



ROARING INTO YEAR 20 WITH JCC

Jacksonville Children's Chorus celebrated in style at Puttin' on the Ritz in late-September. Host Gary McCalla alongside Brandon and Kimberly Lang, Deborah Ganoë, Elise Bishop, Michelle Bowman, Stanley Bishop and Steven Ganoë celebrated in their best 20s attire



Resident

Community News

San Jose — San Marco — St. Nicholas

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Fiercely Local News ... Fiercely Loyal Readers

October 2015, Vol. 7, Issue 10

Plans in progress to make Southbank more livable

Bringing 'neighborhood' back into the equation

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

For 50 years Jacksonville's Southbank has been a place people drive through on their way to somewhere else. In a meeting Sept.

24, consultants hired by the city's Downtown Investment Authority sought feedback from the public on how they can transform Riverplace Boulevard into a street that would help make the area a "place people drive to."

Full funding has been set aside to reconfigure the lanes of Riverplace Boulevard so it can become more bicycle- and pedestrian-friendly, said DIA Executive Director Aundra Wallace,

Continue reading on page 31

Big Splash for Survivors

Breast cancer survivors were honored with a special race during the Jacksonville Dragon Boat Festival Sept. 26 at the Jacksonville Landing. Survivors from Jacksonville, Indianapolis and Orlando challenged each other in 42-foot canoes on a 350-meter course on the St. Johns River.

During a lunchtime intermission, the breast cancer survivors were honored with a special ceremony organized by Jeri Millard, owner of In The

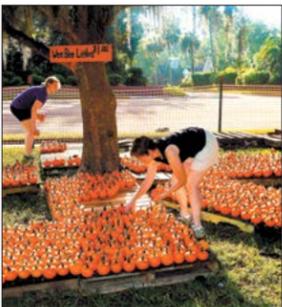
Pink, a shop that caters the needs of women struggling with breast cancer.

During the ceremony, Marie Dodson, a member of the Jacksonville Mammoglam team, spoke about the role Dragon Boat racing has had in her recovery. The women were also serenaded by Tim McGraw, who had taped a special song for the occasion, which was shown on a large screen above the center concourse.

Each survivor was given a pink carnation, which they threw into the St. Johns River after the ceremony.



Ready to race were several members of the Jacksonville Mammoglam, a Jacksonville Dragon Boat Club team comprised entirely of breast cancer survivors. Paddling for the squad were Martha Sweet, Denise Grabow, Eileen Troxel, Laura Brown, Sheila Hickson-Curran, Kristen Mann, Cathy Serb and Dollie Lim, who dressed as Cleopatra.



Church members Tiffany Mossuto and Becky Ryan help arrange the Wee Bee Little pumpkins

A Sea of Orange at SUMC

Church and community members were out in force Sept. 26 as the annual pumpkin delivery arrived at Southside United Methodist Church. More than 45,000 pounds of pumpkins were unloaded in the church's front yard between Hendricks Avenue and Old San Jose Road. "This is better than Christmas because you know what you're getting and you're still excited," said Southside UMC Youth Pastor Steve Dickson.

The pumpkins will be for sale Monday through Friday from noon to 8 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. On Sunday, purchases can be made on the honor system.

A Taste of Paris in Ponte Vedra

St. Vincent's HealthCare Foundation continues to serve the community by providing medical care to the underserved in Northeast Florida. Funding these initiatives is made possible by the generosity of patrons who support marquis events, such as Delicious Destinations, Jacksonville's premier food and wine event. This year was no exception, as sponsors, guests and chefs throughout the Southeast rallied for mobile outreach ministry. See more photos on page 21



Maureen and Jay Burnett

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1431 RIVERPLACE 2003 - \$230,000
1/1-1, 123 sqft. Capture this rare opportunity in the low \$200's!! Spacious A4W 1/1 plan with LARGE DEN! Peninsula is still the height of luxury condo living on the St John's River! Italian cherry kitchen cabinets and KitchenAid appliances.

9010 CRAVEN RD - \$290,000
6/4-3,486 sqft. Motivated Seller! Bring an offer! This gorgeous custom family home has been refreshed with all new paint inside and out, new flooring, sod, landscaping, new front fencing and pressure washing.

9193 BAY COVE LN - \$350,000
5/2/1-2,867 sqft. Located in desirable Beauclerk & on over a half acre corner lot, this all brick home offers spacious living areas ideal for large or growing family. Fabulous kitchen boasts granite counters, abundant 42" maple cabinetry.

1516 MARCO PL - \$415,000
4/2-2,088 sqft. Located in Alexandria Place, the hidden treasure community of San Marco, just two blocks from San Marco Square, walking distance to all the action, this exceptional brick bungalow home has mesmerizing curb appeal.



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3634 HENDRICKS AVE - \$199,000
3/1-1,246 sqft. MUST SEE INTERIOR! Absolutely Charming Starter Home with detached NEWER 2-car garage! Beautifully upgraded home with original Hardwood floors throughout. Very solidly built makes for a quite interior.



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2175 KINGSWOOD RD - \$239,900
5/3/1-2,474 sqft. Move fast on this newly renovated 5 bedroom 3.5 bath home nestled in "Kingswood Terrace". Built in 2007, this two-story property with an open floor plan features a spacious living room/dining room combo.

3954 SAN JOSE BLVD - \$330,000
3/2-1,931 sqft. Charming home in historical San Marco. Walk to the much desired Hendricks Elementary school. This 3ba/2br comes with lots of outdoor entertaining spaces. A gorgeous backyard, large sunroom and two car garage.

2770 SCOTT CIR
3/2-1,572 sqft. SOLD by Camilo Ramirez. Not a Short Sale. Great opportunity to own a mid-century home in great Mandarin. Quiet and beautiful neighborhood. This beautiful house sits on a huge lot with pool.

2525 COLLEGE ST 1208
2/2-1,410 sqft. SOLD by Lynne Ferguson and Jane Slater. A step back in time with all the modern conveniences! A gorgeous Restoration & Renovation of a Historic Landmark this unit is better than new!



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111 SEA HAMMOCK WAY - \$765,000
3/2-1,705 sqft. This condo is nestled in between the magnificent homes in South Ponte Vedra Beach. You will be swept away by the gorgeous ocean views in this corner end condo. Large balcony to sit and watch the ocean waves.

1727 KINGSWOOD RD - \$261,000
3/2/1-1,696 sqft. Absolute doll house with NEW roof. The charm of this all brick 1 story lures you from the moment you drive by with front yard shade tree and brick appointed sidewalk. Original and beautiful hardwood floors.



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1431 NORTHWOOD RD - \$375,000
3/2/1-2,078 sqft. Motivated Seller! Lovely traditional all brick two story home on desirable street just minutes from San Marco Square. This home boasts gorgeous original hardwood floors throughout.

11820 CAROLWOOD LN - \$249,900
4/2-1,810 sqft. BEAUTIFUL home located on quiet cul-de-sac in DEASON'S Walk. This Home features large open floor plan, tile floors, stainless steel appliances, cooking island, large master suite with additional living/office area.

2750 THORNWOOD LN - \$499,000
5/4-3,268 sqft. Absolutely stunning two story home in the heart of San Marco! Located in the "A" rated Hendricks Elementary district, this spacious home boasts brand new hardwood floors and top of the line kitchen and baths.

13570 MANDARIN RD - \$1.850MM
5/5/2-4,386 sqft. Timeless Elegance on the St. Johns River! Beautifully proportioned custom built masterpiece on a gorgeous and private high bluff lot, right in the heart of Mandarin. This home was designed by architect Bill Leuthold.



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3655 LEEWOOD LN - \$335,000
3/2/1-2,389 sqft. Beautifully remodeled pool home in San Jose features wood floors, new Plantation Shutters throughout and an amazing eat in kitchen with Granite countertops, Stainless appliances, wine cooler, tile floor and backsplash.

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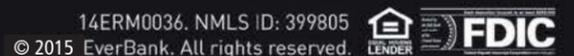
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Balis Park gets spruce up

Balis Park got a major spruce up when the San Marco Preservation Society arranged to have the beds cleaned out and new plants installed Sept. 17 and 18.

Planning for the new landscaping began early in the summer when Jamie Ross of Jamie Ross Garden and Landscape Design was consulted on ways to bring a more uniform look to the park and to add color to the flower beds, said SMPS member Mary Toomey, who was in charge of the project. All of Ross's services were donated, Toomey said.

More than 600 jasmine plants were added to the eastern end of the park as ground cover. In the southern end of the park, agapanthus was planted and Anne Marie Lantana was added for color, Toomey said. Meanwhile, African irises were relocated to other areas of the park and pine straw was used as mulch in the beds and around the trees.

Brian Box of Horizon Landscaping cleaned the beds and installed all the plants. The Society spent approximately \$4,000



In mid-September, pine straw was placed around plants in Balis Park as part of a landscaping effort by the San Marco Preservation Society.

from its reserve account, Toomey said. When Balis Park was redesigned and improved in 2013, funds were set aside for its continued maintenance, she said.

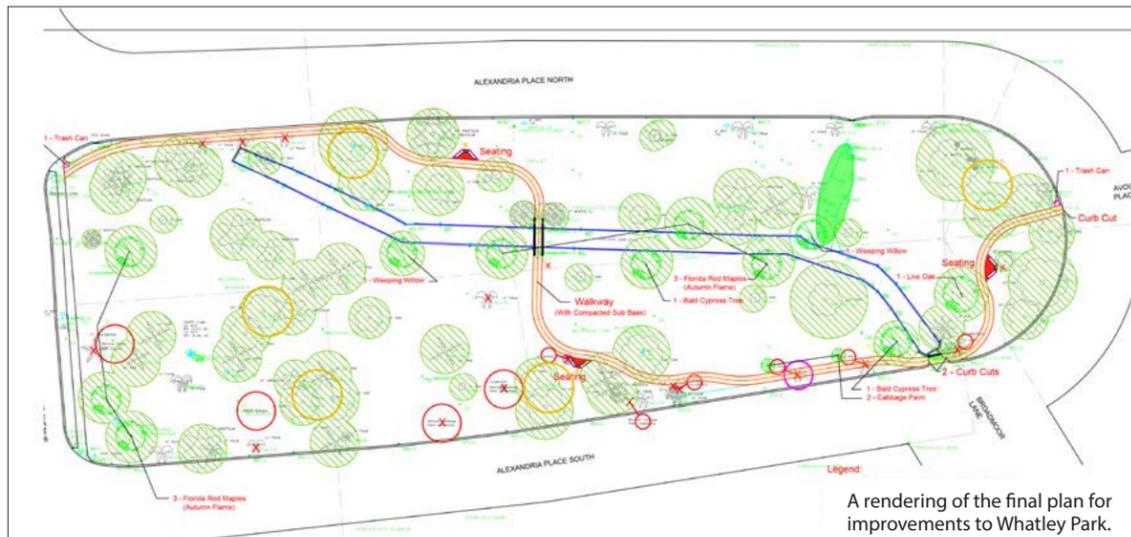


The beds were cleaned out and jasmine was planted as ground cover in San Marco's Balis Park.



Balis Park flowerbeds received new pine straw mulch during a re-landscaping effort by the San Marco Preservation Society in September.

Improvements to Whatley Park move forward



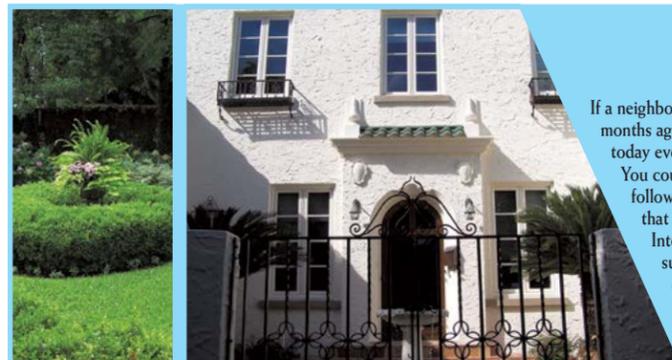
Improvements to Brown L. Whatley Park are finally at the bidding phase, said San Marco Preservation Society President Andrew Dickson. With any luck, construction will begin in mid-October and the project will be finished by the holidays, he said.

In early September landscape architect Rob Smith of San Marco put final modifications on his landscaping design of Whatley Park and submitted it to the city.

Smith, who donated his services to the Preservation Society, expanded on a sketch by Whatley neighborhood resident Don Halil, which neighborhood residents approved in May.

The plan includes installing a concrete path through the park as well as new benches and upgraded lighting within the tree canopy. Also included will be the installation of an underground pipe to replace the side swale in the northeast corner of the park, which feeds into the concrete creek.

In October, SMPS will roll out commemorative opportunities for residents who might like to donate benches and railings for the small bridge over the creek, said Dickson. "Everything is going smoothly and I'm really happy the neighborhood got behind this project."



Real Estate Markets are Fluid

If a neighbor sold his house for a half million six months ago, it doesn't mean you will get a half million today even if you have the exact same house. You could get more, you could get less. Price follows the market up and down and the factors that determine the market are ever changing. Interest rates, the ease of getting a loan, supply and demand, the job market, the cost of goods sold and public confidence in the economy are all key elements that control the real estate market. With fluidity in the marketplace, change is a given.

Over the past six months in NE Florida, we've experienced extremely low interest rates, straight-up lender programs and a shortfall of houses listed. These ingredients drove our re-sale market from a 'buyers' market last winter to a 'sellers' market since. We are seeing quick sales on houses in good condition and priced correctly. We all know location location location is the number one factor that keeps prices up, but your home's condition is a key variable that slides your price up or down on the price scale. If you have a roof less than 10 years old, fairly recent plumbing and electrical updates and you've done

some nice remodeling in the last decade in the kitchen and bathrooms, you will likely sell at the upper end of your street's price range. If you are thinking about selling in the next five years, my advice is to go ahead and start working your way through the above list so that you can enjoy the renovations while you still live there. When you are ready to sell, your house will be ready too. If you need help trying to decide what improvements to make on your home, why not call me? I love my job because of you and your beautiful homes.

—Anne Rain



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City addresses flooding on Pennsylvania Avenue

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

San Marco residents who live on Pennsylvania Avenue near Hendricks Avenue Elementary School will finally get relief from backyard flooding.

Construction has begun to install new drainage pipes along the rear of several house lots along Pennsylvania Avenue to alleviate the severe flooding, which has caused significant damage to garages and homes on the street.

The project will also correct the storm drain issue at Pennsylvania Avenue and San Jose Boulevard, which has resulted in the closure of that intersection in periods of very heavy rainfall.

Construction to fix the drainage began in early September and should take three months to complete, said Rick Voyd, an employee of Vallencourt Construction. "We're shooting to have it finished at the

beginning of December," he said.

"The city wants it done as expeditiously as possible with a minimum disruption to the community," said Jack D'Amato of C & ES Consultants, who is working as an inspector on the project for the Department of Public Works.

For years heavy rain often has created lake-like conditions and a breeding ground for mosquitoes behind the Pennsylvania Avenue homes.

In an email to District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer, Pennsylvania Avenue homeowner Lee McCook reported that an afternoon rainstorm in June completely covered his backyard with two to three inches of water. "Some parts of the yard are under eight to 10 inches of water," McCook wrote. "My neighbor's backyard is partially flooded. This is the second time this week the backyards have flooded."

To solve the problem, the final plan will utilize the separate outfall along



A city easement between two homes on Pennsylvania Avenue in San Marco is roped off so that construction workers can install drainage pipes behind the houses to prevent backyard flooding.

Pennsylvania Avenue to the Sunnyside Drive drainage system that directly connects to the river. Workers will take out the old drainage system behind the homes and replace it with a new drainage

structure, said D'Amato. This will include a large pipe and three storm boxes. Also included will be new curbing and a gutter in front of the homes, he said.

Millers Creek Tax District seeking 'mandatory' donations

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

The Millers Creek Special Tax District made its first effort to raise money to put toward the goal of dredging Millers Creek so residents can better use the waterway near their homes.

During a meeting Sept. 14, Special Tax

District members voted unanimously to ask the 28 homeowners within its boundaries to "donate what they can between \$100 and \$1,000" to be collected within 45 days of notice to the group that the District's bank account has been established.

The bank account was expected to be in place by the end of September, said Sharon Johnson, District secretary.

Special Tax District Chairman Dr. Rene Pulido, who put forth the motion, said the money would be used to pay for a survey of the creek and miscellaneous operating expenses until the District has secured financing. District lawyer Wayne Flowers will be paid once financing is in hand, said Johnson.

Money donated by the residents will be credited toward the first tax bill and help to establish the district budget for the year, said District treasurer Chris Rose. According to Ordinance 2014-700, which established the Millers Creek Special District, each homeowner in the district will pay an equal amount regardless of difference in property values.

"We'll have everyone pay what they can. It will all equal out in the end," said Pulido.

For more timely and improved communication between the District and its residents and to ensure transparency, a website, savemillerscreek.com, has been created by William Jones. It includes biographies of the District's board members, contact forms and a place for residents to log suggestions as well as local news stories featuring the Millers Creek dredging project. The board is also soliciting old photographs of the creek to compare what it looked like in past years.

"We'll have everyone pay what they can. It will all equal out in the end"

— Dr. Rene Pulido
Special Tax District Chairman

During the meeting the residents watched a special documentary, which the district commissioned from San Marco filmmaker Carlos Bouvier entitled *Saving Millers Creek*. The documentary, which featured an interview with marine biologist Dr. Quinton White of Jacksonville University, can be viewed on YouTube or on the website.

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A parent seeks to avoid the flooded San Jose Boulevard sidewalk south of Hendricks Avenue Elementary School.

City to repair flooded sidewalk near Hendricks Avenue Elementary

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

Parents rejoice. No longer will you have to steer your children around the flooded sidewalk on the east side of Old San Jose Boulevard as you walk to Hendricks Avenue Elementary School.

Shortly after Oct. 1, the City of Jacksonville Public Works Department plans to fix the sidewalk on the east side of San Jose Boulevard, just south of Hendricks Avenue Elementary.

The repairs came at the request of Ryan Tiedeberg of San Marco. In an email to

District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer, Tiedeberg requested she look into repairing the “public safety hazard” as part of the right-turn “storage” lane project behind the elementary school.

