the top-accredited schools in the area. The user-friendly website features an area map, a list of schools and contact information, and a calendar of open houses and

admission events for parents to attend.

While each one of the area schools is unique, their common bond is an accreditation in the Florida Council of Independent Schools (FCIS).

The member schools include: Beaches Episcopal Day School, Christ's Church Academy, Discovery Montessori, Episcopal School of Jacksonville, Grace Episcopal Day School, Greenwood School, Hendricks Day School, Jacksonville Country Day School, Martin J. Gottlieb Day School, Providence School, Riverside Presbyterian Day School, San Jose Episcopal Day School, St. Johns Country Day School, St. Mark's Episcopal Day School, and The Bolles School. ❖

Two Riverside arts organizations receive grants

Both Friday Musicale and Riverside Fine Arts were awarded grants of \$5,000 from the Art Ventures Fund at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida.

Friday Musicale, which was formally established in 1890, will use the grant for strategic planning and to launch a summer concert season to broaden its audience and donor base. The organization has been located at 645 Oak St. since 1929 and survived a fire by arson in 1995. The grant will enable Friday Musicale to continue to fulfill its 125-year mission to bring fine music to the community.

"Over the past year, The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida has exemplified its commitment to helping small arts organizations be sustainable," said Mandie McKenzie, Friday Musicale executive director. "Friday Musicale is grateful to The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida for selecting Friday Musicale as a recipient of all three parts of its Art Ventures Fund grant."

Last fall, Friday Musicale was awarded a series of educational workshops on organizational capacity building. This spring, Friday Musicale's board of directors, staff and volunteers went through intensive strategic planning with Facilitator Beth Harvey from Pique Performance. Then in July, Friday Musicale was notified of the

\$5,000 grant to present four summer concerts, the first of which featured Jacksonville jazz musicians on Aug. 29, with over 200 guests in attendance. The second was held Sept. 26, and the last two summer concerts will be presented in June and July 2015.

Riverside Fine Arts plans to use its grant to expand its Project Listen master classes to increase arts education for public school students.

"The money affords us to offer Master Classes to students with advanced musical experience. Five of our concert artists will now be able to work within the community on an educational and developmental level," said Stacy Aubrey, president of the nonprofit.

In addition, Aubrey noted that working with the strategic planning consultant in the workshops and one-on-one provided direction and some solid groundwork to further expand their brand, goals, and even by-laws and values.

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd on Stockton St. is the home venue for the organization, which pairs national and international musicians with local fine artists in intimate world-class performances. Riverside Fine Arts, established in 1993, is celebrating its 21st season this fall and winter.

The Art Ventures Fund has given grants since 1990, through The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, which was established in 1964. ❖



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The Janie Boyd Real Estate Team



(From left to right) Trey Martin, Judy Jones Davis, Tinnon Froehlich, Cheryl Laucks, Janie Boyd, Jamie Spicer, Moody Baker, Betty Thomas, Charlie Boyd, Linda Strickland.

Congratulations, Tinnon Froehlich, Salesperson of the month of August!



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Street striping to go before City Council

Public hearing held

BY KATE A. HALLOCK
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Residents living near The Shoppes of Avondale and the Park and King retail section may soon need to get used to new parking patterns.

A public hearing and second reading was held on Sept. 23 for proposed ordinance 2014-617, which was introduced on Sept. 9 to City Council. Additional hearings will be held on Oct. 6 by the Rules Committee at 9 a.m. and by the Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee at 2 p.m. Final hearing for approval by City Council is currently planned for Oct. 14.

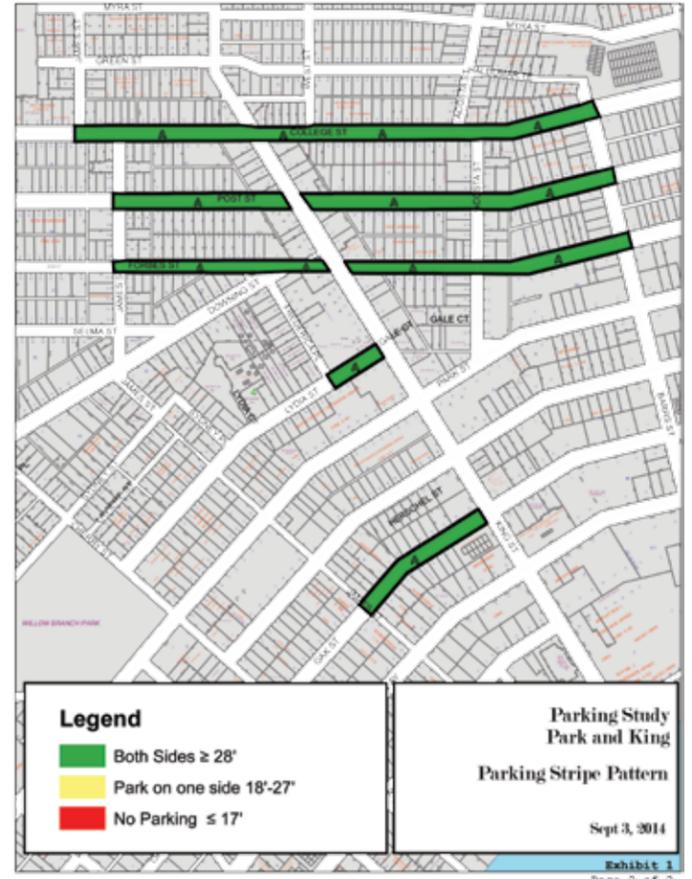
The legislation determines designated streets to serve as a pilot in District 14 for reduction of posted speed limits and striped parking. According to Paige Hobbs Johnston, assistant general counsel for the Office of General Counsel, if the pilot is successful, it may be utilized for other street segments in District 14 or other districts, but would require additional legislation to have those streets identified and approved as yield streets.

The bill's language notes that "creating a parallel, striped parking scheme on certain streets, based on the width of the existing pavement, can improve the functionality of the yield street and contribute to maintaining slow speeds conducive to traffic, pedestrian and bicycle safety."

The ordinance also seeks to reduce the speed limit of certain roadways from 30 miles to 15 miles per hour, which is a further reduction from the initial draft of the bill, calling for 20 miles per hour.

Striping plan reduced for affected streets

The ordinance would require the



City's Public Works Department to apply striping to standards, and remove a portion of available parking in front of homes in residential areas surrounding the two areas.

Residential parking would be reduced on streets that were deemed too narrow for two-way traffic flow. According to the proposed bill, parallel parking would be provided on both sides of the street when the existing pavement is 28 feet wide or greater; parking on one side where street width is at least 18 feet wide but less than 28 feet wide, and no parking will allowed where the street is 17 feet wide or less. This could result in reducing the amount of available on-street parking.

Streets designated for "checkered" pattern striping in the initial draft have been taken off the plan, and some streets initially targeted for no parking – due to street width – are not indicated as

candidates for the new plan, as noted in the maps above. In Avondale, Oak and Hedrick Streets have been released from the proposed reduction in parking, while half a dozen streets in Riverside will not undergo striping as originally planned.

Riverside Avenue between Talbot and Edgewood is an example of an area where on-street parking may not be permitted. Residents and visitors to homes on the

targeted streets that do not have off-street parking (i.e., a driveway) may be forced to park a block or more away. ❖

Let us know your thoughts about the proposed parking ordinance and send your comments to editor@residentnews.net no later than October 15.

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Two public projects involve water related woes

BY KATE A. HALLOCK
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Just as the roots of the willow tree seek water, the city projects involving two namesakes – Willowbranch Library and Willowbranch Avenue – seem to attract

brunt of any financial damages as he works through a dispute with the City of Jacksonville.

What should have been a relatively quick project, four months according to the project timeline, is still considered

Riverside Avenue was re-opened to traffic, Touring had anticipated that the project would be complete by March 2014, pending reimbursement of funds needed to order the balustrades.

“We have to go through the CDRB [Contracts Dispute Review Board] process with the contractor,” Joyce stated. “A meeting is scheduled in the next couple of weeks. Until the dispute is resolved, he [Touring] can’t move forward.”

Library closed, work continues

Meanwhile, the other Willowbranch project plagued by heavy rains and flooding is closed but not at a standstill.

The Jacksonville Public Library suspended service at the Willowbranch Library, 2875 Park Street, until further notice, following interior flooding and other damage due

to heavy rains in the area in early September.

“We will continue with the suspension of service while the Public Works Department conducts a thorough assessment of the damage, determines a repair plan, gets estimates of the costs, funds the repairs, and then does the repair work,” said Kathy Lussier, public information officer. “We have not been given a timeline for this process.”

According to Joyce, the main focus right now is water intrusion, and the solution involves several elements: placing a waterproofing agent around the foundation, an underground drain system, gutter systems, a bit of roof work,

and remove and re-install the historic windows with flashing. “Nothing has been halted,” said Joyce of the project. “It’s a matter of finding out where the water came from...maybe through a back stairwell. We plan to run do groundwater

“We will continue with the suspension of service while the Public Works Department conducts a thorough assessment of the damage, determines a repair plan, gets estimates of the costs, funds the repairs, and then does the repair work. We have not been given a timeline for this process.”

- Kathy Lussier



Temporary railings have been in place since January 2014. Permanent balustrades will complete the project.

water-related issues to the detriment of both projects.

Residents living at the junction of Riverside and Willow Branch avenues have battled water-related damage since the inception of the bridge project in spring 2013. The contractor, David Touring, has most likely suffered the

incomplete. According to City Engineer Bill Joyce, it’s an active construction project. “The balustrades are the last element of the project. Everything else has been installed,” he said. “They have to be fabricated. We do have the shop-drawings approved.”

Back in December 2013 when

monitoring in the next week or so.” If all goes well, the construction may be completed within five months.

In the meantime, Willowbranch Library customers who have materials on hold may pick them up at the Murray Hill Branch Library. The book drop at the Willowbranch Library will remain closed during this time; however, customers may return materials at any branch location. Customers may put books or other materials on hold at www.jaxpubliclibrary.org and the materials will be sent to whatever location is most convenient for them. ❖

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\$1,950,000

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\$1,175,000

Edgewood Avenue South



\$949,000

Saint Johns Avenue



\$849,000

Richmond Street



\$779,000

Riverfront Fleming Island



\$649,000

Mallory Street



\$549,999

Ortega Forest



\$499,000

Atlantic Beach



\$484,000

Powell Place



\$389,900

Marshfront Neptune Beach



\$329,000

Challen Avenue



\$325,000

Edgewood Avenue South



\$319,900

Crystal Springs



\$269,900

King Street District w/Apartment



\$268,900

Orange Park CC



\$250,000

Ortega Forest



\$232,900

Grand Lakes Mandarin



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Fresh Market first to open at Brooklyn Station

Store sets bar for neighborhood development

BY GARRETT FRYE
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

In lieu of a ribbon-cutting, company and city leaders performed a traditional “cracking of the parmesan” at the grand opening ceremony of The Fresh Market last month.

The upscale grocery store is the first of several businesses soon to open in the new Brooklyn Station on Riverside shopping center. This is the fourth Fresh Market to open in Jacksonville with stores in Ponte Vedra, the Beaches and Southside.

Brooklyn Station’s completion has been anticipated by many residents in nearby neighborhoods. The opening of the first major component to the development could satisfy those searching for something fresh and new.

At the Sept. 24 grand opening, Mayor Alvin Brown said, “This is a great day for the Brooklyn neighborhood, but it’s also a great day for Jacksonville.”

The Fresh Market brought 90 new jobs to Brooklyn and is within walking distance for many who work in the area and for those moving into the 600 residential units nearing completion at 220 Riverside and Brooklyn Riverside.

“It’s a reminder that the city is going in the right direction,” Brown noted.

The Fresh Market grocery store covers 20,400 square feet of ground. Businesses that have already signed leases with the developer, Regency



From left are Scott Penton, District Manager of The Fresh Market; Ken Towery, Zone Vice President of The Fresh Market; Mahir Zelihik, Store Manager of The Fresh Market; Warren Jones, District 9 Councilman; Mayor Alvin Brown; Greg Anderson, Group 4 Councilman.

Centers, take up another 16,432 square feet. Four high-demand spaces totaling another 7,204 square feet still remain open for leasing.

Regency Centers deems appropriate for the Brooklyn neighborhood.

“We aren’t in a rush. We want to make sure that we have the right tenant mix,”

Patrick McKinley, Regency Centers Senior Leasing Agent, said. “There is a high interest in what’s going on here.” All Regency Centers representatives emphasized a strong concentration on tailoring to what Brooklyn needs.

“Regency is looking at things differently,” Regency Centers Vice President Paul Maxwell said. “They don’t just want to be another strip mall. They want personality. They want to commit to



DIA CEO Aundra Wallace and John Valentino talk business before the opening.

Scheduled to open next will likely be Corner Bakery Café on the corner of Jackson St. and Riverside Ave. and will be followed by several other retail stores and restaurants including Lucy’s Boutique, Hair Cuttery, Burger Fi, Zoe’s Kitchen, and Burrito Gallery. Each business coming to Brooklyn Station will be something

the neighborhood.” Riverside Avondale Preservation founder Wayne Wood gave a brief history of the Brooklyn neighborhood during a preview tour two days earlier. According to Wood, Brooklyn Station is the first major development on the west side of Riverside Ave. in many years. ❖



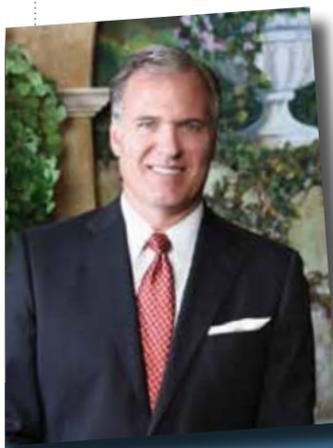
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Unity Plaza, 220 Riverside promote urban lifestyle

BY GARRETT FRYE
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Two long-awaited venues – Unity Plaza, the nonprofit managed park, and the mixed-used development at 220 Riverside – will soon bring many offerings to the city’s burgeoning downtown.

amphitheatre capable of seating around 2,000 people. According to Unity Plaza Executive Director Jen Jones, the park will provide entertainment for patrons 365 days a year. Unity Plaza will also offer recreational activities like yoga, ping-pong, foosball, and more. Located directly north of Unity Plaza will be 220 Riverside.



A lounge located in 220 Riverside will allow tenants to socialize and host parties in the building.

Hallmark Partners was the catalyst in arranging a partnership between themselves and the City of Jacksonville several years ago. After purchasing property on the corner of Riverside Ave. and Forrest St., Hallmark donated \$2 million in property back to the city to develop Unity Plaza, a nonprofit administered public park about the size of a football field. A Recapture Enhanced Value Grant provided 75 percent of the city’s portion of ad valorem taxes. The remaining 25 percent was contributed by Hallmark.

Together, 220 Riverside and Unity Plaza are estimated to bring \$6.9 million in additional tax revenues for the city and Duval County Public Schools.

Unity Plaza is based on other greatly successful nonprofit-administered parks such as the Bryant Park in New York City and Portland’s Pioneer Courthouse Square.

The park will feature a large

The \$38 million investment, 220 Riverside, will provide 294 residents a place to call home, along with four commercial spaces totaling 16,500 square

“We’re hoping to spur on an urban lifestyle. It’s a place where a person can really live their life without a vehicle.”

**-Alex Coley
Hallmark Partners
Principle and Co-Founder**

feet on the ground floor. On the second floor will be a 385-space parking garage.



Unity Plaza’s amphitheatre will provide entertainment for about 2,000 people.

One commercial tenant confirmed to open shop at 220 Riverside is Bravo’s Top Chef winner, Kevin Sbraga, who has already opened two award-winning restaurants in Philadelphia. Hallmark Partners Principle and Co-Founder Alex Coley hopes for the development to be a catalyst to further Downtown development.

