

San Jose – San Marco – St. Nicholas

Community News

# Resident



## The House That Love Built celebrates \$12.5 million addition

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

The man himself – Ronald McDonald – was on hand when distinguished visitors, families and staff of San Marco’s Ronald McDonald House celebrated the opening of its new \$12.5 million addition Sept. 21 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and much fanfare.

Assisting the happy clown in cutting the ribbon was Mary Virginia Terry, one of several prominent donors whose names now adorn the new renovation.

Speaking at the event were Ronald McDonald House Executive Director

Diane Boyle, Capital Campaign Chairman Ryan Schwartz, Board President Jonathan Andersen and 13-year-old Cole Fox, a former resident of the house.

“We are so grateful to the community of Jacksonville that have supported this building. They have supported our vision of the future that all children that need to come to Jacksonville for medical treatment will have a place to stay. This is such a compassionate community,” said Boyle.

The new addition includes a new rooftop garden, 26 new bedrooms, a

volunteer kitchen, music loft, stair tower and renovated kitchen and dining area.

“We have built one of the finest Ronald McDonald Houses in the global system,” said Boyle, who gave a shout-out to staff members, Shelli Martin of San Marco, who planted the rooftop garden, Lisa Brock, the facilities manager who oversaw the day-to-day building of the new addition and Carol Harrison, Ronald McDonald House’s development director, who worked tirelessly to ensure the funds would be there to make build the new addition.

REAL MEN WEAR PINK WORKS HERE

CEO of Downtown Vision, Inc., Jake Gordon said he doesn’t subscribe to the outdated notions of colors reflecting gender norms. Read why Real Men wear pink on page 12



## PUBLIX PLANS STILL ALIVE

Although there is no activity on the barren parcel of land slated to become East San Marco, members of Regency Corporation want to assure San Marco residents that the long-awaited Publix is still coming. Read more, page 9

## GUEST MUSICIANS SEEKING PILLOWS

Hey, buddy, can you spare a room? Symphony seeks lodging for out-of-town musicians. Read more, page 4

## Humane Society raises a glass for medical funding

The top fundraising event for animals under the care of the Jacksonville Humane Society got a big boost this year at Toast to the Animals. Thanks to generous corporate support, food and beverage vendors and a great turnout, the event continues to fund various initiatives for the organization. This year’s funds will benefit homeless animals in need of various medical services. Read more, page 24



Event Chair and Jacksonville Jaguars General Manager Dave Caldwell with Missie Sarra LePrel, Event Chair Joelle Caldwell and Sam LePrel

## Coffee house planned for San Marco Boulevard

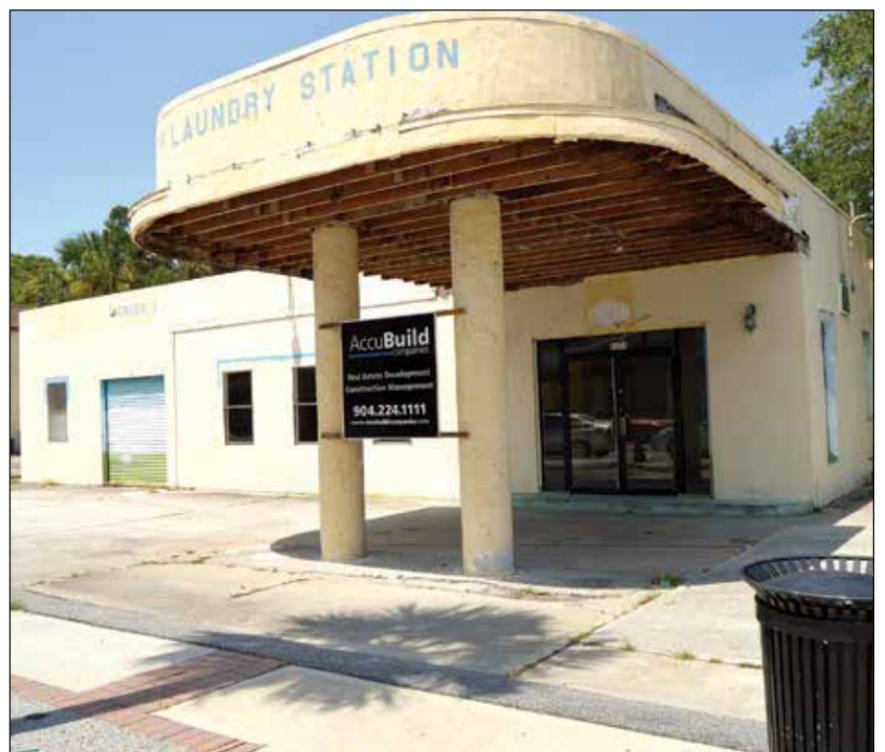
By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

After taking more than a year to “find the best thing for the community,” San Marco developer Mark Rubin has decided to build a coffee house in the old Laundry Station building he owns at 1604 San Marco Boulevard.

Although he purchased the property for \$50,000 in March 2015, the old dry cleaner building has lain dormant while Rubin’s development firm, AccuBuild Companies, investigated exactly what kind of small restaurant would be suitable for the location.

At press time, Rubin had not yet filed an application with the city, but said he intends to do so in the next few weeks. Once his application is approved by the Planning Commission, the renovation will move quickly, he said, adding he expects the new coffee shop to open its doors by January 1, 2017.

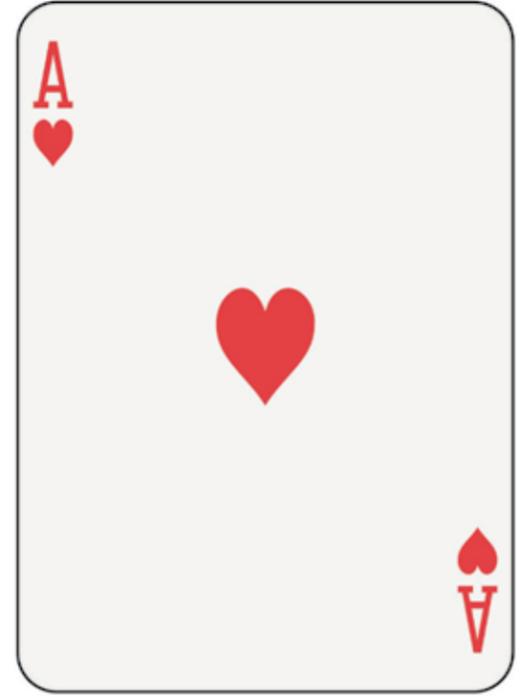
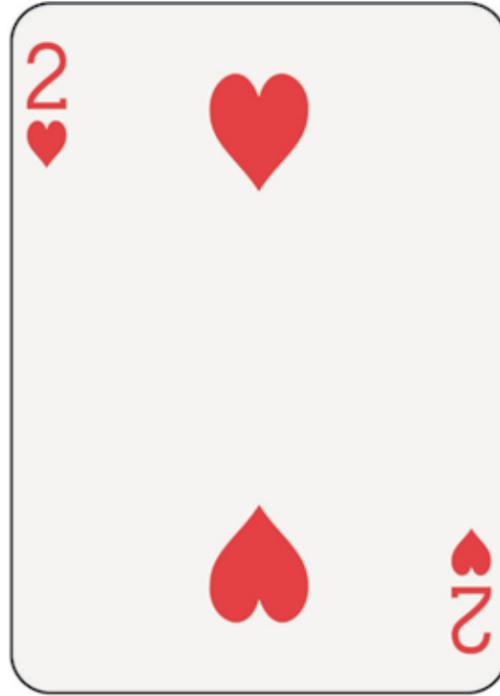
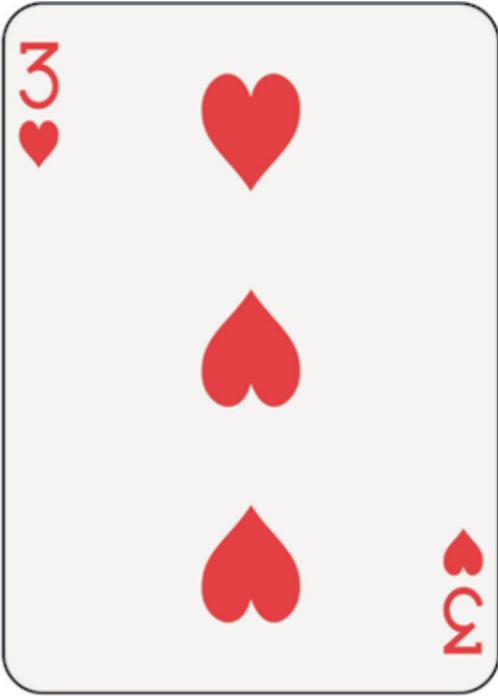
Continued on page 9



If all goes as planned, a site previously used as a gas station and a dry cleaner at 1604 San Marco Boulevard is slated to become a new coffee shop.

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# No parking news yet for Flying Iguana

*Overland Bridge completion delayed; Boyer seeking public parking for the Southbank and North San Marco*

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

Although Flying Iguana's Attorney Paul Harden has indicated to San Marco Preservation Society officials that he has come up with a parking plan for Al Mansur's newest restaurant, he has not yet shared anything concrete with the city, said City Council President Lori Boyer during a meeting with the San Marco Merchants Association Sept. 21 at Southside Baptist Church.

On Sept. 16, Harden contacted San Marco Preservation Society President LeAnna Cumber asking that she and Boyer get together with him to discuss his parking solution because he has hopes to move the application forward in early October, Boyer said.

"I reached out to the Planning Department and asked, 'Have you seen a solution? Do you approve of the solution? Have you written a staff report?' and the answer was no," she said. "They don't know anything about it. They haven't seen anything, and they haven't heard anything."

At a special town hall meeting sponsored by the San Marco Preservation Society July 14, Harden agreed to adhere with the Preservation Society's request to hold another town hall meeting prior to the application coming before the Planning Commission. There should be two weeks advanced notice given to the public prior to the Town Hall meeting, Boyer said.

"We are at least three or four weeks out because we don't have a town hall meeting scheduled," she said. "That is the update I can provide you. I have seen nothing in

terms of what this parking solution might be nor has staff"

## Overland Bridge Project

The Overland Bridge Project, which is being constructed by the Florida Department of Transportation, is running five months behind schedule, said Boyer. Due to be completed by December of this year, the current estimate now is that construction on the project will be finished in late spring, she said.

The landscape phase will begin after construction has finished and has not yet been funded, Boyer said, noting she believes funding may be appropriated in July 2017 when the state budget is approved.

"There is always a delay between the construction phase and the landscape phase," Boyer said. "I think that is unfortunate, but they (FDOT) finish everything then put their (landscape) design out to bid."

During a meeting in early 2015, a small group of residents met with FDOT officials to discuss the landscaping part of the project, particularly around the retention pond near Atlantic Boulevard and Phillips Highway as well as the "sound wall" near the South Shores neighborhood, she said.

At that time the group asked FDOT to landscape the pond area so that it would be an "attractive feature." They also wanted the sound wall area "softened" because it backs up to a residential neighborhood, she said.

The group of residents was not as concerned about the portion of the project that backs up to the interstate, Boyer said. "DOT wants to put palm trees along there. That is their signature 'Welcome to Florida' image. We did not object to it, but in the other area we were looking for something other than palm trees," she said, noting she has not yet seen a preliminary design for the landscaping.

## Southbank parking

Boyer said she has been working with FDOT, the Downtown Investment Authority (DIA) and the Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) for more than a year seeking additional public parking under various bridges near the Southbank.

Potentially more than 500 spaces may be available to the public very soon, she said.

Specifically, she said there are two corner parking lots at the intersection of San Marco Boulevard and Prudential, which provide a total of 67 spaces, while under the Acosta Bridge next to River City Brewing there are 202 spaces which could provide public parking for those visiting the Southbank Riverwalk or the Museum of Science and History.

Under the Fuller Warren Bridge between Palm Avenue and San Marco Boulevard there is lot with approximately 100 spaces, which is currently used by Baptist Health and will continue that way until the Baptist completes construction of its new parking structure planned for the Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center, she said. "During the construction phase, they are willing for it to be available on nights (after 5 p.m.) and weekends. It is a nice lot south of the railroad tracks that might be available from a shuttle perspective," Boyer said.

Also in the mix is a lot directly across the street under the overpass near Sherwood's Bar, located at 1105 San Marco Blvd. The JTA-controlled lot, which is leased by Baptist Health during the day, may become available for public parking nights and weekends under a separate negotiation with JTA, she said.

Also on Hendricks Avenue is a lot between Hendricks and Kings Road which is open for public parking, she said.

DIA has allocated \$500,000 in its budget for lighting, striping and other things to make these parking lots

available to the public, Boyer said. The budget was discussed by the City Council the last week of September.

"I would think you should expect that within a year and maybe in substantially less time these lots will be open and available," Boyer told the merchants. "We're in the process of negotiating the agreements and signing them now with DOT. It will take probably a couple of months, but that is something you can look forward to, and it should help merchants along Hendricks Avenue and along Kings Road and in the northern part of San Marco," she said. "I know, depending on how those lots are used, that you have trolley discussions coming up. If another remote parking lot came up later, that might be helpful to you as well," she said.

## Future trolley for San Marco?

As Boyer alluded to, the San Marco Merchants Association is currently in discussions with JTA about leasing a shuttle or trolley service between the Square and various locations Downtown and on the Southbank, said Robert Harris at the SMMA meeting. So far three potential routes and numbers have been discussed for a service that might run between 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., but nothing has been set in stone, he said.

"Lori (Boyer) grabbed me when I came in and told me not to discuss it in great detail," Harris said, indicating that nothing has been finalized. "She wants to wait until things settle in."

Harris said it would energize the area if they could get a shuttle run of any kind "that has San Marco written all over it."

"We hope to shuttle people easily to and from downtown all along the corridor from I-95 up Hendricks, and up Kings," said SMMA President Anita Vining. "We are branching out and we need to keep everyone connected."



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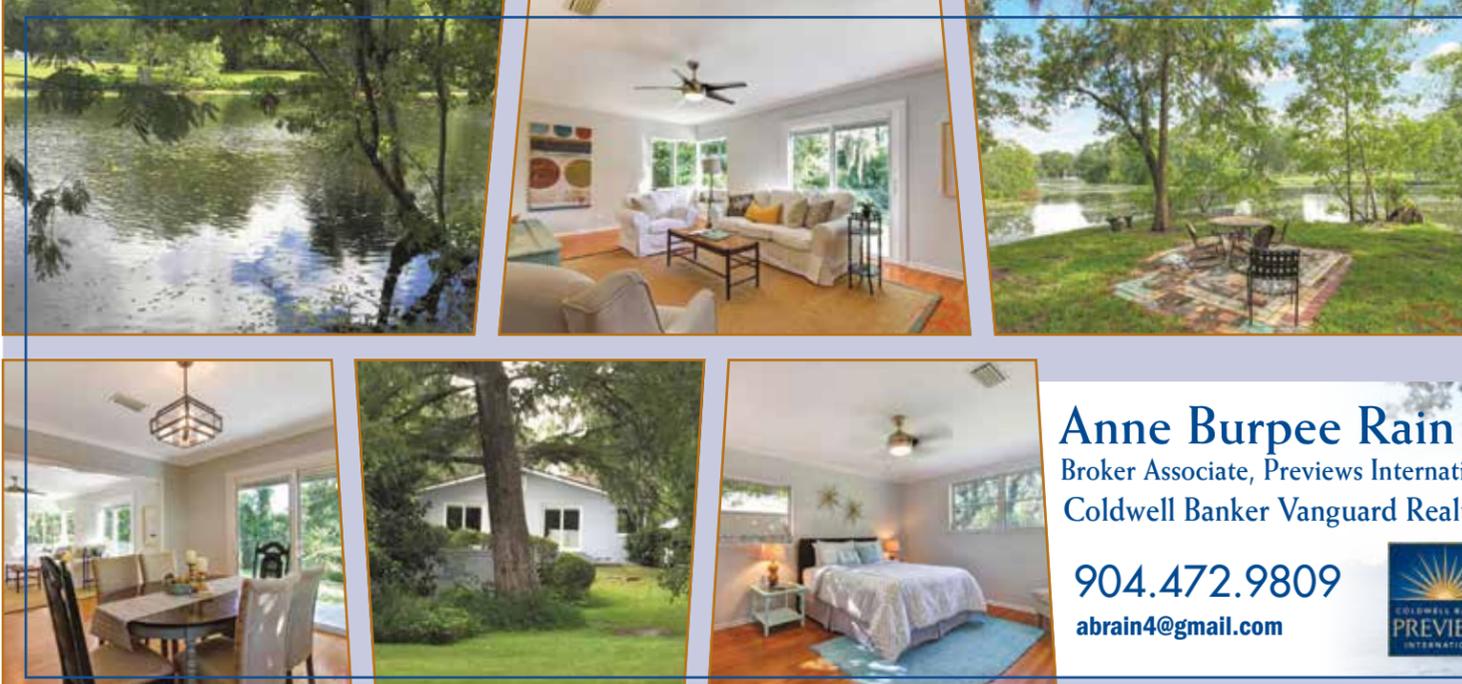
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# City symphony seeks lodging for out-of-town musicians

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

In an effort to save money, the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra is looking for local residents to host visiting musicians in their homes when the out-of-town musicians perform in concerts.

During a Downtown Dwellers group meeting at the Museum of Science and History Sept. 27, Tony Nickle, Jacksonville Symphony director of artistic operations, beseeched Downtown and Southbank residents to open their guest rooms in an

effort to help the symphony keep the costs of accommodating the musicians when they come to Jacksonville to perform.

“The national trend is down for many performing arts organizations while ours is up,” explained Nickle. “We’re growing, and we’re shrinking our deficit and moving toward balancing our budget. But with growth comes this additional burden before us.”

Ticket sales for each Symphony performance are up 16 percent over last season, causing the orchestra to increase its Master Works performances from 10 to 12 and its Pops performances from eight to 12, Nickle said. Much of this is due to new leadership at the helm of the orchestra. Music Director Courtney Lewis and President/CEO Robert Massey both finished their first full seasons with the Symphony. The city ensemble also has several new board members as well as new talent in its administration, he said.

Currently the symphony employs 54 full-time and 12 part-time tenured musi-

cians who live in Jacksonville. Much of the music that has been selected this year requires more musicians than are currently employed by the Symphony, causing musicians from other cities to be asked to moonlight in Jacksonville, Nickle said. The Symphony’s first concert Sept. 30 in Jacoby Hall required 98 musicians to perform Stravinsky’s *The Rite of Spring*, he said.

“We can fill a lot of the chairs locally, but there are times when we have to go out of state to accommodate our needs,” said Nickle.

The out-of-towners are required to stay approximately four to six nights for a Master Works performance and two to three nights for a weekend Pops performance, said Nickle. Even with a discounted room at Jacksonville’s Omni Hotel, which is an “extremely generous” sponsor of the Symphony, the cost can run up as high as \$500 per concert for each musician, he said.

“That can eat half a pay check for the week,” said Nickle, adding it can be hard to convince musicians to play in Jackson-

ville if the cost comes out of their pockets. However, if the Symphony is required to “supplement” their salaries by paying for their board, the total cost for boarding all the out-of-towners can “rack up quickly throughout the season,” he said.

It is the Symphony’s hope it can “begin an on-going housing relationship” with downtown residents for the out-of-town musicians, Nickle said, noting the orchestra is willing to extend special membership benefits to individuals or corporations willing to offer suitable lodging.

“We are here as tenants of your downtown,” Nickle said to the Dwellers crowd, which mostly lives in apartments or condominiums on Jacksonville’s Southbank and Northbank. “If any one of you has a guest room or suite that might be available and would be interested in putting up a musician, let us know.”

To offer a room to the Symphony, contact Tony Nickle at [tnickle@jaxsymphony.org](mailto:tnickle@jaxsymphony.org) or call (904) 354-5470.

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# Downtown Dwellers group seeks leadership

The Downtown Dwellers group is seeking new leadership.

During its semi-annual meeting Sept. 27 at the Museum of Science and History, Downtown Dwellers co-chairman Sandra Fradd of the Southbank announced that she and co-chair Dorothy Merrick of the Northbank plan to step down this year.

“We have other obligations so we want to see if someone else would like to maintain this group,” said Fradd after the meeting. “We need new people to carry it on.”

As chairmen, Fradd and Merrick arranged for speakers to address Downtown residents about subjects pertinent to the special group of residents living within the confines of Jacksonville’s Downtown. The meetings are held twice a year, routinely in March or April and then usually after school begins in September or October, Fradd said.

During its meeting Sept. 27, Nat Ford, chief executive officer of the Jacksonville Transportation Authority spoke on the subject of “What the Future Looks Like: Current Initiatives, Jax Regional Transportation Center & Skyway.”

Also addressing the group were Jill Enz, manager of SouthBank Riverwalk Support for the City of Jacksonville and Tom Fallin, engineer of the NorthBank Riverwalk Project.



