

San Jose – San Marco – St. Nicholas

Community News

Resident



SHOWING LOVE FOR SALVATION ARMY'S CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

A love for children was felt all around as 16 women competed in The Salvation Army's first ever LOVE LOVE tennis tournament May 6 at San Jose Country Club.

A fundraiser to support the Army's five-star rated Child Development Center in Jacksonville, the event raised \$3,500.

The child development center is the only child-care facility in downtown Jacksonville that has received a five-star rating from the Early Learning Coalition of Duval since its inception. The center provides care for children from six weeks through five years of age and includes a voluntary pre-kindergarten program, which

serves families from a broad array of socio-economic backgrounds, including children from families living at The Salvation Army's Red Shield Lodge shelter. "It isn't just a day care," said Lauren Lee, director of the center. "We focus on kindergarten readiness and fostering an early love of literacy."

Participating in The Salvation Army's LOVE LOVE tennis tournament were, front: Pat Wilcox, Kellie Prusiecki, Karla Liguori, Vicki Nelson; back, Kathy Flynn, Amy Mitchell, Suzanne Van de Kamp, NeeCee Lee, Margaret Radford, Debbie Fleming, Anne Bader, Kaye Simonetta, Heather Hodgett, Sharon Foster, Stacy Clark. (April Collum not pictured)



EPISCOPAL CELEBRATES MILESTONE ANNIVERSARY

The Episcopal School of Jacksonville celebrated the culmination of its 50th Anniversary year with a formal gala event April 30, held under tents by the St. Johns River on the school's Munnerlyn Campus.

The black-tie affair began with a cocktail reception on the Regan Plaza, dinner on the River Field, with after-dinner music provided by The Chris Thomas Band. The event was led by Chairs Julie McQuiddy, Pamela Steitz and Kristen Schmidt Seay, during the school's annual reunion weekend.

Rachel Swann, Katie Searcy, Brad McCollum, Charley and Gail Zimmer, Denise Thomas, Mishayla Schmidt



CELEBRATING 90 YEARS SERVING COMMUNITY'S CHILDREN

Hope Haven first began in 1926 as a children's hospital. Here a nurse and patient stand on the steps of the hospital with Mr. McCrory, head of Hope Haven Hospital's woodworking shop.

READ MORE, PAGE 25.

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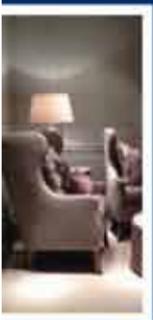
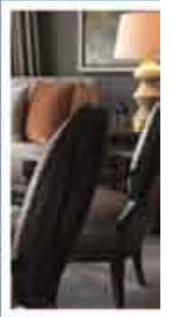
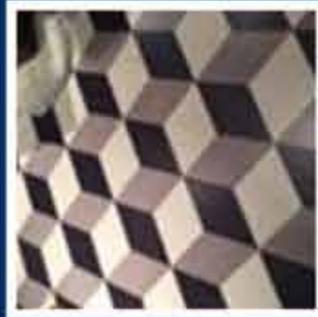
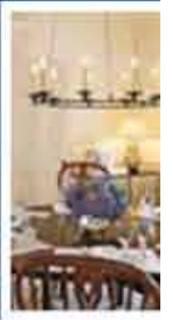
For the sixth year in a row, nearly 70 residents of the Villages of San Jose Manor Homes met under the "Great Oak Tree" to celebrate Kentucky Derby Day. Neighbors placed bets with resident bookie Bob 'Moneybags' Muldoon, and sipped mint juleps courtesy of craft cocktail barkeep Mike 'Straight Bourbon' Currie, while watching the Churchill Downs race on a flat-screen TV placed under the tree. Enjoying the festivities were (front) Joan Waitz, Bernice Stone, and Harriette Dodson. (Back) Mike Currie and his wife, Jan, Gary and Marianne House, Daryl Sadowsky, Bob Muldoon and Betsy Tilis. Kate Watson and Paul Kaloyeropoulos won the Best-of-Show Derby hat design contest.

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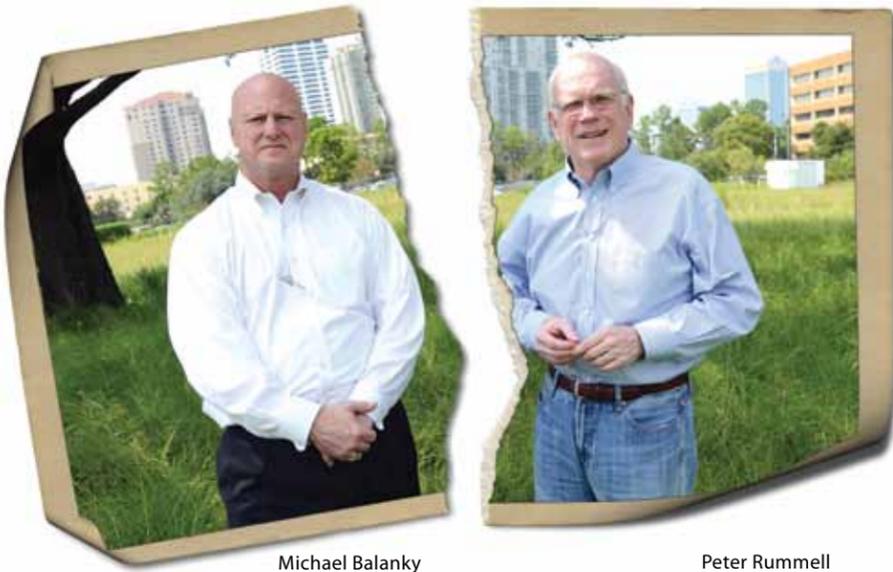
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The District partners going separate, yet amicable ways



Michael Balanky

Peter Rummell

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

Developer Peter Rummell of San Marco has parted ways with his partner and fellow developer, Michael Balanky, of the Southbank. The duo, who had jointly founded the company Elements Development of Jacksonville LLC, had planned together to develop The District – Life Well Lived, until Rummell decided to go it alone. The Southbank healthy living community, is slated to be built on 30 acres of land, which was formerly the site of the Southside Generating Station, adjacent to the Duval County School Board Building.

In a May 12 news release, Rummell announced he had purchased Balanky’s interest in Elements Development of Jacksonville LLC, which the pair had owned 50-50, and now owns 100 percent of the company. No financial terms were disclosed.

“As we started this process – bringing the ideas and vision of The District to life, Mike has been a valuable participant. His energy and enthusiasm for this unique project, in

an urban setting along the banks of the St. Johns River, has been tremendously helpful. The new and exciting opportunities that Mike has before him will require all of his time and attention,” Rummell said in the press release.

In a meeting, Balanky said Rummell had been “great to work with,” and their split was amicable. “The stars aligned for both of us, and this makes sense,” Balanky said, adding he is happy to turn his attention to more than one development project in North Florida, including an active adult community in St. Augustine and a townhome project on Amelia Island.

“The whole Healthy Town concept was his to begin with so it makes a lot of sense for him to take it in the direction he wants to go and have 100 percent ownership of it,” Balanky said.

Rummell’s company is under contract to buy the JEA-owned property, and the press release said his development will break ground “later this year,” with a closing deadline of Dec. 31.

Cancer center to break ground in June

Baptist Health’s dream of building a state-of-the-art cancer facility in North San Marco will soon become reality.

Following unanimous approval of the City’s Land Use and Zoning Commission May 3, the Jacksonville City Council voted unanimously May 10 to approve the venture.

The new Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center is scheduled to break ground Thursday, June 23, said Hugh Greene, FACHE, president and CEO of Baptist Health in an email. Baptist anticipates opening the new facility in the first quarter of 2018, Greene said.

The nine-story building will be built on a two-block tract of land adjacent to the current Baptist MD Anderson facility and will comprise about 330,000 square feet, he said. “An elegant sky bridge will connect the current Baptist MD Anderson to the new iconic building,” he said.

“We are gratified by the support of the San Marco Preservation Society and by the subsequent approval of the Jacksonville City Council of our proposed expansion of the Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center,” Greene said. “This is a significant development for our region in offering highly coordinated, patient-centered cancer care for adult patients and their families.”

Correction

In the story, “Scholastic scientists take home awards at State Science Fair,” which was printed in the May 2016 issue of the San Marco edition of *The Resident*, Graham Ungrady, a junior at The Bolles School, was inadvertently listed as a student at The Episcopal School of Jacksonville. Ungrady won a \$50 cash award from the St. Lucie Regional Science and Engineering Fair in the Earth and Environmental Sciences division. *The Resident* regrets the error.

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FDOT finds compromise between bike lanes and on-street parking

Hendricks Avenue residents concerned about losing parking in front of homes

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

When it comes to resurfacing State Road 13, known as Hendricks Avenue in San Marco, it's been hard to please everyone, but the Florida Department of Transportation certainly has tried.

After receiving pushback from the business community in a January public meeting when the FDOT proposed replacing on-street parking with a seven-foot dedicated bike lane along all but a small section of the busy corridor from Cornell Street to San Marco Boulevard, the transportation agency went back to the drawing board.

In a second public meeting held May 16 at its Edison Avenue training facility, FDOT officials rolled out a compromise, which was received well by both the bicycle



View of FDOT's proposed improvement to Hendricks Avenue

and business communities. The new plan incorporates both dedicated bicycle lanes and on-street parking from Dunsford Road to Peachtree Circle North, a much longer distance along the popular stretch of road than the plan they first unveiled in January.

Currently the section of State Road 13 extending from Cornell Road to San Marco Boulevard sports a 20-foot median dividing four 11-12 foot travel lanes – two

in each direction and an eight-foot parking lane, which is used jointly by bicyclists and parked cars. With cars parked on both sides of the street and no dedicated bike lane, cyclists are often forced to share the road with motorists traveling at speeds between 40 and 60 miles per hour.

The new plan, unveiled at the May meeting, removed the on-street parking in order to construct bike lanes in two segments – between Cornell Road and Peachtree Circle North, and Dunsford Road and San Marco Boulevard. In the middle segment between Peachtree Circle North and Dunsford Road, FDOT now plans to widen the roadway by reducing the median from 20 feet to 12 feet, allowing for two 11-foot travel lanes in each direction as well as a 5-1/2-foot bike lane and an eight-foot parking lane. “This way we are addressing the business concerns as well as providing a designated bike lane the entire way,” said Craig Teal, FDOT project manager for the resurfacing project.

San Jose resident Robert Tucker, who commutes by bike daily from his home near Bolles School to the Southbank, said the new plan was a step in the right direction. “It’s an improvement that I’m happy to see. I’m not discouraged because it is different than what you see in other

areas of Jacksonville where they are slow to put bike lanes on existing roads.” To prevent motorists from straddling the bike lane, Tucker suggested FDOT use “rumble strips” to separate the travel lanes from the designated bike lanes.

Chris Burns, president of the Jacksonville Bicycle Advisory Committee, called the new plan “a satisfactory compromise,” while expressing a few concerns. “It puts cyclists in the bike lanes in what is called a ‘door zone’ in the locations where business parking is retained. This means when drivers open their car doors after parking, they will be opening the doors directly into the path of bicycle riders legally riding in the designated bike lanes,” he said. “This can cause accidents, which have resulted in serious injuries and even deaths around the country.”

Door zones were not Burns’ only concern with the revised design. He also suggested a crosswalk be installed in front of the Metro Diner, as well as reducing the width of the travel lanes and the speed limit on Hendricks Avenue.

“I wish there was a crosswalk from the other side of SR 13 to the Metro Diner,” said Burns. “There will be retained parking on the east side of the street. Metro Diner customers will park there and try to cross State Road 13 to get to the restaurant. With these fast moving vehicles, this will be dangerous. A crosswalk in this location would be ideal. In many places the speed limit is 40 mph but vehicles travel 55 mph and beyond. I favor reducing the speed limit to 30 mph and also reducing the width of the vehicle travel lanes by an additional foot, to 10 feet,” he said. “This would cause there to be a greater cushion for bicycle riders in the door zone to move away from the door. It would also reduce catastrophic accidents where speeds are reduced of vehicles, and it would help people attempting to pull out of their driveways to be able to gauge a safe opening to do so.”

FDOT could consider placing a *continued on page 5 >>>*



Resident COMMUNITY NEWS GROUP, INC.
www.ResidentNews.net

1650-302 Margaret St. #310, Jacksonville, FL 32204
Phone: (904) 388-8839 Fax: (904) 423-1183

Locally Owned and Operated



PUBLISHERS
Seth Williams - seth@residentnews.net
Pamela Bradford Williams - pamela@residentnews.net

SALES
Debra McGregor - debra@residentnews.net
Tarryn Bradford - tarryn@residentnews.net
For our media rate card visit: www.residentnews.net

EDITORS
Managing Editor - Kate A. Hallock
News Editor - Marcia Hodgson
editor@residentnews.net

PRODUCTION
Art Director - Joshua Garrett
Designers - Joe Bahret,
Danielle Smith-Boldt, Cheryl Mayo

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Peggy Harrell Jennings
Julie Kerns Garmendia
Allison Perna



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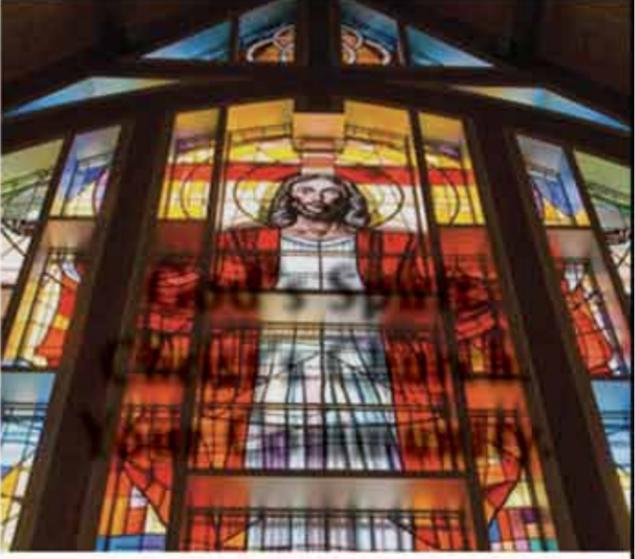
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crosswalk near Metro Diner, but only after a study is conducted, said FDOT's Ryan Asmus during the meeting. "What we will look at is demand," he said, noting placing a crosswalk at that location, which is close to the crosswalk in front of Hendricks Avenue Elementary, is difficult. At this time, FDOT considers it reasonable for Metro Diner patrons to walk approximately 300 feet out of their way to use the crosswalk in front of the school. To place another in such close proximity to the existing crossing gives "conflicting information to motorists," Asmus said.

Residents cry out for parking

With much of the on-street parking reinstated, not many business owners expressed concern at the May meeting. Matt Carlucci, who owns a business on Hendricks, said he was happy the parking was retained, but was concerned for residents living in the two portions where on-street parking was eliminated. "I'd like to see if there could be more compromise in the residential area for parking and the bike path," Carlucci said.

Many residents with homes bordering Hendricks were unhappy to learn on-street parking in front of their homes would be eliminated. "We need parking," said Pat Bridgeman, whose home on Hendricks between River Oaks Road and Pine Ridge has been in her family since the 1930s. "We just want to keep what we've got. If we don't have that, we have nothing."

Mary Ann Molenda, a Hendricks Avenue resident for 38 years, said the removal of on-street parking in front of her home is a concern. "I'm not happy about it. It means there will be no guest parking in front of my house. Where will the plumbers and lawn people and others who work on our homes park?" she said. "I'm three or four blocks from the Square. San Marco people come for San Marco (Square) activities and they all park along there. It's pretty big time to tell people they can't park in front of my house."

As a realtor who is also president of



Parked cars line Hendricks Avenue between Miramar Plaza and Peachtree Circle North. According to FDOT's plan, this on-street parking will be eliminated and replaced with a dedicated bike lane south to Cornell Road.

the San Marco Merchants Association, Anita Vining said the new plan reflected "compromise" in its truest sense, but hoped that FDOT would consider extending the on-street parking to San Marco Boulevard. "I think compromise is a good word. From a merchant's standpoint we need as much parking in San Marco as possible. It will hurt new business to take it away," Vining said, adding the portion of Hendricks from San Marco Boulevard to Dunsford is often used as overflow parking when festivals and other events are held in the square. "From a real estate perspective, a lot of homes on Hendricks Avenue utilize the parking lane for guests. If you take that away they will start parking in yards, and that will diminish property

values," she said.

Due to the high number of complaints from Hendricks Avenue residents during the meeting, FDOT is reconsidering the possibility of finding a way to retain parking from Dunsford Road to San Marco Boulevard, said Debbie Delgado,

a spokesperson for FDOT after the meeting. There will be no reconsideration of the removal of on-street parking in the section from Peachtree Circle North to Cornell Road, and no future public meetings on the Hendricks Avenue resurfacing project are planned, she said.



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Construction to begin soon on Southbank apartments

Public plaza to be built with Riverwalk access

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

For months Southbank residents have been hearing about more than one sizeable construction project that will significantly change their skyline. At the end of June, the first of those projects will break ground.

Alliance Residential Company, a development firm based in Phoenix, Arizona, plans to close on the old three-acre Crawdaddy site adjacent to the Southbank Riverwalk and the Duval County Public School building during the week of June 20. After the papers are signed, Alliance will waste no time starting its \$26.6 million housing project with the advent of construction planned for June 27, said Tim Graff, vice president of development for Alliance Residential.