“We’re hoping to spur on an urban lifestyle,” Coley said. “It’s a place where a person can really live their life without a vehicle.” The development offers 10 different floor plans ranging from 618 to 1,204 square feet. Residents of 220 Riverside will have close access to the festivities and offerings available at Unity Plaza. Jones recently unveiled the nonprofit’s wellness programming plan, which will offer various classes and seminars focusing on healthy and

sustainable living and leadership.

“Jen has done a brilliant job over the last year and a half,” Coley said.

The specific details of the Hallmark Partners and city agreement exist in Ordinance 2012-207-E, enacted in June 2012. Not only did the developer pay part of the ad valorem taxes, but Hallmark also agreed to contribute a portion of each first-floor commercial space’s rent towards the maintenance of the park, as well as an annual perpetuity donation. “The city understood the project’s significance,” Coley said. “This is by far the most complex and groundbreaking project that we’ve done.”

Coley expects 220 Riverside’s first residential tenants to move in around the beginning of the year. Jones projects for Unity Plaza to be open in February 2015. ❖



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Big change in store for 5 Points

Large anchor space has no lack of interest

BY GARRETT FRYE
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

5 Points has seen its fair share of new businesses in the past and is set to see more in the near future with the recent confirmation of a five-year lease.

The property that once situated Fuel Coffeehouse at 1037 Park St. is once again getting some much needed attention from its owner. The coffee shop and music venue was once the place where one could enjoy coffee on a weekday and see a live show that night. Several nationally recognized alternative bands including Brand New, The Format, and more played at the venue along with local bands performing nearly every night.

The business closed down over five years ago due to irresponsible management. The property owner is doing work on the building to prepare it for a long-term tenant.

"The building is being completely shelled," said Matthew Clarke with Prime Realty, who is representing the absentee landlord. "The owner is providing a clean slate for people looking at the building."

Primary concerns the owner is focusing on are the removal of asbestos and lead materials in the outdated construction

materials.

"The building had underlying issues that led to its vacancy," Clarke said. "The owner wanted to rid any issues for potential clients. The building will be completely healthy."

The 10,772-square-foot property has been in the owner's family for four generations. Originally developed for Woolworth's, the property was later operated as Peterson's.

Occupying the spot left vacant by Riverside Liquors and Village Wine Shop, which moved to 1251 King St. last month, will be Alewife. The American craft beer bottle shop and tasting room will offer more than 400 craft beers, a tasting bar and biergarten. The 2574-square-foot building will feature an industrial design theme with exposed shipping containers, wood-pallet furniture, display shelves and more. Avondale-based architecture firm OAD is taking on the build-out for the business.

"We're very excited about the business," said OAD designer Kassia Vinn. "It's going to be an awesome space."



The property formerly housing Fuel Coffeehouse is in the market for a new long-term tenant.

The store will launch with four employees, including owners Kelly Pickard and Jamie Burket. Pickard will be the only full-time general manager of the store with Burket covering back-of-house operations on a part-time basis. Alewife will only need a beer and wine license, as they will not be serving liquors.

All employees will be required to pass the Cicerone Beer Server Test within six months of employment. The test focuses on beer storage and service, knowledge of beer styles, flavors and cultures, different brewing processes and ingredients. This test is to ensure that Alewife employees offer customers the best service possible. Alewife is projected to open mid-December.

"I'm looking forward to interact with people who are new to craft beer," Pickard said. "I want to see people rethink what beer can be."

Both Riverside and San Marco have an established brewery and craft beer scene. Clarke feels that Ale Wife can only add to what is available now.

Aardwolf recently opened a brewpub

in San Marco and Intuition Ale Works has announced a plan to expand their production facilities. Several other local breweries such as Bold City Brewery, Green Room Brewing Company, Engine 15 Brewing Company, River City Brewing Company, Veterans United Craft Brewery, and more stay busy providing craft beer to their niche crowds.

"It's a great addition to 5 Points," Clarke said. "I think that it's really going to contribute to the synergy already in the area."

As far as potential clients for the Fuel Coffeehouse building, Clarke said that the building shows no lack of interest.

"We are actively marketing the property. There are several prospects that are extremely viable and are ready to go," Clarke said. "They're chomping at the bit for the property."

Clarke also mentioned that the building had been in the owner's family for many years and that the main goal is to put someone in the building that will stay in the neighborhood for a long time. ❖

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Hemming Plaza gains new brand, management



Wayne Wood steadies the display of the new logo for Hemming Park as Diane Brunet-Garcia explains the thought behind the design.

More than 150 years after it was first designated a public square in the heart of downtown Jacksonville, Hemming Plaza – originally known as City Park – will be returning to its park-like roots. On Sept. 4, Friends of Hemming Park

board members announced a new executive director, unveiled its vision for the park's future and introduced a new logo.

Vince Cavin was appointed the park's new executive director. Diane Brunet-Garcia, chair of the Cultural Council

and vice president and partner of Brunet-Garcia Advertising, points to the new logo, held by Dr. Wayne Wood. The green square joined with abstract street intersections symbolizes the importance of this public park in the heart of Downtown and to form the letters "HP."

The press conference concluded with Mayor Brown signing Ordinance 2014-434, passed by City Council on Aug. 27. The bill authorizes Friends of Hemming Park to manage the park. The organization plans to revitalize Hemming Park with year-round programming, cleanliness, security, entertainment and events to make it a family-friendly central gathering place in Downtown.

Friends of Hemming Park will have its offices on the first floor of the Downtown Main Library just inside the front entrance on Laura Street. The group plans to start its programming in the park in early October and have its daily programs fully operational by the end of 2014. ❖

BOATS from page 1

to a nearby restaurant's dock. With that news, the Coast Guard absolved itself of any responsibility. "It's a Sheriff's Office issue now," Smith was told.

According to Smith, the JSO came out on a Friday and ordered the man to leave. Without argument, he did, leaving the boat anchored for the ensuing two nights roughly 30 yards away under the Blanding Blvd. bridge at Lakeshore Blvd. That Sunday morning, Smith received a call that someone had smashed out the front, glass portion of his business. Upon his arrival, Smith saw the damage first hand. He also saw the boat again tied to his dock. Though no arrests were made, Smith has his suspicions.

When he pointed out to police on site that morning that the boat was again on his property, Smith was told it was not their jurisdiction. This time, they told him it was an issue for the Florida Marine Patrol.

Smith's call to the FMP held initial traction. As paperwork was getting started, the savvy boat owner pushed the nautical nightmare a few feet away from the dock and anchored it in the waterway. Rather than trespass onto Smith's property to get to the boat, the squatter actually entered the water on city

property and swam to it. That piece of news lost the interest of the FMP. Smith was then told it was a matter for the Florida Wildlife Commission.

At the time of publication, Smith continued to swim against the flow in this vortex of shirked responsibility.

"Trying to get to the right source for information has been a nightmare," he said. "The biggest thing people need to understand is the lack of awareness surrounding these things. The JSO either doesn't know or doesn't want to mess with it. It's not written in their job description. The Coast Guard is only responsible if a life is at stake. Making people aware of process and law has to happen."

Boats tend to fall off the radar when a person is struggling to keep the power on in his house. So, they sit. Like anything, when they sit, they deteriorate. When that happens, it gets ugly and expensive to effectively deal with it.

"That boat is a huge hazard," Smith cautioned. "There is the real likelihood it will sink and not be visible to the naked eye. When a guy with his kids comes boating through and hits that thing, it's going to be a disaster. And, the guy who took the boat as a 'gift?' He'll be long gone. He doesn't care."

Amidst all the finger pointing and shrugging of shoulders, one thing is perfectly clear. Without the proper title transfer, the owner who 'gifted' the boat will also be gifted a fine and third degree felony. And in the very realistic scenario of an accident involving his out-of-sight-out-of-mind property, those two charges would become the absolute least of his problems. ❖



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daily. Enjoy our historic communities and don't forget how lucky we are. Think I'll take Saturday off and go to the Riverside Arts Market. How special is that?! Until next month, be well, love your home, and hire a Realtor who loves her job. Me.

—Anne Rain

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Hot streak in local rental market continues

BY KATE A. HALLOCK
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

As new apartment complexes go up on Riverside Avenue in the Brooklyn area, renting may

become even more popular for residents in the historic neighborhoods. Local realtors savvy in the rental market share insight about the reasons people prefer to rent. Flexibility is among the reasons people

choose to rent rather than buy when they have the financial resources to purchase, according to Jen Kent, Broker Associate with The Fred Miller Group. “Tenants can move quickly without having to go through the process of selling,” said Kent. “This is especially true of those with careers that relocate often.”

Sacha Higham, REALTOR® with Traditions Realty LLC, noted that “Some are young and not ready to purchase. They may rent for a few years and decide to buy.”

Other renters like the fact that all maintenance is handled through the owner or property manager, Kent said. That may be a key selling point for young people who are more focused on getting their careers off the ground and have little time for do-it-yourself maintenance.

seems to have something that appeals to someone. We don’t have enough rentals to supply the demand.”

“Rentals move quickly, they are listed one day and if you are interested, you have to jump on it.”
-Jen Kent
The Fred Miller Group

Kent noted that in Riverside and Avondale, 36 homes were rented in August while 19 were sold. “Most of Riverside and Avondale have a healthy rental market.”

While some properties seem to have a healthy turnover in tenants, the average stay, according to Higham, is two to three years. But there are also rental homes, condos and apartments that have long-time tenants, “When people love their place and they have a great relationship with their landlords they tend to stay,” said Higham.

The real estate adage that it’s all about location holds true for choosing a place to rent, too. “Everyone loves wood floors, porches. There is so much great architecture in this neighborhood,” Higham shared. “People love all the things to do. Great restaurants, bars and the art scene. Prices for rentals keep increasing here as well.”

“Rentals move quickly,” said Kent. “They are listed one day and if you are interested, you have to jump on it.”

Kent added that close access to businesses and safety are two major factors when signing a lease, but since realtors cannot advise their clients about safety, it’s important that tenants research the crime statistics on their own. ❖

“Riverside and Avondale are both so hot right now. This part of Jacksonville is so full of energy.”
-Sacha Higham
Traditions Realty, LLC

“There are also a lot of professionals that take jobs in Jacksonville,” said Higham. “They will sign a two to three year contract for a job and, until they know this is where they want to stay, are happy to rent.”

Prime rental neighborhoods

Two of the first places renters look for housing are the historic districts of Riverside and Avondale. Both Kent and Higham have their fingers on the pulse in this area.

“Riverside/Avondale are both so hot right now. This part of Jacksonville is so full of energy,” Higham said. “Every area

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Artist Walk may move forward

FDOT spirit of cooperation appreciated

BY KATE A. HALLOCK
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

In what is becoming increasingly common – and appreciated – behavior, the Florida Department of Transportation is cooperating with city and community leaders to ensure that two proposed park projects are not derailed by the plans for the widening of the Fuller Warren Bridge.

Councilman-at-Large Robin Lumb kicked off a public meeting last month between FDOT and parties involved with the Northbank Riverwalk Extension with these words: “Kudos to FDOT for being as responsive as they were throughout that entire Fuller Warren Bridge project. We appreciate the cooperation of the DOT.”

The purpose of that meeting was to see if the Northbank Riverwalk Extension project, also known as Artist Walk, could be accelerated for completion before FDOT begins construction on the bridge in early to mid-2016.

The extension project was approved in 2013 but put on hold when FDOT announced in late December that they wanted to widen the Fuller Warren Bridge and it was determined that the retention ponds in that space between Riverside Ave. and May St. was not in compliance and required improvement. That need for pond improvement disappeared when FDOT changed the plans following public comment about the Fuller Warren Bridge project.

A portion of the space under the bridge used on Saturdays for the Riverside Arts Market will be needed for cranes and other equipment used to add a multi-purpose path along the bridge between Riverside and the Southbank. That space, known as “Farmers’ Row,”

will need to be relocated to accommodate the produce vendors.

“In general, the displacement of the farmers and the unique spaces offered as pull-in spaces for the farmers is something that is going to affect the Market greatly. They will not book spaces that aren’t shaded,” said Carmen Godwin, executive director of Riverside Avondale Preservation.

The solution requires completion of the Artist Walk by end of February 2016 in order to move Farmers’ Row to the space under the bridge between Riverside Ave. and May St.

“We need the space across the way completed and ready for March 2016,” Godwin said. “Our booking system allows vendors to choose their space for the entire year; we compete with other markets for the farmers, especially the organic farmers.”

As discussion continued, a tentative schedule emerged that seemed to indicate the farmers at RAM will have a place to park beginning March 2016.

“Based on March 2016 availability for farmers’ market in the Artist Walk, we have a schedule that... fits that.”

– Jim Robinson, Public Works Department director

“Based on March 2016 availability for farmers’ market in the Artist Walk, we have a schedule that kind of exactly fits that,” said Jim Robinson, Public Works Department director. “It involves the first of October 2014 to first of February 2015 for redesign, leading to the month of February for advertising [the RFP], March to May opening bids, analyzing and awarding the contract, with construction beginning July 2015, allowing nine months for construction. That sequence goes all the way to the first of March 2016.” ♦

FDOT project in Top10

The Florida Department of Transportation was honored for three projects in the Southeastern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (SASHTO) region last month. FDOT took home the recognition in all three categories: Under Budget (San Sebastian River Bridge), Best Use of Innovation (Mathews Bridge Impact and Emergency Repair), and Quality of Life/Community Development (Veteran’s Memorial Bridge replacement in Stuart, FL).

The Mathews Bridge Impact and Emergency Repair Project is also a top 10 finalist in the 2014 America’s Transportation Awards.

Florida DOT’s \$3.8 million Mathews Bridge Impact and Emergency Repair Project required a fast and efficient fix for a major Jacksonville crossing that was struck by a naval ship. The bridge reopened for traffic 12 days ahead of schedule and only 33 days after the collision.

The nation will decide through online voting which of the projects will receive the People’s Choice Award. A panel of experts will select the Grand Prize winner. Online voting continues through Fri., Oct. 24, at <http://AmericasTransportationAwards.org>. Individuals are welcome to vote up to 10 times per day for their favorite projects.



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Historic duplexes get second chance at life



BY KATE A. HALLOCK
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

For William and Tammy Widner, living on Park Street was like coming home. Graduates of R.E. Lee High School, the couple raised their children in Mandarin but moved back to Riverside when Tammy's brother bought two condemned duplexes.

The two identical duplexes at 2244 Park Street, built in 1922, had \$200,000 in fines sitting on the title, which would be waived if the new owner, Jason Johnson, could get them into compliance in one year.

One year to completely renovate four

guttled apartments was a challenge for a place that had been a squat for homeless

people for several years. "We were the first tenants here in eight years," said Widner, sister of Johnson, who lives in North Carolina. "We moved in [March 2013] while it was still under construction."

Even though a second story unit was clearly occupied, the Widners still had trouble with homeless people trying to get in. "So many had lived here that they were drawn here," said Widner. "So I would get

up and have to ask them to leave. They were always very respectful when I said it was private property now and we've never had



anything [of value] stolen."

The one-year timeframe was too tight, but Johnson was able to apply for an extension in order to avoid paying the hefty fines.

"Most of the work ran smoothly, but the timeframe was aggressive to get into compliance with the City," recalled Widner. "It was difficult to get in touch with people who could talk to us about what was expected, beyond a piece of paper with a checklist."

She said that they came down to the very last day of the extension to pass inspection. "The inspector expected to see the place still in shambles, so was very surprised to see it was in compliance within the timeframe," she stated. "He really pushed for us."

Johnson had the original windows in the front on Park Street restored, but all others were replaced. Almost everything done had to be approved by Riverside Avondale Preservation.

The most recent previous owner had drawn up the blueprints, put a new roof on both buildings and some plumbing in one building, but she could not keep up with the requirements and incurred the fines before walking away from the duplexes a few years ago.

The interiors of all four units are brand new, including room dividing walls. Three of the units have brown cabinetry and the original brick fireplaces. Widner's unit has lighter cabinetry and a stone fireplace, as the original was not able to be restored. One building has the original spindled staircase with an old Tiffany chandelier hanging above.