Dorothy Merrick, Sandra Fradd

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## Kudos to city on effort to reduce congestion, speeding

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

During the past year the City of Jacksonville has made a big effort to appease River Road residents when it comes to speeding traffic on the street in front of their homes, and one voice among the residents' grassroots effort wants the city to know that it has made a difference.

River Road resident Pat Andrews said she wants the community to know that although "things are not perfect" she has seen some positive effects come from the city's efforts.

In July 2015, after homeowners residing on several neighborhood streets petitioned for signs to slow area traffic, the speed limit was lowered from 30 mph to 20 mph on River Road and its adjoining feeder streets. Most recently, a section of River Road between Landon Avenue and Laverne Street in front of Riverfront Park was converted to a one-way street heading north in an effort to relieve the area of speeding and congestion stemming from public fishing in Riverfront Park.

Changing the direction of the road so that cars only travel one-way in front of the "San Marco beach" on River Road has reduced the volume of cars traveling along the San Marco street closest to the St. Johns River, said Andrews. "It's good. I'm happy they did it. There has been progress," she said. "It's reduced the volume but not the speed, but lately people I know have been saying that it is better. If we had the police write more tickets or had some police intervention I think we could get it under control."

Andrews also said she has been happy with the way the city has pruned some of the landscaping in San Marco, particularly the palms near River Road and San Marco Square as well as the crape myrtles leading up to the Square. However, she said she is not pleased with trimming efforts on Atlantic Boulevard near Wells Fargo and Daily's gas station. "The ones near Wells Fargo are a picture of what not to do," she said.

# Second screen comes to iconic theatre

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

The historic San Marco theatre is expanding and soon will offer moviegoers a second screen.

Theatre owner David Blue plans to renovate the iconic playhouse, which was built in 1938, so that another smaller theatre will be built next door in the space formerly occupied by The French Cottage Gift Boutique.

"Single-screen theatres don't exist in major markets," Blue said. "If you are going to continue on, that's what you want to do. Everyone loves the historic San Marco Theatre but film distributors couldn't care less. They don't care how long (your building) has been here or what its charm is."

Blue said the renovation will cost \$250,000 and will include tearing down the wall that separates the theatre from the retail space next door. In the 2,000-square foot space, he plans to add a second 43-seat auditorium, two new restrooms that comply to Americans with Disabilities Act standards, a second, smaller entrance to the theatre, a second ticket counter and a new kitchen that will be double the size of the old one, with two separate concession windows allowing it to service both movie auditoriums. The outside facade of the former French Cottage Gift Boutique will be painted with similar colors to the theatre.

The new arrangement "will close off the concession stand more from the theatre so people don't have to hear noise from the kitchen," he said. Additional pizza ovens



The San Marco Theatre will expand next door into the space that formerly housed The French Cottage Gift Boutique.

and other new equipment will be added in the refurbishment. "It will enable us to make more food more quickly," he said.

Included in the renovation will be new "leatherette" rocker chairs in both theaters, with tables in between, similar to what is in the present theatre now. Because the new seats are larger, seating in the original auditorium will be reduced from 225 seats to 220, Blue said.

Having the new theatre should not add to San Marco's parking woes, said Blue. Because of the reduction of seats in his main theatre, in actuality only 17 seats will be added overall and the effect, as far as parking is concerned, should be negligible, he said.

Blue said he is still "working things out

with the city" and is unsure when the renovation will begin. During construction he said he expects the theatre to be closed for a couple of weeks while he connects the two spaces.

By allowing Blue to run two different movies simultaneously, the renovation will help him resolve a sticky problem that has been hurting his business. Movie studios require that he run each picture three weeks, he said. "Business goes well during week one, is so-so during week two and drops off significantly during week three. This will enable me to relocate the film to the smaller studio and bring a new film to the larger auditorium," he said. "I think the theatre will work better with a second screen."

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# City Council approves division of historic McIver property



Rendering of 1108 Palmer Terrace once it is subdivided. The historic McIver House is on Lot 2.

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

The homeowner of one of the oldest homesteads in St. Nicholas has been granted his wish to subdivide his property by the City of Jacksonville Land Use and Zoning Committee.

During its meeting Sept. 8, members of LUZ voted unanimously to grant two zoning waivers to Mitchell W. Legler of 1108 Palmer Terrace, allowing him to subdivide the historic McIver Estate into five home sites. On Sept. 13 City Council also approved Legler's applications.

Legler's nearly three-acre riverfront property actually rests on three 125-foot by approximately 330-foot parcels with the historic house residing on the middle parcel. Legler's plan is to subdivide the two parcels on either side of the main house so that each will be divided into two house lots with the riverfront lot connected to Palmer Terrace by a 20-foot driveway.

The subdivided lots meet the zoning requirements of the area, said Bruce Lewis of the Planning Department, which recommended

approval of Legler's plan. Waivers are required because the 20-foot driveways connecting the riverfront lots with Palmer Terrace do not allow enough direct road frontage as specified for the area. The new streetfront lots comply with existing zoning regulations, he said.

Only two speakers addressed the committee during the public comment session – Paul Harden, who is Legler's attorney and Dan Fasbinder, Legler's son-in-law. Both spoke in favor of the project.

LUZ Committee Chairman Danny Becton asked Harden whether any neighboring residents had expressed concern about the project. "I've had several calls, but once I showed them the site plans they were all very happy that we were doing the five lots with access to Palmer," Harden said, noting the new half-acre lots are nearly twice the size of what is required in the area. "Councilwoman Boyer got a call. She explained what we were doing and they had no objections."

Fasbinder said he had spoken with several people about the project and "had positive feedback" throughout the process. "We feel this benefits not only this being a historic

area, but gives other families coming into the neighborhood the ability to have waterfront access," he said.

Legler plans to build four "Charleston Low Country Estate homes" on the newly subdivided lots. Each house will range in size from 4,000 to 5,000 square feet, he said, adding he plans to place restrictions on the properties so riverfront views will be protected both now and in the future. He also intends to build a community dock for the homeowners in the five residences to share. "It is better to have one pier going out for all the people to put their boats on," he said noting the river in front of the property is eight feet deep at low tide.

At present, Legler said he plans to continue to live in historic McIver House, which he wants to preserve. The 6,500-square-foot residence, which was built in 1916 and enlarged in 1930, will remain largely as it is, he said. A separate detached garage, which was built in 1940 and a detached artist's studio, built in 1952, will be torn down. The back porch, which faces the street, will be made into a garage once the property is subdivided, he said.



## Letters to the Editor

I want you to know how much we enjoyed [Marcia Hodgson's] recent articles about The District, the approval process, and the recent developments in San Marco. *The Resident* is a wonderful newspaper. We are fortunate to have you all working to keep our community informed.

Sandra Fradd  
Southbank

I think [Marcia Hodgson] did a great job capturing the spirit of Ginny Stine as a painter and creative person. Thank you for investing time in a personal interview, and providing thorough coverage of our on-going art ministry. It is an important part of our distinctive mission at HAB, to reach out to a broad spectrum of the community in search of common ground and relationship-building. I also appreciated Kate Hallock's thoughtful article about Hope McMath. *The Resident* is fortunate to have you on the staff.

Nancy Felton  
Retiring Art Ministry Chair,  
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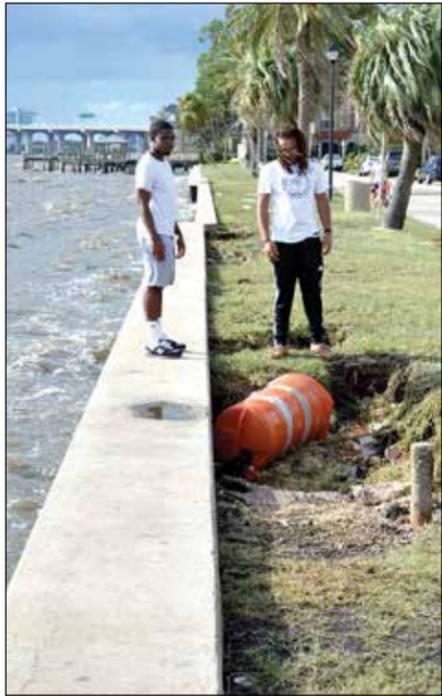
# Storm widens holes in Riverfront Park

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

Hurricane Hermine was not kind to the bulkhead in Riverfront Park.

The early September storm caused much concern among neighboring residents after it tossed flotsam over the bulkhead's banks and cut huge holes into the grass of the narrow park strip that lines the St. Johns River in San Marco.

After an initial clean-up from the storm,



Devante Etienne of St. Nicholas and his friend, Justis Hartfield, survey the damage from Hurricane Hermine in Riverfront Park in early September.

Keith Meyerl, division chief of recreational programming for the City's Park and Recreation Department and San Marco's Tom McKnight, manager of contract administration for the City's Engineering Division, were seen surveying the damage and checking in on Geotech testing that is part of a planned city project to restore the embattled bulkhead in the riverfront park.

The project is slowly making its way through channels at City Hall, said Council President Lori Boyer, who as District 5 Councilwoman represents San Marco. The first step was identifying the problem as a bulkhead in need of repair and that has been completed, she said. When preliminary bids to fix the problem came in, they were too high. Since then, the project had been rebid and additional funds toward it have been allocated, she said, noting the project has been approved by the city procurement committee.

Currently the contract is being looked over by the Office of General Counsel, which might take as long as two months, she said.

Once the contract is executed and the permitting process is complete, work should commence in the park, she said, adding she has been told the stand-alone project should not take "too long" once it starts.

Boyer said she is not sure of the form of the final design. Having a paved lip or apron run along the rim of the bulkhead with some holders for fishing poles embedded in the concrete had been discussed but she is unsure whether that has been included in the final plans, she said.

Riprap, rock or other material used to



Holes deep and wide were created near the bulkhead after Hurricane Hermine in early September.

armor shoreline structures to prevent water erosion, will be placed at the base of the bulkhead as part of the project, she said.

In the meantime, barricades will be put up around the ever-widening holes in order to give park visitors and fishermen warning that they may not be walking on solid ground.

At present, city officials are leery of spending more money to plug the holes as a stop-gap measure as what they have done in the past has not lasted or seemed to do much good. "We will know more about short-term solutions when engineering has had a chance to evaluate and long-term when design is completed," said City Spokesperson Tia Ford in an email.

Pointing to the Landon Middle School Track drainage project, which took an extra year to complete from what was originally scheduled, Boyer advised the project may take longer than she would like to see.

"It may be unfortunately a year before it is actually finished and we have a ribbon-cutting or it could be sooner, I don't know," said Boyer.



Keith Meyerl, division chief of recreational programming for the Jacksonville Park and Recreation Department joined Tom McKnight, manager of contract administration, Jacksonville Engineering Division at Riverfront Park to look over damage incurred by Tropical Storm Hermine and to view Geotech testing on Sept. 15.

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# Regency reps dispel rumors about East San Marco

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

There is no truth to the rumor that has been circulating around San Marco that Publix has pulled out from the East San Marco project.

That was the main message two representatives from Regency Centers, the group who owns the retail space in the upcoming San Marco housing project, wanted to convey when they addressed members of the San Marco Merchants Association Sept. 21.

Patrick McKinley, Regency's senior leasing agent and Eric Davidson, who heads its communications department, reassured San Marco retailers that, although the project is behind schedule, there is no change in the plans for the new development which is to be built at the corner of Hendricks Avenue and Atlantic Boulevard.

"Our partners submitted applications for permits in July. It just takes time," said McKinley. "We expect to close and start construction later this year. Perhaps the timeline has been pushed back slightly from when we thought the start of the project would be, but it is still the same renderings. It is still 239 apartments and the anchor is still Publix. We still have a signed lease with Publix," he said, adding that once construction commences it should take 14 to 18 months to complete.

The East San Marco project will include a 32,000-square-foot Publix, slightly larger than the one in Riverside, and a total of 13,000 square feet of retail space. The prime corner space where a restaurant is planned is 3,500 square feet with an additional 500 square feet available for outside patio dining. It is possible to add 1,500 square feet of additional space allowing for a 5,000-square-foot restaurant if needed, McKinley said. If a 5,000-square-foot restaurant goes in, that leaves room for only four or five small shops to be housed in the remaining 8,000 square feet, he said. "It's not a ton of retail. I wish I had more," said McKinley.

As far as parking goes for the new development, 120 spaces, which are to be used exclusively for Publix customers and other East San Marco retailers, will be available on the ground floor of the garage, he said. Tenants who live in the apartments above the retail stores will use other parking dedicated for their use only on the upper levels of the development's parking garage. Street parking in the area surrounding the development will

also be available, he said.

There are no plans to provide additional parking that would benefit the Square as a whole, McKinley said. The current intention is to provide enough parking for Publix customers – which is a requirement within the grocer's lease – as well as the amount required by city zoning code for other retailers within the development.

"I don't think our plan right now is to police parking or to have meters on the parking (on the ground floor of the garage). I've seen different developments in different parts of the country where you have 30-minute parking so that is conducive for someone to go into Publix or our retail stores but would be hard for someone to shop around the whole Square. We will have to play it by ear," McKinley said.

Eddie Fink, who owns a retail building in the Square, asked if Regency was aware of Al Mansur's plans to bring his restaurant, The Flying Iguana, in the space now occupied by Stellers art gallery. Fink said he thought Mansur's current plan to provide off-site valet parking for his proposed restaurant at a so far undisclosed location is "idiotic" and wanted to know if Regency had spoken with Mansour about taking the restaurant space in East San Marco. "I'd like to see him in the Square," said Fink.

McKinley said he understood Mansur was currently working on a deal and had not spoken with him. "If the Stellers Gallery deal falls through, I would be glad to have a conversation with him," he said.

## Coffee shop

continued from page 1

Desiring to bring in a restaurant with a more "local feel," he declined to specify the name of the coffee vendor that would take over the location other than to say it will not be Starbucks or Dunkin Donuts. "We are more focused on improving the quality of life in the communities we serve. With every project we ask, 'Is this something the community needs or is it not here right now?'" he said. Rubin toyed with the idea of putting in a juice bar but ultimately decided a coffee shop would be a good use of the property because it will provide a "low intensity" use of the space.

The iconic building, which was erected in 1941, will be preserved and any renovation he makes to the 1,344-square-foot structure will "accentuate the lines of the existing building," Rubin said.

Although things are still in flux, he expects the new coffee shop to include indoor seating for 30 to 35 patrons and additional outdoor seating under the building's 440-square-foot canopy. The building was formerly a gas station prior to housing a dry cleaning firm called The Laundry Station.

Parking won't be a problem for the new coffee house. Rubin's development firm closed on a lot Sept. 28 at 952 LaSalle Street right behind

the Laundry Station building for the purpose of providing parking for the new eatery. AccuBuild purchased the additional property for \$120,000, Rubin said.

"The formula for success is to acquire land so that you can park your own customers," said Rubin. "That is the right way to do development. It's not right to pack an area with cars unless you have a plan for what to do with them."

Rubin said the vendor he has in mind is "innovative but with experience" and one with a "local feel." The new shop will offer "top-of-line" coffee, pastries, "lite fare," and will offer free Wi-Fi.

"This will be an upscale, sophisticated environment with a French influence," he said, noting he is not worried about competition from Bold Bean or the new French bistro-type restaurant Matthew Medure plans to build near San Marco Square.

Rubin would neither confirm nor deny his new renter will be the same vendor he plans to install in his property at the corner of Stockton and Oak Street in Riverside. He has submitted an application for the Riverside property and is seeking an exception to create a drive-thru coffee shop at 2502 Oak Street.

"The company we have in mind has a handful of stores in Florida," he said, adding that none of the stores are currently in Jacksonville. "They just do coffee and they do it well."



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- Cleveland Clinic researcher, Dr. Jay Alberts, PhD has studied effects of intense exercise with Parkinson's patients for over 10yrs and it has shown optimum positive impact on brain function & movement.

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 lifestyle changes that result in optimal health. Email questions: [jacksonville@anytimefitness.com](mailto:jacksonville@anytimefitness.com)



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# Billboard removal gets cheers from beautification group

## Site's future turns blight into beauty

By Kate A. Hallock  
Resident Community News

The last day of August 2016 was a red-letter day – and a long time coming, according to William Brinton, an Avondale attorney who has made a mission of fighting billboard blight in Jacksonville and around the country.

On Aug. 31, Brinton was joined the presidents of Scenic Jacksonville, Inc. and the Douglas Anderson #107 Alumni Association, Inc., along with members of their boards and other interested persons, to witness the removal of a billboard adjacent to a neighborhood park on the east side of I-95 northbound near Douglas Anderson School for the Arts.

After six years of litigation, Scenic Jacksonville and Outfront Media worked out an agreement, which Brinton lauded as amicable with positive outcomes for Jacksonville Neighborhoods.

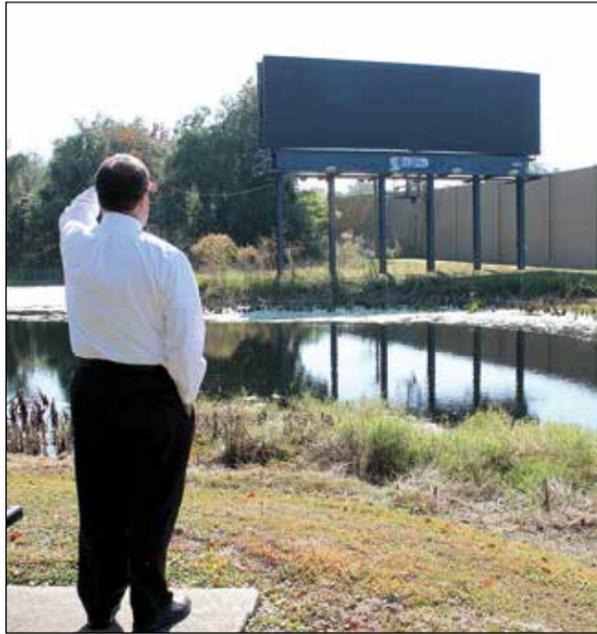
“Scenic Jacksonville appreciates the cooperation of Outfront Media in removing this billboard located next to a park, in a residential area, which has a school nearby,” said Susan Caven, president of Scenic Jacksonville, for which Brinton has been long-time counsel.

The billboard was located at 2400 Gerard Ave. on property next to a city-owned community park in Spring Park. Two ordinances enacted in 2014 approved settlement agreements between Scenic Jacksonville, the City of Jacksonville, Clear Channel Outdoor and CBS Outdoor (now Outfront Media).

Nearly 30 years ago, citizens of Jacksonville voted to prohibit billboards through the addition of a Charter Amendment. In 1987, 59 percent of the electorate voted to banish new billboards and remove hundreds of others from neighborhood roadways.

### Turning neglected park into school legacy

The community park consists of six parcels of city-owned land with existing amenities including a sidewalk, park benches, grills and picnic tables. A Florida Department of Transportation sound wall borders one side of the property.



Bill Brinton scrutinizes the billboard near a public park in November 2014.



A crew from Outfront Media removes a long-standing billboard along I-95 near Douglas Anderson School for the Arts Aug. 31.

Scenic Jacksonville and the DA Alumni are working together to enhance the beauty of the park area, consisting of 1.75 acres, and to consider appropriate tributes to the legacy of nearby Douglas Anderson School of the Arts.

The original school, initially known as South Jacksonville School #107, was built in 1922 and included grades one through nine. At that time, it was the only public school on the Southside serving African-American students. In 1945, the school was renamed the Douglas Anderson School after the black community leader Douglas Anderson (1884-1936) who spearheaded the building of the school, along with W.R. Thorpe (1893-1967).

In the late 1950s, the school expanded to be a high school and had its first graduating senior class in 1959. The school closed in 1968 as a result of school desegregation and reopened in 1985 as the Douglas Anderson School of the Arts. The Alumni Association was formed in January 2009 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first senior graduating class in 1959.

Three weeks after the billboard was removed, at a meeting on Sept. 22, Scenic Jacksonville and the DA Alumni continued discussions on numerous ways to enhance the area, including planting vines and jasmine on the interior of the FDOT sound walls, as well as a variety of trees and other vegetation throughout the acreage, and adding a variety of other amenities that would further benefit the public, the neighborhood and the School of the Arts, said Brinton.

“What a difference this neighborhood improvement will make over the years. I am looking forward to working with everyone, and especially everyone who has ever attended Douglas Anderson – before 1969 and after 1985,” said Brinton, referring to the span of years when the school was closed. “I am especially proud of the role that Scenic Jacksonville has in this endeavor. This will make a great documentary of what is possible when the goal is beauty and there is unity in purpose. The first visioning session will be very exciting.”

DA School for the Arts Principal Jacqueline Cornelius immediately saw the opportunities for how the property might serve the arts education. In the coming months the leaders of both organizations plan to hold a visioning session to consider any and all ideas for benefiting all constituencies, then develop a timeline to realize and implement that vision. Their goal is to have the most beautiful park area of its size in Northeast Florida accessible to neighbors, students, alumni and the public, said Brinton.

