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San Jose - San Marco - St. Nicholas



John November, of the Public Trust, flanked by environmental advocates at media conference.

Two years after the Public Trust Environmental Legal Institute of Florida filed its case, the Jacksonville City Council approved the final settlement terms that will change the City's urban forestry practices, create enhanced city transparency, and be a catalyst for the planting of \$20 million worth of trees in Duval County in upcoming years.

READ MORE, PAGE 12

REGIONS BANK TO CLOSE SAN MARCO BRANCH

The San Marco branch of Regions Bank is one of two closing in Northeast Florida by the end of October.

The consolidation, "based on traffic, volume, new technologies, location of other branches, profitability and other factors," by the Alabama-based financial institution will affect 22 branches nationwide, according to Mel Campbell, spokesperson. "We will make every effort to identify other jobs in the company for affected associates where possible," Campbell said.

The 1600 Hendricks Ave. branch and the branch at 1461 Kingsley Ave. in Orange Park will close by Oct. 27. Regions will operate 16 branch locations in Jacksonville, including the Regions main branch downtown at 51 W. Bay St., in Orange Park and at the Beaches.



FATHER-SON BONDING ON BAHAMIAN FISHING TRIP

Bill McLaurine, First Mate Ben Tinsley, and Will McLaurine show off a Mutton Snapper caught in the Bahamas on a Boy Scout High Adventure trip. READ MORE, PAGE 37

Final beams placed on new Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center

Baptist officials praise construction workers

By Kate A. Hallock  
Resident Community News

Ironworkers and other construction employees of Perry-McCall Construction and DPR Construction were saluted by top officials at Baptist Health during the July 12 topping out ceremony for the new Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Both Hugh Greene, president and CEO of Baptist Health, and

John Wilbanks, executive vice president and COO of Baptist Health, spoke to and about the people who literally did the "heavy lifting" for the vertical phase of the \$150 million project.

"I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge all the people who have hard hats on. These individuals are the people who really do the work, at times 12 hours a day," said Greene. "I'm really afraid of heights so I have great admiration for people who do this work. We are really grateful for the hard work you have done in keeping this project on time."

Wilbanks, a 31-year Baptist employee, also gave credit and kudos to the various companies involved with the project, including the design team of HKS Architects Inc. and FreemanWhite, a Haskell company dedicated exclusively to health care.

"For me, the underlying theme is teamwork, starting with our partnership with MD Anderson Houston, and also the folks who constructed and designed this building," Wilbanks said. "This is a milestone today. This is for the

READ MORE, PAGE 9



Paulino Navarro of DPR Construction's framing and drywall division signs a beam for Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center.

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HAVING A HEART FOR JACKSONVILLE'S HOMELESS

Cathy Shine Harris of the Liberty Centers of Jacksonville, Clara White Mission President/CEO Ju'Coby Pittman, Congressman John Rutherford, and Jon Heymann, former CEO of the Jacksonville Children's Commission, were among many of the honored guests and celebrity servers at the 23rd annual Miracle of Ashley Street benefit. READ MORE, PAGE 23

CELEBRATING JUSTICE FOR FREDDIE FARAH

Bobby Farah, son of cold case murder victim Freddie Farah, and Project Cold Case Founder/Executive Director Ryan Backmann at a bittersweet celebration for the solving of the 1974 murder of Farah's father, Freddie. The event doubled as a fundraiser for Project Cold Case and was held at The Southern Grill on the Southbank July 22.



# National Historic Register status helps put downtown Jacksonville on map

By Kate A. Hallock  
Resident Community News

Another “district” was added last year to downtown Jacksonville’s growing list of named places. Joining the Spark District, the Cathedral District and the Sports District is the Downtown Jacksonville Historic District.

Approved May 2, 2016 by the United States Department of the Interior’s National Park Service, portions of downtown Jacksonville are now on the National Register of Historic Places.

The documentation indicates the area is “roughly bounded by North Pearl Street, Beaver Street, North Catherine Street and Independent Drive/Courthouse Drive,” about 56 blocks or 158 acres.

The project to inventory and document 179 contributing and 46 non-contributing resources built between 1901 and 1965 was funded by the Downtown Investment Authority (DIA), which paid historic research specialists \$50,000 to put the paperwork together and make the case for a downtown historic district.

While local historians, such as Wayne Wood of Riverside, have long decried the destruction of structures which typify the city’s rich architectural history, it wasn’t until San Marco resident Oliver Barakat served as DIA board chair in 2014 that a historic designation gained momentum.

“I’ve always been very distressed that historic buildings downtown kept getting demolished, and learned that at one time over 600 historic structures downtown had been torn down,” said Kay Ehas of Riverside. “I believe that if it weren’t for that, Jacksonville would have been unique among big Florida cities.”

A study by the National Trust for Historic Preservation found Jacksonville still has the most buildings in Florida over 50 years old. “We have these unique assets that the city has never really celebrated, but instead sees them as an impediment to development and not part of the solution. Until we really start recognizing, celebrating and lifting awareness in the community, we’re going to continue to demolish these things and no one is going to blink an eye,” said Barakat, a senior vice president at CBRE, Inc. and current DIA board member.

“People were frustrated about not getting any traction for the historic buildings in downtown Jacksonville,” Ehas said, “so when Oliver was DIA Board Chair in 2014, I asked ‘Can we do something about trying to protect the historic structures that are left?’ He was very open to it and asked me to do some research on the pros and cons of National Register status.”

Ehas discovered a geographic area can become a historic local district, which is more regulated and restrictive but only addresses the exterior of structures, while listing on the National Register includes both interior and exterior, with a 20 percent investment tax credit as the carrot.

In addition, National Register designation doesn’t require City Council approval, but a local district would, and also requires property owners to vote for it.

### Making the case for national designation

Barakat thought the way to go was to apply for a National Historic District, so in early 2014 they enlisted the help of Joel McEachin and Lisa Sheppard, members of the Jacksonville Historic Preservation



Flanked by the Barnett Bank Building, left, and the Jacobs Jewelers Building, the 1901 Greenleaf and Crosby Clock made by Seth Thomas Clock Co. is one of two objects listed in the Downtown Jacksonville Historic District inventory. The other is the Hemming Park Confederate Monument.

Commission, to help determine the geographic possibilities and create a presentation to the DIA board.

“We codified it into a resolution, and intellectually made the case for a historic district downtown,” said Barakat, then the resolution went into a “black hole” for a while. “It took a fair amount of behind-the-scenes advocacy to make sure the Planning Department and DIA were working in tandem to get it done; once the consultant was hired, it still required someone to keep it on track.”

Barakat said approval by the DIA, which is responsible for the revitalization of downtown Jacksonville, legitimized the project. “They gave the effort muscle, money and city sponsorship,” he said.

There is no down side to having a historic district, said Ehas, but noted some opposed it.

“There may be some who see it as a step toward a local district one day, which has more regulatory hurdles,” Barakat said. “There may be some who just don’t care for historic buildings and don’t want awareness because awareness builds advocacy for preservation efforts. They want to do whatever they want whenever they want, and not create an appreciation for these buildings.”

### Preserving history one building at a time

Ehas and Barakat agreed it’s surprising how a little bit of effort, such as speaking up at a public meeting, can make a difference in saving a building.

Sometimes, however, it takes a much bigger effort, such as the Cowford

Chophouse, a massive renovation project Barakat said is a turning point in shifting the tide from demolition to renovation and repurposing.

“The community’s equation has always been ‘if it costs more to renovate than to build a new structure, then it’s not worth it’ but Jacques Klempf is spending ridiculous amounts of money showing the community that it’s not about that equation, it’s about something that’s scarce and about value,” Barakat said, referring to the restaurant under construction in the century-old Bostwick Building at the corner of Bay and Ocean Streets.

The price tag to maintain the historic integrity of the building is nearly \$6.5 million, but Klempf has been quoted as saying it’s been a labor of love.

“You can overspend on a piece of property, but the owner and community will value it equal to what they spent because it’s something that’s truly unique,” said Barakat. “Klempf changed the equation, and so did Marcus Lemonis with Sweet Pete’s; he could have built a much cheaper building next door but it would not have had the same value.”

Barakat said projects like those and designation as a National Historic District has “codified to the world we’ve got more historic buildings than any other city in the state. The Jacksonville Visitors Bureau should be shouting this to the world. We all know how popular history is with tourists.”

“I feel more hopeful than I ever have that the community who cares most about downtown development appears to be embracing these historic structures,” Ehas concluded.

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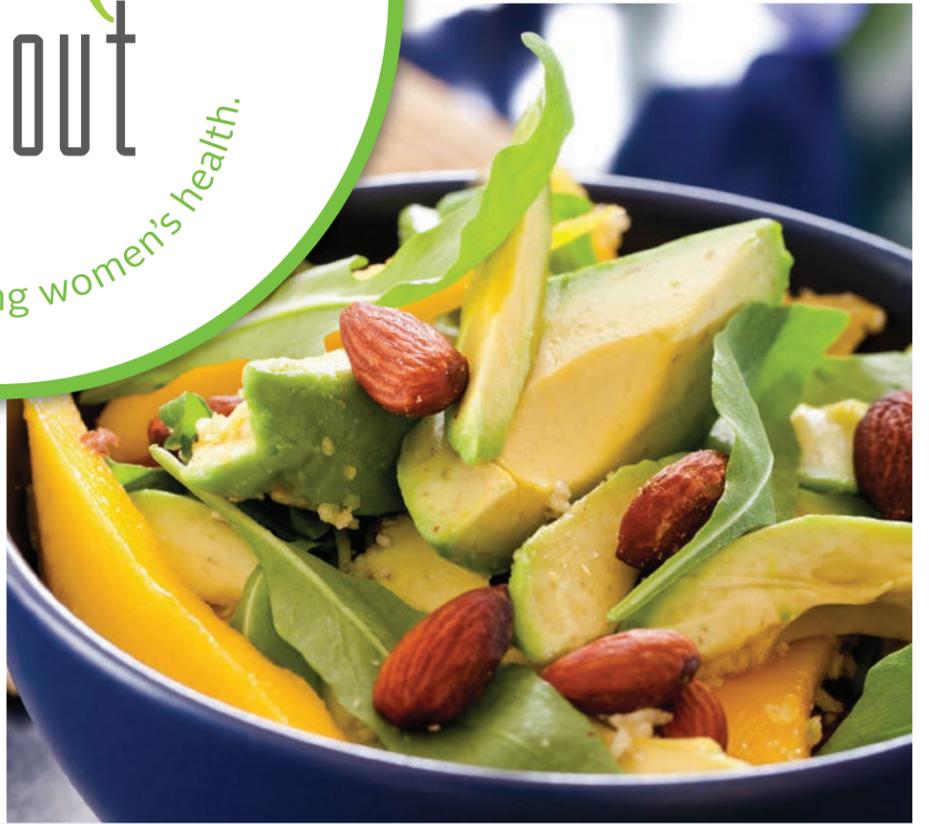
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 1650-302 Margaret St. #310,  
 Jacksonville, FL 32204

**PUBLISHERS**

**Seth Williams**  
 seth@residentnews.net  
**Pamela Bradford Williams**  
 pamela@residentnews.net

**MANAGING EDITOR**

**Kate A. Hallock**  
 editor@residentnews.net

**Got a Story?**

Email us at editor@residentnews.net

**SALES**

**Debra McGregor**  
 debra@residentnews.net  
**Tarryn Bradford Poling**  
 tarryn@residentnews.net

**DESIGN:**

Joshua Garrett, Therese Shearer,  
 Shannon Young

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:**

Rob DeAngelo, Marcia Hodgson,  
 Marian Johns, Lilla Ross

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# Major hurdle cleared, The District moves forward with development



Bird's eye-view rendering of what's in store for The District—Life Well Lived on the Southbank.

By Lilla Ross  
 Resident Community News

Construction on The District – A Life Well Lived is expected to begin after the first of the year and by then some of the brands planned for the long-awaited 30-acre development on San Marco's riverfront might be known.

The District cleared a major hurdle in June when state regulators issued an environmental "clean bill of health" for the Jacksonville Energy Authority site. That

*"Haskell understands how to do complicated urban development."*

— Michael Munz, project partner

was a two-year, \$2-million process. "It was a critical step. You can't develop the site without it," said Michael Munz, a partner in the project with former Disney executive Peter Rummell.

One final piece of city legislation – a redevelopment agreement – is needed and Munz expects that to go smoothly.

Once that's in place, Munz said they can close the \$17 million property sale with JEA, which is expected to happen by the end of the year and construction can begin.

The initial construction by The Haskell Company involves "the horizontals" – the roads, sewers, sidewalks and riverwalk,

*Continued on page 5*

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**12841 Cannington Cove Terrace** – This lovely four bedroom, two full and one half bath home is nestled in a small neighborhood of only six homes and features formal living and dining rooms, family room, gorgeous pool with spa, and summer kitchen on an open patio. Boat slip and access to the St. Johns River via Julington Creek just one block away. **\$499,900**



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Munz said. That is expected to take 12 to 14 months and will begin on the western end of the property.

As that work is completed, simultaneous construction might begin on “the verticals” of Phase 1: a hotel, offices, a grocery, cinema, apartments, restaurants, riverfront park and riverwalk extension.

Simultaneous construction would require orchestration, Munz said. “But Haskell understands how to do complicated urban development.”

Munz also said he thinks San Marco residents will experience only minor disruptions during the construction phase because it will not occur in major traffic areas.

Another major piece also fell into place with a purchase and sales agreement with hotel developer Impact Properties to develop and operate a 200-room hotel on the western end of the property.

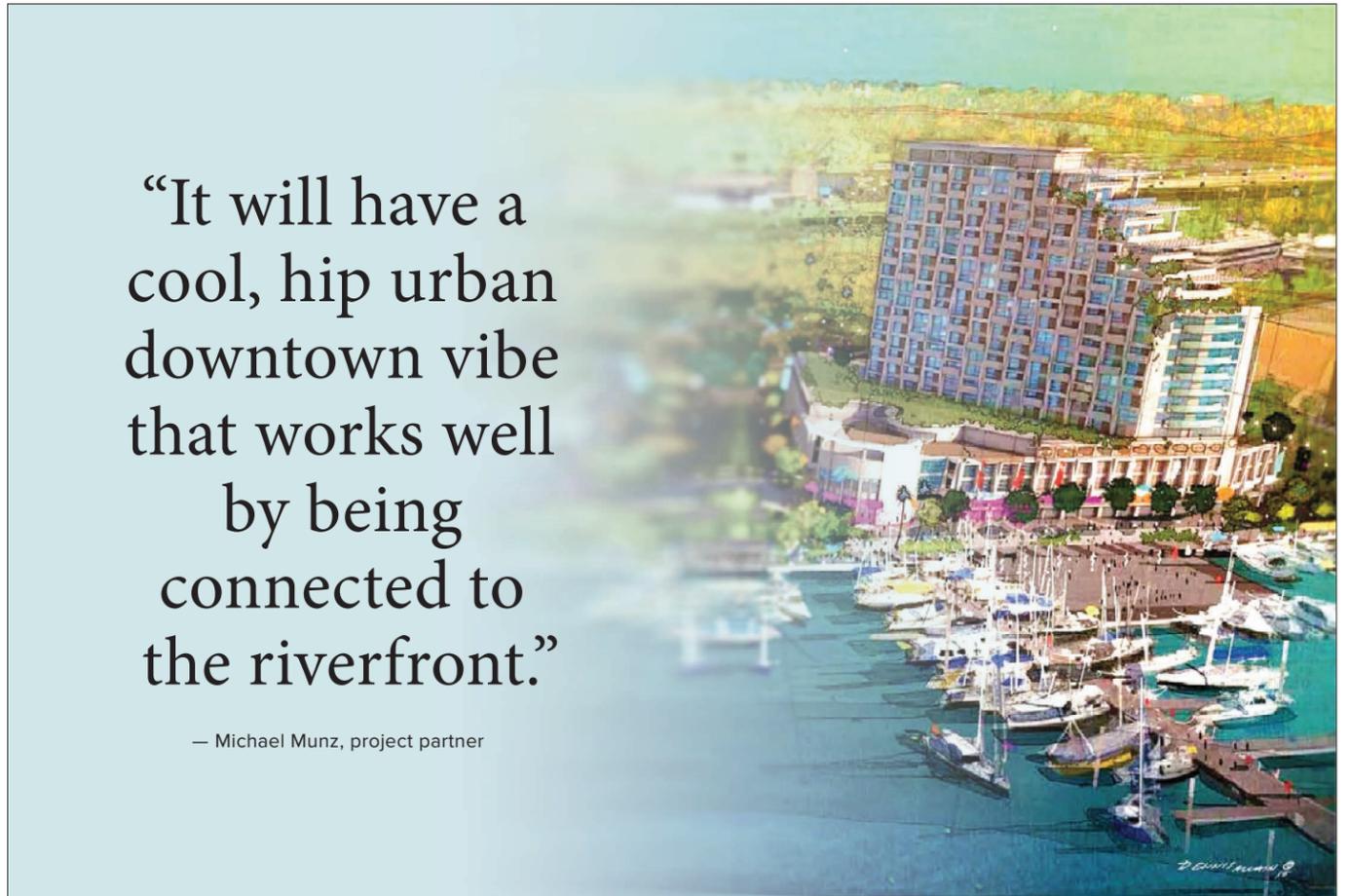
Munz would not identify the hotel brand, stating only that it would be a new brand in Jacksonville and would align with the multigenerational and health and wellness themes of The District. “It will have a cool, hip urban downtown vibe that works well by being connected to the riverfront,” Munz said.