"We tried to put the right things into it and do it right, instead of painting over everything. We wanted to restore the charm," concluded Widner. ❖



Happy tails wagged at 2014 Arf Barket

Big dogs, small dogs, short dogs, and tall dogs were present at the Riverside Arts Market's Fall Arf Barket. Chad, a greyhound rescued through Greyhounds as Pets, and his owner Glenda Seitz enjoyed the canine costume contest and pooch parade. Seitz, of Avondale, is a member of the John Gorrie Dog Park Committee. "It's great that we can gather our pets together at a place like this," Seitz said. "We need to raise awareness about the opportunity for dog adoption."

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4722 Ivanhoe RD - \$315,000
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4521 Sussex AVE Unit #1 - \$200,000
 2/2-1,542 sqft. New York Loft in Pirates Bay! Wonderful townhome with all bedrooms and baths on the 1st level. Beautiful open unit with vaulted ceilings, wood floors throughout, and wood burning fireplace. Large covered porch is perfect for soaking up the views of the bay.



3654 Hedrick ST - \$389,000
 2/1/1-2,022 sqft. Formal living room, dining room, renovated kitchen, half bath, gracious and light filled Florida room, and a view to the wonderfully landscaped backyard PLUS a two car garage is detached, with a great office/guest room with half bath! Short walk to shops.



4273 Venetia BLVD - \$1,195,000
 4/4-4,677 sqft. Feel like you're on vacation every day in this home that feels like paradise! On a protected inlet with immediate access to the St. John's River, you'll enjoy the sound of rustling palm tree fronds, views of the yachts & sailboats of The Florida Yacht Club.



NEW PRICE

3888 Richmond ST - \$1.375MM
 5/4/1-4,538 sqft. Incredible \$75,000 Price Reduction! Waterfront living with casual elegance in Avondale. Located on a beautiful lot at the end of Richmond St., this home features amazing views and easy access to downtown by auto or boat.



NEW PRICE

5238 Colonial AVE - \$140,000
 3/1-1,504 sqft. Charming 1924 Spanish bungalow on a double lot in Lakeshore. This spacious home offers all the must have vintage features: wood floors, 9' ceilings, crown moldings, original base boards and door trims. Updated kitchen and new roof and water heater in 2011!



NEW PRICE

2967 Riverside AVE - \$560,000
 3/2/1-2,700 sqft. Classic 1910 Avondale beauty in the center of the Riverside/Avondale Historic District. From the welcoming and charming wraparound porch to the beautiful Charleston gardens, you will be sure to get the feeling of being 'right at home'!

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2951 Remington ST - \$238,900
 2/2-1,270 sqft. Incredible restoration! Exterior with new architectural roof and siding is historically correct and RAP registered. Large corner lot shows off this gem originally built in 1926. Inside captures the period beautifully, but is overflowing with all the modern amenities.



NEW PRICE

1515 Seminole RD - \$225,000
 2/2/1-1,590 sqft. Conveniently located to all the shoppes and restaurants of Avondale and Park & King, this home has gleaming hardwood floors, two master suites with large bathrooms, updated kitchen with granite counters, a large family room and a spacious front porch.



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2970 St Johns AVE 8B
 2/2- 1,480 sqft. LISTED AND SOLD BEFORE IT WENT ON MARKET by Josh Nugent, Dee Burnett, and Susan Tuohy. Rarely available high floor full city and St Johns river view unit at Beau Rivage Condominium. Call us today, condo inventory is shrinking fast and prices are increasing!



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2970 St Johns 10G
 3/2-2,271 sqft. LISTED AND SOLD BEFORE IT WENT ON MARKET BY Josh Nugent and Dee Burnett. Rarely available and highly coveted direct riverfront, corner unit at Beau Rivage. Commanding views of the St. Johns River as well as Downtown Jacksonville from the 10th floor.



SOLD

1259 Cook ST
 2/2-1,000 sqft. SOLD by Liz Bobeck and Josh Nugent. Charming totally renovated move-in condition bungalow in Avondale on a large lot. Welcoming front porch exudes Southern charm. Hardwood floors in living and dining areas. Tile in kitchen, both baths, and sunroom.



SOLD

4401 Lakeside DR 904
 3/2/1-2,000 sqft. ANOTHER WATERFRONT CONDO SOLD by Dee Burnett and Josh Nugent! Beautiful Riverfront living in the sky can be yours. Just relax and enjoy all the views of the Ortega River and the surrounding marinas.



SOLD

4235 Woodmere ST
 2/1/1-1,830 sqft. SOLD by Laney Smith. A touch of Cape Cod in BOA (between Ortega & Avondale)! Bring your paddle and enjoy navigable access to the St. Johns River via Fishweir Creek at this happy pool home in the "A" school district of Fishweir elementary.

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MOVERS & SHAKERS

HabiJax names Leatherbury chief admin officer



Habitat for Humanity of Jacksonville, Inc. (HabiJax) announced the promotions of three management team members, including Angela Leatherbury of Riverside, who has been named Chief Administrative Officer.

Leatherbury joined HabiJax in 2002, first serving a term as an AmeriCorps Service Member and then joining the staff in 2003. She has worked in several different departments within the organization, most recently serving as Vice President of Organizational Planning and Operations. In her role, she will ensure that cost effective operations and infrastructure are in

place to support the agency's stakeholders.

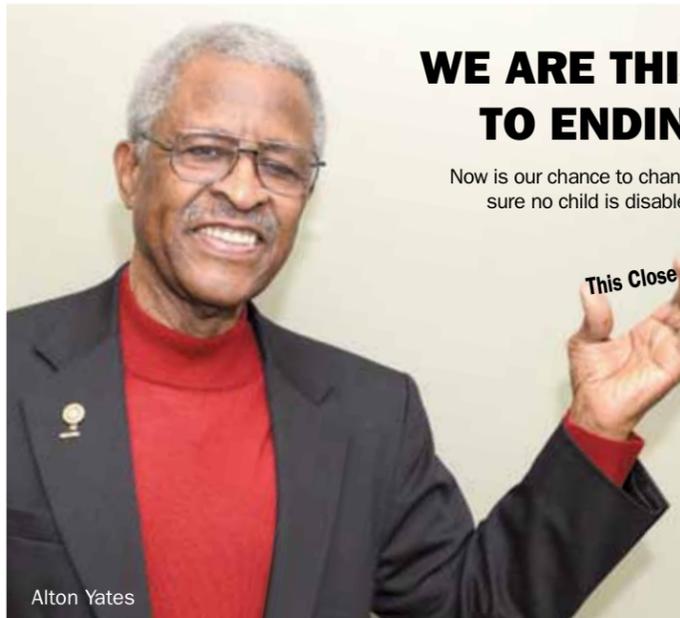
In addition, Roger Cortie has been promoted to Chief Operating Officer. Brenda Thomas has been named Vice President of Resource Development.

Make Wednesday your bread day

Alex Roginsky-Podlyas bakes fresh bread every Wednesday, offering it for sale from noon to 6 p.m. at 2540 Oak St. He bakes pastries throughout the week and also offers bread at local farmers' markets. The brick-and-mortar store is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 6:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. and Wednesday's from 6:30 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Roginsky-Podlyas started bringing bread to the Riverside Arts Market in 2011, where it was well received; eventually he branched out to Amelia Island and St. Augustine. This past June he opened the retail store Ribault Bakery, and noted that since he stopped serving bread at RAM, business has slowed down a bit. However, Roginsky-Podlyas said people are beginning to make the connection again.

"It's a no-frills bakery," he said. "We use simple, organic ingredients and the value is very good for the price." Roginsky-Podlyas places an emphasis on getting the customers in and out quickly, but says that Wednesdays are his busiest.

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This month's ad is also brought to you by West Jax Rotarians Frank Surface of Lakeshore Marine and the Jacksonville Water Taxi and Jeanine B. Sasser P.A. of Sasser Law.

Café anniversary benefit for DLC Nurse & Learn

In celebration of its first anniversary at 2782 Park Street, Mary Ellen Freda and the staff at Café Freda threw an all-day party that paid it forward. The benefit for DLC Nurse and Learn featured live music, a silent auction and unending food, including a low country boil, and the vegan foods that Café Freda is known for.

Two area women honored among global arts leaders

Two Avondale women have been selected among 50 executives as members of the National Arts Strategies' latest class of exceptional leaders in The Chief Executive Program: Community and Culture. Hope McMath, executive director of The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens and Dr. Marcelle Polednik, director of the Museum of Contemporary Art-Jacksonville, will spend the next year addressing their biggest challenges and leading change throughout the arts and culture sector. Participants in the program were selected following a highly competitive recruitment process and from a wide range of cultural forms, global locations, perspectives and experience levels.



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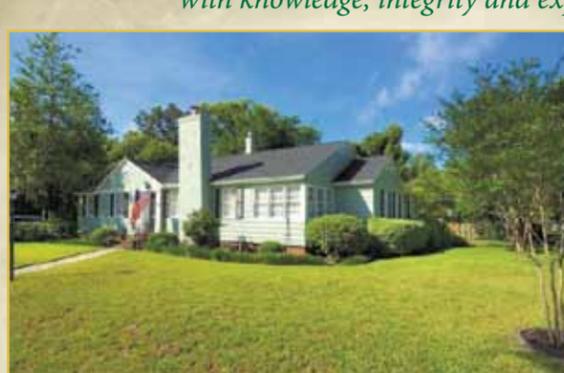
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The steering committee for Rising Tides: James Taylor, Alicia Smith, Tracey Robbins, Shannon Blankinship, Melissa Beaudry, Silken McClain. Photo by Geoffrey Shaffer

Riverkeeper's young professionals ride to save ferry

To foster recreational growth of the St. John's River Ferry, Rising Tides, young professionals of St. Johns Riverkeeper brought 78 riders out for the third annual Save the Ferry bike ride from Jacksonville Beach to the Ferry. Many who joined the ride have never ridden the ferry before, and most had no idea the ferry was so close to the beaches. Friends of the Ferry ambassador Lindsey Brock greeted the riders on board and provided cold water and a St. Johns River Ferry status update.

Riverside attorney named best in medical malpractice law



Sean B. Cronin, a partner at the Riverside firm Cronin & Maxwell, PL has been selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* © (2015). He was chosen in the practice area of Medical Malpractice Law – Plaintiffs, and has been listed in the book for four years.

Before his legal career, Cronin was a pilot in the U.S. Navy, serving as a P-3 (C) Mission Commander, Patrol Plane Commander and Naval Aviation Safety Officer. A member of the Lawyer-Pilots Bar Association, he is board certified by the Florida Bar in Aviation Law and is an FAA-certified commercial pilot with multiple and single engine instrument ratings. Cronin is a graduate of Jacksonville University and Florida State University College of Law.

Florida Blue's McDonald takes helm at Health Planning Council

The Health Planning Council's board of directors recently appointed Deanna McDonald as its new Chief Executive Officer.



HPC, an organization whose mission for more than 40 years has been to champion healthy communities, lifestyles and accessible, quality health and wellness in

seven northeast Florida counties, appointed McDonald after the board conducted an exhaustive search throughout the Southeast U.S.

"We looked for the best candidate to lead the Health Planning Council through the ever-changing healthcare environment, and Deanna rose to the top of the list," said board chair Susan Ponder-Stansel. "Throughout her career, Deanna has demonstrated she is an experienced healthcare, financial and business executive with strong leadership and management skills."

McDonald has 24 years in leadership with Florida Blue, where she served most recently as the Group Vice President for Enterprise Competitive Transformation. Additionally, McDonald served on the inaugural Board of Directors for Florida Blue's philanthropic Foundation and is a member of the Finance Committee for the United Way of Northeast Florida.



Congratulations, Smith Family!

West Dentistry will have a new little patient in a few more years. Dr. Jacqueline West Smith gave birth to Walker West Smith on July 24. The 8 lb. 3 oz., 22-inch long baby boy joins father Grant and big sister Charlotte, 4, in the family. Photo by Jenn Hopkins Photography

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MOVERS & SHAKERS



Chen Henry and Michelle Lin

Henry, Lin bring bento cuisine to area

Owner Chen Henry and manager Michelle Lin have opened the doors to Fancy Café in the shopping center located at St. Johns Ave. and Roosevelt Blvd.

The restaurant features bento-styled Pan-Asian cuisine and sushi.

“We needed this style of restaurant in the area,” said Chen. “The closest bento-style restaurant is all the way at the Town Center. So with having a store on Park St., it just felt right to be here.”

Chen has owned and operated Sumo Sushi at 2726 Park St. for five years.

Stephen Busey named ‘Lawyer of the Year’



Almost a third of Smith Hulsey & Busey lawyers were included in *The Best Lawyers in America* © 2015, the oldest peer-review publication in the legal profession. In addition, Ortega resident Stephen Busey was one of two lawyers recognized as “Lawyers of the Year.” Only a single lawyer in each specialty in each community is honored as the “Lawyer of the Year.”

Busey was also named Best Lawyer for Bet-the-Company Litigation; Commercial Litigation; Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law. He is chairman of the firm’s board of directors.

New doctor joins Jacksonville Pediatrics

Riverside-based Jacksonville Pediatrics welcomed Dr. Ryan Cantville into the practice shared by Drs. Randolph Thornton, Thomas Stanley, Nan McClelland and Jennifer Challey and nurse practitioner Pam Wentworth at 206 Park Street. Dr. Cantville had declined a nomination by colleagues at the University of Florida College of Medicine to be its Chief Resident.



“I gave up the honor of being Chief Resident to join Jacksonville Pediatrics,” said Dr. Cantville. “It was a once in a lifetime opportunity. I feel honored and privileged to have been asked to join this esteemed practice.”

The practice was founded in 1948 by Dr. James Lanier.

Writing of city’s early days a fun thing to do



With two novels now under his belt, Jordan Logue is busy at work on number three in the series about Lambert Van Poole, an early 20th century (fictional) Jacksonville police detective. Just published, *Swindler’s Paradise* comes three years after Logue first introduced Van Poole in *One Fiddle Too Many*.

“I don’t know what specifically prompted me to write this novel. But we are always told to write about what you know,” said Logue. “I grew up in Jacksonville, so it’s the city that I know. Jacksonville’s history is rife with swindlers and political corruption, according to the newspaper collections of the time period at the library, so it seemed a fun thing to write about.”

The Avondale resident is semi-retired after working for the City of Jacksonville for 30 years in various capacities.

Murray Hill man “stars” in new role

Daniel Austin, a Murray Hill resident, has joined the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville in a new role as communications manager. Austin, who worked with JCCI for two years, actively volunteers with local arts organizations, is a member of the TEDxJacksonville leadership team and held a starring role in “Angels in America” at Players by the Sea. A graduate of the University of Florida, Austin said “I’m thrilled to join the Cultural Council...to bring the city of Jacksonville into a new era of appreciation of our thriving arts and culture community.”



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Cavin chosen to lead Hemming Plaza transformation to Park

Vince Cavin of Avondale was named the new executive director for Hemming Park, announced by the Friends of Hemming Park board of directors. Cavin was one of the founding team members of One Spark, The World's Crowdfunding Festival, now in its third year in downtown Jacksonville. He has held operations, finance and event director roles at One Spark. Cavin is also president and co-founder of Party, Benefit & Jam (PB&J), a local nonprofit that raises money and awareness for local charities. He holds an MBA from Humboldt State University.

"Our mission is to bring Jacksonvillians together to enjoy the forthcoming amenities of the oldest public park in Jacksonville as it transforms into a modern urban space," said Cavin.



Christopher Ball, David Wingard

Local businessmen give back to community

The Wishing Well, launched by Riverside-based Wingard Creative, whose principals are also area residents, committed \$50,000 in pro bono creative services for 12 local nonprofit organizations. Among the recipients were Riverside Presbyterian Day School, where Riverside resident Christopher Ball's children attend and St. Mark's Episcopal Day School, where Avondale resident David Wingard sends his children.