Because the restaurant is no longer standing, the first thing to be demolished will be the existing parking lot so that a \$1.2 million soil remediation project can begin, Graff said, adding it is necessary to remove soil that was contaminated with petroleum years ago due to the property's past use as a shipyard.

Two years from the day it starts construction, Alliance intends that Broadstone River House, a six-story, 263-unit apartment complex offering one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments will stand on the site. Community amenities include a pool, courtyard, fire pit, and game areas, a social clubroom, billiards lounge as well as a health club that will feature yoga and spin studios as well as top-grade fitness equipment.

In addition to paying a big number for soil remediation, Alliance has budgeted an additional \$620,000 to rebuild the bulkhead.

Perhaps most exciting for Southbank



Rendering of the river side of the Broadstone River House, a 263-unit apartment complex slated to begin construction on the old Crawdaddy's site at the end of June.



Rendering of the view of the front of Broadstone River House from Prudential Drive, and Alliance Residential Company development.

and Jacksonville residents in general will be a new \$100,000 public plaza, which Alliance plans to build along the Southbank Riverwalk on the west end of the property. Two public bridges, costing as much as \$88,000, on the east and west sides of the complex, will also be built, giving the public access to the Riverwalk.

The plaza was placed in the Planned Unit

Development by city officials to ensure the public will continue to have access to the Riverwalk, which was paid for through city funds, said District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer. Once complete, the plaza will sit between the old retail offices north of the Lexington Hotel on land owned by Miami developer Ramon Llorens and the Broadstone Riverhouse.

Although the plaza will straddle land owned by both Alliance and Llorens, because Alliance is developing its land before Llorens, it has responsibility for building the plaza, said Graff. Llorens has granted the city an easement to his land, but has not deeded the land to the city, said Graff, noting as part of the deal, Alliance will grant Llorens an easement on the public driveway they are building so he will have an easy connection to his land. Included on the 7,000-square foot space will be benches, tables and landscaping, which will be connected to Prudential Drive by a wide public walkway, Graff said, noting the plaza will be constructed of pavers "so everything blends into the Riverwalk." Way-finding signage will be placed on Alliance property so the public can easily spot the plaza and access to the Riverwalk, he said.

"It's a nice amenity, and we are glad to build it," said Graff. "It comes as a request of the city, and we gladly obliged. The city has been wonderful to work with, and we're excited to finally close and bring the property to fruition."

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Residents, muralist bring color to city right-of-way

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

Two vandals are in the process of making amends after leaving their mark on the new mural, which was recently painted on the bulkhead of the city right-of-way at the end of Inwood Terrace.

In late April, muralist Nicole Holderbaum was commissioned by the residents of Inwood Terrace to paint several colorful scenes on the bulkhead near the river at the end of their street. Holterbaum worked for more than a week, beautifying the area and spent many hours May 14 working with several neighborhood children painting the “kids’ wall” on the south wall of the bulkhead near the fence owned by Norma Hagan. Yet, barely before the paint had dried, just two days afterward, two vandals struck, stenciling in black a symbol representing the 1970’s punk rock bank Crass over Holderbaum’s marine seascape.

“I can’t speak for the whole neighborhood, but I can only say when you have a brand new mural that has recently been painted, it is blatant disrespect by somebody who has no vested interest in how that spot looks,”



Daryl Gottlieb, Randall Rodgers, Dale Rodgers, Tessa Gottlieb and Clair Domingo stand alongside a bird of paradise mural, which was painted over the former “Let It Be” wall.

said Inwood Terrace resident Jason Judge. “We are going to try to stop it before it goes any further.”

Armed with photographs taken of the vandals, who spent a total of four minutes desecrating the colorful artwork, local police soon identified the culprits, said Daryl Gottlieb, a resident who lives close to the right-of-way.

The vandals are “people who grew up in the area who’ve always known this spot to be

the graffiti spot, so they figured why not try out a new stencil they made for a different project at the graffiti spot?” said Judge, adding the pair have agreed to pay for the cost of Holderbaum to restore the mural and make a donation toward the beautification project. “They have also volunteered to help with any further improvements to the area,” he said. “We knew graffiti was inevitable. This is all part of the take back and transformation process of our little public beach. Stopping

the problem at the source is the answer. I don’t think our city has time to deal with a problem that the community is better suited to handle.”

It was a desire on the part of Inwood Terrace residents to prevent teenagers from covering the bulkhead walls with offensive graffiti that sparked the beautification effort in the first place. The neighborhood raised more than \$2,500 through a crowdfunding site to hire Holderbaum to paint the bulkhead and stairs leading to the river’s shoreline with color. An anti-graffiti coating was to cover the murals after Holderbaum had finished the project, but unfortunately hadn’t been applied before the vandals made their mark.

Although the residents were upset by the mischief, they are not discouraged, Judge said. In the works is an effort to plant vines and install trellises near Hagan’s fence. Benches will be placed on the grassy area on the top of the bulkhead so visitors can enjoy the river view, said Gottlieb. And as these two vandals know too well, the residents have installed cameras and motion lighting as a way to curb future vandalism, he said.

Landon PTSA is tops in Duval County

The Julia Landon College Preparatory School Parent-Teacher-Student Association has been named PTSA of the Year by the Duval County Council of PTAs.

In addition to the top prize, Landon was also recognized with awards in the areas of advocacy for children, literacy, health and safety, family engagement, student involvement, hearing and vision screening, diversity, 100 percent membership, teacher-supply Depot volunteers, creativity in communication and humanitarianism.

Throughout the year, Landon’s PTSA works to promote programs such as healthy lifestyles, teacher hospitality, lunch with mom, donuts with dad, honor-roll parties and alumni relations, said PTSA President Kelly Nowak in an email. “It’s amazing how a group of people can work together and achieve great success. It’s not just a handful of volunteers, it is an entire village,” Nowak said.



PTSA President Kelly Nowak, Assistant Principal Tayla Taylor, Sheri Cheshire, Debbie Okenica, Principal’s Secretary and Landon Employee of the Year Linda Harrison, Theresa Rogers, Dana Laurie and Principal Timothy Feagins

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San Marco by Design advances to City Council

Preservation Society announces improvement award winners, new board members

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

As his final act as president of the San Marco Preservation Society during its annual meeting May 16, Andrew Dickson forwarded San Marco by Design, the neighborhood action plan SMPS has labored over for many years, to District 5 City Councilwoman Lori Boyer so she can begin the process of seeing it becomes Jacksonville law.

In front of a packed house at the Aardwolf Brewing Company, Dickson handed off two copies of the neighborhood action plan to Boyer's executive council assistant, Nicole Spradley, so that she, in turn, could hand them over to her boss. Due to a prior commitment, Boyer did not attend the meeting.

In addition to sharing an overview of San Marco by Design at the meeting, the Society also named its yearly beautification award winners and introduced new members of the SMPS board.

During the meeting, Dickson shared an overview of San Marco by Design, which the Society initiated in order to guide the Jacksonville Planning Department when it considers future development in San Marco. Boyer submitted the proposed neighborhood action plan as Ordinance 2016-367 to City Council for a first reading on May 24.

The crowd reviewed a presentation highlighting the main aspects of San Marco by Design, including a revised map of the various districts that make up San Marco and their height requirements. Dickson also called on SMPS members Zim Boulos, Bill Cesery, Rob Smith and Mike Balanky to give their insights on the importance of making the plan into an ordinance.

"This plan is a great thing for San Marco," said Cesery, noting developers love certainty and the plan clearly spells out the community's expectations for walkability and keeping its historic character intact. "It will help with the next development cycle."

"(Development) is going to happen. North San Marco is already changing," said Smith. "We have to see how we want it to change. We need to make sure it is done right."

Balanky agreed. "This will pay dividends for decades going forward," he said.

The group recognized Valerie Feinberg as



Rob Smith of the San Marco Preservation Society stands with some of the winners of the Society's Beautification Awards. From left: Gina and Scott Schimpff, Andrea Kane (representing Daily's), Rob Smith of SMPS, Chad Munsey and Michael Schmidt of the Bearded Pig restaurant.



Serving on the new San Marco Preservation Society board will be Bryan Mickler, Jason Shedlarski, Past President Andrew Dickson, Robin Robinson, Karen Carlucci, Glen Wieger, Zendra Spikes, President LeAnna Cumber and Chris Woolston. Not pictured: Debbie Pataky, Gordon Mott, Treasurer Rick Kohn and Mary Twoomey.

the chief architect of the action plan, as well as the efforts of Chris Flagg, who provided the designs and renderings, and Bill Killingsworth, who helped with the proposal and now serves as director of the city planning department.

During the awards section of the meeting, Smith said, after more than 20 years, 2016 was the last year he would select the Society's Beautification award winners. He introduced Chris Woolston as his replacement.

Selected for recognition this year were the owners of three commercial establishments and four residential structures. The commercial structures included Daily's convenience store at 1916 Atlantic Boulevard, the Bearded Pig BBQ Joint and Beer Garden at 1224 Kings Avenue and four dwellings - 1470 Belmonte Avenue, 1414 Cedar Street and 1118 Nira Street - that have been refurbished by Kohn Construction. Andrea

Kane of First Coast Energy collected the award for Daily's. Chad Munsey and Mike Schmidt, owners of the popular BBQ restaurant, took home the plaque for The Bearded Pig. A representative from Kohn did not attend the meeting.

Recognized in the residential category for the improvements they have made to their homes were Scott and Gina Schimpff at 2539 Laurel Road, Jake and Lindsey Shilling of 1052 Holly Lane, Todd and Stacey Chupp of 1163 Northwood Road, and Tom and Sarah Rossi of 1104 Lakewood Road.

Outgoing SMPS President Andrew Dickson announced the Society's new board members for 2016-17. Serving as president will be LeAnna Cumber. Also on the board will be Jason Shedlarski, Robin Robinson, Chris Woolston, Debbie Pataky, Zendra Spikes, Karen Carlucci, Glen Wieger, Gordon Mott, Bryan Mickler and Rick Kohn.

Cumber said she has three goals for the Society for the coming year. Signing up more members is the first goal, and to do so, she has assigned Carlucci, Spikes and Pataky as membership committee chairmen.

Cumber also said she wants to find solutions for parking issues in San Marco, particularly around the square, and to continue to improve on the work that Dickson started during his tenure. "We want smart growth and walkability," Cumber said. "We chose to live in San Marco because we can walk everywhere."



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Submitted by Darrell McKay owner of Anytime Fitness Lakewood

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1. Julie Haden, a winner from Jacksonville on the Biggest Loser, committed to exercising 5 days a week for the rest of her life. She began at over 50% body fat and lost over 100lbs. High-intensity (30)minutes a day, along with strength training (weights) 3x's per week is the recipe for this type of transformation.
2. Schedule a time each week to set up your weekly meal plan & stick to it. These meals need to be small portions, several times per day that have high quality proteins & low glycemic carb's. This controls daily blood sugar levels.
3. Build a support system that provides accountability, encouragement, and recognition. Hire an experienced transformation coach, who successfully helped others.
4. Think, prepare, and plan daily for success! Daily log your activity and nutrition. Celebrate your victories!
5. Develop a long-term vision for success with specific measurable goals. Example: I will workout 60 times in the next 12 weeks and lose 30lbs. in the next six months is a great goal! Reward yourself.

Darrell McKay served as a Healthcare Executive for 4 Medically based Fitness centers across the USA. He relocated to Jacksonville in 2004 to develop and design Brooks Health and Fitness with Dr. Brooks Brown. His passion is helping others make permanent life style changes that result in optimal health. Email questions: jacksonville@anytimefitness.com



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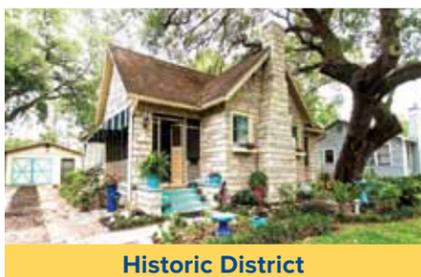
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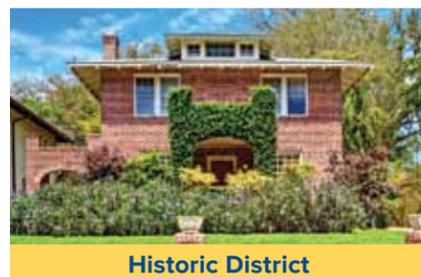
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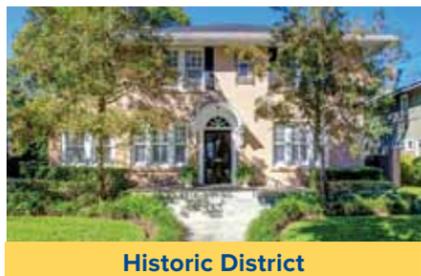
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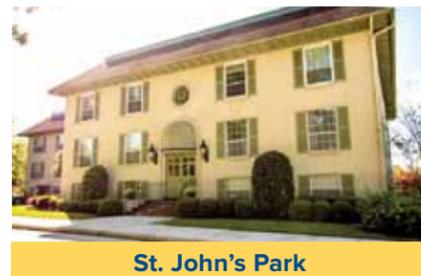
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MOVERS & SHAKERS

Chief Nursing Officer celebrates 25 years at River Garden



Carol Thomas

Carol Thomas, RN, CDONA, celebrated her 25th anniversary with River Garden Senior Services in April. Thomas began her River Garden career in April 1991 and in 1997 was named its Chief Nursing Officer. Under her leadership, the nursing department grew to include more than 170 staff, and River Garden has consistently earned the highest ratings from state and federal regulatory agencies. Thomas has also earned accolades from co-workers.

“Truly...there is only a handful of people that can play a pivotal role in anyone’s life, and Carol has done and continues to do that in mine. She is my mentor,” said Bernadeth Palompo, RG Assistant Director of Nursing, who was a 22-year-old novice when Thomas hired her 20 years ago as a charge nurse on the memory care unit. “I don’t know what she saw in me but she capitalized on it leading to where I am now. She was behind me every step of the way, listening, coaching, giving me space to perform, praising my work and providing critique when warranted. What a gift I have been given. She holds a special place in my heart. She is an inspiration, and I hope to pay it forward as I know through my experience the impact of this kindness.”

Baptist Health Foundation appoints new board members

The Baptist Health Foundation has announced the appointment of six new members to its board of trustees: Cindy Sadler, Glenn Ullmann, Christine Granfield, MD, Adam Dimitrov, MD, Vikram Gopal, MD, AGAF, and Dennis L. Blackburn, Esq.

“Every year the Baptist Health Foundation is able to attract outstanding volunteer trustees to the board, and this year is no exception,” said Pierre N. Allaire, Ph.D., vice president, chief development officer for the Baptist Health Foundation. “We are pleased to have six new members who represent key business, community and medical areas, which broaden our philanthropic reach in northeast Florida and beyond.”

The new board members will serve three-year terms. In addition, Chair-elect Kurt W. Mori, MD, Vice Chair-elect Tabitha Furyk, and Treasurer-elect Fred (Fel) Lee will serve two-year terms. Dr. Mori is a board-certified radiologist with Mori, Bean & Brooks, PA, and medical director of the Vascular Laboratory at Baptist Jacksonville. Furyk is a philanthropist and children’s health advocate as well as a member of the PGA Tour Wives Association. Lee is a Ponte Vedra-based investor and entrepreneur who recently served on the Duval County School Board.



Cindy Sadler



Glenn Ullmann



Dennis L. Blackburn, Esq.



Christine Granfield, M.D.



Vikram Gopal, M.D., AGAF



Adam Dimitrov, M.D.



Kurt W. Mori, M.D.



Tabitha Furyk



Fred (Fel) Lee



Cesery wins angler award

Hopefully it was more than just a case of beginner’s luck. In his first try as a Kayak Classic fisherman, William Cesery of San Marco took home the Senior Angler Award in the 2016 Columbia Sportswear Fishing Classic May 14 in Jacksonville.

Cesery won the award with an aggregate slam totaling 57 inches. He was one of 360 kayak anglers who competed in the Jacksonville kayak fishing classic. Altogether the fishermen raised \$39,000 for the Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville and the North Florida Heroes on the Water Chapter.

In total, the fishermen checked 19 slams, 45 Redfish, 40 flounder and 36 trout at the event.

William Cesery took home the Senior Angler award



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When it comes to pampering your palate, the right touch after a sumptuous meal is a light gourmet dessert.

With Le Macaron French Pastries, it's now possible! The new French bakery-café located at the Avenues Mall and in the Shoppes of Avondale, offer the discerning hostess – or guest – an array of sweet gourmet treats, from Belgian chocolates, meringues, madeleines, tartes (lemon, fruit, chocolate), croissants to its signature macaron in more than a dozen flavors.

Owners Fabrice Tedeschi and Tahar Chergui, came from France last fall. After running an Italian restaurant for 17 years in Lyon, France, the businessmen came to America in search of the dream and found it in Jacksonville. The Frenchmen began their journey in the Keys and drove up the East Coast looking for a location for the franchise. Despite arriving in Jacksonville during a huge rain storm, they knew this was the right place for their new business, and their destiny. "We liked the people here," said Tedeschi. "We didn't want to open in a tourist destination because you only see those customers once. Here, at the Avenues Mall and in Avondale, we are getting to know our customers and we enjoy building relationships. But enough about us, let's talk about macarons."