Impact Properties currently owns three Jacksonville hotels: Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton at 13950 Village Lake Circle, the Holiday Inn Express & Suites at 4675 Salisbury Road South, and the Residence Inn by Marriott at 13942 Village Lake Circle.

The Tampa-based company works with Marriott and Starwood hotels. The two companies, which are in the process of merging, have about 30 brands between them, including well-known names: Sheraton, Ritz-Carlton, Marriott, Courtyard and Fairfield Inn. But none of them could be described as cool, hip and urban.

“It will have a cool, hip urban downtown vibe that works well by being connected to the riverfront.”

— Michael Munz, project partner



Impact Properties has signed an agreement to put a hotel on the northwest portion of The District – A Life Well Lived’s Southbank property (rendering for visual purposes only).

But there are intriguing possibilities. Marriott has three new brands – Moxy, AC and Aloft – that might fit the bill:

- Moxy Hotels is described as a boutique hotel targeted at millennials with tech-enabled rooms, “thoughtful, spirited and fun guest experiences” for an affordable price.
- AC Hotels, named for Spanish hotelier Antonio Catalan, is designed for the “new kind of traveler – a creative,

entrepreneurial and modern global traveler.” The European-modern space offers curated abstract art, fresh-baked goods and cocktails made at table.

- Aloft Hotels offers a “tech-forward vibrant experience” for the next generation of traveler who is “always on.” “Detailed conversations” are underway for a 10-12 screen cinema. “It’s a ‘fork-and-screen’ concept with nice food, drinks and big leather chairs,” Munz said.

Serious negotiations also are underway with a grocer, which Munz described as a full-service grocery with a “green grocer” design.

Other verticals include an office tower, apartments, townhomes and retail. The development will be designed to inspire healthy, environmentally-friendly living with trails, a four-acre riverfront park, Riverwalk extension and 125-slip marina.



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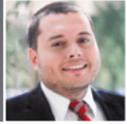
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# Spark District loses One Spark festival to Sports District

The fifth annual One Spark Innovation Festival will be held at a new venue and during a new season this year.

Traditionally a Downtown Jacksonville event held in the spring in what was named the Spark District, this year the festival will be held Oct. 6-7 at the U.S. Assure Club West at EverBank Field. A concert at Daily's Place amphitheater will kick off One Spark on Thursday evening, Oct. 5.

"Over the past four years, One Spark has connected more than 1,500 Creators with the Jacksonville community to market test their ideas, make connections and promote their businesses," said One Spark Ventures President Chris Carter. "In partnership with Bold Events, One Spark 2017 will provide these same opportunities within the state-of-the-art facilities at EverBank Field. We couldn't be more excited for this year's Innovation Festival and the enhanced experience the U.S. Assure Club West will

offer Creators who participate and those in the community who attend."

One Spark will accept applications through Friday, Sept. 8, for Creators interested in sharing their innovations at the 2017 festival. Up to 150 Creators will be organized by zones, including EdSpark, TechSpark, HealthSpark, SocialSpark and possibly a section for innovative ideas that fall outside of these targeted zones.

There is no cost to apply; however, selected Creators will be required to pay \$125 to participate in the event. Visit OneSpark.com to find a link to the Creator Application. All Creator zones will be open for application except for the HealthSpark Zone, which will open at a later date.

One Spark Ventures will also offer multiple Spark Tanks this year, with Creators being selected by a panel of judges to participate in Spark Tank competitions within each "Spark" zone. Judges will

*"Over the past four years, One Spark has connected more than 1,500 Creators with the Jacksonville community to market test their ideas, make connections and promote their businesses."*

— Chris Carter, One Spark Ventures President

provide feedback and guidance during each Spark Tank, and will select the top Creator in each zone, who will be awarded \$5,000 and the chance to compete in the Spark Tank Championship.

The Spark Tank Championship will take place on Saturday in the stadium suite of Jaguars Owner Shad Khan. The winner of that competition will be awarded an additional \$20,000 and will be named Top Creator of the Innovation Festival.

For attendees of the Innovation Festival, advance registration online will cost \$5 per ticket. Same day registration and ticket purchases, online or at EverBank Field, will cost \$10 per ticket. Children 10 and under may enter the festival free of charge. The concert taking place inside Daily's Place on Oct. 5 will require the purchase of an additional ticket for admittance, which will be available online or at the gate, pending availability.

## Braille training offered at The Temple

For almost 60 years, Temple Sisterhood at Congregation Ahavath Chesed has sponsored a program that converts printed books into braille versions used by the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind and other institutions serving the visually impaired.

The next training class of braille volunteers is forming now. Beginning on Thursday, September 7, volunteers will go through a free nine-month program in which they learn either to transcribe printed text into braille or to convert illustrations into raised images that can be interpreted

through touch. Interested adults are invited to come to an orientation meeting for the program at 10 a.m. on Thursday, August 31 at Congregation Ahavath Chesed/The Temple, 8727 San Jose Boulevard.

The program is open to men and women of any faith who can attend classes every Thursday morning through June 2018. While no computer is needed for converting graphics, braille transcribers must have their own Windows computer.

"Using a special program on their home computer, they press different combinations

of six keys on their keyboard to create braille versions of each letter of the book they're transcribing. When they're done, another computer uses the digital file they've created to punch out the text in braille's raised-dot format," said Lynnette Taylor, long-time volunteer in the group. "Learning to braille is a unique challenge, like learning a foreign language, but all that's really needed is basic computer skills and a dedication to serving people who need our help."

Also, no computer is needed to create tactile versions of illustrations, said veteran volunteer Susie Coleman. "The pictures that go with the books are converted into

braille using different forms of crafts materials," she said.

For more information, contact Lynnette Taylor (904-466-2129 or dandltaylor@att.net), Nancy Cohen (248-250-2406 or r4cohen@gmail.com), or Candace Richardson (904-607-7619 or candacerichardson@att.net).

*"All that's really needed is basic computer skills and a dedication to serving people who need our help."*

— Lynnette Taylor, volunteer

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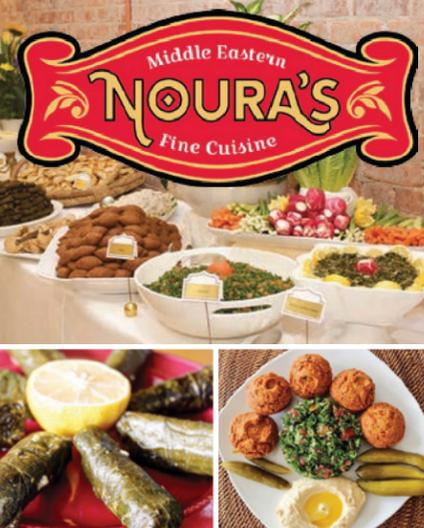
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# FDOT hears concerns about proposed Overland Bridge landscaping

By Kate A. Hallock  
Resident Community News

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) hosted an open house July 13 to gather feedback from the community for proposed landscaping of the Overland Bridge project. Conceptual landscape plans, including a proposed list of trees and shrubs, were available for review.

Dave Crawley, principal landscape architect and group manager at AECOM, was on hand to listen to concerns voiced by District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer; Senator Audrey Gibson; Alicia Grant, president of Scenic Jacksonville; Tom Larson, treasurer of Sierra Club Florida; Janet Stanko, Northeast Florida Group Chair of Sierra Club Florida, and by residents.

The landscaping project will include plantings of numerous species of trees and shrubs, irrigation and other incidental work relating to the overall landscape for the downtown Interstate 95 corridor. Near the southern end of the corridor is the entrance to St. Nicholas, a historic neighborhood which has borne the brunt of the project's land acquisition, detours and other construction-related consequences.

"In the South Shores community, at a meeting two years ago we said that the most important thing is the visual entrance to St. Nicholas," said Boyer. "I'm glad to see there's no chain link fencing around Pond C, as I'm told, but I'm also concerned about the height of the berm so it doesn't obstruct the view."

A South Shores resident who wished to remain anonymous explicitly asked Crawley to replace the row of live oaks, holly and crape myrtles the community had purchased



Dave Crawley, principal landscape architect and group manager at AECOM, points to a portion of the Overland Bridge project map as visitors to the public meeting discuss the landscaping proposal.

*"Every part of Florida is unique and while palm trees may be well received and play very well in South Florida, north Florida has its own uniqueness and we should be looking at what is indicative of north Florida in terms of our looks."*

— Audrey Gibson, Florida Senator

and installed 25 years ago, only to see most of them removed for the project.

"We spent our own money putting in those trees and we want to have them put back," the resident said. She also asked for consideration that a fountain be installed in Pond C and lighting installed under the

overpass near Barbara Avenue, however, Crawley noted his company's responsibility is for landscaping only.

Grant, of Avondale, was not happy to see the list of trees includes Medjool date palms, which she called a "lollipop of green on a stick."

"They're making some progress with the landscaping around the ponds, but they still have not removed those Medjool palms along the roadways," she said, noting Scenic Jacksonville has been talking with FDOT about landscaping for two years.

"You'll not get any of the environmental benefits of temperature reduction and shade, air filtration, and water filtration from runoff into the pond, all of those aesthetics and environmental benefits from having native trees that are canopy and understory trees," she said.

Grant and Larson said they want to see Live Oaks, Cathedral Oaks and other trees that produce shade.

"Someone had a vision of 'big and bold' and wanted to give tourists passing through our city an iconic Florida - South Florida - experience," said Grant, speaking about former Florida Secretary of Transportation Ananth Prasad.

The proposed landscaping project was developed through FDOT District 2's FDOTree program, a new initiative developed to promote communication and delivery of the FDOT's Northeast Florida landscaping program. According to its 2011 guidelines, "palms are the state's signature tree - what visitors and investors expect to see, what they pay to see."

The guidelines also state palms "are the only type of trees that can feasibly and effectively be transplanted (and re-transplanted if need be) when mature."

"This [group of palm trees] is not a natural form," said Larson, pointing to an area along a sound wall. "If you go into the woods you'll see a mix of palms, deciduous

*Continued on page 9*

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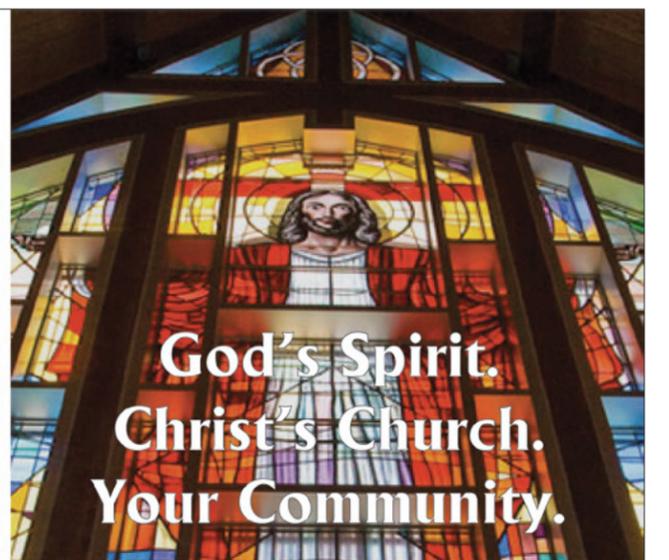
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Map of I-95 Overland Bridge landscape project indicates placement of ponds and landscape area, subject to change.



John Wilbanks, Baptist Health executive vice president and COO, with Scott Gibbs, DPR Construction superintendent and Scott Wooten, Baptist Health senior vice president and CFO

## Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center FROM PAGE 1

people who have been working hard to plan, design and now construct this building. We want to thank you and salute the teams involved in that.”

Wilbanks said the project involves over 1,200 workers from 45 contractors and sub-contractors. “This is a big deal. This building has 7.4 million pounds of steel, 3,000 truckloads of concrete, enough glass on the exterior to cover two football fields. This is a mammoth project in its size, for sure, and it will concurrently have a mammoth impact on care of cancer patients in this community,” he said.

Originating in Europe, topping out ceremonies are one of the oldest customs in construction, symbolizing a celebration of the skills of the ironworkers who brought Baptist MD Anderson to this point in construction.

Prior to hoisting the final two beams, hundreds of patients, family members, visitors, team members and physicians signed them with colored Sharpies.

“This is a transformative moment as we complete the physical building and provide a state of the art cancer care

*“This is a mammoth project in its size, for sure, and it will concurrently have a mammoth impact on care of cancer patients in this community.”*

— John Wilbanks, executive vice president and COO of Baptist Health

for persons not only in the Greater Jacksonville area but for the broader region of the country,” said Greene, who also spoke about the place of art in the healing process. “The next time you arrive you will see the art that is going into this building, emphasizing the role of art in healing. There will be five very significant pieces of sculpture as a part of this building.”

The 330,000-square-foot cancer center will be “an iconic building on the busiest interstate along the East Coast and it will be a tremendous addition to the architectural landscape of Jacksonville,” said Greene.

trees, understory trees; we ought to be trying to reflect that.”

Florida Senator Audrey Gibson also stopped in to view the plans and comment. She, too, did not agree with the proliferation of palm trees indicated in the plans.

“Every part of Florida is unique and while palm trees may be well received and play very well in South Florida, north Florida has its own uniqueness and we should be looking at what is indicative of north Florida in terms of our looks,” said Gibson. “When it comes to road projects, why do we have

to be a cookie cutter state? There is no noise absorption with palm trees.”

Construction of the 2.3-mile project on I-95 began in January 2013 and is expected to be complete later this fall, however, landscape construction is not expected to start until summer 2019 and is not part of the \$227 million Overland Bridge project budget.

To read FDOT’s landscape branding guidelines, go to residentnews.net and search for FDOT.

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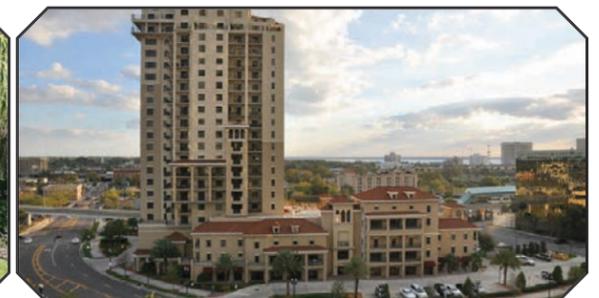
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# Former youth orchestra leader starts new program

A new music education program for youth was recently established by Maestro Scott Gregg, former music director of the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestras. The ensemble program, First Coast Youth Orchestras, will cater to young musicians age 7 to 21.

Gregg will conduct the program as a division of the First Coast Community Music School, a nonprofit educational institution founded in 2004 by Gregg and local philanthropist James Winston, according to Administrative Director Tami Chacon, and Camille Clement Gregg, director of marketing and development.

The First Coast Youth Orchestras will enroll up to 300 students, playing in five levels of ensembles covering a diverse range of abilities, starting with the youngest string players in Debut Strings and progressing through Intermezzo Strings and Aria Strings. More experienced players will join the two full orchestra programs. The Youth Philharmonic will be for advancing Middle

and High School instrumentalists and the Youth Symphony for advanced High School, College, and Pre-Conservatory students. A chamber music program will be offered for musicians in its top two orchestras.

Gregg will conduct both the Youth Symphony and the Youth Philharmonic and serve as Artistic Director of the FCYO.