The “storage” lane project is part of Mayor Lenny Curry’s budget and is meant to alleviate congestion along San Jose Boulevard during early morning and afternoon hours when parents routinely drop off and pick up their children at the school.

“Each time it rains (almost every day) a stretch of the sidewalk floods just south of the school,” Tiedeberg wrote in his email. “On my walk taking the children to school this morning, and just about every morning since school has started, all families walking north to the school must walk on the side of San Jose – starting at Lakewood until we arrive at the school where the ditch ends. As you

can imagine, this is a scary proposition with a five- and six-year-old and a tremendous public safety hazard,” he wrote, noting that the “simple solution may be to just elevate the sidewalk in this area above flood level.”

After investigating the situation, Public Works Director James Robinson found that the sidewalk on the east side of Old San Jose Boulevard moves diagonally away from the edge of the pavement just north of Lakewood Road and follows the roadside swale causing the flooding conditions, he wrote in an email.

The sidewalk will be repaired independently of the “storage” lane project, he wrote. The work will consist of removing the low portion of the sidewalk, placing a side drain in the roadside swale, and replacing the flooded section of sidewalk at a higher elevation over the side drain.

Opinions differ on River Road neighborhood speed enforcement

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

Whether the enforcement promised by the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office to ticket speeders on River Road and its feeder streets since the speed limit was lowered to 20 mph has been in effect is a matter of opinion.

“The officers are writing a lot of tickets,” said San Marco Preservation Society President Andrew Dickson. “Residents are driving slow and that ticks off the people who speed. If people abide by the speed limit, this will deter people who speed or want to cut through this area.”

But as far as Arbor Lane resident Kathy Moore is concerned, people are still speeding and no enforcement has been in effect.

“I can tell you there have been no improvements on Arbor Lane,” said Moore, adding that she was unaware until she read *The Resident* that the JSO zone commander was looking for residents to lodge complaints about speeders. If

necessary, Moore said she may start a campaign with her neighbors to bombard JSO with reports about speeding cars.

Since the new 20 mph signs were installed, Moore said she has spotted only one police car at Landon Park and that was three weeks ago. No other police cars have been spotted anywhere in the neighborhood, she said.

“There are certain nights, if I had the authority to give warnings, I could give out 20,” Moore said. “The behavior has not changed.”

JSO removed the mobile LED signboards on Laurel and River Roads the first week of September, Moore said, noting she has not seen any others throughout the neighborhood.

As of August 24, two speeding violations and one seat-belt ticket were issued on River Road by JSO, and the traffic unit is still monitoring the area for violators, said Officer Melissa Bujeda, a spokesperson for JSO. No information was available for the streets leading to River Road.

Some residents slow to pay for 20 mph signs

The city of Jacksonville has done its part in installing 20 mph street signs on the neighborhood streets leading into River Road. Now it is time for the residents on some streets pay their share, said San Marco Preservation Society President Andrew Dickson.

Early in the summer, residents throughout the River Road area were petitioned on their feelings about reducing the speed limit from 30 mph to 20 mph. At least 75 percent of the

homeowners on these streets were required to approve the change. Homeowners were asked to pay 50 percent of the cost of the new signs for their street with the city covering the other half of the cost.

According to Dickson, residents on Elder Lane, Laurel Road, Holly Lane, Maple Lane and Sorrento Road still need to pay their share of the cost. Each homeowner owes approximately \$15, Dickson said.

“We’d hate to have the city take out the signs,” Dickson said. “We hope to have this sorted out in October.”

the Snob

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Landon Middle track and field to open for public use

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

The track and field behind Julia Landon College Preparatory and Leadership Development Middle School on Thacker Avenue in San Marco will be open to the public during limited hours this fall.

Although planned upgrades to the drainage have not yet been installed, the Duval County Public School District and City of Jacksonville have executed a joint-use agreement allowing the public to use the facility some weeknights and weekends. According to the joint-use

policy, planned school activities always take precedence over public usage.

“The track would be available on non-game days beginning at 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.,” said Landon Middle School Principal Timothy Feagins.

The time that the field and track will be available to the public on game days is more difficult to determine, said Feagins, noting the time games end is dependent on various factors. The public can access the school’s website to determine when athletic contests are scheduled. All games are subject to change as weather permits, he said.

The facility will also be open to the

public on Saturday and Sunday from dawn to dusk as well as all day on holidays, spring and summer break.

Construction to upgrade drainage at the facility has been postponed until May 2016, said Tia Ford, a spokesperson for the Duval County Public Schools. The DCPS Operations Department worked with the City’s Parks and Recreation all summer to plan and execute the drainage project for the track.

In early June, District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer executed a transfer form to allocate \$75,000 from her Loblolly Recreation/Parks account to pay to

upgrade the drainage at the occasionally soggy facility. Because the City is paying for the drainage improvements, the contract needs to be executed via the City’s procurement process, Ford said.

“Final plans were prepared this summer, however, the estimated timeframe to advertise, award and complete the project put the completion date into the late October timeframe,” Ford said. “Because the school has a full schedule for soccer, track and field and football through next spring, the project has been postponed until next summer to avoid disruption of school activities.”

Book sale features more \$10 bags

Volunteers for Friends of the Jacksonville Public Library are getting ready for another Book Warehouse Sale and this one includes a lot of \$10 bags. The three-day sale will be held at FJPL’s Book Warehouse at University Park Library, 3435 University Blvd. N.

The \$10 bag, a very popular feature of FJPL sales, allows customers to fill a grocery bag with books, CDs and DVDs for only \$10. Customers can choose from an inventory of more than 200,000 fiction and non-fiction books, plus a big selection of paperbacks, CDs and DVDs.

The sale begins with Members



Night on Friday, Oct. 9, 4-8 p.m. FJPL memberships for 2015 and 2016 are available at the door. The sale continues on Saturday, Oct. 10 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday, Oct. 11, noon to 5 p.m. Call (904) 630-2304 or visit fjpl.org for more information.

Construction begins on Daily’s new site



Construction has begun on the new Daily’s gas station on Atlantic Boulevard.

Site preparation and horizontal construction are well underway on the Atlantic Boulevard site where a new Daily’s gas station is in the process of being built.

Structural steel for the canopy is being installed and things are progressing smoothly, said Andrew Keith Daw, a spokesman for First Coast Energy, “We’re not ready to project an opening date as yet, but I would expect that we’ll be part of the San Marco community by early 2016,” he said.

Planned for the location at 1915 Atlantic Boulevard will be eight double-sided

Shell gasoline dispensers, two double-sided diesel fuel dispensers and a freestanding car wash. Also a 5,000-square-foot convenience store with a small covered eating area and 20 onsite parking spaces are included in the design.

C & R General Contractors is in charge of the project.

First Coast Energy paid \$1.6 million for four parcels totaling more than an acre and had the area rezoned. The store will be easily accessible to drivers exiting I-95 once the Overland Bridge project is finished.



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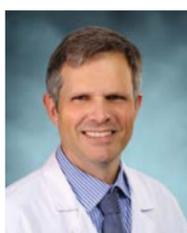
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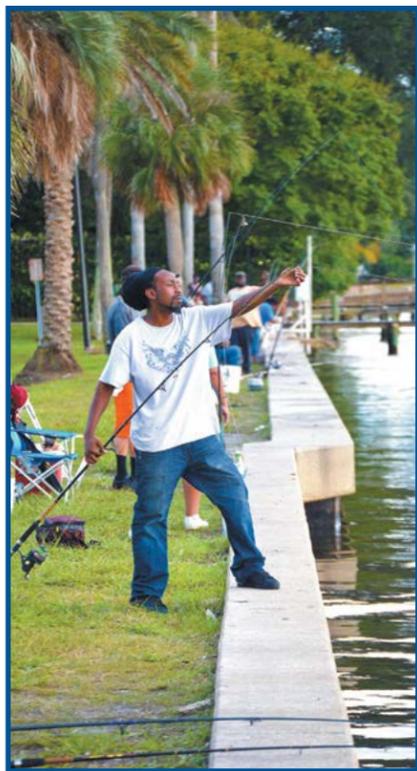
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Do you feel the public should have the right to fish the banks of the river anywhere or should some areas be off limits to this activity?

I'm against it. I think mostly the banks should be open to the public but realize that people built houses in the 1920s and should not have to deal with this. Many of the places to fish are right in someone's front or back yard. There are more than a few (banks) that should be closed, because most are very private and people pay for that. I really don't think riverfront parks need to be fish places.



Hank Neal, Westside



When the fish are running in the St. Johns River, fishermen from all over Jacksonville converge in San Marco's Riverfront Park.

I think if we're talking about Riverfront Park, that the general public should have the right to fish on those banks and enjoy it. Riverfront Park is one of the only public parks on this side of the river that allows fishing. It's a wonderful place for families to come and enjoy the day and to fish. But, as someone who lives right next to the park, I know there are a lot of issues for homeowners nearby. Because this park is being used so much we have limited parking and that makes it a bigger issue or concern. Also, the park has



Anita Morrill, San Marco

no accommodation for fishermen like restrooms or running water. One way to solve these issues might be to make River Road one-way in order to change the flow of traffic so the parking layout might be different. When traffic flows both ways there is a lot of congestion, especially in the mornings and at afternoon rush hour. Also, nearby to Riverfront Park is Landon Park, which is a wonderful place for children to play. Perhaps we could put picnic benches, running water and restrooms in Landon Park and because the two parks are so close together, those facilities could be used to accommodate both the children and the fishermen. I know there are lots of positive solutions if we all got together to discuss it. It could be a win-win for everybody.

I think they should be able to as long as it's for recreation and they do not take the fish. They need to throw them back. Unless they do, there won't be any more fish.



Lauren McKeen, Southside

First of all, we need to maintain public access and yes, I think people should be able to fish in public access areas. Anything on the water, that's what it's for, as long as they aren't destroying anything.



Jane Upton, San Marco

I think they should be able to fish in public areas anywhere and in parks everywhere. Those allowed to fish must observe posted park rules. My objection would be to those who don't observe the time (the park closes or opens). All public parks are regulated by municipal codes.



Robert Campbell, San Marco

I don't have a strong opinion. There are so many factors. They shouldn't necessarily fish anywhere. It might not be safe. If it's public property they have a right to do it as long as it's not banned for a specific reason.



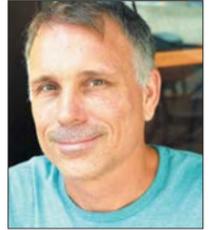
Dawne McCain, San Jose

I think they should be able to fish anywhere.



Katy Bretton, Fleming Island

Anywhere there's a public access is okay as long as they are not trespassing on private property. If I bought a home on the river, I would not want the public traipsing through my private property.



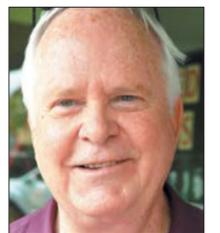
George Mattson, Lackawanna

Some areas should be off limits. We have designated areas here such as the parks between Alexandria Condos, north and south. That's perfect. People fishing within the gated areas that are private backyards that speaks for itself. As far as Riverfront Park goes, unless there is a sign there, it's okay.



Tammy Ryan, San Marco

I believe there should be restrictions on certain areas certainly. There are environmental considerations and safety issues. I think as long as it is a city or state maintained park, people should be able to fish there with no prohibition. I don't see why not.



J. Perry Smith, San Jose



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Hogans Creek, Confederate Park cleanup a daunting task

Groundwork Jacksonville engages youth for revitalization

By Vince Iampietro
Resident Community News

Although Confederate Park was the first Jacksonville city park to include a playground, it's not a place where children can enjoy the outdoors today. Situated along Hogans Creek, the park desperately needs tender loving care.

When garbage was used to fill in Hogans Creek's marsh areas in preparation for Springfield Park in 1899, and Confederate Park (formerly Dignan Park) in 1907, a veritable toxic-waste bomb was set for an unforeseen future time.

Residual tar contamination from the industrial age plagues Confederate Park, while overall fecal coliform rates exceeding acceptable counts by 80 percent compound the creek's pollution problems.

A posted sign admonishes park visitors that touching the water may increase risk of illness, while another warns that fish and shellfish from the area are contaminated and should not be eaten.

Compounding the cleanup issue is an ongoing battle between the City of Jacksonville and property owners. Coal tar contaminates the ground in the area, dumped there over one century ago by a long since defunct coal conversion facility.

At stake: Who is responsible for ash



Dilapidated bridge and balustrades over Hogans Creek in Confederate Park.

cleanup in the Confederate Park area of Hogans Creek and, more importantly, who will pay?

Defusing the toxic waste areas in Eastside, Springfield, and Hogans Creek will take time and is an expensive and complex issue, noted Dr. Dawn Emerick, Groundwork Jacksonville's first CEO.

Eventually Groundwork Jacksonville, Groundwork USA's newest trust, will take on that task, but in the meantime, Groundwork Jacksonville is making positive changes in Jacksonville's Springfield and Eastside neighborhoods.

The local nonprofit joins Groundwork USA's mission of neighborhood cleanup and revitalization, with financial support from the Environmental Protection Agency and National Park Service.

Not quick or inexpensive

While Hogans Creek is Groundwork Jacksonville's charge, Emerick is optimistic that working on other projects in the near term will be beneficial to the communities involved.

"We're working on other projects to gain momentum and build trust with the communities. We want to get early signature wins so when we take on Hogans Creek, they can see we can do it," Emerick assured.

With Emerick at the helm, Groundwork Jacksonville's long-term vision is remediating brownfields in Eastside and Springfield back into scenic parks and greenways with clean waters for current and future generations to enjoy.

Emerick holds a Ph.D. in educational leadership and social marketing, and is a principal and founder of Impact Partners,

which works with private and public entities to directly foster community improvement.

The monumental cleanup and beautification projects on the horizon for Groundwork Jacksonville don't intimidate Emerick, whose numerous in-the-trenches experiences in community revitalization bolster her positive outlook for Jacksonville's Urban Core.

"I'm excited," Emerick said of the Hogans Creek, Eastside, and Springfield work ahead, "I think this is the model. We have a lot of challenges and will implement changes neighborhood by neighborhood while having a strong partnership with the city."

However, Groundwork Jacksonville efforts are not a quick fix, cautioned Emerick.

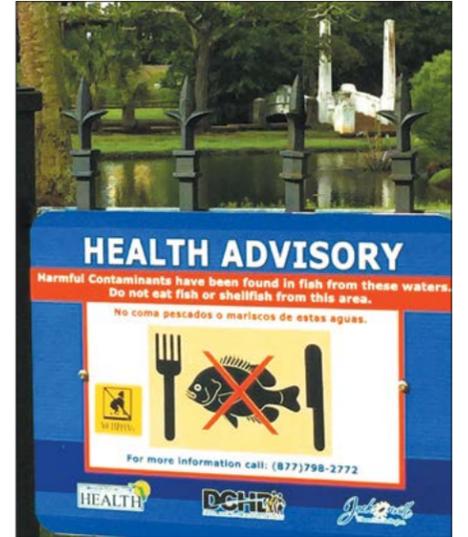
"The hardest thing to do is manage expectations. We have to continuously communicate (to the communities) to let them know this is a long process," she said.

Groundwork Jacksonville's efforts will have impact outside of the project area. According to Jimmy Orth, executive director for the St. Johns Riverkeeper, their work will benefit everyone who cares for and benefits from the river. "When we improve the water quality of each creek/tributary, regardless of location, we improve the overall health of the St. Johns River," he said.

"What Groundwork Jacksonville is doing can help serve as a model and catalyst for cleaning up other creeks and tributaries of the St. Johns and getting local residents engaged in that process," said Orth.

Can-do attitude in force

Groundwork Jacksonville's "Culture of



Health advisory sign cautions visitors to Confederate Park.

Do" attitude permeates its activities, and cleanup work has been going on all summer.

Led by Green Team Coordinator Alyssa Bourgoyne, students ages 13 to 18 kicked off their summer of service activities in June with a day of landscaping throughout Hogans Creek greenway.

Green Team Youth Corps provided students with a stipend during their summer apprenticeship. The youth initiative will keep the community engaged and connect young people back to their communities, Emerick said.

"It's a chance for Eastside and Springfield youth to understand environmental challenges," she said. When coupled with Groundwork Jacksonville's environmental training programs for students, and direct interaction with local businesses and neighborhoods, this could inspire today's youth to become tomorrow's environmental leaders, Emerick stated.

Green Team projects address Jacksonville's deferred maintenance issues, Emerick explained, which occur when money or resources for a park dry up and the area falls into neglect. "That's doing something, not just planning," she said.

Green Team's group of 10 inner-city youth visited National Park Service parks in Jacksonville to provide them a contrast with what good conservation looks like compared to areas where they are working, Emerick said.

These cleanup projects reflect Emerick's vision to build trust with local communities while showing evidence of early progress. "We are implementers, not a planning organization," she emphasized.



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Volunteers needed to plant trees in San Marco park

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

Volunteers are needed to plant 30 trees in Alexandria Oaks FEC Park on Saturday, Oct. 3 from 9 a.m. to noon. The event will be held rain or shine and volunteers should meet at the park's Marco Place entrance.

During the planting event, JEA Arborist Joe Anderson will demonstrate the correct way to plant a tree and answer questions. "There is a science to planting it in the hole," he said. Shovels will be provided by the JEA, but volunteers should bring work gloves.

The event is part of the Green ReLeaf,

a collaboration of the city's Park and Recreation Department, Greenscape, JEA and the San Marco Preservation Society.

During an outreach meeting Sept. 19 at Alexandria Oaks FEC Park, Anderson and Anna Dooley, executive director of Greenscape, joined San Marco Preservation President Andrew Dickson as they explained to neighborhood residents the details of the plan.

The project will increase the diversity of the native trees within the park while providing a splash of color, said Dickson. The design of the new plantings was made by Fred Pope, a city landscape architect and approved by Brian Burket, a natural resource recreation specialist in



San Marco Preservation Society President Andrew Dickson and Joe Anderson of the JEA describe the trees that will be planted in Alexandria Oaks FEC park to a group of residents during a planning meeting Sept. 19.

the city's Department of Recreation and Community Services, he said.