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# Local men harness the power of pink to eradicate breast cancer

By Kate A. Hallock  
Resident Community News

Why would men – real men – wear pink? One reason may be in honor or memory of a loved one. This month 29 leaders in the community are wearing pink to help raise awareness about breast cancer – and other cancers – and to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. Here’s a look at seven local men who are “putting on the pink” to support the cause or honor special people in their lives. They have also pledged to raise at least \$2,500 for ACS.

## Doing it for Grandma Brian Bush

“My grandmother was a breast cancer survivor who wanted to do her part to help other women detect, cope with and survive the disease,” said Brian Bush, eCommerce manager at the family business, Tom Bush Family of Dealerships. “Her commitment to educate and support her extended dealership family continues today.”

The Tom Bush Family of Dealerships participates in the Making Strides Walk every year and wears pink shirts every Thursday in October to continue its awareness campaign.

Bush, of Riverside, plans to fundraise via social media, an open bar night at Suite, and to make a donation for every car sold during the campaign. “Also, I will be driving around in the all-new VW #PinkBeetle during my fundraising campaign,” he said.



“I am excited to bring more awareness to the fight against breast cancer around the First Coast. I think having established men from the community get behind the movement is an excellent way to get others to do the same,” said Bush.

## It’s worth it Jake Gordon

Although San Marco resident Jake Gordon doesn’t have cancer in his family, he does worry about the women in his life.

“I have a young daughter, a sister and a mother. They are all healthy now, but we need to find a cure so they never have to worry about this awful disease. Plus, men can get breast cancer too – so I don’t want to worry, either!” said Gordon.

CEO of Downtown Vision, Inc., Gordon said he doesn’t subscribe to the outdated notions of colors reflecting gender norms. “I have absolutely no problem wearing pink! So to wear pink in support of a great charity like the American Cancer Society is wonderful,” he said. “Everyone should be free to be themselves and express themselves in a positive way making positive change in the world.”

According to the CDC, each year in the US, more than 200,000 women get breast cancer and more than 40,000 women die from the disease.

“I feel an obligation to help the effort for



cancer research, especially breast cancer, which is very common,” said Gordon. “If I can help the effort, and we can save even one life, isn’t that worth it?”

The Making Strides for Jacksonville 5K will be held downtown on Saturday, Oct. 22. Last year, more than 10,000 walkers in the event raised \$317,000.

## Helping a cause he believes in Tony Caribaltes

Tony Caribaltes didn’t have a pink thing in his closet to wear during the Real Men Wear Pink Challenge. He solved that problem by challenging clients and friends to bring him something pink to wear.

“I am always up for helping a cause I believe in, and this sounded like a fun and easy to help make a difference,” said Caribaltes, a licensed realtor at Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty.

On a more somber note, Caribaltes’ connection to breast cancer is extremely close.

“My mother was diagnosed with breast cancer shortly after my father had passed away. She had always been healthy except for her diminishing mental capabilities, so this was uncharted territory,” said Caribaltes. “She had a mastectomy, chemo and radiation, but she survived the breast cancer. The unfortunate side effect was the chemo accelerated her diminishing mental capabilities and she passed away a few years later from



complications with Alzheimer’s.”

Caribaltes has a multi-pronged approach utilizing the Coldwell Banker Vanguard storefront in the Shoppes of Avondale, including a kissing board and Tony’s “Tata Tip of the Week.”

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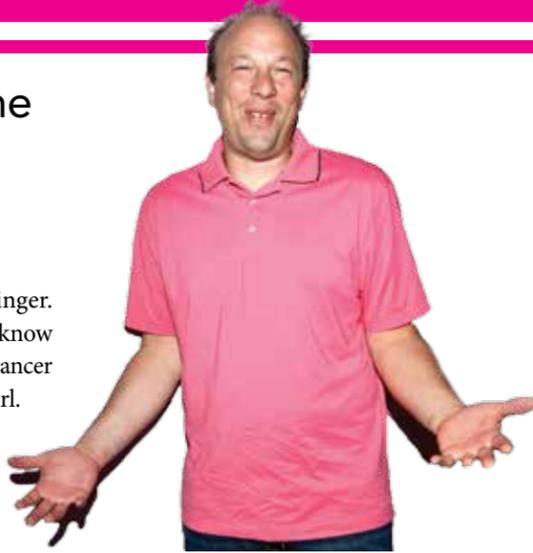
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## The grandmother he never knew Pete Behringer

Everyone knows Sweet Pete Behringer. What they don't know is he never got to know his grandmother, who died from breast cancer when Behringer's mother was a little girl.

"I am most excited about making a difference," said Behringer, founder of Sweet Pete's, the largest candy store in the Southeast. "I was shocked to learn that one in eight women will develop breast cancer."

Born in Dayton, Ohio, Behringer moved to Jacksonville at age 10 and grew up in San Marco. Married 15 years to a Jacksonville native, Behringer lives in Springfield with



his wife Allison, son Daniell, and greyhound, Trolley Song.

Behringer said he's always had a passion for chocolate and candy, and now he can add "fighting breast cancer" to that list.

## In the trenches with cancer Alan Verlander

With a wife and four daughters, there was always the worry in the back of Alan Verlander's mind that one of his loved ones would someday join the more than 240,000 women who are diagnosed each year with breast cancer. "Someday" struck the Verlander family six years ago.

"In 2010, our family received news that my wife was diagnosed with Stage 1 breast cancer," said Verlander, of Miramar. "Over the many appointments and surgeries, we have seen firsthand the importance of a support system around you at these critical times in life."

Verlander understands support systems from a community perspective, too. He volunteers his time with various organizations, currently serving on the boards of Rethreaded, Fellowship of Christian Athletes Baseball, Boy Scouts Scoutreach and Samford University's Sports Marketing Program.



Still, Verlander is finding time to wear pink and raise funds for the fight against breast cancer.

"I'm excited to show my support for those people who have either gone through or are going through cancer as we speak," said Verlander, Jacksonville Sports Council executive director/COO. "Additionally, I look forward to educating those in our city about my personal journey and the importance of being proactive about your health."

## Real fighters wear pink Seth Pajcic

Ever the athlete, Seth Pajcic is unleashing his competitive nature in the fight against cancer.

Each year more than 2,600 men in the United States are diagnosed with breast cancer, but it was the loss of his father-in-law to renal cancer and his uncle to lung cancer that persuaded the All-State football player and All-City basketball player at Episcopal High School and collegiate offensive lineman at Suwanee, the University of the South, to get involved in the American Cancer Society's Making Strides/Real Men Wear Pink campaign.

"It is important to me to do all I can to battle against this disease that impacts so many families," said Pajcic, a personal injury attorney.

Whether his fight is on the basketball court, in the courtroom or against cancer, Pajcic knows women need all the help they can get in their fight to survive the pain and suffering of cancer.

"Every day, the American Cancer Society helps people take steps to reduce their risk of breast cancer or find it early, when it's small and easiest to treat," said Pajcic, of San Marco. "They provide free information and services



when and where people need it. They are funding groundbreaking research to find, prevent, and treat breast cancer, and are working to ensure access to mammograms for women who need them."

An avid runner, Pajcic has competed in more than a dozen marathons and more than 50 half-marathons. Don't be surprised to see him running this October wearing pink, and he is sure to sport pink ties or bow ties all year long.

## For the love of his life Jim Love

With nearly 300 aircraft carrier landings under his belt, there's probably nothing that scares former Corsair attack jet pilot Jim Love more than hearing those dreaded words, "Your wife has cancer."

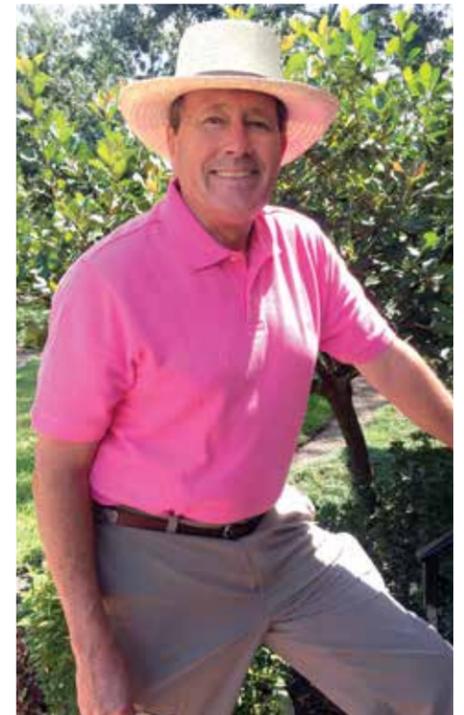
Just months after the retired Navy Captain started his campaign in 2010 for the District 14 City Council seat, Love's wife, Robin, was diagnosed with breast cancer.

"This was a very scary time considering that her mother had had colon cancer," said Love, of Avondale.

The same inner strength Robin Love drew on as a military wife undoubtedly helped her during the battle against cancer. "She was very brave about this situation and attended the radiation treatments while allowing me to continue my political campaign," said Love.

In fact, during the weeks of radiation treatment she continued to help in the campaign from sign waving to asking for petition signatures, he said.

"Without her amazing help I would



never have won the extremely close election and, fortunately, her cancer has remained in remission," said Love, "so I am excited about helping the American Cancer Society come closer to curing cancer, especially breast cancer."

For more information on how you can support the Real Men Wear Pink campaign or sign up for the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer of Jacksonville on Saturday, Oct. 22 at Hemming Park, go to [www.makingstrideswalk.org/jacksonvillefl](http://www.makingstrideswalk.org/jacksonvillefl).

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## Baptist MD Anderson celebrates first year

Good Morning America Host and cancer survivor Amy Robach was the guest of honor when the folks at Baptist MD Anderson celebrated the cancer center's first anniversary Sept. 16 on the fourth floor of the Hill Breast Center in San Marco.

Part of a family with no history of cancer, Robach, had been shocked to discover she had a malignant tumor when she agreed to have her first mammogram on national television in October 2013. After enduring surgery and chemotherapy treatments, she chronicled her 12-month journey to survivor status in her book, *Better: How I Let Go of Control, Held On to Hope, and Found Joy in My Darkest Hour*.

During the party she was recognized as the first recipient of the cancer center's "End Cancer Champion" award.

Speaking at the anniversary event were Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer John Wilbanks, Chaplain Courtney Hesser, Vice President Oncology Service Line Darin Roark, and Baptist Health and MD Anderson employees Lee Ann Mengel, Dr. Trishna Patel, Dr. Pat Calhoun, and Dr. Cynthia Anderson.

A year ago, Baptist Health teamed up with the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Texas with the mission to transform cancer care in the Southeastern United States by replicating MD Anderson's model of care in north Florida. The center opened in October 2015 and recently broke ground on a nine-story addition, which is currently under construction across the street on San Marco Boulevard.

In addition to attending the anniversary party for Baptist MD Anderson, Robach served as a keynote speaker at Baptist Health's Girls' Day Out event Sept. 17 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.



Baptist Senior Vice President, Social Responsibility & Community Advocacy Audrey Moran, Dr. Patricia Calhoun, Good Morning America Host Amy Robach with John Wilbanks, Executive Vice President and COO for Baptist Health.



Janet Wilbanks of San Marco, Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer Diane Raines and Catherine Graham, administrator of specialty services for Baptist Health.

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# MOVERS & SHAKERS

## Potochick to head San Marco Rotary



Tony Potochick

Tony Potochick of Five Points Eye Associates has been elected president of the Rotary Club of San Marco for the 2016-2017 year. Formerly vice president, Potochick has also served as chairman of club administration and special projects. He has been a member of the club since 2010.

Other club officers for the next Rotary year include: Steve Ramsey, president-elect; Heather Solanka, vice president; Janet Reagor, treasurer; Bob Freeland, sergeant-at-arms; Howard Dyal, club administration chair; Beth Clark, membership chair; Ellen Williams, foundation chair; Pete Helow, public relations chair, and Jay Farhat, service projects chair. Ruth Ann Hepler is immediate past president.

During a recent installation ceremony at the University Club, Potochick said his main goals for the coming year are to focus on membership growth, foundation giving and supporting local and international charities with both financial and hands-on resources of the club.



Pictured in the archives in front of materials donated by the Woman's Club of Jacksonville are University of North Florida student Anna Varney, who will help archive the material, Woman's Club President Laura Crooks, Jacksonville Historical Society Executive Director Emily Lisska, Katherine Naugle, chairman of the Woman's Club Heritage Committee and Taryn Rodriguez-Boette, associate archivist for the Jacksonville Historical Society.

## Woman's Club makes large donation to Historical Society

After handing over all the records and scrapbooks to the Jacksonville Historical Society some time ago, the Woman's Club of Jacksonville has now given the society the means to process their chronicles.

Woman's Club President Laura Crooks of Riverside joined Woman's Club Heritage Committee Chairman Katherine Naugle of Ortega in donating a \$10,000 check to the Jacksonville Historical Society Aug. 30. The money, which was derived from the sale of the Woman's Club building to the Cummer Museum in 2005, has been held by the Community Foundation of Northeast Florida on behalf of the Woman's Club, said Naugle.

"The Historical Society is receiving our first check, but we look forward to handing out more," she said.

Jacksonville Historical Society Executive Director Emily Lisska said she is excited about receiving the Woman's Club collection on behalf of the society. "So many things revolve around this collection," she said. "This collection deserves so much attention. So many women have not had the voice that they deserve through the years. Most history was written about the

men in the (Jacksonville) area. There is a lot more to be heard and uncovered."

The archival materials from the Woman's Club document many of the city's social and cultural improvements, said Crooks. "The Woman's Club was one of the first

organizations to stand up for women in the city in a variety of social needs and causes," she said.

Anyone desiring further information or to join the Woman's Club should contact Crooks at [LWCrooks@comcast.net](mailto:LWCrooks@comcast.net).

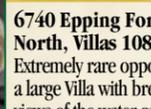
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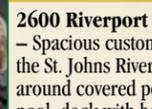



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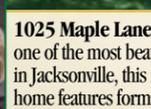



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## Sacks family welcomes twins



Spencer Sacks and his sister, Mattie, cuddle with their newly-born siblings, Robert and Flora.

Episcopal School of Jacksonville Director of Marketing Meg Sacks and her husband, Jon, recently doubled the fun of parenthood when they welcomed twins into their San Marco household.

Born at Baptist Medical Center South on June 4, Robert Beck Sacks and his sister, Flora Grace Lucille Sacks, join siblings Mattie, age seven, and Spencer, age three.

Grandparents include Melanie and Steven Sacks of Tamarac, Florida, and Donald and Suzanne Scheu of Naples, Florida.

Although neither Sacks nor her husband attended the Episcopal School of Jacksonville, Sacks said she did graduate from an Episcopal high school in Virginia and hopes her children will have a similar kind of education locally. "I hope when the time comes, to send all of our children to Episcopal so they can benefit from the experiences this caring community has to offer. Mattie has been to several camps here and Homecoming, and loves it already," she said.

## San Marco Rotary awards \$20,000 to charities

At its annual "Day of Giving" breakfast Sept. 6, the Rotary Club of San Marco awarded more than \$20,000 to local and international charities.

The club established a fund with \$8,000 to create a microloan program which will assist in clean-water efforts throughout the world. The club's foundation committee will review loan requests provided by several world-support organizations and fund loans ranging in duration from one to three years. As the loans are repaid, the funds will be reinvested into the program.

To help provide for a home-school program, the club gave \$5,000 to Sanctuary on 8th Street.

A contribution of \$4,300 was made to First Tee of Northeast Florida for equipment to begin programming at the club's adopted school, Spring Park Elementary.

Wolfson Children's Center for Behavioral Health was awarded \$2,500 for artwork to be installed in the children's area of the behavioral health unit.

The club also made a \$1,000 contribution to the Rotary Foundation in honor of its 100th anniversary and to support the eradication of polio in the world.

Pictured here are Sanctuary's Executive Director Vicky Watkins with Rotary Past-President Janet Reagor.



## Greene joins Jacksonville Public Education Fund board

The Jacksonville Public Education Fund added seven new board members, including Hugh Greene of San Jose. President and CEO of Baptist Health and CEO of Coastal Community Health, Greene was voted in June 4.

Greene currently serves on the Board of Citra Health Solutions. He is a member of the Executive Board of the Jacksonville Civic Council, the regional CEO group. He is the recipient of many awards including the 2015 Thompson S. Baker "Solid as a Rock" Award by Junior



Hugh Greene

of hospitals and subsequently received the "Spirit of Advocacy" award by the Florida Hospital Association in 2013. Greene currently serves on the Regional Policy Board of the American Hospital Association.

The other appointees include Marsha Oliver, director of public affairs for the City of Jacksonville; Lisa Page, former Assistant United States Attorney in the Criminal Division of Jacksonville, and member of the Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital and the Women's Giving Alliance; Ronnie King, owner of Scratchwerk, LLC; Coley Jones, vice president of Middle Market Banking Group of TD Bank, and Kay Page, who serves as the non-voting ex officio Florida Blue teach of the Year representative.

The seven join 13 other board members and two non-voting ex officio members, Dr. Nikolai Vitti, superintendent of Duval County Public Schools, and the Honorable Ashley Smith-Juarez, Duval County School Board chair.



<p><b>LUNCH</b> Monday – Friday 11:00AM – 4:00PM</p> <p>1440 San Marco Boulevard Jacksonville, FL. 904.398.1949 • bistrox.com</p> <p>@bistroaix /bistroaixjax</p>	<p><b>DINNER</b> Monday – Thursday 4:00PM – 10:00PM</p> <p>Friday &amp; Saturday 5:00PM – 11:00PM</p> <p>Sunday 5:00PM – 9:00PM</p>	<p><b>HAPPY HOUR</b> Monday – Friday 3:30PM – 6:30PM</p> <p><b>FORKING AMAZING RESTAURANTS</b></p>
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## Smith-Juarez among honorees at environmental luncheon



City Council President Lori Boyer, At-Large Councilwoman Anna Lopez Brosche, Duval County Public School Board Chair Ashley Smith-Juarez, Scenic Jacksonville Board Member Rachel Cocciolo, and Scenic Jacksonville President Susan Caven.

Duval County Public School Board Chair Ashley Smith-Juarez, who represents San Marco, At-Large Councilwoman Anna Lopez Brosche, who grew up in Murray Hill, and Sarah Nan of Riverside were among the honorees recognized at the 24th annual Mayor's Environmental Awards Luncheon, Sept. 15 at the University of North Florida University Center.

The awards honored Duval County individuals and organizations for their demonstrated leadership, creativity and commitment to the Jacksonville

environment. In all, 34 awards were presented by 12 organizations. The recognitions were distributed by City Council President Lori Boyer, who represents District 5, and Director of Community Affairs Dr. Charles Moreland.

Smith-Juarez and Brosche were recognized with the first-ever Scenic Jacksonville Award for Civic Engagement & Environmental Stewardship. Brosche introduced Bill 2016-487, which appropriates dormant City tree trust funds to plant one tree at each of Duval

County's 160 public schools. Smith-Juarez championed the ordinance, which also broadens trust fund language to allow tree planting on any public property. The entire Duval County Public School Board were also recognized with the Scenic Jacksonville Civic Engagement and Environmental Stewardship award.

The Late Bloomers Garden Club was awarded the 2016 Canopy Award by Greenscape of Jacksonville, which is headquartered in San Marco.

## Mathews family welcomes baby daughter



Bryden Jane Mathews

A new baby girl has arrived in St. Nicholas.

Mayfair Road residents Mark and Sarah Mathews welcomed their first child, a baby daughter, Bryden Jane Mathews, on Aug. 15.

Born at St. Vincent's Medical Center in Riverside, where her mother works as a physical therapist, Bryden will undoubtedly be spoiled by her grandparents, Jeremy and Martha Smith of Jacksonville, and Mark and Carol Mathews of Tifton, Georgia.

The Mathews, who in addition to Bryden also cherish a six-year-old white Labrador Retriever, are relative newcomers to the St. Nicholas area, having moved to Jacksonville in 2015 when Mark took a job as a commercial banker at Synovus Bank. Both Mathews are graduates from the University of Georgia and lived in Augusta, Georgia for eight years prior to moving to Jacksonville.

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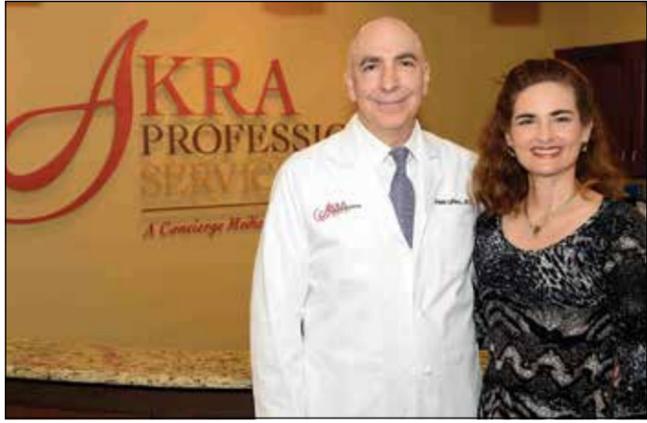
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*This event is made possible by The Mary Lou Davis Endowment for St. Vincent's Women's Heart Initiative.*



**ST. VINCENT'S**  
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## Concierge medical practice celebrates fifth anniversary



Dr. Louis and Elena Akra

Akra Professional Services, a concierge internal medicine practice that permits patients to contact their doctor 24/7, is celebrating its fifth anniversary.