“The enthusiasm this project has generated in student musicians all over the First Coast, along with the 60-plus years of combined experience our conducting staff has had nurturing a culture of excellence in young musicians, and the potential for innovative programming between the School and the Youth Orchestras is going to be a powerful combination. The most successful youth orchestra programs across the country are independent of any parent symphony and I’m looking forward to testing how far we can grow,” said Gregg.

Serving alongside Gregg will be Maestra Judith Steinmeyer, another veteran of area



Maestro Scott Gregg



Maestra Judith Steinmeyer

youth ensemble programs as well as an accomplished teacher. Steinmeyer will take charge of the Aria Strings.

“I was honored when asked to join the FCYO team. I could not pass up the opportunity to work with advancing string players in this newly formed organization,” said Steinmeyer.

FCYO’s season will run from September through May with regular rehearsals on the weekends. The season will consist of four concerts, with the Inaugural Concert being presented on Saturday, November 18, 2017, at the University of North Florida’s Lazzara Concert Hall.

# Riverkeeper releases report, claims ‘deep dredge is economically infeasible’

By Kate A. Hallock  
Resident Community News

Within two weeks of unanimous approval by the JAXPORT Board of Directors to begin the Jacksonville Harbor Deepening Project, the St. Johns Riverkeeper released a new report by a leading international port and shipping expert who “finds the proposed dredging of the St. Johns River to be ‘economically infeasible.’”

According to the report, Dr. Asaf Ashar, an independent consultant and research professor (emeritus) with the National Ports & Waterways Initiative at the University of New Orleans, analyzed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) economic feasibility study.

In the meantime, on June 26, the JAXPORT board allocated the first phase of port funding for construction to USACE, with an early 2018 project start date. The \$484 million, 11-mile project is primarily funded by the state, with \$17.5 million in federal funds received recently. The JAXPORT board

includes James Citrano, board chair; Ed Fleming, John Falconetti, John Baker, Dr. John Newman, Joe York and Jamie Shelton.

In his report, Ashar identifies numerous flaws in the USACE’s methodology that he says resulted in a Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) that is unrealistic and overstated. Ashar estimated benefits for the dredging project that are substantially less than those calculated by the USACE.

While the USACE study is primarily based on data from 2010, Ashar utilized recent 2017 data to provide a more accurate assessment of both the current situation and, especially, future changes of Jacksonville’s shipping services and their impact on the economic feasibility of the project.

Ashar defined four scenarios that address the flaws in the USACE study and calculated a Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) for each. A BCR is calculated by dividing the total economic benefits by the total economic costs. Ashar’s BCR calculations range from 0.14 to 1.31 for a 13-mile channel. The USACE calculated a BCR of 2.66.

As a result, Ashar concluded that the “the BCR of JAXPORT’s channel-improvement project is likely less than 1.” Projects with a BCR smaller than 1.0 are considered economically infeasible. According to the USACE, “if the benefit cost ratio is less than 1.0, the total costs are greater than total benefits, which is not a good economic investment.”

The BCR calculations for an 11-mile channel range from 0.19 to 1.76. “As seen in the scenarios considered by me as the most likely, Multiport and Feederling, the BCR is still below 1, indicating that the 11-mile Project is still economically infeasible,” said Ashar.

The USACE has indicated no plans to update its studies for a project to deepen 11 miles of the St. Johns River instead of 13 miles, according to the Riverkeeper’s release.

“This new report provides further evidence that the economic projections for the Deep Dredge have been grossly overstated,” said Jimmy Orth, St. Johns Riverkeeper executive director. “It also demonstrates the urgent

need for a transparent community dialogue to fully vet the project before dredging begins. We can’t afford to potentially spend hundreds of millions of tax dollars, cause significant harm to our river, and then find out later that the project wasn’t beneficial or even necessary.”

JAXPORT did not have an official response to the Riverkeeper’s consultant’s analysis, but instead supplied links to documents in reference to its position on harbor deepening.

“There are many years’ worth of expert economic research results and peer reviewed analysis of deepening project available,” said Nancy Rubin, JAXPORT spokesperson. “You can find many references to our position on deepening at Jaxport.com both on the harbor deepening page and in recent news releases posted within our newsroom.”

Ashar’s complete report can be found at [www.stjohnsriverkeeper.org/blog/expert-finds-dredging-economically-infeasible/](http://www.stjohnsriverkeeper.org/blog/expert-finds-dredging-economically-infeasible/)

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# City settlement over tree mitigation resolves issue, promotes beautification

By Lilla Ross  
Resident Community News

In the welcome shade of the Treaty Oak on the Southbank, representatives of civic groups came together July 27 to celebrate the future of trees in Jacksonville and the July 25 resolution of a lawsuit against the city over the use of tree mitigation funds.

The suit filed in 2015 by the Public Trust Environmental Legal Institute of Florida challenged the city's use of the Tree Mitigation Trust Fund – approximately \$20 million – established in 2000 by charter amendment. Developers pay into the fund when they cut down trees and the money is supposed to be used to mitigate the loss by paying for new trees to be planted elsewhere in the county.

"There was no transparency about how much money was available in the fund," said John November, Public Trust executive director. "The city failed to provide an accurate accounting."

The settlement was the product of two years of discussions by November, Warren Anderson, Public Trust founder and chair, Lad Hawkins of Scenic Jacksonville, Tracey Arpen of City Beautiful Jax and Greenscape, Tom Larson of the Sierra Club, City Councilman John Crescimbeni, Chief Administrative Officer Sam Mousa, and several City of Jacksonville staff members.

"Sam Mousa was the chair of the settlement committee and accepted the challenge we brought," Larson said. "The way he led the dialogue really helped us get more than we expected. From the beginning, we made it clear it was a friendly lawsuit. We wanted to bring attention to an area of opportunity that we felt was being neglected by the city."



Environmental advocates surround Andy Miller of the Public Trust Environmental Legal Institute of Florida at a media conference July 27 at Treaty Oak Park.

*"Trees are the jewels of our landscape. They are the finishing touches. They are so important to the quality of our air and water. They help deflect noise. They create spaces to help build community."*

— Audrey Gibson, State Senator

Anna Dooley, executive director of Greenscape, said she is confident the settlement will enable her tree advocacy group to plant another 300,000 trees around the city.

State Senator Audrey Gibson thanked the group for leading the fight. The Jacksonville Democrat was one of the original petitioners of the 2000 charter amendment that created the mitigation fund.

"Trees are the jewels of our landscape," she said. "They are the finishing touches. They are so important to the quality of our air and water. They help deflect noise. They create spaces to help build community."

The memory of the late attorney Bill Brinton, who died of cancer in June, was invoked repeatedly by speakers. Brinton was a tireless advocate for the beautification of Jacksonville and initiated the 2000 charter amendment.

"This was Bill Brinton's baby," Gibson said. "He had a way of pulling you in and keeping you in."

"It's hard to think of anyone who did more to make this happen," Arpen said. "At least he knew about the settlement before he died."

Continue on page 13

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The settlement, which was approved by City Council last month, has several components:

- **Tree Commission:** The commission will be an advisory board, comprising a City Council member, the city planning director and five residents with some expertise in trees, three to be appointed by the council and two by the mayor. November expects the commission to be in place by Oct. 1, the start of the new City budget year.
- **New city staff:** The City also will hire an urban forest manager, who will oversee the urban forester and a new position, city arborist. The job of the arborist will be to plant trees and the urban forester's job will be to do maintenance to keep the canopy healthy.
- **Tougher penalties:** The settlement also toughened the penalties for developers who don't get permits to take out trees. It doesn't apply to private homeowners.

"If you are a repeat offender, the costs will double and triple over time," November said. "And now it's not just the property owner who is liable but the contractor, too. That's new."

For instance, November said, if you remove 100 inches of trees (calculated by the diameter at Chest height), you pay \$113 an inch for the permit, or \$11,300. Without a permit, that same 100 inches could cost \$22,600.

"We think it's a major problem. For some people, it's worth it sometimes to break the law and just pay the penalty but by

closing this loophole we hope we will get them to pay it," November said. "Major developers aren't the problem. It's the mom-and-pops. But we think we have put the pieces in place so we can track it and see who the violators are. If it's unpermitted, we can file a complaint with the city and get a stop-work order and cite them."

The new Tree Commission and city staffers will have at their disposal the data from a comprehensive tree canopy survey of Duval County being done this summer by Plan-it Geo, with a grant from the City's Environmental Protection Board. "It's really more than a survey," November said. "Plan-it Geo is doing a one-meter resolution map that will show where the plantable areas are."

As trees are planted, the map can be updated to show the new projects. Overlays will give further details about wildlife corridors, heat islands, storm water and other data that will help with the planning process.

"People will be able to access the map and look at the canopy in their neighborhood. We want citizens to get engaged."

Trees paid for with the mitigation fund must be planted on public property but citizens can suggest projects to their council members, he said.

The grant also included money for an education initiative directed at children.

"We're going to be going around to schools and doing presentations to get kids excited about learning about the benefits of trees," November said.

For more information about serving on the commission or the education initiative, contact John November at [john@publictrustlaw.org](mailto:john@publictrustlaw.org) or (904) 525-3042.

## Northeast Florida teens to benefit from nonprofit merger

After decades of serving families in the community, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida (BGCNF) and Project SOS are putting nearly 80 years of combined experience together, merging into one organization with a capacity to serve youth through in-school life skills training and unique afterschool programs aimed at Teens.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida and Project SOS complement one another in mission and operations to serve youth and teens, a programming priority for each organization. BGCNF serves nearly 5,000 youth and Project SOS serves over 10,000 youth annually through in-school programs. Project SOS has helped reduce the teen birth rates by 64 percent, juvenile crime by 35 percent and drug and alcohol use by 28 percent, according to the Florida Departments of Health and Juvenile Justice.

"Both organizations work to enhance lives to ensure a brighter future for youth in northeast Florida, and by merging, our community resources will be maximized and used more efficiently," said BGCNF President and CEO, Paul Martinez. "Project SOS serves students during their school days and the Boys & Girls Clubs serves youth in the after-school space, and, through our collaboration, we will reach more students to make a greater impact."

The focus of the merger is to provide teens with more opportunities to succeed in life, emphasized Martinez.

*"Both organizations work to enhance lives to ensure a brighter future for youth in northeast Florida."*

— Paul Martinez ,  
BGCNF President and CEO

The Project SOS successful teen programs in middle schools and high schools will continue using the Youth Development Specialists who teach eight critical life skills in an Edutainment format, and who will assist at two state-of-arts Boys & Girls Club teen centers, slated to be built within the next 12-24 months. The teen centers will provide adolescents exciting activities to do after school including rock climbing, culinary arts, recording studio, sports, dance, etc.

"We are excited about this merger," said Dr. Pam Mullarkey Robbins, Project SOS Founder/CEO. "We will continue to reach youth through our proven programming in the schools and now we will be able to encourage teens to continue their lessons by participating in after-school programs offered by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida and to positively impact nearly 15,000 teens a year...this is a win-win for everyone involved!"

While Martinez continues to serve in leadership, Mullarkey Robbins retired from day-to-day operations and will serve as an ambassador for the nonprofit.

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# Watson Realty Corp. offers opportunity for those in search of a career change

## Team culture in a family atmosphere spells success

Even for seasoned professionals, relocating for a new job in a new city can seem like starting all over again. Gonzalo Mejia, Managing Broker at Watson Realty Corp., knows exactly what that's like.

"I started my business in Pensacola, and when I relocated to Jacksonville I found myself having to find new customers all over again. It was like being a new agent one more time,"



Gonzalo Mejia

said Mejia. "I was able to start working with a couple looking for their first home. Because they were so satisfied with my service a chain of referrals started that led me to close another 12 homes that I can attribute to that first customer.

Once you get the business started, good customer service will make opportunities multiply."

Mejia's experience helps make him a good team leader in the San Marco/San Jose office.

"We have a broker who is deeply engaged in the real estate industry at all levels, making him a great resource to help grow and market our business with the newest trends in mind," said Joshua Rosenberg about Mejia.

Eleana Carrion agreed. "Every day we learn real estate from the experiences of our fellow Realtors. Gonzalo, our leader, is very knowledgeable and an accessible person," she said.



Eleana Carrion

"He makes it easy to understand every step we need to take in the journey through this profession."

*"I started my business in Pensacola, and when I relocated to Jacksonville I found myself having to find new customers all over again. It was like being a new agent one more time."*

— Gonzalo Mejia



Joshua Rosenberg

Not only do real estate agents find success working at Watson Realty Corp., the company itself is one of Florida's great success stories. In 1965, founder Bill Watson dreamed of building a people-oriented company, sensitive to the needs and concerns of its customers. So, he started a small office in Jacksonville and set about making that dream come true.

Today Watson Realty Corp. is one of the most respected names in the industry with nearly 1,400 sales associates, 450 employees and almost 50 sales offices throughout Central and Northeast Florida and South Georgia – and the company is still growing.

One of the advantages to choosing real estate as a career is flexibility, said Mejia. "It is a great opportunity to take control of your time and your income while working in a fulfilling field that helps others reach their goals," he said. "Real estate should be seen as a long-term career and not as an opportunity to make some quick money. In all markets there are different needs. Successful agents pay attention to the market and find a way to satisfy the needs of the customers."

Watson Realty Corp. is a good company for both new and experienced agents to join, said Mejia. "A key to a successful career is to have the right support. That is what Watson Realty and its managers strive to provide," he said. "We have extensive training available for new agents as well as for those who have been part of the business before."

If you're considering a career move, now might be the right time to contact Watson Realty Corp. Mejia is looking for people who care about others, who have people skills and pay attention to details. Give him a call at (904) 421-6920 or stop by the San Marco/San Jose office at 5443 San Jose Blvd.



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# MOVERS & SHAKERS

## Groundwork Jacksonville recognized for waterways cleanup

In one of her last official acts as Jacksonville City Council President, Lori Boyer recognized Groundwork Jacksonville as a 2017 Melody Starr Anne Bishop Award honoree at the Council's June 29 installation meeting.

The award was presented in recognition of Groundwork's efforts to clean up Jacksonville's waterways and its active involvement in the urban core.



Groundwork Jacksonville Board Chair James Richardson looks on as City Council President Lori Boyer presents the Melody Starr Anne Bishop Award to Acting Executive Director Alyssa Bourgoyne.

Groundwork Jacksonville is the city's primary nonprofit organization specifically created to clean and redevelop the Emerald Necklace and convert contaminated land into parks, playgrounds, trails, and other public greenspace.

"On behalf of Groundwork's Board and volunteers, we are so appreciative of this recognition. We also are proud to be in such great company with the other honorees, many of which we partner with on projects throughout the year," said Acting Executive Director Alyssa Bourgoyne, who was on hand to receive the award along with Board Chair James Richardson and Board members Darcel Harris and Kristina Nelson.

Named in honor of Melody Starr Anne Bishop, the award is given annually by the out-going Council President to recognize civic involvement and contributions to improving the City's quality of life. Other 2017 honorees were Clean Waterway Society, Rising Tides, Beaches Sea Turtle Patrol and the Island Keepers.

"I am so very proud to represent Groundwork Jacksonville and accept this award along with Alyssa Bourgoyne and



Board Members Darcel Harris and Kristina Nelson with Board Chair James Richardson and Acting Executive Director Alyssa Bourgoyne

our board members," said Richardson. "This recognition is a testament to the hard work of our volunteers and the leadership and determination that Alyssa brings to our organization."

Melody Starr Anne Bishop, who died in March 2009 at age 21 from ALS (Lou

Gehrig's disease), was well known for her devotion to her community, her church, and to numerous causes. In 2009, out-going Council President Ronnie Fussell established the Melody Starr Anne Bishop Award for community service by a citizen or organization.

## Nemours CEO recognized among most influential physician executives

David Bailey, MD, MBA, president and CEO of Nemours Children's Health System, has been recognized by Modern Healthcare as one of the 2017 50 Most Influential Physician Executives and Leaders, and is the only Florida-based healthcare executive on the 2017 list. The ranking is featured in the June 19, 2017 issue of Modern Healthcare magazine, and profiles of the winners are available at [ModernHealthcare.com/50most2017](http://ModernHealthcare.com/50most2017).

Bailey, a Jacksonville Beach resident, has been with Nemours since 1997. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in biological science from West Virginia University, a Doctor of Medicine from Penn State University, and a Master of Business Administration from the University of South Florida.