The value of the awards varied according to the project, which may include creative services for print, media or websites. "We're going to redevelop one of the sub-brands for RPSD," said Ball, chief executive officer. St. Mark's will have a brochure updated for its Lion's Pride program.

The whole team at the agency was part of the selection process of the qualified applicants. In addition to the two schools,

the staff voted for agencies working with the homeless, animal rescue, children and the environment, representing a cross-section of the nonprofit sector.

"We've always done nonprofit work for organizations that pulled our heartstrings, but we were not disciplined and strategic about it," said Wingard. "We wanted to bring more discipline to the process, how much we were going to give away, and assess the needs and match them to our talents and capabilities."

Wingard, the company's founder and chief creative officer, came up with the program's name. "We refer to our time as a 'bucket of hours,' and our nonprofit clients often talk about their 'wish list' in terms of what they can afford," he said.

The 2015 Wishing Well application system will open on October 1, 2014, and close on November 14. Winner(s) will be announced on December 22.



Andy Nagy, Matt Wieke, Mike Romero, Bill Adams, Ted Brumley

Crossfit offered in Avondale

Five fellows aim to give the full athlete experience to those who desire it at First Coast CrossFit. The CrossFit regimen provides a full-body workout with many exercises, some only using bodyweight. Owner Bill Adams opened the gym after getting heavily into CrossFit.

"It's a different experience," said Adams. "CrossFit provides functional fitness for each individual. CrossFit is community based, and it's good to have that as a newcomer."

First Coast CrossFit offers beginner to advanced level classes with five certified trainers. They are located in Avondale at 3602 Park St.



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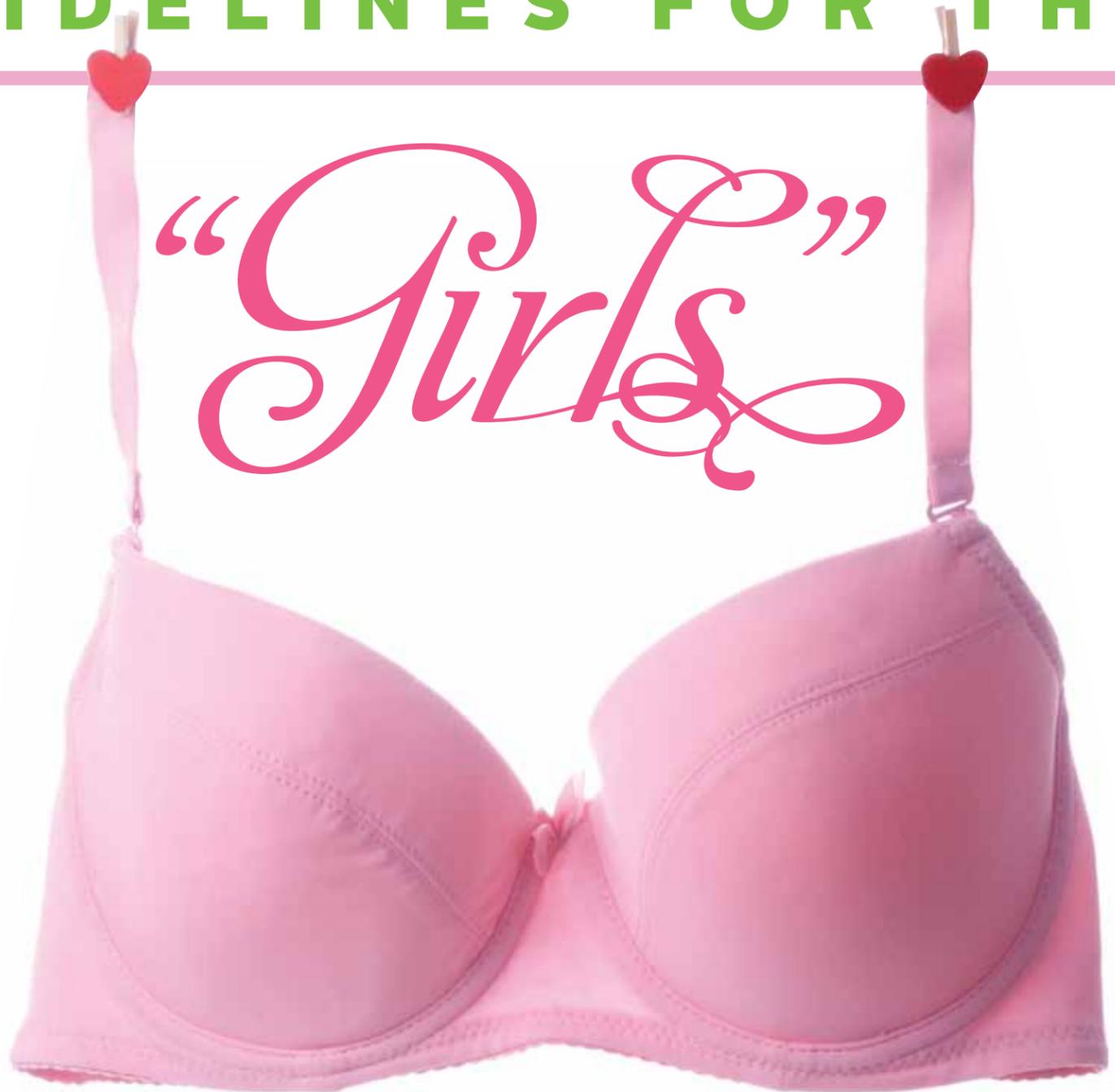
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Go to baptistgoodforyou.com to read the full blog article on what you can do to decrease your risk of breast cancer and learn about early detection guidelines that could save your life. We can also schedule your mammogram at 904.202.2222.

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Mother, daughter team up against cancer

BY KATE A. HALLOCK
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

At age 40, Caroline Capel had yet to have her first mammogram. Even as her mother was finishing treatments for breast cancer and urged her daughter to get it done, Capel was resistant.

"I said 'Nope, with all our luck, I'll have breast cancer and we'll both be in treatment,'" shared Capel, who was at that time planning a week-long trip to New York in May 2013.

Capel knew the odds weren't good; in addition to her mother, her father's sister had also had breast cancer. But she scheduled her mammogram before the trip, was called back for a second one and then the radiologist gave her unsettling news.

"The radiologist kept going over certain areas [on one breast]," said Capel. "There were two masses he was concerned about, and scheduled me for a biopsy after my trip to New York."

The Avondale resident was at work when the results came in. An optician at LensCrafters, Capel was assisting a customer when she stepped away to take the call. "Both of your tumors came back malignant. We're going to schedule you to see a surgeon next Tuesday," the doctor told me.

Capel said that if she had to get cancer, there would have been other times in her life when the diagnosis would have been devastating. "Going into this, I had never been in better shape physically, mentally, emotionally, spiritually; I had passed my [optician] boards, was making good money

and had great insurance; my mom was healthy."

At the end of May last year, Capel underwent a double mastectomy.

"I was leaning toward a single mastectomy but I couldn't imagine ever going through this again with the other breast if I only go for a single. What if they found a little something later and they had to biopsy it?" Capel said. "What kind of quality of life did I want? A good quality of life does not mean waiting for the other shoe to drop when I go in for my annual mammogram."

Her cancer was HER2-Positive, much more aggressive and fast-growing than other breast cancers. This meant that following surgery, Capel went through four three-week cycles of chemotherapy, followed by weekly chemotherapy for another three months and is now finishing a year of an intravenous antibody every week.

"It [chemotherapy] was unlike anything I had ever experienced, but I did well," said Capel. "The oncology nurses at St. Vincent's are amazing. I was very happy with the Breast Center at St. Vincent's; it was close [to where I live] but I also felt very comfortable there."

Capel resented the loss of control over her body and her life, but even after all that she said she would not trade her cancer for anyone else's problems.

"It was like I lived in a bubble. I was out of work for about five months and had no clue it would be that long. I'm single, independent, have a good career and a good life...and then I had to set that aside," she

shared. "But you get into a routine where all the petty stuff falls by the wayside. You just focus on managing the medication, your food. I felt I was in damage control."

Just as Capel was the advocate during her mother's treatments, her mother was there for her.

"She would urge me to ask certain questions and to be a little more assertive when it came to what my needs were. Through this process I realized I could ask for certain things. I'm more comfortable saying 'This is what I'm afraid of...' as opposed to just sucking it all up. It's been very empowering to speak up for my own quality of care."

Capel also credits a very strong support group, her faith and her two cats with helping her to get through that period. "I have a very strong faith. That really helped me to be able to accept life on life's terms, especially with the loss of control." ❖



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NEWS BRIEFS



Baptist Health breast cancer vaccine gives hope

Earlier this year Baptist Health enrolled patients in a vaccine trial that could be another option for some women

with Stage 4 breast cancer.

The clinical trial is a pharmaceutical study of an adenovirus vector vaccine for women with previously treated breast cancer who have not responded adequately to past treatments of radiation, surgery and chemotherapy, according to Troy Guthrie Jr., MD, medical director of research and education for the Baptist Cancer Institute.

“This is a way of treating their breast cancer with an immunotherapy,” said Dr. Guthrie.

The treatment is an adenovirus that replicates inside the tumor tissue

and kills the tumor cells, but does not replicate in normal tissue. The trial involves a patient getting treated once a month for a year.

A side effect of the vaccine can be flu-like symptoms and the first person in the trial experienced those for about five days, Dr. Guthrie said. But her tumors in her breast have been shrinking when other therapies failed, he stated.

educators and clinical social workers provide guidance and support to families.”

Art services are provided by Art with a Heart. The program is open to all families who have a parent with cancer. KTAC supports children when either parent are facing a cancer diagnosis. Call (904) 742-2916 to register for the monthly groups.



Free aloe vera helps ease cancer patients' pain

The Men's Garden Club of Jacksonville's free aloe vera program is matching the growing skills of the club with the needs of the cancer community. As of mid-September several hundred of the plants reached maturity and are available for distribution.

“It is our intention to provide an aloe vera plant free to all cancer patients that are having radiation therapy to lessen their discomfort after they have cleared its use with their medical team,” said Donn Elliott, president of the club. “We have contacted all 41 of the cancer support groups and are now getting to the right people at their hospitals. It is our mission to ease the patient's pain.”

Through the generous donations of sister garden clubs, many churches and

the general public, the Men's Garden Club has approximately 1400 aloe vera plants under cultivation.

“The Jacksonville community has been very generous with the project. The Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens gave the Men's Club a large area, away from public view, to grow the plants,” said Elliott. “Additionally, members have also been growing hundreds of aloe vera at their homes since adopting the program last January.”

The club has nine distribution points in Duval and Nassau counties, and is working on creating a safe, secure way to make the connection between patients and plants. Currently, cancer patients can call Elliott at (904) 635-7318 to request a plant.



Big Pink RV at Victory in Pink

St. Vincent's big pink RV travels thousands of miles each year to bring life-saving screening mammograms to more than 3,000 women. The colorful unit will be at the Victory in Pink celebration on Sat., Oct. 4, 6-9 p.m., at St. John's Town Center. Every mammogram is read by radiologists using the same state-of-the-art technology found at St. Vincent hospital locations. St. Vincent's is the only health system in the region with a mobile mammography unit. Schedule a Mobile Mammogram by calling (904) 308-5490.



KTAC moves to YMCA

Kids Together Against Cancer has a new location. Its quarterly free five-week art workshop is now offered at Brooks YMCA, 10423 Centurian Parkway North on Mondays.

“Our program helps parents learn how to talk to their children and helps take the fear out of the experience for the children,” said Jennifer Maggiore, KTAC program coordinator. “Our art



New online cancer resource guide launched

The Northeast Florida Cancer Control Collaborative (NFCCC) has launched the Cancer Resource Guide, a free online directory of cancer-related resources to help educate and empower patients, caregivers and healthcare providers on the First Coast regarding cancer prevention and treatment.

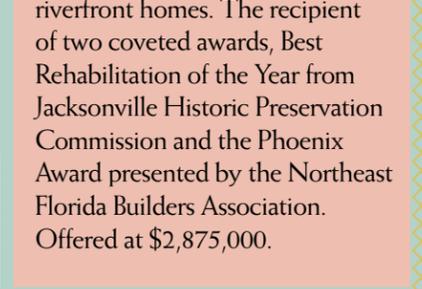
The guide, which is funded in part by the Centers for Disease Control, through the Florida Department of Health Comprehensive Cancer Control Program and the Northeast Florida Cancer Control Collaborative, is coordinated by the Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida. This new resource features provider details as well as information on financial assistance, caregiving, community resources and much more. A section on smoking cessation is also included.

The guide, www.cancerresourceguidencf.org, is the only online portal that offers a single comprehensive repository of information and resources in northeast Florida, covering the full spectrum of cancer-related needs.



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Cynthia Farah with Kyle Sanders, president of St. Vincent's Southside

Working – and living – with breast cancer

St. Vincent's employee knows struggle firsthand

BY KATE A. HALLOCK
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Cynthia Farah was 54 years old when she was diagnosed with breast cancer a year and a half

ago. Farah, who works with St. Vincent's HealthCare as a Service Line Director with responsibilities in Oncology, Women's Health, Cardiology, Palliative Care, and Research, probably couldn't have been in a better place to deal with her diagnosis.



St. Vincent's associates before the Making Strides 2013 Walk

is my biggest hero. She stayed by my side during the recovery of each surgery," Farah related. "I'm very fortunate that she is a retired nurse with the skills to watch over me carefully."

She also got help from other family members, friends, and staff at St. Vincent's.

"I remember one special pathologist, Anne Bernstein, who helped empower me when it came to making decisions about my course of treatment," commented Farah. "I am also grateful to Leann Fox, one of the medical oncologists at St. Vincent's. She is a true patient advocate."

Farah's heroes

Dealing with breast cancer – or any life-threatening disease – is frightening and the patient needs people to lean on, sometimes literally.

"My mother (who was 80 at the time)

Firsthand advice

From both personal experience and as one in the medical community, Farah pointed out that taking care of one's self first is important.

"Deal with your emotions first. Talk to your spouse, family, friends, and others; remember, it is okay to be afraid," she said. "Tell your children no matter their age; do not hide this. Children are very intuitive and will know you're not feeling well."

Kids Together Against Cancer (KTAC), created by St. Vincent's, is a group guided by clinical social workers and supported by art educators that teaches parents how to communicate with their children (ages 5 – 17) about a diagnosis. Learn more at www.ktacjax.com or call (904) 742-2916 to sign up for a session.

Hope for the future

After her diagnosis, Farah and her co-workers formed a team, Farah and



Cynthia Farah, runner # 4278, with St. Vincent's Cancer Services staff

Friends, for the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer event in Jacksonville. This year, Farah and Friends will walk again and continue raising funds for groundbreaking research, comprehensive programs and access to mammograms for women who need them.

Farah concluded, "Help finish the fight against breast cancer by joining survivors, their care givers and other community members participating in Making Strides Against Breast Cancer, the largest network of breast cancer awareness events in the nation." ❖

The Making Strides of Jacksonville walk will take place Sat., Oct. 25 at the Jacksonville Landing at 9 a.m.

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Fast to the Animals 'highly successful'

More than 450 people made life better for ill and injured animals at the Jax Humane Society's annual fundraising event.

Jacksonville Jaguars General Manager David Caldwell and his wife Joelle co-chaired the event, which was hosted by Jaguars mascot Curtis "Jackson De Ville."

Those in attendance tasted wine, beer, appetizers and desserts from local breweries and vendors. Sponsors of the event included Florida Sales, Veterinarian Specialists, the Jacksonville Jaguars, and the Petco Foundation.

Through event sponsors, live and silent auctions, raffles, ticket sales, and donations, more than \$130,000 was raised at the event. All proceeds will benefit the JHS Medical Fund.

"The event was highly successful," Community Relations Coordinator Diana Fox said.