Headed by Dr. Louis Akra, the San Marco medical practice offers daily appointments, lab work, consultations, annual exams, as well as same-day and next-day appointments, which start on time and last as long as it takes, and may include house calls if medically necessary all for an annual fee. Available to his patients 24/7, Akra provides patients with his cell phone number so they can reach him when they need to.

“The guiding principle of the Akra Professional Services team is to provide the highest standard of professional, personalized medical care to our patients when they need it,” said Akra.

“The concierge platform limits the size of the practice to a few hundred clients, which enables us to invest more time in our patients and respond to their needs efficiently. Our practice has grown exponentially over the past five years thanks to word-of-mouth referrals from our happy patients,” he said.

## Wellness Connexion celebrates first anniversary

The JCA Baptist Wellness Connexion at the Jewish Community Alliance celebrated its first anniversary Sept. 7 with a private reception at the facility at 8505 San Jose Boulevard.

“The innovative Baptist JCA Wellness Connexion has helped improve the health of JCA members and the greater community,” said Hugh Greene, president and CEO for Baptist Health. “We look forward to many more years ahead as we celebrate this one-year anniversary.”

The purpose of the Connexion is to bring increased health and wellness to the Jacksonville community through personalized wellness assessment and health coaching. On hand at the facility are two Wellness Coaches, who are registered nurses with Baptist Health. They provide confidential consultations and help guide JCA members of all ages with their wellness goals, including one-on-one wellness assessments, fitness guidance in cooperation with the JCA Wellness Department, and resources for healthier living.

During the past year the Connexion has provided 264 biometric screenings, 242 wellness coaching sessions, and has conducted 506 individual appointments.

In May, the Wellness Connexion was recognized with four excellence awards from the JCC Association of North America. These Gold Standard Awards – in the areas of lay leadership, programs, operations and marketing and communications – acknowledged outstanding visionary initiatives that hold maximum impact or potential for change in the community.

“Both Baptist and the JCA are committed



Julie Schafer, manager Wellness Connexion; Amaris Chrispell, Wellness Coach; Cheryl Meyer, Wellness Coach; Dr. Aristides Sastre, physician director Wellness Connexion. (Photo courtesy of Krista Freeman, JCA)



Kimberly Sisisky, John Wilbanks, executive vice president and chief operating officer, Baptist Health; Catherine Graham, administrator physical specialty services at Baptist Health; Myron Flagler, JCA executive director. (Photo courtesy of Krista Freeman, JCA)

to helping build better lives for our community members. We are delighted at the success of this year’s partnership with Baptist Health. We know that we will only continue to enhance the wellbeing of the community-at-large for years to come via this groundbreaking endeavor,” said JCA Executive Director Myron Flagler.

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Organized by the American Folk Art Museum, New York, and circulated by the Huntsville Museum of Art, Alabama. The tour of this exhibition is supported in part by the Leir Charitable Foundations in memory of Henry J. and Erna D. Leir, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, and with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.

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## Former grammar school celebrates 100 years

Live music filled the air while residents, business owners and guests enjoyed wine, cheese and tasty hors d'oeuvres served during a courtyard celebration of the 100th anniversary of South Jacksonville Grammar School Sept. 24.

The historic San Marco school, which was listed in the United States National Register of Historic Places on April 15, 2004, was converted to one of Jacksonville's first examples of a live/work building, called The Lofts of San Marco, by Bill Cesery and his sister, Barbara, in 2001.

The building, which resides at 1450 Flagler Avenue, sits on approximately two acres of land and still harbors the original front hallway. Its former classrooms now consist of 31 residential units, including six two-story lofts, seven commercial spaces and a small gymnasium. Three modern townhomes, 21 garages and a pool are also on the property.

Built in 1916, the historic building sports an architectural style of late 19th and early 20th Century Revival. Its architects, builders and engineers were Victor Earl Mark and Leroy Sheftall, who were both students of famed Jacksonville architect Henry J. Klutho.

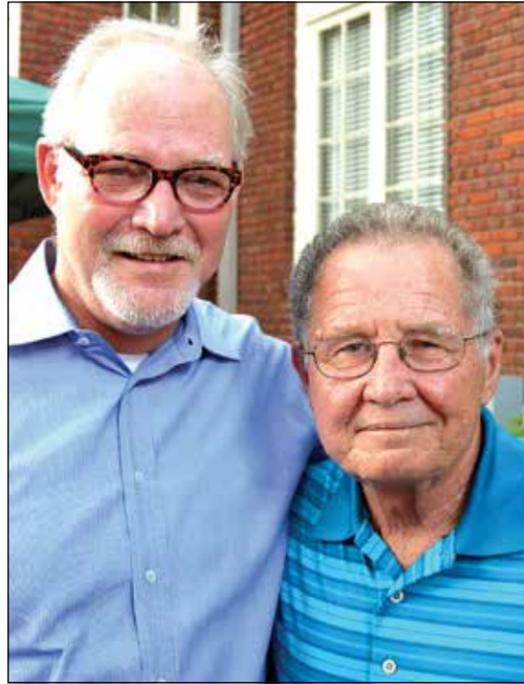
South Jacksonville Grammar School served as a public elementary school for 55 years until the Duval County Public School Board converted it into administrative offices in 1971.

During the celebration, Troy Winn of San Marco recalled being "intimidated" by the building when she attended first grade at the school 62 years ago. Today, the building sports a long waiting list as a sought-after location for local business owners and residents who wish to live and work within its hallowed walls.

"Living here is very, very cool, said Lauren Collie, who has resided at The Lofts for four years. "I can't imagine ever leaving it."



Loft owners Barbara Cesery and her brother, Bill



Butch Menotte with Jay Harms

## Local lawyer holds evening of appreciation



Ian Hollingsworth, Esq., Kelly Berlin, Esq., Kate Bodden, Elizabeth Ondriezek, Esq., Jay Terry and Christine Myer, Esq.



Kendall Tobin, Jennifer B. Williams, Esq., Elizabeth R. Ondriezek, Esq., Jasmine Ley and Ashley L. Tunac, Esq.

Elizabeth R. Ondriezek, P.A., held its second annual Evening of Appreciation at the law firm's offices in St. Nicholas Sept. 13. The event brought together members of the legal profession, members of the judiciary, and other professionals from the Jacksonville community.

Attendees sampled an array of hors d'oeuvres and beverages while enjoying the smooth jazz sounds of The House Cats. Ondriezek and her staff, who practice in the areas of family, adoption, and juvenile law, are looking forward to next year's celebration and many more to follow.

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## Florida representative celebrates Constitution Day



District 16 Representative Charles W. McBurney, Jr. with Holly Reaves and Edward Eng

A very patriotic crowd gathered when Florida Representative Charles W. McBurney (District 16) of San Jose hosted his third annual Constitution Day celebration Sept. 22 at Taverna in San Marco.

The event, which was sponsored by the Law Office of Charles W. McBurney, Jr., was held to recognize and celebrate the ratification of the United States Constitution. During the evening, friends and associates connected with McBurney's law firm "imbibed a little, ate a little and played games a little," including a computer game where they answered questions to discover which Founding Father they might be. (Benjamin Franklin was a favorite.)

"I've always felt it is important to set aside some time to remember and celebrate the Constitution in order to ensure our liberties and freedoms are protected," McBurney said.

Also attending the function were two Boy Scouts from Troop 106, which is located at Assumption School in St. Nicholas. Life Scouts Phillip Everett and Jack Wilkinson, both students at Bishop Kenny High School, read aloud the preamble of the U.S. Constitution. Everett, who will receive his Eagle Scout award in a couple of weeks, recently built two 12-by-12-foot sandboxes for the children at Assumption School.

## Former Miss America, Greek clergy lead St. John the Divine centennial celebration



Dr. Lazar Larry Odzak, Reverend Dr. Milton Magos, co-pastor of St. John the Divine Greek Orthodox Church, and his wife, Hope, with Louis Bouchelle

Members of St. John the Divine Greek Orthodox Church in St. Nicholas celebrated their church's 100th anniversary in great style with a grand banquet at the Prime Osborn Center Sept. 24.

The only Greek Orthodox Church in Jacksonville and the third oldest of its denomination in Florida, St. John the Divine marked its centennial with a weekend full of activities. A memorial service to honor parish ancestors was held at Evergreen Cemetery on Main Street in Jacksonville in the morning on Sept. 24, followed by a groundbreaking ceremony at 12890 Beach Blvd., where the parish plans to build a larger church edifice. On Sept. 25 and 26, a total of four religious services were also held as part of the festivities.

Former Miss America 2016 Betty Cantrell, who is a member of the Greek Orthodox faith, was the keynote speaker at the banquet. Many prominent religious figures in the Greek Orthodox Church also attended the event including His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Geron of America, His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios of Atlanta, Georgia, Reverend Dr. Nicholas Louh, senior pastor of Jacksonville's St. John the Divine Greek Orthodox Church and Reverend Dr. Milton Magos, co-pastor of the Jacksonville parish.



Nicholas J. Furriss, Jody Brandenburg, president of Hardage-Giddens Funeral Homes, Reverend Dr. Nicholas Louh, senior pastor of St. John the Divine Greek Orthodox Church, with his wife, Dr. Roxanne Louh, Tom Harris, General Manager of Hardage-Giddens Oaklawn Funeral Home and Cemetery with Brent Perry, lead funeral director at Hardage-Giddens Oaklawn Funeral Home.

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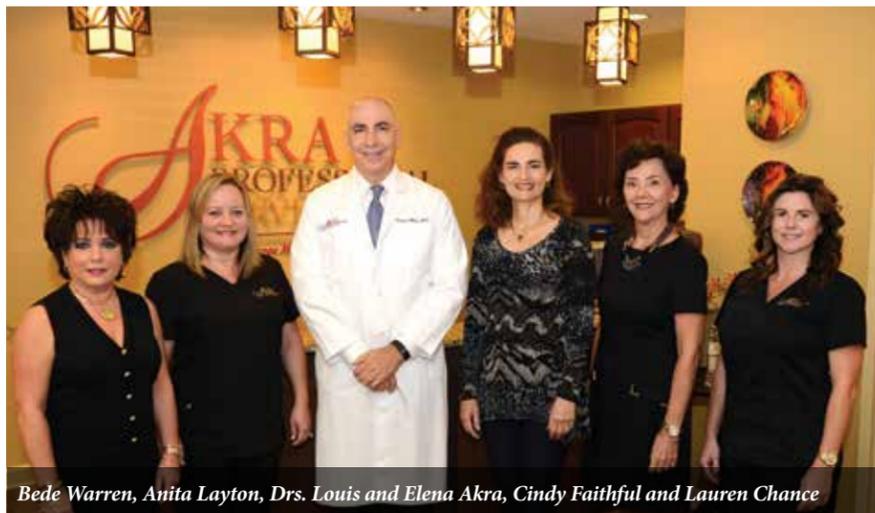
# Concierge Medical Practice Celebrates Five Years

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clients," Akra said. "We work for them. We want them to be successful, we want them to be happy and we want them to have the best."

The concierge practice continues to raise the bar for its approach to medicine, the reviews and positive growth fuel the work of Dr. Akra and his staff. Dr. Akra has over 25 years of expertise in internal medicine. His wife, Dr. Elena Akra, has a successful clinical psychology practice in the office as



Bede Warren, Anita Layton, Drs. Louis and Elena Akra, Cindy Faithful and Lauren Chance

**"We work for them. We want them to be successful, we want them to be happy and we want them to have the best." – Dr. Louis Akra**

Cindy Faithful, Akra's office manager, and Bede Warren, assistant office manager, greet patients with warm, friendly smiles upon entry. It's so cozy in this space that you might just want to ask for a cup of tea, a magazine and curl up in one of their comfy chairs. Which, apparently, their clients do – and it's encouraged. Clients are family here and you will feel that immediately.

Dr. Louis Akra M.D. and his staff love that they have clients who stop by, have a cup of coffee, read a book and enjoy the calm, soothing atmosphere.

"Everything here is designed for our



well. Along with Faithful and Warren, Dr. Akra has outstanding assistance from Lauren Chance, M.A., and Anita Layton, M.A., to help manage patient care. His entire staff is experienced and passionate about providing exceptional service and professionalism for their valued clientele.

So, it's no surprise that the month of September was spent celebrating their fifth year in business.

Dr. Akra truly values the relationships with his clients, which is exactly why he opened his concierge medical practice five years ago. Passionate about delivering personalized care, he felt trapped in a traditional practice that had over 5,000 accounts, making it impossible to devote the time necessary to know and help each patient as an individual.

For an annual fee, clients have direct access

to Dr. Akra 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You're not calling an answering service, you're calling his personal cell phone. "I want clients to know they can call me any time. I have your cell number on my phone so when I get a call I ask, 'What's going on, how can I help you?'" said Akra.

He believes it's important for Jacksonville residents to have this option when choosing medical care. Because the concierge model limits the size of the practice, doctors and staff are better able – and available – to recognize and respond to clients' needs.

Dr. Akra and his staff handle everything for their clients. They schedule appointments, lab work, consultations, annual exams and even same-day and next-day appointments, which start on time and last as long as necessary. And Dr. Akra makes sure his clients clearly understand their test results,

medications and any health conditions. He offers comfort by removing any confusion or worry they may have.

When opening his practice, Dr. Akra was labeled a pioneer. While concierge medical practices were popular in South Florida, nobody was taking that leap in Northeast Florida. They still haven't. Akra Professional Services is the only concierge medical and psychological practice in the area.

And they're thriving. Business has seen annual growth from word of mouth referrals since opening the doors. While at about 90 percent capacity, they're still growing and welcoming new clients.

Akra said, "I'm excited that I am able to do something I really enjoy and our clients are enjoying. We want to pause and thank our clients, thank our community, that we're able to do this and do it successfully."

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# Hubbard House's mission: Violence-free relationships

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

By Kate A. Hallock  
Resident Community News



People wearing purple in October may not know it's the color of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, but the folks at Hubbard House, the 40-year-old nonprofit that began as a shelter for abused women, surely do. It's also the color of a vicious bruise, that badge of dishonor many women and children – and some men – unwillingly wear. The dishonor, though, is not theirs but that of the batterer.

In celebration of 40 years providing safe shelter for victims of domestic abuse, the 22nd Annual Barbara Ann Campbell Memorial Breakfast will be held Tuesday, Oct. 4, at 7 a.m. at the Hyatt Regency Riverfront.

Statistics from the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence state more than 10 million people are abused annually – every minute 20 are abused by intimate partners. In Duval County, where 11 people died in 2014 as a result of domestic violence, Hubbard House has a mission to make every relationship violence-free.

It didn't take long after the first shelter opened in 1976 for Hubbard House to open a second shelter and then, in 1979, to launch a children's program to provide therapeutic childcare for shelter residents. Two years later, the nonprofit introduced

First Step, one of the first intervention programs in the country for batterers. In 1985, Hubbard House opened its first thrift store. Ten years later, its annual breakfast was named The Barbara Ann Campbell Memorial Breakfast, in memory of former Jacksonville Mayor Jake Godbold's sister-in-law, who was killed by her husband earlier in 1995.

After a \$4.6 million capital campaign funded by the community, Hubbard House opened a state-of-the-art facility in 1997, and in 2005 was selected by the Super Bowl XXXIX Host Committee as the official charity for the annual Legends for Charity luncheon and auction.

Through the ongoing generosity of its many supporters, Hubbard House keeps its doors open 24/7. In its 2014-2015 annual report, Hubbard House noted 51 percent of its funds were generated by the community, with grants at the city, state and federal level making up the balance. Last year 1,846 volunteers provided 17,076 hours to serve over 5,000 clients with shelter, clothing and counseling.



Alexis Bohrer of Angelwood, Diane Tuttle, executive director of Angelwood; Nancy Chamblin, president of Uptown Civitan; Tamar Britton, Joyce DeVillez, Laura Crooks and incoming Civitan President Barbara Fiser.



Camille Ott with Lesley Wolfson



International Region II Director of Civitan International Lana Suggs with Uptown Civitan Treasurer Betsy Caplan

# Nonprofits gain from Uptown Civitan generosity

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

Representatives of five local nonprofits reaped the benefits of Jacksonville Uptown Civitan fundraising this year during a luncheon at the University Club on the Southbank Sept. 13.

Receiving checks from Civitan Philanthropy Chairman Karen Nasrallah were Jon May of Pine Castle, Diane Tuttle of Angelwood, Dr. Betty Winstead of Horse Sense and Sensitivity, Kristen Dietzen of Jacksonville Speech & Hearing and Michele Corum of WJCT. Uptown Civitan President Nancy Chamblin accepted a check on behalf of Civitan International Research Center at the University of Alabama in Birmingham.

In total, the Uptown Civitan Club received 18 applications from area nonprofits for grant money this year, said Mattie Fraser, a spokesperson for the club.

Pine Castle received \$2,200 to help fund an audio-visual equipment system so that participants, staff and guests can properly hear programs and music. The gift amount

was to be matched by a Pine Castle donor so that the equipment, which cost \$4,300, could be purchased.

Angelwood was granted \$1,700 so that an automated external defibrillator could be purchased for one of its group homes. Last year, the club gave money to cover the cost of two defibrillators, Nasrallah said in her remarks.

Horse Sense and Sensitivity received \$1,000 to cover the cost of some scholarships for special needs children.

Jacksonville Speech & Hearing also received \$1,000 to help pay for speech therapy for children from low-income families.

WJCT was given \$500, the amount needed to pay for 20 radios for its radio reading service. "It's the only service of its kind on the First Coast," said Nasrallah.

The Club chose to donate to Civitan's International Research Center in Alabama because it had provided help toward the club's flagship project. "This is a well-deserved check," said Nasrallah.

All of the recipients met Uptown Civitan's mission of service to the community by serving those with disabilities, said Fraser.

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Guests were 'lovin' it' at Red Shoe Crew party

Ronald McDonald House's Red Shoe Crew hosted its annual Fries With That Wine event in the newly renovated East US Assure Club at EverBank Field Sept. 23. Presenting sponsor for the sold-out event was EverBank Field and the event included live music, a photo booth, craft beer and a raffle.

Touted as one of Jacksonville's "best parties with a purpose," the charity fundraiser hosted by the young professionals group offered a sampling of premier wines from Riverside Liquors and delicious McDonald's food. Florida Blue sponsored a VIP section with a three-course tasting menu created just for the event by a locally trained chef who now works for the McDonalds corporation. VIP guests were greeted with champagne with access to a private bar for more extensive food and wine pairings.



Jessica Howarth, Leslie McPartland



Ashley Helmick and Molly Maguire



Rebecca Broussard, Joey Fontenot, Anthony Pizza and Tiffany Zellhart



Grace and Katie Leeper with their parents, event Co-Chairs Aly and Chris Leeper



Daniel Lim, Soo Lim and James Gilvarry



Chefs Bogdan Borean and Patrick Kobylanski of the Mar-a-Lago Club in Palm Beach, display their Burgundy Braised Short Ribs.



Virginia and Matthew Hall with Tim and Tracie Loftis



Shannon and Blain Claypool make a fashionable entrance



Event Co-Chairs Sean and Susan Kelly

SOCIAL R

A destination with delicious in mind

It was another successful year for St. Vincent's HealthCare Foundation, as founding partners Ponte Vedra Inn & Club and Southern Glazers Wine and Spirits were celebrated alongside an outstanding cast of Southern culinary stars and spirits providers. In Year 15, the charity continues to deliver, as it hosts Jacksonville's Premiere Food & Wine event, where patrons enjoy a wine glass in the hand, while a few feet from the sand.

This year's event was presented by Miller Electric Company and Wells Fargo, as well as a partnership with THE PLAYERS. Countless Northeast Florida businesses

and individuals participated in making this year's 15th annual celebration a milestone for the Foundation.

The theme of *Farm to Fork: Celebrating the South* drew patrons from all over the First Coast, from the beaches to the historic neighborhoods. Thirteen chefs and five wine and spirits companies participated in the bounty by the seashore at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club Sept. 10. In addition to the gala, there were events held over the course of the three-day guest experience. For more information or to learn more about the mission, visit [www.jaxhealth.com/foundation](http://www.jaxhealth.com/foundation).

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## Animals are champions of the night

The Jacksonville Humane Society celebrated the efforts of donors and volunteers who have continued to support the coveted JHS Medical Fund. This much-needed initiative continues to assist and better the lives of homeless animals, especially those that are ill, neglected or gravely injured.