In its 13th year, Modern' Health's recognition program acknowledges physicians working in the healthcare industry who are deemed by their peers and an expert



David Bailey

panel to be the most influential in terms of demonstrating leadership and impact.

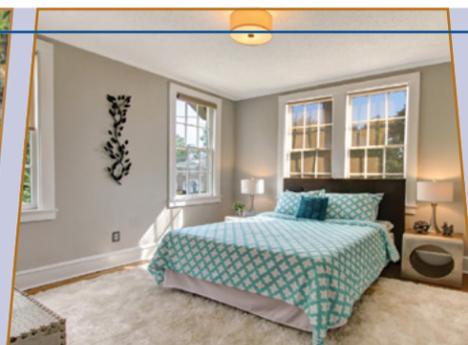
Nemours is one of the largest integrated children's health systems in the country, with two freestanding state-of-the-art children's hospitals — Nemours Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, Del. and Nemours Children's Hospital in Orlando. In Jacksonville, Nemours operates Nemours Children's Specialty Care with locations in San Marco, in Fleming Island, and on the Southside.

## Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty holds 18th Annual Backpack Challenge

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty's 18th Annual Backpack Challenge ended July 31, but the rewards are only just beginning.

"Every child deserves to begin the school year with a new backpack and the supplies needed for school," said Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty Founder, President and CEO Linda Sherrer. "A new backpack filled with school supplies is a wonderful gift, providing every student with the confidence needed to begin a successful school year."

Backpacks and supplies for students in kindergarten through grade 12 were collected at nine Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices office locations. Last year, partnering with community and local charities, the company donated more than 1,000 backpacks filled with school supplies for local children. The company set a goal this year to exceed last year's contribution.



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JC Demetree and Ted Stein

### New restaurant, *The Local*, opens in Miramar

You can't get more local than a neighborhood restaurant owned and operated by local men. In fact, dropping in at *The Local* is a little bit like eating at home, but someone else does the cooking and cleaning up.

Ordering is counter-service but food runners bring the dishes to the customers. Owners Ted Stein and JC Demetree III call it laid back, appealing to young families. The patio includes a fenced-in grassy area where children can play under the watchful eyes of their parents.

*The Local* serves traditional dishes with a twist, such as the BLAT, a BLT with avocado and a homemade basil aioli. They also serve an exclusive espresso-based coffee created by Bold Bean Coffee Roasters, which Stein said is a 50-50 Colombian-Guatemalan blend.

Open July 5, *The Local* has maintained a steady stream of customers, serving from 7 a.m. breakfast through 10 a.m. late night tapas at 4578 San Jose Blvd., where it merges with Hendricks Avenue.

Seating 70, the 2,656-square-foot restaurant in the 60-year-old in the Shops of Granada was built out by Toney Construction Co. Inc. at a cost of \$348,500.

## 'Truly local' bank celebrates 10th anniversary

FirstAtlantic Bank, stating it's "proud to truly be a local community bank," celebrated its 10th anniversary with with approximately 120 guests July 20 at its San Marco headquarters on Hendricks Avenue.

Attendees enjoyed hors d' oeuvres and camaraderie as Mitchell Hunt Jr., CEO, spoke about the financial institution's past decade and its contributions to the local community through \$600 million in loans, and thanked FirstAtlantic Bank team members and customers for their loyalty.

The company has eight financial centers in Jacksonville, Orange Park, St. Augustine and Ponte Vedra Beach.

Ginger Brelsford, regional retail banking manager, Toni and Mitchell Hunt, president and CEO, Dena Kapperman, vice president and director of marketing, and Larry Celzo, vice president, senior commercial banker



### North Florida Land Trust welcomes new board members

North Florida Land Trust welcomed three new members to its board of directors. Patrick Carney, Ray Bunton and David Barton joined the board as members at large. Carney, of Ortega Forest, is director of capital planning with CSX. Palatka resident Ray Bunton, Jr., served as division director of the St. Johns River Water Management District until retirement in April of 2016, and David Barton, of San Marco, is senior vice president and senior relationship manager at Bank of America Merrill Lynch.

"We are very lucky and pleased that Mr. Carney, Mr. Bunton and Mr. Barton agreed to join our board," said Jim McCarthy, president of NFLT. "Mr. Carney and Mr. Barton both have an impressive background in the financial industry and Mr. Bunton brings nearly 30 years of land conservation experience



Ray Bunton



David Barton



Patrick Carney

to the board. I believe their unique and fresh perspective will be extremely valuable to our mission."

Each member will serve a three-year term on the board of directors. Carney replaced his wife, Kirsten, who had joined the board in 2016. He will serve on the board until 2019. Bunton's and Barton's terms will expire in 2020.

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### San Marco Rotary Club elects Reagor president

Janet Reagor, of San Marco, has been elected president of the Rotary Club of San Marco for the 2017-2018 year. Reagor is serving her second term as president and also serves at the District level as an assistant governor. Additionally, she has served as vice president, treasurer and secretary of the club. Reagor has been a member of the club since its charter in 2008.

Reagor, associate director at Sanctuary on 8th Street, said her focus for the coming year will be in sync with the international president's initiatives of supporting youth programs, funding Rotary International's Polio Eradication campaign and enhancing the local environment through engaging each Rotarian to plant a tree to renew the earth's ecosystem.

Other officers elected include Howard Dyal, president-elect; John Boggs, vice president; Ruth Ann Hepler, treasurer; Mark Snitzer, sergeant-at-arms; Meg Folds, club administration chair; Bob O'Linn, membership chair, Ellen Williams, foundation



Janet Reagor

chair, Pete Helow, public relations chair, Denise Dreyer, service projects chair. Tony Potochick is immediate past president.

An installation ceremony will be held Tuesday, July 11, 7:30 a.m. at the DoubleTree Riverfront Hotel.

### Travel tote pillow inventor named regional InnovateHER winner

San Marco resident Donna Cooper was named the regional winner of the InnovateHER competition by the Jacksonville Women's Business Center (JWBC), a program of the JAX Chamber Foundation. Cooper is inventor of the Tube, a hands-free tote and travel pillow that can be filled with clothes.

Launched in 2015, InnovateHER is a nationwide business competition offered by the Small Business Administration (SBA) to drive attention and resources to innovative products and services. Cooper and other competitors will vie for \$70,000 in prize money provided through a gift from the Sara Blakely Foundation.

Cooper was one of seven women who competed in the regional InnovateHER challenge, hosted by JWBC. She is the CEO of Coopergirl Productions and the inventor of the Tube, a travel pillow that can be



Donna Cooper

stuffed with clothes. Cooper's entry will be submitted for consideration to be one of 10 semi-finalists selected by the SBA from the regional winners to compete in the finals in Washington, D.C. in September.

## NEFAR Charity Bass Tourney raises funds for Haven Hospice



Haven Hospice's Courtney Quirie, Lauren Ferguson and Marsha Davis-Flowers with Becky Williams, NEFAR member Realtor and tournament chair, William East, NEFAR CEO.

The Northeast Florida Association of Realtors (NEFAR) netted \$34,508 for Haven Hospice from its 14th Annual Charity Bass Fishing Tournament and Family Fun Day April 29, along the St. Johns River in Palatka.

Since inception, NEFAR has raised \$324,546 to benefit the unreimbursed programs and services provided by Haven Hospice to patients and families in Palatka and the surrounding areas.

There were 183 fishing teams / boats entered in the 2017 tournament. More than two dozen participants earned cash

prices, including tournament winners Bobby Johnson and Judith Foxx-Johnson, Biggest Bass winner Michael S. Johnson, and Average Jose winner Tom Brooks.

"NEFAR is fortunate to have many members who volunteer in a variety of civic and charitable organizations and activities," said Marc Jernigan, NEFAR president. "Our annual NEFAR Charity Bass Fishing Tournament is one way in which we collectively demonstrate NEFAR good works; supporting the communities of Northeast Florida that support us."

*"NEFAR is fortunate to have many members who volunteer in a variety of civic and charitable organizations and activities."*

— Marc Jernigan, NEFAR president



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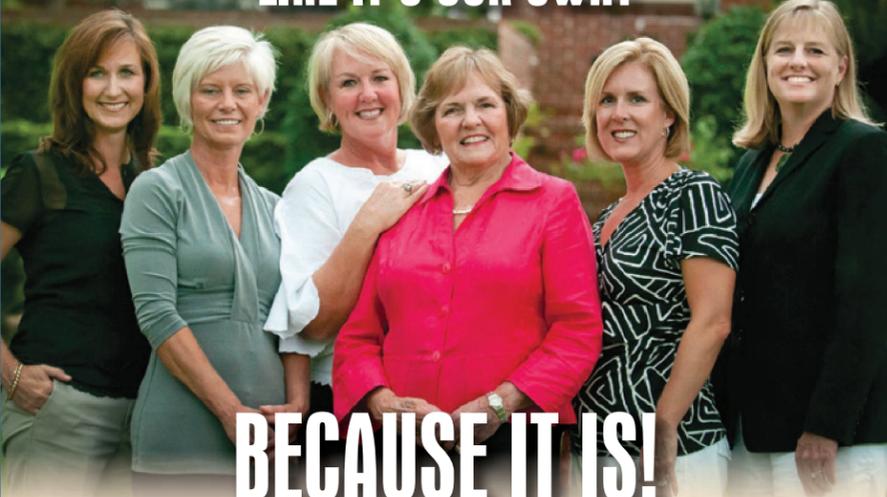
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## Ice pop lovers enjoy a Hyppo in the 'Hex'

Almost seven years to the day after the first Hyppo Gourmet Pops shop opened in St. Augustine, store No. 10 opened its doors to customers in San Marco in June. Owner Stephen DiMare had opened to open fall 2016, but bumps in the construction process delayed the grand opening by eight months.

Serving guests in the unique glass hexagon at 1432 Hendricks Ave., the shop is located next to Panera and La Nopalera, across the street from Aardwolf Brewing Company. The frozen pops are made with fresh fruit, herbs, and spices, evaporated cane juice and sometimes dairy, with flavors ranging from Blackberry Clove to Yellow Watermelon Jalapeño.



Kyle Whalen, production manager

## The Temple names Penson religious education director

Michelle Penson has been named religious education director at Congregation Ahavath Chesed, 8727 San Jose Blvd.

Penson, a Chicago, Illinois native, holds a Bachelor of Arts in political science from Boston University with a minor in education. She has lived abroad, as well as New York City and the San Francisco Bay area, where she taught elementary and middle school. Penson and her family moved to Jacksonville in 2010.

Penson spoke about the new Seaside Charter School, which will use The Temple's classrooms on days the congregation does not occupy them.



Michelle Penson

"This partnership was a win-win for our congregation, since our comprehensive Jewish education for children from pre-K through high school makes use of that space on Sunday mornings, with Hebrew instruction and Teen Night at Temple held there on Wednesday evenings," said Penson.

## Middle Eastern cuisine a hit in San Jose

Noura's Café was host to a VIP reception for area businesses June 15 at its new location, 1533 University Blvd. W. where Lebanese owners Noura and Raymond Abi-Khalil introduced the Middle Eastern cuisine served at their restaurant. A recent expansion now allows the café to offer catering and be available for private parties.



Noura Abi-Khalil, District 11 Councilman Danny Becton, Raymond Abi-Khalil

## Gator Bowl Sports announces leadership for the upcoming year

David Long, president of Miller Electric Company, will take the reins as the 2017 Chairman of Gator Bowl Sports.

Long will preside over all three Gator Bowl Sports entities: the Jacksonville Sports Council, TaxSlayer Bowl and Gator Bowl Sports Charities.

A North Florida native, Long began his career at Miller Electric out of high school in 1975 as a construction wireman, working his way up the ladder to become president in 2012. Today, Long is one of the primary license holders in the company. He currently holds electrical contracting licenses in 40 states, including Washington DC.

Long holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Management from Nova Southeastern University. Within the electrical contracting industry, Long served as Governor of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) North Florida Chapter, the National Workforce Development Committee for NECA, and The National Joint Apprenticeship Committee. He currently serves as the NECA National Workforce Development Chairman and District 3 Vice President, and is co-Chair of the National Training Alliance and the NECA Labor Relations Board.

Outside the industry, Long has served as president and Board Member of the National Leukemia Society, and Executive Board Member of Dreams Come True Foundation. Long is a Trustee of the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, a United Way Tocqueville Member and a Rotarian. He also serves as Trustee at Trinity Baptist College Board.

Serving as Chairman-Elect of Gator Bowl Sports is Jamie Shelton, president of bestbet Jacksonville. As Chairman-Elect he will also oversee the Game Committee for the 73rd Annual TaxSlayer Bowl which will played on Saturday, December 30, 2017.

Shelton is a graduate of David Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee, receiving his B.S. in Accounting and is a graduate of



David Long



Jamie Shelton

the University of Memphis in Memphis, Tennessee, holding an M.B.A. in Finance. He began his professional career as a Certified Public Accountant for Arthur Andersen in Memphis, rising from staff accountant to Senior Manager of Audit and Advisory Services. He left the firm to join one of its public-sector clients, Jacksonville-based Regency Centers in 2001.

At Regency Centers, Shelton was Vice President - Controller of Western Operations and was promoted to the role of Vice President - Real Estate Accounting & Risk Management with responsibility for the operations' portfolio for the entire United States.

In 2009, Shelton joined bestbet Jacksonville as its Chief Financial Officer and in 2013 was promoted to president, where he oversees the company's operations, financial functions and public affairs.

Actively involved in Northeast Florida, Shelton currently serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of Jacksonville University, the Board of Directors for the JAX Chamber, the Jacksonville Port Authority and the Jacksonville Sports Council. In addition, he is a member of the Jacksonville Civic Council and is a graduate of Leadership Jacksonville and was a past Leadership Giving Chair for the United Way of Northeast Florida.

Shelton and his wife, Ali Korman-Shelton, are past chairs of the Sulzbacher Center's Annual Transformations Gala and the Jewish Community Alliance's Annual Gala and are members of the Wolfson Children's Hospital's DreamCoat Society, DreamMakers.



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# 2017 Art & Antiques Show chairs announced

The 41st Art & Antiques Show, presented by The Women's Board to benefit Wolfson Children's Hospital, promises to be regal with a touch of whimsy with its theme "London Calling...Britain Through the Ages." Longtime volunteers Frances Hutto, Jan Kirby and Kelley Kunz will chair the 2017 show.

The event will highlight British life, from English gardens and high tea to beer pubs and Beefeaters. Set for Dec. 1-3, the show will include a Friday night gala, "A Royal Affair," with the always-popular Rivertown Band playing best-loved dance tunes accented with a little English Rock.

Those seeking design inspiration will find fabulous sources with the show's 40 internationally known fine art, antiques and jewelry dealers. Or attend one of five lectures on design, including a return visit by British-born India Hicks, a resident of the Bahamas with her own line of furniture,

jewelry, totes and more. The grand finale will be the Children's Fashion Show, evoking "The Mad Hatter Tea Party," with a nod to Paddington Bear.

Kirby is vice-president of KirbyCo Builders, Inc. and managing partner for Y-Brik Properties, LLC. The avid volunteer is involved with the NEFBA, the American Cancer Society, MDA and The Bolles School.

She has been a Women's Board member for 10 years noting "I am blessed with three healthy children, but two have needed the medical services of Wolfson Children's Hospital on multiple occasions, especially my youngest son, who required time in the NICU upon birth. My family is very appreciative that we have a children's hospital of this caliber in Jacksonville."

A longtime Women's Board member, Hutto is uniquely committed to the organization as her mother, Marian Barnett Poitevent, is a founding member.

"I am honored to be a part of this year's Art & Antiques Show," said Hutto. "The hospital holds a special place in my heart for what it has done for my children personally and what it continues to do for the children of our community."

Hutto lives in Ortega with her husband and three teenage sons. She also volunteers at her church, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, the Colonial Dames, CISV and the Episcopal School of Jacksonville.

Ortega resident Kunz is a physical therapist and Pilates instructor with her own private practice/concierge service. She is active in her church, St. Matthew's Catholic Church, and her children's schools, and has chaired Delicious Destinations and served on the Red Rose Ball committee benefiting St. Vincent's Outreach Ministries. "London is calling you!" said Kunz about the upcoming show. "Come and enjoy everything royal to kick off your holiday



Kelley Kunz, Frances Hutto, Jan Kirby

season and support Wolfson Children's Hospital, the only hospital that is specifically designed and dedicated for the care of our kids!"