David and Marnie Mayher



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Cameron Kendrick, Annie Bates and Elizabeth Meyers



Rob McCarthy, Dr. Meredith Swart and Dr. Jennifer Pirie

Shindig on the Seine

Children at the Sanctuary on 8th Street have thanks to the generosity of the center's members and sponsors for Shindig on the Seine.

The annual gala's Parisian theme was carried through from the invocation in given in French to mini-cream puffs. Pallets with a Purpose brisk business in sales of Adirondack chairs, picture frames and more. The silent auction featured a chair dressed up for the occasion by Sanctuary art teacher Erin Searcy. Overall, the benefit raised \$88,000 to provide children in need with help, hope and a purpose.



David and Rebecca McNeil with Shelley and Evan Gill



David Ford and Susan Brodeur, Stuart Harbison



David and Betty Rosenbloom, John and Elizabeth Grisnik

Anticipated, unforgettable – Delicious Destinations

The intimacy of chefs sharing their stories, their secrets and their talent was unforgettable. The benefit to St. Vincent's Healthcare Outreach Programs – priceless. Delicious Destinations, the 13th annual fundraiser for St. Vincent's Community Outreach Programs, was held Sept. 3-6 at two venues.

The combination of cuisine and charitable giving inspired some of the nation's finest chefs to create a marathon of marvelous dining experiences, all for the benefit of 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.

Beach Life, the theme for this year's event, kicked off with a unique wine dinner at Epping Forest Yacht & Country Club, followed by a Celebrity Chef Reception and Luncheon by the Sea, a Sponsors' Private Reception with the Chefs and the main event, Delicious Destinations – A Gourmet Food and Wine Tasting at The Ponte Vedra Inn & Club.



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Shannon Claypool, Betsy Lovett, Mary Virginia Terry and Blain Claypool, President St. Vincent's Clay County



Dr. Mike and Paula Phelan with daughters Kate and Louise



Nick and Jean Grimsley

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Society focuses on long-term social change



Myra Martinez, Maurice Martinez, Teia Anderson, Alonza Anderson, Marsha Oliver, Charles Griggs

Community-minded young professionals were invited to learn about United Way's work and how they can get involved at a social event hosted by the United Way of Northeast Florida Tocqueville Society. The event, held Sept. 3 at The Grape and Grain Exchange in San Marco, introduced the next generation of the society to its goal of advancing the common good.

Through their support, each member helps keep students on track to graduation, helps families achieve financial stability and provides people the tools to lead healthy, productive lives. Raising more than \$5 million locally, the Tocqueville Society consists of 300 members united in creating long-term social change. For more information about Tocqueville Society visit www.unitedwaynefl.org/tocqueville-society/

Red Shoe Crew pairs fast food with glasses of vino

Formerly known as the Discovery Circle, the Ronald McDonald House of Jacksonville's young professionals group, the Red Shoe Crew, served up fries and burgers at last month's fundraiser at EverBank Field.

The sixth annual Fries With That Wine event at the Terrace Suite paired wine tastings with fast food favorites supplied by local McDonald's owner/operators.

"The Red Shoe Crew has made such an impact tonight," said Ronald McDonald executive director Diane Boyle. "Fundraising events are very important to the operation of the house."

Fries With That Wine is one of three major fundraising events the Ronald McDonald House holds every year. Although with the McDonald's owner/operators, the major sponsors included EverBank and the Jacksonville "It's always exciting to be at EverBank Field," Boyle said.



Fries With That Wine Co-Chairs Julie Jacob and Megan Dodd



Annie Tutt, Michael Kendall, Diane Boyle, Carol Harrison



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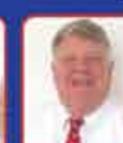
Lee Norville



Toy Scott



Linda Shepherd



David Taylor



Lisa Anthony Tucker

Riverkeeper welcomes new members

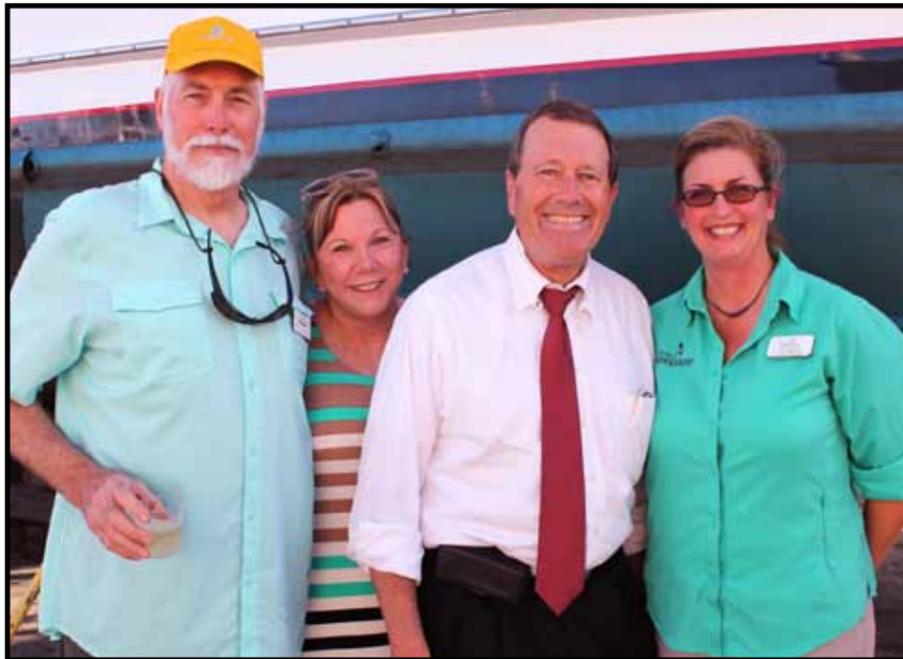
Members and supporters of the St. Johns Riverkeeper were treated to a Low Country Boil at Sadler Point Marina last month in appreciation of its 1,350 member accounts and in an effort to increase membership by 20 percent by the end of the year. According to Shannon Blankenship, development director, 30 new members were added at the event.

"We have had a fairly stagnant membership number for nearly five years. While it was good to remain steady through the recession, our organization is growing and membership in the community should reflect that," said Blankenship.

The Riverkeeper is trying to increase membership to create a stronger voice with decision-makers and to help its standing in lawsuits. "2015 should be the 'year of water' in the House and Senate for Florida, and the larger our membership numbers the stronger our voice," she said. ❖



Harriett Lovejoy, Bill and Anita Dunford, Muffett Corse, John Lovejoy, Guy Anderson



Douglas Coleman, Robin and Jim Love, Lisa Rinamin



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Local Eagle Scout member of unique group

Sawyer Joseph Garland, involved in Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts for over 10 years, is a member of a rare and unique group of Scouts. He has earned the four significant awards of Scouting: Arrow of Light, Order of the Arrow, Brownsea and Eagle Scout.

A member of Troop 522 (chartered by Ortega United Methodist Church), Garland earned the Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout Award on May 22. His Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held Sept. 6 at the church.

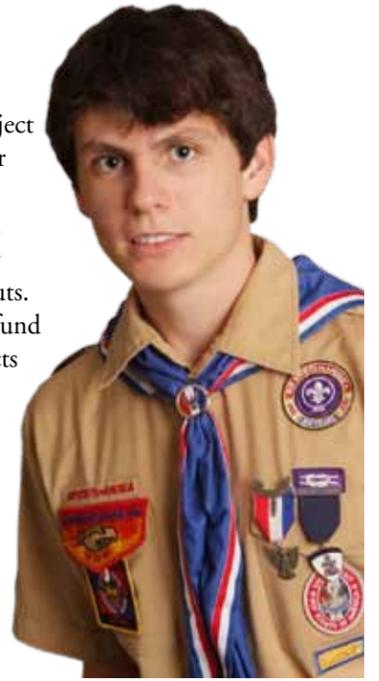
Arrow of Light, the highest award in Cub Scouting, is earned by a Webelo Scout and is the only Cub Scout designation that can be displayed on a Boy Scout Uniform. Garland is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, the Honor Society of Scouting. Garland also was selected and participated in the National Youth Leadership Training, known to Scouting as "Brownsea." While at Brownsea, Garland was a member of the Patrol that earned Honor Patrol, a designation that is only earned and awarded to one Patrol of Scouts each year. Finally, Garland is now an Eagle Scout, the highest award in Scouting.

For his Eagle service project, Garland built, organized and installed, along with his fellow Scouts from Troop 522, a water play area at the Methodist Children's Village at 7915 Herlong Road. The project included a "pitcher pump" with water-troughs

and water-falls along with a wash-up sink. This project provides both fun and educational opportunities for the children.

Prior to earning the rank of Eagle Scout, Garland earned 30 Merit Badges, participated in five summer camps, Winter Blast Camp, and many troop campouts. Some of his other service includes Dignity U Wear, fund raising activities and other Eagle Scout service projects for fellow scouts. Garland also won the Pack 522 Pinewood Derby in 2006.

Garland is a senior at Paxon School for Advanced Studies. He is now 18 and although he can no longer be a Boy Scout, he is continuing to demonstrate the spirit of Scouting by signing up as an Adult Scout Volunteer and supporting fellow Scouts on their Trail to Eagle. Garland lives with his parents, Marvin and Angie, and sister Savannah in Ortega Forest. ❖



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A book can take you anywhere

Girl Scout Cadette Callie Sellers has always loved reading and books. In her mind, “a book can take you anywhere.” Since she was a young Scout, Sellers had concerns about homeless and other children in need having the same access to books as she did. She wanted them to experience how happy books and reading made her feel.

For her Girl Scout Silver Award project, Sellers supported her love of reading and compassion for children by working with Family Promise of Jacksonville to create an organized and updated reading library.

Sellers began her project – A Book Can Take You Anywhere... A Library for Family Promise – in late spring by coordinating book donation contests at her former school, John N.C. Stockton Elementary, which resulted in students donating 750-plus books to her project.

As part of the requirements, the Ortega Forest resident created an action plan to meet Family Promise’s needs, and also be a sustainable project that the nonprofit organization could maintain after she finished.

Over the summer, Sellers spent more than 120 hours, often in the sweltering heat, culling through the books stored in her garage. With media specialists as additional advisors, she learned to navigate websites and to assign reading levels to the books. She devised a coding and organization system to enable readers and volunteers

to easily identify books appropriate for kindergarten to adult levels.

“The skills I gained were patience, heat endurance, organization and the importance of documentation,” said Sellers. “I also discovered that sometimes I need a little push here and there to get major things done.”

Some of the donated books were duplicates and others were deemed inappropriate for the center, so the freshman at Stanton College Preparatory School negotiated with a local book store to trade in and purchase updated books for middle and high school readers.

Sellers was able to donate a gift bag of 15+ books to each of Family Promise’s 12 host churches at a recognition dinner so that center residents could continue reading at each of their temporary homes.

She will be officially awarded the Silver Award pin and certificate at a ceremony later this year and also recognized at a Girl Scouts of Gateway Council presentation in the spring. ❖



St. Johns Country Day School AP scores impressive

Recently released Advanced Placement (AP) exam scores showed St. Johns Country Day School students leading the way with a higher percentage of honor level exam scores than that of the state of Florida and the world. The AP scores range from a low of 1 to a high of 5, with a score of 3 considered a passing score. The percentage of AP students with at least one exam score of 3 or higher rated as follows: St. Johns Country Day School, 98 percent; all Florida students, 53.1 percent; and all students in the world, 61.3 percent.

Even more impressive is that an astounding 94 percent of the 99 exams taken by 49 St. Johns students were graded by the College Board as a 3, 4, or 5.

Given the ranking of the St. Johns students’ AP exams, Mary Virginia Fisher, Head of the Upper School and Assistant Headmaster, stated, “Our students’ AP scores are outstanding. What is even more remarkable is that they were achieved while these students were fully engaged in their other academics, arts, and athletics activities. The students worked very hard under the guidance of incredibly dedicated teachers.”

The AP tests are a culmination of a year-long course that meets every school day. St. Johns provides tutorial sessions, mock exams, Saturday sessions, extra help sessions (daily



Junior Colin Montgomery is one of many students taking AP courses.

if needed), and study guides. The students study for these college level courses to prepare for the exams, but also to prepare for higher education and careers.

Rod Cox, Director of Academic and College Counseling at St. Johns, stated, “It is not unusual for a St. Johns student to earn 12 to 16 hours of college credit through their AP exam scores. Some students start college at the sophomore level. The AP program continues to benefit our students while they are here on campus and as they plan their careers.”

Founded in 1953, St. Johns Country Day School, Clay County’s largest private school, offers 635 students in Pre-K3 to Grade 12 a challenging academic experience. For more information, check the website at www.sjcds.net. ❖

New preschool opens in Riverside

In conjunction with Episcopal Children’s Services, the Episcopal Early Learning Center at Good Shepherd, 1100 Stockton St., will offer classes for children one to five years old, including a VPK class. Programs will include Foundations for Success, Links to Learning and Godly Play Christian Curricula’. Parents will have online access to classrooms through Watch Me Grow cameras.



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Ponte Vedra Beach Campus — **October 8, 9:00 a.m.**

Middle School Bartram Campus (6-8)

November 4, 9:30 a.m.

Upper School San Jose Campus (9-12)

“Bolles for a Day” — **October 10, 8:30 a.m.**

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Jr.
Residents



New club for girls meets bi-weekly

An American Heritage Girls doll club held its first meeting last month at Holy Trinity Anglican Church on Eloise St. At the inaugural meeting, the members decorated their own tote bags to carry their American Heritage Girl binders to subsequent meetings, learned the club oath and creed. The Riverside/Avondale chapter will meet on the first and third Thursday of each month, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Getting wet for a good cause

Riverside Presbyterian Day School Headmaster Palmer Bell was challenged by 2nd grade student Evan Raynor through Facebook. Bell accepted the challenge in front of the entire student body during an outside assembly. PE coaches, Mike Sullivan and Gabe Clark had the honor of dumping the icy water on the headmaster.




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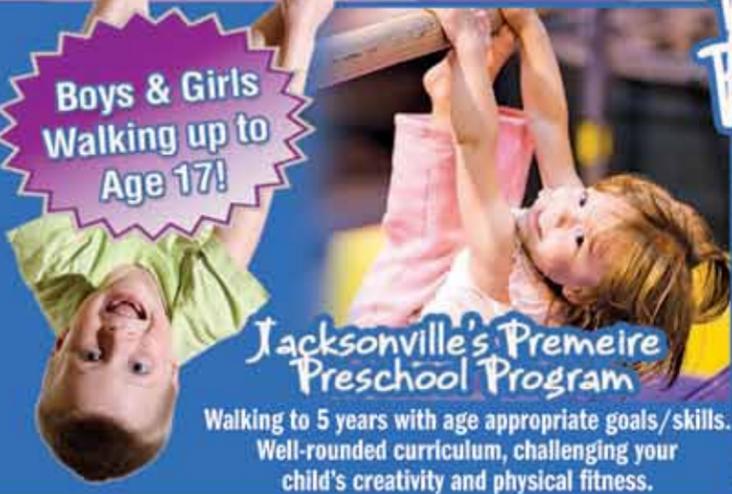
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Kindergarten super sleuths found bracelets, lanyards, name tags and a Mission Possible T-shirt on a scavenger hunt.

450 aniversario feliz (Happy 450th Anniversary)

It was a triple-play of a celebration at St. Matthew Catholic School last month when Cultural Day events coincided with the 450th celebration of the founding of St. Augustine and with National Hispanic Heritage Month. The school's Spanish and social studies teachers focused on Spain for the school's inaugural Cultural Day, when teachers, students and families spent the day immersed in Spanish culture, foods, flamenco dancing, sports, art and Hispanic classical guitar music. The Diocese of St. Augustine, under which St. Matthew falls, is also celebrating the founding of the first parish, Nombre de Dios.



Beginning school with a very possible mission

Mission Possible...No Child Left Behind, the theme at Ruth N. Upson Elementary School, is symbolic of the strategic, analytical and problem solving work that teachers, staff and administrators do to find solutions to complex student needs.