A Toast to the Animals 2016 was raised once again by Chairs Dave and Joelle Caldwell, who have continued to step up for homeless animals

in Jacksonville. Dave, the General Manager of the Jacksonville Jaguars, alongside his wife, Joelle, has not only supported the mission, but has walked the walk. By adopting three of their family dogs from animal shelters, they are dedicated to helping others with like minds for animal welfare. This year's event was held at the US Assure Club West at EverBank field Sept. 24.

## Hispanic business community awards scholarships at gala

The First Coast Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Hispanic Heritage Gala and Achieving the Dream Scholarship Awards held Sept. 22 at The Club Continental recognized the outstanding achievements of Hispanic students and celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month. With an Old Havana theme, gala attendees dressed in semi-formal or Cuban attire, and enjoyed a night of live music, dancing, silent auction, cigar rolling by Julio Cordero, rum tasting, dominoes, costume contest and more.

Achieving the Dream Scholarships were awarded to 16 young men and women: Jaime Avila, Vanessa Jimenez-Read, Briana Lopez, Kathie Alejandro Orozco, Gabrielle Perez, Moises Pichardo, Thalia Rey, Maria Rojas, Cesar Sanchez, Danielle Torres, Gabriel Valdes, Scarlett Vicente, Manuel Vilaro. The scholarships were partially funded by the Grainger Foundation, Florida Blue, EverBank, Marks Gray, P.A., and Allstate.



Elsa Montgomery, Valerie Callahan and Liz Joiner



Alicia Burst and Mark Rinkel



Scholarship recipient Scarlett Vicente and Lesbia Deloach



Elvin Chaves, Adelis Roman and Tito Rumba



Scholarship recipient Danielle Torres and Joseph Haney

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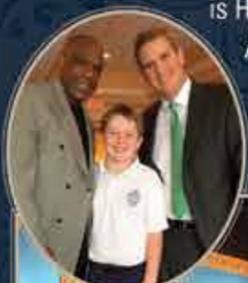
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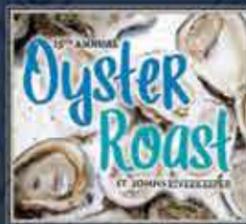
It was a great celebration of baseball in Jacksonville and the Pajcic Firm was proud to be a part of it. We sponsored an art exhibit at the Ritz Theater honoring Negro Leagues Baseball, which has a rich history in our city. Many former major league players were in town as part of a fundraiser for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Florida. Here is Hall-of-Famer



Andre Dawson with Seth Pajcic and his son.



Pajcic & Pajcic is the prime sponsor of the 15th annual St. Johns Riverkeeper



Oyster Roast. The event raises funds for the Riverkeeper which is an independent voice and watchdog group fighting to keep our beautiful St. Johns River clean and healthy. Hundreds are expected to attend this festive event on November 18th at the Garden Club.



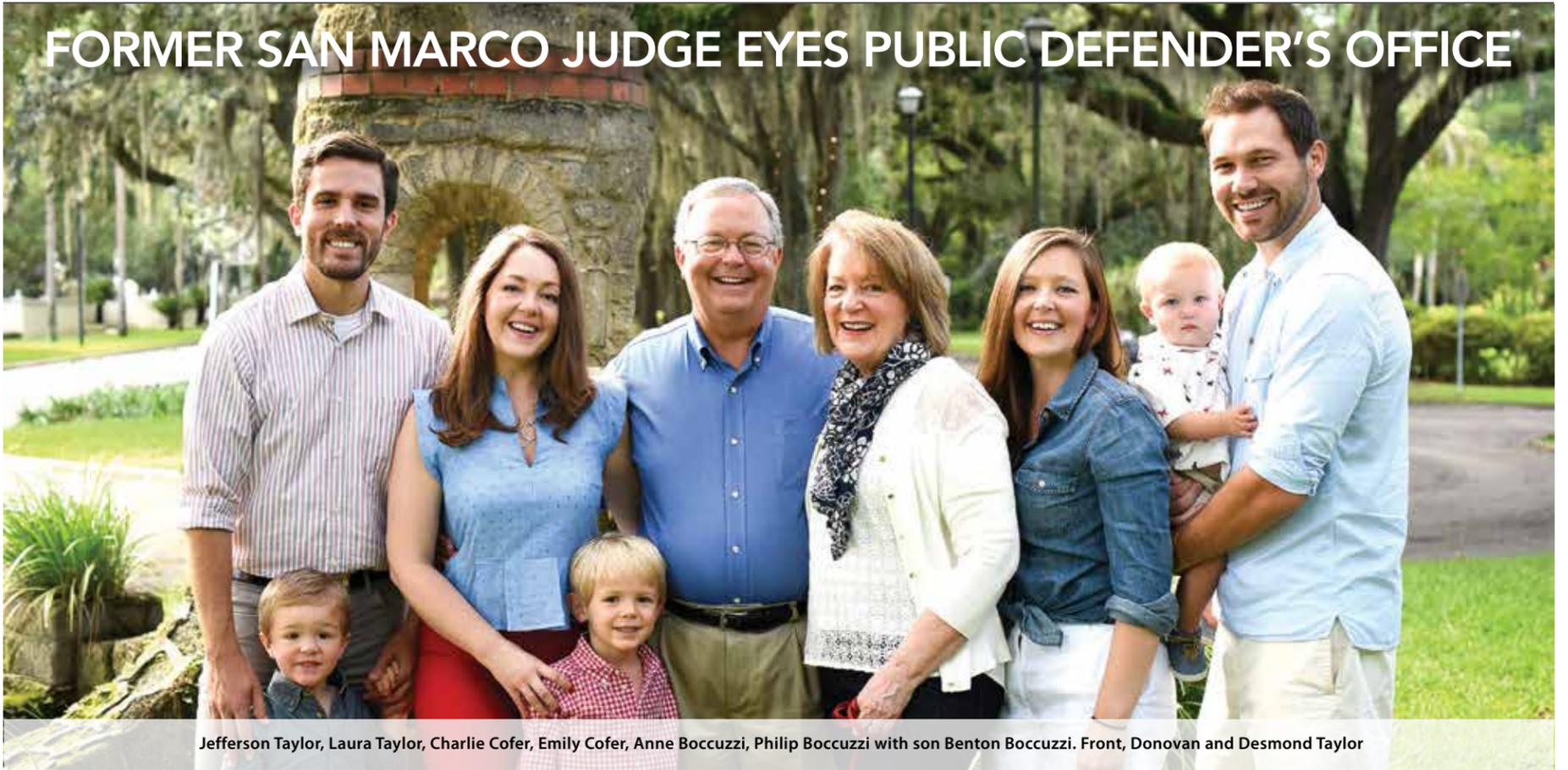
Steve Pajcic loves going back and giving back to his roots. He enjoyed being part of the 100 year anniversary celebration at Annie R. Morgan Elementary School, which he attended as a child. Steve likes to visit on a regular basis and has always supported the school. He and his late brother, Gary Pajcic, donated \$1 million in the past to a program to encourage experienced principals and teachers to work in the county's lowest-performing schools.



Pajcic & Pajcic represents individuals and families who have suffered serious personal injury or wrongful death due to the fault of others. Pajcic & Pajcic has eleven AV rated "preeminent" attorneys and is one of the few firms on Martindale-Hubbell's list of Top Ranked Law Firms in the Southeastern United States to receive the perfect 5.0 rating in client satisfaction.



# FORMER SAN MARCO JUDGE EYES PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE



Jefferson Taylor, Laura Taylor, Charlie Cofer, Emily Cofer, Anne Boccuzzi, Philip Boccuzzi with son Benton Boccuzzi. Front, Donovan and Desmond Taylor

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

After retiring from his post as a judge on the Duval County Court in November 2015, long-time San Marco resident Charles Cofer defeated incumbent Matthew Shirk in a landslide victory, 77 to 33 percent, in the Republican primary. In November he will face write-in candidate Roland Falcon, a Jacksonville defense attorney, in the general election.

Cofer is a 1974 graduate of Duke University with a degree in political science and zoology. After graduating from law school at the University of Virginia, he took a job as an attorney with Mahoney, Hadlow & Adams in 1977. After three years he served as an assistant public defender for the 4th Judicial Circuit for 18 years, spending 10 of those years in the homicide division, until he joined the county court in 1998. As a judge he presided over more than 100,000 cases.

He is a founding member of the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys, Northeast Florida Chapter and was selected twice by his peers as Duval County Court administrative judge. In 2011, he was named "Jurist of the Year" by the local chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates. He has also been chosen to serve as a mentor to new judges by the Florida Supreme Court.

To get to know the man who most likely will serve the Office of the Public Defender, *The Resident* reached out to Cofer with a few questions.

## What initially motivated you to go into law?

My formative years were largely in the 1960s, which was a significant era for social change. The story related in *To Kill a Mocking Bird* (by Harper Lee) and its central character of Atticus Finch influenced me a lot.

## After having served on the bench, will it be strange to step down into the public defender's shoes?

It will be a little bit strange to step down from the bench and serve as a trial attorney again, but I am looking forward to it.

## What reactions has your family had to your winning the election?

My family at first had some questions as to why I would leave my position as a judge to return to the public defender's office, because they saw how hard it was for me to initially receive my appointment as a judge. But they know me well enough to know that I would not have made this decision unless I felt it was extremely important.

## What do you hope to bring to your new office?

My campaign was centered on the concept of returning integrity and experience to the public defender's office, and that is truly what I hope to do. If I am successful, our system of justice will be improved.

## How do you feel knowing that you won the election by such a wide margin?

Winning the election by such a wide margin was gratifying, but I think it also reflects the community's sentiment that integrity is important within our justice system.

## Is there anyone in particular you wish to give a shout-out to regarding your campaign?

I am grateful to so many people for their support during the campaign, but I am particularly grateful to my wife, Emily, and our two daughters and their husbands for their help and support.

## When did you move to San Marco and what do you enjoy best about the neighborhood?

We've lived in San Marco for just over 39 years and chose the neighborhood when we moved to Jacksonville in 1977. We like the convenience to downtown (where I've always worked) and the quality of Hendricks Avenue

Elementary School for the kids when they were young. We've been members of the San Jose Country Club for over 25 years so we use it a lot for dining. We also love the restaurants in San Marco Square (The Loop, Pizza Palace and Taverna) and bb's nearby as well as going to the San Marco Theatre.

## Are you involved in any community organizations or do you have a favorite nonprofit organization that you like to support? What is it that interests you and sparks your willingness to serve?

When my daughters were young, I was very involved in their schools. I actually headed up the Dad's Club for a while at Hendricks Avenue Elementary. Both of my daughters were swimmers when they were young, so I was very involved in the River City Swim League for years. Before I was appointed as a judge in 1998, I was involved in a number of charitable organizations such as Samaritan Counseling Center and the Southside Methodist Church Pre-school program. Judicial ethics places restrictions on charitable activities by judges, so I had to scale those activities back after I was appointed to the bench.

## Do you have any pets?

We have a dog, a Sheltie named Duffy.

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# Strut Your Mutt equals fun and funds for local rescues

By Kim Lamb  
Resident Community News

The only thing more fun than walking dogs is rescuing dogs and that was the vibe at Best Friends Animal Society's Strut Your Mutt event Sept. 24 at Metropolitan Park.

Best Friends Animal Society is the only national animal welfare organization dedicated exclusively to ending the killing of dogs and cats in America's shelters.

Its annual Strut Your Mutt fundraising event brings together rescue groups, shelters, and individuals, effectively building a network of members and partners dedicated to raising awareness and saving animals across the country. Best Friends also provides resources for animal welfare groups to raise the funds necessary to care for homeless pets and to educate people in their communities.

"If you put in the effort, they make it easy to raise money. They're extremely responsive and helpful," said Safe Animal Shelter Director, Sherry Mansfield.

Jacksonville is one of 14 cities chosen to participate each year. Cities are selected based on where there is an identified need and where Best Friends members, volunteers, and network partners can help with the undertaking of this fundraiser. Nineteen local rescue groups participated in this year's event.

There was something fun for everyone, including agility demonstrations, little dog races, doggie musical chairs, best kisser contest and the rescue runway. There were also food trucks, exhibitors, contests, and, of course, adoptable dogs.



Mattie Cirasuolo with her Wheaten terrier mix Toby and Shelby Wright with Taz, an Australian shepherd



Desiree DeRenzo and Nibbles, her Saint Bernard

Some dogs strutted with their family and others – like, Dolly with Animal Care and Protective Services, Buddy with Safe Animal Shelter and Fiona and Jemma, both with The Old Dog House – were there in hopes of finding a forever family.

"We just couldn't do something like this without Best Friends," said Kim Stordahl, owner of The Old Dog House. "This is our fourth year participating because it's so well attended and successful for us."

At the event, Friends of Jacksonville Animals was awarded first place in team fundraising, The Old Dog House placed second and Friends of Clay County Animals placed third.



Emily Walker and Choppers, a mixed breed available for adoption

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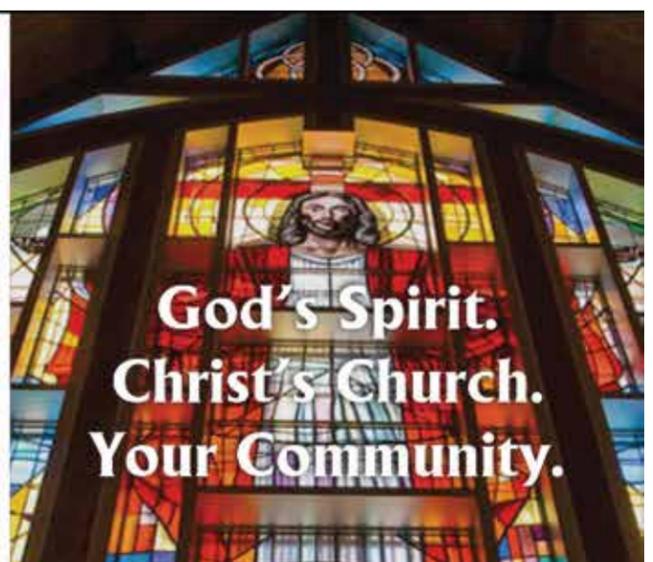


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# Trekkies celebrate popular show's 50th birthday

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

It's been 50 years since the first episode of Star Trek aired Sept. 8, 1966 and the folks at All Saints Episcopal Church felt the occasion was worth a celebration.

More than 30 church members and guests from the community gathered in All Saints' Parish Hall to munch on "Tribble Treats," and "Com Badge" cookies as well as other delectable goodies during a Star Trek birthday party organized by Maurice Postal, Delores Hulstizer and Mary Ellen Woffard.

Party-goers viewed a table full of vintage Star Trek memorabilia and enjoyed an hour-long "Journey to Babel" social hour, while Trekkie clips from YouTube played in the background. A potluck supper was followed by the cutting of Star Trek's 50th birthday cake. After dinner, participants enjoyed watching a pre-release screening of the documentary "For the Love of Spock," and viewed "The Man Trap," which was the very first Star Trek episode to air on television.



Karen and Keys Rhodes attended the party. In 1986, Karen was co-founder of the Star Trek Sector of Northeast Florida.



Pat Adams and Delores Hulstizer



Star Trek enthusiasts Ed Feren, Father Donovan Cain of All Saints Episcopal, L.C. West, Maurice Postal, Aoife Cain and her mother, Audrey, with Jess Glenn and Rick Sell

"We were original fans and remember watching the very first episode 50 years ago today," said Woffard. "We watched it when we were negative 10 years old," she laughed.

Although at 40 he is not old enough to have been a charter Star Trek fan, Postal said he made up for it as a pre-teen and

recently attended Mega Con in Orlando in May and joined Hulstizer and Woffard at the Star Trek Ultimate Voyage concert in at the Times Union Center last January.

Donning Coast Guard hats, former All Saints' members Karen and Keys Rhodes, who grew up in the church, drove in from Middleburg for the party. "Star Fleet is

modeled on the U.S. Coast Guard as it once was," said Karen, adding she joined former Channel 12 program manager Barbara Kaufmann in founding the Star Trek Sector of Northeast Florida in 1986. Kaufmann was responsible bringing the original syndicated series, "Star Trek, The Next Generation" to Jacksonville airwaves, she said.

# Club raises funds so that any kid can row

Nearly 200 showed up at an old-time Low Country Boil on the banks of the Arlington River to raise funds for the Stanton River Bank Rowing Club.

Strings of white lights turned the area surrounding The Shonka House, one of two homes located on the riverfront property owned by the club, into a fairyland as a Country Western band played tunes and partygoers munched on shrimp, potatoes, corn, sausage and pulled pork.

Boy Scout Troop 2, which meets at Ortega United Methodist Church, supplied and erected a tent for the event, said club member Marme Kopp.

The club hosted its first annual gala Sept. 24 to fund scholarships so that kids from all economic backgrounds



Taylor Yelverton, Walker Ferris, Chris Register, program director of the Stanton River Bank Rowing Club, Tripp Ferrer and Chrissy Ferrer, president of the Stanton River Bank Rowing Club.

could join the public rowing club.

The SRB crew got its start at Stanton High School, the only public school to ever offer crew as a school sport, said Chrissy Ferrer, club president. It is open to any middle or high school student in the Jacksonville area.

"We are raising money to fund youth rowing in the community," Ferrer said, noting rowing is the most heavily recruited sport of all when it comes to awarding college scholarships.

"It's an expensive sport. We want to make sure kids from any kind of background can join. We want to demolish the barriers that exist in the sport," she said, adding that with insurance and the need of expensive equipment, it can cost a participant as much as \$2,000 a year to row.

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# JAXSPORTS Honoring Our Heroes Program Needs You

*Send a military family to the iconic Navy-Notre Dame game*

There's nothing more exciting than a college football rivalry and Jacksonville hosts its share of some of the most anticipated match-ups. This year, area servicemen, women, and their families have a unique opportunity to attend the Navy-Notre Dame college football game. This unbelievable experience is only made possible by the generous support of donors and sponsors who are able to step up for America's patriots.

Often, military personnel are unable attend events due to illness, injury or the costs involved and that's where the Jacksonville Sports Council (JAXSPORTS) is stepping in and calling on our community to get involved.

Honoring Our Heroes provides the opportunity for military members and their families, including those who have been wounded, ill or injured, are currently deployed or have lost a family member during active duty, to enjoy a unique game-day experience complete with flying colors and an outstanding dedication to our nation's servicemen and women.

These families will receive a full day of fun Saturday, Nov. 5, beginning with transportation compliments of the Jacksonville Transportation Authority. After arriving at EverBank Field, the heroes and their families can kick-off the rivalry with a pregame tailgate party which includes lunch and a special game-day gift. The festivities before kickoff honor families of the fallen and those who have honorably served, with an in-stadium tribute at the nationally televised event.

All branches of the military are eligible for the game-day experience, the 90th meeting between the United States Naval Academy and the University of Notre Dame. This is the third time the Midshipmen have played in Jacksonville, including the 1964 and 1973 Gator Bowl games against Georgia Tech.

The Navy-Notre Dame game will be presented by Navy Federal Credit Union and Navy Mutual Aid Association. Funds utilized to send military members and their families to the game are being raised through individual and corporate donors, small businesses and local leaders in the community.

Rick Catlett, JAXSPORTS president and CEO, said the goal is to raise \$500,000 to make it a day some 3,000 to 5,000 heroes and their families will never forget.

The program highlights Navy Gold Star families – those who have lost a family member who served in the military – as well as families of injured or ill service members. The public may also nominate a hero for consideration.

"We have a lot of brave military members right here in our community who have been injured while on active duty. In many cases they can't afford to come," said Catlett. "This program is for them – to give them a special day; an opportunity for our community to salute our armed forces."

Honoring Our Heroes is personal for Catlett, whose family has a long military history. His father was a Marine, his father-in-law an Army Colonel, his son currently serves in the Navy as a Lieutenant Commander, and Catlett himself was on activity duty in the Air

Force and flew with the 125th Fighter Wing of the Florida Air National Guard.



Force and flew with the 125th Fighter Wing of the Florida Air National Guard.

JAXSPORTS staff said Honoring Our Heroes was Catlett's brainchild.

"We started talking, when we were first awarded the game, about doing something that could give back or provide the community touch," said Catlett. "We knew this game would gather national publicity, so what could we do for the military in Southeast Georgia and Northeast Florida? We tossed around the idea of a scholarship, but in the end we wanted to do something for the families of our local heroes."

"I would never tell people in Jacksonville that it's their obligation to buy a football ticket to go to a sporting event, but this might come as close to an obligation for our community," said Catlett, referring to supporting the Honoring Our Heroes program.