All events will be at the Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center. For tickets and more information, visit [artandantiquesshow.com](http://artandantiquesshow.com) or call (904) 202-2886.



## First Coast Sotheby's opens new location, celebrates

First Coast Sotheby's International Realty celebrated the relocation of its headquarters office to a well-appointed new office space near Ruth's Chris Steakhouse and Restaurant Medure in the Veranda Building on Highway A1A in Ponte Vedra.

The June 29 reception included agents from all four locations as well as many long-standing clients, who enjoyed Sotheby's labeled wines and hors d'oeuvres catered by David Hurst as guitarist Lucio Rubino provided entertainment. Guests also

viewed a rotating gallery of Sotheby's properties worldwide.

The event was sponsored by Landmark Title, and John Robinson with Hancock and Whitney Bank.

The 42-year-old firm has seen a consistent level of growth while expanding from one office to four within seven and a half years. First Coast Sotheby's has two offices on Amelia Island and one in San Jose, in addition to its Ponte Vedra Beach location.

Whitney, Jessica, Jane and Jeff Chefan

## Boyer recognized by AIA Jax Chapter

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) Jacksonville Chapter saluted members and projects with the annual Chapter Honor Awards April 30. District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer received the Chapter's Community Service Award for her service as Council President 2016-2017.

The 2017 Design and Honor Awards winners also include several from Riverside.

Haskell Architects won an Award of Excellence for a 67,000-square-foot student housing project at Embry-Riddle University, and an Award of Merit for the U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Safety and Security Team (MSST) facility, a design/build project for the USCG in Houston, Texas.

Richard Skinner & Associates won an Award of Merit for a beach residence. Jeff



Lori Boyer with AIA Jacksonville Chapter President Chris Allen

Lane, of Lane Architecture PA, was recognized with the Mellen C. Greely Craftsmanship Award for his company offices at 904 Margaret St.

Additionally, Dorina Bakiri was presented with the Chapter's Community Service Award for her design of the Riverside Avondale Community Garden.

Among several other award winners, the as-yet unbuilt Jacksonville Regional Transportation Center scored an Award of Merit for POND, Michael Baker International.



### "Presidential" Riverfront Estate

This 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath home, with 6,182 sq. ft. of interior living including large bonus room over the garage and a large veranda, is situated on almost 2 acres in one of the most sought after areas of Jacksonville. Upon entrance into this custom, one owner, home it is clear that the St. John's River takes center stage. \$2,500,000

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The Temple sincerely thanks Dr. Larry & Kathy Kanter for bringing us this program.



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# Holiday card art exhibit kicks off annual fundraising for homeless shelter

Original paintings created by six homeless children living at the Sulzbacher Center, and professionally framed by Reddi-Arts, were on display for the 20th Annual Give a Good Night Children's Holiday Art Exhibition. The event was held at the Ritz Theatre and Museum, where six local judges chose a winner for the Center's annual holiday greeting card.

The paintings were created during an art workshop, in partnership with Cathedral Arts project, by homeless children living at the Center. Each painting expresses the youth artist's "dream home for the holidays."

The winner, Lani'a, age 9, is from Chicago and loves science. Lani'a's favorite food is melons and she wants to be a baker. "Home" to Lania is a "comfortable place that makes you feel warm and glad to be there."

"The creativity of the children living at our Center is always remarkable. Each child's 'Dream Home' painting is imaginative and touching. We are very proud of all who participated," said Cindy Funkhouser, Sulzbacher Center President and CEO.

Give a Good Night is a crucial component of the Sulzbacher Center's seasonal fundraising. Proceeds from Give a Good Night holiday card purchases help support the Center's comprehensive services and programs for homeless men, women and families with children.



Lani'a, 9, was the winner of the Sulzbacher Give a Good Night holiday card art contest.



Brooks Dame, Ann Sulzbacher, Eileen Briggs, Campaign Chair Chris Stone, Linda Hemphill and Sulzbacher President/CEO Cindy Funkhouser

Celebrity judges were Frank Denton, Editor-at-Large, Florida-Times Union; Susan Gentry-Dearing, W.C. Gentry & Susan R. Gentry Family Foundation; Holly Keris, COO and Curator, Cummer Museum of

Art & Gardens; Dawn Lockhart, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Office of the Mayor; Keitha Nelson, Anchor/Reporter, First Coast News; and Sheriff Mike Williams, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office.

# Riverkeeper teams up with brewery in clean water campaign

For the sixth year, a campaign kickoff and clean water initiative to benefit the St. Johns River watershed was a team effort. SweetWater Brewing Company representatives and the Rising Tides, a young professionals group representing the interests of the St. Johns Riverkeeper, gathered on the rooftop bar at Hoptinger in Riverside to raise funds and raise a few pints.

As part of the Save the St. Johns River campaign, proceeds from donations associated with SweetWater brews will help fund the work of the St. Johns Riverkeeper.

According to Brendan Bledsoe, spokesperson for SweetWater Brewing Company, the clean water program started in Atlanta where an initiative called "Save the Hooch" was set up to help clean up and preserve water quality for the Chattahoochee watershed. The Chattahoochee provides drinking for millions, supplying metro Atlanta and the SweetWater Brewing Company's operations. "If you don't have clean water, you can't have clean beer," said Bledsoe, as he elaborated on the Save the Water program and shared the company mantra, "Where there's water, there's SweetWater."

The program has grown since kicking off in Atlanta 10 years ago and now helps to support other water-related programs for organizations such as Ducks Unlimited, the Tarpon Trust, and Coastal Conservation Association, to name a few. The campaign



Kathy and Bill Nipper joined the group in support of the St. Johns Riverkeeper.

kickoff event took place June 1 and will run through Labor Day in Jacksonville.

Visit [www.stjohnsriverkeeper.org/blog/save-our-water/](http://www.stjohnsriverkeeper.org/blog/save-our-water/) to learn more details on how your business can grow the campaign and awareness efforts.



Robert Field with SweetWater Brewing Company's Brendan Bledsoe and St. Johns Riverkeeper Outreach Director Shannon Blankinship



Jamey Williamson with Nicole Spradley, Jonathan Brown, Alicia Smith and Courtney Williams



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We believe the Walk-Off Charities of Jax has hit a home run with the idea of making it possible for every kid in Jacksonville to have the opportunity to play baseball. It's such an expensive sport with the need for gloves, cleats, bats, and uniforms. Many young people in our area simply can't afford to play.



was happy to step up to the plate and participate. There was a kick-off event at the baseball grounds last month that included a celebrity home run derby.



Radio talk show host and voice of the Jaguars Frank Frangie started a charity to change all that. The Pajcic Firm



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Kezia Rolle '88 with Angela Bell-Deems '88

### Alumni celebrate 30 years of magnet school for the arts

Graduates of the San Marco-based magnet school for performing, visual and language arts gathered July 22 at WJCT Studios to celebrate 30 years of creative impact. The first 10 graduating classes, 1987-1997, were the evening's celebrities but all alumni were welcome.

Many toured the campus earlier in the day before dressing up or going comfortably casual for the event catered by D'Vine Cuisine.

The school's heritage began in 1922 as South Jacksonville School No. 107, grades 1-9 for African American students, and was renamed in 1945 after Douglas Anderson, a black community leader who spearheaded the building of the school. Not long after becoming a high school in 1955, desegregation closed it in 1968. After serving as a campus for Florida State Junior College for two years, then a seventh grade center, the school reopened in 1985 as the magnet it is today.

Notable alumni include Limp Bizkit musicians Wes Borland, Fred Durst and John Otto; Yellowcard musicians Benjamin Harper, Ryan Key, Sean Mackin and Longineu W. Parson III.



Former principal Jackie Cornelius with Dr. Charles Westmoreland '89 and his wife, Nicky Westmoreland



Emily Greene Clark '95 with Jennifer Wagoner Walker '95 and Calder Corey '97

# SOCIAL R



Brian and Merry Anne Crooke, board member and host committee, David and Noeline Clark



Tarik Minor and Melanie Laws and Emcee, Kymberly Cook, C

### Evening of Taste brings in more than \$75,000 for Children's Home Society

The Children's Home Society of Florida held its annual An Evening of Taste with Chef Matthew Medure on April 23, raising more than \$75,000 to benefit children and families in Northeast Florida.

Chef Matthew Medure presented an intimate atmosphere where guests sipped, savored and

socialized. As guests m... Trio entertained the outd... Guests bid on exciting a... a-ways while learning m... help build a stronger Fir...

The event was hosted... Aiello, Brian and Merry... Kristen Gavazzi, The Ho... and Jason Nelson, Craig



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y Dr. James and Kristi  
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Tarik Minor, and Melanie Lawson-Minor, who also served as emcee.

Sponsors included CSX Transportation, Suzanne G. Crittenden, Eisman & Russo, Florida Blue, Gary McCalla, BBVA Compass, Brian and Merry Anne Crooke, LeAnna Cumber & Associates, M. Richard and Melissa Lewis, and Clarence and Joya Wilkerson.

(Photos by Dan Harris Photography)



Julia Canipelli, Chef Matthew Medure, Host Committee Members, Honorable State Attorney Melissa Nelson and Jason Nelson



Jim and Pat Griffiths, board member



Doc Tony Crothers



Catherine Del Re, Ju'Coby Pittman, Carol McManus



Rep. Kimberly Daniels, Senator Audrey Gibson, Rep. Tracie Davis



Steve Gilbert, CEO, Communities in Schools, Rep. Tracie Davis, Leon Baxter

## Local, state, national politicians turn out for annual Miracle on Ashley Street

As long as Ju'Coby Pittman has been president and chief executive officer of the Clara White Mission, there's been a "miracle" on Ashley Street. Title sponsors for the 23rd Annual Miracle on Ashley Street held June 2 were CITI and Delores Barr Weaver.

The annual celebrity server luncheon to benefit the 113-year-old Clara White Mission raised over \$70,000 to help at-risk individuals gain new perspectives on life through job training, daily meals and more. Enterprise Holdings Foundation presented the mission with a check for \$20,000.

Among the nearly 200 celebrity servers were Senator Audrey Gibson, Congressman John Rutherford, Councilmen Aaron Bowman, Dennis Garrett, Reggie Gaffney, Samuel Newby, Matt Schellenberg, and Reggie Brown, Florida Representatives Tracy Davis and Kim Daniels, Bishop Rudolph McKissick Sr., Dr. Cheryl Brown, City of Jacksonville council secretary/director, Dr. Charles Moreland, City of Jacksonville director of community affairs, and "Doc Tony" Crothers.



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# Firefighters help relieve patient stress with new home theatre

By Kate A. Hallock  
Resident Community News

Thanks to a retired Jacksonville firefighter and two-year volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House of Jacksonville, guests at the local lodge can now enjoy family movie nights at a brand-new theatre on the campus.

John Peavy, a 34-year veteran of the Jacksonville Association of Firefighters, got the idea during the renovation and expansion of Ronald McDonald House in San Marco when he recalled his brother could not go to public places during treatment for leukemia.

“Remembering my childhood...I was raised on Disney movies...I said to myself ‘These kids can’t do that,’” he said. “This is a very stressful situation for families, and movies are a great stress reliever, so we came up with the idea to do this.”

Peavy originally asked Jacksonville Firefighters Charities if they would fund one component of the \$10,000 project, but they took hold of it completely.

“We started the Jacksonville Firefighters Charities about six or seven years ago for exactly this reason – to give back to the community,” said Wyse. “A lot of the money

comes from the firefighters’ pockets through payroll deduction to give money to this charity.”

Randy Wyse, president of the Jacksonville Association of Firefighters, contacted his brother-in-law and fellow firefighter, Anthony Douglas, for help.

Douglas owns Production Design Group, a home theatre business, and donated his time to install all the components from a large, retractable screen and sound system, to Apple TV playback equipment donated by Michael Guillory, an Apple business manager and Lorenzo Flores, an Apple store leader.

At the dedication of the Theatre Room July 19, Wyse presented Diane Boyle, executive director of the House, with a \$100 iTunes gift card so they can add more movies to the lineup.

“A lot of different pieces came together and we’re very proud that the JFC can support Ronald McDonald House. We know what goes on here,” Wyse said. “A lot of times we deal with those people who go to the hospital and they end up here, dealing with more treatment. There’s a connection here and we understand what they are going through.”



Guests at Ronald McDonald House of Jacksonville enjoy a movie in the new Theatre Room at the House with Reed, a certified Facility Dog.

*“We started the Jacksonville Firefighters Charities about six or seven years ago for exactly this reason – to give back to the community.”*

— Randy Wyse, president of the Jacksonville Association of Firefighters



Retired Jacksonville Firefighter John Peavy, Randy Wyse, Jacksonville Association of Firefighters president with Firefighters Kevin Foley and Jeshua Kavanaugh, Ronald McDonald House Executive Director Diane Boyle, and Anthony Douglas, firefighter and owner of Production Design Group

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# Jewish women experience Israel on ‘momentous’ journey

By Kate A. Hallock  
Resident Community News

Twenty local Jewish mothers participated in an exclusive “Momentum” journey to Israel June 26-July 3 in a partnership between the Jewish Women’s Renaissance Project (JWRP) and Israel’s Ministry of Diaspora Affairs.

Among the women participating were Avondale resident Colleen Bell, medical director for behavioral health at the IM Sulzbacher Center, and Kimberly McDonough of Monclair, owner of Dansations Performing Arts Center, who are members of Congregation Ahavath Chesed on San Jose Boulevard. Rachel Heiser, of Lakewood, is a member of the Jacksonville Jewish Center and works at Elite Look Productions as a color specialist and bridal stylist.

The Momentum experience included an eight-day journey to Israel, from the Galilee city of Safed to the ancient desert mountaintop fortress Masada, and featured extensive itineraries and curated curricula encompassing everything from Jewish values to contemporary Israeli society.

“Israel was much safer than I thought it would be,” said Bell, about her first trip to Israel. “Families would be out late at night,

“I went on the trip with no expectations except to learn. It was incredible!” said McDonough. “I learned more about Israel’s history as well as self-discovery. I feel like those experiences will affect me every day going forward. I want to use the concepts we spoke of as Jewish women and empowerment, every day forward.”



Rachel Heiser

For Heiser, it was her second trip to Israel in 13 years. Now at 32, and married with two young children, Heiser said, “I was able to appreciate it much more. I was able to form a connection with Israel that I was searching for at 19 but could not find.”

Bell was somewhat surprised to find Israel less ravaged than shown in news coverage.

“Israel is a very spiritual place, whether you belong to an organized religion or not. It is steeped in history, and regardless of your background, it is worth visiting, even for an atheist,” Bell said. “It is not anywhere near how it is portrayed in the news – violent, unstable, war-torn. It is a vibrant place full of meaning and a diverse population. They say the value of Israel is not so much in the land but in its people. It is a country of innovation and does not seek just to survive, but to thrive. The desert blooms, and spirituality is weaved into everyday life. I hope others consider seeing it for themselves.”

Heiser concurred. “I wish the world could see this country as we see it. I felt safe. I felt at home. I gained a sense of pride and understanding of my heritage that I am excited to share with my family. I found myself on this trip,” she said, adding she wanted to take her family to Israel.



In Jacksonville Sister City Hadera the group met up with recent Bolles graduate Aaron Abel, who is studying in Israel. Left to right: Henny Fisch, Andrea Mail, Diane Ackerman, Stacy Miller, Aaron Abel, Kim McDonough, Michelle Pargman, Erin Cohen, Colleen Bell, Rachel Heiser, and Paige Wasjman

The women spent one day going to the top of Masada, then descending into the Dead Sea, which McDonough said was incredible. “The places we visited were full of true history. Each place we visited had its own stories that will always be relevant.”

She also noted that despite differences in Jewish practices, the women on the trip were “ultimately so similar. Having Etz Chiam and The Jewish Federation both running the trip made for a very diverse group of women from Jacksonville, that I am know proud to call my friends,” said McDonough. “Also, being in Israel, you truly get that feeling of belonging. The trip focused on Jewish traditions and values during the seminars. They were inspiring and introspective so I was able to learn more about Jewish traditions as well as learn a lot about how I want to live every day.”