"It will take a team of investigators and detectives to piece together the data, evidence and strategies to effectively implement New Florida Common Core Standards, New District Curriculum and New State Assessments," noted Dr. Theresa Stahlman, principal. "What may seem like an impossible task will become doable if we expect the possible to happen with a highly creative problem solving team,"

Gail Kane's kindergarten class has 21 super sleuths in training to motivate children to ask questions and find answers. Her class went on a scavenger hunt around the school to acquaint them with the building and special landmarks and ended the day with an assembly to kick off the Mission Possible theme.

Butterfly-friendly campus



Bennett and Charlie prepare the soil to plant butterfly-attracting flowers.



Jude was one of the kindergarten students who helped create the butterfly garden at Riverside Presbyterian Day School.



Kindergarten students at Riverside Presbyterian Day School spent time planting flowers in the beautiful Puckett Patch Butterfly Garden, which is part of the newly built greenhouse.

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1308 Donald Street

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4319 Beverly Avenue

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2837 Lydia Street

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2579 Oak Street

1,720 sq. ft. Riverside all-brick office with attention to detail and quality of 1920's construction. 3 large offices upstairs, large dining room used as owner's office. \$259,900



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3027 St. Johns Avenue

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3329 Randall Street

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2554 Lake Shore Boulevard

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Home-schooled Riverside teen has passion for flowers

BY DANA GREYSON
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

A profusion of pretty purple flowers. A neighborly chat. A snip. A tuck. What could be more innocent?

Appearances can deceive. An exotic beauty, *passiflora incarnata*, more commonly known as passion flower vine, is a sly charmer. Admiring it in a neighbor's yard, Sarah Horne asked for a cutting, joining the brigade of adjacent homes on Riverside's Forbes Street, since overtaken by its exuberant growth.

"You can take the leaves of the vine and make them into a tea. Passion flower can help sleep problems (insomnia), asthma, seizures, anxiety, irregular heartbeat, high blood pressure and other health problems," explained the 17-year-old budding gardener.

Horne also ably extols the virtues of *lantana* for repelling mosquitoes, *hibiscus* flowers as a healthy dietary supplement for an ailing bearded dragon lizard, the importance of a butterfly garden. "I enjoy dedicating certain parts of my yard for the butterflies, bees and other little buggies that decide to live with us."

Primarily home-schooled, learning the properties of herbaceous plants quickly became one of Horne's favorite classes, though her love of gardening took root much earlier. "I was lucky to have a mother who spent hours with me outside and taught me to appreciate and respect nature. I adored flowers. I had a special place in our yard that I called mine where I would play and have tea parties. I used to count butterflies, and caterpillars, capture 'roly polys' [sow bugs] and grasshoppers."

Sherrri Horne, Sarah's mother, recalled when the family first moved in 23 years prior. Untouched for 10 years, vegetation climbed up two stories. Dense trees, shrubs and foliage blotted out the sunlight. The yard was devoid of open space. "Our yard was a jungle!" The Hornes hacked away, respectfully. Eventually, a garden took shape.

Sarah's older sister Kristen's love of the outdoors is under development at Auburn University, where she scientifically monitors the wildlife in one of the campus' designated wild spaces. Younger sister Maria recently built a garden fairy house to delight a younger visiting neighbor.

When Sarah decided to spend six months transforming the yard for her Sweet 16 party, her mom indulged her though there were some bumps along the way. Both mother and daughter agree

"What naturally plants its roots in our yard should stay. Birds, squirrels and other living things help us with our gardening." They disagree on where in the yard those gifts should grow. Sherrri

adopts a more Let It Be, attitude, which drives Sarah, who considers it messy, a little crazy. "You should've seen what a mess it was, everything all dug up," countered her mother, who diplomatically describes

Sarah's approach as "more architecturally structured."

The unveiling of Sarah's masterpiece for her party was breathtaking, especially after 67 unexpected guests crowded inside the house for the first half hour until the rainstorm abated. Appropriately, Sarah's spectacular Sweet 16 cake was beautifully decorated with passion flowers.

Beyond the flowers, Sarah's most memorable garden experience to date involved her family's ongoing efforts to welcome butterflies. "In the past years we've seen less and less monarch butterflies. Because of our loss, we made a great effort in adding as many milkweeds and other plants that attract butterflies. Since then we've seen more and more." Last winter, in the wake of an impending frost, the Horne's butterfly resurrection involved bringing caterpillars from their yard, inside. It's unlikely the caterpillars would've survived otherwise. Shortly after returning them to the yard, the caterpillars spun their chrysalis, from which the butterflies eventually emerged. "It was beautiful," Sarah recalled.

She encourages local gardeners to take steps to avert the monarch crisis. "Go out and plant milkweeds, marigolds, passion flowers, sunflowers or azaleas. All grow in north Florida. Enjoy your yard along with



butterflies and bees. It's a win-win." She cites state parks such as Castaway Preserve, neighbors, nurseries, reading and the Internet as helpful resources.

Sarah's newest project is a section of garden deliberately left to go wild. Hmmm, maybe her Mom's philosophy is equally alive and well.

"Would you like a cutting?" Sherrri will offer, with a wave at the verdant passionflower vine. Say yes, realizing full well, when this intrepid plant inevitably takes root, your life will never again be the same. ❖



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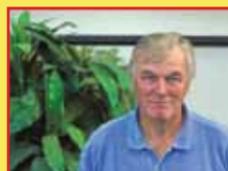
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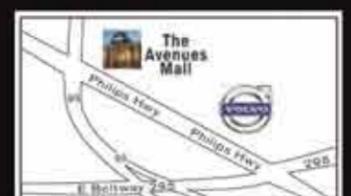
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Dock owners, marinas best beware of rescue efforts

Abandoned Vessels, Part II

BY DOUG MILNE
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

As ugly as is the issue of abandoned boats, understanding process and protocol while trying to adhere to sometimes gray-area statutes and laws can really muddy the waters. Nothing about unclaimed boats is easy. Nothing is cut and dried.

For instance, there appears to be no real line of delineation as to who becomes liable for an abandoned boat that drifts onto another's property which, in most cases, is a dock. A dock-owning Good Samaritan may feel inclined to tie the boat down to prevent further damage to neighboring docks. But, when said gesture is made, barring identification of the rightful owner, that vessel becomes the responsibility of the one who tied it down.

The easiest way to absolve one's responsibility for an abandoned boat is to alert the Florida FWC Division of Law Enforcement. But even then, a quick fix is rare.

"You can report it to the FWC and ask them to remove it," said Howard Sutter, Board Certified by the State of Florida as a specialist in Admiralty and Maritime Law. "But, I think the basic result is that you get the privilege of having the boat put on a list for future removal. Legislature has not funded this need well. Wreck removal is a difficult and expensive task."

Should an individual envision some diamond in the abandoned-boat rough and decide to keep it, measures can be taken.

"First, you report it to a law enforcement agency," said Sutter. "They collect a fee for beginning an investigation under Section 705.103, Florida Statutes, and determine

the owner of the vessel. If the vessel is not claimed, law enforcement may transfer it to the finder with a bill of sale and evidence of the investigation." The finder then applies to the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to have the title put into his or her name.

"Unless the boat has floated up in my client's backyard," said Sutter. "I have a hard time imagining any reason for an individual to mess with it. If you take responsibility for one of these boats in any way and cause a pollution event in the process, you will be a very unhappy camper. Individuals who step into this quagmire run a huge risk of liability, and for those intrepid fools who might try to do this work themselves, that risk includes serious personal injury. Sunken vessels are heavy, slimy, barnacle-encrusted threats to life and limb."

There are also the confounding dilemmas associated with abandoned boats at marinas.

One of several Florida statutes that addresses abandoned vessels is Florida Statute 328.17. According to Sutter, this purports to give marinas and dock owners the ability to acquire a title to a vessel for purpose of "removal."

"That may be their intent," Sutter explained. "However, the effect of the statute is to give title non-judicially to a vessel by virtue of imposing a lien for dockage (including wreck removal). That means they are attempting to 'establish a claim' against the vessel itself."

If the marina comes to Sutter well in advance, there are things he is able to do within their contracts that will reduce the risks and costs when a tenant skips out on payment.

Another mitigating factor with those who become flight risks are the lofty costs involved even when proper protocol is initially followed with boats of lost cause. Not long ago, lightening popped a boat

docked at a private residence on the Cedar River. The strike was so severe, the boat sank. The cost to have the boat pulled up and removed was so extensive that the owner opted to leave it submerged at the side of his dock.

Because of the time and money he's lost removing worthless boats over the years, it takes

about a boat's removal. Some have sunk and are suctioned into the mud. Wooden boats are easier to chop up than fiberglass boats. Big equipment and machines, like cranes, are often necessary. The vessel must be stripped of anything of value and there must be a thorough clean-up of anything potentially hazardous. The reality is that what began as a singular



\$5,000 just to get the attention of Sadler Point Marina owner Brooks Busey.

That may sound like a lot, Busey noted. "But, I've never once come out ahead on a removal project."

"I've dealt with about 12 such vessels in the 15 years I've been here and it is a huge mess," Busey said. "It takes a lot of time, energy and money. Honestly, I avoid that kind of work. I lose money dealing with those boats."

Not only does Busey need one slip for the boat itself, but an additional slip is required next to it for the dumpster.

Like each piece of the puzzle that preceded it, there's nothing cheap or easy

glimmer in one's eye ends up a barnacled, rotten and water-logged pile in a city dump.

Glamorous, isn't it? In the end, while abandoning the vessel seems like a problem solved for the hapless boat owner, it will continue to be nothing but an even bigger problem for undeserving others.

"Just a young fella that didn't know any better," Busey mused, speaking generally of the whole problem. "He thought he'd take advantage of a good deal on a boat, but didn't think it through beyond that." ❖

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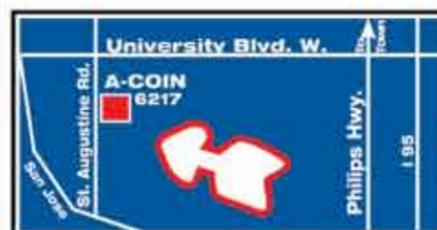
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Runners back Riverside Fine Arts

A 5K race to benefit the Riverside Fine Arts Association took place Sept. 13 at Bold City Brewery in Riverside. Runners blasted from the starting line at 5:30 p.m. and made a loop back to the brewery, where many finished out the evening.

Funds from the race were raised primarily to support the upcoming concert series that RFAA is organizing. The series will feature one live concert per month from October through March. For more information on performing artists, or to purchase tickets to the concerts, visit www.rfaajax.org or call (904) 389-6222.



Allison Dominguez and Ashley Enriquez



Willie Carswell and Riverside Fine Arts Association President Kenneth Reddick.



Participants in the Run for the Arts 5K sprinted off the starting line down Gilmore Street in Riverside. Tiring racers were given several opportunities to make a loop back to the finish line at Bold City Brewery, instead of completing the entire 5K loop.

Literacy promoted at Read & Romp

St. Vincent's Family Medicine Center hosted the 8th Annual Read & Romp reading event along the Riverwalk Sept. 13.

Children and their guardians participated in many activities including face painting, bounce houses, fire truck tours, music, and story time with Clifford the Big Red Dog. Each guest was able to take home at least five books, provided by funding from Physicians Giving Society.

"The kids are having a wonderful time," Kelly McCray said.

JAX Chamber President Daniel Davis, his daughter Caroline, and Clifford the Big Red Dog read stories to the children.

"It's an honor to be here reading to these awesome kids," Davis said.



Ashley Perusse, Jaida and John Heagley



Rebecca, Garrett, Kelly and Brian McCray



Debbie Dean and Kayla McClees



Caroline Davis and JAX Chamber President Daniel Davis read to children during the Read & Romp Sept. 13.



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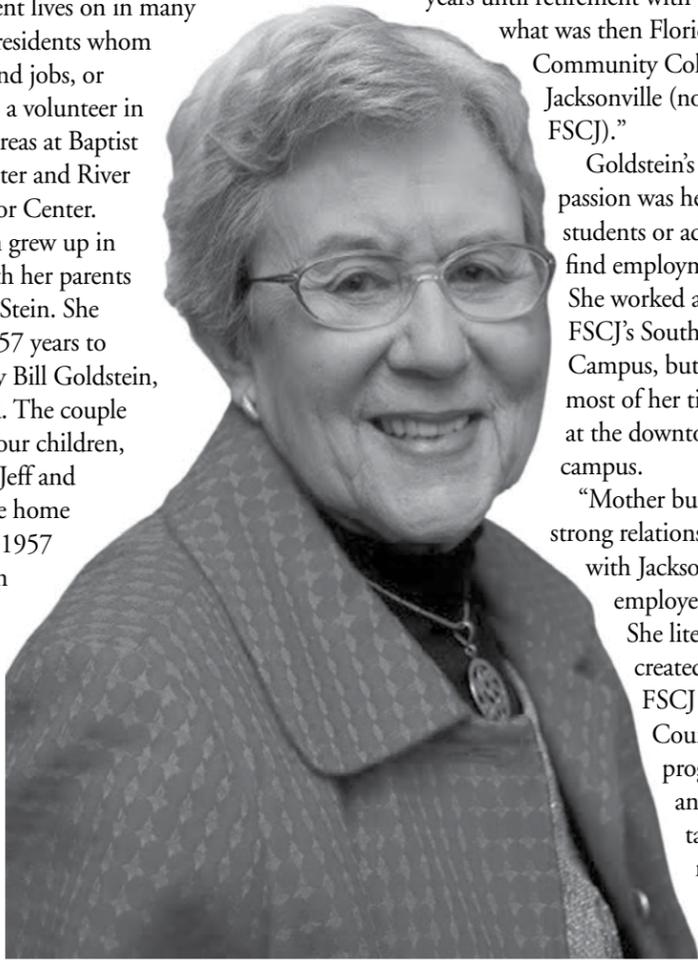
In Memoriam

Beverly Stein Goldstein 1928-2014

BY JULIE KERNS GARMENDIA
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Beverly Stein Goldstein is remembered by family, friends and colleagues for helping others through her career choices and as a tireless volunteer. Goldstein's positive strength and spirit of encouragement lives on in many Jacksonville residents whom she helped find jobs, or comforted as a volunteer in the waiting areas at Baptist Medical Center and River Garden Senior Center.

Goldstein grew up in Riverside with her parents Faye and Ira Stein. She was married 57 years to local attorney Bill Goldstein, also deceased. The couple raised their four children, Janet, Lynn, Jeff and Nancie in the home they built in 1957 on Waterman Road across from the San Marco duck pond. They moved to San Jose Forest in the 1970s and eventually



to the Villages of San Jose.

"Mother was a stay-at-home mom and substitute teacher. She volunteered for everything her children were involved in...she loved swimming and the beach and taught all the neighborhood children to swim," Janet Goldstein said. "Mother graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1950 (psychology/sociology degree) from the University of Florida with the first class that included women. In 1966 she became a career counselor with the State of Florida Employment Agency, then worked 25

years until retirement with what was then Florida Community College Jacksonville (now FSCJ)."

Goldstein's passion was helping students or adults to find employment. She worked at FSCJ's South Campus, but spent most of her time at the downtown campus.

"Mother built strong relationships with Jacksonville employers. She literally created the FSCJ Career Counseling program and talked many



executives into giving students a chance. She enjoyed meeting students later as adults, who would remember and thank her for helping them get their first job," Janet said.

Goldstein, through her interaction with youth and adults of all races became a vocal advocate of equal opportunity in education and for every person who sought employment. Her efforts were recognized in the 1960s when Jacksonville Mayor Hans Tanzler appointed her to the city's Community Relations Council which worked to improve race relations.

Her concern for those who faced extra hurdles in life extended to relocated Russian immigrants who were re-settled in Jacksonville through Jewish Family & Community Services. Goldstein worked tirelessly to help them adjust and find jobs in their fields of training or expertise.