Leading up to game day are a host of events beginning with a military-themed First Wednesday Art Walk downtown in Hemming Park Wednesday, Nov. 2 from 5-9 p.m. On Thursday, Nov. 3, the JAX Chamber will hold a Military Appreciation Luncheon at the Prime Osborn Convention Center beginning at 11:30 a.m. A Celebration of the Navy will take place Friday, Nov. 4, at 5 p.m. at The Jacksonville Landing, followed by a Notre Dame Pep Rally at 7 p.m. Fireworks will cap the evening at 8 p.m. The Jacksonville Sea and Sky Spectacular will also be held during that weekend in Jacksonville Beach, featuring derring-do military air acts by the Blue Angels.

To send a hero to the Navy-Notre Dame game, visit [jaxsports.com](http://jaxsports.com)



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## Benghazi tribute a draw for local patriots



Dr. Helmut Makosch with Dr. Lewis Obi, Lt. General Thomas McInerney, USAF, Ret., Padraic Mulvihill and Roger Wilson at the VIP reception.



Kenneth Wood with Victoria Vesce, Wesley Bunce and Albert Bresciani

By Seth Williams  
Resident Community News

The attack on the consulate in Benghazi was a tragedy for Americans, from service members to the staff of the State Department and others serving abroad. It was an unnecessary loss of life, compounded by a lack of response for support for those serving on foreign soil. The lives of four people were lost on a tragic day that is overshadowed by annual mourning over Sept. 11, 2001, yet the attack came on the anniversary, 11 years to the day, of one of our nation's darkest days.

In honor of the fallen, one group of local volunteers organized a gathering for those who gave their last, full measure on Sept. 11, 2012. With an attendance of several hundred guests, the ceremony drew Northeast Florida residents to hear distinguished guest panelists, including Lt. General Thomas McInerney, USAF, Ret., Clare Lopez, former CIA operations officer and advisor on Middle Eastern strategic policy and national security, and Charles Woods, a former attorney and retired administrative law judge and father to former U.S. Navy Veteran and SEAL Tyrone Woods.

The ceremony, complete with presentation of colors by Sandalwood Air Force JROTC Color Guard, was followed by the bagpiping of Highland Cathedral by Pipe Sgt. Ron McDonald of the JFRD (Jacksonville Fire Rescue Department). The national anthem was sung by Lifesong, Trinity Baptist College Chorus and a formal presentation of four wreaths were laid to the tune Going Home, piped by Sgt. McDonald, who exited playing Amazing Grace.

The event took place at the Times-Union Center for Performing Arts Sept. 10 and presented the opportunity for attendees to interact with special guests at a VIP reception prior to the ceremony. The Benghazi tribute in Jacksonville was the only formal event held across our nation to pay tribute to those lost on that tragic day in Libya.

The lives of U.S. Ambassador to Libya Chris Stevens, U.S. Navy Veteran SEAL Glen Doherty,



Dr. Lewis Obi, a veteran of both the Korean and Vietnam Wars, took time to thank Charles Woods for his son's sacrifice for our country.



Charles Woods shares his fondest memories of his son, Tyrone, who was killed in action in Benghazi.

U.S. Navy Veteran SEAL Tyrone Woods and U.S. Navy Veteran Information Officer Sean Smith were all lost to the conflict. Our government failed to send backup and provide support to those killed in an ambush on the U.S. Embassy in Benghazi, Libya.

The event was organized by Turning Points in America, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded to provide education about events that are turning points in the history of our country and to provide services to those involved or affected by such turning points. Visit [www.turningpointsinamerica.org](http://www.turningpointsinamerica.org) to learn more about how you can serve a servicemember.



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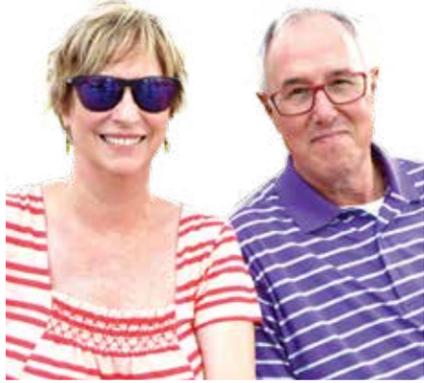
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# First Friday features acoustic guitar duo 77ds



Olga and Tom Bayer made their way to Balis Park to enjoy guitar music played by the band 77ds.



The band 77ds performed on Acoustic Night in Balis Park, a free concert sponsored by the San Marco Merchants Association Sept. 2. Playing for folks in the square were Darren Ronan and his partner Ernie Ealum.



Debbie, Brenden and Dennis Donnelly enjoyed the musical festivities in Balis Park sponsored by the San Marco Merchants Association Sept. 2.



Erik Berger and his daughter, Samantha.



Soaking up good vibes during Acoustic Night in Balis Park were Mandy Hunter, William Goin and Martha Huber.



Steve and Deanna Furey enjoy acoustic guitar music played by the band 77ds in Balis Park Sept. 2.

It may have been storming in the morning as Hurricane Hermine headed out of Jacksonville, but that did not deter the band 77ds from performing that evening during the San Marco Merchants Association's First Friday Acoustic Night in Balis Park Sept. 2.

Serenading the crowd were Darren Ronan of Ortega and his partner Ernie Ealum, who played many favorite tunes on their guitars in the park gazebo.

The event was the first of three free musical concerts sponsored by the merchants on the first Friday of the month. On Friday, Oct. 7, the Session Jazz Quartet will play, followed by Leighton Serlo on Friday, Nov. 5. The performances are held from 6 to 8 p.m.

Among the few who brought folding chairs in order to have a ringside seat Sept. 2 when the music started at 6 p.m. were Steve and Deanna Furey of San Marco. "We've lived here two and a half years and we love it," said Deanna.

## JAPA hosts fall party at Haskell Building

The Jacksonville Alumnae Panhellenic Association kicked off its 102nd year with a fall party at the Haskell Building Sept. 13.

Thanks to the efforts of Fall Party Chairman Wendy Mueller of Murray Hill, and her committee – Susie Crosby, JAPA President Mary Freeman, Carla Hill and Carol Michael of San Jose – there were goodies to munch on, stations set up so participants could sign up for activities during the year and several drawings in which the members took home prizes. At Carol Michael's suggestion, all past presidents of the group took turns pouring punch during the party in an effort to get to know new members better.

In her opening remarks to the group, Freeman mentioned that JAPA awarded \$12,000 in scholarships to four recipients and that its membership had logged over 20,000 volunteer hours in community service the previous year.

She also recognized members of the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority, which took home last year's The Mary Louise Shannon Attendance Award, honoring the sorority with the most sisters attending general JAPA meetings during the current membership year. Kappa Alpha Theta was named as the sorority with the most sisters who are JAPA members during the past current membership year. Kappa Alpha Theta has won the membership award each year for the past 11 years.

Lark Will was recognized as the Panhellenic Jewel Award recipient, which is given to the member who exemplifies the true meaning of Greek sisterhood as well as for her sustained service to JAPA.



Attending the fall party of the Jacksonville Alumnae Panhellenic Association were Barbara Turner, Holly McMurry, Paige Hayes, Carol Michael, Molly Knight, Barbara Maurer, Peggy Clark, Martha Van Der Mallie, Emily Williamson, June Lundy and Liz Mayernick.

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Suzanne Shaw

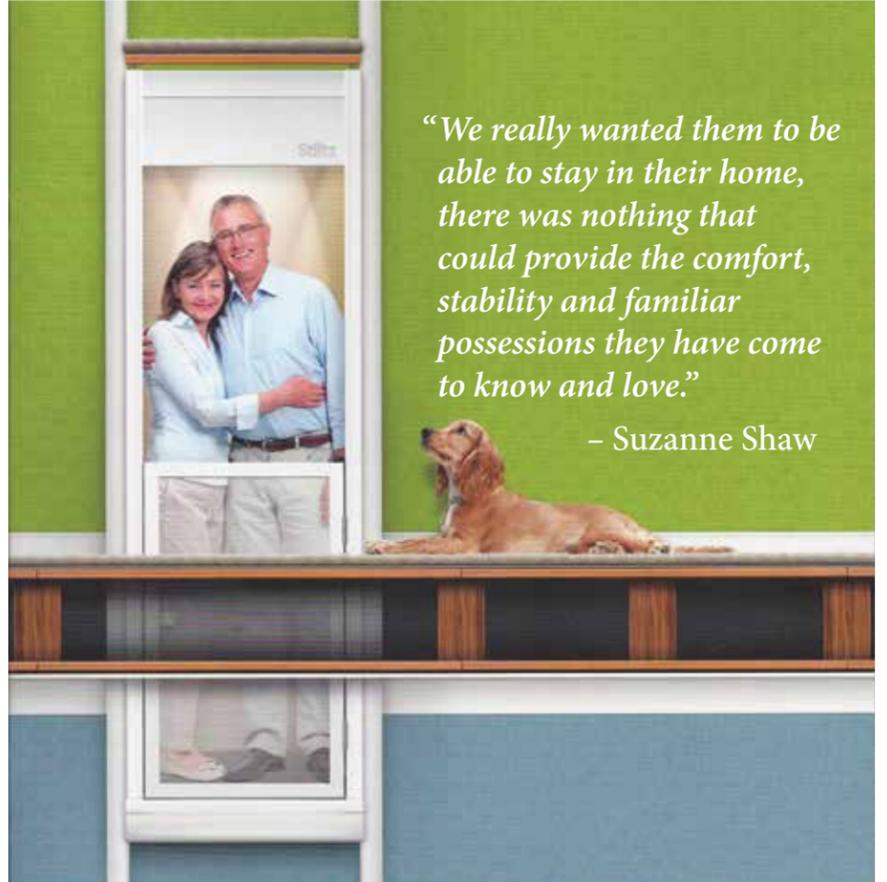
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"We really wanted them to be able to stay in their home, there was nothing that could provide the comfort, stability and familiar



*"We really wanted them to be able to stay in their home, there was nothing that could provide the comfort, stability and familiar possessions they have come to know and love."*

– Suzanne Shaw

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possessions they have come to know and love," said Suzanne. "The fact that they get to live out the end of their years, they get to stay in their home...they've worked so hard to get here."

It's been said that there's no place like home and for generations of Americans who have worked hard to pay down their mortgages, it's never been more true. With

the rising cost of quality elder care facilities, cost of living increases and construction costs skyrocketing, it's no wonder families are seeking alternatives. The most important part of aging in place is building forever memories and remaining in the home where they have been made. Let the Stiltz Home Lift system help you, or your loved ones achieve that goal.



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# Senior ministry bridges gap in federal assistance

By Kim Lamb  
Resident Community News

As a long-time Florida Gator fan, Miss Betty could not believe it. Here she was, sitting front-row, at the Deerwood Country Club as Pam Tebow, mother of former Gator quarterback and NFL player Tim Tebow, spoke about a local nonprofit dear to her own heart.

Betty was one of 130 people attending Hart Felt Ministries Sixth Annual Charity Gala, *Bridging the Gaps*, Sept. 17. Betty is also one of more than 550 seniors annually receiving assistance from Hart Felt. Another 400 remain on a waiting list – a list that sees new names added every week.

Tebow proved to be the perfect guest speaker. Her inspirational message focused on giving, serving and having a mission. “We told our kids, it’s not so much about how you earn your living that gives your life purpose, fulfillment, significance, it’s your mission,” she said.

Founded in 2004 by Jane Hart, the nonprofit helps Jacksonville seniors live independently and stay in their homes by providing minor home repairs, light housekeeping, grocery shopping, respite care, wheelchair ramp construction, yard work, companionship and more. For eight years in a row, Hart Felt Ministries has been named Best of Jacksonville for senior services.

Kelly Moorman Coggins, Hart Felt’s president and executive director and only full-time employee, shared Miss Betty’s story along with those of Mr. Curtis and Mr. James. All are disabled seniors whose lives have dramatically improved, thanks to Hart Felt services.

In 2011, Betty was diagnosed with spinal stenosis, a disability that left her without use of her right foot and leg. Getting to the event wasn’t easy, but Betty wanted everyone to understand the impact Hart Felt Ministries has had on her life.

As Coggins finished her presentation, everyone in the room had a deeper



Pam Tebow, Anderson Almeida



Alan and Patti Weaver with Bobby Horne, Hart Felt Ministries treasurer and board member



Hart Felt Ministries Volunteer Gina Strong, Pam and Bob Tebow, with Miss Betty



Hart Felt Ministries Volunteer Ann Cook, with Barbara League

understanding of Hart Felt’s significance in Jacksonville.

Hart Felt has two part-time employees, Julie Hart Peoples and Kristi Taylor. Together with Coggins, the three share one 12- by 10-foot office. It’s amazing the amount of work they accomplish, while relying heavily on assistance from their Board of Directors, donors and volunteers.

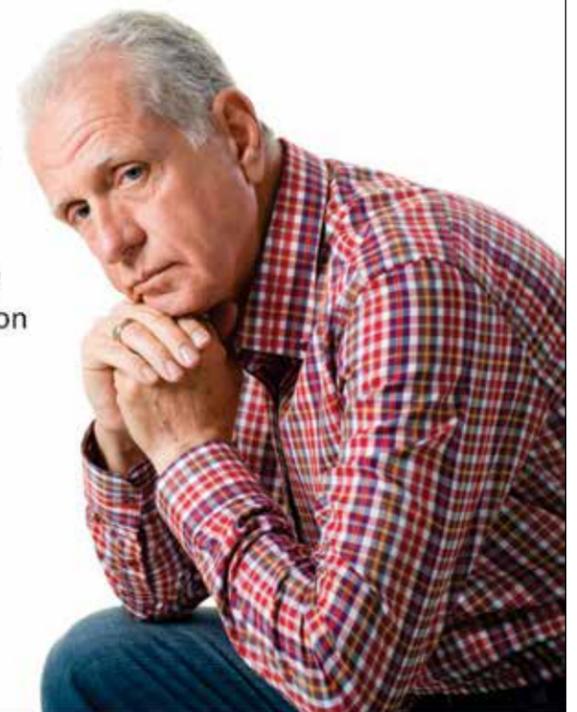
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# The Way We Were

## The Cannon Siblings

By Julie Kerns Garmendia  
Resident Community News

For Linden Kinder “Kin” Cannon, III and his identical twin sisters Linda Cannon McMorrow and Selby Cannon Kaiser, the fact that they, their spouses, several children and grandchildren mostly live within the San Jose area hints at the closeness of this family. For these constantly moving military kids, nurturing family relationships, spending time together and creating a permanent hometown are priorities.

After living in approximately 50 different locations throughout their lives, the possibility that most of the Cannon family would eventually settle in the same hometown seemed beyond remote.

“People think we’ve lived here all of our lives, but I was the first to move to Jacksonville in 1966,” Cannon said. “In the back of my mind I always thought that if I could get one sister here, the other would follow...then we’d have some or all of the children and that is exactly what happened. As the only enlisted man in a family of career officers, I had to bide my time until my brothers-in-law retired.”

Cannon spent seven years in active duty in the U.S. Army Reserves; his sisters both married West Point graduates. They date most family milestones against a continuous

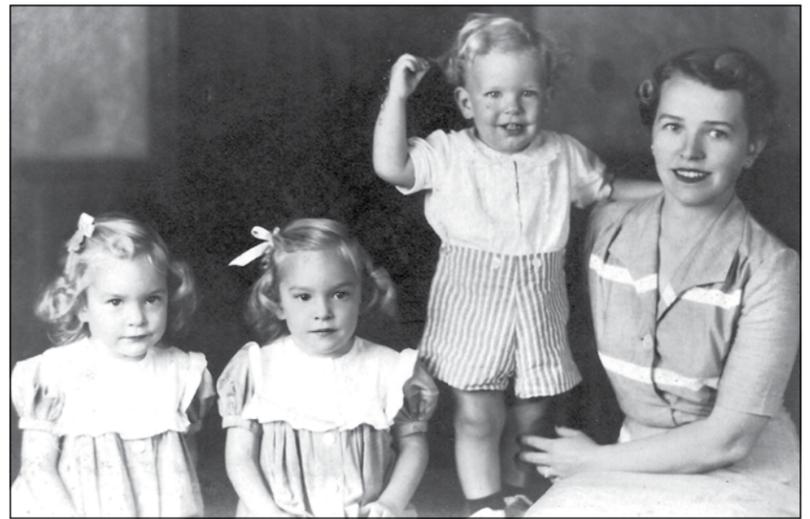
timeline of U.S. history and military events. All sides of their family, for consecutive generations, are connected to the defense of the country, instilling a sense of intense patriotism in what Cannon calls a “super-military family.”

Cannon’s father and brothers-in-law were military officers and two maternal great-uncles were Vice Admirals in the Navy. Linda’s husband, Tom McMorrow, is the son of an Army Major General.

Cannon finished law school at the University of Florida in 1966 and moved to Jacksonville to join Mahoney, Hadlow, Chambers & Adams. The young attorney completed his bar exam and within days was called to Army Reserves Active Duty.

In 1968 Cannon fell in love with Barbara Schurer, a Riverside native, 1964 Lee High School and FSU graduate who taught at Annie R. Morgan Elementary School.

“We met on a blind date arranged by my cousin, who taught school with Barbara. It was an unusual first date, to the 1968 Ye Mystic Revellers Ball, but it was my good fortune to meet Barbara. We were married June 14, 1968,” Cannon said. “I’ve been blessed on both sides of my family. Linda, Selby and I had wonderful parents and I married into a loving, principled family. My in-laws, Frank and Bertie Schurer, were great role models.”



Selby, Linda and Kin with mother, 1944

The Cannons first lived in a Riverside apartment, then an Avondale duplex. In 1969 their daughter Kimberly was born.

“When Kimberly was three we wanted a yard where she could play. My friend Ellis Zahra (fellow attorney and Army buddy), learned from his mother, Dorothy “Dot” Zahra, that the home next to her on Ardsley Road was going on the market,” Cannon said. “We moved to Ardsley Road in 1972. Our son Kinder was born in 1974.”

In 1975 the Cannons bought a Granada home on Alhambra Drive North from Mr. and Mrs. Jack Saalfield. The Saalfields had bought it from its original owner, U.S. Federal Judge Charles Scott. Judge Scott told the Saalfields, who shared the story with the Cannons, that the home was built with salvaged brick from the old downtown post office. The Cannon children enjoyed

attending San Jose Episcopal Day School, Octoberfest in Granada Park and the annual Halloween Pumpkin Contest.

In 1982 Cannon accepted a position as executive vice president and general legal counsel for an air quality products company in Orlando, but the family missed Jacksonville, and they returned within two years.

“We got lucky and bought one of the last lots in San Jose Forest II. Mitch Montgomery built our home on Christopher Creek in 1984,” Cannon said. “We’ve considered downsizing, but love the neighborhood and neighbors too much. Van and Jane Monroe have lived on our street longer than we have, Jeff and Barbara Ricke and Mark and Toni Woods are all terrific people.”

Cannon retired as a senior partner

  
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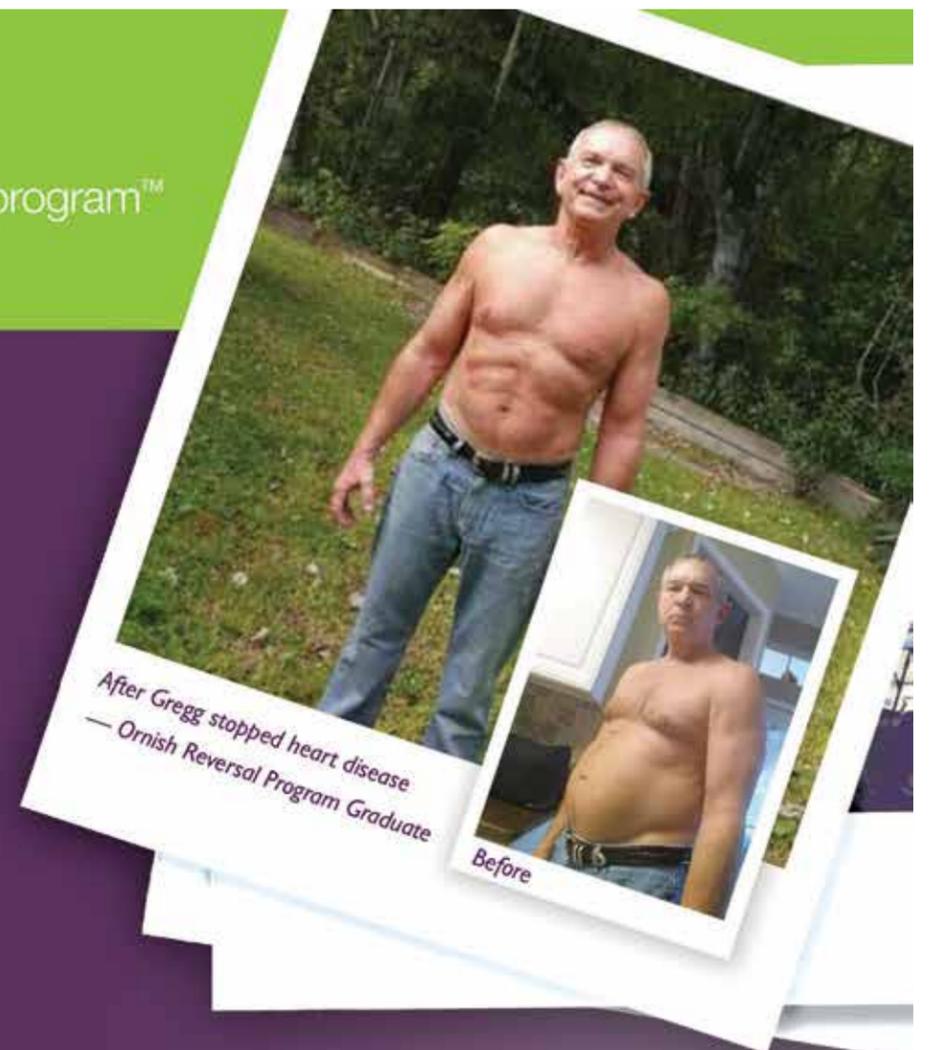
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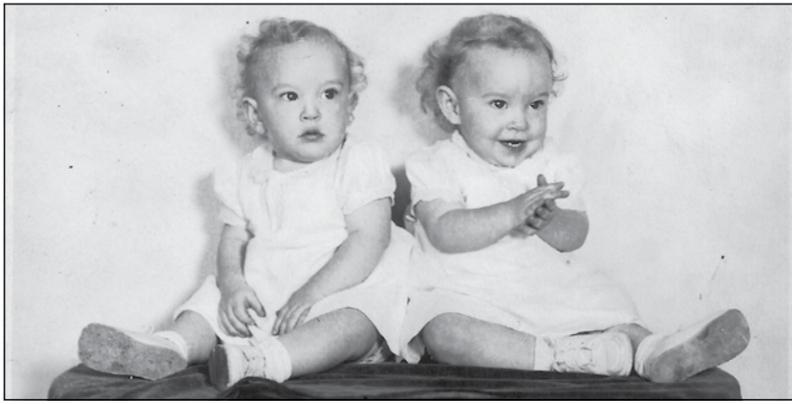
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Linda and Selby, March 1941



Linda and Selby with mother, June 1942



Selby, Fred and J.C., 1967

from Holland & Knight, LLP in 2013. He practiced law for 46 years, the last 12 as the firm's general counsel.