Joining Bell, Heiser and McDonough on the trip were Diane Ackerman, Stacy Aubrey, Ellen Balotin, Laurie Berger, Erin Cohen, Henny Fisch, Karen Freedman, Sara Gross, Erin Januchowski, Erica Jolles, Donne Ordile, Michelle Pargman, Marcy Rudowitz, Tammy Shumer, Stephanie Teitelbaum, Paige Wajzman, and Sheri Weiss. All completed an online application and a personal interview to be selected for the trip, which was funded, except for airfare, by JWRP, Etz Chaim and the Jacksonville Jewish Federation.

The Jewish Women’s Renaissance Project (jwrp.org) was founded in 2008, with the mission of empowering women to change the world through Jewish values. Its major project is the eight-day “Momentum,” a highly-subsidized, life-changing journey to Israel, experienced by over 10,000 participants from 187 partner organizations in 26 countries worldwide.



Front: Stephanie Teitelbaum, Sheri Weiss, Kim McDonough, Marcy Rudowitz, Donne Ordile; middle: Stacy Miller, Erin Cohen, Colleen Bell, Michelle Pargman, Karen Freedman, Andrea Mail, Tammy Shumer; back: Laurie Berger, Erin Januchowski, Sara Gross, Diane Ackerman, Paige Wajzman, Henny Fisch, Ellen Balotin, Rachel Heiser, Erica Jolles



Colleen Bell with her “ride” in Israel

and I felt safer there than walking around at night in Jacksonville. There were not armed soldiers everywhere. It is very small but very diverse in terms of people. Not everyone is Jewish, and all are required to serve in the army (so Muslims and Christians would serve beside Jews). There is a wide spectrum to what it means to be an Orthodox Jew.”

It was also McDonough’s first trip to the Holy Land.



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# Geocaching a high-tech game of hide-and-seek in Historic Districts

By Lilla Ross  
Resident Community News

Jacklyn Cogburn of 5 Points remembers her first “find” in the parking lot of the Golden Corral on Normandy Boulevard. She and her fiancé Beau had just started dating. He’s a serious geocacher with over 500 finds.

“We went to breakfast and he said there’s one in the parking lot, and we went out and found it,” Cogburn said. “I was instantly hooked.”

Evan Brown, a St. Nicholas resident, can’t remember his first find. He’s not even sure how old he was when his dad turned on the GPS in the car and took him on his first hunt. He thinks he was about 10, maybe younger. He’s 22 now and a student at Jacksonville University, where he’s majoring in music and minoring in geographical information systems (think digital mapping), a useful skill in geocaching.

What are geocaches? You pass them all the time. The water-tight containers or caches are secreted in parks, monuments, businesses, churches and in the middle of nowhere. They contain a logbook and trinkets, some of them trackable. The coordinates of their locations are posted on geocaching.com.

Brown calls geocaching “a geeky treasure hunt.”

Since it started in 2000, geocaching has grown in scope and complexity with about 3 million geocaches around the world. About 200 of the 800 in the Jacksonville area are in San Marco and Riverside/Avondale, Brown said.

Players, using smartphones or GPS devices, track the location. When they find the cache, they write their name in the logbook and enter it into their device.

What’s the point? The thrill of the hunt, a chance to explore nature and new places and, of course, bragging rights.

Brown said he has logged about 200 geocaches, most of them in Jacksonville, but some he found during family trips to Indiana, Tennessee, North Carolina and Georgia. Cogburn has found about 50 in the year and a half she’s been on the hunt.

A geocache can be as small as a thimble or as large as a five-gallon bucket, anything at all really, as long as it is water tight. Ammo cans are a popular choice, as are plastic containers like Tupperware.

Some caches contain trackable trinkets. The rule is: Take one, leave one. Players exchange a trinket in a cache for one of their own with the understanding they will leave the trinket they’ve taken in another cache.

With the tracking number, the owner of the cache can follow the travels of the trinket. They can end up across town, or across the country. Sometimes the owner



“I love the aesthetics of geocaching,” Brown said. “You can connect with nature and beauty. You can connect with other people.”

— Evan Brown

of the cache has a destination in mind for a trinket. For instance, someone left a Snoopy toy in a cache in Texas and asked that it be moved along the geocaching network until it reached the Snoopy statue in St. Paul, Minn.

The caches are given a difficulty rating, from zero to five stars, mostly determined by the terrain. Most of the caches in the San Marco and Riverside areas are easily accessible in parks and around buildings. Brown’s friend hid a cache under one of the lions on the fountain in San Marco Square, and it took him a year to find it.

The five-star caches are more challenging. They can involve hiking or paddling, sometimes only at night, or require solving a series of puzzles to get the clues to find the cache.



Geocaches always include a log book and sometimes trinkets and toys.

“My favorite was one where you had to build something out of Legos and match it to the hint,” Brown said. “I’m a 10-year-old around Legos. That was such fun.”

Geocaching is designed to be an inexpensive family activity that gets people out in the fresh air, exploring nature and historic sites. It also provides fun lessons in problem solving and map reading. Both Boy and Girl Scouts have geocaching badges.

Jacklyn and Beau take his 9-year-old son geocaching. “Whenever we don’t have anything to do, we’ll go hunting for geocaches. It’s the most exciting thing for him. We’ll let him find it and sign the log. He’s

gotten a cool card game, a Ninja turtle, bouncy balls. He loves it.”

Geocaching also is popular because it’s free, though a \$30 premium membership gives people access to group events and first alerts for new caches.

Group events often link geocaching to another activity such as community cleanups or tree planting. JaxParks is having its sixth annual Geocaching Challenge from 10 a.m. to noon Sept. 2 at Blue Cypress Park Community Center. The first 100 geocachers to complete the challenge get a trackable Geocoin.

But as with anything in life, there are rules.

Geocachers agree to keep the specifics of where caches are hidden a secret. Hints are okay, but no spoilers. And signing the log is important because caches that don’t get found get archived or marked missing. Oh, and that’s another rule – bring a pen.

Caches are sometimes raided for their trinkets or missing entirely. No one is sure whether the caches are stolen or just thrown away by someone who didn’t know what it was. “It’s heart breaking, you get to the hide and there’s nothing,” Cogburn said.

There are rules about hiding caches, too. Careful consideration is given to locations. Caches shouldn’t be too close together and property owners must be agreeable. A proposed cache is submitted to the website for approval and then posted. Premium members get first crack at the find.

Geocaching also involves housekeeping. Players replace logbooks that are filled or damaged and keep the area about the cache clean and looking undisturbed.

“I love the aesthetics of geocaching,” Brown said. “You can connect with nature and beauty. You can connect with other people. It’s absolutely my favorite part of childhood.”

Brown shares one last memory.

“My parents and I were on our way back from Fort Clinch when I yelled, ‘stop the car!’ We were really close to a geocache and so my parents waited on the road while I went into the woods and found it.”

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# — IN MEMORIAM — GRAZIELLA GARCIA-PULIDO

FEBRUARY 14, 1919 – JULY 10, 2017

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News

The matriarch of one of the first Cuban families to move to Jacksonville is gone.

Graziella Garcia-Pulido of St. Nicholas, head of a prolific family of Jacksonville physicians, died at her home July 10, 2017. At the age of 98, she was the first member of her family to near 100 years of age.

Mrs. Garcia-Pulido was a mother of six, grandmother of 21, and great-grandmother to 30. She counted two of her sons and 10 of her grandchildren and spouses with careers practicing medicine.

“Because of her, we literally have more than 10 doctors in the family with most in the Jacksonville area,” said her grandson, Dr. Rene Pulido of St. Nicholas. “My grandmother grabbed a bunch of knuckleheads and molded them into upstanding gentlemen.”

Of her six children, two are doctors and two had careers in medical research. Her son, Dr. Alex Pulido, is a retired Lakewood internist, and his brother, Dr. Jesus Pulido of St. Nicholas recently retired as longtime managing partner and cardiologist with Jacksonville Cardiovascular Center. Son Rene G. Pulido is a clinical lab director in Titusville and daughter Teresita Pulido Diaz of Johnson City, Tenn. is a microbiologist.

Among her grandchildren who practice medicine are Dr. Rene Pulido and his brother, Dr. Danny Pulido, of St. Nicholas, owners of eMed Multi-specialty Group in St. Nicholas. Dr. Danny Pulido’s wife, Dr. Paula Salas, also practices medicine in Jacksonville. Their brother, Dr. Mario Pulido, is a hospitalist in Panama City; Dr. Alex Pulido, Jr., is an internist in Palatka; Dr. Tino Diaz of Ponte Vedra, an emergency physician in Jacksonville and his brothers, Dr. Jorge Diaz and Dr. Andres Diaz, both of Johnson City, Tenn. and recent medical school graduates. Dr. Luke Taylor also of Tennessee, is married



Graziella Garcia-Pulido and her husband, Rene



Graziella Garcia-Pulido

to Mrs. Garcia-Pulido’s granddaughter, Tere Marie Diaz Taylor; and Dr. Lawrence Mason of Wilmington, N.C. is married to her granddaughter, Trisha Pulido Mason. The late Dr. Patricia Champion Pulido, Jesus’ first wife, was a Jacksonville dentist.

Mrs. Garcia-Pulido’s second oldest son, the late Armando G. Pulido and his wife, Sylvia, of St. Nicholas founded the Havana Jax restaurant and Cuba Libre Nightclub in St. Nicholas, while his brother, the late Eddy G. Pulido founded Pulido’s Automotive on Atlantic Boulevard in St. Nicholas.

Mrs. Garcia-Pulido was the driving force in inspiring her sons and grandsons to enter the field of medicine, said her son, Jesus.

“She was a strong minded and strong-willed woman. She was pushing all the time,” he said. “She was the one to push us all to do more and more. She said you have to be better and to achieve more and contribute more than the generation that preceded you. At the end of the day, she wanted to see us all grow as people and as a family. She was strict about being decent and not giving our family a bad name.”

Grandson Danny Pulido agreed.

“She was the guidance counselor for everybody,” said Danny. “She had an awesome memory. She had seen it all, and done it all – traveled the world – so she was more than qualified to guide you through your career and problems. She understood the dynamics of being human. She saw the big picture.”

Known as “Abuelita Chela” within her large family, Mrs. Garcia-Pulido was born in Camaguey, Cuba, the daughter of Judge Jose M. Subirats de Quesada and Flora M. Ramirez, both attorneys in Havana, Cuba. Her father was the longest tenured judge in pre-Castro Cuba, while her mother was one of the first women to practice law in her country, said Jesus.

Mrs. Garcia-Pulido graduated from Virginia Intermont College in Bristol, Virginia in 1938 and married Rene Garcia-Pulido, CEO of Hijos and Garlido Cigars, Inc., a worldwide exporter of handmade cigars from Cuba and Nicaragua. “My father was a third-generation tobacco grower, one of the best in the trade,” said Jesus.

Following her two oldest sons, who moved to Jacksonville as part of the Catholic Church’s Operation Peter Pan

in 1960 and 1961, Mrs. Garcia-Pulido emigrated in 1962 with her four younger children after the Bay of Pigs fiasco, settling in St. Nicholas. Her husband followed her to the United States three years later. She worked at the United States Housing and Urban Development Department in Jacksonville, retiring in the late 1970s.

When her son Jesus opened his cardiology practice, she was his first employee, he said.

A woman of faith, she attended Mass seven days a week and within her lifetime was a parishioner at Assumption Catholic Church, San Jose Catholic Church and most recently at Prince of Peace Catholic Church.

She was also an accomplished pianist, entertaining her friends and family until she was in her late 90s. In her youth, she performed on several occasions with the Havana Symphony, said Jesus.

Her home was a “refuge” for her family and friends,” said Rene. “She never missed a family function, and she was always the loudest person in the room because she was hard of hearing,” he said.

Jesus attributed his mother’s longevity to her hospitality, love of family, “good clean living,” her wit and infectious sense of humor.

“She never smoked cigarettes or drank alcohol, but she drank Cuban coffee every day and ate a lot of sweets. She was always active and kept herself thin.

“She had a Spanish accent and when some of my friends would tease her about it, she would just roll with it. She kept the laughter going,” said Jesus. “Her heart was as big as the state of Florida. She was everything to everybody, and her house was open to everyone. If you got the nod from her, you were in good shape. She was a grand lady. She was as good as they come.”

Mrs. Garcia-Pulido is also survived by Eddy Pulido’s widow, Maria, of St. Nicholas; Armando’s widow, Sylvia, of St. Nicholas; as well as Dr. Alex Pulido’s wife, Stacey, and Dr. Jesus Pulido’s wife, Dianne Gregory.

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## Cathedral Towers rededicated after renovations

Aging True Community Senior Services recently celebrated the successful completion of renovations to the 241-unit Cathedral Terrace, an independent senior living facility located at 701 N. Ocean St.

Among the renovations is a complete refurbishment of the living spaces, including new furnishings, windows and flooring. Activity areas, like the billiards room and fitness center, were also updated.

The June 29 rededication included a brief presentation and ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by local elected officials, community leaders along with funders, supporters and members of the Aging True Board of Directors.

“The renovations have been a true labor of love,” said Teresa Barton, Aging True

CEO. “While every project has inconveniences and delays along the way, everyone was so excited to see the completion of the renovations and the sheer joy it brought the residents who live here.”

Other speakers included Gloria Crawford, Chief Senior Services Division, City of Jacksonville, Developer Shawn Wilson, President, Blue Sky Communities, and Latasha Green-Cobb, Vice Chair, Jacksonville Housing Finance Authority. Immediately following the rededication ceremony, guests were provided with a tour and treated to a celebratory reception.

The conveniently located apartments are central to downtown Jacksonville and provide affordable housing and a healthy social environment for independent senior residents.



Shawn Wilson, President, Blue Sky Communities, Latasha Green-Cobb, Vice Chair, Jacksonville Housing Authority, Rebecca Berg, Aging True Board Chair, Gloria Crawford, Chief Senior Services Division, City of Jacksonville, Teresa K. Barton, CEO, Aging True Community Senior Services, The Very Reverend Katherine Moorehead and Tourea Robinson, Aging True Director of Development

“Our newly renovated apartments make us one of the most attractive and desired senior living properties on the First Coast,” said Rebecca Berg, Aging True Board Chair.

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# THE WAY WE WERE: PAUL C. NAUGLE

By Kate A. Hallock  
Resident Community News

There was never any question Paul Cameron Naugle, of San Jose, would make his career in the family business, even after spending time overseas during his six-year stint in the U.S. Naval Reserves.

The 1969 Wolfson High School graduate grew up working in his father's business, Naugle Funeral Home, helping any way he could. From washing cars to driving the ambulances back in the day when funeral homes handled the service, Naugle was practically immersed in the mortuary industry from the time he learned to walk.



Paul Naugle's mother, Captain Helen Naugle, during World War II

"In our time, it was expected we would follow in our parents' footsteps," said Naugle, now 67. "Every other weekend I had to work the emergency ambulances while in high school. On Friday nights when my friends went to football games, I would be here working, waiting for the calls."

Naugle, a third-generation funeral director, said discussions of accidents, embalmings and funeral preparations were common dinner-time conversations. Even a visit to his grandmother's home wasn't much of a respite from such topics. Stella J. Naugle was also a funeral director – the first female so licensed in the state of Florida in 1914 – and actively worked in the family business until 1955.

Naugle's mother, Helen, had her own set of "firsts" of which to be proud. She was the first Florida woman to serve as a captain in the Women's Army Corps during World War II and helped run political campaigns of former Jacksonville mayors, and Governor Haydon Burns. A longtime member of San Jose Episcopal Church, Helen served as the first woman on the Church Vestry, and was a charter member of San Jose Country Club, Wolfson Children's Hospital Auxiliary, and the Order of the Eastern Star Chapter #28.

Naugle's father, Robert, served during World War II as a private in the Army Air Corps.

"Mom would get made at Dad because he would never salute her," laughed Naugle.

The family lived on Ventura Avenue in San Jose near San Jose Episcopal Day School, back when it was called Grace Chapel School, which Naugle attended through third grade.

The area was rural back then and most of the homes were built in a Mediterranean



Patty Budd and Paul Naugle married June 26, 1971.

*"I fell in love with her the first time I saw her and she felt the same way."*

— Paul C. Naugle

or Spanish style. There was a big problem with termites in wood, he recalled.

Hendricks Avenue, where the funeral home has been located since 1937, was a two-lane brick road back then, Naugle said. There were once homes nearby and he played with the neighborhood children.