Not to be confused with the American coconut counterpart, the macaroon, the delicate French macaron is typically small, and handmade with almond powder and egg white. Two halves sandwich a flavored ganache to complement the flavor of the meringue-like cookies. The gourmet cookie is gluten-free, has no preservatives and no artificial colorings, so the vivid hues of blue, green, orange, pink and yellow come from the fruit of the same flavor. The bright blue



cassis-flavored macaron, for example, is from the blackcurrant. The experience you want to have with this type of cookie is not to chew it and swallow, but to savor it to allow the taste buds to identify the flavor. "It is similar to allowing cheese and red wine to come to room temperature before tasting," said Tedeschi. "The flavors need time to emerge." Speaking of flavors, he said the salted caramel is his bestseller, followed by raspberry, vanilla and chocolate, but the true gourmand will ask for the basil macaron, the rose, or perhaps the lavender or the cassis.

Whatever you select, all are delicate, lightly crisp on the outside, smooth and creamy in the center, filled with ganache (a cream filling), homemade fruit jams or other quality ingredients. Each macaron is about 80 calories, one-third of

the calories in a cupcake. The complex confectionary creation, handmade in several stages, has to be handled carefully. Made from genuine French recipes, the macaron's size allows the customer to taste outside his or her comfort zone by choosing two or three different flavors.

Both bakery-café also sell French pastries, meringues, nougats, Belgian chocolates and French gelato, which has less fat and less air than ice cream, offering a more intense flavor. "A visit to Le Macaron is a treat," said Tedeschi. "You may not stop by every morning on the way to work, but you might take a short break in the afternoon." The perfect after-dinner treat is a visit to Le Macaron, where you can enjoy a bowl of French gelato with a macaron, topped with homemade whipped cream inside both cafés or out on the umbrella-covered patio in Avondale.

le macaron
french pastries



Fabrice Tedeschi and Tahar Chergui

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Jeff Ferguson; Hailey Rosenfeld, 2015 Ellen Newton Memorial Scholarship winner; Henry Ferguson, 2016 Ellen Newton Memorial Scholarship winner; Laura Ferguson with Hillary and Jimmy Citrano



Corey and Karlie Yarbrough join hostess Kameron Branon in donning their Derby-day best during the 3rd Annual Ellen Newton Memorial Scholarship Kentucky Derby fundraiser at Branon's Pottsburg Creek home. In attendance were parishioners of All Saints Episcopal Church in San Marco, who joined together to celebrate the life of the late Ellen Newton, a former member, and to raise money for a scholarship in her name.

Miramar resident awarded Ellen Newton Memorial Scholarship

Parishioners of All Saints Episcopal Church in San Marco donned festive bonnets and enjoyed other Derby Day traditions during the 3rd Annual Ellen Newton Memorial Scholarship Kentucky Derby fundraiser at the home of Dan and Kameron Branon on Pottsburg Creek.

The event celebrated the life of Ellen Newton, a Wolfson High School graduate, Duval County middle school teacher and active member of All Saints Episcopal Church, who passed away at age 53 in May 2012, by raising money to fund a scholarship in her name. Recipients are students who attend All Saints Episcopal and embody Newton's spirit of volunteerism at the church and in the community, as well as demonstrate her passion for their own education and the education of others who are younger and less fortunate.

This year's \$1,000 scholarship was awarded to Henry Ferguson of Miramar. A senior at Paxon High School, Ferguson plans to attend Palm Beach Atlantic University with the goal to become an

education major and eventually a youth minister. A member of All Saints since 2006, Ferguson has been active in the Episcopal Youth Community both at All Saints and San Jose Episcopal. He is also a member of K-Life youth organization in Jacksonville and received a leadership scholarship to attend Kanakuk Kamp in Lampe, Missouri for the past four summers.

"It's very helpful [to receive the scholarship]," said Ferguson at the event. "I definitely appreciate it. It's a big deal. I appreciate it because I remember her [Ellen Newton]. She did so much with the younger kids at church. She was allergic to seafood, but at the seafood festival she handled all the little kids herself so that everyone else could enjoy eating seafood."

During the fundraiser, which raised \$1,500 for the scholarship endowment fund, guests enjoyed a catered dinner from Blue Sage Cuisine. Caryl Stevens raffled off a pink "breast cancer" quilt, which she made by hand. Mary Mays provided a quilt for the silent auction.

Ronald McDonald House receives \$5,000 gift



Carol Harrison, RMHC development director, Jacob Ekbatani and Allen Fore, vice president of public affairs for Kinder Morgan

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Jacksonville (RMHC) recently received a \$5,000 gift from Kinder Morgan Inc. The contribution will help support RMHC's mission of serving as "a home away from home" for families who need lodging, meals, transportation and other compassionate assistance while their children visit Jacksonville hospitals.

"Northeast Florida is blessed with world-class medical facilities, and we appreciate how many needs there are when children are receiving medical treatment. We are pleased to support the invaluable programs and services that Ronald McDonald House Charities of Jacksonville provides to thousands of families," said Allen Fore, vice president of public affairs for Kinder Morgan. "At Kinder Morgan, one of our missions is to support organizations that better the communities in which we live and work."

Pediatric medicine is growing in Jacksonville, and we are seeing increasing demand to support families as they seek lifesaving treatments for their children," said Diane Boyle, executive director of RMHC Jacksonville. "We rely on the support of generous donors and sponsors, and we are grateful to receive a donation from Kinder Morgan."

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Watson sales associate appointed as managing broker



Gonzalo Mejia

Gonzalo Mejia has been appointed managing broker of Watson Realty Corp's San Marco/San Jose office. Mejia, formerly a sales associate at the office, will manage day-to-day brokerage.

"I am very excited to pursue this next step in my career," said Mejia, who has worked in San Marco since 2010. "I am passionate about real estate and mentoring professionals on the track to success. I only hope to continue that with the great team at Watson Realty Corp. San Marco/San Jose."

Mejia served as the 2015 President of Northeast Florida MLS, 2015 Director of North East Florida Association of REALTORS® (NEFAR), 2015 Director of Florida REALTORS® and 2016 NEFAR Global Business Council- Chairperson. He graduated from the Florida REALTORS® Leadership Academy in 2012, teaches courses at Watson School of Real Estate and is an instructor for National Association of REALTORS®'s program on Realtors Property Resource (RPR) statewide.

Feeding Northeast Florida gets help from Chamber, funds from PGA TOUR golfer

JAX Chamber employees, 40 in all, spent part of the Chamber's quarterly "day of service" volunteering at the Feeding Northeast Florida's distribution center. The staff sorted, bagged and packaged dry goods and fresh produce on April 28, processing 19,343 pounds of food, which will provide meals for 16,557 people.

"There is a fundamental human need to feed hunger, and we're grateful to the Chamber for their support today. By giving their time, each volunteer is making an impact to reduce hunger across the 17 Northeast Florida counties we serve," said Luke Layow, president and CEO, Feeding Northeast Florida.



Billy Horschel with his Feeding Northeast Florida-branded golf bag



JAX Chamber employees volunteer at Feeding Northeast Florida's Northwest Jacksonville distribution center on April 28.

During THE PLAYERS Championship May 12-15, three-time PGA TOUR winner Billy Horschel donated \$23,000 to Feeding Northeast Florida, \$1,000 for each of his 18 birdies and \$5,000 for the

eagle he made during the tournament. Fans were encouraged to meet his challenge by donating online, resulting in \$6,700 for Feeding Northeast Florida.

H. Stephen Jones and Associates partner with Nemours



Robert Bridges, Stephen Jones, Matt Jones, Steve Jones and Len Habas

H. Stephen Jones and Associates was named as a Principal Partner for the Nemours Corporate Champions Program, when it presented a \$25,000 check to the Nemours Fund for Children's Health in early May.

"We are proud to stand behind and support the Nemours mission of providing direction, state-of-the-art facilities and premiere care to restore and improve the health of children under the highest standard," said Stephen Jones, vice president of H. Stephen Jones and Associates.

Jones' company specializes in technology, physical security system design, implementation solutions and project management services. The gift will support Nemours' children's health programs, services and research in Florida and throughout the Delaware Valley.

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Garden club roots strengthened with new officers, board

The Men's Garden Club of Jacksonville held its annual installation of officers and new board members May 2, electing Walter Bryant of St. Nicholas its president. Other officers include Robert Roman, vice president, Jim Lewis, treasurer, and Jim MacLean, secretary.

The new board of directors was also installed with the new officers. Board members include Steve Blajian of San Marco, Tim Burleigh, Jimmy Johns, Sam Costello and Courtland Hunter.

John Searcy, of San Marco, was honored with the Arthur Simpson Award for outstanding service to the club, promotion of gardening and community service. The award had taken an inadvertent hiatus when the plaque was misplaced for about 15 years, according to past president Donn Elliott.

The Men's Garden Club, established in 1945, meets the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Garden Club of Jacksonville, 1005 Riverside Ave. The club's annual picnic will be held June 5 at the home of member Russ Snyder.



New officers and board members Walter Bryant, Donn Elliott, Steve Blajian, Robert Roman, Jim Lewis, John MacLean; back, Tim Burleigh, Courtland Hunter



John Searcy was honored with the Arthur Simpson Award for outstanding service to the club, promotion of gardening and community service.

Boyer to become Council President



Lori Boyer

A familiar face to most residents who live in the San Marco area is in line to head the Jacksonville City Council.

District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer was elected president of the Jacksonville City Council by a vote of her peers at a meeting in Council Chambers May 24. Because the City Council had its regular meeting that evening, no official celebration followed the vote.

Boyer's installation ceremony will be held Thursday, June 30 at the Ritz Theatre. She and At-Large Councilman John Crescimbeni, who will be vice president, begin their duties July 1.

The Councilwoman, who represents San Marco, San Jose, and St. Nicholas, served as vice president of the council in 2015-2016. She will replace current City Council President Greg Anderson. As Council President, Boyer will handle many administrative duties and serve as the spokesperson for the City Council. She will also travel locally, nationally and internationally representing Jacksonville at meetings and events.

Empire Point attorney to run for circuit judge



David P. Trotti

David P. Trotti has launched his campaign for 4th Circuit Judge, Group 9. Trotti is an Attorney, Mediator, Arbitrator, and a former U.S. Marine, as well as a federal law enforcement officer with the Central Intelligence Agency.

The Empire Point resident has his own law practice that focuses on family law, bankruptcy, and mediation services. Trotti has represented more than 1,250 clients in family law and civil matters and has been appointed to mediate more than 1,200 cases.

A graduate of Terry Parker High School, Trotti has a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from Jacksonville University and a Juris Doctor from Florida Coastal School of Law.



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Former Baptist Health head joins Board of Library Trustees



William Mason

William C. "Bill" Mason, Ed.D., FACHE, has joined the Board of Library Trustees. Mason, of San Marco, began his term as a trustee in March after confirmation by the Jacksonville City Council.

Mason led Baptist Medical Center and Baptist Health System in Jacksonville for 25 years. After retiring as CEO, he served as chairman of the board of the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, the Port Authority, the Community Council, the Florida Hospital Association and Baptist/St. Vincent's Health Care. He's also served as the treasurer of the Jacksonville Children's Commission and as President of the Florida State College Jacksonville Foundation and the Downtown Rotary Club.

An active member of the community, Mason has been the recipient of awards for his community service including the Humanitarian Award of One Jax, the Distinguished Business Leader/Prime Osborn Award of the UNF College of Business and the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Jacksonville Business Journal.

It's awards season for Anna Dooley of Greenscape

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

For years Anna Dooley, executive director of Greenscape in San Marco, has been known as Jacksonville's "tree lady" for her hard work to improve Jacksonville's urban tree canopy. In April her tree-planting efforts received national recognition when the Arbor Day Foundation honored her at its 2016 Arbor Day Awards April 30 in Nebraska City, Nebraska.

Dooley received the foundation's Lawrence Enersen Award, a prize that recognizes an outstanding individual who has "had a positive impact on the environment due to their lifelong commitment to tree planting and conservation at a local level."

Dooley was one of two individuals along with 15 organizations and companies recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation during a ceremony at Lied Lodge & Conference Center. Former award winners include Nobel Peace Prize winner Wangari Maathai, Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley, and the United States Forest Service.

The Arbor Day awards were not the only recognitions Dooley received in April. The Late Bloomers Garden Club awarded her with the Garden Club of America's Zone Civic Improvement Commendation, and the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens presented her, on behalf of Greenscape,



Anna Dooley and her daughter, Sarah, pose after planting a ceremonial tree in Arbor Lodge State Park in Nebraska City, Nebraska. The tree planting was part of the 2016 Arbor Day Awards festivities.

with the 2016 Ninah May Holden Cummer Community Partner Award for building artful connections between people and the environment.

"It's a big deal for me. It's a national award. I'm like, 'wow!'" said Dooley in a telephone interview. "I've lost all my humility now. I'm so proud of it. What I think is most newsworthy about this is that the Arbor Day Foundation hung the flag of the State of Florida in the Lied Lodge, its beautiful Arbor Foundation facility in Nebraska City, and it will hang there in my honor for a whole year. To recognize the whole state of Florida in Nebraska has touched me

more than anything," she said.

Since 1997, Dooley has served as the executive director of Greenscape, a nonprofit grassroots group that has planted nearly 350,000 trees in Jacksonville since it started 40 years ago. Through her work at Greenscape, she has inspired public and private partnerships and motivated thousands of individual volunteers to help transform Jacksonville's urban greenspace.

"I think my greatest reward is seeing trees getting planted in Jacksonville," Dooley said. "That's what it is all about for me, but getting the recognition has been great."

Former headmaster joins Riverkeeper board of directors



John Trainer

John Trainer, former Headmaster of The Bolles School, and senior campaign officer for University Advancement at Jacksonville University, has joined the St. Johns Riverkeeper Board of Directors, according to Jimmy Orth, executive director.

"As a (former) biologist and lifelong environmentalist and canoeist, sailor, SCUBA diver, etc. I clearly appreciate the significant value that the St. Johns River has to our environment and quality of life," said Trainer, who lives on Goodby's Creek. "I have supported the Riverkeeper for some time, and when asked about joining the Board, could proudly report that a Riverkeeper decal was already on my kayak."

Orth also announced Mandarin resident Pete Carpenter, former CSX chief executive officer, has also joined the board.

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Something for everyone at new Kings Avenue restaurant



Chad Munsey, Michael Schmidt

Restaurant partners Chad Munsey and Michael Schmidt can't help grinning when you ask them "How's business?" Since opening the Bearded Pig Southern BBQ Joint and Beer Garden, 1224 Kings Ave., in mid-April, business has been so good they've had to close early more than once having run out of food.

Customers can enjoy pork, brisket, chicken and beef ribs along with vegetarian sides, seated inside or out of the 110-seat restaurant. Open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday-Saturday, closing at 9 p.m. on Sunday, the Bearded Pig offers 12 beers on tap, another 14 in cans and bottles, along with 25 wines, including 18 by the glass.

Call (904) 619-2247 for more information, visit www.thebeardedpigbbq.com or find them on Facebook.

Realtors sponsor bass tournament for Haven Hospice

For the past 12 years, the Northeast Florida Association of Realtors (NEFAR) has donated proceeds to a local nonprofit from its annual Charity Bass Fishing Tournament and Family Fun Day – to the tune of nearly \$290,000.

This year, its 13th, was no different. The April 30 event in Palatka netted \$39,486 for donation to Haven Hospice, up from last year's \$35,256 donation.

There were 189 fishing teams entered in the 2016 Tournament, up from 162 in

2015 and 114 in 2014. The Family Fun Day engages the public with more than 20 vendor and food/beverage booths and activities.

"Many NEFAR members individually serve our community through good works," said 2016 NEFAR President Terrell Newberry. "Our Annual NEFAR Charity Bass Fishing Tournament is one way we collectively demonstrate our commitment to serving Northeast Florida by raising money for Haven Hospice."

Longtime DA dance chair to retire

When Dr. Phyllis Penney, longtime chairman of the dance department at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, retires at the end of this school year, it will be the end of an era. Penney, who shepherded many highly successful dancers in her 30 years at DA, had the pleasure of seeing a handful of her dance progeny return to perform and choreograph selections during a special concert in her honor May 7 in DA's DuBow Theatre.



Dr. Phyllis Penney

Among those who returned to pay tribute were Jade Solomon Curtis, James Boyd III, Carlos Garland, as well as Jennifer Wagner Walker and Tiffany Sullivan-Santeiro.

"Dr. Penney is certainly an inspiration to the hundreds of students who have graduated from the dance program at DA. She has built the foundation of which our dance program has thrived," said Douglas Anderson School for the Arts Principal Jackie Cornelius.

"Two of the elements she introduced to our school, which are critical to having a top national dance program, are having a strong list of guest artists and professionals come to work with the students and ensuring the dance program is diverse by focusing on many dance forms while allowing the core to be ballet and modern dance," Cornelius said. "Dr. Penney is one of a kind. At times she's been a bulldog when it came to ensuring the mission of the dance program. She certainly will be missed, but she has built

a strong foundation upon which the new person taking the lead will be easily able to advance the program to the next level."

"I was always someone who liked to build programs," Penney said. "I like to take it from infancy and grow it into a substantial, well-known program."

After she retires, Penney plans to move permanently to Lima, Peru to be near her boyfriend of eight years, Luis Diaz, and his son. Although she is officially retiring from teaching dance in the United States, when she moves to Peru, Penney said she plans to start an "informal upper studio presentation space," where schools and university dance groups as well as emerging young choreographers can make presentations. "It will be an informal performance space and will also work as a rehearsal space. I'll be a mini presenter. That's my dream come true," she said.