### Twins follow brother to Jacksonville

Linda Cannon McMorrow was the first twin to follow her brother to Jacksonville. After her husband, Lieutenant Colonel Tom McMorrow (Joint Chiefs of Staff – Middle East), retired from the Pentagon and fulfilled his dream of earning a Georgetown law degree, his brother-in-law encouraged him to practice law in Jacksonville. That possibility, plus his mother's move to Sarasota and their desire to live near family, sealed the deal.

The McMorrrows moved to Beauclerc in 1980. Tom McMorrow worked for The Charter Company until shortly after a tragic plane crash in Ireland in October 1981, which claimed the lives of several of the company's top executives. He practiced private and corporate law until he retired in 2014.

The McMorrrows bought their 9409 Woodhaven Road home after falling in love with the picturesque street and its canopied trees. Their neighbors became great friends and they recall some epic garage sales and memorable Christmas parties.

"The Waits (Bobby and Joanne) rented a beach house every summer and invited all the neighbors. That's when everyone met and really got to know each other," she said. "During the early 1980s Selby and I lived on opposite ends of Woodhaven and our children attended the University of Florida. We opened our homes for Florida/Georgia weekend to invite all of our sons' college friends. We had a hot tub and Selby had the pool so 20 or more kids would go back and forth between our houses having a great time. We got to know our children's friends, knew they were safe and every morning when we got up, the houses and street between us were completely picked up and clean. We loved having them all home."

As the McMorrrows were driving back from their youngest son Christopher's college graduation, they knew it was a red-letter day in their lives. Soon they downsized from the Woodhaven home, which had proved more challenging than expected. In 1987 they moved to Epping Forest where, like Goldilocks, they subsequently tried out three different homes until finding exactly the right condominium to accommodate their grandchildren's sleepovers. A bonus was that Epping was even closer to the Cannons.

Soon after her sister and brother-in-law moved to Jacksonville, Selby and her husband George Frederick "Fred" Kaiser, came for an Easter visit and ended up house-hunting. Fred Kaiser had retired from Fort Monroe, Virginia where he was a Colonel in Field Artillery. The Kaisers returned to Virginia, made retirement plans and in 1983 moved to 9475 Woodhaven Road at the opposite end from the McMorrrows.

Fred Kaiser began a successful second career in Jacksonville as a legal administrator for several law firms over the next 23 years. He retired for the second time in 2006.

The Kaisers lived five years on Woodhaven, five years in the Villages of San Jose and eventually traded that house for a riverfront St. Johns County home. Their current Epping Forest condominium is next door to the McMorrrows.

Kin Cannon is used to seeing double when it comes to his sisters, yet he swears he could always tell them apart. He said they are his personal dynamic duo and have always been protective of him. They are brilliant, individually unique, inseparable, and have an astonishing mental and emotional connection that amazes everyone, said Cannon.

"They showed up in similar colors, clothing or the same hairstyle to family gatherings,

week until Tom was so tired of my comments about missing my phone time with Selby he said to go ahead and call her. It turned out she had been trying to reach me, but only had Tom's office number and everyone did not have answering machines back then. Not only was she worried about not being able to reach us, she wanted us to know that a dear friend was wounded in Vietnam and would be recovering at an Army hospital near us. Her husband Fred, was serving in Vietnam at that time. I understood why I had felt such a need to call her. She needed me," Linda said.

The identical twins, just 4 feet 11 inches tall, often answer questions with the same words. The only visible difference between them is that each wears a slightly different hair style or clothing. Their brother recalled they have enjoyed playing jokes on people who could

with classmates after school, drank Coca Cola and ate hard pretzels...we never had tasted a hard pretzel until then."

The McMorrrows married on September 3, 1960 at Fort Myer, Virginia U.S. Army Base (renamed Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall in 2005). They have two sons, Thomas Francis McMorrow, Jr. and Christopher Cannon McMorrow, and three grandchildren.

In 1962 Selby Cannon graduated from FSU and taught second grade in Fayetteville, North Carolina. She met Fred Kaiser when both attended Episcopal services at the main post chapel at Ft. Bragg. They married six months later on April 20, 1963 in that chapel and have two children, Frederick Thomas Combs "TC" Kaiser and Lara Elizabeth (Kaiser) Pierce, and three grandchildren.

The families have been volunteers, supporting community organizations and charities while stationed at Army bases, through their churches and Northeast Florida Realtors' Association, including American Red Cross, Habijax, Sulzbacher Center, Fresh Ministries, Operation New Hope, DANIEL and its Independent Living Village, WomanadeJax, The Cummer Museum and the Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville.

The twins enjoy needlepoint, which they learned in college from their FSU Alpha Delta Pi Sorority house mother, who assured them that "idle hands are the devil's workshop." They describe themselves as "former needlepoint addicts" and refer to their passion as a BRE – Before Real Estate Hobby. The sisters create their own design patterns, have taught needlepoint and have at least 10 in-progress projects waiting for completion.

A perfect example of the twins' creativity is the business luncheon Kaiser was hosting years ago, when she decided to make birdhouses for table centerpieces and door prizes. She asked McMorrow to help.

"I said, oh sure Selby, I'd love to help with that," McMorrow said. "What I did not know was that she was making 45 of them, one for each table and hand-painting birds, flowers and a unique design on each birdhouse! I ended up painting on base coats...they were works of art and so beautiful everyone at the luncheon wanted one."

These days Cannon spends with his wife and three grandchildren, and enjoys walking their Golden Retriever puppy, Lucy, in the neighborhood. While their spouses enjoy retirement, Linda and Selby are still hard at work. They have been Realtors for more than 30 years and have earned more credentials, honors and held more professional association positions than can possibly be listed.

In 2006 they opened their firm, The Legends of Real Estate. Their career choice fits like a glove, because it is likely that few people could value, cherish and understand the idea of home more than these two, who spent most of their lives moving.



Linda, Tom Jr., Tom and Christopher, 1966



Selby, Kin and Linda in Crystal River, Florida, 1999



Selby Kaiser and Linda McMorrow with their needlepoint

even when they lived on different continents. They seemed to always know what the other was thinking or feeling," he said.

"We always had a strong mental telepathy and connection no matter how far apart we were living," Linda McMorrow said. "We often call each other at the same time...our mother said we sent her the same birthday cards or gifts. When Tom and I moved to California and Selby and Fred were stationed at Auburn University, we talked at least once a week. Long distance calls then were expensive, and we could never just talk for a few minutes, so Tom strongly suggested I limit the long distance calls.

"I tried, until I started to have a strong feeling that I needed to call Selby. I waited a

not tell them apart.

As children, the twins used to softly sing old songs like "Side By Side" and "Blue Skies." Selby sings soprano melody and Linda sings alto harmonies, although neither had formal training other than church and school choirs. They sang duets together as children and often sang themselves to sleep at night.

"They would rock in tandem harmonizing when we rode in the car. We didn't need the radio on, we had the twins!" Cannon said.

The twins enjoy reminiscing about attending not one, but three different high schools. The last was in Pennsylvania only for their senior year and 1958 graduation.

"It was really just like the 'Happy Days' television show," they said. "We got together

# Touch rugby, the popular coed sport just about anyone can play

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

When Andy Yi and his wife Debby moved back to Jacksonville from Taiwan in 2014 one of the main things they missed most was the “welcoming” atmosphere of the Touch Rugby Association they had Taipei.

“Actually it was my wife who got me into it,” said Yi, adding that he started playing when he and Debby worked for four and a half years as English teachers in Taiwan. “I used to play flag football and had no interest in touch rugby, but after my wife got me to play a couple of times that was it. Once I tried it, I fell in love with it. It’s my passion now.”

After he discovered the closest Florida clubs were located in Orlando and Palm Coast, Yi realized he had no choice but to create a team in Jacksonville if he wanted to keep playing.

Joining with his brother, Eric, who lives in San Jose, and many of their childhood friends, Yi established the Jax Juggernauts, a coed club which started out as a social and recreational group that practiced twice a week with the goal of fostering a love of the sport in Jacksonville.

“We wanted to recreate the (Touch) community in Jacksonville and share the love of a beautiful sport that anybody with a willingness to learn and improve can play – young or old, fit or fat, boy or girl,” said Yi. “Since the closest teams were in Palm Coast and Orlando, we had no choice but to build from the ground up. It was a challenging experience to share a sport with people who had never even touched a rugby ball, let alone heard of Touch, but it was a highly rewarding experience,” he said.

Touch rugby is a minimum contact form of rugby football similar to ultimate Frisbee or flag football. In touch rugby players do not tackle each other, but instead touch their opponents by using their hands on any part of the body, clothing, or the ball as in the child’s game of tag. Anyone can



Chris Woolston, Maxwell Lee, Andy Yi, Sean Balaban, Bob Knoepfel, Eric Yi

play, said Yi, noting in Touch Rugby World Cup competition there is a 50 and older division. “The best part of it is the community. Anybody can play from when they are a kid to when they can’t run anymore,” he said.

Maxwell Lee, one of several regulars from the San Marco/San Jose agreed. “This is a good bridge for people not familiar with rugby. It is a safe way to get into the sport, and your wife or your girlfriend can play, too. It’s something you can play at the international level in a coed setting,” he said. Some of the other regular players from the San Marco include Chris Woolston, Bob Knoepfel and Rick Kohn.

Since the inception of Jacksonville Juggernauts two years ago, the team has become the fastest growing Touch Rugby club in Florida, said Yi, adding from the start it had been his ambition to create a club that could compete in the USA Nationals within three years and to eventually have some of his players selected to play in the 2019 Touch World Cup.

In its second year the Juggernauts grew from a social club of friends to an informal USA Federation of International Touch (FIT) affiliated team that includes at least 30 regulars who practice twice a week – on Wednesday evenings near the Town Center and on Saturday mornings at Alexandria

Oaks Park in San Marco. With more than 220 members of the touch rugby team’s Facebook page, the team aspires to grow even more, said Yi.

Sponsored by Glocal Network, Realtors Christine and David Herron, Prime Realty and T. Maks International, the Jax Juggernauts regularly compete in the Tri-City Tournament, a bi-monthly competition between Jacksonville, Palm Coast and Orlando.

Most recently they played host to the first Florida Touch Open Tournament in Northeast Florida on Aug. 27, which included teams from Charlotte, North Carolina, Ft. Lauderdale, Orlando, and

*continued on page 41 >>>*



Sean Balaban and Bob Knoepfel watch as Eric Yi runs with the ball during touch rugby practice Sept. 14.

Palm Coast, as well as the Jacksonville Rugby Men's/Women's team. USA Touch President O.J. Hawea even flew in from Arizona to lend his support by attending the tournament, said Yi.

But perhaps the most exciting Jax Juggernauts' achievement is that it will field a coed team of 16 (10 guys and six girls) at the USA Nationals at ESPN World of Sports in Orlando Oct. 13-16, a year ahead of schedule. Playing for Jacksonville will be six women from Yi's club in Taiwan, three of which are flying in especially for the competition from Taipei, and three who will fly down from Boston, Atlanta and New York, where they attend college, Yi said. Thirty-two teams will compete in the Nationals, including several from outside the United States, specifically Jamaica, the Cayman Islands, Australia and England, he said.

"I'm really excited we're going. I think it has to do with the community of guys and girls coming together to take our club

to the next level and contributing whether it is helping to recruit or set up the field or helping to train new players and make them feel welcome," said Yi. "It's kind of my mantra, 'Touching Lives.'"

In addition to competition, touch rugby provides its' advocates with an enlarged sense of family. "It's a strong community," said Yi. "From our core team we've had six babies. When people get pregnant we cook food for them, and we help them move. I often joke that our babies will fill in the last spots on the roster."

Brian Yost, a member of the Coast Guard who practices regularly with the group, agreed. "My wife Caitlin has more friends from this club than from my work," he said. "When people get pregnant we do baby showers. It really is like a family."

The Jacksonville Touch Rugby Club is always looking for new players. For more information, contact Yi at andyyi@gmail.com or see the Jacksonville Touch Rugby page on Facebook.

## Bishop Kenny students support International Bowls project



Art teacher Sarah Arago with Principal Todd Orlando and Math teacher Mae Davis



Cassidy Nguyen with Marisa Garcia

Bishop Kenny students, faculty and staff joined forces with the school's art club to create empty ceramic bowls in support of the International Empty Bowls project in the art room on Sept. 20.

The bowls serve as reminders of all the people in the world who do not have enough to eat and will be used to raise money for Bishop Kenny's annual Thanksgiving Food drive. Empty Bowls is a grass roots idea that many artists have personalized worldwide to fight hunger on a community level, said Sheila Marovich of St. Nicholas, a spokesperson for the school.

The bowls will be donated and become part of a Coffee House event, Wednesday, Nov. 16, where students and faculty will perform for the student body. Ticket holders who attend the Coffee House will be given a handmade bowl to take home. In addition, a silent auction of donated bowls created by the school's advanced ceramics students will be held during the Coffee House performance.



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# Jr. Residents

## Middle schoolers named as semifinalists in Broadcom Masters Science Competition

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

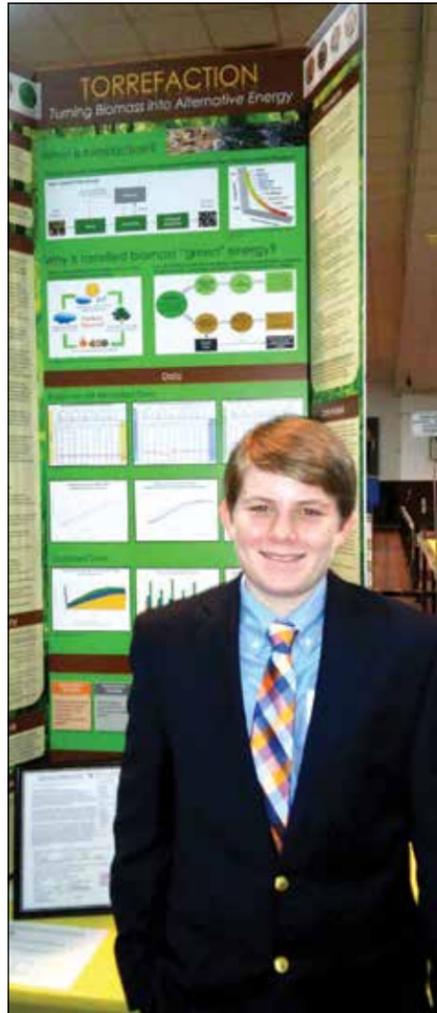
A.J. Horkan of San Jose Catholic School and Blake Caven of Julia Landon College Preparatory School have been named as semi-finalists in the nationwide Broadcom MASTERS Science Competition for Middle School students.

Both boys were winners at the Northeast Florida Regional Science and Engineering Fair (NEFRSEF) and qualified by being among the top 10 percent of the participants in their Society-affiliated science fair.

Semifinalists hailed from 250 middle schools in 37 states and represent 126 regional and state science fairs across the United States.

Horkan and Caven were two of only 41 students receiving semifinalist recognition from Florida, and were selected from more than 6,000 nominees and 2,343 applicants. A total of 300 semifinalists were selected after filling out an arduous application and receiving three independent readings and evaluations by distinguished scientists, engineers and educators.

It is the second year that Caven has competed in the Broadcom MASTERS competition. Last year he was among 30 finalists who attended a conference in



A.J. Horkan of San Jose Catholic School



Blake Caven of Julia Landon College Preparatory School

Institute of Technology.

“While he was creating the first simulation, Blake became very curious about Artificial Intelligence and wondered if the computer could learn to play against his lacrosse algorithms,” said Caven’s mother, Rose. “This started extensive research into the field of machine learning and resulted in the selection of a genetic algorithm to run the new experiment. One immediate hurdle was that SCRATCH was no longer an option, so Blake taught himself a new programming language called PYTHON. He rebuilt the simulation in the new language. After many setbacks and two months of trial and error, he was able to complete the experiment and present his results. He was very motivated by the goal of having the opportunity to earn another nomination.”

This is Horkan’s first year competing and his project is titled “Torrefaction: Turning biomass into alternative energy.”

Silicon Valley, California.

Caven’s project this year, “Exploring Machine Learning: The Effect of a Genetic Algorithm on Lacrosse Simulation Gameplay,” is an extension of his project last year, which was entitled “The Effect of Different Algorithms on Lacrosse Simulation Difficulty.” The project was created using SCRATCH, a programming language developed by the Massachusetts

From the group of 300 semifinalists, 30 were selected to be finalists on Sept. 20. Unfortunately, neither Caven nor Horkan were on the list. Finalists will present their research and compete in hands-on challenges for top prizes including funds to attend a STEM summer camp, iPads, and the Samueli Prize of \$25,000.



### FALL 2016 OPEN HOUSE DATES

Lower School (PK-5) Open House for Parents  
Whitehurst Campus | November 9, 2016 9 a.m.

Lower School (PK-5) Open House for Parents  
Ponte Vedra Beach Campus | November 15, 2016 6 p.m.

Middle School (6-8) Open House for Parents  
Bartram Campus | November 8, 2016 9 a.m.  
Bartram Campus | November 10, 2016 6 p.m.

Upper School (9-12) Open House for Parents  
San Jose Campus | November 18, 2016 at 8:30 a.m.

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# Annual Festival of Flight honors memory of children

Angels for Allison's 6th Annual Festival of Flight soared at Riverside Arts Market Sept. 24. Bigger, better than ever, the fundraiser was well attended and well-staffed with dozens of eager volunteers. Executive Director Carissa Hogan estimated about 6,000 to 7,000 attended the market, many stopping by to join in the festivities, which included games, inflatable slides, a raffle and craft beer sales.

The festival, which began in 2011 as an Eagle Scout project, benefits the Allison Brundick Haramis Foundation's efforts to provide assistance with funeral grants to families struggling with the loss of a child. This year the festival raised over \$70,000.

The event began with a memorial service to honor the nonprofit's "angel" children and families. The service included music by On Point, and a quartet from Florida State College Jacksonville, a blessing and a reading of 220 names of each child whose family has benefited from Angels for Allison.



Angels for Allison Festival of Flight Executive Director Carissa Hogan, with volunteers Mandy Poidevant, Colin Hogan and Erin Hogan



Samantha Leis, John Najem and Olivia Ellis volunteer at the annual Angels for Allison Festival of Flight.

The foundation began in 2010 and raises funds through its community-based art program, Angels for Allison, which encourages individuals and groups to paint metal angels, which are sold throughout the year.

## Episcopal students to perform murder mystery

The Fine Arts Department at the Episcopal School of Jacksonville will perform the play, "Murder's in The Heir" at 7 p.m. Oct. 28-29 and at 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 29.