The 80-year-old landmark funeral home, wasn't always at its present location. The business, which will celebrate its centennial in 2019, was established by Thomas M. Burns, who opened a funeral home at Hendricks Avenue and Miami Road, now Prudential Drive.

Naugle's grandparents, Vernon and Stella, took over the operation in 1928 after earning enough savings by running a transportation company from Central Florida to Jacksonville.

They changed the name to Burns-Naugle Funeral Home in 1930, and in 1937 they built the present facility at 1203 Hendricks Ave., a block from the original location.

Naugle never knew his grandfather and was 14, a student at the Florida Military Academy, when his grandmother died in 1964.

While a junior in high school at Wolfson, Naugle met his future wife, Patty Budd, on a blind date at a party at his parents' creek house in Julington Creek.

"I fell in love with her the first time I saw her and she felt the same way," said Naugle, stating they began going steady a month later. Patty is a 1970 graduate of Terry Parker High School.

*Continued on page 31*

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After graduating from high school, Naugle joined the Naval Reserves and was stationed in Norfolk, Virginia. He served on a guided missile destroyer, the U.S.S. Barney, which was assigned to escort the John F. Kennedy aircraft carrier from Norfolk to Piraeus, Greece during the Jordanian Crisis in 1970. He spent 18 months abroad in Europe working in the engineering department on the destroyer.

On June 26, 1971 Naugle was married to Patty Budd at Assumption Catholic Church by Monsignor Harold Jordan, one of his father's closest friends. When the church celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2013, the couple were among many who renewed their vows during the celebration.

After completing his military service in 1975, Naugle attended the two-year Gupton-Jones School of Mortuary Science in Atlanta. His brother, Robert, who was two years older, had gone to a mortuary sciences school in Miami before returning to work in the family business.



The funeral home on Hendricks Avenue was built with 18-inch-thick walls.

Paul and Patty's son, Cameron, was born in 1976 and daughter, Paula in 1978. Cameron is now fourth-generation president of Naugle Funeral Home and Cremation Services, while Paula (Bides) is the director of mission engagement at St. Vincent's HealthCare.

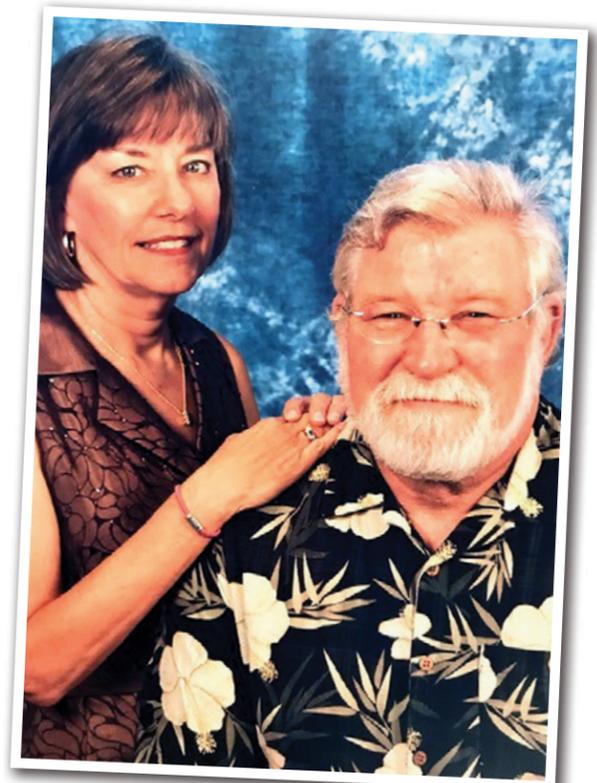
Naugle recalled some of the celebrities in the 1970s who would use their limousine service, among them Elvis Presley and the Jackson 5.

"When celebrities came to town we had to be on call 24/7," he said. "We would pick them up at the airport, deliver them to their hotel or performance venue, then take them out to eat or back to the airport."

The only memento found was a pair of sunglasses Elvis once left in the limo, Naugle said. "I once notarized a will for the Jackson 5 when they stayed at the Hilton, before they flew out of Jacksonville."

The funeral home served its share of local celebrities, too. Naugle recalled providing services for Earl B. Hadlow, a local attorney for whom a center at Community Hospice was named, for family members of Mayor Hans Tanzler, and Governor Haydon Burns. "My parents were good friends of Haydon and Mildred," he said.

Now in semi-retirement, Naugle enjoys camping and boating at the family lake house, riding his motorcycle, and spending time with his four grandchildren.



Patty and Paul Naugle

*"When celebrities came to town we had to be on call 24/7."*

— Paul C. Naugle



Paul Naugle's father, Robert, on the right, with ambulance



Dr. Roy Schnauss and Paul Naugle are in-laws as well as business partners.

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## Jr. Residents

# Guatemala trip provides Bolles students opportunity for service, travel

A group of nine Bolles upper school students traveled to Guatemala in June as part of a new school service learning experience led by Bolles faculty, Erin DuChanois of Ortega Farms and Allison Chandler of San Marco. In addition to serving in two Guatemalan schools during their seven-day visit, students toured historical buildings, Mayan ruins, volcanoes and other cultural sites. The trip also inspired new community service initiatives and club projects expected to launch during the 2017-18 school year.

"It was a trip that opened our students' eyes and captivated their hearts," Duchanois said. "They were exposed to the poverty that exists and to various groups who are working to teach Guatemalans how to make a better life for themselves."

Students on the Bolles Guatemala trip included San Jose resident Patterson Guyton, Ellie Anderson, Lauren MacGregor, Jordan Bunn, Chloe Coffindaffer, Kate Gatto, Kavi Kerner, Skyler Mitchell and Nick Maniatis.

DuChanois is connected to Guatemala through her brother, who lives in Guatemala City and works for the Cooperative for Education (CoEd), a nonprofit organization dedicated to breaking the cycle of Guatemala's poverty through education. DuChanois visited the country last year and contemplated ways she might help link Bolles students with Guatemalan students served by CoEd.



Allison Chandler, Bolles Latin American History teacher

Upon returning to Bolles, DuChanois found enthusiastic support in Chandler, who teaches Bolles' Latin American History elective. Chandler's first trip to Guatemala inspired her to become a teacher. DuChanois and Chandler staged a student trip application process in the spring, challenging selected students to research and present Guatemalan topics of historical significance. Selected students also spent time fundraising for the purchase of three bookshelves and school supplies for the Guatemalan students.

In Guatemala, the students visited a "morning school" where they interacted with elementary-age Guatemalan children in the classroom and painted the bookshelves they



Patterson Guyton, Bolles Class of 2020

donated. They also visited an "afternoon school," where Bolles students teamed with middle school-age Guatemalan students in their computer lab. They taught Guatemalan students how to create a Sway page featuring videos they made on different topics.

"The students were so welcoming to us, and our students didn't hesitate to get involved," Chandler said. "It was that human interaction, the ability to learn from each other, that made the experience so special. We received much more from them than we gave."

The trip also included touring historical buildings in Guatemala City and Antigua, climbing a volcano, visiting the Iximche Mayan ruins and watching a Mayan ceremony, shopping in colorful marketplaces in Antigua, Panajachel, and Santiago, and boating to several Mayan villages on Lake Atitlan.

"One of the students' favorite activities was climbing the Pacaya volcano," DuChanois said. "Roasting marshmallows on the crater of a volcano is a once-in-a-lifetime experience!"

As the 2017-18 school year approaches, students and trip leaders are mulling ways they can continue their Guatemalan service mission. One participant wants to start a new student club that will raise funds for CoEd and help meet the educational needs of students in Guatemala. The club also aims to bring an awareness to Bolles students of how education can help break the cycle of poverty. Another student wants to begin a pen pal/email program with the middle school students. Organizers also hope to plan a similar trip to Guatemala again, so more Bolles students can experience the country and its people.

## Cusick wins John Burke Award for academic/athletic excellence



Kyle Cusick with Tom Burke

San Marco resident Kyle Cusick, a member of the Bishop Kenny High School class of 2017, was selected as the recipient of the coveted John Burke Award during the school's Senior Awards program held at the University of North Florida in May. Cusick, an excellent student and member of the BK Varsity football team, was an outside linebacker and Special Teams standout for the Crusaders team. He will go onto play football at the University of Chicago.

Each year the John Burke Award is presented to the student, male or female, who demonstrates exceptional achievement in both the academic and athletic arenas. Burke, Class of '65, was an outstanding scholar-athlete who lettered in three sports – football, baseball and track while attending Bishop Kenny High School.

Burke died in a workplace accident during the summer between his freshman and sophomore years at the University of Florida. First established by the Bishop Kenny Council of the Knights of Columbus, the annual award was later taken over by the BK Class of 1965. In recent years the siblings of John Burke have taken over responsibility for this important annual award.

Tom Burke, the youngest of John Burke's siblings, made the presentation at this year's event. Cusick's name will be added to a permanent plaque that hangs in the John Baldwin Athletic Center at Bishop Kenny. Additionally, Cusick was presented with a commemorative plaque and a check in the amount of \$1,000.

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# All Saints Episcopal youth give of self in second poorest Florida county

A group of 16 All Saints Episcopal Church youth and five adults spent five days of mission work, faith, and fun in Pahokee, Florida, the second poorest community in the United States.

During that time, they lived at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Palm Beach Gardens, and served at the Real Life Youth Ranch, a foster home for abandoned or abused children.

After spending mornings sorting and organizing donations at the Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County, cleaning up yards and repairing homes for seniors with special needs, receiving, sorting and packing food donations at the Palm Beach County Food Bank, caring for animals at Peggy Adams Animal Rescue, and serving disabled adults at Seagull Services, the group finished each day at Real Life Youth Ranch.



Mary Elhassan and Laina Parry rake a yard for a Palm Beach County senior.

The ranch is a faith-based ministry that offers residential family-style group foster homes for boys and girls and animals, too, said Hillary Citrano, All Saints Director of Christian Formation Children's and Youth Ministry.

"We assisted with property maintenance, grounds keeping and landscaping, but the most important part of our mission...the game changer for all hearts involved...was the one-on-one time we got to spend with the children," Citrano said. "We brought crafts, games, fishing poles, slip and slide and some good ol' fashioned outdoor games. No electronics!"

Activities included tutoring, reading, and playing games with the children of the ranch.

"There were some tough questions from the teens when we debriefed in the evening, but I hope I was able to get the message across that we are here to remind these precious children, that they are gifts and special and here for a purpose," said Citrano.

In addition to Citrano, adult chaperones included Marla Anderson, Renae Black, Carl Simmons, and David Dufresne. The youth who attended were Zachary Mattson, Tanner Mattson, Nicholas Rukab, Hannah Rukab, Meghan McGovern, Mason McGovern, Jimmy Citrano, Janie Citrano, Emily Citrano, Aaron Black, Laina Parry, Karsen Newman, Amelia Anderson, Haleigh Marlow, Alexia Smith, and Nick Mosely.

Citrano said as they were packing up the last night, the youth came up with an idea to host a spaghetti lunch and sending 100 percent of the proceeds to the Real Life Ranch for school supplies.

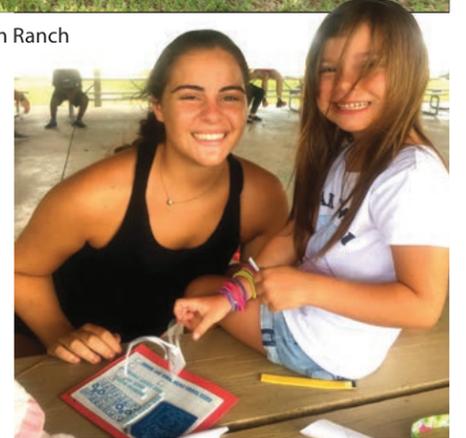
"It is such a blessing to witness the youth jump in and give 110 percent in a world where all there seems to be on some days is nothing but negative news," Citrano said.



All Saints Episcopal Youth Group at Real Life Youth Ranch



Janie and Hillary Citrano help with landscaping for seniors with special needs.



Laina Parry (left) helps a young girl with a craft project at Real Life Youth Ranch.



All Saints Episcopal youth help receive, sort and pack donated food at the Palm Beach County Food Bank.

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Michael Drew

## Bolles brings in new Middle School Head

With more than 20 years in education focused specifically on middle school students, Michael J. Drew joined The Bolles School as Head of the Middle School Bartram Campus, replacing Jack Milne, who took a school leadership position in Mississippi.

“Being involved in the lives of students, both formally in a classroom and informally in the everyday life of a school, is why I chose this profession,” said Drew. “Relationships are the heart of good schools, and I am committed to building a strong community as a means of improving student achievement.”

Drew’s independent school background includes being a teacher, advisor, coach, administrator and trustee. He was previously at Baylor School in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where he has been the Middle School Head since 2007.

After earning a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resources from Cornell University, Drew received his Master of Education from Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Drew and his wife, Lisa, have two children, Nate (13) and Allie (12).

## Students tour Europe with Social Science teacher

Six Samuel Wolfson High School students participated in an educational tour for 10 days this summer with Wolfson Social Science teacher Tom Hoprich. The group used EF Educational Tours, a tour company devoted to educational travel and experiences.

“Not only was this a tremendous opportunity, but an engaging educational experience,” said Hoprich. EF Tours uses three pillars of learning on their educational trips: cultural experiences, language, and academics.

The group traveled for 10 days to Italy, Austria and Germany. Some highlights to the tour were the Vatican and the Colosseum in Rome; San Gimignano, Tuscany; Innsbruck, Austria; surfing in Munich, and the Dachau concentration camp.

“On our last day in Germany, one of our students commented after seeing Dachau that he was angry. We found out he was angry that all that horror is documented, yet similar situations still occur all over the world today, and it seems governments still allow it to



Tom Hoprich, kneeling center, with Wolfson High School students and other members of the tour at a hotel in Germany.

happen,” said Hoprich. “Pretty insightful for a 15-year-old Wolfson student. Their teacher could not be prouder.”

Hoprich plans to continue the educational tours as an option for students at Wolfson

each spring and summer. The next trip is geared towards service and education with a trip to Nicaragua and Costa Rica in the summer of 2018 followed by Spain and Italy in spring of 2019.

## Incoming Bishop Kenny freshman enjoy orientation

Incoming freshman students participated in *Preview BK*, a three-day introduction to life at Bishop Kenny High School July 5-7.

The students participated in fun, hands-on, fast-paced activities while learning to navigate the campus, read a class schedule, improve their memory skills, and most importantly, make some new friends.

“This was our largest *Preview BK* registration ever,” said Laura Yocum, assistant academic dean and program director. “Almost 100 of our estimated 315 incoming freshman students participated this year.”

Not only did the 9th grade students enjoy the challenges and activities that were prepared for them, upperclassmen serving as counselors had a great time too. From activities including making tie-dyed shirts to, learning how to unlock a school locker, yearbook and Internet search challenges, *Preview BK* offered something for everyone.



Emily Singleton, a graduate of Assumption Catholic School, selected a hat as a prize won in one of the *Preview BK* challenges.

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## New head rowing coaches hired at Bolles

Christopher Register has been named Director of Rowing/Men's Head Coach and Katherine Changes has been named Women's Rowing Head Coach at The Bolles School. Register and Changes will be responsible for guiding Bolles' year-round, nationally competitive, interscholastic and club rowing program.

Register, of Ortega, returns to Bolles after leading the Stanton-River Bank Rowing program the last two years. He served as the Bolles Women's Varsity Head Coach from 2010-15 with former Director of Rowing Oli Rosenblatt. Register began his rowing career at Stanton College Prep. During his four years at Stanton, he medaled at Scholastic Rowing Nationals twice. He placed fourth in the Freshman 8+ in 2003, second in the Men's 4+ in 2005, and first in the Men's 4+ during his senior year.



Christopher Register



Katherine Changes

Changes comes to Bolles from the Washington, D.C. area, where she was Girls' Varsity Assistant Coach with Woodbridge, Virginia Senior High School the past year. She recently led the Women's Junior 8+ and Women's Lightweight 4+ to bronze medals at the Virginia State Championships and both boats qualified for nationals. Changes, who holds a US Rowing Level II Coaching Certification, was the Boys' Novice Coach at Robinson Secondary School in Fairfax, Virginia, from 2015-16. She led Robinson to the school's first-ever novice state title.