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It didn't matter that it was 11 p.m. on a Friday night. When Julie Mason's beloved calico cat, Mr. Paddy Whack, suffered from a debilitating seizure, her first thought was to contact Dr. Greg Stacey and his wife, Dr. Jennifer Ferrin at nearby Miramar Animal Hospital.

"I texted them and I was weepy. It was 11 p.m. on a Friday," recalled Mason, adding that Dr. Stacey had treated her elderly, arthritic cat for more than six months. "I knew Paddy wasn't going to get any better," she said.

No matter, there was no waiting for morning. Dr. Stacey immediately headed to his office at 4448 Hendricks Avenue to meet with Mason so the cat would not suffer.

"The cat had been sick for quite a while, and it was on arthritis medicine," said Dr. Stacey. "He'd had a seizure, and it was time for him to be put to sleep. It didn't matter that it was 11 p.m."

House calls, late-night emergency visits and the personal touch, which comes only from a compassionate neighborhood veterinary practice, is what clients can expect when they come to Miramar Animal Hospital. Formerly owned by Dr. Dawne Lazar, who had the practice 30 years, the Staceys bought the practice in March, signing a 10-year lease in the Miramar Shopping Center. They expect to serve clients in the San Marco vicinity for many years to come.

Dr. Stacey, who worked with Dr. Lazar for three years before purchasing the hospital, said Miramar Animal Hospital joins state-of-the-art veterinary medicine with good old-fashioned hands-on care.

The full-service veterinary hospital offers IV-catheterization, intravenous fluid therapy and has a digital X-ray, in-house hematology machine and a Class 4 laser, which is used for arthritis, dermatology, inflammation and post-operative issues. The practice also offers grooming, boarding, medicated baths, and a small concession where pet owners can purchase specialty foods for dogs and cats.

"We can handle any concern an animal might have, be it with their eyes, skin, teeth, or ears. We handle everything," explained Dr. Ferrin, and her husband agreed.

"We are willing to work with people depending on what the need is. We have an open door policy," he said. "We offer the best, but understand that sometimes options are necessary. We want our clients to know what the options are for their pet's care. We understand there is not just one way to do things."

In addition to two veterinarians, Miramar Animal Hospital has four veterinary technicians, a veterinarian assistant, a kennel manager and a receptionist. The practice is "staff heavy" on purpose, said Dr. Stacey.



From left: Angela Stuart, Korina Kroese, Sarah Cullinane, Shannon Jeans, Mary Wilcher, Tina Morgan, Laura Markert, Dr. Greg Stacey and Dr. Jennifer Ferrin with Leitzel, the German Shepherd.

"Our staff is well trained and dedicated. We want people to get excellent service from the moment they walk in here to the time they head out the door," he said. "Hopefully our clients will find this to be a very different kind of place, one where everyone knows each other personally," he said.

"Our passion is derived from our love for animals," he continued. "We try to go above and beyond treating illness. We want the animal's mom and dad to walk

out of here knowing as much about their pet's health as we do," he said, adding pet owners will never be handed pills or other medications without knowing their purpose and how they might affect their pets.

In short, Miramar Animal Hospital is the perfect place to find excellent, high-quality veterinary care with a traditional neighborhood feel. "It's a place where every patient is treated like an individual," Dr. Stacey said.



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For more information contact Drs. Stacey and Ferrin at Miramar Animal Hospital, 4448 Hendricks Avenue. Or call (904) 737-0403 for an appointment.

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Great Electric Challenge will keep the lights on

Move over, Captain Underpants! There's a new superhero in town.

Commander Current, portrayed by Sam Mitchell, joined Captain Underwear, also known as Robert Reid, and Downtown Ecumenical Services Council (DESC) to bring dignity to families in need, many of whom are on the brink of homelessness and must choose between paying for food, rent or electricity.

The Great Electric Challenge took place at Mellow Mushroom May 17 in the Shoppes of Avondale, and raised nearly \$30,000 to keep the lights on.

"Summer is coming and electric bills are rising, which is why The Great Electric Challenge is so important," said Beth Wilson, DESC clothing manager. "With the proceeds from this event, we will be able to help 120 local families avoid homelessness



Commander Current and Captain Underpants with Teresa Bennett of First Atlantic Bank, a Silver Sponsor, and her daughter, Emma.



Al Rutland, CPA, PLLC, created the CPAL team, which raised enough money light up four houses. His wife, Carolyn, is a counselor at DESC.

and get back on their feet this summer."

Commander Current, Captain Underwear and sports guru Cole Pepper hosted the family-friendly event, which encouraged parents

to bring children dressed in their favorite superhero costumes. If you couldn't make the event, visit <http://greatelectricemergency.com/> to donate.

New Florida Forum series will draw crowds



The Florida Forum Committee: front: Leslie Quaritius, Caroline Busker, Grace Sarber, Robin Albaneze, Judy D'Antignac, Betsy Lovett, Denise Hudmon, Marnie Sprague; back: Miles Schueth, Susan Feeley, Meg Folds, Cheree Graham, Carolyn Houston, Sharon Lucie, Roxanne Andrade, Kathryn McGehee, Eli Zimmerman, Lisa O'Steen, Holland Gibbs, Claudia Adams, Veronica Scott-Fulton, Mary Lee Willetts

The Florida Forum Committee of the Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital has put together an exciting speaker lineup for its 2016-2017 season, with something for everyone.

The speaker series kicks off on October 25 with Dr. Ben Carson, world-renowned pediatric neurosurgeon at Johns Hopkins Children's Center, New York Times best-selling author, syndicated columnist, and candidate for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination.

Also in the political vein, the January 30, 2017 speaker will be Megyn Kelly, a key figure in Fox News' coverage of the 2016 presidential

primaries. A former litigator, Kelly is host of Fox News Channel's The Kelly File, and was named one of Time magazine's most influential people in the world in 2014.

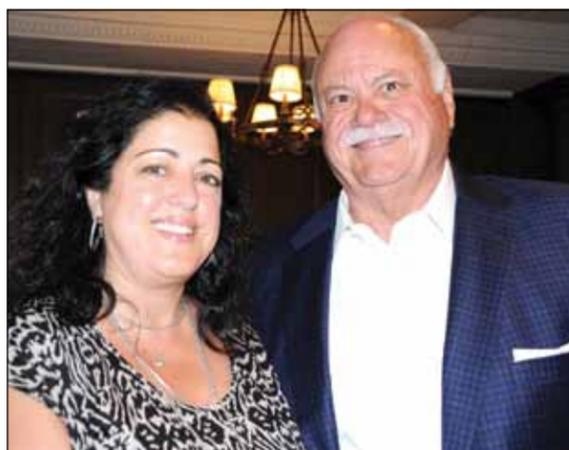
The season winds up on March 13, 2017 with hometown favorite, Tim Tebow, a two-time national football champion and Heisman Trophy winner. After a career in the National Football League, Tebow founded the Tim Tebow Foundation. He currently co-hosts the SEC network's SEC Nation, a traveling pre-game show.

For more information on the Florida Forum or to purchase tickets, visit www.FloridaForum.com or call (904) 202-2886.

Fun and funding come together at University Club



Children's Home Society board members Monique N. Brown and Kevin R. Copeland, with Andrea Dezso, CHS special events coordinator and Brooks Southerland, a board member.



Karina Cadora, Jim Cox

Cocktails for a Cause, a monthly networking charity event at the University Club, selected Children's Home Society as its May charity, raising \$1,000 for the nonprofit while enjoying cocktails, appetizers and the always stunning view from the top of Riverplace Tower.

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Festivities mark Arbor Terrace grand opening



G. John Carey, partner in Whitehall Realty Partners and developer of Arbor Terrace, with Mary Virginia Jones of San Jose and her son, Malcolm Jones.

Judd Harper, president of the Arbor Company, Corrine Eubanks, executive director of Arbor Terrace San Jose, and G. John Carey, partner in Whitehall Realty Partners.

Arbor Terrace San Jose officially opened its doors May 4 with a celebration at its new facility at 3760 Dupont Avenue in San Jose.

The festivities included a display of two vintage automobiles, live music, hors d'oeuvres, drinks and tours of the new facility.

On hand to greet the visitors were G. John Carey, partner in Whitehall Realty Partners, which developed the facility; Judd Harper, president of the Arbor Company of Atlanta, which will manage the new facility; Corrine Eubanks, executive director of Arbor Terrace San Jose, and Nicole Jones, senior care

counselor for the San Jose facility.

Also among the celebrants were Mary Virginia Jones of San Jose Forest and her son, Malcolm. The Jones family owned the Dupont Avenue property, where Arbor Terrace is now located, for more than 100 years before selling to Carey's firm so the memory care facility could be developed.

Mary Virginia Jones said she was "very happy" to see the high-quality facility built on what was formerly her property. "When I first saw it [Arbor Terrace], I was very impressed with the one in Ponte Vedra. At that time I didn't have any idea we would have one so close by," she said.

HAB senior pastor celebrates 10th anniversary

The congregants at Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church shared in a very special celebratory service when Rev. Dr. Kyle Reese marked his 10th anniversary as senior pastor of the San Marco church May 15.

Originally from West Texas, Reese moved with his wife, Amy, and three children, Peyton, Hannah and Wyatt – to become HAB's senior pastor in May 2006.

The Sunday service included a blessing for the Reese family as well as a celebratory luncheon for the congregation after the service. The meal, which included beef tenderloin and anniversary cake, was prepared by Gene and Sharon Maszy and the church kitchen crew. Also featured at the celebration was the Old Guys Quartet

and tributes to Reese from members. The membership presented their pastor with "love gifts" – customized golf clubs for Reese and a bracelet for his wife as well as a huge basket of personal notes and cards.

Reese graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Baylor University and received his master's in divinity from the George W. Truett Theological Seminary at the same institution. He earned his doctorate from Northern Baptist University in Chicago.

Over the past 10 years he has been involved with many interfaith and community roles. He is the current Chairman of the Board of OneJax Institute at the University of North Florida and former president of the Rotary Club of San Marco. Reese is also a member of

Baptist Medical Center-Jacksonville's Board of Directors and is a member of Baptist Health's Committee for Social Responsibility and Community Justice.

Reese is an alumnus of both Leadership Jacksonville and Leadership Florida. He is on the board of Youth Leadership Jacksonville.

He is part of the WCIT First Coast Connects "Faith Matters," and serves on the board of Baptist News Global and in various roles within the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Reese is a former member of WJCT's "God Squad," a weekly televised discussion group consisting of representatives from Protestant, Greek Orthodox, Jewish and Muslim faiths. Also, he coaches T-ball and basketball for the Hendricks Avenue Athletic Association.



Rev. Dr. Kyle Reese

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Donors enjoy riverfront view at 7th Annual River Hops

The orange sun setting over the St. Johns River made a spectacular backdrop for the 7th Annual River Hops benefit May 7. Held at the spacious riverfront home of Elaine and Mike Ashourian of Granada, the event was a fundraiser to support the North Florida School of Special Education.

During the evening, guests enjoyed cocktails and gourmet pairings from several of the finest chefs in Northeast Florida. Included among the culinary artists were Chef Brennan Pickren of Ovinte, Chef Ezekiel Mears of Il Desco, Chef Christopher Cohen of Bistro AIX, Chef Ian Lynch, executive chef of Forking Amazing Restaurants, and Chef Brett Swearingen of Berry Good Farms at the North Florida School of Special Education.

Intuition Ale Works provided several specialty craft beers including El Guapo Mexican-style Lager, Jon Boat Coastal Ale, Wheelhouse Brown Ale, Easy on the Eyes Session IPA, Boneshaker Imperial Pilsner as well as white and red wines.

Live music by Dustin Bradley as well as silent and live auctions entertained the guests.

Approximately \$76,000 was raised – the largest amount to date – to support the school and its mission to improve the lives of students with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities through the achievement of academic, vocational and social skills.



Greg and Elise Nowikowski, Sarah and Bert Brown with Jennifer and Blake Murray



North Florida School of Special Education Executive Director Sally Hazelip and her husband, Chris, Audrey and Akin Cabi, Desa and Steve Buckley, Camala Stringer, Anne Lucas Stringer and her husband, Bo, with Charles Hughes



River Hops hosts Elaine and Mike Ashourian with Sally Hazelip, executive director of North Florida School of Special Education



Jennifer and Chris Flakus



Gary McCalla with Melanie Jensen and Jim Cox



Frank Houston with Tracy and Randy Skinner



Rick and Ginger Patsy with Jan and Lou Walsh



Co-chair Myron Pincomb with Mindy and David Dickson



Marlana Morgan, Erin Bartnovsky, Chloe Montalbano and Caroline Patsy



Jamie Thomas, Bill Shelton, Nancy Barber and Ken Purcell



Nicole Barnack with Kenny and Kathy Harper

Delivering for those in need of hearing, speech assistance

The Jacksonville Speech and Hearing Center got a big boost from supporters as the nonprofit treated guests to a beautiful night on the banks of the St. Johns River. The annual fundraiser, *Finest Rolling on the River*, was held at the Timuquana Country Club May 21.

Thanks to generous sponsors, event organizers and donations from silent and live auction items, the evening was a hit for the organization. The co-chairs for the evening were Myron and Amanda Pincomb and the

honorary co-chairs were John and Gena Delaney, Dawn and Al Emerick, Robert and Margaret Hill, as well as John Falconetti and Shannon Miller.

The Jacksonville Speech and Hearing Center provides services and relief to those struggling with hearing loss and hearing impairment, along with speech related assistance. The world of communication for many Jacksonville residents is made possible through the work of the Springfield-based nonprofit.

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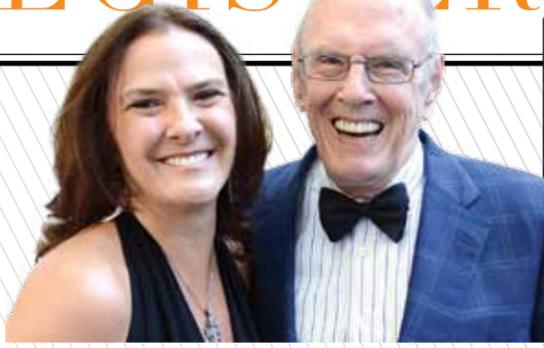
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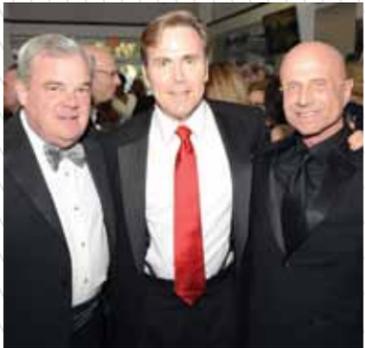
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Cinda Sherman with Preston Haskell



Franklin and Leigh Ann Danley



Steve Halverson, Michael Breen and Tom Serwatzka



Susan and Hugh Greene, Honorary Chair Molly Curry and Mayor Lenny Curry with Marcus Haile

Cultural Council celebrated best and brightest

The iconic 17th island green at the Tournament Players Championship appropriately painted the backdrop for the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville's annual Arts Awards. Thanks to generous sponsors, including the TPC and presenting sponsor Regions Bank, the 40th Annual Arts Awards celebration was one to remember. The undertaking was a work of art in itself,

with a photojournalistic journey through the iconic faces behind the arts and culture scene in Jacksonville. Local photographer Renee Parenteau captured 40 of the top honorees in a crafted exhibition fit for the occasion. The event was attended by over 625 artists, advocates and friends of arts, culture and creativity May 7.



Merry-Carol and John Duce

Changing lives in the name of burgers and fries

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Jacksonville held its annual McGala May 21, as the Sawgrass Marriott transformed into a Mardi Gras masquerade. The organization specializes in creating a "home away from home" for children and their families undergoing challenging treatments at local pediatric hospitals.

This year's gala celebrated the nonprofit's ability to ease the emotional and financial burdens associated with healthcare and lodging. The honorary chair of the ball was hailed by RMH executive director, Diane Boyle, as a "champion" for the organization as she honored long-standing leader, Ryan Schwartz.

Schwartz has helped to develop the dream of the expansion of the current facilities at the Ronald McDonald House in San Marco as capital campaign chairman and remained committed to the cause throughout the process. The RMH of Jacksonville is currently working toward a final leg of completion of the construction that has taken the facilities from 24 rooms to a 54-room facility. The newly minted C. Herman and Mary Virginia Terry Campus will be unveiled in the coming months.