Anderson said a variety of three- and four-year-old trees in 15- and 30-gallon pots would be planted with the goal of providing the park with trees of differing age groups. Included among the kinds of trees to be planted are red maples, east Palatka holly, live oaks, sweet bay

magnolias, crape myrtles, redbuds and longleaf pines. In his design, Pope grouped most of the trees in groups of three throughout the park.

Green ReLeaf intends to plant a second phase of trees next year. "We will create an understory for some trees that are declining," said Anderson.

Tree trimming on San Jose Boulevard

Many San Marco residents feel that when the Florida Department of Transportation trimmed the crape myrtle and holly trees the center median of San Jose Boulevard this spring they went overboard, said District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer.

The trees, which were planted in 2011, were paid for with \$400,000 of city money, Boyer said. Included in the deal between the city and FDOT was a waiver

to reduce the usual 13-foot sight line under the trees to five feet; but when the trees were cut back this spring they came away "looking like poodles" with small tufts of foliage only at the top, she said.

Boyer is concerned the trees may not recover from this extreme clipping and is asking that FDOT either pay the city back or plant new trees. In fact, one or two trees have died in the past three or four weeks due to the pruning, she said.

"I have met with DOT to ask what their solution is. What we have now is not what we paid for or got permitted," she said, noting that Marty Childs of the R-A-M Professional Group received the waiver for his design and permitting from FDOT.

"We got the okay to install the trees. At what point does the rule change?" she asked.

The Resident reached out to FDOT for comment, but received no word from the agency by press time.



Thanks to excessive trimming, poodle-like trees now adorn the medians on San Jose Boulevard.



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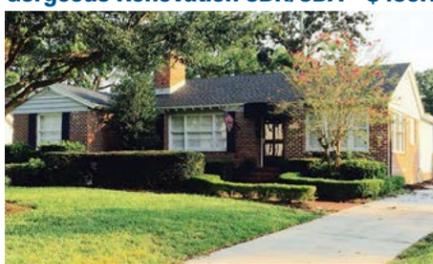
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Unknown decorator: Joseph Meyer, potter, Vase, (1897), daffodil design, underglaze painting with glossy glaze. On loan to the Newcomb Art Gallery from Ruth Weinstein Lebovitz.

Call for change after tragedy in St. Nicholas

By Vince Iampietro
Resident Community News

St. Nicholas business owners and nearby residents have been concerned about speeding traffic for some time about Beach Boulevard near the St. Nicholas Town Center.

With one crosswalk at Beach Boulevard and San Mateo Avenue, and another almost one-third of a mile away at Linden Avenue – with no safety islands or other crosswalks in between – pedestrians frequently take their chances and cross the busy road where it’s most convenient.

Drivers don’t expect to see a pedestrian crossing the middle of the busy road. Poor visibility for drivers during dawn and dusk hours compounds the problem.

Recently, these conditions proved to be a tragic combination.

On Aug. 19, 2015, around 6:40 a.m., a retired Jacksonville newspaper reporter attempted to cross Beach Boulevard in St. Nicholas near the intersection of Palmer Terrace. He was struck by an SUV and died on the scene.

Unfortunately, he attempted to cross where there was no pedestrian crosswalk and was hit in the area between the lanes of traffic.

“Before, we had a wider median so you could stop halfway across,” said Suzanne Jenkins, former Jacksonville Councilwoman and Englewood area resident. “They were removed. It’s a retail place; why do we want to make traffic go faster?”

Bring back the median

After the installation of the overpass several decades ago to move traffic from the beaches to downtown, St. Nicholas has seen its share of accidents, including pedestrian fatalities.

“The sad part is if that median had remained the way it was, the man wouldn’t have gotten killed because



A pedestrian crosses Beach Boulevard in disregard for the crosswalk at the San Mateo Avenue light.

he would have been standing on that median,” said Joe Joseph, a St. Nicholas property owner, of the recent fatality.

Joseph said the Florida Department of Transportation decided Beach Boulevard needed to be concrete and narrowed, and at the time he had warned FDOT the speeds allowed by the overpass were an accident waiting to happen.

Though the medians go back to the 1970s, exactly when they were removed can’t specifically be determined, said Ron Tittle, public information officer for FDOT’s Northeast Florida region.

This area of Beach Boulevard, among other issues, was discussed during a monthly meeting with the Sheriff’s Office, Florida Highway Patrol, area health centers, FDOT engineers, and others, Tittle said, adding that

FDOT is always trying to identify problem areas needing their attention.

“A traffic circle could be done through there, though there would still be a traffic light at one of the points [on the circle],” Jenkins said.

Roundabouts, often thought of as traffic circles, were installed in San Marco Square when it was revamped several years ago. Crosswalks and roundabouts through the area combine to keep traffic moving without speeding; crosswalks and green areas provide pedestrians with several safe options and stopping points for crossing streets.

However, Beach and Atlantic Boulevards are part of Jacksonville’s Hurricane Evacuation System, said Tittle.

While serving to calm traffic, roundabouts or traffic circles could impede emergency evacuation efforts, risking injury or death to evacuees while making it difficult for emergency personnel to navigate through the area.

Burden for safety on drivers and pedestrians

Chris Burns, Esq., chair of the Jacksonville Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee, feels travel speeds of motorists through the area are too high,

and that there are inadequate protected crosswalks for pedestrians.

Burns echoes Jenkins’ and Joseph’s views for needed safety improvements.

“Lowering speed limits with police enforcement is not nearly enough, because motorists will resist compliance,” he said. “The physical features of the roads, such as changes to the landscaping and roadway features, should be utilized to cause drivers to ‘naturally’ lower speeds.”

What can be done right now to stay safe is free and relies on awareness.

“Pedestrians need to be mindful that motorists might not always see them, even if they’re in a protected crosswalk. Pedestrians can’t always assume they’re going to be safe,” said Tittle.

Motorists get in a hurry, he continued, and might check left while turning right and miss a pedestrian in a crosswalk, adding that motorists “have to be conscientious while driving and have situational awareness of other motorists and pedestrians.”

Jacksonville’s Alert Today Alive Tomorrow program (www.alerttodayflorida.com/atat.html), offered through Florida’s Pedestrian & Bicycle Focused Initiative, provides real-world safety information for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists alike.

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Merchants push to reinstate short-term parking in St. Nicholas

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

Some St. Nicholas merchants may get their wish to have short-term parking signs reinstated in front of their businesses on Beach Boulevard.

After a public meeting with St. Nicholas merchants at the Mudville Grille Sept. 10, District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer said she plans to draft a resolution requesting to reinstall signs for two-hour parking from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday in front of the existing parallel and angle parking spaces along the southwest side of Beach Boulevard between Walton Street and Palmer Terrace.

Parallel spaces across the street on the northwest side of Beach Boulevard will not get signs, allowing an unlimited amount of time patrons may park. In addition there are 13 city-owned spaces behind the Korean Baptist Church at 3200 Utina Avenue near Palmer Terrace, which shoppers can park for an unlimited amount of time.

During the meeting, which was also attended by Jim Robinson, the city's director of Public Works, Boyer explained when the Florida Department of Transportation resurfaced the road the signs were removed and never reinstated after the project was complete.

"They are telling me they won't put back the signs unless they have a resolution from City Council. I'm here because I want to make sure everyone is in agreement," said Boyer, who noted that she had received emails from merchants requesting the signs.

Boyer said it is important for the merchants to realize that the city's parking enforcement department will most likely be willing to issue tickets between the normal business hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

No enforcement would be available on Saturdays because parking enforcement officials do not work, she said. "Realistically, it won't be enforced every day, all day long," Boyer said.

Merchants for and against

Not all the merchants are happy with Boyer's decision to reinstate the short-term parking signs.

"Some of us don't want the signs at all in front of our property," said Liz Gavilan, in an email to Boyer after the meeting. Gavilan owns the building where Happy Viking Games is located.

"Some of the businesses are not open at 8 a.m. on a daily basis. Some are not open on Mondays. If the signs must go up, then 5 p.m. should be the cut-off time – not too many people stop off on their way home from work – they want to go home. On Saturday people have all day to make the stop before 5 p.m.," Gavilan wrote.

For Gavilan's tenant, Joseph Crosby of Happy Viking Games, limiting the spaces to two-hour parking on Saturdays is an issue. "For our business, Saturday is a tremendous problem," Crosby said during the meeting, adding that he has no problem with short-term parking Monday through Friday; Saturday is troublesome because his shop often hosts all-day tournaments, which may be attended by as many as 60 players.

Crosby's neighbors, Jean and Barbara Proulx, insist having the two-hour time limit will ensure customers can park in front or near their building which houses Jean's Hair Systems, Jean's Wig Shop, Northeast Florida Intergroup Services and St. Nicholas Group. If the parking signs are not used, some people monopolize all the spaces on the block all day, Barbara Proulx wrote in an email.

Proulx said most of the customers who



The angle and parallel spaces in front of the shops on the southwest side of Beach Boulevard in St. Nicholas Center may be limited to two-hour parking Monday through Saturday.



Thirteen city-owned spaces on Utina Avenue behind the Korean Baptist Church add to the spaces available in St. Nicholas.

patronize the stores in their building are short term and stay less than an hour. "The wig shop in particular has a lot of customers who are cancer patients, older people, often very weak, who come on Saturday. Many of them have to depend on someone in their family or someone who works all week so they come on Saturday. It is most important to at least have parking in front of the building – not a block away," she wrote.

Due to the parking issue, Shana Stark, owner of The Skate Shop, has decided to close her business. "When I attended the meeting, I expressed that my shop was opened on Sundays and it was one of my better days due to no parking conflicts. The response I was met with by Happy Viking

Games was (for them) to schedule games on Sunday, which took all my parking this past Sunday. Happy Viking employees have admitted to me that 'Yes, I take your parking because I am too lazy to walk.' After the past few weeks of this continued uncooperative and hostile behavior by this one business neighbor I have made the decision to close before the end of the year. I have checked into options of moving, but at this time it would be too expensive," Stark wrote in an email.

During the meeting Richard Tasker of the North Florida Intergroup Services said his group would like to see at least one handicapped space installed in the area so handicapped patrons would not have to cross Beach Boulevard.

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Annual Destination Celebration honors residents

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

In what may come as a surprise to some residents, tourism is a \$2.2 billion economic powerhouse in Duval County. With no major destination draw like Disney World or a world-class aquarium, it could be hard to believe that Jacksonville tourism has been on an upswing.

However, thanks to craft beer, Jacksonville is on the map.

Visit Jacksonville was recognized this year by the U.S. Travel Association with a Destination Council Destiny Award, for excellence and creative accomplishment in destination marketing and promotion of the Jax Ale Trail, tours of eight local craft breweries, including Intuition Ale Works and Bold City Brewery, both in Riverside, and San Marco's Aardwolf Brewing Company. The organization also won a Henry Award during the Florida Governor's Conference for niche marketing of the Jax Ale Trail, plus two silver awards for its marketing efforts.

Jacksonville's normally mild winter climate may have also led to a 2.5 percent increase over last year in overnight visitors during the first two quarters of 2015; more than three million people kept 71 percent of the hotel rooms occupied during the first half of the year, resulting in bed tax collections at an all-time high year to date.

"Jacksonville is taking off, and the entire hospitality industry is playing a major role in this new journey," said Paul

Astleford, President and CEO of Visit Jacksonville, at its annual Destination Celebration lunch Sept. 16 at the Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center. "Together we are creating the Jacksonville we want to live, work, and play in, and the world is noticing. Our destination is unique, with many enviable characteristics. But, Jacksonville can be even more if we work together to paint the canvas of what we want our city to be: a destination worth visiting time and time again, and a city where our residents are proud to boast and share that pride with the rest of the world."

At the luncheon, the re-appointment of Bill Prescott for another term as Chair of the Visit Jacksonville Board of Directors was announced. Prescott, principal at the St. Nicholas-based Heritage Capital Group and former chief financial officer for the Jacksonville Jaguars, has been board chair since 2007. Sonny Bhikha, president of Shivam Properties, was selected to be the organization's next Chair Elect.

During the celebration, awards were presented to individuals and businesses which helped promote Jacksonville to both residents and visitors.

Riverside resident Wayne Wood was given the Margo Dunden Tourism Advocate Award for being a catalyst for many successful projects in Jacksonville. Some of those projects, such as Riverside Arts Market and Hemming Park, have become notable destinations for visitors and residents.

The Behringer family of Springfield received the Hall of Fame Award for making Jacksonville a sweet destination



Bill Prescott, board chair of Visit Jacksonville and Burnell Goldman, general manager of the Omni Jacksonville. (Ken McCray Photography)



Bill Prescott, board chair of Visit Jacksonville, Jonathan Cantor, Healthcare Market Leader for Reynolds, Smith, & Hills, Paul Astleford, Visit Jacksonville CEO/President. (Ken McCray Photography)

with their lifelong commitment to the art of candy making, with both Peterbrooke and Sweet Pete's, which moved from Springfield to downtown Jacksonville last year.

Voted on by Visit Jacksonville's entire partnership, the Omni Jacksonville received the Visit Jacksonville's Partner of the Year Award for going above and beyond to support the Visit Jacksonville mission. Burnell Goldman, general manager of the Omni Jacksonville, accepted the award on behalf of the hotel.

San Marco resident Jonathan Cantor, Healthcare Market Leader for the firm Reynolds, Smith, and Hill took home the "Bring It Home, Jax! Ambassador" Award for being instrumental in the successful booking of the BioFlorida, Inc. Conference that will be coming to Jacksonville in October 2016.

"We know that there are no limits to

Jacksonville's innovative spirit and the many other ideas of progress...that are being dreamed of as we speak," said Prescott in his remarks. "All you dreamers, innovators and spirited risk-takers remember that we at Visit Jacksonville are here to amplify your message and the message that Jacksonville is a thriving destination ready to be experienced."

Next month Visit Jacksonville will again offer Kids Free November, an entire month of free admission for children at the city's top family attractions, and will kick off Winter on the Water, a campaign aimed at inviting travelers to escape the cold and spend the holidays here for unique family-friendly holiday events and shopping.

Next year Visit Jacksonville plans to begin renovation of its four visitor centers, adding an interactive component.

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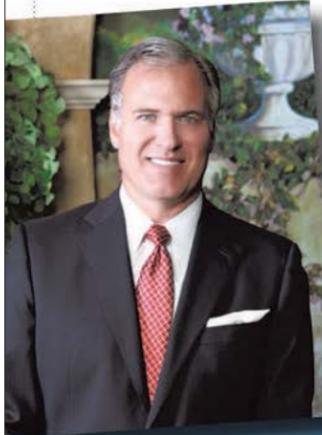


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Residents discuss landscaping as part of Overland Bridge committee

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

Chain link fences were out, live oaks and holly trees were preferred to palms when District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer and a select group of residents from the San Marco-St. Nicholas area met with Florida Department of Transportation officials Sept. 23 to discuss landscaping the area around the Overland Bridge Expressway once the construction is complete.

A group of six residents and five community healthcare leaders have been appointed to join Boyer on the project's landscape committee to give feedback to FDOT to ensure the area around the highway, which Boyer considers the "entrance to San Marco and St. Nicholas," is attractive once the expressway project is finished.

In the meeting at FDOT headquarters on Edison Avenue, Zim Boulos of San Marco, Susan Mitchell Lee and Jane Wittwer of South Shores, Wally Ericks of St. Nicholas and Robert Bridges of Nemours Specialty Care joined Boyer in sharing ideas about the future appearance of the highway area leading up to the Fuller Warren Bridge.

Also appointed to the committee, but not in attendance at the meeting, were Rob Smith of San Marco, George Kruer of South Shores and five members of the San Marco Healthcare community: Baptist Health CEO Hugh Greene of San Jose, and from Nemours Specialty Care, Dr. Jonathan

Evans of San Marco, Dr. R. Jay Cummings of Ortega and Dr. James Sylvester.

Sitting around a table with a large detailed map of the Overland project and its surrounding neighborhoods, the group joined Jim Knight, FDOT's Urban Planning and Modal Administrator, Ken Cheek, FDOT's District Two Landscape Architect and Kenny Geisendorff, FDOT Construction Engineer, in a preliminary discussion of landscaping around the

FDOT does this downstate in the Tampa area. I want to see what they might do up here. The people of North Florida perhaps haven't realized they have to make this kind of request.

—Andrew Dickson
San Marco Preservation Society President

bridge and the four retention ponds slated to be built within the San Marco-St. Nicholas area.

Also discussed, although it didn't fall under the Overland Bridge project, were aspects of the Fuller Warren Bridge project, particularly the multi-use path over the St. Johns River and the desired easement behind Nemours Specialty Care, so that a future bicycle/pedestrian-friendly circuit can be established connecting the proposed Healthy Town development, the

Southbank Riverwalk, Childrens Way and Nira Street with Kings Avenue.

Although Greene was not at the meeting, Boyer said Baptist officials have expressed an interest in having the area where their new MD Anderson Cancer facility will be built across from Nemours, look nice and be pedestrian- and visitor-friendly.

The group also discussed the prospect of building a sensory park between

order to have aesthetic value, with perhaps fountains and gently sloping banks so the area might look more "recreational," perhaps with walking and bicycle paths.

"FDOT does this downstate in the Tampa area. I want to see what they might do up here," Dickson said, adding that the people of North Florida perhaps haven't realized they have to make this kind of request.

In the meeting, Boyer suggested a fountain might be installed in the pond, and the area be fenced only on one side – but not with chain-link fencing – in order to give it a more park-like appearance. She also suggested FDOT consider softening the walls of the highway near Southampton Road with nice landscaping and perhaps trees other than palms.

Lee suggested FDOT consider landscaping similar to the I-95 Interchange near Baptist South Hospital as a model for the project, but Knight said the plantings and fountain at that location were privately maintained. FDOT usually doesn't install fountains because they are costly and difficult to maintain, he said.

Cheek said FDOT had been given the charge to "brand Florida" when it does a project and "palm trees are Florida." However, "big canopy" trees such as oak trees, which provide a lot of "screen" can be used because they are easy to mow beneath, he said.

FDOT has budgeted 1.5 percent of the total cost of projects statewide for landscaping of all projects. This will be used to design, purchase and install plantings and irrigation.

Completion of the Overland Expressway project is estimated for early 2017, Knight said. FDOT expects to accept construction bids this December for the Fuller Warren Bridge project, said Knight. That project, which is separate from the Overland Bridge project, should break ground in March 2016 and take three and a half years to complete, he said.