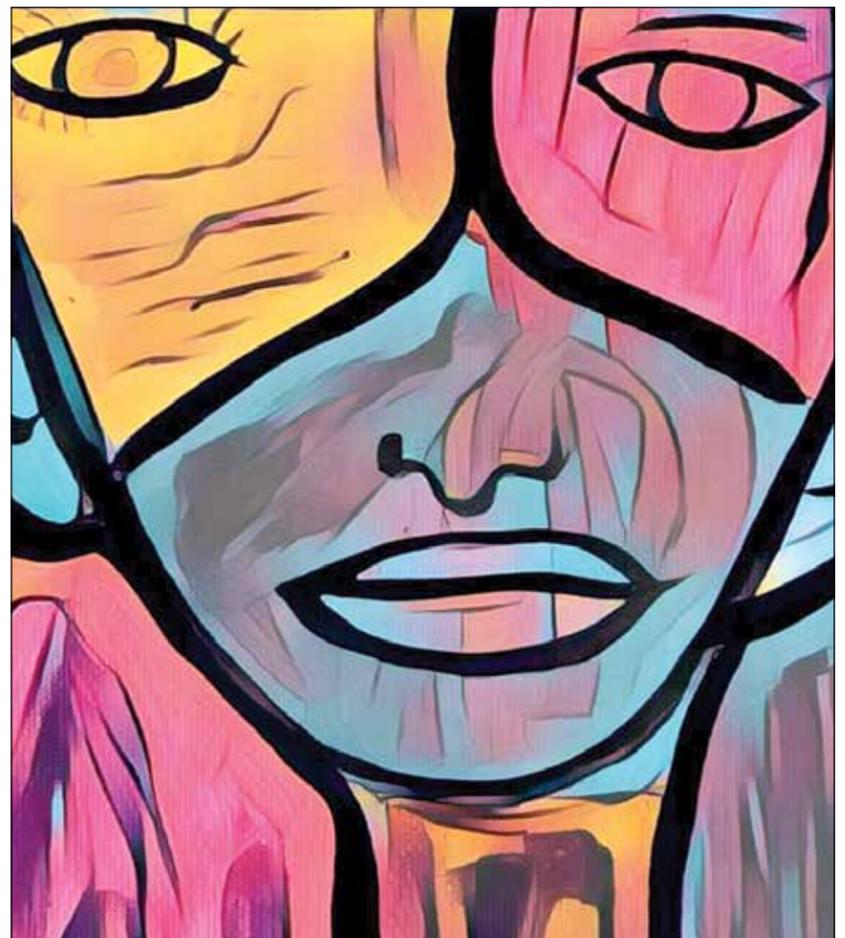
For tickets and additional information go to [esj.org](http://esj.org).

## Students get needed school supplies



Church members who work at HAPI House, which is part of the Hendricks Avenue Partnership Initiative sponsored by Southside United Methodist Church, gave away more than 50 bags of school supplies, clothes and shoes to deserving students at Hendricks Avenue Elementary School before classes began. Helping out with the program were Caroline Stake, Ian Stake, Betty Taylor, Tina Joel and Cecile Rider.

## Seeking next generation of artists



The Art Center Cooperative has announced a call for young artists, kindergarten through eighth grade, for a Little Rembrandt exhibit at The Jacksonville Landing, Thursday, Oct. 20 to Friday, Dec. 2.

All forms of art, two- and three-dimensional, will be considered. Art should be ready to be displayed, and need not be framed although it is recommended. Prizes will be awarded and there is a \$10 fee to enter. Deadline to submit is Saturday, Oct. 15. Contact The Art Center at (904) 233-9252 or email [info@tacjacksonville.org](mailto:info@tacjacksonville.org).

An opening reception is planned for Friday, Oct. 21, 6-8 p.m. at The Landing.

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# City, school officials christen Landon track and field

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

No longer will Julia Landon College Preparatory School students have to play soccer somewhere else due to a soggy field.

In celebration of the completion of gutter repairs and drainage structures at Landon's athletic facility on Minerva Avenue, school and city officials held a christening event Sept. 15 to celebrate having the track and field back in action in time for the school year.

Instead of holding a traditional ribbon-cutting ceremony, officials thought it was more fitting to pour buckets of water on the field to demonstrate its ability to drain properly.

Taking part in the water-filled ceremony were City Council President Lori Boyer, Duval County Public School Board President Ashley Smith-Juarez, Landon Middle School Principal Timothy Feagins, Landon Middle School Athletic Director Michelle Bourgholtzer and two Landon soccer players.

Other Duval County School and City dignitaries who attended the celebration were Assistant Superintendent of Family and Community Engagement Larry Roziers; Assistant Superintendent of Operations Don Nelson, Assistant Superintendent of School Choice Pearl Roziers, San Marco Preservation Society President LeAnna Cumber, Tom McKnight, City of Jacksonville manager of contract administration, engineering division; Andy Eckert, Duval County Public Schools executive director of design and construction, and Keith Meyerl, City of Jacksonville chief of recreation programming.

Landon's symphonic band, led by music teacher Kristopher Beckstrom, and the Lions' cheerleading squad performed during the ceremony. Also on hand were team members from the Landon football, boys' and girls' soccer, and track squads.

The drainage project marks the first time the city government and the Duval County Public School Board have joined together to bring a mutually beneficial project to fruition, said Smith-Juarez. The project was initiated after Boyer, who represents District 5, and Smith-Juarez, who represents the San Marco area on the School Board, collaborated to find a way to convert the poorly drained field into a safe place for both students and members of the public to use.

Realizing funds to pay for such a venture were scarce, Boyer agreed to kick in \$75,000 from her Loblolly Recreation/Parks account toward the \$89,000 project with the stipulation that the school field would be



As Landon's cheerleading squad looks on, City Council President Lori Boyer says a few words at the ceremony Sept. 15 to commemorate Landon's Track and Field becoming a public park during summer weekends and after school sports have finished.



The Julia Landon College Preparatory School cheerleaders perform for the crowd.

named Landon Middle School Park, and become a public place where San Marco residents can safely jog, walk and play when it is not in use by Landon students.

"Last year the Landon Lions did not schedule any games on their field due to safety issues and standing water," said Smith-Juarez. "For the same reason, nearby residents couldn't use the field for exercise or for recreation. With the support of the City of Jacksonville and in particular District 5 representative and Council President Lori Boyer, we now have a safe play field for students and a public park for the community."

Boyer said although the drainage project took a year longer than anticipated it demonstrates "what's possible for partnership" between the city and Duval County Public Schools.

"I want to remind area residents to take care of this property. Don't litter. This is kind of a pilot project, and we have to see how we do," Boyer said. "We don't want to see any abuses here, so don't leave things cluttered for the next morning when students arrive or we will have a challenge. This can be a model for other opportunities."



With the Landon cheerleading squad behind him, Principal Timothy Feagins addressed the crowd.



Instead of cutting a ribbon, city and school officials decided to christen Landon field in celebration of the end of a temporary suspension of use. From left: Eight-grade soccer player Elizabeth Nowak, City Council President Lori Boyer, Duval County School Board President Ashley Smith-Juarez, Julia Landon College Preparatory School Principal Timothy Feagins, Landon Athletic Director Michelle Bourgholtzer, and seventh-grade soccer player Sebastian Brunner.

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# Alumni, students gather to celebrate Bishop Kenny's 65th anniversary



Bishop Kenny High School alumni, who graduated in the school's early years, took a moment to pose after a celebratory Mass marking the 65th anniversary of the school's founding in 1952. Front: Buddy Lawrence, Jay Robinson, Jeannie Horner and Conrad Gunti; back: Mike and Geri Mickler, Gayle and Pat Thornton

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

Alumni from the 1950s were among the special guests when The Most Reverend Felipe Estevez, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of St. Augustine, led a special celebration to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the founding of Bishop Kenny High School Sept. 8 in Baldwin Athletic Center on the school's campus.

The 1,210-member student body, as well as invited guests including alumni who were among Bishop Kenny's first students, enjoyed Mass in the school gymnasium and a reception afterward. The homily was delivered by Father Mike Williams of the Class of 1957. Williams was Bishop Kenny's first graduate to become a priest.

After the Mass, Bishop Estevez blessed and dedicated a plaque honoring William J. Kenny, who served as Bishop of the St. Augustine diocese from 1902-1913. The plaque will later be installed in the entryway to the school.

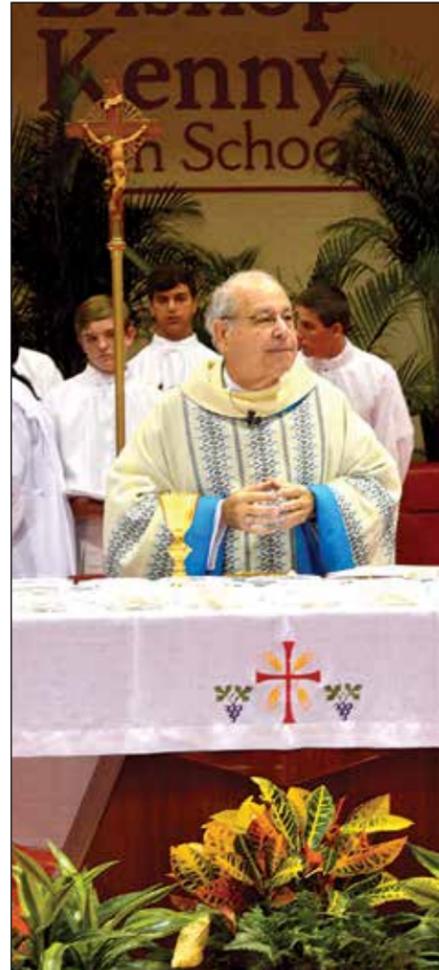
Alumni who attended the celebration included J.P. (Pat) Thornton and his wife, Gayle; Mike Mickler and his wife, Geri; Buddy Lawrence, Jeannie Horner and Conrad Gusti, all of San Jose, and Jay Robinson of San Marco, who attended with his wife, Robin, who is not a graduate of

Bishop Kenny. J.P. Thornton was a member of the Class of 1953, the first class to graduate from the school.

"We are excited to gather as a Catholic community to celebrate this milestone in our school's history, and at the same time, to pay tribute to Bishop William Kenny, who did so much in his lifetime, not only for the Catholic Church but also for the City of Jacksonville," said Bishop Kenny Principal Todd Orlando of St. Nicholas.

Bishop William Kenny served as pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, which at the time was the only Catholic Church in Jacksonville and included a school and orphanage. During the 1888 yellow fever epidemic, in which 5,000 people became seriously ill and 400 died, Father Kenny served the sick both at home and in hospitals. Eventually he also became ill and needed a period of recuperation before returning to his duties.

In 1901, when the Great Fire of Jacksonville left approximately 8,677 people homeless and destroyed 2,368 buildings over 466 acres of the city, Father Kenny brought comfort to victims and leadership during the city's recovery. In 1902, he was appointed to be the third Bishop of St. Augustine by Pope Leo XIII, and was the first American-born priest to hold that position.



The Most Reverend Felipe J. Estevez, Bishop of St. Augustine, oversees the preparation of communion Sept. 8 during a special Mass commemorating the 65th year of the founding of Bishop Kenny High School.

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# Sanctuary director leaves nonprofit in good hands

By Kate A. Hallock  
Resident Community News

The Sanctuary on 8th Street's annual Shindig, this year themed Heart and Soul, was a special one for Executive Director Vicky Watkins. After 15 years of putting her own heart and soul into making a difference in the lives of Springfield children, Watkins is turning over the reins later this month to Rick Cartlidge, program director and Sanctuary homeschool teacher.

Sanctuary on 8th Street, which will celebrate its 25th year in 2017, began as Urban Ministries of Springfield in 1992 and changed its name when it relocated to the historic post office building in 2001. Under Watkins, the programs have grown to more than 100 children and offer after-school programming, summer camp and a small home school.

"I have always been interested in kids, especially at-risk kids and wanted to provide education and make a difference," said Watkins, who came out of retirement from mortgage banking to work at the Sanctuary. "I came to the Sanctuary as a board representative for Riverside Presbyterian Church in 2001, then became the director in 2002."

Cartlidge, of Riverside, was brought on full-time in 2010 as program director. He also serves as the home school teacher. "I am thrilled that Rick will be taking over as executive director when I leave," said Watkins. "The Sanctuary will be in good hands."

Watkins considers the Sanctuary's greatest success story to be Alonzo Jackson, who began attending after-school programs at age 10. "He is now 24, working at the Sanctuary and attending UNF," she said. "He is a great role model for our kids, a real team player and is proud to be giving back."

Jackson is a "Kid Coach" at the Sanctuary, along with Stuart Smith, in the after-school program. He works in the summer camp and also runs the Sanctuary's Pallets for a Purpose program, creating Adirondack chairs and other rustic items as a way to



UNF Alpha Tau Omega brothers Ben Stevenson, Garrett Kinderdine, Ricardo Ortega



Lizzy and Rick Lasseter with Ike, Mary Bussell

learn a skill and earn money.

After Watkins retires – for the second time – she plans to volunteer at the Sanctuary. "I will also travel and my dream is to hike the Appalachian Trail," said the Avondale resident. "And, of course, spend more time with family and friends."



Allison Bouchard, 11, with Nellie Zirlott as they look at cats at Animal Care and Protective Services during the Woofstock adoption event on Sept. 10.

## Woofstock adoption event follows successful hurricane fostering

Hurricane Hermine provided an opportunity for homeless animals to be fostered for several days – and for many to remain in what became their forever home. One week later, the Woofstock free adoption event held Sept. 10-11 at Animal Care and Protective Services and at Jacksonville Humane Society, saw 202 dogs, cats and kittens get adopted over the weekend.

"ACPS had an astounding 105 animals get adopted in two days!" said Eunity Thornton, a board member of Friends of Jacksonville Animals who volunteered at the event. "Jax Humane reported they had 97 adoptions for the event."

According to a weekly report posted on the FOJA volunteer Facebook page, for the entire week after Hermine skirted the area 88 cats and 111 dogs left ACPS, said Thornton.



Eunity Thornton, board member of Friends of Jacksonville Animals, and Priscilla Mason, FOJA treasurer, show off Pang, a kitten available for adoption at Animal Care and Protective Services.



New Sanctuary on 8th Street Executive Director Rick Cartlidge with outgoing Executive Director Vicky Watkins

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# Episcopal's Jacob F. Bryan III Library rededicated after renovations

As part of Episcopal School of Jacksonville's 50th anniversary Lead the Way capital campaign, the reimagined Jacob F. Bryan III Library was rededicated Sept. 20 while its namesake's family looked on.

"We are pleased to support Episcopal, which the Bryan family has done for 50 years. My father was one of the School's founders," said J.F. Bryan IV, of Ortega, along with brothers Kendall and Carter, and other family members.

"He was the oldest of six children, and he never went to college. He went to work instead, and he helped to send his five siblings to college," Bryan said. "Our family is grateful that

the Jacob F. Bryan III Library will continue to enrich the lives of students."

A center of academic, collaborative and technological activity on campus since it opened in 1991-92, the library now sports an updated for space for use as an information center, group study facility, media center, reading room and meeting space.

"The Bryan family and all of those who have made this vital campus hub an exciting and beneficial place to be truly understand how important it is to keep libraries relevant to our college-bound, technology-savvy students," said Head of School Adam Greene.



Jacob F. Bryan III's family: Seated: Kendall, Eleanor, J.F., Peggy, Carter, and Cheryl Bryan; standing: Sarah Bryan Holyer, Bella, Jeff, Nicole, Klare, Annie, James, and Josh Bryan.



J.F. Bryan, IV, speaks at rededicated of library named for his father

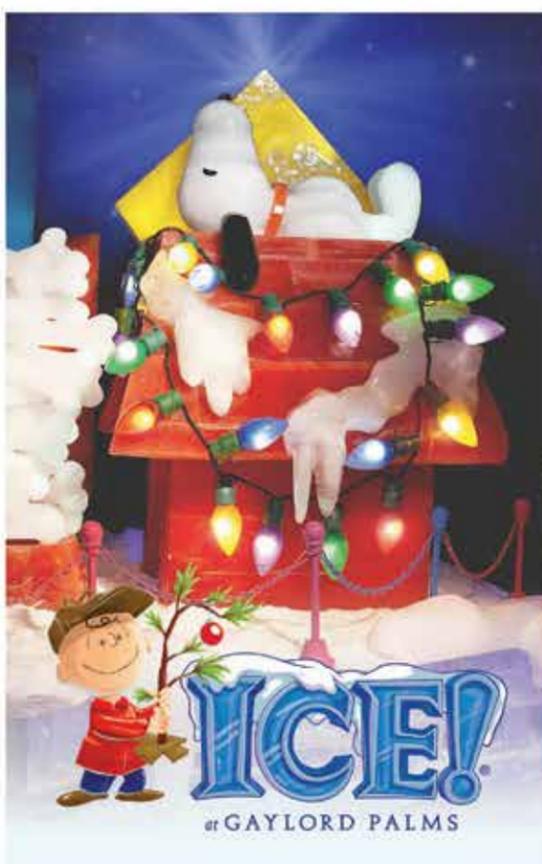
Episcopal worked with a library consultant to update the space, maximize flexibility, embrace technology and diversify students' learning opportunities. The circulation desk has a smaller footprint, and a glassed-in area on the northeast wall of the library overlooking the Regan Plaza and River Field has become the Harden Conference Room, capable of being divided into three smaller spaces or opened into one large space.

New furniture sets are placed to help define zones in the library based on students' needs and are equipped with power so students' devices can recharge. The study zones include frosted-glass-divided carrels with noise-canceling headphones for individual study as well as desk-adjacent sofas and chairs for group work. Noise-absorbing materials chosen for floors and ceilings in soothing blue and green

colors aid in separating the space.

An expanded, better equipped Makerspace has new computers with software for creative endeavors like recording, playing, and editing music. General arts and crafts supplies will be available, in addition to a 3-D printer students can use to create and duplicate designs. Media specialists will look to students to guide the evolution of this space, responding to interest and demand for additional supplies and workshops

Books are still a prominent feature of the library, so additional improvements include a permanent home for the Louise Bignon Archives and Episcopal's "hard copy" history. The Gooding Boardroom and library lobby were also updated in the first phase of renovations and the new Alumni Hall of Honor is displayed in the renovated space.



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# - In Memoriam - Lilo Senkpiel Frisch

December 13, 1923 - August 19, 2016

*By Julie Kerns Garmendia  
Resident Community News*

Lilo (Lee-loh) Senkpiel Frisch, 92, passed away Aug. 19, 2016. She was born Dec. 13, 1923 in Kiel, Germany to Otto and Anna Senkpiel. She and her husband, Hans "Harry" Frisch, her best friend, loving spouse and devoted companion, were married for 68 years at her death. She served as a nurse for the British Royal Air Force during World War II in Palestine, where she met and married her husband.

Mr. and Mrs. Frisch were the parents of two sons, Ben and Karl Frisch. In 1953 the family left what is now Israel to move to Jacksonville. Mrs. Frisch worked briefly with the family construction and home improvements company, until she joined her husband, mother-in-law Cornelia Rappaport, and brother-in-law Alfred "Fred" Frisch at their Beaver Street Fisheries business. At that time, it was still at its original location, 2677 West Beaver Street.

Mrs. Frisch managed the retail fresh fish market for more than 20 years, where she enjoyed serving generations of customers at the well-known, successful market. She worked with the family to build Beaver Street Fisheries from a small fresh seafood retail outlet into one of the largest frozen seafood importers and distributors in the U.S. today.

She was a true partner with her husband in all matters related to business and their family life. She was active in the Jewish community, supporting many organizations. She was a lifetime member of Hadassah, the organization responsible for enabling her to leave Germany and enter into Palestine during World War II. Mrs. Frisch was a



Mrs. Frisch with employees in front of Beaver Street Fisheries Fresh Fish Market at its original location at 2677 W. Beaver St.



Greatgrandparents, Harry and Lilo Frisch, with great-granddaughter, Lyla



Lilo and Harry Frisch at the 2013 Junior Achievement Awards

member of Etz Chaim Synagogue.

Her family enjoyed her passion for cooking and baking, especially her dessert pastries and strudel. She was always happy to share her recipes with friends and family.

Survivors include her husband, Harry Frisch; sons, Benjamin P. Frisch (Pat) and E. Karl Frisch; grandchildren, Adam (Sierra)

Frisch, Mark (Meredith) Frisch, Steven Frisch, Daniel Frisch, Erin Frisch; great-grandchildren, Lyla Frisch, Abby Frisch and Hannah Frisch. She is survived by her sisters, Gisi DeMarco of Tampa and Edith Sappa of Dusseldorf, Germany, along with numerous cousins, nephews and nieces.

The family wishes to especially thank Thora Rose, Mrs. Frisch's friend and

companion for more than 25 years. They also thank her many caregivers who were always close by to help and care for Mrs. Frisch. She is greatly missed by all those who knew and loved her. The family requested that memorial contributions in her name be donated to Etz Chaim Synagogue, River Garden Hebrew Home for the Aged or to Hadassah.



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