Ronald McDonald House Executive Director Diane Boyle with Meg and Peter Kuchar



Honorary Chair Ryan Schwartz with Holly and Jeff Tyrrell, Marty Flack and Karen Case

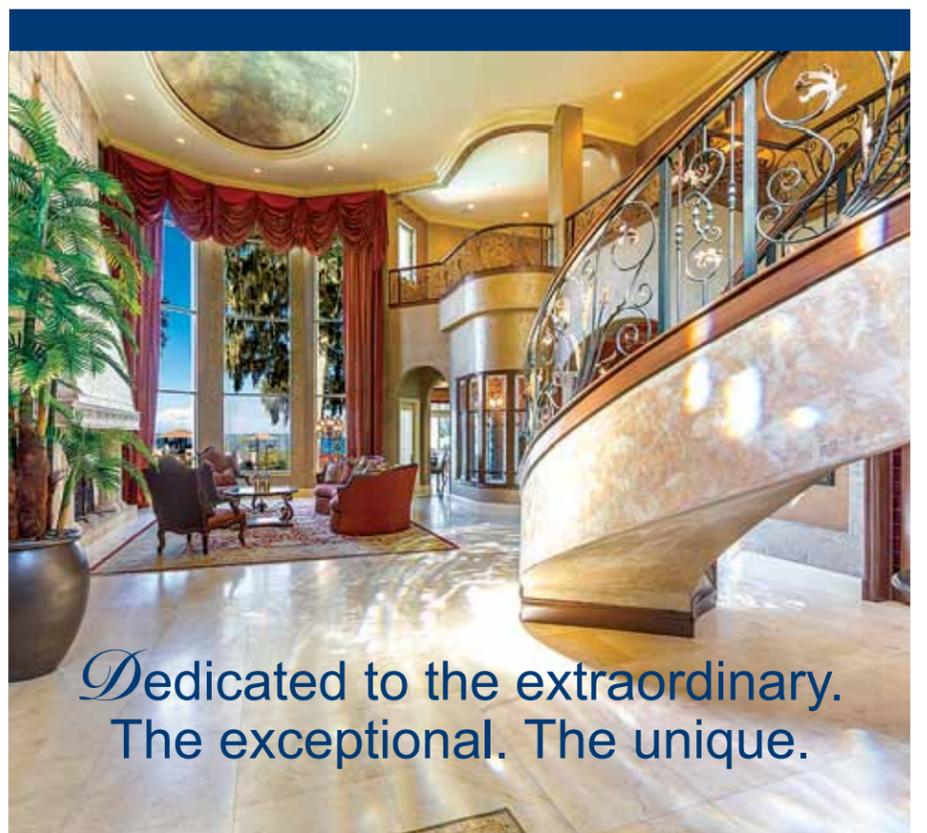


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only benefits our seriously injured clients, but other deserving members of our community that the law firm cares so much about.



Steve Pajcic has been honored as the 2016 "Lawyer of the Year". He was surprised with the honor at

the Jacksonville Bar Association's annual Law Day luncheon. It's in recognition of his dedication, tireless efforts and continuous commitment to the community. Steve was praised for his philanthropic efforts, especially when it comes to education.



There was a great celebration at Pajcic & Pajcic for our Dreams Come True child Ayden! The adorable 6-year-old is battling Spina Bifida. Ayden is definitely not shy. He fit right in at the office and got the entire staff to join him in a dinosaur growl. Curry Pajcic has been involved in this wonderful organization for many years. Dreams Come True fulfills the dreams of local children with life threatening illnesses.



Congratulations to seven Jacksonville Sheriff's Officers who completed a 250 mile plus bike ride in honor of police officers who died in the line of duty. The Policy Unity Tour was from Virginia to Washington, D.C.



The Pajcics, who are avid bike riders themselves, sponsored our local officers for this important event.



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Hope Haven celebrates a milestone



Rosa Maria King with longtime board member Jeanne Ward



Mailin, Ema, Ramon and (in front) Naylin Andrews



Hope Haven CEO Joanne Robertson with Councilman Scott Wilson and Board Chair Jenny Kobin



Former Executive Director Laurie Price with Daniel Kids CEO Jim Clarke

Countless lives touched over past 90 years

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

For the past 90 years Hope Haven has been a lifeline for children and families with special needs. On April 14, the children's clinic celebrated 90 years of helping children gain confidence through its educational and therapeutic services by hosting a party at its 4600 Beach Boulevard location and unveiling its new logo.

The logo, a multi-colored butterfly, which accompanies the Hope Haven motto, "where hope transforms families," describes the "transformative journey" many families find when they utilize any one of Hope Haven's many services, said Jenny Kobin, chairman of the Hope Haven Board of Directors during the anniversary event. Clinic personnel make a point of emphasizing what individuals with disabilities can do and not the opposite, Kobin said. "Our tagline emphasizes the focus we have on the positive," she said.

The logo also commemorates the transformation Hope Haven has made over the past 90 years, beginning first in 1926 as a Children's Hospital on the banks of the Trout River, where it served as a "preventorium" for nutritionally and medically deprived children and later as a full-service children's hospital on Atlantic Boulevard to its role today as an interdisciplinary diagnostic and treatment center providing services

to children with physical, intellectual and developmental disabilities.

"You may know us as Hope Haven Children's Clinic, and before that as Hope Haven Children's Hospital. Like any organization, we've transformed. Today, we're Hope Haven," said Joanne Robertson, CEO of the children's facility. "We remain focused on ensuring that children realize their full potential. To do that, we have an incredible team of professionals who treat clients like family and provide specialized services and educational opportunities. Such services include evaluations for autism, ADHD, and Down syndrome. We also have individualized tutoring, special needs therapies, after-school programs and even job placement services for young adults with special needs," she said.

During the anniversary celebration, participants enjoyed tours of the Hope Haven facility and listened to Joy Parman tell how her family found Hope Haven's evaluation of daughter, Kennedy, diagnosed with Down syndrome, to be a game-changing experience. "We fell in love with the way they access the children," Parman said, noting Hope Haven focused on how Kennedy could reach her full potential.

Serving as emcee for the festivities was Jon Heymann, CEO of Jacksonville's Children's Commission. "Without Hope Haven's critical services many of our community's children would fall through the cracks," Heymann said. "As a community, we are fortunate to have Hope Haven as a valued partner providing a pathway for children and families to achieve successful outcomes."

Annual Kentucky Derby Soiree is SRO



Brian Gratz, Leslie Monceaux with Leslie and Mark Detlefsen

The 4th Annual Run for the Roses, held at Deerwood Country Club, was a sold-out event May 7, drawing 200 guests in support of Pine Castle, the community's leader in serving adults with developmental and other disabilities.

"Everyone was excited to see favorite Nyquist gallop to victory in the Run for the Roses and then settle in for a fun evening of food, music, dancing, auctions and, of course, mint juleps," said Jon May, Pine Castle's executive director. "Thanks to the many sponsors and attendees who pitched in to make it a successful night of fundraising to continue the

special mission of Pine Castle."

Southern cuisine, a cigar bar, bourbon tasting and live and silent auctions were just some of the activities at the highly anticipated event. Winners of the Bonnet and Bow Ties contest were Jill Wilde, who made her bonnet from her daughter's ballet tutu, and Wes Stapp, who sported a red polka-dotted silk bowtie.

Over \$75,000 raised by this event will benefit Pine Castle programs which enrich the lives of persons with developmental and intellectual disabilities through working, connecting and empowering.

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New digs for intellectually/developmentally disabled in Southside



Jaguars quarterback Blake Bortles and Ben Davis cut the ribbon during the grand opening of The Arc Jacksonville Village May 18. Looking on are Village resident Kristie Gabel; Blake Wilson, EverBank CEO and president; Senator Aaron Bean and Jim Whittaker, The Arc Village CEO and president; front: Village residents Destiny Carter and Michael Williams.



Clare Harris, cousin of Village resident Tommy Sawyer, join Tommy's mother, Martha Sawyer, a Miramar resident at the grand opening of The Arc Jacksonville Village May 18.

San Marco designer decorates community center, model rooms

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

Thanks to The Arc Jacksonville, intellectually and developmentally disabled adults now have a place to call their own. With much fanfare and many tearful moments, The Arc Jacksonville Village, a \$22 million private community, held its grand opening and ribbon cutting in Southside May 18.

Built on 17 of 22 acres leased to The Arc Jacksonville for 99 years, the Village comprises 96 one- and two-bedroom apartments as well as a clubhouse with pool, cafeteria and multipurpose rooms and will house 120 residents.

The Arc Jacksonville Village is the realization of a "dream 10 years in the making," said The Arc Jacksonville President/CEO Jim Whittaker in his opening remarks. In addition to Whittaker, several other speakers took the podium at the opening ceremony, including Florida Senator Aaron Bean, Audrey Moran of Riverside, chair of the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce and senior vice president at Baptist Health, Martha Sawyer of Miramar, whose son, Tommy, is a Village resident, as well as Village resident Destiny Carter and her mother, Felicia.

Ben Davis of Avondale, a major donor, unveiled the name of the new Mary Lou Davis Community Center, a clubhouse named for



R. Ward Lariscy, interior designer and owner of The Wardroom in San Marco Square

his deceased mother. Jaguars Quarterback Blake Bortles announced a gift of \$40,000 from his foundation to The Arc Jacksonville and shared ribbon-cutting duties with Davis.

Three model apartments decorated by San Marco interior designer R. Ward Lariscy were also on display during the grand opening.

A "high-end" designer who doesn't usually shop in consignment and lower-end department stores, Lariscy presented three beautifully decorated model apartments on a scant \$8,000 budget. He also decorated the



San Marco's Molly Curry, wife of Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry, joins Erin Nowikowski and her mother Elise, also of San Marco, at the grand opening of The Arc Jacksonville Village on Kirbo Lane May 18. Erin is a resident of the Village while her mother is a board member of The Arc Jacksonville.

Village's main clubhouse building, without the same strict budget constraints.

"I usually do high-end decorating. I'm not used to shopping in budget stores," Lariscy said. "I did use some Ikea pieces, and some from outlet stores and online resources," he said, noting he learned the hard way that when he spotted something he liked in a consignment store, he'd better purchase it immediately or it would be gone if he returned after taking measurements or thinking it over. "You need to buy it when you find it," he said.

The Arc Jacksonville Village is touted as the first of its kind in the United States. It combines affordable, independent living with an on-site support staff and 24-hour security. The format of The Village encourages its residents to interact with each other and offers them the chance to take advantage of recreational facilities, churches, and employment in the surrounding neighborhood. Including benefits, earned and income from investments, each resident's earnings cannot exceed \$26,640. Rent on the apartments ranges from \$190 to \$525 per month, although the estimated cost

of expenses may be as high as \$1,244 per month once utilities, food and personal expenses are factored in.

During his opening remarks, Whittaker said The Arc Jacksonville is considering building a new YMCA on the remaining acreage of their property so the residents, as well as the public, can more easily take advantage of its programs.

Taking up residence in the new facilities from San Marco will be Erin Nowikowski, Collin Hazelip, Betsy Zahn and Tommy Sawyer. Also living in the Village will be Maura Rossi of Avondale.

The 32-acre property had originally been donated to the state on the condition that it benefit people with disabilities. Construction, staffing and other expenses have been financed by a state grants, tax credits and a capital campaign, which has raised \$ 6 million to date.

"We've all been to ribbon-cuttings," said Bean in his remarks. "This ribbon cutting is different. You will get goose-bumps. It's a flood of hope and opportunities for a population that hasn't felt hope and opportunities like this before."

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Dignity U Wear stretches to reach UNDIE campaign goal

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of its annual UNDIE campaign, the folks at Dignity U Wear decided to stretch their goal by more than 50,000 units this year.

Last year, the nonprofit joined with churches, businesses, schools, civic organizations and professional groups to collect slightly less than 300,000 brand new pairs of socks, bras and underwear to distribute to at least 70 different agencies throughout the greater Jacksonville area.

This year they decided to “stretch” things a bit by aiming high. As of May 24, the organization had already surpassed its goal with 305,000 items. “I think we’ll make it,” said Janet Reagor, of San Marco, who is Dignity U Wear’s chief operating officer.

Dignity U Wear also hopes to raise \$30,000 in cash in order to help fund the processing of the underwear and sock donations and, as of May 24, had collected \$26,000.

“Dignity U Wear is so proud that in 10 years, the UNDIE Campaign has gone from collecting several thousand to over 300,000 units of undergarments thanks to the gener-



Students from Episcopal School of Jacksonville helped sort clothes at Dignity U Wear’s warehouse location on North Myrtle Avenue. From left: Megan Wickenden, Henna Awad, Taylor Bateh, Tal Ponder, Jack Rains, Connor Evans and Andrea Rizzi.



The Dignity U Wear warehouse team consists of Barry Hollie, Clarence Milton, Jr., Ben Frazier, Trone Ellis and Janet Reagor, chief operating officer. D’Sasha Callender sits in front.

osity of countless donors. With one in seven Americans living in poverty, we are honored to be a part of the solution by providing brand new clothing through over 70 partner social service agencies in Jacksonville and another 140 across the country,” said Barbara Truncellito, Executive Director.

Last year, Dignity U Wear provided brand new clothing to more than 150,000 men, women and children. Because underwear is the most requested item, the Jacksonville-

based organization created the UNDIE campaign, which derives its success from hundreds of local donors, collectors, volunteers, sponsors as well as clothing manufacturers. Some of the groups who have organized clothing drives for Dignity U Wear in May were JEA, CSX, the Episcopal School of Jacksonville, Lakeshore Presbyterian Church, Wells Fargo and the YMCA, which held a drive at all 11 of its locations on May 27.

According to the agency’s calculations, 15

percent of all Americans live in poverty – approximately 47 million – and struggle every day to secure food, shelter and clothing. Dignity U Wear hopes to help by providing new clothing to more than 210 active social service agencies throughout the United States. The nonprofit was founded in 2000 by philanthropist and Holocaust survivor Henri Landwirth, who lives in Ponte Vedra. Since that time, the organization has provided clothing valued at \$160 million to more than a million people.

Mystery trip winners pack suitcases for destinations unknown



Tyler Morris and Sabeen Perwaiz Sayed

The Mystery Trip Suitcase Party hosted April 16 by the Independent Living Foundation raised \$20,000 to support the Independent Living Resource Center (ILRC), which empowers people with disabilities to live independently in our community.

In its third year, hosted annually at Malone AirCharter, the event provides attendees the chance to win three mystery trips by car, boat and plane to undisclosed dinner locations. Trip sponsors were Tom Bush BMW (drive away), Brooks Rehabilitation (sail away) and Farah & Farah (fly away).

The ILRC, which has served Jacksonville since 1978, provides programs such as the Brooks Temporary Loan Closet, which loans out durable medical equipment to those in need.



Daniella and Michael Frei



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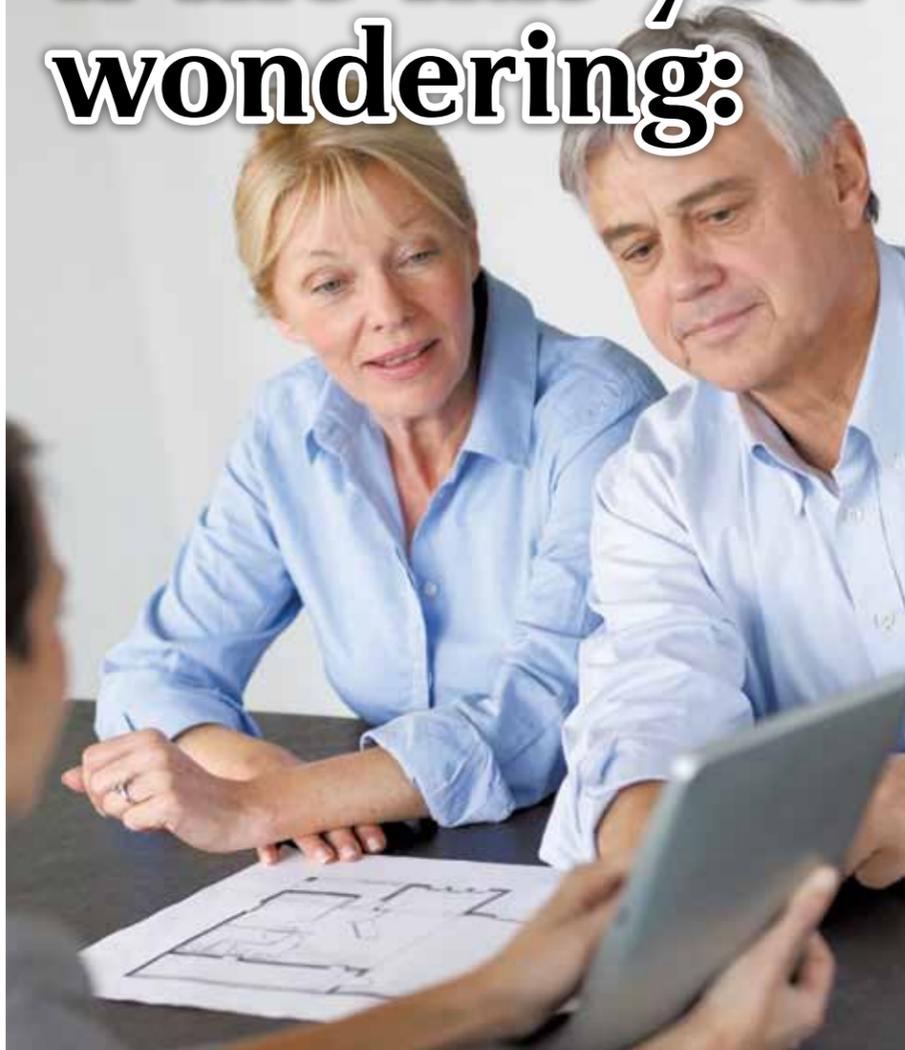
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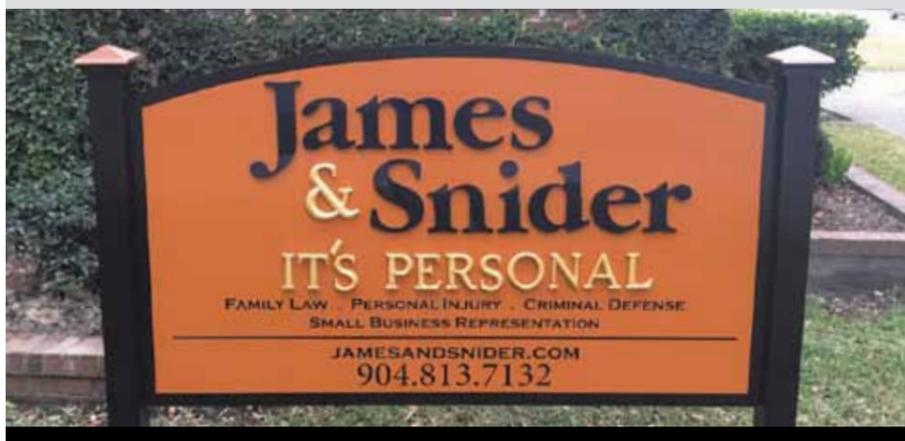
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Wolfson inaugural class to celebrate 50th

To celebrate the first graduating class at Samuel W. Wolfson High School, the Class of 1966 will hold a reunion Friday and Saturday, June 24-25.