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PETERBROOKE ROLLS OUT BAKE STUDIO, A FRESH CONCEPT FOR CHOCOLATIER



Peterbrooke Chocolatier's delectable European style chocolate creations have delighted customers' taste buds in Jacksonville since opening of their original San Marco store in 1983...and now, it's time for their customers to eat cake.

With Peterbrooke Bake Studio, the company is adding delicious baked goods to its preeminent line of exquisite treats, such as their famous chocolate covered popcorn, elegant truffles, addicting chocolate-covered graham crackers and pretzels, crunchy toffee, and hand-dipped scrumptious strawberries.

The studio produces delectable cakes, cookies, cupcakes, and other treats, all of which will be increasingly found in Peterbrooke Chocolatiers retail locations.

Cakes can be custom ordered by individuals and wholesalers for weddings, parties, or any occasion where a run-of-the-mill, pre-packaged cake simply won't do.

In the company's tradition, only real milk, butter, sugar, UTZ-certified cocoa, and other wholesome ingredients permeate its baked goods recipes.

New kitchens and production areas revitalize a former food plant in Jacksonville's Brooklyn neighborhood, which now houses the new Peterbrooke Bake Studio, along with corporate offices, and production, packing, and shipping areas.

Popcorn, gelato, baked goods, chocolate, toffee, caramel, marshmallows, and other goodies are produced in the facility's kosher-certified kitchens, which feature windows for public viewing when the new retail, tourism, event and meeting spaces are finished early next year.

Branching into baked goods wasn't a difficult move for Peterbrooke Chocolatier, explained marketing manager Elizabeth Cordell. "Being a chocolate company focusing on treats, we knew this would be a natural way to grow. With the expansion of the factory, we wanted to add baked goods," she said.

Also natural was a local company combining forces with a locally known baker and, through local connections, Cordell said, Peterbrooke brought in Anita Adams because "we wanted the best and she's the best."

Adams, the former founder and owner of Let Them Eat Cake, a prominent bakery in Avondale for 15 years, was also looking for a bakery desiring to create hand-crafted desserts and quickly found herself in Peterbrooke Bake Studio.

Though out of the baking business for three years since selling her shop in Avondale, Adams said her interest in baking was rekindled by a resurgence in hand-crafted from scratch baked goods, made of all natural ingredients.

"I can fit into this," she said.

From the beginning of her own bakery days in Avondale, Adams used only all natural ingredients in her recipes.

"I only used real cream, butter, eggs, flour, sugar - no shortening or hydrogenated fats. I was a stickler, even in the late 1980s, who didn't use margarine or shortening," Adams said.

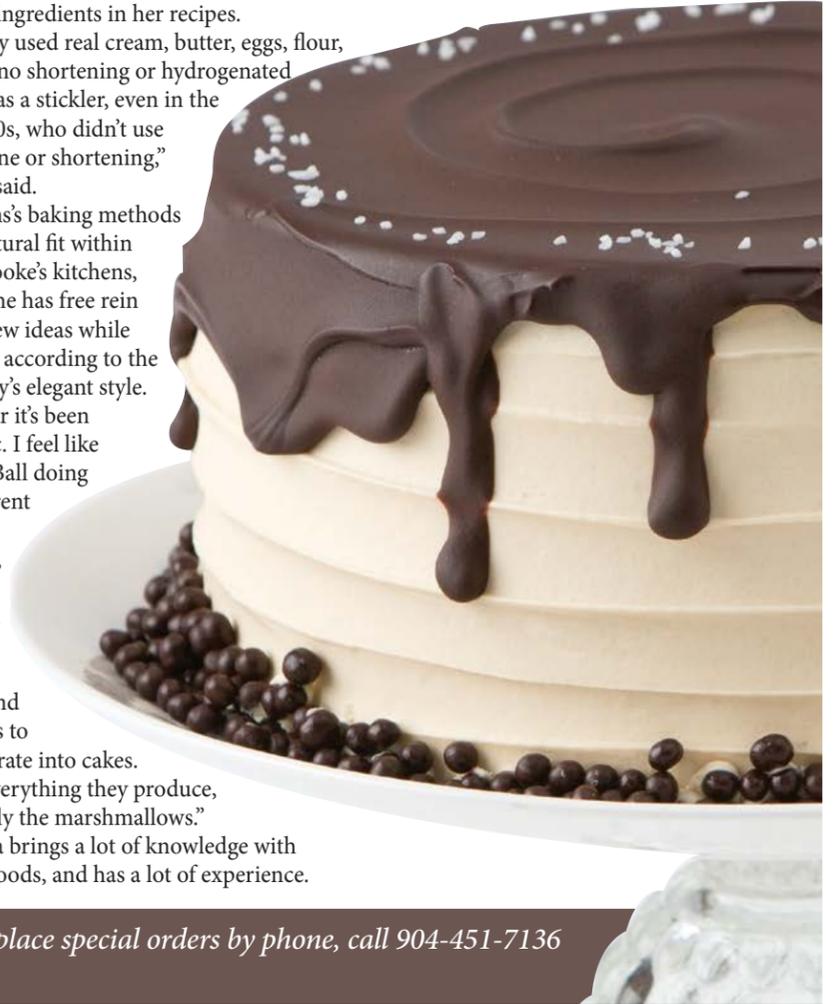
Adams's baking methods are a natural fit within Peterbrooke's kitchens, where she has free rein to try new ideas while creating according to the company's elegant style.

"So far it's been fantastic. I feel like Lucille Ball doing all different things," she said, adding "I watch them make candy and get ideas to incorporate into cakes. I love everything they produce, especially the marshmallows."

"Anita brings a lot of knowledge with baked goods, and has a lot of experience.

She's a great addition to the Peterbrooke family," Cordell said.

"We're expanding in a way that maintains the quality standards Peterbrooke has always stood for," Cordell said, meaning their world-famous, chocolate covered popcorn and new bakery goods alike will please palates for years to come.



The Bake Studio is located at 249 Copeland Street. Customers can place special orders by phone, call 904-451-7136 or email bakery@peterbrooke.com.

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MOVERS & SHAKERS

Nemours CEO recognized among 100 Most Influential

Dr. David Bailey, president and CEO of Jacksonville-based Nemours Children's Health System, has been named by *Modern Healthcare Magazine* as one of the 100 Most Influential People in Healthcare.

The program, in its 14th year, honors individuals in healthcare deemed by their peers and the senior editors of *Modern Healthcare* to be the most influential individuals in any healthcare sector in terms of leadership and impact on the industry. Bailey is the only Florida-based healthcare executive on the 2015 list.

Nominations for the recognition program included more than 4,600 submissions, which led to a final ballot comprising 300 candidates based on those receiving the most nominations. Readers then voted for their top five candidates with nearly 64,000 ballots cast, representing more than 319,000 votes for



Dr. David Bailey

individual candidates. Readers' votes counted toward half of the outcome and votes from the senior editors at *Modern Healthcare* for the other half.

Financial group moves to Southbank, recruits jobseekers

A global provider of financial, advisory and funds management services has moved to the Riverplace Tower Building on the Southbank and is seeking new employees.

The Macquarie Group has set up its new Jacksonville operations at 1301 Riverplace Boulevard. Founded in 1969, Macquarie operates in 28 countries, employs more than 14,000 people and, as of March 31, 2015, has assets under management of more than \$370 billion.

In July, the company announced its intention to establish a Global Finance Services center in downtown Jacksonville to enhance its finance capabilities and to further facilitate the growth of its U.S. business. Macquarie has started to recruit new employees and will initially place more than 85 accounting, finance and tax positions in Jacksonville.

"We are excited to begin creating our new office in the Riverplace Tower and to start recruiting new staff members to join our team in Jacksonville," said Michael P. McLaughlin, U.S. Country



Michael P. McLaughlin

Head for Macquarie Group. "Northeast Florida has a very strong labor pool, and we look forward to interviewing candidates to build our team as we grow our presence in this community. The Jacksonville offices will follow our internationally-recognized, innovative approach to the work place, which focuses on creating a sense of community through active, flexible spaces."

Volunteers in Medicine names new board members

Volunteers in Medicine welcomed two new members, both of San Marco, to its Board of Directors. Kristi Aiello, Senior Manager, Market Development and Community Engagement, Florida Blue, and Elizabeth McGraw, M.D., Pediatric Radiologist, Nemours Children's Specialty Clinic and Wolfson Children's Hospital joined the 13-member board last month.

Volunteers in Medicine Jacksonville,

located downtown at 41 E. Duval St., provides free health care to low-income, working adults and their families who lack health insurance. The nonprofit is run entirely by donations and local grants, and was recently the victim of Florida Gov. Rick Scott's budget cuts when he vetoed \$9.5 million for the Florida Association of Free and Charitable Clinics, of which Volunteers in Medicine is a member.



Kristi Aiello



Elizabeth McGraw



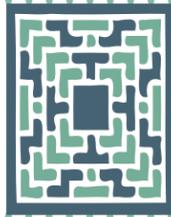
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Chappell Schools awarded Lutheran Services contract

Chappell Schools, LLC was awarded a \$450,000 contract with Lutheran Services Florida to serve 81 children at the Chappell Head Start center located at 3851 Emerson Street. The Head Start program provides free child care services to families who otherwise could not afford such an educational boost for their children.

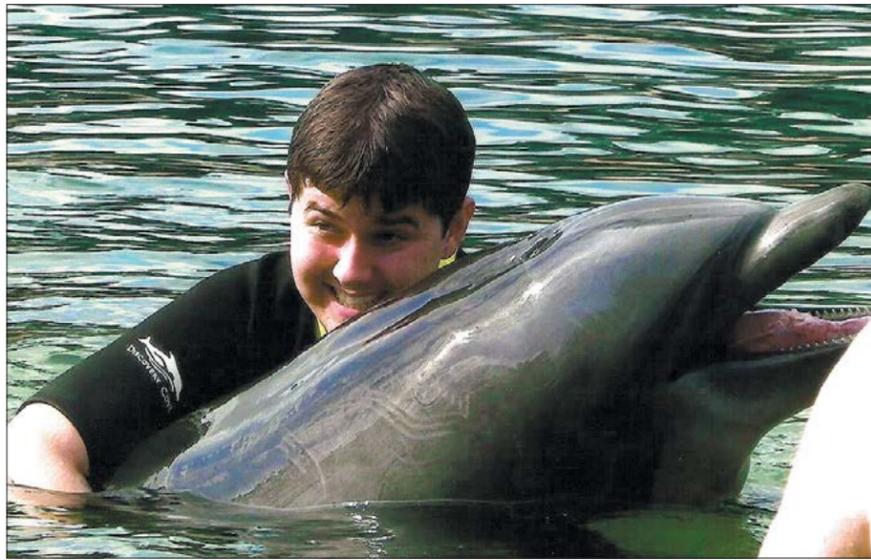
“We are pleased to represent this high quality federal program for the second year,” said Nancy Dreicer, Chappell President and CEO. Chappell delivers more than \$113,000 of in-kind services to the community annually through the program. “We are always looking for community members to donate toys, books or just to come and share a talent or read to the children,” she added.

Last year many of the children at the Chappell center came from refugee homes where English was a second language. “Since parent involvement is key to the program, we faced quite a challenge,” said Dreicer. “But our teachers used creativity and family engagement within the community to communicate and share cultures.”

Realty agency makes children’s dreams come true

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty raised a record \$61,438 for Dreams Come True, a nonprofit organization dedicated to fulfilling the dreams of children with life-threatening illnesses. Monies raised by the company sponsored numerous dreams for children including vacation packages

to the theme parks and attractions such as Disney World, Discovery Cove and Hawaii. The company recently hosted a party to present a dream package to Dreamer Tyler Harpe and his family. Harpe enjoyed the opportunity to hug a dolphin on his dream trip to Discovery Cove at Disney World.



Tyler Harpe hugs a dolphin at Discovery Cove.

MOVERS & SHAKERS

San Marco resident promoted at NAI Hallmark Partners

Christian Harden was promoted to Senior Vice President at NAI Hallmark Partners joining the senior level of company management.



Christian Harden

The timing of the move comes as

Harden, of San Marco, has reached several career benchmarks.

“Christian has distinguished himself among his coworkers and industry peers as the consummate commercial real estate professional, measured both in aggregate brokerage volume and leadership,” said Dave Auchter, EVP/COO at Hallmark. “He has progressed through his unique experiences to become an exceptional advocate for our clients, representative for our industry and advocate for Jacksonville.”

Harden is a 2015 graduate of Leadership Jacksonville. He is President-elect (2016) of NAIOP (National Association of Industrial and Office Properties) Northeast Florida Chapter where he has served the Board since 2011. Harden received NAIOP’s prestigious Emerging Professional of the Year in 2013. He is a five-time recipient of the CoStar Power Broker Award and a consistent operative in regional, national and international opportunities to cultivate the NAI Global network.

San Marco resident named preschool director

Karen Saltmarsh of San Marco knows what it is like to return to her roots.



Karen Saltmarsh

Saltmarsh’s first job after graduating from the University of North Florida with a degree in elementary education and starting a family was to teach the two-year-olds at South Jacksonville Presbyterian Preschool. Now after 28 years of teaching in classrooms at various parochial schools, she is back where she started as preschool director at South Jacksonville Presbyterian.

“It’s an exciting adventure for me. I’m in love with the neighborhood,” Saltmarsh said. “The school holds a special place in my heart. It’s exciting to give back to the neighborhood and to be a part of something that involves the community.”

After graduating from UNF in 1983 and marrying her husband Ernie, Saltmarsh began teaching at South Jacksonville Presbyterian in 1992 when her three children, Ernie, Emily and Grace were old enough to attend South Jacksonville Presbyterian Preschool. After three years she moved on to teach elementary education at larger schools including Assumption Catholic School, Riverside Presbyterian Day School and St. Michael’s Catholic School in Fernandina Beach.

After teaching first grade, third grade and kindergarten at the other schools, Saltmarsh was “thrilled” to return to the

San Marco preschool as its director. This year she revamped school curriculum so it offers many new programs including: “Handwriting without Tears” for three and four-year-olds; math concepts taught monthly; Spanish for three and four-year-olds; afternoon enrichment classes including soccer and art; “Exploration Room” for dramatic and sensory play; physical education with a coach on Fridays; weekly music and chapel; multicultural lessons; traveling science and “age and stages of development” in each classroom.

Saltmarsh lives with her husband in his childhood home in San Marco. The couple also owns two businesses in Fernandina Beach – The Florida House Inn, which was built in 1857 and is the oldest inn in the state of Florida, as well as the Green Turtle Tavern.

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Designer debuts couture line, forward design

Fashion designer and custom tailor, Daniel Motorca, of *The Tailor Shop*, rolled out his couture fashion show in mid-September at the Adam W. Herbert University Center on the campus of the University of North Florida. The fashion show showcased custom tailored gowns, suits and other accessories crafted by Motorca at his tailor shop on Southside Blvd.

Patrons and special guests were also treated to a special performance by ABC rising star, Karen Hornsby and Instill. The couture fashion show was also a benefit for the Child Cancer Fund and Facing Futures Foundation for pediatric facial disorders. The show took place Sept. 19, 2015.



Laura and Paul Davis with Anna Sacke



Rebekah and Cory Peters



Belinda and Barney Stewart



Michelle Arnold and Amy Smith

Jaguars' president honored by Community Connections

Community Connections honored longtime supporter Mark Lamping, president of the Jaguars, and the Jaguars Foundation during its largest fundraising event of the year Sept. 24 at Everbank Field's US Assure Club.

Lamping, who was unable to attend the fundraiser, and the Jaguars were the recipients of the 2015 Florence N. Davis Award for Community Achievement. Foundation President, Peter Racine, accepted the award on Lamping's behalf. Lamping and the team were celebrated for their contributions to the Jacksonville nonprofit community and their role in raising funds to help



Jeff Edwards and Michael Butler

Community Connections' mission, to assist local families in need. Lamping serves on several nonprofit boards including the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Jacksonville, the Jacksonville Civic Council, the American Heart Association, JAXUSA Chamber of Commerce, the JAXUSA Chamber of Commerce Business Development, and the JAXUSA Policy Council.



Darnell Smith, Ashley Folladori, City Councilman Aaron Bowman, Ann-Marie Knight, Cindy Stover and Gary Knight



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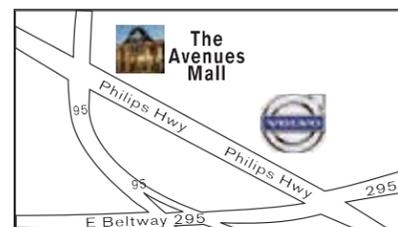


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The Haskell Corporation headquarters in the Brooklyn area played host to a celebration, a milestone for Daniel Kids. As the oldest child-service agency in Florida, the history runs deep and the organization's commitment to helping children who have been orphaned, abused or homeless to find hope and better outcomes for their lives, has been lasting.

What started as the Orphanage and Home

for the Friendless back in 1884, Daniel Kids evolved over the years to meet the changing and challenging needs of children and families in Northeast Florida and beyond. Nearly 2,000 children are served every day through counseling, foster and adoptive home programming as well as helping homeless children to find housing and jobs. The event took place Sept. 25.



George Candler, Julia Kalinski, Jen Stockman, Olga Flores and Georgette Dumont



Lisa Pepin-Donat, Kim Thompson and Kerri Monahan



Theresa and Bill Dahl



Berrylin, Hal and Heather Houston with Lorraine Koehler and Bob Graver, Mary Love Strum and Carolyn Houston

SOCIAL R

Delicious Destinations: A culinary Tour de Force

Some of the world's greatest chefs shared their tastiest gourmet fare during the 14th Annual Delicious Destinations event at the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club, Sept. 10-12.

The three-day event raised more than \$300,000 for St. Vincent's Community Outreach Programs, which provide access to free medical care for underprivileged men, women and children throughout Jacksonville.

This year's celebrity chef was Jean-Pierre Brehier of Chef Jean-Pierre's Cooking School in Ft. Lauderdale. Participants also enjoyed mouthwatering cuisine by executive chefs from the Mar-A-Lago Club, the Greenbrier, the Ritz Carlton Amelia Island and the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club as well as other exclusive restaurants and resorts.