"She showed by example that helping

others is deeply fulfilling. Even after she retired she found new ways to serve by volunteering at River Garden and Baptist Medical Center with her rescue poodle and constant companion, Mazel. They visited Baptist's Healing Library near the surgical

waiting room and did whatever possible to comfort families," Janet said. Goldstein's children continue their mother's passion for community service; Lynn teaches swimming to disabled children and Nancie volunteers with One Laptop Per Child International (OLPC): providing laptops and instruction to disadvantaged children globally.

From age seven until her marriage, Goldstein was a camper, then a counselor at Camp Louise in Cascade, Maryland. She enjoyed attending camp staff reunions.

She loved growing flowers, continuing education classes, and writing creative, personalized poems as gifts. She was devoted to her four children and spouses, 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. She was a faithful member of Jewish Community Center, Congregation Ahavath Chesed and Hadassah women's volunteer organization. ♦



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If you've ever seen anyone driving through the neighborhood or cruising in style around the Florida-Georgia or Jaguar games in an electric or gas powered vehicle, you know how much fun they're having. Or, if you were the one behind the wheel enjoying the good times, you know how convenient their use can be; matter of fact, it may be your time to explore your option to buy. The process is simple when you're working with a local company that offers quality products and superb service.

Branch manager John Thompson and his staff at Golf & Electric Vehicles offer 25 years combined golf car and electric vehicle experience to meet your needs. John and his team sell new or refurbished electric vehicles, outfit land owners with utility vehicles for those with large land tracts and they also rent golf cars for all occasions, with seating from two up to multi-passenger vehicles.

"Our business is built on all-out customer service. We strive for long-term personal relationships with our clients," Thompson said. "Selling or leasing a vehicle is just the beginning. Our one-stop shop offers bumper-to-bumper service by factory-trained experts, pick-up/delivery, maintenance, repairs, winterization, all-weather enclosures, a full line of accessories and shipping."

As part of that service, Thompson is available by cell phone 24/7. Business hours are Monday to Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. or after hours by appointment.

Jacksonville's location is just one of four in Florida, including Orlando, Ft. Myers and Naples, managed by owners Roger Brownell, president, and Jason Brownell, vice president. The Brownells and Thompson believe GE Vehicles is Jacksonville's best kept secret and together they promise excellent customer service



with honesty and integrity.

"Our years of experience have taught us many things- we know how important it is to maintain household or business vehicles and how the customer depends on us. We also enjoy introducing customers to new transportation and recreational ideas," Thompson said. "Electric vehicles are the wave of the future for 100% electric, green energy efficient travel from two to multiple passengers, or golf cars for quick and easy transportation, including street legal uses."

A Green Option for fun and convenience

Within the historic neighborhoods of Riverside, Avondale, Ortega and Murray Hill, electric vehicles licensed for street legal, low speed use (LSV), on streets with speed limits at or under 35 mph, are perfect to run quick errands, visit neighborhood parks, restaurants and hit the grocery store. Whatever you can do with your car, you can do with more fun and convenience in one of these vehicles.

Ease of mobility and parking, including use on large properties, estates and within residential communities, make electric vehicles a top choice, particularly for those unable to easily and safely walk any distance, Thompson said. LSVs come standard with seat belts for additional safety and peace-of-mind. Seat belts are available for installation on any purchased vehicle, along with headlights and turn signals- all of the necessary safety elements- including a license plate for street operation.

Golf cars are ideal for corporate, sports or social events to transport from two to 12 passengers in larger people-mover vehicles. "We see more and more of these vehicles because they're a pleasure to drive and are perfect for so many private or corporate uses. Segway Scooters and T-3 three-wheelers, like security officers use in the malls, are popular for recreation or



sightseeing and are increasingly used by tour groups in major cities," he noted.

The vehicles work well for camping, hunting or farming purposes, and the sporty off-road vehicles are built for all-season enjoyment in the woods or

on the beach. These utility vehicles also easily transport equipment and supplies.

Trusted brands carried by the dealership include STAR EV, American Sportworks, T3 Motion Stand Up Security Vehicles and Segway Personal Transporters. The company services and deals with Club Car, Yamaha and EZ-GO vehicles.

GE Vehicles is the dealership of choice for local private schools, colleges, Fleet Landing, World Golf Village, golf and country clubs, sports organizations, residential communities, major corporations and private residents throughout Northeast Florida. And, as a caring member of the greater Jacksonville community, GE Vehicles has donated golf cars to the Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens for charity events.

For holiday gift-giving, sports or social event rentals call soon to place orders or reserve vehicles.

Interested in taking a test drive? Call John Thompson, Golf & Electric Vehicles Branch Manager, (904) 730-3395 or email JThompson@gevehicles.com. Golf & Electric Vehicles is located at 3508 Philips Highway, north of Emerson Street, next door to Jerry Hamm Chevrolet. Visit them online today for more information at <http://gevehicles.com>.

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Personal hopes in a public place

Call it a community bucket list, but Iva Keyworth's shop window at GottaHaveIt in The Shoppes of Avondale is becoming an annual opportunity for residents to share personal hopes and aspirations in a public place.

Keyworth said that she got the idea after reading about a Before I Die public chalk board created in New Orleans in 2011. Now there are similar walls all over the world.

"I did my version last year using Post-It notes and my storefront window. I was amazed at the response," said Keyworth, who launched this year's Before I Die

tribute on Sept. 14 and displayed it until her father's 98th birthday on Sept. 23.

Six years ago her husband had a massive heart attack while in Afghanistan and was dead for over 10 minutes. As a result of the anoxic brain injury he can no longer make memories, according to Keyworth. "For me this is very personal. I got such a blessing last year from reading the Post-Its," she shared. "I believe that by putting those wishes out into the universe anonymously we give them power maybe just knowing we put it out there we work a little harder to achieve."



Arbor Terrace celebrates one year with luau

Residents, family and guests from the healthcare community were all smiles at Arbor Terrace Ortega's Hawaiian luau last month, in celebration of the assisted living facility's first

anniversary of operation. Capacity is 60 residents and Arbor Terrace currently has 52 who call it home.



Beda Tencza, Arbor Terrace resident and former dedicated nurse



Juanita Jones, Arbor Terrace resident and a homemaker who volunteered at her church for most of her life.



Norma Kirkland with daughter-in-law Maggie Kirkland

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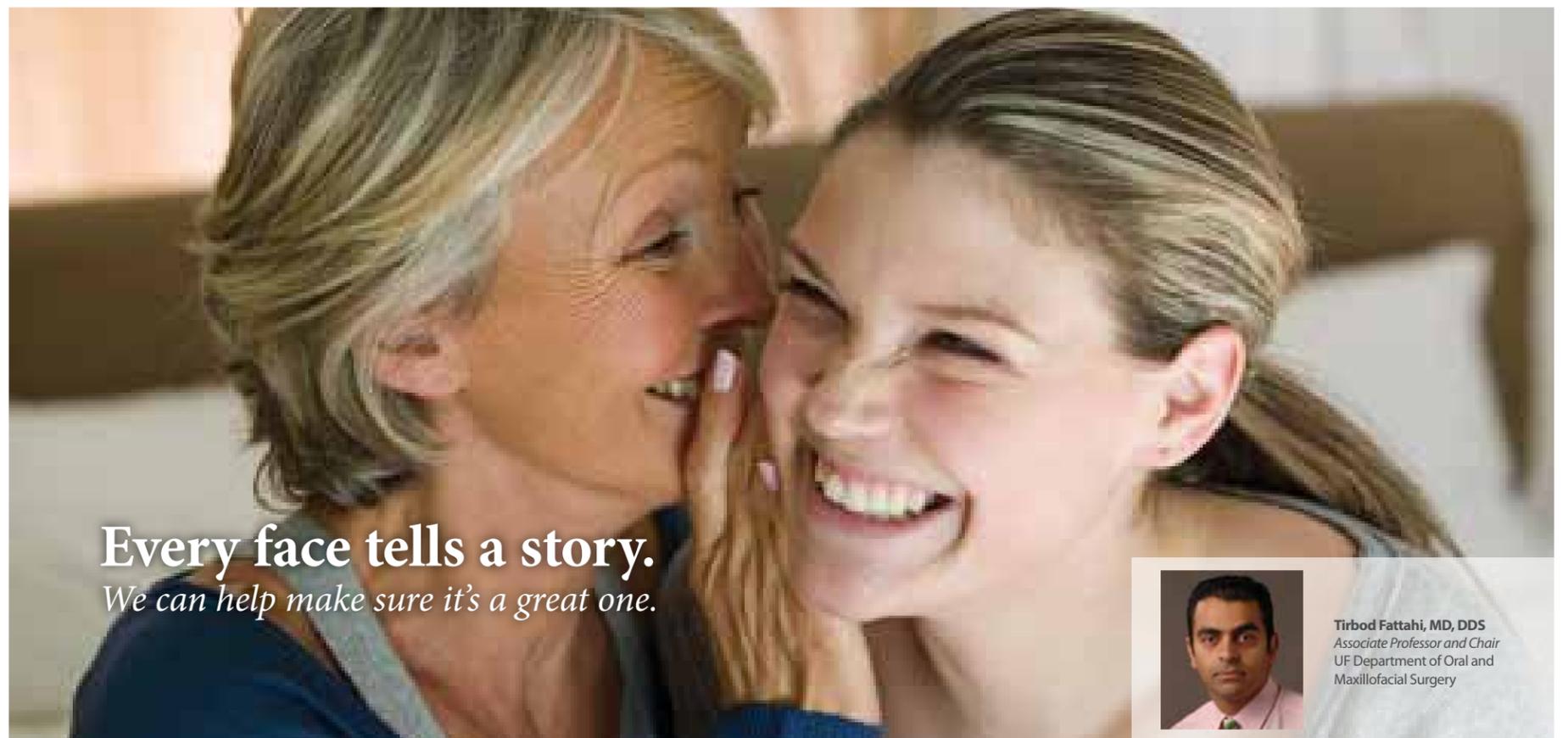
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Memory care, built with passion

After a long track record of building quality developments, which includes apartments and office spaces, among others, John Carey had a personal epiphany. A family member was diagnosed with dementia and Carey began looking for the kind of care that he wanted, but soon learned that there had to be a better way.

“In most assisted living communities, the ‘assisted living’ portion is 75% of the population, while the memory care portion of that facility is at about 25%. The bottom line is that the needs of the people with dementia are different than those for assisted living,” he says.

As managing partner with Whitehall Realty Partners, Carey

started doing the research and learned a lot about what would be needed to build a freestanding all memory care community.

Carey says that for most with dementia, being placed in assisted living mean you are down at the end of the hall and on lock down, but at Arbor Terrace Ortega, the idea was to change the thinking of how to care for those with memory issues.

“Our idea was to partner with a company who were experts in providing care to residents with Alzheimers or dementia and we knew it had to be The Arbor Company.” He adds that he knew there were certain characteristics that would make a lot of

sense in creating the community.

1. Make it a one story building so that residents wouldn't get confused or lost.
2. Provide smaller “neighborhoods.” At Arbor Terrace Ortega there are three different neighborhoods; “Bridges”, “Discovery” and “Reflections”, that allow our caregivers the ability to give meaningful engagement to each resident.
3. Activities and engagement opportunities are designed to meet each residents where they cognitively.

This property isn't just functional, it is also quite beautiful, boasting an 8,000 square foot courtyard, where all the neighborhoods can connect. There

are walking areas, fountains, flowers and trees that surround you. There's also an opportunity to garden and even putt golf balls! We've created a completely different environment that has been born out of innovation and a response to needs. “We're very mission-oriented,” Carey says. “We've been open almost a year and have experienced an overwhelmingly positive response to what we offer, but none of that matters unless you have the absolute right operating partner, and, as simple as that sounds, you find a lot of places who don't do that, because Alzheimer's and dementia care is a calling.”

TESTIMONIAL



Arbor Terrace Ortega is everything family wants for our Mother!

My mother has been a resident here, in the first level of care (Bridges), since the middle of March and it has always felt like home. She had been in assisted living before, but when we realized that she needed more memory care, we took a tour of Arbor Terrace Ortega and fell in love with it. It was everything we wanted for my mom.

The people there are great. We just love them. The many staffers that I have met are all unique in their own way. Each has a quality that enables them to care for our loved ones. They know each resident's special needs. When I visit my mom, the staff relates to me the activities of her day; keeping me informed which is priceless. My mother is 91 years old and when you get to be a certain age; you begin to fall a lot. And, while she only lives about 6 or 8 minutes from me, now there is much less worry for me when it comes to her being taken care of.

While my mother has downsized several times, she's been able to keep her DAR certificates and even the map of the world that she'd been adding to, since the 70's. We know that it is calming to her to see the things she did in her life. She is so pleased with her home, willing to talk about her world travels and socialize with folks who are going through the same things she is. When I enter Arbor Terrace Ortega, I am welcomed with a smile. And that smile is transferred to each staff member as I make my way to visit my Mom. This is a wonderful experience because I know that my mom is in good hands!

- Michael Field



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Go Giver: Phyllis Stubbs



BY JULIE KERNS GARMENDIA
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Phyllis Stubbs, 82, is a quiet lady and a bit shy, until she warmly greets the critically ill and injured children and their families who travel to Jacksonville hospitals and medical centers for care and treatment. Truth is, there is no one better than this gentle retiree to understand the stress and fear that parents of pediatric patients experience. Stubbs, and her late husband James, lost their only child, son Roy, in a tragic scuba diving accident when he was just a 16-year-old high school junior. She vividly remembers the heartache and shock they felt.

"I know what the parents are going through and I want to make them feel welcomed and comfortable and just help out in any way that I can. When something happens to your child the

world stops. That is one reason I started volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House reception desk, making registration packets, anything the families need, I'll try to do," she said.

For years Phyllis and her husband liked to relax over coffee every morning at their neighborhood McDonald's. As time passed, they became friends with the owners. After her husband's death they encouraged Phyllis to visit the Ronald McDonald House and become a volunteer. Phyllis' visit led to 18 years of helping children and families every week, first at the original Jefferson Street location, and then at the new facility constructed in San Marco in 2001.

"I feel like I am the children's mother or grandmother and really can't ever give too many hugs. I hope this feels like a home away from home to them, because they

travel from all over the U.S. and overseas. We have such great doctors and medical facilities in Jacksonville. Whether they come for a short appointment or six to eight weeks of proton therapy, everything depends on how their patient is feeling," she said. "They may be exhausted and just

strong the parents are."

Stubbs used to drive patients and families back and forth to the hospital or appointments, but had to stop providing transportation at age 75 for insurance reasons. She said that driving patients is just one of the many jobs for which volunteers are needed on a regular basis. She said that everyone working or volunteering at the House feels like family. In October, when she marks her 83rd birthday, Stubbs knows there will be a little celebration, but the real milestone will be 2016 when she plans to thoroughly enjoy her 20th year as a volunteer!

In her spare time, Stubbs works large picture puzzles, reads and talks by phone with her sister in New York. Her sister, practically a youngster at age 77, according to Stubbs, also volunteers at her community Ronald McDonald House in Syracuse, where she has provided monthly meals to patients and their families for the past eight years.

San Marco's Ronald McDonald House is celebrating its 25th anniversary year in Jacksonville during 2014. ❖

"I know what the parents are going through and I want to make them feel welcomed and comfortable and just help out in any way that I can. When something happens to your child the world stops."

need support, or if things are going well they may be able to take a break and go see the ocean, just get away from the hospital for a while. I'm always amazed at how

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The Way we Were

BY JULIE KERNS GARMENDIA
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Barbara Richardson cherishes her two grown children, two grandsons and close friends more deeply because of a tragedy she experienced early in life.

Her carefree childhood growing up in Ortega with mother Pearl Johnson Coleman of Jacksonville and father Leonard Coleman abruptly changed when Pearl died at age 24. Barbara was just six and her younger sister Shirley was four. Their loss was eased by the co-parenting of her grandparents and father, and the later addition of a loving stepmother who greatly influenced Richardson, now 83.