The festivities will begin with a class get-together Friday, June 25, 7 -10 p.m., at Unity Plaza, 220 Riverside Ave., with a cash bar and snacks. The following evening the celebration will be held 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Lexington Hotel on the Southbank, where classmates will enjoy music from DJ "Chill Will" Barker, official DJ for the Jacksonville Jaguars as well as a buffet dinner, dancing and a cash bar.

Heading up the reunion committee are Michele Zavon Steinfeld and Rose Kolchin Tinchler, both of San Jose. "This will be our best reunion yet," said Steinfeld.

The occasion marks a series of firsts for

Wolfson's Class of 1966, the first class to graduate from the brand-new school, which first opened its doors in September 1965. At that time, the new school drew its student body from Landon and duPont Junior-Senior High Schools, which became junior highs once Wolfson opened its doors. Over 450 rising seniors came together to share their final year at Wolfson, a new state-of-the-art school on Powers Avenue.

The cost per person is \$10 on Friday and \$68 on Saturday. Special room rates are available at the Lexington Hotel and Conference Center; contact the hotel directly at (904) 396-5100. To join the party, make a reservation by Tuesday, June 7. Make checks payable to "Wolfson Class of '66 Reunion" and forward to Michele Zavon Steinfeld, 3828 La Vesta Circle, Jacksonville, FL 32217.



Under construction, Samuel Wolfson High School was completed in time to welcome its first graduating class, the Class of 1966.

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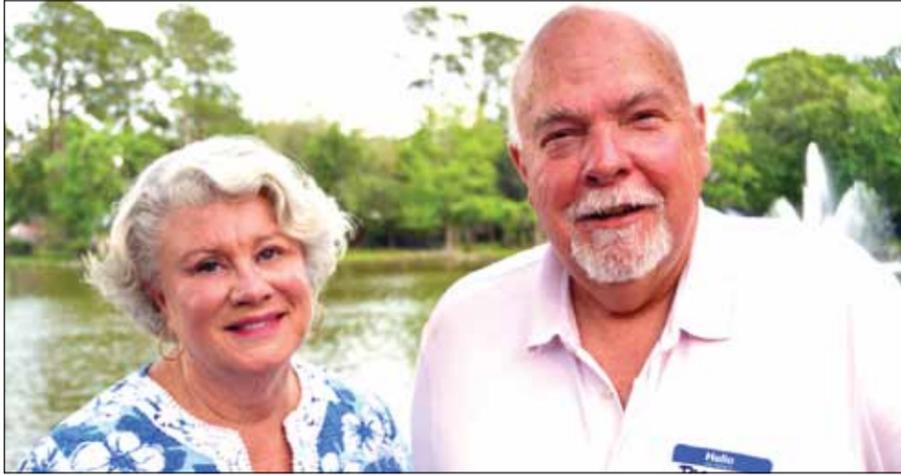


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For Suzanne and Joe Honeycutt, hospitality is the name of the game



Potluck hosts Suzanne and Joe Honeycutt



Starr Kadlick, Natalie DeGrado, Greg Chesnut, Justin DeGrado and Ian Stake

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

Thanks to Suzanne and Joe Honeycutt, the Colonial Manor neighborhood has become the closest thing in San Marco to Mayberry RFD.

For the past seven years, between 50 and 100 residents of the Old San Jose Boulevard area between Brookwood Road near Southside United Methodist Church and Greenridge Road frequently gather between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. on the Honeycutts' spacious deck to eat baked beans, salad, assorted casseroles and an array of gooey desserts.

Dinner at the Honeycutts is the closest thing to a church supper, said their neighbor Liz Leuthold. Once a month for eight months out of every year in the fall, winter and spring, the Honeycutts, who live in the friendly-looking house with the bright yellow door overlooking San Marco's duck pond, host a neighborhood potluck for their neighbors and dearest friends.

Suzanne emails 111 invitations asking everyone on the list to join them for an evening of gaiety and laughter. The occasions are casual. No RSVPs are required.

"Suzanne invites everyone from the mailman to the Mayor," said Juliette Mason, noting former Jacksonville Mayor John Peyton has, on occasion, joined in the fun. "Suzanne has a genius for hospitality. She has the foundation items such as tables, chairs, and cutlery. We all bring the food, and we come, and you never know who will be here."

"It's kind of like the people who come expand it," said Joe. "Friends of friends can bring friends. If someone in the neighborhood has a friend over, they know they can bring them."

"This is the only time we have lived in a neighborhood where somebody opened their house without discrimination," said Chris Gabbard, who lives nearby. "Without this, it would be harder to know your neighbors. Otherwise you only meet the dog walkers, everybody else you would see as they drive by."

Suzanne said prior to having the potlucks, her neighbors often lived separately although their homes were side by side. "Before we started this, people would only wave to each other from the driveway and perhaps know each other's names, but they didn't know each other's lives," said Suzanne. "People were very polite on the surface, but didn't know each other intimately. (The potlucks) turned this neighborhood into family. Now everyone wants to live in this neighborhood and be part of the group," she said. "The date [of the dinners] is set by whatever works out for me, and whomever comes, comes. No one needs to ask if they can come, and I don't want to know what they are bringing. Everything always works out."

The potlucks have caused the Honeycutts' home to become "a hub and focal point" of the community, Gabbard said. At the suppers, neighbors come to share news and give folks a proper send-off if they happen to be moving away. "When it's a family's last potluck, everybody says goodbye," he said.

"Then they come back even if they have moved out of the neighborhood because they are still on the mailing list," Mason interjected. "If they are new to the neighborhood, the potluck is a way to say they are welcome. We all really feel like we belong. We just feel like neighbors."

As a resident of Mapleton Road for 38 years, Pat Jones recalled, in the past, individual streets might hold a "block party," but nothing with the frequency or scope of

the Honeycutts' get-togethers. "This is the epitome of neighborliness," she said. "I see people that I haven't seen in a long time – people I knew when my kids went to school at Hendricks Avenue Elementary, and now our kids are 39. It's fun to meet new families. We were new at one time, but now we celebrate new life in the neighborhood."

Mason's husband Bill, president emeritus of Baptist Health, said the Colonial Manor neighborhood is one of a kind. "I've lived all over the world, but I've never lived in a neighborhood like this."

The first two or three times they held the neighborhood potluck attendance was "light," said Suzanne.

"We had maybe 12 people. But when people found out that we weren't selling Amway, they started to come. The reason we do this is because we just want our neighbors to feel like neighbors," she said, adding when she lived on Philadelphia's Main Line years ago the neighborhood was not cohesive. "In Philadelphia all the lots were so big no one knew their neighbors and the people were so rich they didn't care," she said. "They might have a cocktail party if someone was new. Here my children are grown and I have no LEGOS or Hot Wheels in my driveway. It's easy for me to do."

When the Honeycutts refurbished their San Jose Boulevard home it was with hospitality in mind. Their oversized deck easily accommodates 50 to 75 people. Attached to their home is a guest house, where they often allow friends to stay a week to a month at a time. In the past they have welcomed strangers in need, including a single mother with a daughter so ill the family came to Jacksonville seeking medical treatment. With no rooms available at Ronald McDonald House due to its recent renovations, the Honeycutts lent their guest

house to the family free of charge for several months, said Ian Stake. Knowing the single mom was on a tight budget and tired after spending her days in numerous doctor's offices, Suzanne sent word to her neighbors suggesting folks help out by bringing food. Many rose to the occasion, and the family enjoyed home-cooked dinners each night for several weeks, Stake said.

"The daughter needed treatment. If it wasn't for Joe and Suzanne doing this, they would not have been okay," said Keith Hutchinson. "That's what this neighborhood does. We love each other and we do things for each other. Enough said."

The Honeycutts also accommodate other neighborhood social functions. They hosted a wedding reception for Hutchinson when he married his wife Troy Winn, in April 2015, and held a memorial service on their lawn for Gabbard's son, August, when he passed away in October 2013.

"The Honeycutts have raised the bar for all of us on what it means to give. They have shown us how to do it. They live it out," Stake said.

Two outgrowths of the potlucks are a newly instituted neighborhood watch program started by Joe and the 'hood's own "Angie's List." Neighbors can ask each other for recommendations about household help, tradesmen or babysitting – "all the mundanities of life," Mason said, noting she gets an email from folks in the neighborhood just about every day. "We know each other, and we can trust it."

"I've lived in the neighborhood 18 years," said Stake. "When the Honeycutts descended upon this ZIP Code, they brought the whole neighborhood together. She's the Queen of Fun and he's Papa Joe. They taught us what community is all about."

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Jewish Food Festival proves to be a ‘broadening’ experience



Ruth Seebol oversees a table full of delectable goodies at the 5th Annual Jewish Food Festival May 1.



Harry Frisch and his wife, Lilo, and their friend, Thora Rose, enjoyed the 5th Annual Jewish Food Festival at the Congregation Ahavath Cheshed in San Jose May 1.

No one was counting calories May 1, when the Congregation Ahavath Cheshed hosted its 5th Annual Jewish Food Festival at The Temple on San Jose Boulevard.

Although foodies were able to sample many different kinds of delectable goodies during the event, perhaps the highlight of the afternoon was the announcement of the winners of Bubbe’s Bakeoff, a contest commemorating Grandma’s favorite cake recipes. Ten adults and eight children ages 13 and under participated in the sweet confection competition.

Winning the adult division with her apple chocolate chip cake was Ann Stone. In second place was a chocolate toffee cake baked by Bonnie Ruckh, who organized the contest, followed by a cream cheese chocolate cake created by Linda Weinstein.

Ruckh’s daughter, Danielle, age 7, was the winner in the children’s division with her “chocolate cake infinity,” a luscious dessert ringed with Kit Kat bars and covered with M & Ms. Her concoction also was named “Most Festive Cake.”

In second place was a cheesecake created by 11-year-old Ellie Pinnar and her nine-year-old sister, Lainey, which was topped with blueberries and raspberries. Their cake was named as the dessert of which you would “Most Likely Want to Take a Big Bite.”

A green mint Oreo cake baked by eight-year-old Molly Rudowitz took third place.

Winning the “Most Likely to Stick to Your Fork” recognition was Bubbie Brown’s Homemade Amber’s Lemon Bars.

Tasting all the cakes and judging the contest were Belinda Hulin, Leigh Cort, Jay Magee and Bonnie Phillips Upright. Ed Gefen organized the judging of the contest.



Bonnie Ruckh, Ann Stone and Linda Weinstein took home awards in the adult division of Bubbe’s Bakeoff contest at the 5th Annual Jewish Food Festival May 1 at Congregation Ahavath Cheshed.



Kimberly Janis, Edwinna Greene and Naomi Chase had fun at the 5th Annual Jewish Food Festival in San Jose May 1.



Collecting prizes in the Bubbe’s Bakeoff contest at the 5th Annual Jewish Food Festival were Lainey and Ellie Pinnar, Bubbie Brown, Danielle Ruckh and Molly Rudowitz.

Jewish Food Festival’s Bubbe’s Bake-Off Winning recipes

Ann Stone’s winning Apple Chocolate Chip Cake



Ingredients

- 1 cup oil
- 3 eggs
- 1 ¾ cups sugar
- 2 ¼ cups flour
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- ½ cup chopped nuts
- 4 cups apples cut slices
- 1 cup chocolate chips
- ½ tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. cinnamon

Directions

Beat eggs, add sugar and mix well. Add oil, mix. Combine flour, soda, salt and cinnamon. Add to egg mixture, slowly by hand. Add nuts, apples and chips, mixing well by hand. Bake in a 9x13 ungreased pan at 350° for 1 hour. Cool and sprinkle with confectioners’ sugar.

Bonnie Ruckh’s Chocolate Toffee Cake



My family loves to eat at PDQ! One day I tried the Fresh Apple Slices with Toffee Dip (a side item on the PDQ menu). I thought that would make a delicious filling for a cake. I came up with my own recipe for the filling and made a cake from it.

Ingredients

- Betty Crocker Vanilla Cake – place cake mix in layer pans.
- Subhead: Cream Cheese Frosting
- 16 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 2 ½ tsp. vanilla
- 2 cups confectioners’ sugar
- 1 cup brown sugar
- Chocolate Heath bar toffee bits
- *Sugars may be adjusted by ½ cup according to preferred sweetness
- Mix all ingredients except toffee bits, beat with paddle mixer for about 10 minutes. Add toffee bits and mix for one minute.
- Layer cakes by placing cake then cream cheese frosting until reaching desired height (I used four layers of cake). Place final layer of cream cheese frosting on top.

Chocolate Ganache Frosting

- 9 ounces semisweet chocolate
- 1 cup heavy mixing cream
- ¼ cup confectioners’ sugar
- Mix continuously over low heat. Once melted, pour over cake and place toffee bits on top.



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Alfred I. duPont alumni gather to celebrate 75 years of school



Some alumni who attended the 75th duPont Middle School reunion were Charlotte Lohman Branch '59; Bill Canova '59; Francine Cannon Baker '62; Patricia Arpen '62; Helen Morgan Long, Chuck Arnold '62; Eleanor Thomas Coleman '59, Mack Gooding '62; Janice Lindsay Gooding '63, Suzanne Harper Catto '63, Suzanne Sharp '60, Duke Lamon '61.



Joanne Martin Burke and Hannah Lou Southwell McGowan attended the school when it first opened. Burke was in sixth grade and McGowan was in eighth.



Dr. John Lovejoy '56 received the duPont Distinguished Alumni Award. He attended the occasion with his wife, Harriet.

CSX employees plant trees, beautify campus

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

A diagram is almost necessary to understand the various educational configurations that Alfred I. duPont Middle School has comprised over the past 75 years. In 1942, when the school was built on Dupont Avenue in San Jose, it served students from grades one through nine, but in later years morphed into an elementary school, junior high, senior high, junior-senior high, middle school and as of this fall, a magnet middle school focusing on international business and world languages.

In order to celebrate all of its various forms since its inception, duPont alumni, faculty, and staff, as well as current students and a large contingent of CSX employees, celebrated with a campus beautification effort, alumni luncheon, and school tours April 30.

CSX employee Matthew Khomsi of Riverside spearheaded the beautification effort with help from 30 CSX colleagues and

a cadre of duPont students, who participate in the city's 5,000 "Role Models of Excellence" project. In addition to planting a lilac Chaste tree and three crape myrtles in the Quad at the rear of the school, the group weeded and spread mulch in the flower beds. CSX also donated two wrought-iron benches to be placed near the newly planted trees.

"If I could help organize one event and get some of the students to show an appreciation for the learning facility and its environment, I figured that would be a good thing," Khomsi said.

While the beautification efforts were in full swing, alumni from various decades arrived to take part in a ceremonial luncheon. The guest of honor was Dr. John Lovejoy, Class of 1956, an orthopedic surgeon from San Marco, who was awarded the "duPont Distinguished Alumni Award" by duPont Principal Marilyn Barnwell for his work providing medical care and equipment in Haiti.

When asked about the recognition, Lovejoy laughed. "Perhaps it is because I spent a lot of time in the principal's room and they straightened me out," he said, noting Mrs. Post and Principal John Keyton were in charge at that time.

Also speaking at the luncheon were Barnwell, duPont Assistant Principal

Erin Royce, Imogene McCreary, Parent-Teacher-Student Association president, Michael Sullivan, chairman of duPont's School Advisory Council, Wendi Orr and Lynn Mickler, who chaired the anniversary committee, and Barbara Maurer, a retired duPont teacher who gave a talk on "duPont, Then & Now."

Band music from 1954-1964, when William F. Swor led the duPont marching band before he attained national recognition as bandmaster at Louisiana State University, was played in duPont's media center during the luncheon. "People have told me during those days the music was so good neighbors would come out and listen during band practice," said Maurer.

Perhaps two of the oldest students to attend the anniversary celebration were Hannah Lou Southwell McGowan, who started eighth grade when duPont first opened its doors, and Joanne Martin Burke, who was in sixth grade at that time. "I'd been at Landon before. I thought coming here was the end of the earth, but it ended up being wonderful," McGowan said, adding that she met her husband, Charles, in duPont's eighth grade that year.

Two members of the Class of 1962, Gray Whittles and Chuck Marvin, and Philip

Mickler '60 recalled the area surrounding the school was very different during their high school days. "I lived two blocks away on Ponce de Leon, which was a dirt road. It was all woods around the school," Marvin said. "The housing that is around the school now was not here at that time."