Brehier provided food during the Sea Luncheon Sept. 10 and event sponsors were treated to an exclusive evening patrons reception Sept. 11. The grand event, the Delicious Destinations Gala, was held Sept. 12 and featured food and fine wine as well as a live and silent auction.

Serving as chairman for the event were Jennifer and Henry Brown, Kelley and Stephen Kunz, and Kirsten and Josh Martino.



John



Greg and Ginny Smith

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A major gift elevates Toast to the Animals

The Jacksonville Humane Society delivered on its promise to make the 17th Toast to the Animals a smashing affair. Animal lovers and passionate supporters from across Northeast Florida were on hand to enjoy EverBank Field's Terrace Suites and video boards. After a brief video presentation, a surprise gift of \$1,000,000 dollars was delivered by the Petco Foundation.

The night was energized by the big donation and those working tirelessly to raise

funds for the organization welcomed the gift that will grow the capital campaign totals. The effort has been underway since February of this year to replace facilities badly scorched by fire back in 2007. It was the second year Jaguars' General Manager Dave Caldwell and his wife, Joelle, chaired the event. The Caldwells have rescued three dogs— Nala, Coco and Monkey, two of which they adopted from the Jacksonville Humane Society.



Kyle and Erica Harding with Baylee and Louis Joseph



Joan and Dr. Lee Rosenberg



Sister Cora Anne with Martha Barrett



Dina Vickers, Lisé Everly, Lyndon Johnson, Amy Pierce and Pam Johnson



Curtis Dvorak and Jacksonville Humane Society President Michael Munz of the Dalton Agency



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Beautiful 1904 Riverside home has lots of charm! From the front porch swing to the large living room with fireplace. The dining room has a bay window, the retro kitchen in this home will delight all that see it. Downstairs there is an additional room with full bath that could easily be a bedroom. Upstairs there are 4 bedrooms and 2 baths including a guest apartment. Home is a short walk to a great coffee shop, good food, lots of night life & St. Vincent's Hospital. \$310,000 MLS# 792072 Butler/Corbett Team 904-521-3288



Charming mid-century split-level home on a beautifully manicured, almost quarter-acre lot. Located in the lovely tree-lined, walkable and bike-able Grove Park subdivision. Generously-sized bedroom/bathroom/kitchenette suite on first floor with private access to pool which could function as guest quarters or mother-in-law suite. \$249,500 MLS# 787472 Joseph Poletto & Amanda Everett 904-738-6446



Mediterranean inspired waterfront gated community of luxury townhomes & villas. Spacious townhome lives large, boasting open interiors & a stylish décor. Garden off the living/family room gives you a quiet space to relax. 2 large terraces, granite counters/island, 2-car garage, stainless Bosch appliances, gas fireplace, tile floors... La Terrazza offers low-maintenance luxury lifestyle, clubhouse, pool & access to Goodby's creek for kayaking. \$324,000 MLS# 792526 Bruce Homeyer & Liz Reiman: The Transition Team 904-535-8686



Big Family? Love to Swim & Entertain? Perfect home! 6 bedroom, 3 baths & 2 half baths under brand new roof. Brick beauty features a breathtaking infinity pool, large family room w/brick fireplace, wet bar, formal living & dining rooms. Chef's Dream Kitchen has travertine floor, KitchenAid ovens, desk & cooktop, marble tile counters & brick accent wall. Breakfast Nook offers pool & marsh views. Kayak/canoe on tidal creek to the St. Johns River! A Must See! \$545,000 MLS# 766798 Butler/Corbett Team 904-521-3288



Charming Lakewood home with beautiful new wood floors in living room, dining room and hall. Charming wood burning fireplace, separate dining room, and family room leading out to one HUGE deck and peaceful backyard. Enjoy your morning coffee or evening wine in this picturesque backyard! Upgraded windows, up-graded 2nd bath, stainless steel appliances and much more! Don't let this home pass you by! \$139,900 MLS# 792161 Charles Anno 904-993-7487



Listed and sold in less than 60 days! Beautiful renovated San Marco pool home. Let us show you how we can put our marketing plan to work for you! Get more exposure and therefore more money for your home - faster! Sold for \$240,000 MLS# 782118. Contact Amanda Everett and Joseph Poletto 904-412-2711



Beautiful updated brick, 3/2 home nestled amongst mature trees on a cul-de-sac lot. Gourmet kitchen with 42" cabinets, custom glass cabinet doors, loaded with pull-out drawers, granite countertops, trimmed in crown molding, breakfast bar & a breakfast nook. Hand-scraped hardwood flooring throughout home. Spacious bathrooms feature new marble countertops, sinks & hardware. Owner's Retreat features French doors opening to the covered patio overlooking private backyard. \$325,000 MLS# 778202 Butler/Corbett Team 904-521-3288



Traditional 2-story home! Relax on your master suite balcony to catch the river breeze! Walk down by the river to the community dock. Brick accent paver driveway, enhanced landscaping for privacy, carriage style garage doors, & concrete tile roof. Upgrades: hardwood floors, deluxe master bath & gourmet kitchen, stainless Bosch appliances, granite counter tops, tile backsplash, 3-car garage! Gated community with amenities: pool, fitness, dock, fire pit, party room... \$690,000 MLS# 792567 Bruce Homeyer & Liz Reiman: The Transition Team 904-535-8686



Fabulous Mandarin Estate: Main house features 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, and a 3 car garage. Heart-of-pine & oak floors, beautifully equipped chef's gourmet kitchen with Subzero fridge, double ovens, and Corian counter tops. Several custom built-ins throughout the home, details galore! A back screened in patio and outdoor kitchen area perfect for entertaining! Guest house has 1 bedroom 2 baths with a 1 car attached garage. Nestled on 3.47 acres in a natural setting. \$650,000 MLS# 777598 Call the Butler/Corbett Team 904-521-3288



Just Sold! Gorgeous mid-century modern architectural marvel with open floor plan with rosewood floors in the heart of St. Nicholas. Home featured a updated kitchen and peaceful serene backyard to die for! Sold for \$197,000, MLS# 776402. Call us to find out how we can put our marketing plan to work for you! Joseph Poletto and Amanda Everett 904-738-6446



Great opportunity to buy a renovated home in Seabrook. Remodeled kitchen & bathrooms. Open living space with tile floors. Kitchen has granite countertops. Plenty of natural light through front windows. Split floor plan. Covered parking & good size fenced backyard. Extended driveway to allow additional parking space. You don't want to miss this opportunity. \$125,000 MLS# 792055 The Dream Home Team Jax - Gonzalo Mejia & Michael Leachman 904-472-0726



Stately home shows pride of ownership! Open floor plan boasts bright oversized living areas. Perfect home to entertain! Offers formal living & dining, family room w/18'+ ceilings with a handsome floor to ceiling brick fireplace. Double windows allow natural light throughout. Oversized eat-in kitchen with prep island is loaded with cabinet space & 3 wall-to-wall pantry closets, separate full-size wet bar. Sliders open to back patio w/private backyard. Owner's Retreat offers vaulted ceilings, walk-in closets, garden tub, sinks w/new granite counters & much more! \$375,000 MLS# 778201 Butler/Corbett Team 904-521-3288



Great Mandarin Location! 4 Bedroom, 2.5 bath Pool Home with approx. 2,000 sq. feet UNDER A BRAND NEW ROOF! Freshly painted interior too. Home offers formal living & formal dining room, a family room with a stone fireplace, sliders that open to the patio & pool area. Eat-in kitchen has a breakfast nook & walk-in pantry. 1st Floor Master Bedroom with a bay window, large walk-in closet, vanity area & shower 3 spacious additional bedrooms upstairs that share a bath. Just under 1/2 acre fully fenced backyard with storage shed! \$210,000 MLS# 778769 Butler/Corbett Team 904-521-3288



Looking for San Marco charm without the price? Quaint 1940's bungalow beauty has been meticulously maintained & has all the vintage feel of the area. Situated on a large lot with gorgeous oak trees. Freshly painted inside & out, newer roof & A/C, huge living room, great floor plan with original hardwood floors, although covered with carpet in some rooms. Single car garage with newer garage door. All appliances stay. Convenient location is just minutes to San Marco Square, Downtown & I95. \$152,900 MLS# 792074 904-731-5800



Quiet cul-de-sac home tucked away in an executive Mandarin neighborhood, this 5 bedroom, 4 bath home has so much to offer including a 3 car courtyard entry garage. Open 3-way split bedroom floorplan boasts a spacious formal Living & Dining Rooms, an upgraded Kitchen, fireplace in Family Rm & Bonus/5th bedroom. Wide-plank mahogany floors, wired for surround sound, upgraded lighting, crown molding, arched doorways, art & entertainment niches are just a few of the special features of this 1.5 story home. \$385,000 MLS# 787889 Butler/Corbett Team 904-521-3288



Come check out this lovely maintained, 2-story single family home in the heart of Jacksonville. This 10 year old home has been freshly painted & maintained by its original owners. This beautiful home features wood laminate floors in the downstairs living areas & painted concrete flooring the bonus room. Bonus room could be used as an office, 4th bedroom, play room, or extra family room. The home is centrally located close to schools, hospitals, shopping, bus lines, downtown, and the beach! \$155,000 MLS# 792060 904-731-5800

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Welcome home to this charming antique style 2 story San Marco home with master bedroom on the first floor! This adorable home offers 3 bedrooms, den/office, formal living & dining areas, fully equipped eclectic kitchen with a wood burning fireplace, eat-in nook, lined with window views + single French door to private deck which is perfect for outdoor dining overlooking nature's wooded preserve. Master suite features his & her sinks & a large shower. Upstairs offers 2 spacious bedrooms, loaded with natural light and a full bath. Relax year round on the front or back porch surrounded by colorful landscaping. Additionally, home offers a tandem carport with storage/tool closet, hardwood pine floors, built-ins, dormer windows, gutters, plantation shutters, re-plumbed plus 1 year home warranty, too. MLS# 777599

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Equality Florida celebrates advocates, supporters

The local chapter of Equality Florida rallied around its most prominent supporters during a recent evening soiree on Sept. 26 at the Florida Yacht Club. Patrons and special guests traveled across the state to help bolster support for the nonprofit.

A rally cry for the coming HRO deliberations was heard throughout the speeches, as well as praise for work already being done to further the organization. Passionate pleas and peaceful means were encouraged, as the fight for equality remains at the core of the group's mission statement. Awards were given to UNF's Haiden Baier, Ginger Harris and Steve Halverson of the Haskell Corporation.



Artist Chip Southworth, Co-Chair Brent Tuten, Equality Means Business Award winner Steve Halverson of the Haskell Corporation and Co-Chair Dan Tice



Susie Menaged, Peter Weise, Brent Van Tice and Walter Menaged



Joseph Poletto, Jerry Rosenberg, Dr. Raoul Sanchez and Gary Adler



Ron Carzoli, David Johnson, Max Sturdivant and Jack Logue

Jaguar player hosts weekend activities for pediatric cancer patients

One of Zane Beadles' favorite things is connecting with the children and families who seek treatment at the University of Florida Health Proton Therapy Institute. Over Labor Day weekend, Beadles, a Jacksonville Jaguars offensive lineman, hosted a series of fundraising events kick off Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month.

Beadles' charity, the Zane Beadles Parade Foundation, supports the journey of young people going through life-changing medical experiences including proton therapy treatment. The event, Stomp Out Pediatric Cancer, included three facets: A VIP party at J. Roberts Fine Jewelry in San Marco, Family Fun day at Fantasy Farms in Ponte Vedra, and Sunrise Yoga in Jacksonville Beach.

The event raised just under \$10,000 to support pediatric cancer research.

"I'm honored to be able to dedicate a weekend to supporting these children and the many others who are facing challenges that go far beyond what's found on the football field," Beadles said.



Bobby Wallo, owner of J. Roberts Jewelers shares a laugh with Zane Beadles at the VIP Event in San Marco



Zane Beadles Parade Foundation Executive Director, Julie Gart, with volunteer Liz Schantz and event committee member Keely Pemberton



Jaguars' offensive lineman Zane Beadles and the Ward family enjoy "voodoo doughnuts." From left to right: Lisa Ward, Evie-Mai Ward, Theo Ward, Zane Beadles and James Ward. Residents of England, the Wards traveled to Jacksonville so Theo can be treated at the University of Florida's Proton Therapy Institute.

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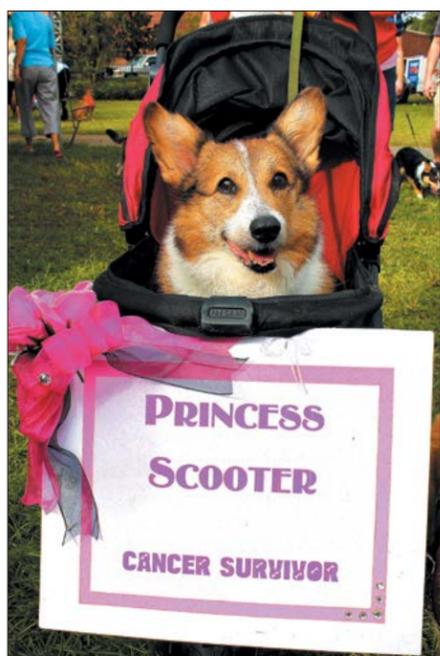
September a busy month for raising funds, granting awards



Bosom Buddies' annual Remission Rocks fundraiser brought out the pink at River City Brewing Company on Sept. 25. Posing prettily are Sara Dewitt, Kerry Simmons, Megan Sams, Bobbi de Córdova-Hanks, Charlene Ennis, Avery Garner, Ellen Schubert, Jennifer Thurman.



Gordon Adams, Ray and Liz Adams, Louise and Grace Adams were among patrons at the annual Shindig for the Sanctuary, held Sept. 18 at the Garden Club of Jacksonville. The event drew about 225 supporters from all over the city and garnered an estimated \$115,000 for the nonprofit.



Dogs get cancer, too! Princess Scooter, 13, beat soft tissue melanoma on a foreleg with four radiation treatments and is on long-term daily doses of chemotherapy. Her owner, Julie Schuneman, said each of the four radiation treatments cost \$700 and chemotherapy runs \$180 per month.



Uptown Civitan disbursed \$13,175 in awards to eight local agencies at its annual meeting. Front row: 2014-2015 Civitan President Wynester Sherrer and Civitan Philanthropic Chairman Mary Jo Marjenhoff; back row, Alexis Woods, Angelwood; Beth Wilson, DESC; Ju'Coby Pittman, Clara White Mission; Tom Hackney, Chief of Investigation, Jacksonville Sheriff's Department; Melanie Jensen, North Florida School of Special Education; Julia Steffen, The Arc; Michelle Corum, WJCT, Radio Reading Service.



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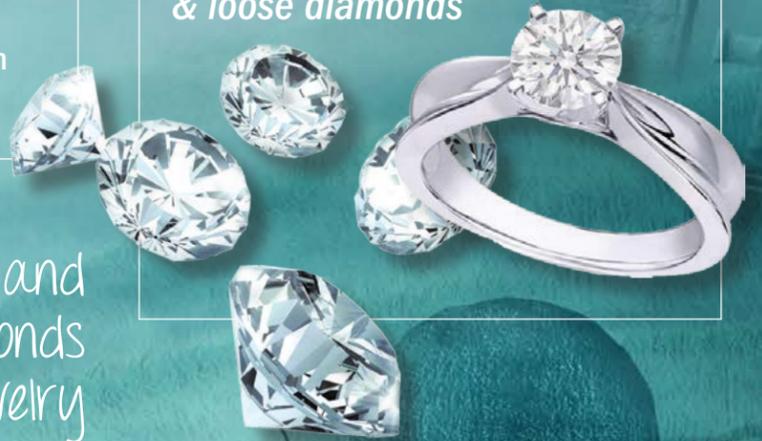
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Quicker, safer breast reconstruction thanks to new device

St. Vincent's one of first in country to implement Fluobeam

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Breast reconstruction just got better, thanks to a new device that utilizes current imaging technology.

St. Vincent's HealthCare is just one of four hospitals in the country to use the Fluobeam® Imaging System, thanks in part to Dr. Michael Fallucco, a plastic surgeon who was instrumental in bringing it to St. Vincent's Medical Center in Riverside.

"The technology of the imaging has been around for a while but it was a big tower and not as user friendly. I first learned about the handheld device four months ago," said Dr. Fallucco, a San Marco resident. "It was wonderful to have St. Vincent's support behind this."

The device, developed by Fluoptics, is equipped with a laser and a near-infrared camera. After the surgeon injects a non-radioactive fluorescent marker into the patient, the marker attaches itself to the tissue, enabling the doctor to see which tissue has the best blood flow.

"It just adds so much to the actual surgical procedure. Everything we do in plastic surgery is blood supply and now that I can see the blood flow I can make real-time decisions," said Dr. Fallucco.

Currently, surgeons at St. Vincent's Riverside are using the technology to better guide them during certain breast reconstruction operations. After surgery, some women are at increased risk for tissue death. Tissue with the best blood

flow is less likely to die and now, thanks to this technology, physicians can identify that tissue during surgery.

The Fluobeam system also decreases the amount of time spent in breast reconstruction surgery.

"Before we used this we were using judgment on what tissue was healthy. Now when you can visualize where the blood flow goes it allows for rapid decision making and opens the possibility for certain patients who might not have been good candidates for using their own tissues and abdominal fat for reconstructive surgery," said Dr. Fallucco. "It allows us to see if they have adequate blood supply."

The device can also be used in other types of reconstructive surgery in other parts of the body, according to Dr. Fallucco. "It has head to toe applications.

Whenever we're questioning the blood supply when we move tissue after a trauma situation or skin cancer, it has many applications, in general surgery and cardio-vascular surgery," he said.

Dr. Fallucco noted that the Fluobeam system is not yet affordable for private cosmetic/reconstructive surgeons to purchase for their own practices. "It's pretty expensive. It would be the rare practice that gets it," he said.

Life-saving decision

About 65-70 percent of Dr. Fallucco's practice involves breast reconstruction. East Arlington resident Doreen Arteaga, 52, was one of his first patients to have the Fluobeam system used during her surgery.



Doreen Arteaga was one of Dr. Fallucco's first patients to benefit from the use of Fluobeam.



Dr. Michael Fallucco uses a new device on a breast reconstruction surgery.