"My maternal grandparents, Henry and Goldie Johnson of Woodmere Drive, helped us; Dad worked long hours for Railway Express. Grandmother became 'Mama' and we all grew even closer after Mother passed...I have the best sister anyone could ever have. Shirley lives in Tampa but we talk by phone frequently," Richardson said.

Richardson has wonderful memories of Fishweir and Lakeshore schools and still keeps in touch with many school friends. She graduated from Robert E. Lee High School where she was a member of the National Honor Society and French Club. In 1947, her junior year, a newspaper reporter photographed students learning to drive at school. Richardson was the student photographed sitting in the Burwell

Barbara Jean Coleman Richardson

Motors vehicle as Driver Education Teacher Mr. Mendoza taught.

"I wasn't nervous at all...just excited to learn to drive. I remember it was a huge car with a big steering wheel. Everyone liked Mr. Mendoza, he was a great teacher," Richardson remembered.



Burwell Motor Company provided vehicles for the school's Driver Training Course, which required 20 hours of classroom study and eight hours behind the wheel. Richardson recalled sitting at a driver testing station in class and looking into a viewer that tested responses to driving situations. After passing the course she received her license and enjoyed driving the family car.

"I never drove without permission, that's for sure! I always asked first and if Mama said 'No', well then it was NO and I knew better than to mess with that." Richardson said. "The only time I disobeyed was when a date invited me to the July 4th beach celebration and Mama said, 'No, it's too dangerous, too much traffic, too many people.' We just wanted to walk around and see the fireworks, so we went anyway. When I got home, Mama was waiting at the door, hands on hips....

while we were at the beach my wallet was stolen and thrown away. Someone found it and called Mama!"

After graduation, Barbara Coleman married W. Leville Richardson, who passed away in 2002. Over the years she worked for Blue Cross & Blue Shield, The William Cook Agency and for TRC Staffing Services where she was honored as an outstanding employee. The couple adopted two children, Kevin and Lisa, and bought a new home on Baden Lane in Ortega Forest, where they lived from 1969 until 2002; it was recently sold. Ortega Forest children walked to Stockton School and played in homes and yards under the watchful eyes of parents who were good friends, she recalled.

"We often had neighbors over for dinner parties; many still live in Ortega Forest or nearby. We all tend to stay around Ortega where we grew up and raised our children," Richardson explained.

Richardson loves tea roses and grew 25 varieties of pinks and reds to greet her with beautiful blooms every morning, right under her kitchen window. Her husband/assistant gardener Leville loved roses too and together they produced abundant bouquets for neighbors and friends.

"I'm a 50-plus year member of the Riverside Garden Club Laurel Circle...I learned so much attending meetings and presentations with my good 'flower friend' Jean Harrell of Ortega. I was proud to win some contests with my roses," she said.

Richardson volunteered with United Way charities, especially the Children's Home Society Auxiliary where she held several positions, including president. With her friend and fellow volunteer Peggy Johnson of Ortega Forest, she



manned fundraisers, collected donations, painted walls and worked to make it more home-like for the children.



The women planned summertime swim parties and holiday gift giving, so that the children could learn and experience the joy of giving to each other.

"Having lost my own mother as a child, I wanted to help them any way I could," Richardson said. "I also learned from my dear

stepmother, Vivian, who was so giving. Vivian's idea of a perfect date with my father was visiting folks in the hospital or taking food to anyone who was ill."

For years Richardson was volunteer secretary for a community project held at Snyder Memorial United Methodist Church for young single mothers. Volunteers staffed the on-site school which provided free parenting, life skills and academic classes to help the young mothers further their educations.

Richardson attends two Downtown churches with friends, surrounds herself with angels and flowers and throughout her life has found writing poetry to be a perfect expression of her faith. Her poems have been published in community and church publications. ❖

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or email development@agingtrue.org.

Click the Volunteer tab at www.AgingTrue.org for more information.

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Lee Class of 1964 schedules four-day reunion

Graduates of Robert E. Lee High School's Class of 1964 are in for a treat later this month. The four-day celebration of the class reunion, Oct. 23-26, includes a kickoff event at a football game, a get-together at Nipper's Beach Grille, a guided tour of the high school, the banquet at the Timuquana Country Club and several Sunday brunches.

According to Flo Ingram Hunter, "Our class numbered 610 graduates back in 1964. We document that 77 of us have died, to date. A fair estimate, then, is that 533 members of the Class of 1964 are out there, alive and kicking!"

The Lee High class of 1964, like many of Lee's classes of that era, had more than its share of notable Jacksonville native sons and daughters.

Rev. Carol Leavitt DiGiusto, Associate Pastor, Palms Presbyterian Church, Jacksonville Beach

Rev. Mary Pat Kennedy Spencer, Minister, Disciples of Christ Christian Church, Birmingham AL

Administrative Law Judge, Tallahassee

Mike Kirby, retired Bureau Chief after 35 years with Florida Highway Patrol Medicine

Dr. Mark W. Root, son of local internist Sam W. Root, practices psychiatry in Michigan

Dr. Parker R. McRae practices internal medicine in Illinois

Dr. Elizabeth "Betsy" Barnes Mixson practices psychiatry in Georgia

Law and Judiciary



His Excellency Jose Celso de Mello Filho

His Excellency Jose Celso de Mello Filho, Lee's AFS exchange student from Brazil, is Dean of the Supreme Federal Court of Brazil

Ed Kelly, attorney with Rogers Towers, who also served in the U.S. Navy, Judge Advocate General Corps (1970-1974)

Larry Benton Alexander, chairman of Jones Foster Johnston & Stubbs, P.A., West Palm Beach

Lynda Stringer Coker, three-term Member, Georgia House of Representatives; Chief Investigator and Chief Deputy Sheriff Marietta, GA

Judge Daniel Manry, 22-year

Military/Veterans

Waiting outside the safe protections of Robert E. Lee 1964 was an escalating Viet Nam war and the draft. The young men of the class volunteered or were called to serve in all branches of the military. Rather than singling out one or the other for heroism or rank, the class would like to publicly recognize and thank those classmates who served and sacrificed in uniform for the United States of America.

Arts/Education

Edith "Edy" Vannerette Pye; Miss Jacksonville 1966; professional opera singer with dual career in School Psychology and Learning disabilities, M.Ed. in Special Education, Ed.S. in School Psychology, lives, sings and works in Massachusetts.

Virginia "Ginny" Crenshaw Elliott; Miss Lee High School 1964 and "Outstanding Graduate"; professional artist with shows at The Cummer, MOCA, Thrasher-Horne while earning an M.Ed, teaching French and English in Clay County schools, and teaching art in Jacksonville through museum venues. Ginny lives, teaches and paints in Orange Park.

Dr. Pamela Jackson Winton, professor University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Dr. Bruce Pennington, Professor of Clinical Child and Cognitive Psychology Department of Psychology, University of Denver, CO



Harmon Wages,

Sportscaster in the Southeast," with three broadcast awards as producer and host of Atlanta Falcon's Coach's Show. Awarded Florida Times-Union's "Top 100 Jacksonville Athletes of The Century," published in 2000. Harmon was selected to serve on the Board of the Jacksonville Police Athletic League.

Jacksonville Athletes of The Century," published in 2000. Harmon was selected to serve on the Board of the Jacksonville Police Athletic League.

Aviation

Monte Belger, whose 30-year career with the Federal Aviation Administration culminated with the position of Acting Administrator under President Bill Clinton.



Monte Belger

Clergy

Class president Rev. Dr. William G. Henderson Jr., son of late Dr. William G. Henderson Sr. of Avondale Baptist Church, lives and serves in Black Rock, NC

Rev. Debbie Dunlap Wells, chaplain, Presbyterian Village, GA

Athletics

Harmon Wages, Quarterback for Lee High school, lead the Generals to two record-winning seasons, named to All City and All State; won a football scholarship to University of Florida; played professionally with NFL Atlanta Falcons for seven years; holds three Falcon records while voted "Favorite Falcon" by fans three successive years; Atlanta Sports Hall of Fame, Georgia Sports Hall of Fame, Jacksonville Sports Hall of Fame. Pioneered Sports Radio broadcast in Atlanta, winning "Top

All reunion information, including banquet registration forms, is available online at official Class of 1964 Reunion website: www.leehighschool1964.myevent.com/.

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Community Calendar

Oktoberfest in Memorial Park

Fri., Oct. 3, 6-9 p.m., Memorial Park, VIP Preview Party
 Sat., Oct. 4, Noon to 8 p.m., Memorial Park, open to public
 Tickets include a souvenir Oktoberfest stein, a free stein fill, a giant pretzel, live oompah music and other entertainment. Benefits Memorial Park Association. For details, go to <http://memparkjax.org/event/2014-oktoberfest-memorial-park/>

Piggin' and Peddlin'

Sat., Oct. 4, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m., Ortega United Methodist Church, 4807 Roosevelt Blvd.
 Annual arts and crafts and BBQ, includes pulled pork and chicken. (904) 389-5556

FinFest at Sawgrass

Sat., Oct. 4, 6:30 – 10:30 p.m., Sawgrass Marriott Resort & Spa, 1000 PGA Tour Blvd.
 Annual fundraiser for Jacksonville Speech & Hearing Center includes food, beverages, live and silent auctions. www.eventbrite.com

Aging True 24th Annual Golf Classic

Tues., Oct. 7, 10:30 a.m. registration, 12:30 p.m. shotgun start, Hidden Hills Country Club, 3901 Monument Rd.
 Proceeds benefit Meals on Wheels. Jaguars kicker Josh Scobee will be celebrity host and honorary chair. Go to http://www.agingtrue.org/_documents/gcbrc.pdf for details.



Dinner on the Farm

Fri., Oct. 10, 6:30 p.m., 223 Mill Creek Road
 "Farm to table" event will feature freshly grown organic vegetables, a pig roast, and homemade desserts, live music and art auction. Event will benefit Berry Good Farms. To RSVP by Oct. 6, email mjensen@northfloridaschool.org or call (904) 724-8326.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk

Sat., Oct. 11, 9 a.m., Bestbet Orange Park, 455 Park Ave., Orange Park
 Noncompetitive 5K walk to raise money to fund breast cancer research and educate women about the importance of early detection and prevention. For more information and to sign up, visit makingstrideswalk.org.



14th Annual Miracles Gala One Night Masquerade

Sat., Oct. 11, 6 p.m., Sawgrass Marriot Resort & Spa, 1000 PGA Tour Blvd.
 Annual fundraiser for Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation includes cocktail hour, seated dinner, live and silent auctions and live entertainment. For information call (904) 739-2101.

St. Matthew's Fall Bazaar

Sun., Oct. 12, 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., St. Matthew Catholic School, 1773 Blanding Blvd.

Fun, food, games and raffle to benefit the school. Ride a mechanical bull, cool out in the sports pub, play bingo and more, enter the silent auction and enjoy an All American fare of BBQ, hot dogs and burgers, as well as Asian and German specialties.

Caring Chefs: A feast to warm your heart

Sun., Oct. 12, 7-9:30 p.m., The Avenues Mall
 Sample cuisine and beverages from nearly 70 of NE Florida's popular restaurants and wine vendors. Benefits the Children's Home Society; call (904) 493-7739 or go to www.chscaringchefs.com

Florida Forum: Michael J. Fox

Mon., Oct. 13, 7 p.m., Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts
 Presented by Florida Blue to benefit Wolfson Children's Hospital, actor/activist Michael J. Fox is the first in the 2014-2015 series sponsored by The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital. For tickets, call (904) 202-2886, email FloridaForum@bmcjax.com, visit www.TheFloridaForum.com

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Fall Gardening Workshop

Tues., Oct. 14, 9:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m., Mandarin Garden Club, 2892 Loretto Rd. Duval County Extension Office will hold workshop on fall gardening tips, managing nuisance wildlife, invasive plant management techniques. Pre-register by calling (904) 255-7450.

Monster Mash Dash 5K & More

Fri., Oct. 17, 6 p.m. Fun Run/6:30 p.m. 5K, Jacksonville Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall, 510 Fairgrounds Place
Feature a restaurant village of food, adult beverages, children's activities and entertainment on the main stage. Benefits Community PedsCare, a program of Community Hospice of NE Florida; call 904.886.3883 or visit HDM. CommunityHospice.com.

10th Annual Halloween Doors & More

Sat., Oct. 18, 3-8 p.m. Jacksonville Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall, 510 Fairgrounds Place
Trick-or-treat at Fantasy Doors; enjoy Magical Meet & Greet Streets, Candyland, Trick-or-Treat Theatre, Groovy Goblin Family Disco, and Ghostbusters Grown-Up Grotto. Benefits Community PedsCare, a program of Community Hospice of NE Florida; call 904.886.3883 or visit HDM. CommunityHospice.com.

North Florida Komen Race for the Cure

Sat., Oct. 18, Metropolitan Park, 1410 Gator Bowl Boulevard
5K/2K run/fitness walk benefits breast cancer research. Register at www.komennorthflorida.org/komen-race-for-the-cure

Pond Workshop

Tues., Oct. 21, 9:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m., Duval County Extension Office, 1010 N. McDuff Ave.
Workshop topics on pond design, planting and maintenance of ponds. Pre-register by calling (904) 255-7450.

Smart Women Make Change: Danica Patrick

Thurs., Oct. 23, Noon-1:30 p.m., Florida Blue Conference Center, 4800 Deerwood Campus Pkwy
Benefits Junior Achievement Girl\$, which brings financial literacy programs to girls and young women. For information, call (904) 398-9944, ext. 231 or go to www.jajax.com

First Coast R4L Kickoff Rally

Thurs., Oct. 23, 6 p.m. - 7 p.m., Fionn MacCool's at The Landing, 2 Independent Dr.
Event volunteers and participants will gather to launch fundraising efforts for the year. Volunteers and survivors are invited to attend. For more information call (904) 391-3618 or visit RelayForLife.org

See the Girls Summit

Fri., Oct. 24, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Main Library, 303 N. Laura Street
One-day conference with three tracks (See Me Now: Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children; Advocacy to Activism; Girl-Centered Practice). Register at www.seethegirl.org/event

Patrons of the Hearts 10th Annual Artscapade

Fri., Oct. 24, 7 p.m. - 11 p.m., The Museum, 4160 Boulevard Center Drive
Raise funds to continue to provide life-

saving surgery to children with congenital heart defects from around the world. Theme is Caribbean Tales with "Caribbean chic" dress theme. For tickets, visit www.patronsofthehearts.com

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk

Sat., Oct. 25, 9 a.m., Jacksonville Landing, 2 Independent Dr.
Noncompetitive 5K walk to raise money to fund breast cancer research and educate women about the importance of early detection and prevention. For more information and to sign up, visit makingstrideswalk.org.

Health Screenings & Wellness Fair

Sat., Oct. 25, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wyndham Downtown Jacksonville Hotel, 1515 Prudential Drive
Free screenings include blood pressure, glucose, high cholesterol, body mass index, dental, prostate (men over 40 years), podiatry (foot), cardiac evaluation including echocardiogram and carotid Doppler testing, eye examinations, nutrition counseling, arthritis evaluation, bone density testing, psychiatry and mobile mammography. To schedule mammography call (904) 308-3780. There may be cost for the screening based on insurance coverage or financial qualifications.

Wine, Women & Shoes

Sat., Oct. 25, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., Hyatt Regency Riverfront
Proceeds benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Florida. Event information and

tickets are available at www.winewomenandshoes.com/Jacksonville.

Trunk or Treat

Fri., Oct. 31, 5:30-8 p.m., Avondale United Methodist Church, 1651 Talbot Ave.
Enjoy a safe Halloween experience! Free, open to public. Cake walk, too! For details, call (904) 389-1175; visit www.aumcjax.org

Park & King Halloween

Fri., Oct. 31, 5-6:30 p.m., in front of Riverside Baptist Church, 2650 Park St.
Join District 14 Councilman Jim Love and other community leaders for free, family-friendly games, costume contest and trick-or-treat.



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The Boselli Foundation, Tony and Angie Boselli



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