"Old Kings Road was dirt. St. Augustine Road was a two-lane narrow humpback brick road," said Whittles. "Dupont Avenue was a drag strip. You hit that rise halfway down and you were airborne."

"I'm not sad to see the changes," said Marvin. "We probably caused it," said Mickler.

Having attended duPont every year from first through 12th grade, with the exception of 9th grade when she transferred to Landon High School, Charlotte Lohman Branch '59 said while many things about the school were different, still some were the same. "It's been so long. Some of the rooms I recognize and a lot, I don't. The lockers all look the same. The gym looks the same. In first grade we used to have walks in the woods across the street. There was nothing around here, just the country," she said, adding her son spent his eighth and ninth grade years at duPont. "It's been fun coming back. I'm very happy with what I see," she said.



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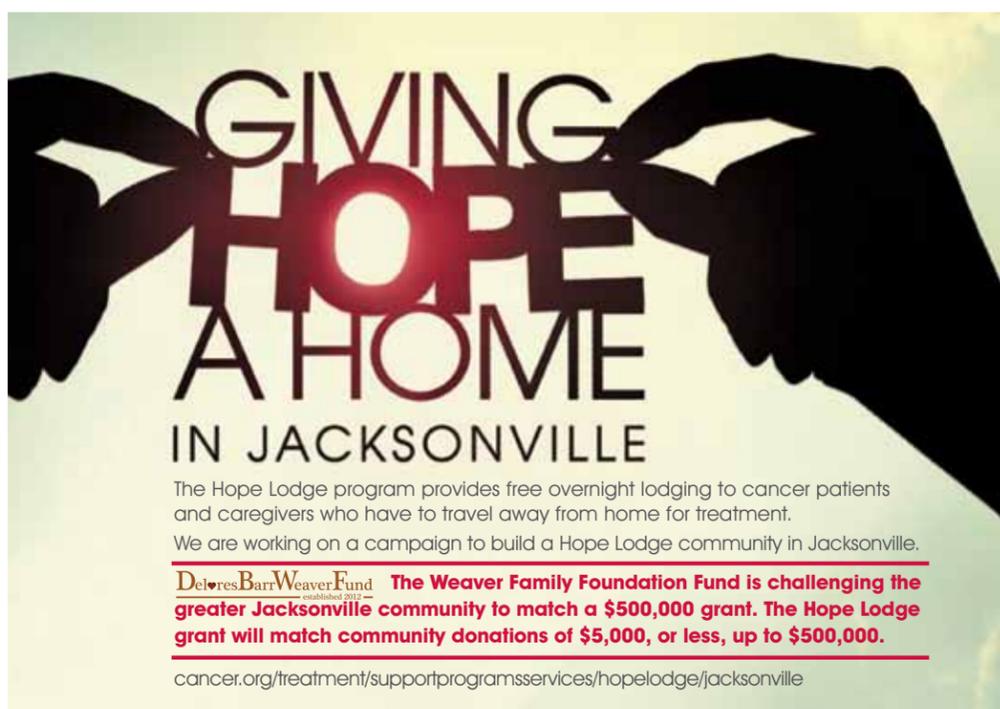
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cancer.org/treatment/supportprogramsservices/hopelodge/jacksonville

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- Leone, Hope Lodge major donor



Donate today, so more people can live with peace of mind while undertaking the challenge of their lives!

To learn more or get involved, contact Kellie Ann Kelleher, Campaign Director, at kellieann.kelleher@cancer.org or 904-391-3606.

Arbor Terrace San Jose: A Grand Beginning

Arbor Terrace San Jose held its grand opening in May, bringing a brand-new type of senior living community to the area. Families and health care professionals marked the occasion with vintage cocktails, antique cars and a live jazz band at the event on May 4.

The event included tours of the new, state-of-the-art community and an opportunity to meet residents and staff.

With its focus on residents with dementia, Arbor Terrace San Jose and the experienced team of professionals in the community will provide the highest quality in memory care. Memory care is a specialized approach to helping seniors with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias live an engaged life appropriate to their abilities.

"Our team is here to serve by engaging and enriching the lives of seniors with dementia and providing peace of mind for their families," said Corrine Eubanks, executive director of Arbor Terrace San Jose.

Located at 3760 Dupont Avenue in Jacksonville, Arbor Terrace San Jose offers a safe and caring environment dedicated exclusively to seniors living with Alzheimer's or dementia.

"We're thrilled to bring our cutting-edge approach to memory care to serve seniors and their families in the San Jose area," said Judd Harper, president of The Arbor Company. "We provide progressive levels of care that grow with our residents and their families, to ensure that each resident receives the care that is best for him or her, at the time that it's best."

Arbor Terrace San Jose's 60 units include two levels of security, designed to keep residents safe yet as independent as



possible, depending on their current level of abilities.

With nearly 30 years of experience, The Arbor Company's specialized approach includes three components: Dining with

Dignity, which promotes increased nutritional intake and helps residents maintain their independence as long as possible; Gem Levels, a positive approach to addressing each resident's needs and

abilities across the dementia spectrum; and the Engaged Living program, which enriches residents' lives by providing activities they can enjoy within their level of ability.

With the opening, Arbor Terrace San Jose helps address a growing need for dementia care; according to the Alzheimer's Association, nearly half a million Floridians are living with Alzheimer's or another form of dementia.

Jacksonville-based Whitehall Realty Partners owns the property and The Arbor Company operates it. The Arbor Company is an Atlanta-based operator of more than 28 independent living, assisted living and memory care communities, serving seniors in eleven states.

Arbor Terrace
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Arbor Terrace San Jose is currently accepting reservations.

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2016 Girls' Day Out Chair:

Patricia Calhoun, MD

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- Diet & Nutrition** – Casey-Sue Bonaquist, DO
- Hormones, Menopause & Sex** – Mary Ellen Wechter, MD
- Stroke Awareness** – Eric Sauvageau, MD
- Weight Management** – Pam Rama, MD
- Hip & Knee Pain** – Brett P. Frykberg, MD
- Joint, Bone & Muscle Health** – Megan Manthe, MD
- Stress Management** – Mona Shah, MD
- Sleep Deprivation** – Peter Nassar, MD
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Ralph Metzger

Caring For Our Elders, One Individual at a Time

Aging True, the nonprofit that enables home-based senior independence in Northeast Florida, has a philosophy counter to our culture's view that growing old is merely a period of decline.

The agency has been a trailblazer in the community by providing services that allow the elderly to remain independent. How appropriate then that the theme for this year's Older Americans Month is "Blaze a Trail."

Chosen for a month when flowers boast a colorful trail of blossoms, the Administration for Community Living wants to change the image of aging from simply wilting away to that of a perennial, which blooms once again.

For 84-year-old Ralph Metzger, a client of Aging True, having the opportunity to remain independent is about more than blossoming.

It is about freedom.

"I am grateful for the person who comes here from Aging True," explained Metzger. "I had a taste of assisted living when I was in rehab – no way, I want my freedom. Don't we all?"

Metzger, who has survived four bypass operations and nine weeks of radiation while battling prostate cancer, relies on Aging True for light housekeeping and three-times-a-week nurse visitations.

It has enabled Metzger to remain in his

own home, which is part of the mission of the nonprofit that focuses on enhancing the lives of the elderly.

By providing light housekeeping services, respite care and assistance with activities of daily living, clients of Aging True are equipped with the tools they need to retain home-based senior independence.

The organization, known as the Cathedral Foundation of Jacksonville, has been in operation since 1962, administering programs specifically designed to help seniors age gracefully.

"We really try to look at the specific obstacles facing seniors in our community and find practical solutions that for our clients, can make a world of difference," said Tourea Robinson, Director of Development at Aging True. "We strive to address not just the physical needs of the elderly such as their meals and home health care, but the life-enhancing programs as well."

These programs include support groups for depression, anxiety or grief and loss issues, as well as in-home individual counseling and even resources for medication and substance abuse.

Additionally, seniors who may be struggling with a financial crisis benefit from Aging True's assistance with daily money management. They even advocate for clients in applying for eligible benefits.

Donors of Aging True provide significant financial and operational support so that the agency is able to implement the necessary health, housing, educational, nutritional and home care programs.

Societies throughout history have always held the elderly in great esteem – relying on their wisdom, honoring the lifetime of their experience and respecting the contributions that haven't ceased, but like the garden, have merely evolved.

Thankfully, for Metzger and so many other elderly in northeast Florida, Aging True continues its trail blazing in weeding out obstacles which deter independence so that aging with dignity isn't part of a lost civilization.

Metzger said his parents taught him from a young age how important it is to be independent and that being old doesn't have to be synonymous with falling apart.

"Some people just say 'well I am old, I'm going to fall apart,'" explained Metzger. "It may mean you can't do everything, but sometimes you just need a little help. Through Aging True, God answered my prayer."

If you or a senior you know is in need of assistance, please contact Customer Relations Department at (904) 807-1203 or visit agingtrue.org.



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The Way We Were

After 50 years, San Marco cadets recall their days at Gordon Military College

Hijinks in the barracks, lessons on how to use a dial phone

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

It's been 50 years since members of the Class of 1966 received their high school diplomas, and while most recall their secondary public school experience as the "good ole days," the handful of Jacksonville students sent by their families to attend military school out of state recall their high school experience somewhat differently.

In 1964, 15 public Jacksonville high schools, including Alfred I. duPont and Landon High, were discredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, due to Duval County's "inadequate financial support." To avoid the stigma of a Duval County diploma and to feel confident their children would receive a quality education, many parents looked toward Gordon Military College in Barnesville, Georgia as an alternative.

"Gordon was founded nearly 100 years ago, not only as a private military school for boys, but also as the town high school for the city of Barnesville," said Tom Baber of San Marco, whose father chose to send him to Gordon as an alternative to Landon High. "Parents were looking every which way to get their kids in



Jacksonville members of Gordon Military College, Class of 1966 who attended their 50th class reunion in Barnesville, Georgia, were (back row) Judge Tyrie Boyer of San Marco and Peter Reems; front Henry Archie Ray, Jr. and Tom Baber of San Marco.

an accredited school. Kids from Jacksonville had a hard time going to college. I guess if you went to a state school, it was no problem, but if you wanted to go out of state, there were problems," he said, noting after graduating from Gordon he spent his first two years of college in the junior college there before transferring to the University of Miami. "Gordon offered a cost-effective way to get a diploma from an accredited high school with a good reputation for quality education."

Only four of the 15 Jacksonville members of the Class of 1966 attended their 50th reunion in May. Included in the ranks were two from San Marco, Tom Baber and Tyrie Boyer. Frank Carter, formerly of San Marco, also was in the class but did not make it to the reunion. Bill Barnett of San Marco also claims Gordon as his alma mater, but graduated from the military school the following year.

When Baber attended Gordon there were 144 in his class. The majority were boarding students from throughout the United States, and 79 were local, including 34 women who attended for the education and did not participate in the military program.

Gordon ceased to be a military college in 1973, when it was incorporated in the Georgia University system as Gordon State College. But Baber remembers it as a remote school, where the boarding students did not interact much with the locals other than at school. Gordon was a place where he didn't

have a car and the local girls did not associate much with the boarders.

When Baber and Boyer first arrived at the school, the telephone company had recently switched from operator-assisted "party line" phones to dial phones, causing the school to hold a special telephone class. "They taught everybody in the entire school how to operate a dial phone," Baber recalled. "We thought we were in the back woods."

Baber said the campus had changed after 50 years. "One of the locals told me the administration wanted to remove as much of the vestiges of the old Gordon as possible (including the cannon that was fired by the cadets every day)," he said, noting most of the barracks had been torn down as well as the college buildings and library. "The old gym was still there. It still felt like the same school," he said. "In the town, the old Dairy Queen was in the same place with the same sign. It looked the same. Back then there was no food service on Sunday night so we were on our own. Most of us ended up at Dairy Queen or other restaurants."

Boyer recalled the time his mother brought three girls up from Jacksonville so he and his friends could go to the prom, then hung around to chaperone, "to the chagrin of one couple." He also recalled his days in the barracks as a time of many practical jokes, which he illustrates in the following reminiscence:

"I was raised in the 1960s before marijuana

and other drugs became popular among teenagers in the South. However, we chased girls and swiped a little whiskey from our fathers' liquor cabinets. At least I did, which caused my parents to think I was not living up to my potential.

"Then something happened, which made it an easy decision for my parents to send me to military school: All of the high schools in Duval County were discredited. As a result, in January 1965, I moved to Barnesville, Georgia, to live in the barracks at Gordon Military College.

"If one could survive the barracks, the experience was positive. I say 'survive' because an awful lot of people did not last long and returned home in six months or a year.

"Most of the people living in the barracks were regular teenagers. However, several of my classmates selected Gordon Military College over reform school, a choice provided to them by a juvenile judge. "You may enroll in a military school or I will send you to reform school," was what the judge told my first roommate and his friends after they burglarized a hardware store after a night drinking. They chose military school.

"The first day I reported to the barracks, the radio played the song, "Mrs. Brown, You've got a Lovely Daughter." I was shown how to fold my underpants, undershirts and socks and where to store them. A demonstration was given on how to iron uniform shirts and trousers – use a Windex spray bottle filled with starch and water so our clothes were stiff as bricks. I also learned to make a bed with hospital corners and the top wool blanket so stiff a half dollar would bounce when tossed in the middle.

"Everything had a special place except the "civvies" in which I'd arrived. Barracks life began each morning with reveille. Within several minutes, every cadet was forced to stand at attention next to his door so the cadet with the most rank could make sure we were truly awake. I can attest it is possible to sleep while standing up because, believe it or not, sometimes cadets would remain standing long after being dismissed.

"Next, we had a short period of time to get dressed before reporting outside for the "Star-Spangled Banner." Those in charge of each company would announce "all present or accounted for." That was followed by a march to breakfast, which usually included something called SOS. High school, with excellent instructors, followed breakfast. All of the male teachers wore uniforms with officer rank insignia. ROTC and parade field exercises were also daily events.

"Life after dinner was controlled by cadets who had gained rank during the years I had spent at home in Jacksonville. When they passed us in the barracks hallway, we came to attention and pressed ourselves against the wall so our superiors could pass more easily.

"We had an hour before enforced study time, which lasted two hours. Then we prepared for the next day – unless those with rank interfered. At least once a week, the interference included some type of punishment administered by the cadet corporals, sergeants and lieutenants.

For instance, a whole barracks, except for the corporals, sergeants and lieutenants, would be ordered to do sit-

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Tyrie William Boyer, Class of 1966



Thomas M. Baber, Class of 1966



Pledger Delane (Pete) Reems, Class of 1966



Henry Archie Ray, Jr. Class of 1966



William Barnett, Class of 1967

ups and push-ups and leg lifts just before taps and lights out. Some individuals were singled out to assume the “dying cockroach position,” where the cadet would lie on his back with his legs and arms pointing toward the sky until exhaustion made it impossible. One especially innovative cadet in charge of Pound Hall barracks found several discarded tires, which he ordered particularly recalcitrant lower ranked cadets to place around their waists before running in circles until they collapsed. Although I was not a regular participant in that activity, I did have the opportunity to participate once or twice.

“If you lived in the barracks and had been promoted to sergeant or above, you were allowed to have a television in your room. Otherwise, the only way to have a TV was if everybody in the room was on the honor roll. I’m sure it frustrated some of our sergeants that my roommates and I stayed on the honor roll the entire time we were there. On multiple occasions we were asked to show our report cards to prove we qualified.

“Practical jokes were constant in the barracks. I had flip-flops, which I wore to and from the showers daily. They were the first thing I put on when I got out of bed. One morning I stepped into my flip-flops and started toward the latrine, only to fall on my face. The flip-flops had been nailed to the wooden floor. Another time, I became mortally ill at breakfast causing me to report to the infirmary. When I got out the next day, I found out someone had put Burma-Shave into my toothpaste tube, another cruel practical joke.

“Of course, I could give as well as take. Along with my roommates, I regularly short-sheeted other cadets’ bunks, making the sheet so short anyone taller than four feet would not be able to extend his legs. We also safety pinned underclothes together, causing other cadets to remove the entire shelf of underwear while choosing an undershirt after a shower.

“Although most of us did not have whiskers, we still shaved once a week. We were told shaving helped prevent acne. There was one brand of shaving cream that could spray its contents 10 feet or more. It was not unusual for shaving cream fights to break out. Sometimes when we found a cadet sound asleep, we gently put some shaving cream into his hand. Someone would tickle his nose with a feather – hoping the sleeper would slap it away. It did not always work, but when it did ... well you can imagine.

“During my junior year, I took chemistry along with my roommate who had burglarized the hardware store. Believe it or not, he got our teacher to allow him to do a science project on distillation. Guess what we brewed under our bunkbed? That was the first white lightning I ever tasted.

“The next year, my roommate and I sneaked liquor from home into the barracks and worked hard to hide it. We removed the screws from behind the speakers of his stereo and opened up the back. It was the perfect storage spot, and we were never caught.

“Occasionally we would sneak muriatic acid from the chemistry lab back to the barracks. We added the acid to some cadets’ Windex bottles containing the starch and water mixture. When first sprayed onto a

shirt or pants before ironing, nothing was apparent. However, when the iron was touched the cloth it would scorch, turn brown and brittle like ancient paper. An arm or a leg from the garment would burn off at once.