"Doreen did not want implants; she wanted to use her own abdominal tissue for the deep flap reconstruction," said Dr. Fallucco. "With that surgery the Fluobeam reduces surgery time significantly and I can map blood vessels before starting the surgery. It steers the operation of where I need to cut and lessens the amount of tissue disturbed, leading to a quicker recovery when muscles are not cut."

Arteaga was diagnosed with Stage 1 breast cancer in March 2015. She decided to have a double mastectomy and double node removal as a life-saving measure and went into surgery on April 20.

Arteaga made the drastic decision for a double mastectomy partly because her mother had breast cancer seven years ago.

"I take surgeries as a matter of course. This one was not cosmetic; I was trying to save my life," she said. "I would do it all over again. What a blessing to be here in Jacksonville."

Three months later she was back under the knife for her reconstruction surgery at St. Vincent's, opting for a more natural look and feel with tissue from her own body.

"It can be a disease that you can survive," said Arteaga, who did not undergo chemotherapy or radiation treatments. "St. Vincent's has been an amazing facility to work with. They are unbelievably

caring, supportive, especially Dr. Fallucco and his whole team. It's nice to know they make you feel validated and important. I felt like all my fears were put to rest through the team."

Good news for patients

Dr. Fallucco explained the Fluobeam is useful for any type of breast reconstruction, not just deep flap.

"Breast reconstruction is often a two-stage process; expander, then implant. I can fill the expander more to cut down on total expander time or may skip it altogether and go straight to the implant," he said. "It allows me to assess the blood supply in nipple reconstruction."

The healing process also benefits as surgeons are able to transfer only healthy tissue, thus avoiding another surgical procedure or delayed healing if non-healthy tissue is inadvertently used. Getting it right the first time is less costly for the patient and the health system and, psychologically, the patient is less traumatized.

"The biggest thing is what this offers the patient. You want to be done and move on to your new you," concluded Dr. Fallucco. "It's kind of like getting into a car with all the safety features...the Fluobeam gives us a safer operation for all the patients."

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Breast cancer an opportunity to transform one's life

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Joni Roberts did what so many women do when they find symptoms of breast cancer. She ignored them. Roberts, of San Marco, was 46 years old and thought she was too young to have breast cancer.

"Breast cancer does run in my family but my mother was in her mid-50s and my aunts were in their 60s and 70s [when they were diagnosed], so I didn't think that was it," said Roberts

Ironically, her symptoms, type and location of cancer were identical to what her mother went through 20 years earlier.

When Roberts finally came to grips with the fact that she had the disease, she debated whether to share her illness with friends and family.

"I thought it might put a stigma on me or maybe hurt my career, but then I thought 'I don't want it to be a secret' and I didn't want people to think they couldn't talk about it so I went public on Facebook and by doing so, it opened up this conversation with my cousins," she shared.

"There are 17 girls in my generation in my family, but I'm the first to get breast cancer. I'm glad it's done and over but the idea that my three sisters might have to go through this is almost harder than going through it myself," Roberts said.

Roberts' cancer was discovered when she was trying to get treatment for another health situation in late 2013 and was not able to get health insurance. She tried to get into a clinical drug trial, and during the medical evaluation the doctor felt a lump. "You can't start a drug trial with cancer," Roberts explained.

"A painful health condition put me on the path toward discovering the breast cancer, but it was a long journey to get medical help," she said. "I'm an optimist, and when they did the MRI I had a 95 percent chance of it being cancerous, but I was hopeful of being in the five percent. I was hoping for a lumpectomy."

When she met with the doctor in January 2014, she was shocked to discover she had more than one tumor and the amount of the mass was too much for a lumpectomy.

"By that time I finally had health insurance, thanks to the Affordable Care Act. Because I was going to do one side, I decided to do the other prophylactically and for symmetry," she said.

Roberts had a double mastectomy one

year after noticing the symptoms and elected to have breast reconstruction during the same surgery. Rather than implants, Roberts chose the process which uses blood vessels, tissue and fat from the lower abdomen.

"I'm very fortunate. If you're going to have breast cancer, there are very good doctors here," she said. Her nine-hour surgery was performed at UF Health, but the reconstruction team included surgeons from Baptist Health and St. Vincent's Healthcare.

Physically, emotionally new

By the end of 2014, having gone through a double mastectomy, breast reconstruction, chemotherapy and another surgery last fall for shaping – and taking care of the original health problem that led to the discovery of breast cancer – Roberts was ready to take back control of her life.

"It was a huge practice in surrender and acceptance; you have to give up control," she said. She also had to give up one of her most favorite activities – swimming.

"I've been a swimmer my whole life. Water is my bliss," she said.

In 2013, Roberts participated in the Jumping Fish Up the River Downtown swim from Jacksonville University to the Riverside Arts Market, but had to sit it out last year because she was just finishing chemotherapy. This year she decided to try it again.

"I didn't know if I could finish the swim. I used to be in control of my body but that's not the case now," Roberts said. "The hardest thing is to connect my arms and legs with my core, the weakest part of my body. I wondered if my arms would be able to go round and round for the whole six miles, but as the swim went on the endorphins kicked in and my competitive spirit made me go on."

Roberts' competitive spirit is what drives her to excel in her career as well. A strategy expert in entrepreneurship and international business, Roberts is an adjunct professor with DeVry University, and had decided to launch her own business prior to getting cancer.

"The time out helped me think about the business I was launching and to do it differently and do it better. I'm going to create an online school for entrepreneurs and people who are looking to make a positive change in the world through business," she said. "I hope to create a school that promotes conscious, thoughtful ways of conducting business, make it a purpose-



Joni Roberts

"All of these physical changes are an opportunity to love myself no matter what I look like on the outside."

— Joni Roberts

driven business, and consider the impact on the environment, the people working for you, the supply chain, the customers."

Now 49, Roberts said having breast cancer was an opportunity to transform her life.

"I had to step out of everything I wanted to do that year. By having so much done physically, that process was a complete foundation re-set for me," she said. "I knew

going in that cancer changes people and I wondered what would happen to me."

Although Roberts is a little heavier than she's comfortable being, she considers herself lucky she ended up with a well-proportioned figure. "I'm trying to be that confident woman," she shared. "All of these physical changes are an opportunity to love myself no matter what I look like on the outside."

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TraumaOne Flight Services flies through its first 30 years

By Vince Iampietro
Resident Community News

Trauma, which does not discriminate, can happen to anyone at a moment's notice.

For those suddenly encountering a life-threatening situation, survival can hinge on the speed in which treatment is delivered. One minute can mean the difference between life and death.

Today, thanks to advances in aviation, modern medical helicopters provide swift access to the scene of an accident, lifting critically ill patients above traffic-clogged roads to trauma centers miles away.

"The 'golden hour' is the first 60 minutes," said Chad E. McIntyre, Manager of TraumaOne Flight services at UF Health. "For stroke, heart attacks and trauma you've got to resuscitate before this time. But we call it the platinum 10 minutes; the first 10 minutes are the most critical. We can do that with a chopper flying in at 140 mph, treating them, and getting them out of there," said McIntyre, who is also a National EMS Advisory Council Air Medical representative.

TraumaOne Flight Services recently celebrated 30 years as one of the region's main lifelines for critically ill patients with a celebration on its 8th Street campus Aug. 28. Working in conjunction with Jacksonville's only Level 1 trauma care center, UF Health Jacksonville, which was originally named University Health, TraumaOne's helicopter transport teams are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Combat triage genesis for trauma centers

The development of University Hospital's trauma services originated from a study funded by the Florida Medical Association in the late 1970s or early 1980s, said Joseph Tepas III of Riverside, Chief of Pediatric Surgery at UF Health Jacksonville. Dr. Ray Alexander, former Chief of Surgery and Medical Director of the trauma program at University Health Jacksonville, was the study's principal investigator.

"Thirty years ago, we just finished Vietnam and had developed lifting people out of combat conditions," Tepas said. "A lot of combat pilots and medics came back to work in this field. Replicating what trauma centers did in Vietnam is what we looked at – how we could benefit from such a system."

"We had a large metropolitan area with



Original TraumaOne helicopter in flight

no organized trauma center," said Dr. David Vukich, Professor of Emergency Medicine at the University of Florida. "Because of support from University Hospital and city support, funds were appropriated, along with some state funding, for (an) inner-city safety-net hospital."

TraumaOne was born when Vukich, Alexander and their colleague, Dr. James Vretis II, went shopping for a helicopter.

It was 1984 or 1985 when the trio flew to Pennsylvania to see an MBB BK117 helicopter being prepared for medical service.

"That's when it started, when we were actually shopping for a helicopter," Vukich said, noting that Alexander deserved most of the credit. "He's the one who had the vision and managed to get this all done with not a lot of resources," said Vukich.

"He was a good trauma center leader, a great clinician, and a great marketer. We had TraumaOne pins we wore on our lapels. Whenever Ray met someone, he wouldn't reach in his pocket for one to give; he'd remove the pin from his lapel and place it on theirs," Vukich said, noting Alexander died in 1992.

Vukich, Alexander, and Vretis served as the first three TraumaOne Flight Services pilots and crewmembers. Soon a dozen more crew members were brought in to assist.

Pilots still saving lives

Early on it seemed more effective to have doctors remain at the hospital rather try to work in the air, said Tepas. Well-trained flight medics and nurses were sent out instead.

One original TraumaOne pilot is still on duty today. John Barber, founder of the National EMS Pilot's Association, flies for the service out of Flagler Hospital in St. Augustine. Barber served in Vietnam in the early 1970s, then transferred his military expertise into civilian work.

"I enjoy it," Barber said. "It's a pretty good life for a pilot. You feel great because you're going out and saving lives."

The original TraumaOne helicopter was a BK117, which was jointly developed by Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm of Germany and Kawasaki of Japan. It featured a smaller rotor disk with a rigid blade system. Present on medical helicopters today, those features facilitate landings in limited access areas. When on the ground, the higher rotor blade tips prevent injuries to emergency personnel on the scene.

"It was the newest, best thing to have in aviation. Back then it was the aircraft to have," Barber said.

From trailblazer to staple

Though the number of trauma centers nationwide increased in the 1980s and 1990s, many have subsequently closed due to expenses and a lack of trained personnel.

"Trauma centers require expensive and extensive commitment," Tepas said. "Physicians who are up all night can't take care of their regular patients the next day, and (emergency) payments to physicians were not clear."

Today, TraumaOne at UF Health Jacksonville continues to be the only Level 1 trauma center in Northeast Florida.

In 2013, TraumaOne increased its fleet when Med-Trans Air Medical Transport of Dallas, Texas, delivered a Bell 407 and two Eurocopter EC135 helicopters. These helicopters allow TraumaOne to provide a "triad of care" to hospitals and EMS providers within a 150-mile radius of its Florida flight centers in St. Augustine, Yulee, and Lake City.

With three new helicopters at the ready, TraumaOne Flight Services has cut flight times in half compared to 1985, when its only helicopter was stationed on top of Shands Jacksonville Medical Center.

Each helicopter's FAA tail identification bears the initials of one of the program's founders, with 655 indicating the street number of UF Health Jacksonville: N655JT – James Tepas, III; N655RA – Ray Alexander; and R655DV – David Vukich.

Continued on page 29 >>>



John Barber still flying for TraumaOne, out of Flagler Hospital



John "Ace" Barber at the controls of the original TraumaOne BK 117

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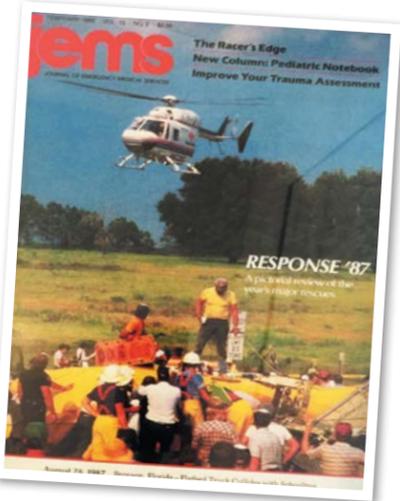
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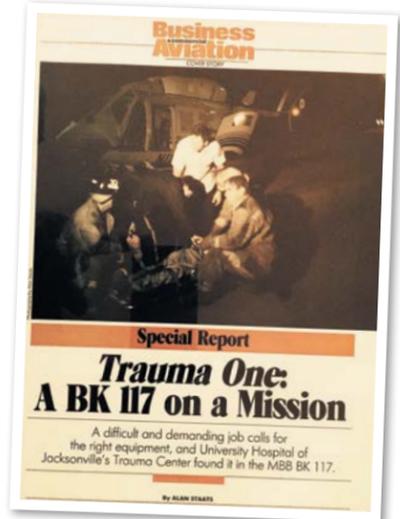
Dr. Ray Alexander, one of the founders of TraumaOne, with Lorraine Vukich Keith, TraumaOne's first Chief Flight Nurse



TraumaOne original copter on cover of 1987 Journal of EMS magazine, landing at accident scene



Wes Eskew, one of the first TraumaOne paramedics, will retire at the end of 2015



TraumaOne was the cover story for Business & Commercial Aviation magazine in the late 1980s.

Each helicopter has a crew, which is required to be at the top of their game every time, McIntyre said. These highly trained professionals allow people who ordinarily would not survive, to walk out of the hospital without the use of a wheelchair or other transportation, he said.

Night vision, advanced GPS systems, community-provided landing zones, larger and more technologically advanced operational control centers, and less fatiguing on-and-off-duty hours for pilots and crew, lead to safer, faster flights than in the past, Barber said.

Crews today have closer medical control from doctors qualifying them to clear airways or provide medication on the scene that can't be administered by paramedics or fire personnel, McIntyre said.

TraumaOne Flight services are not publicly funded in Florida, McIntyre said. Flight program funding is a shared risk between Med-Trans Corporation, and TraumaOne. Med-Trans Corporation supplies the helicopters and pilots, pays for their living quarters, and handles billing. TraumaOne provides medical oversight.

"Early on, there wasn't a book on how to do this and keep it safe for the crew and pilots," Vukich said. "People who started (the program) were pioneers and, today, a lot of risk has been engineered out of all areas. It's matured, this part of the industry, and has become a staple. Back then it was remarkable. We have a great sense of pride to make something that wasn't cookbook and we're proud of our work," he said.

Curry Pajcic, Ortega resident and personal injury lawyer at Pajcic & Pajcic, said he is impressed with the work TraumaOne at UFHealth Jacksonville does. "They treat my clients and do a tremendous job. I know what caring and wonderful people they are, and I've seen them perform miracles."

Pajcic's firm sponsors Night of Heroes, an annual gala that honors doctors and medical staff who improve the outcome of trauma patients and raises funds to support TraumaOne. "It's an honor to support them," he said. "These are state employees who have chosen to serve, and it's an honor to support them with funds to help buy needed equipment."

UF Health celebrates 30 years of life-saving flight



Dr. J. Bracken Burns, former Medical Director of TraumaOne Flight Services, receives a going away present from his staff.

UF Health Jacksonville honored the doctors and pilots who fought to save critically-ill patients when it held the 30th anniversary of its TraumaOne Flight Services with a community celebration at the hospital's 8th Street campus Aug. 28.

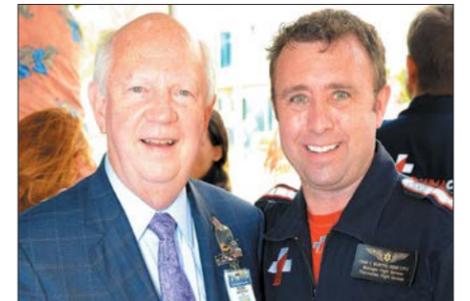
On hand at the ceremony were Dr. Joseph Tepas of Riverside and Dr. David Vukich, two pioneers of the program, which got its start in 1985. Tepas and Vukich have watched the program grow from one helicopter to three, which are now based in Lake City, St. Augustine and Yulee. This enables the service to reach patients as

quickly as possible throughout the region and treat them while they are being flown to UF Health Jacksonville or other facilities until they reach definitive care.

During the ceremony, Dr. J. Bracken Burns, Medical Director of TraumaOne Flight Services, was given a large framed photograph as a going away present from his staff. Burns is leaving Jacksonville to become a professor of surgery at East Tennessee State University. He was recently presented with the Raymond H. Alexander, MD, EMS Medical Director of the Year Award by the Florida Department of Health.



Tom and Lorraine Vukich Keith, who was the first director and first Chief Flight Nurse of the TraumaOne flight program



Russ Armistead, CEO of UF Health Jacksonville and Chad E. McIntyre, UF Health Jacksonville's Manager of TraumaOne Flight Services.

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Vørb Jax: Bringing upscale to everyone

The gym. The smell. The sweat. The wait for a machine. The dirty clothes. The prison grade towels. Locker rooms with all the charm of a back-woods gas station bathroom.

It's no wonder people avoid them in droves; they've had every reason to... Until now.

Enter Vørb Jax. It's not another smelly gym, though any good workout here will make you sweat.

Perched above Black Sheep restaurant on Margaret Street in Jacksonville's vibrant 5 Points area, Vørb Jax brings exclusive yacht club style and atmosphere to everyone, with top-shelf amenities to match.

"I worked at Epping Forest, University Club, Florida Yacht Club, and Timuquana Country Club, so why not bring that upscale style to the public?" reasoned Ferdinand Mendiola, who co-owns the gym with his wife, Toni.

The idea for a gym came when a local country club eliminated positions, including Ferdinand's, and several of his clients suggested he open his own gym.

Ferdinand explains the Vørb Jax name as describing action, saying "I think that fits the community here, the name is easy to remember, and the phonetic ə adds a little funk."

To keep Vørb Jax from being just another gym, the Mendiolas created a personal service at-



sphere with surprising amenities.

"If you're going from here to work, you want as much as possible included in membership," said Toni of the monthly membership offerings.

Here, Vørb Jax shines with laundry service for your workout clothes; shirt steaming for a professional look; child drop-off during your workout; daily lockers, and a ready supply of toothbrushes, razors, shaving cream, shampoo – even Q-tips and cotton balls – to help you primp for your day.

Personal service is always on hand for Vørb Jax members. "Staff is here at all times, from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday -Thursday, 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, and 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. on weekends," said Toni.

Vørb Jax keeps training sessions fresh for its members by offering a variety of workout styles.



"We're not a specialty gym, but more of a hybrid; we do a lot of everything so you're not stuck to one style of training," said Ferdinand.

Unlike more mundane gyms, the Mendiolas interact directly with members, who are always welcome to provide input.

"Whether it's a different class or hours," Toni pointed out, "we listen to our membership – that's what we can do as a non-franchise gym."

For the flexible, or those wanting to be, Vørb Jax's comprehensive selection of group classes in yoga, barre, Flexx It, Pilates, along with spinning and boot camp classes, are there to get you into first-rate shape.

Also waiting to test your mettle are brand new treadmills, ellipticals, bikes, including spinning

and recumbents, a stair stepper (with recirculating stairs), strength equipment, free weights, and group class apparatus.

Helping utilize Vørb Jax's top-flight equipment are experienced trainers, who also offer individual training sessions in addition to group classes.

When you're finished building a body fit for a yacht cruise, an onsite massage therapist is there to work through your post-workout kinks.

For final cleanup before heading out, rich, wood-faced lockers await you in an opulent setting that features elegant sinks and fixtures, private bathrooms and individual showers, and for the ladies, a grand chandelier to shed light on the large mirrors and seating in the make-up area.

Children also have their own regal area in Zoe's Den at Vørb Jax.

Zoe's Den is ready for play with activity boards, a tall tepee, and a friendly, CPR-trained, fully background-checked staff.

"We think this child drop area is a good tool for young families who want their child to be safe, but still have fun," said Ferdinand.

"We're full service and feel that's what's going to keep you here," said Toni, "You're going to want to stay."



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Nemours receives grant to aid children with vascular anomalies

Nemours Children's Specialty Care received a \$10,000 grant from Liam's Land for Lymphatic Malformation Research to develop the Nemours Vascular Anomalies Program (VAP) in September.

When fully funded, the Nemours VAP will be the first center of its kind in Florida, with sites in Jacksonville and Orlando, to offer children with vascular anomalies the ability to see physicians from multiple specialties in a single visit with a family-centered and coordinated approach to their care.

"Children with vascular anomalies often face a lifetime of challenges and interventions, but we can help them immensely with the creation of this program, which will increase coordination of the best services available," said Janet Steffen, founder and executive director of Liam's Land.

Steffen established the lymphatic malformation research foundation after her son, Liam, was born in 2010 with multiple cysts impacting his airway. The

mission of Liam's Land is to advance the research and identify possible causes of lymphatic malformation by supporting a patient registry and funding further genetic testing and clinical trials.

A vascular anomaly is an area where a child's blood or lymph vessel has grown or connected in an unusual way. Vascular anomalies vary in size and, depending on the type and location, they can be harmless, cosmetically challenging, or potentially life threatening. Treatment for vascular anomalies is often complex and the families of impacted children often find the number of appointments, tests, and interventions can be overwhelming.

The development of the Nemours VAP will help coordinate care for these unique patients, while ensuring patients receive innovative care as new treatments are developed.

"We are always looking for ways to improve care and delivery of that care for patients and their families," said Dr. Gary Josephson, Chairman of the Department of Surgery



Dr. Eric Sandler, Dr. Scott McDonald, Dr. Steven Andreoli, Dr. Gary Josephson of Nemours Children's Specialty Care with Janet and Liam Steffen, Susan Allen and Carrington Allen during the check presentation from the Liam's Land for Lymphatic Malformation Research Foundation.

at Nemours Children's Specialty Care. "We want parents to be able to spend time playing with their kids, not worrying about scheduling doctor's appointments and coordinating procedures. The development of this program will help take the stress off of parents while ensuring that their children receive the best, most comprehensive care."

Southbank Plans FROM PAGE 1

a Southbank resident, as he introduced the consultants during the meeting held at the Lexington Hotel. Working on the plan will be Nicholas Mousa of JBC Planning and Engineering, Pete Sechler of Community Solutions of Orlando, Ruth Perry of GAI Consultants and Lara Diettrich of Diettrich Planning. Mousa, who heads up the consulting team, is the son of city administrator Sam Mousa.

Conceptual planning for the project should be complete by December, said Sechler. A detailed design should be approved by the DIA in January 2016 and put out for bids. Construction is expected to begin in early 2017 and should take nine months to complete, he said.

During the meeting Sechler treated Southbank residents and others from the public to a visual history of the area.

After the presentation, participants were asked to work in groups to outline on paper how they would configure



Healthy Town developer Mike Balanky and District 5 City Councilwoman Lori Boyer

Riverplace Boulevard using certain street elements such as narrow travel lanes, parallel and angled parking, shared, buffered and protected bike lanes, and sidewalks of differing widths. After discussing the plans table by table, the consultants collected the drawings to use as they formulate their final design.

During his talk, Sechler said the Southbank has changed dramatically since the 1920s. Back then, the Southbank had a vibrant waterfront with a fine network of blocks that comprised a working-class

neighborhood. Within its borders were grocery stores, parks, churches, pubs, and industry. In short, residents lived in proximity to their employment.

Things began to change in the 1960s when the thriving waterfront transitioned into an area of single-use office buildings. At this time, the prominent urban planning idea was to encourage workers to drive to work from the suburbs and a highway system was developed to get people in and out of the city as quickly as possible, he said, noting the "model was to evacuate the downtown at 5 p.m."

In the early 1990s, the Southbank still had some JEA industry, a couple of office sites, remnants of the working-class neighborhood and the beginnings of an expanding medical district, but the model was still single-use office buildings and employees that drive to the city daily, he said. "We were untangling our cities under the guise of progress," Sechler said, noting the city consciously dismantled the waterfront with its "close-in"

residential neighborhoods and untangled it to go to a suburban model, turning the Southbank into a land of parking lots.

"When we look at this area, we see remnants of different periods of time," he said.

Through the Riverplace Boulevard "road diet" project, the consultants hope to jumpstart a return to a more sustainable model where residents will be drawn to amenities and activities they can't find in the suburbs.

With the waterfront, medical district, which offers high, low and medium-wage jobs, proximity to the historic neighborhood of San Marco, and the advent of Healthy Town, the Southbank will soon have all the elements to attract residents looking for restaurants, biking and walking, authenticity, and offices with the "cool" factor, he said.

"We want to re-appropriate the asphalt for something other than moving cars," Sechler said. "Riverplace Boulevard is the first step in the process of how the entire area will evolve."



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The Way We Were - Susan Lovett Mullin

By Julie Kerns Garmendia
Resident Community News

Susan Lovett Mullin believes San Marco is amazing.

In the midst of this laid-back historic area, she said, are several important companies and famously successful individuals, and she feels privileged to have worked for three of those companies. All are significant in Jacksonville's history, and operated in succession in the same Southbank tower.

"I'm lucky to have worked for three wonderful local companies on the Southbank, near the neighborhoods, shops and restaurants of San Marco," said Mullin, who grew up in Springfield. "After high school in the Sixties, I continued my education, taking LOMA (Life Office Management Association) courses. LOMA is a major insurance industry trade association. I worked as a registrar for the old Gulf Life Insurance Company on Gulf Life Drive."

Now a resident at The Towers of Jacksonville, formerly Baptist Towers, Mullin recalled the early days of her career as "happy days in a huge new building full of terrific people. Many of us lived nearby and were just like family. We went to lunch together or met after work at our favorite place, the Diamondhead Restaurant. Everyone ordered fabulous seafood, especially the fried shrimp, and mouth-watering desserts."

After the Diamondhead was demolished to make way for the new Acosta Bridge in 1990, Mullin, her friends and co-workers ate at the nearby Harbormasters Restaurant, until it closed in 1992. Dining together and socializing was a recurring theme at Mullin's company.

"In the summertime Gulf Life hosted a deep-sea fishing trip for employees. We met at Mayport and left on the same boat. Some fished and others, like me, watched and enjoyed the day. It was so clear we saw the fish circling and biting on the lines deep into the water," she reminisced. "There were wonderful Christmas parties held in our Morrison's Cafeteria on-site. They served on glass plates and used silverware, nothing plastic. We could sit down and enjoy a real meal. Their Dolphin Room hosted beautiful office parties, including the last one, which was a goodbye party for the Gulf Life Company before it merged with American General Life."

Mullin recalled many occasions when Gulf Life employees pitched in to help anyone who had a house fire or other emergency. She frequently helped to collect money, clothing or whatever donations were needed and everyone participated.

After the 1991 merger, Mullin kept her position, but as an employee of American General. In 1993 Gate Petroleum bought the building and began a multimillion-dollar renovation that restored the tower.



Susan Lovett Mullin, age one, was born at Old St. Luke's Hospital in Springfield.



Susan Mullin and John Peyton at her retirement party from Gate Petroleum.

Mullin stayed at the renamed Riverplace Tower to work for Gate and said that working for Herb Peyton was a joy. She has many friends from her "Gate Family" years, including David Havellykke, a Gate manager and his wife Lynn, a former teacher at Hendricks Avenue Elementary, both retired now, as well as Melissa Yuhas, property manager who took over for the late Tom Pound, who held that position at the tower even longer than Mullin's years. Pound's wife Nancy was another longtime teacher at Hendricks Avenue Elementary before her retirement, Mullin said. Yuhas planned everything for Mullin's beautiful retirement party held in the foyer of the tower building and remains a close friend.

"Twenty years flew by working for Gate," she said. "I enjoyed my job there so much I didn't even want to take vacations. Once when my car completely broke down, they helped me get a new vehicle. I couldn't believe how much they cared about each employee. I don't think most companies are like that anymore. We always had a ball dressing up for Halloween every year. They would often take us out to lunch and the annual Christmas parties at the Ponte Vedra Club & Inn were such a treat."

Mullin said that she, along with other employees, volunteered for the Ronald McDonald House. She especially enjoyed the annual Gate River Run where she helped hand out what seemed like a million bottles of water over 20 years at 1301 Riverplace Boulevard from tables set up on the street in front of the tower.

"My last position was handling payments for the tower's parking garage," she said. "I did a lot of customer service because I had the patience to answer questions and give directions to visitors. I felt like a walking GPS, but I knew San

Marco and the Southbank so well it was fun for me to talk about the area."

Mullin enjoyed her home on Palm Avenue near the Ronald McDonald House because it was a street of neighbors with the biggest hearts for helping each other and the community. She said they were always participating in charity walks or volunteering. It was also a walkable neighborhood, close to her favorite places. She misses the Pic-n-Save and Peterson's 5 & Dime, where she enjoyed browsing and usually lost all track of time.

An active senior, Mullin celebrates her 66th birthday in October. She retired in 2014 and was honored that her employers wanted her to stay. She attends water aerobics and Silver Sneakers exercise classes twice weekly, which she highly recommends. She enjoys ice cream with friends at Marble Slab Creamery, rarely misses events on San Marco Square and dines at River City Brewery, which brings back happy memories of years past. She sees movies at San Marco Theatre, frequents San Marco Bookstore and Alhambra Dinner Theatre. She never tires of her favorite musical, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and attending performances at the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts.

Mullin is a member of and taught Sunday School at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Hendricks Avenue. She supports the Salvation Army, Community Hospice and American Cancer Society after losing her only child, son Carl, to leukemia at age 34. She encourages locals to thank Fire Station 13 firefighters whom she says go above and beyond to assist residents day or night in emergencies. Mullin appreciates Michael McClernon, administrator, and the staff of the Towers' senior residential center for their compassionate care of San Marco seniors.

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Aging True Programs Give Seniors the Edge to Graceful Aging

When it comes to reasons for a celebration, getting older isn't something that tops everyone's list. However, Aging True in Jacksonville, Florida is one place where celebrating independent, graceful aging is its core mission.

Two of the programs Aging True offers to help seniors age gracefully while maintaining dignity are the Daily Money Management Program and the Memory Enhancement Program.

Aging True's Daily Money Management Program assists seniors in navigating their finances. Topics cover areas such as check writing, navigating a difficult Social Security website, and keeping important documents in order, to name a few. The process begins with an assessment of needs and capabilities to establish which level of programming is appropriate.



Aging True hosts a group of seniors for classes at their headquarters in the Lakeside area of Jacksonville.

For example, a senior might have recently lost the spouse who exclusively handled the finances; the Daily Money Management Program helps with everything from writing checks to organizing bills and having them paid on time.

An important aspect of the program is helping with "advanced directives and assisting individuals to make sure documents are in place before anything debilitating happens," according to Tammy Horn, Director of Care Management at Aging True.

Esther McMillan, Daily Money Management Manager, helps set up advanced directives for seniors, their families, or even caregivers. The directives reflect the wishes of the individual, helping families know how their loved one's money and affairs are to be handled once an illness has advanced.

Aging True can completely handle the advanced directives and money management for families. "Caregivers and children find that having a third party take care of finances relieves family stress and helps prevent exploitation of seniors' finances," said Horn.

With the senior population expected to grow to almost 30 percent of Florida's population by 2020, this is a vital area of concern.

The program also educates seniors "...in who to trust with finances when they can no longer manage them on their own," said Horn.

Daily Money Management Manager Esther McMillan is a nationally certified guardian for clients deemed by courts to need a nonprofit corporate guardian. Bolstering the Daily Money Management Program's capabilities is Kevin Hansen, Aging True's in-house certified financial counselor.

According to the Alzheimer's Foundation, Alzheimer's disease "is a progressive, degenerative disorder that attacks the brain's nerve cells, or neurons, resulting in loss of memory, thinking and language skills, and behavioral changes."

The good news is, Aging True's Alzheimer's Memory Enhancement Program can help. According to Horn, the program focuses on individuals who are self-sufficient, but illustrate signs and symptoms

of slight memory loss. "The program's event-based curriculum helps abate the onset of Alzheimer's symptoms."

The participants, of their free consent, attend the Memory Enhancement Program's workshops. The curriculum takes them through memory and cognitive activities, such as reading the local paper and discussing topics in the stories. Music is also part of the program, where participants research how to tie in a song with the topic of the day.

Early intervention is the key because, as Horn said, it keeps the brain active, which helps slow the onset of the disease.

Horn credits St. John's County Council on Aging for helping Aging True adopt their memory program.

To find out more about Aging True's Daily Money Management and Memory Enhancement Programs, call Esther McMillan at Aging True, (904) 807-1203.



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<p>SAINT AUGUSTINE Thursday, October 22, 2015 7:00 pm–9:00 pm Ramada Inn I-295 & San Jose Boulevard</p>	<p>MANDARIN Friday, October 23, 2015 10:00 am–Noon Courtyard Marriott 2075 State Road 16 & I-95</p>

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Jr. Residents

Episcopal installs FieldTurf on football field



Senior members of the Episcopal football team pose on their field's new FieldTurf surface. Left to right: Anjelo Villero, Noah Wells, Darius Newbill, Gray Vickers, Hunter Fishback, David Clark, Andrew Boselli, Conor Chepenik, Joseph Schmidt, Travis Williams, Marcus Davis and Scott Dollison.

What was once a dream for the athletic department at the Episcopal School of Jacksonville has finally become a reality.

Over the summer, a new FieldTurf surface has been installed on Episcopal's football field in time for the school's 50th anniversary. The installation is part of the school's Lead the Way capital campaign, which includes improvements in the school's athletic facility, library upgrades and endowment growth.

The athletic capital upgrades include the development of a sports complex on the School's Knight Campus and construction of new facilities on the Munnerlyn Campus.

"Having a turf field has been a dream for 15 years," said Thad McNulty, Lead the Way Capital

Campaign Co-Chair. "The Board investigated it back then because we knew it made sense for Episcopal. I am pleased to see it become a reality."

The FieldTurf surface features an Episcopal eagle on the 50-yard line, maroon end zones with "Episcopal" and "Eagles" in bold white letters, and is able to be lined appropriately for football, soccer and lacrosse.

"We feel strongly that FieldTurf provides the best combination of performance and safety for our student-athletes. Our student-athletes will be playing on the same surface as professional and collegiate teams," said Director of Athletics Andy Kidd. "The FieldTurf also means more teams will be able to use McCormick Field throughout the year for practice and games."

2014 Bolles boys' swim team recognized

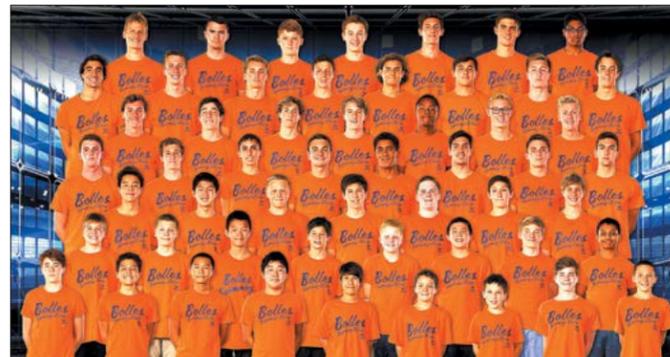
The 2014 Bolles boys' swim team was named National High School Team Champions by *Swimming World* magazine for the sixth time in program history. *Swimming World* announced the 2014-15 winners in the September issue of the magazine.

Swimming World began recognizing the best teams in the nation in 1971. This marks Bolles' fourth title in the last six years. Bolles has also been recognized as the top boys' independent school program in the country for six consecutive years and 10 times total.

Swimming World representatives collect the top times in the country while representing a high school in a high school meet (not club swims or swims outside of the high school season), and score them as if they were in a timed final championship meet. The scores are tabulated, and the team that registers the most points wins.

According to *Swimming World's* scoring, the Bolles boys tallied 123 points, 9.5 points better than second place LaSalle College Prep of Wyndmoor, Penn.

"Bolles captured this year's meet on the strength of its relays, scoring 110 points via first-place finishes in the 200-yard medley and freestyle relays plus a fourth place finish in the 400 free relay," wrote Annie Grevers in the article.



The 2014 Bolles boys' swim team

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Bishop Kenny students commemorate St. Augustine's 450th

The Bishop Kenny High School student body, along with faculty and administrators, participated in a Eucharistic procession in observance of the 450th anniversary of the founding of St. Augustine on Sept. 8.

The procession started at the Bishop Tanner Chapel located in the heart of the school's campus to The Great Cross on the bank of the St. Johns River where prayers of praise and thanksgiving were led by Campus Ministers Deacon Robert DeLuca and Bryan Haffey.