“I remember one of my friends and I returning from the Christmas holidays with a Christmas decoration called “angel hair.” It was supposed to look like snow and was made of white fiberglass. Accordingly, it was not readily visible when we decided to put it in another cadet’s perfectly stored underpants. Before breakfast was finished, he was scratching like a hound and had developed a rash that looked like measles. He went to the infirmary where they gave him some sort of pajamas sans underwear. In a day or two the itching stopped and the rash disappeared until he came back to the barracks. After he once again wore the fiberglass-infused underwear, back to the infirmary he went.

“I was fortunate to quit smoking by the age of 20, but at Gordon I was a regular smoker, two packs a day. Cigarettes cost 25 cents per pack, and nobody prevented smoking in or around the barracks or between classes. It seemed like everybody had a Zippo lighter and lighter fluid. You could spray an entire can of lighter fluid under somebody’s door and it would not be noticed until you lit it from the outside. The flames on the inside always caused a commotion.

“When we were not playing pranks on one another, we played poker and gambled our allowance. I read a book called “Poker According to Maverick” (a vintage poker instruction book printed in 1959), and soon

became pretty good at five-card stud, seven-card stud, and five-card draw. We did not play many wild-card games. We also played a lot bridge and chess, but not for money.

“After getting a pass for a four-day weekend, one of my buddies, the roommate who chose Gordon over reform school, and I hitchhiked in uniform to New Orleans. Our parents would have been terrified had they known. We funded the trip using money we had won playing poker in the barracks. It was legal to drink in Louisiana at age 18; but since we were 17 we had to make fake IDs before we left. At that time, Georgia driver’s licenses did not require photographs, and it was fairly easy to make a fake license.

“To get back at the cadets with rank who abused their authority too often, “blanket parties” were held from time to time. Someone on the top bunk would throw a blanket over the head of the abuser so he could not identify the partakers. Other cadets would hit the covered victim with their fists. I can honestly say I never participated in such an ambush, but I did know when some such events were to occur and I kept my mouth shut. In retrospect, I regret I did not warn the unfortunate recipients.

“With all the hijinks that occurred in the barracks, it was good to be on guard. But, by and large, it really was not a dangerous place to live. Although I never achieved a rank higher than PFC (private first class), I truly believe Gordon Military College helped me prepare for the rest of my life. It surely helped when I joined the military and went through basic training, AIT (Advanced Individual Training) and OCS (Officer Candidate School),” said Boyer.

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Undefeated, Landon wins middle school golf championship



The Julia Landon College Preparatory School golf team with Coach Booker Harris and Principal Tim Feagins

The Julia Landon College Preparatory School golf team put an exclamation point on its perfect season when it finished the year as Duval County middle school champion.

In its inaugural year, the co-ed team consisting of eight boys and two girls were undefeated, competing against six Duval County middle school golf programs. The Lions capped the season by winning the Duval County Middle School Championship at Brentwood Golf Course May 2 in a very close nine-hole match against Fletcher

Middle School and Twin Lakes Middle School. Landon scored 159 to defeat Fletcher by only three strokes.

Landon's Sam Davis, a sixth-grader, took individual honors when he shot one over par for a low score of 35.

Joining Davis on the Landon team were Will Davis, Henry Jackson, Jack Lunitz, Griffin Noel, Anton Roche, Ryan Sykora, Julia Wallace, Imani Williams and Eric Su. The team was coached by Booker Harris, who also coaches Landon football and track.

Bolles wins gold at International Science Fair

Ann Maris Walton and Sneha Reddy, both sophomores at The Bolles School, took home the gold during the International Sustainable World Energy, Engineering and Environmental Project Olympiad (ISWEEEP), April 27-May 1 in Houston, Texas.

Walton and Reddy were the only gold medal winners at ISWEEEP from Northeast Florida, and produced one of only two projects from the state of Florida to win gold medals at the international level.

The girls' project was titled, "The Effects of Sulforaphane

on Hyphal Connections on Mycorrhizal Fungi." They competed in the fiercely competitive category of Environmental-Management and Pollution. In addition to the gold medal, the students were awarded \$6,000 scholarships to North American University in Houston, Texas, as well as a cash award of \$1,500.

The project was one of 385 projects from 62 countries displayed at the George R. Brown Convention Center. The competition drew 564 student researchers and 300 teachers.

Walton and Reddy set a school record by being admitted to the competition through a rigorous application process. Invitations for United States students to participate in ISWEEEP is usually based on performance at regional and state science fairs. The girls' application was reviewed by ISWEEEP organizers for content, safety, rigor, originality and real world environmental application. Less than one percent of participants who compete in the event are accepted through the process of application, said Bolles science instructor Brad Bullington. Walton and Reddy's win marks the first time Bolles students have applied for contest participation and won a gold medal.



Sneha Reddy and Ann Maris Walton

Youth sailors compete in San Francisco

Will Weinbecker, of St. Nicholas, has been invited to join the U.S. Optimist Development Team, thanks to an excellent performance at the prestigious U.S. Optimist National Team Trials in San Francisco. As part of the development team, Weinbecker will travel and practice for the next year with the top 60 Opti sailors in the country.

Weinbecker, along with Reedy Monahan, of Ortega Forest and Wes Myler, of Ortega, sails competitively as part of the Year Round Youth Sailing Program at the Florida Yacht Club. The boys were the first sailors in the area to attend the U.S. Optimist National Team Trials, held early in April.

To attend the event, Weinbecker, Myler and Monahan needed to finish in the top 25 percent in one of 11 major Regional or National Regattas. They joined the top 250 Optimist Sailors in the country to spend four days on the windy and rough San Francisco Bay waters.

Weinbecker was the top finisher of the group and made the Gold Fleet, which is the top one-third of the racers at the Team Trials.

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Wes Myler, Reedy Monahan and Will Weinbecker

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Cumber curator Holly Keris, with volunteers Candace Bridgewater in the back, Cathy vanBrederode, Mary Summers, Rachel Kamm, Holly Green, Joyce Hanson



Students from LaVilla School for the Arts mime for visitors at the Very Special Arts Festival.

Cummer hosts 21st annual VSA Festival

By *Kate A. Hallock*
Resident Community News

For the 21st year in a row, the Cumber Museum of Art & Gardens invited nearly 2,000 elementary school students with disabilities into its galleries and onto its meticulously groomed gardens.

Over a four-day period during the first week in May, 1,286 volunteers welcomed 1,807 students and 617 teachers and chaperones from 39 schools to enjoy art, music and nature at the Riverside museum during the 2016 Very Special Arts Festival.

Carefully escorted from art station to station, the boys and girls were introduced to fine art in a way they would probably not experience if not for the VSA Festival.

“This is a place where children of varying abilities can be successfully engaged in their own personal creative expressions, experiencing art in the museums, listening to live musicians perform for them,” said Hope McMath, executive director of the Cumber.

VSA is an international organization, and the local affiliate is housed at the Cumber, the only museum in the country that conducts the Very Special Arts festival within its walls.

“Someone asked ‘Don’t you get nervous with all these people in the museum at one time?’” said McMath. “We’ve gotten used to that now, but the year we started we were in between executive directors, so there wasn’t really anyone who could say no.”

All the activities developed are adaptive for the disabilities, said McMath, noting the art projects in the galleries directly link to the art on the walls. “There is a very specific curriculum we develop each year and it’s done in the schools before the kids get here,” she said. “This is not just a school field trip. It’s more than that to be meaningful.”

In fact, the curriculum is totally different every year so that for students who come back each year the experience is new and fresh. “We’ve only repeated two activities during those 21 years,” said McMath.

The festival is free to the schools which are selected to participate. Within two days of opening registration, the list is filled with students from public and private schools within a five-county area. Some years the waiting list has been as high as 1,800, according to McMath.

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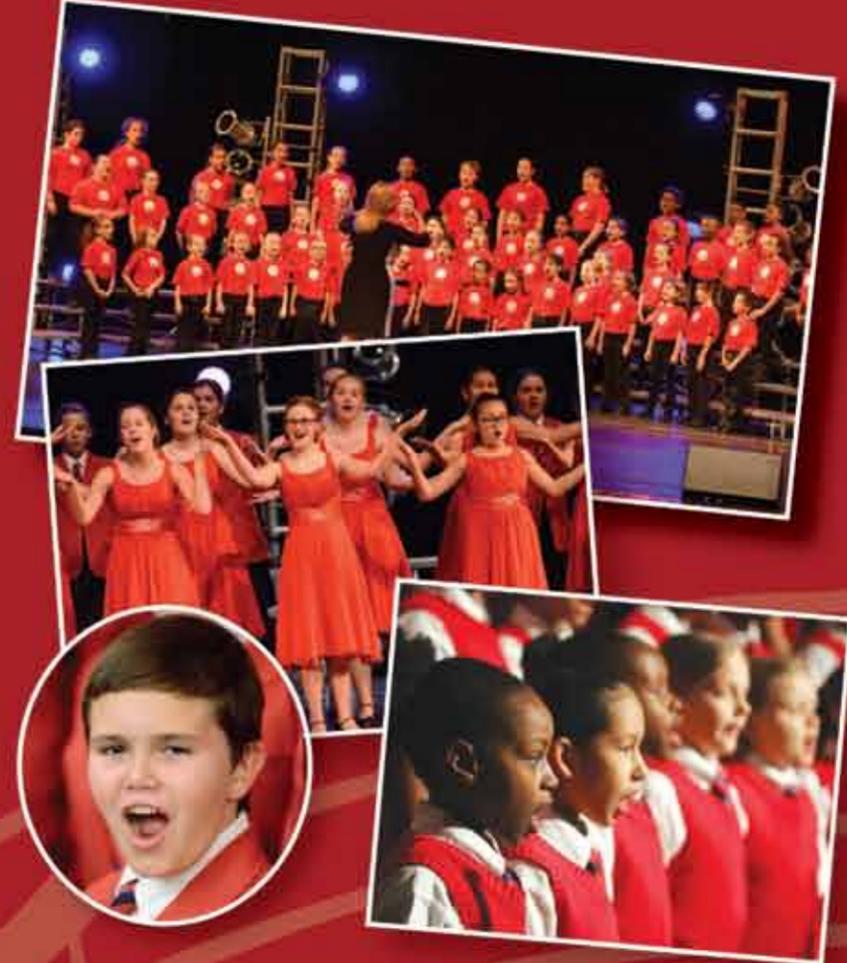
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Caroline Goodwin takes center stage in the play "Honk! Junior" performed by students at Assumption School April 30.



Rose Montana and Nina Saldajeno perform in the play "Honk! Junior" at Assumption School April 30.

Honking good actors perform at Assumption

Assumption School students put their own spin on the story "The Ugly Duckling," when they performed the show "Honk! Junior" for classmates, families and Assumption parishioners April 30 at the school.

The play, which follows the story of Ugly, a duckling that doesn't look like his brothers and sisters, starred eighth graders Sean Layfield as Ugly and Nina Saldejeno as his devoted mother, Ida. Others in the

play included Ethan Brehm, Rodney Wells and Mary Catherine Rogero, as well as an ensemble of nearly 30 students in fourth through eighth grades.

Student Sarah Albee choreographed the play, which was directed by Erin Barnes, Assumption's music teacher, and Kelly Gelwicks, who teaches art at the school. Senora Tensi De Soto, Assumption's Spanish instructor, made many of the costumes by hand.

DA wins Grammy recognition



Douglas Anderson students Tanner Hess, Makobi Marshall, Amanda Brenton, Reggie Hall and Zoey Luz join Grammy Foundation representative Dennis Marks in accepting the school's 2016 Grammy Award as a Gold Signature School.



Douglas Anderson Music Department Chairman Ace Martin joins Grammy representative Dennis Marks and school principal Jackie Cornelius in accepting a \$3,500 grant from the Grammy Foundation as well as the foundation's 2016 Gold Signature School designation.

The Music Department at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts has been selected as one of the top three high school music programs in the country by the Grammy Foundation. DA was selected as a 2016 Gold Signature School, and will receive a \$3,500 grant from the Foundation to benefit the school's music department.

Dennis Marks, a Grammy representative who is an assistant music professor at the University of North Florida and director of the elite UNF jazz band, presented the award during a ceremony April 26, preceding DA's spring jazz concert. According to Ace Martin, DA's music department chair and jazz director, it is the 10th time the arts magnet school has received a Grammy award, the most of any school in the country besides Las Vegas Academy. In the past, DA has been recognized twice as a National Grammy Signature School, three times as a Gold

Grammy Signature School, and five times as a Grammy Signature School.

"This nationwide recognition illustrates the high level of music and intensive arts study provided at Douglas Anderson," said DCPS school board member Ashley Smith Juarez. "It is a tribute to the teachers and students who work so diligently, and understand the lasting benefits of a musical education."

The award honors the entire music program at Douglas Anderson: instrument, vocal, piano, guitar, electronic music, recording arts and intensive study of musical theory. The school previously won the National Signature Award in 2010 and 2012.

"We are always focused on achieving excellence both in performance and curriculum," said Martin, "and it is quite an honor for our students and faculty to be recognized on a national level."

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San Jose Catholic students explore STARBASE Jacksonville



To hone their science skills, sixth graders from San Jose Catholic enjoyed a five-day field trip to STARBASE at the Jacksonville International Airport.

For five days in April, sixth graders from San Jose Catholic were able to “explore strange new worlds” and “go boldly to a place” they had never gone before.

The students attended the STARBASE Program, a five-day curriculum held at the Florida Air National Guard 125th base in at Jacksonville International Airport. STARBASE targets national benchmarks for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) through a hands-on program dedicated to improving STEM skills in students from fifth through eighth grade. The students interacted with mentors and positive role models doing hands-on math and science activities that help develop teamwork and goal-setting skills.

Established in 1994, STARBASE Florida works in partnership with the Florida Air National Guard and the Duval County School system to provide a special educational experience for students in Jacksonville. A national education program, which is sponsored by the Department of Defense, Jacksonville’s STARBASE program is one of 75 in the United States. It is free to all schools, and the only cost associated with the program is to cover transportation for the students to get to the FANG 125th base at the airport.

During the five-day field trip, the children had the opportunity to visit many work places on the base and tour technologically advanced aircraft such as the F-15, C-26 and C-130.

Sheppard tops in Scholastic Challenge

Hannah Sheppard, a sixth grader at San Jose Episcopal Day School was named Florida State Champion in the 2016 Scholastic Challenge.

Hosted by the American Scholastic Achievement League, the Scholastic Challenge is an online academic contest for sixth and eighth graders. More than 4,500 sixth graders from around the United States participated in the 100-question contest this year. Sheppard received the top score among Florida sixth graders.



Hannah Sheppard

High School seniors gather to celebrate new beginnings



Members of the San Jose Episcopal Day School 2010 sixth grade graduating class returned to their alma mater to rekindle old friendships before heading to college in the fall.

In May, the 2010 sixth grade graduating class from San Jose Episcopal Day School returned to the campus where they spent their elementary school days in order to celebrate “new beginnings.”

Joined by their parents, the group, which are currently seniors in high school, shared a special chapel service and reception rekindling bonds made from their primary school days as they look forward to college.

The 2010 SJEDS class will attend a number of impressive colleges in the fall including Georgia Tech, University of Notre Dame, University of Florida, University of South Carolina, Auburn University, Flagler College, University of Georgia, Jacksonville University, Florida State University, Stevenson University, Pratt Institute, Northeastern University, North Carolina State University, the University of Alabama, University of Mississippi, Savannah College of Art and Design, the University of West Florida and the University of Miami.

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A NOTE FROM ONE OF THE OWNERS

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NEIGHBORS



Keith Keller with Brody Mano
(Hawaiian for shark)

Well-rounded waterman also a hometown hero

BY KATE A. HALLOCK
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Epping Forest Yacht and Country Club Harbormaster Keith Keller is passionate about water sports.

In 1981, just a few days before turning 12, Keith Keller put his Boy Scout life-saving skills to good use. For his in-water cross-body resuscitation effort that ultimately saved the life of an 18-year-old family friend, Keller was nominated for a Carnegie Hero Award by Rep. Charlie Bennett. Although he did not receive that particular award, Keller was given the Duval County and City of Jacksonville Citizens Medal of Honor for Bravery and Heroism, the National Enquirer Hero Award, and recognition from the Florida Times-Union. Since then, life has just gotten more interesting.

Best post-high school job: Taught snorkeling for 18 months at Club Med in the Yucatan on the Palancar Reef in Punta Nizuc, Mexico.

Favorite local surf site: "Probably my favorite spot is the "Mayport Poles" at Hannah Park and then surfing along the coast north of Jacksonville in the Little Talbot Island area."

When avocation trumps vocation: After majoring in history, minoring in physical anthropology at UNF, followed by 16 years with Black Creek Outfitters, Keller became Epping Forest Yacht & Country Club's new harbormaster July 2014.

Because a full-time job isn't enough: Keller teaches canoeing, kayaking, surfing, snorkeling and stand-up paddle boarding on the side. He is also an educator in the American Canoe Association, and Assistant Scout Master for Troop 35.

Proof he has a great deal of patience: Watched Ally McBeal every Monday night for a year and a half before moving his friendship with Heather Park into a relationship. They married Oct. 20, 2001.

Random personal fact: Named his 14-year-old son, Sebastian, after Sebastian Inlet, a favorite surfing spot. "Also, the word has the connotation of being a strong, protective place."

Best father's advice: Develop a "you will never know unless you go" mentality. "My parents gave me the travel bug, so from Day 1 after Sebastian was born, we take several important trips a year, and one of our weeks is spent traveling or enjoying a beloved destination with my parents to this day. The world needs to be explored!"

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