"In our own small way our procession to The Great Cross was symbolic of our unity with all those gathering in St. Augustine for the commemorative Mass at the Cathedral," DeLuca said. "The celebration gave us cause to be grateful for our religious liberty as citizens of the United States."

The procession was led by Bishop Kenny junior Joe Truss, Chris Joyce and Tim Strong, and involved approximately 50 students. Joyce and Strong are seniors at the school.



Joe Truss, Chris Joyce, and Tim Strong lead a procession of approximately 50 students to The Great Cross on the bank of the St. Johns River in observance of the 450th anniversary of the founding of St. Augustine.

While the students walked to the cross on the waterfront, they prayed the Te Deum, a prayer of praise and thanksgiving. Once at the waterfront, De Luca led the Liturgy of the Word in commemoration of the landing of Pedro Menendez in St. Augustine 450 years ago. Members of the student body who did not take part in the procession watched a streaming video presentation on the 450th anniversary and prayed the Te Deum.

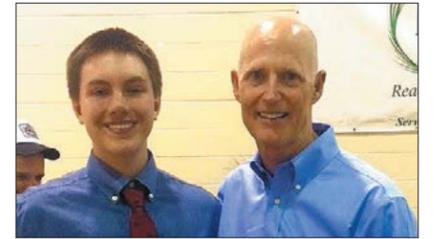
During lunch, students had the opportunity to observe the Mass in the

Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine, which was attended by many bishops, including Bishop Felipe Estévez of the Diocese of St. Augustine and principal celebrant Cardinal Sean O'Malley of the Diocese of Boston. The Mass was live streamed on large screens at the school for students to watch.

Bringing further relevance to the occasion, some Bishop Kenny history and religion teachers designed special lesson plans related to the occasion if it was appropriate for their subject area.

Jr. Residents

San Jose resident meets Florida governor



Hayden Borowy, a junior at The Bolles School, met and spoke with Governor Rick Scott while performing community service hours at Pine Castle in July.

Hayden Borowy, of San Jose, has logged over 150 hours of service in two years volunteering during the summer at Pine Castle. He primarily helps the participants in the workshops, but also assists in the kitchen during lunch and monitors activities during recreation time. Last summer Borowy helped run a putting contest during Pine Castle's annual charity golf tournament.

This year, during Borowy's second summer of community service at Pine Castle, the Bolles School junior had an opportunity to meet Florida Governor Rick Scott.

Gov. Scott was at Pine Castle speaking about his pledge to give more support from the state budget to those with disabilities. Pine Castle is a non-profit facility that educates and trains mentally challenged adults to meet their personal potential and work independently within the Jacksonville community.

Bolles recognized in boarding school rankings

The Bolles School ranked fifth on *Town & Country* magazine's list of "19 Boarding Schools That Look More Like Relais & Châteaux Properties Than High School Campuses." In its article, the magazine featured independent boarding schools from all over the world.

A photograph of the Bolles' upper school campus in San Jose was featured beside Philips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire, The Hotchkiss School in Connecticut and Chatham Hall in Virginia as well as many other prestigious places of learning. Relais & Châteaux is a global association of individually owned and operated luxury hotels and restaurants.



The Bolles School has been recognized as a boarding school with a scenic riverfront campus and beautiful Spanish architecture.



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Lower School (PK-5) Open House for Parents
Whitehurst Campus | November 10, 2015 9 a.m.

Middle School (6-8) Open House for Parents
Bartram Campus | November 4, 2015 9:30 a.m. | November 5, 2015 7 p.m.

For more information and to reserve your space at one of our many Open House events, visit www.Bolles.org/Admission or call (904) 256-5030.

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Jr. Residents

Miramar boy goes to Silicon Valley as science competition finalist



Blake Caven jumps for joy upon learning of his national science award.

Blake Caven and his father, Jack, will soon enjoy an all-expense paid trip to Silicon Valley, California, part of his prize for becoming a finalist in the fifth annual Broadcom MASTERS® — the nation's most prestigious Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) middle school competition.

Caven, a Miramar resident, placed first in the computer science category in the Northeast Florida Regional Science and Engineering Fair last year as a sixth grade student at Julia Landon College Preparatory School. He combined his passion for lacrosse with his interest in computer programming for his project "The Effect of Different Algorithms on Lacrosse Simulation Difficulty."

Caven will join 29 other finalists Oct. 1-7 to showcase his project and compete in hands-on STEM activities for a \$25,000 grand prize from the Samueli Foundation.

San Marco dancer receives big break in Philadelphia

Clara Trednick of San Marco was selected to attend Philadelphia's acclaimed Rock School for Dance Education for the 2015-2016 school year.

Formerly a rising sophomore at The Bolles School, Trednick participated in a five-week intensive summer program before being offered a position as a full-time student at the prestigious Philadelphia school, where she will continue her academic and dance training. Eventually she hopes to pursue dance at the college level and perform with a professional dance company.

Although sad to lose Trednick as a student, Bolles Director of Dance Angela Blackledge said she is thrilled that her



Clara Trednick

dancer was able to seize one of the dance profession's biggest breaks.

"Building upon dance education at The Rock is one of the most prestigious honors a dance student can achieve, and I am thrilled Clara is able to pursue her education in this way," Blackledge said. "Of course we are sad she won't be with us at Bolles this school year, but she is taking her dance to the next level and that speaks volumes about the kind of experience she's had here in our program."

When she was in seventh grade at

Bolles, Trednick began training in the upper school dance program. While at the Bolles' Bartram campus, she received the school's dance award in grades seven and eight. She also participated in The Bolles Repertory Dance Company and was elected by her peers to receive The Most Outstanding Ballet Award for 2015. Trednick also made first and second honors nearly every quarter during her tenure at Bolles and was enrolled in numerous honors classes during her academic experience there.

Five from Bolles named National Merit semifinalists

Five members of the Class of 2016 from The Bolles School were on the list when semi-finalists in the 61st Annual National Merit Scholarship Program were announced Sept. 9.

Joining the elite group of 16,000 nationwide were Nikita Raheja, Audrey Trieu and Jack Cellar, all of San Jose, Woody Moore of Avondale, and Amy Song, Jacksonville Beach.

Raheja and Song are current Bolles'

seniors while Trieu is enrolled in the Resident Honors Program at the University of Southern California, an early entrance program for high school seniors. Cellar completed his high school requirements early and is enrolled at Vanderbilt University, while Moore is completing her high school education at the United World College of the Adriatic in Duino, Italy.

The students received honors for high marks on the PSAT taken during their junior year. They now have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,400 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$32 million offered this spring.

About 90 percent of the semifinalists are expected to attain finalist standing. More than half of the finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship thus earning the Merit Scholar Title, according to National Merit Scholarship organizers.



Amy Song



Audrey Trieu



Jack Cellar



Nikita Raheja



Woody Moore

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Students strut their stuff for ribbon-cutting ceremony

In Residents

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

The artistic talents of many Douglas Anderson students were on display Sept. 10 during the ribbon-cutting ceremony to commemorate the new \$13 million addition to the prestigious arts school.

DA's wind symphony greeted guests with *Olympic Fanfare* by John Williams before the hour-long VIP-studded ceremony, which took place in front of the new 60,000-square-foot addition.

While students from the cinema arts department documented the proceedings, Principal Jacqueline Cornelius opened the festivities with the poem *New World*, which was written by the DA Senior Poetry Class of 2015. Soprano Savannah Buice sang the *Star Spangled Banner* before leading the celebrants in the Pledge of Allegiance. Theatre student Preston Pittman introduced visiting dignitaries and special guests, who joined him on the podium. The Silhouettes, one of many vocal per-



Members of DA's vocal dance squad Silhouettes performed at the ribbon-cutting. Jeffrey Clayton is the Silhouettes vocal director.

formance groups at the school, performed the musical dance *Saturday Night Fish Fry*, and dance student Joe Markey wowed the crowd with a solo rendition entitled *Redemption*, which had been choreographed by Jennifer Turbyfill and was accompanied with music by Zach Hensen.

Speaking at the event were Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Superintendent of Duval County Schools, Florida Representative Charles McBurney (R) of District 16 and the Honorable Ashley Smith-Juarez, School Board member of District 3.

The construction of the new wing is a testimony of the county's investment in excellence, Vitti said in his remarks. The addition includes 20 new academic classrooms, a new cafeteria, new metals shop, large outdoor amphitheater and covered pick-up and drop-off area in front of the school. The new addition freed up several classrooms in the existing structure, which were transformed into two new dance studios with maple-wood flooring, three creative-writing classrooms, a costume lighting technical theatre shop and a welding and casting sculpture studio.

"I think it's wonderful to have this new addition," said Allison Svagdis, a musical theater senior from San Marco. Svagdis gave tours of the new facility to special guests after the ceremony. "The opportunities this will allow us to have are phenomenal. I'm so happy I was still here and could be part of it," she said.

Thirteen VIPs cut the golden ribbon during the ceremony and were showered afterward with confetti. Wielding golden



Musicians from the DA's wind symphony open the program by playing *Olympic Fanfare* by John Williams. Ted Shistle directs the wind symphony. First row front to back: Megan Wojtyla, Matthew Parker, Sheridan Taylor, Jillian Savage. Second row, left to right: Kasandra Crissen, Zoe Patrick, Anthony Nguyen

scissors at the event were Lon Newman, director of operations AJAX Building Construction; Helen Lane, co-chair of the Douglas Anderson Advisory Board; Rep. Charles McBurney (R), Florida Representative for District 16; Joyce Lawson, granddaughter of Douglas Anderson; Jeff Dunn, president of the Douglas Anderson School of the Arts Foundation; Dr. Nikolai Vitti, superintendent of the Duval County School System; The Honorable Cheryl Grymes, chairman of the Duval County School Board; Jacqueline Cornelius, principal of Douglas Anderson School of the Arts; The Honorable Ashley Smith-Juarez, School Board member District 3; The Honorable Becki Couch, School



Confetti rained down upon the dignitaries after the golden thread was cut during the ribbon-cutting ceremony at Douglas Anderson School for the Arts.

Board member District 6; The Honorable Paula Wright, School Board member, District 4; Deborah Knauer, School Advisory Council chairman; Paul Soares, assistant superintendent of operations, Duval County School Board.

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Episcopal science students compete for \$20,000 grant

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

Thanks to a sizeable grant from Judy Nicholson Kidney Cancer Foundation, students in Marion Zeiner's Honors Science Seminar at Episcopal School of Jacksonville will have the opportunity to experience first-hand what it is like to be in the competitive world of medical research.

Zeiner's seminar allows high school students at all four grade levels to turn original scientific research into prize-winning projects at state and national science fairs.

In fact, last year three of Zeiner's students – Carly Crump, Alice Choi and Andre Royce – were finalists at the Intel International Science Fair in Pittsburgh, where Crump won several major prizes as well as the prestigious Dudley R. Herschblach Stockholm Seminar Award for her research on ways to eradicate the dengue virus through mosquito studies.

Because of her achievement, Crump, a Riverside resident, had an asteroid named for her by associates at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and will travel to Stockholm, Sweden, to attend the week-long Nobel Prize ceremonies, all expenses paid.

Granted Crump, who graduated last spring and is a freshman at the University of Florida, set a high bar. But this year, because of a \$20,000 grant from the Judy Nicholson Foundation, Zeiner will be able to give her students an even better taste of the competitive world of academic research.

The Jacksonville-based foundation granted Episcopal's Science Department the money so students can try to find an early way to detect kidney cancer. Students in Zeiner's class are still able to study a variety of subjects, but only the students who choose to study some aspect of kidney cancer detection are eligible to compete for the grant money. Zeiner will award the entire \$20,000 to the student or team of students whose proposal is selected by a panel of doctors from Jacksonville's Mayo Clinic and the Judy Nicholson Foundation. She announced the winner September 28.

"It's like real life," said Zeiner, noting that the money will be available for supplies, travel and equipment to support the research.

Of the 12 students studying under Zeiner this year, five have committed

to the challenge: senior Andre Royce; junior Katie Leeper, sophomore Courtney Crawford, senior Zachary Zeller, and senior Alice Choi. Crawford and Zeller will work as a team.

Choi, who took the class last year, is not officially enrolled in the class this year but will compete for the scholarship and do research as an extra-curricular activity, Zeiner said. Last year, Choi won her category at the Florida State Science Fair and was a finalist at the Intel International Science Fair with a project on the effects of methylparaben, a food preservative, on ghost shrimp.

In the class working on other research subjects this year are junior Carl Yang of Ortega, sophomore Tara Martin, junior Kiera Royce, junior Elizabeth Bauer, junior Isaiah Niels of San Jose and sophomore Zach Adam.

Wife's death leads to foundation, grant

Judy Nicholson Foundation Chairman Emeritus Nick Nicholson started the nonprofit after his wife, Judy, died of kidney cancer. Mrs. Nicholson fainted one day out of the blue. After consulting with her doctor, she discovered she had Stage 3 kidney cancer. Prior to fainting, she had experienced no symptoms of the disease, and she died a few months after her diagnosis. Nicholson believes that had a screening test been available to detect kidney cancer, his wife might still be alive.

"We want to inspire young minds at Episcopal School of Jacksonville under Mrs. Zeiner's guidance to begin research that may lead to the early detection of renal cell carcinoma (kidney cancer)," said Nicholson. "We were inspired by the incredible work of a high school senior from Maryland, Jack Andracka, who made inroads into the early detection of pancreatic cancer."

Conducting research like this is similar to what students encounter in graduate school, and Zeiner doesn't believe in coddling her students. The class is structured so they are forced to work hard and to figure things out independently. "To be in this class they need to be willing to be the directors of their own learning. My students are very self-driven," she said.

Before writing a project proposal, her class heads to the library to search



Episcopal's Director of Scientific Research Marion Zeiner with her students Courtney Crawford, Elizabeth Bauer, Zach Adam, Kiara Royce, Katie Leeper and Carl Young

Episcopal's vast Internet data base of scientific articles from publications such as *The Journal of Environmental Health* and the *Russian Journal of Molecular Biology*. Reading obscure scientific studies might seem daunting to many, but Kiera Royce said the class has taught her a lot about how to approach them.

"Some articles are way over my head," she said. "I'm learning how to get a general idea about them. The titles can be scary with long names, but you have to pull through and learn how to piece things together. Eventually you realize the idea is very simple. You can find stuff on your project through simplifying everything."



Zachary Zeller, Kiara Royce, Andre Royce

Her brother, Andre, said he expects to focus on early cancer detection, through bio-markers and proteins in blood and urine samples. "I'm not sure whether I want to redo some other proposal or take the information and go a step further and see if there is another protein that hasn't been analyzed yet," he said.

To do the research most students work with doctors or academic researchers in the Jacksonville area although occasionally students travel out of state, Zeiner said. Crump worked with Dr.

Rhoel Dinglasan, a prominent researcher in the field of mosquito-borne viruses at Johns Hopkins University in Maryland, and Zeiner took her class on a field trip to Cambridge, Massachusetts, to tour research labs at MIT and Harvard.

"It's important to instill in the students an enthusiasm for scientific discovery," Zeiner said. "It's important to visit labs where novel research is happening. That's what gets them thinking about this."

Andre said hopes to work with Dr. Shriram S. Marathe, a nephrologist in St. Augustine. He also hopes to do his research at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville.

Competing against each other for the grant money is a good thing, said Zeller. "It drives us to be as competitive as possible and to have all our projects be really good," he said, noting the class has taught him to work independently and manage his time well. "It has sparked my interest in science. It provides me a way to test the waters (in the field) and gives us first-hand experience because we are actively participating."

Learning how to communicate well is also a facet of the class, said Andre. "Research doesn't mean anything if you can't clearly convey the research and draw attention to why it matters," he said. "It's important to be able to clearly articulate what you want to say so that everyone clearly understands."

Even though he is competing against his schoolmates for the grant, the class still feels like one team, said Andre. "All together at Episcopal we are one research team. When we get to the Northeast Florida Science Fair, we represent Episcopal as a whole. In the end we are still here for each other," he said.

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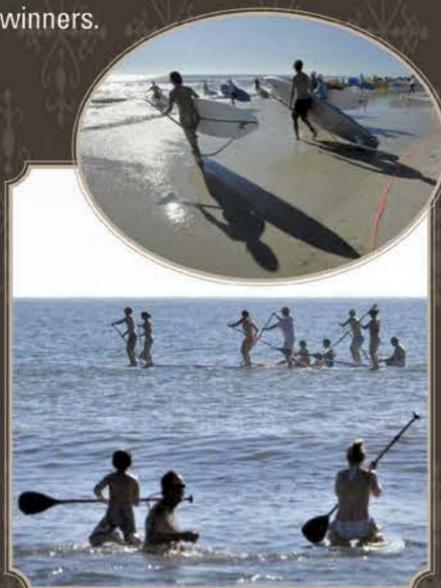


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It was an unfathomable crime that shocked all of Jacksonville. 14-year-old Jeff Mitchell was shot and killed while waiting for his father to pick him up at Terry Parker High School. More than 20 years later Jeff's parents, Margaret and Glen Mitchell, continue to support victims of violence through their group Compassionate Families, Inc. The Law Firm of Pajcic & Pajcic and Steve and Anne Pajcic donated a total of \$25,000 to the organization. Michael Pajcic was on hand for the presentation. The non-profit group provides immediate and long term grief support and counseling to families who've lost loved ones to crime. We are so fortunate to have this valuable support system in our community.



They were paddling for a purpose! Hundreds turned out for The Great Ponte Vedra Paddle Board race on Labor Day to raise money for the HEAL Foundation to benefit autism. The money raised will go towards Autism ESE classrooms, iPads, camps and other programs. The Law Firm of Pajcic & Pajcic is a proud supporter and one of the sponsors of the event. While there were winners in the 5 mile, 3 mile and 1 mile sprint race, the co-founder of the event said it is the children with Autism who are the true winners.



There's very little turnover for employees at Pajcic & Pajcic. And with good reason. One of the many perks of working at the firm is the special 20 year anniversary bonus. Employees who reach the 20 year mark can take an all expenses paid vacation to anywhere in the world. Sherry Bevis was the most recent recipient and she chose to travel to Barcelona, Spain. Sherry said she is grateful to The Pajcic Firm for giving her the trip of a lifetime. And Sherry added that she is thankful to have a wonderful place to work.



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