## 'Open Day' welcomes nine countries to Jacksonville



Austrian delegation: Lara Moser, Tamina Hlavacek, Sofia Hernandez-Osorio, Jennifer Wilhelmer, Paul Fischer

CISV (Children's International Summer Village) Step Up Camp held an "Open Day" program July 8 at Lakeshore Middle School to welcome delegates from nine countries and to interest Jacksonville youth in the 60-year-old program.

Teams of four or five 15-year-old students from Austria, Brazil, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Sweden, Vietnam and the United States set up tables in the school's auditorium with displays of country flags, candy and literature to share their cultures with the Jacksonville community.

The Step Up Camp is a three-week international leadership development camp, typically with a theme which is woven through the activities and discussions. According to CISV Jacksonville staff member Jamar Torrence, this year's theme is Social Justice League.

During the Open Day event, each delegation also performed a native dance, sang their country's national anthem or performed a skit. The U.S. team, from Columbus, Ohio, led the crowd in an

Ohio State University cheer, while the Mexican delegation had the audience stretch to an "iguana energizer" exercise. Four young women and one young man dressed in native Austrian costume also engaged the guests in an ethnic dance.

Will Taylor, of Avondale, spoke as a past CISV participant, sharing that his eight-year experience from age 11 to 18 made it possible to go abroad for a Gap Year. The 2016 graduate of The Episcopal School of Jacksonville spent a year in Berlin, Germany and will enter Florida State University as a freshman this fall.

"I went through six CISV programs in eight years," said Taylor, "and that's what set me apart from all the other applicants for the Gap Year program."

Taylor became involved when his mother, Lisa, dropped him off for an Open Day event in 2009. "I quickly wanted to be involved," he said. Taylor participated in the Village and Interchange programs.

"It changed me every time I went abroad," he said.

## Local schools raise more than \$33,000 for Dreams Come True



Students from The Bolles School raised \$1,500 to make a dream come true for Evangeline Kugler, here at her Dream Party.

With the school year over and summer in full swing, Dreams Come True of Jacksonville announced 21 schools had participated in its *Kids Helping Kids* program during the 2016-2017 school year. Schools, including The Bolles School and San Jose Episcopal Day School, raised \$33,020 for the dreams of approximately 15 local children battling life-threatening illnesses.

*Kids Helping Kids* is a signature program of Dreams Come True of Jacksonville and brings together students and young people with dream recipients. Through the program, money is raised to sponsor the dreams of local children who are battling life-threatening illnesses.

Fundraising projects can include car washes, bake sales, dances, talent shows,

coin collections and many more activities. Following the events, 100 percent of the funds raised by *Kids Helping Kids* go directly to dream fulfillment. Each group is given the chance to host a Dream Party, which in turn provides an opportunity for the students to meet and spend time with their sponsored dream child.

Through the *Kids Helping Kids* program, students experience the satisfaction that comes from helping others, and the dream child meets some very caring students who made his or her dream come true.

Schools, youth groups, clubs or any youth organization interested in participating in the *Kids Helping Kids* program can contact Kate Wirz, Development Coordinator for Dreams Come True, at [kate@dreamscometrue.org](mailto:kate@dreamscometrue.org) or (904) 296-3030.

## Episcopal adds new college counselor

The Episcopal School of Jacksonville has hired a new college counselor. Julie Carter comes to Episcopal from Berkeley Preparatory School in Tampa, where she served as a college counselor for seven years. Carter has significant experience in all aspects of the college search and application process, including working with families seeking financial aid, student-athletes, international students, and students looking to attend selective out of state universities.

"Julie is well-respected among college admissions professionals, and regularly attends local, regional, and national professional development meetings and conferences. She has personally visited more than seventy colleges and universities across the nation in the past seven years," said Director of College Counseling Ryan Riggs.

Carter began her career in college admissions at the University of North Florida,



Julie Carter

*"Julie is well-respected among college admissions professionals."*

— Ryan Riggs, Director of College Counseling, The Episcopal School of Jacksonville

where she worked in the office of admissions there for 10 years, recruiting students to UNF from across Florida and the Southeast. While working at UNF, she earned her Master's in Educational Leadership, with an emphasis on high school counseling.

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## Eagle Scout creates new community garden at UCOM



Josh Milon

Working to become an Eagle Scout, Josh Milon of Boy Scout Troop 35 chose UCOM as the recipient of his Eagle Scout project efforts. The Boy Scout Troop meets at Southside United Methodist Church under the leadership of Will Brandler.

Milon, who is entering his senior year at Episcopal School of Jacksonville, wanted to do something for the community that would bring positive and long-term impact.

“My Eagle Scout project will install four raised garden beds and will plant orange trees and blueberry bushes,” said Milon on his Go Fund Me page. “Additionally, I am rebuilding the brick pathway that leads from the church to the street so that people can safely access the garden.”

Through the efforts of the Go Fund Me campaign, in which \$1,000 was raised in a month, and a donation from Home Depot, Milon and his crew of volunteers worked over a long, hot weekend to accomplish a new resource for Jacksonville’s Southside Food Pantry, UCOM UrbanServ Inc.

UCOM is a nonprofit founded in 1979 to address hunger and poverty in Jacksonville’s Southside. UCOM now serves communities in six ZIP Codes, runs the largest volunteer-facilitated Aging True Meals on Wheels Program in Jacksonville, and provides scholarships to help individuals raise their earning potential.

The results of Milon’s Eagle Scout project is the foundation for UCOM and area gardening enthusiasts to provide fresh produce and gardening education for local “working poor” families. Because of Milon’s hard work, UCOM will be able to give forward motion to the vision that, working together, the Southside community will be strong, united and healthy.

## Caven brothers graduate from Robotics Academy

San Marco residents Blake and Chace Caven spent part of their summer at Robotics Academy at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center, NASA Marshall Space Flight Center’s Official Visitor Center, in Huntsville, Alabama.

The weeklong educational program promotes science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), while training students and adults with hands-on activities and missions based on teamwork, leadership and decision-making.

The Caven brothers were part of the Robotics Academy program, which is specifically designed for trainees who have a particular interest in engineering. The mission of Space Camp Robotics is to show trainees how engineers develop solutions for real-world problems using real-world technologies.

“Space Camp was really fun! It was a great opportunity to learn more about robotics and the dynamics of working together as a team. We both made new friends from all over the country,” said Blake, who will enter the International Baccalaureate program at

Stanton College Preparatory High School as a freshman.

At all age levels, trainees use state-of-the-art robotics systems to compete in air, sea and land activities and missions. Using the Office of Naval Research’s SeaPerch undersea robotics, Blake, Chace and the other trainees tested payloads on an unmanned aerial vehicle, all while strengthening teamwork and leadership skills. At the end of their missions, the teams arrived in time to graduate with honors.

“It was great being there July 4th because the fireworks show was in the rocket garden. At the end of the week we competed against the other teams and ended up winning first place!” said Chace, a rising seventh-grade student at Julia Landon College Preparatory School.

More than 750,000 trainees have graduated from Space Camp and its sister programs since its inception in Huntsville, Alabama in 1982. Last year, children and teachers from all 50 states and 69 international locations attended Space Camp.



Chace and Blake Caven at Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama

## Students get feel for ‘corporate vibe’ through Career Launcher

By Lilla Ross  
Resident Community News

They haven’t settled on a college or a major yet, but two students from The Episcopal School of Jacksonville have had a taste of what it’s like to work at a Fortune 500 company.

Ana Timpke, 17, and Bond Magevney, 16, were part of a group of 18 students in Episcopal’s Career Launcher program, created by the Alumni Association to help students explore careers.

Episcopal partnered with The Adecco Group, a global workforce solutions company. For two days in June, the students shadowed Adecco employees, working in healthcare, technology, engineering, finance and legal.

Timpke, an Old San Jose resident and a senior, spent her time shadowing people in marketing.

“It was really interesting. I got a lot of insight. I spent time with people who use marketing in healthcare and finance and got to see how they were different,” Timpke said.

She was surprised at the role that technology plays in marketing. The people who work in healthcare showed her what they do on the website.

“I’m pretty tech savvy but I didn’t realize how much goes into it,” she said. “It’s really time-consuming.”



Front: Ana Tempke, Liam Gorman, Episcopal teacher Jessica de la Torre, Matthew Joseph; back: Bond Magevney, Annika Amlie, Sara Himebauch and Meri Claire West

Jason Provost, who works in finance, shared his own career path and some of the career options the students might have.

“It was nice to hear his story,” Timpke said. “He gave us good advice to help us figure out what you want to do.”

Magevney, an Ortega resident, will be a junior this fall and is leaning towards a career in business or finance. He’s just now starting to look at colleges.

“I saw the application on the school website and told my parents about it. I was interested to see what life was like in a major corporation,” Magevney said.

Magevney shadowed David Ertrachter, who gave him an overview of the history of Adecco and how the company works and introduced him to people in the finance department.

“What surprised me was the influence accounting had in the workings of the corporation,” Magevney said. “And how important it is having a background in accounting coming out of school.”

Magevney also said he liked the corporate vibe at Adecco. “I felt like Adecco had a nice community. They know each other pretty well and seem to work well together. They weren’t just faces in a crowd.”

Both Timpke and Magevney said they thought it was time well spent and would recommend it to other Episcopal students.

The visit was arranged through Rich Thompson, regional head of human resources for North America, the United Kingdom and Ireland at The Adecco Group. His son, Jack, is a student at Episcopal.

“Work-based learning is one of the best ways young people can prepare for their future careers,” Thompson said. “We encourage more employers to partner with educators on initiatives, like Career Launcher, that enable students to gain real world experiences ahead of entering the workforce, while also bringing fresh perspectives – and potentially future talent – to companies.”



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# Scouts sail, scuba on High Adventure trips



Boy Scout Troop 35 gets ready to set sail on a High Adventure trip in the Bahamas.

Boy Scout Troop 35, chartered by Southside United Methodist Church, sent two crews of Scouts to Florida Sea Base on two different High Adventure trips this summer.

One crew of 12 flew to the Bahamas, and manned a sailboat, "The Saltshaker," around the Abacos Islands, while a crew of six went to the Florida Keys for intense scuba diving off Islamorada, Florida.

The trips are part of the Boy Scouts High Adventure programs, which include Northern Tier in the boundary waters of the Northern United States and Canada,

and Philmont in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of northern New Mexico. They are designed to provide amazing leadership opportunities and memorable life experiences to older Scouts in the program.

The scuba crew included Mitchell Boggs, Sebastian Keller, Jonathan McDonough, Trenton Orr, Scoutmaster Adam McDonough and Assistant Scoutmaster Keith Keller.

"We are so proud of this group of young men having completed the PADI Open Water Diver certification with all A's and we totaled 10 open water dives," said Keller, who is forming a Troop 35 dive team. "We

had several dives to 55 feet and visibility of nearly 60 feet."

The 12 who set sail were Brandon Singleton, Colton Champion, Justin Polania, Cecil DiChiara, Will McLaurine, Cory Vaughn, Colton Merritt, Cooper Lindsey, Troop 35 Treasurer Bill McLaurine, Jesse Evans, Assistant Scoutmaster Jon Singleton and Wade Lindsey.

Troop 35 is based in San Marco, and has been fortunate to send members on these annual excursions for years, and has been striving to build character in young men since 1921.

*"We are so proud of this group of young men having completed the PADI Open Water Diver certification with all A's and we totaled 10 open water dives."*

— Keith Keller, Scoutmaster



Front: PADI Instructor Jan, Keith Keller, Mitchell Boggs, Trenton Orr, PADI Instructor Matt; middle: Jonathan McDonough, Sebastian Keller, back: Adam McDonough



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# Jacksonville native now goalkeeper for Armada FC

By Robert DeAngelo  
Resident Community News

As a pioneer moving from the team's development program to its highest-level professional squad, Kyle Nasta feels a sense of pride and responsibility each time he dons the Jacksonville Armada Football Club's navy blue and white kit.

After starting six games for the Armada's Under-23 development squad last year, the Episcopal School of Jacksonville and University of North Florida graduate finished with a 1.77 goals-against average and helped lead his side to a second-place finish in the NPSL Sunshine Conference. The Jacksonville native was then called up to the pro team in September 2016 as its first-ever signee from within the team's U-23 program.

"Kyle has made great strides. He's definitely shown a little bit of presence, a little bit of authority back there which is good," said second-year Armada FC head coach Mark Lowry. "He's able to learn from [starter] Caleb Patterson-Sewell, who has a lot of experience and has been a good teacher.

"Now we're at a point where we're comfortable with Kyle if Caleb gets injured, or, like a couple of weeks ago when Caleb had a suspension, we're more than comfortable with Kyle Nasta stepping in there. He has definitely cemented himself in the squad. The guys like him and he can only get better from this point on."

Nasta, 23, first started playing soccer at about six years old and progressed through Jacksonville Futbol Club youth programs. He also played baseball as a youngster and credits that sport with helping develop skills that have aided his soccer career.

"I think wanting to be a goalkeeper came from my baseball roots, because in baseball it's a lot of hand-eye coordination," Nasta said. "So, it kind of transferred to soccer very well and I was able to make saves and learn how to use my body and dive around and have that hand-eye coordination."

A Mandarin native, he attended Mandarin High for a year but switched to Episcopal as a sophomore.

"They have a good soccer program, so it was a really tough decision to leave Mandarin and go to Episcopal," Nasta explained. "But actually, in choosing Episcopal it was all about the academic side. My parents and I thought it would be a better situation for the future to go to Episcopal because it has such a rigorous curriculum. I made that switch purely for academics; the soccer was just a plus."

Recruited by a few colleges in North Carolina, Nasta instead opted for UNF where he earned a degree in sports management. On the field for the Ospreys, he earned distinction as a two-time All-Atlantic



Jacksonville Armada FC goalkeeper Kyle Nasta makes a save during a recent practice session. Nasta, a graduate of Episcopal High and UNF, is the first player to move from the Armada's development program to its professional team.

*"In many ways, it's all about timing in this sport. I've been fortunate in that regard. You also have to show people that you're willing to learn and work hard for what you want."*

— Kyle Nasta, Goalkeeper, Jacksonville Armada FC

Sun Conference selection, was named ASUN Goalkeeper of the Year in 2014 and finished as the school's Division I career leader in saves (150), wins (18) and shutouts (10).

"During the summers, I played here at the National Premier Soccer League, which is like a third division league in soccer," said Nasta. "I would come out here and play for the Armada U-23 team so I was developing during the summer. The coaches for the first team here saw what I could do whenever

their goalkeeper, the first-team goalkeeper got hurt, and I was able to come up through the system and be able to make my way onto the first team.

"In many ways, it's all about timing in this sport. I've been fortunate in that regard. You also have to show people that you're willing to learn and work hard for what you want."

In Lowry's estimation, Nasta is already among the top North American Soccer League goalkeepers in at least one category.

"His shot stoppage, in terms of saves that he can make," said Lowry, a native of Great Britain who played for English clubs Stafford Rangers, Halesowen Town and Hereford United. "His agility, in close quarters, to pull off those reaction-type saves – it's up there with the best of them. In my opinion, he's probably the best shot-stopper in the league and I include all goalkeepers.

"Now, there are other things that go into goalkeeping. It's not just saving shots nowadays. You have to be good with your feet, you have to be a good communicator, you have to manage the game, to show bravery in certain situations and those are things he can improve upon. But we've definitely seen a massive progression in his all-around game."

In addition to the satisfaction of representing his hometown on the pitch, Nasta also feels a sense of responsibility. He has worked with youngsters as a goalkeeper coach in Armada FC youth programs, seeing a bit of himself in the faces of kids who aspire to emulate his success.

"Jacksonville is a great place. It's a diverse community so it's a very cool city that's also sports oriented," he noted. "This is the city where I grew up so I want to represent my city well. It's pride and responsibility in terms of being a member of the Armada.

"This has been a great experience. Before, I'd never been in a professional environment, so being exposed to this type of intensity every single day is great. Day in and day out you have to bring what you have to the table. So that's really been something good for me to be able to build proper habits, to help build my career and work towards the future."

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# Foster families get a break

*Miramar mom does God's work specializing in respite foster care*

By Marcia Hodgson  
Resident Community News



Amelia Frazer Day

The children call her "Mama Mia," or "Miss Amelia," and although she modestly says she's not exceptional, there probably is a special place in heaven reserved for Amelia Frazer Day.

Over the past seven years, the stay-at-home mother of three has brought more than 50 foster care children into her Miramar home, filling in as a substitute parent when other foster parents need a break. As a respite foster specialist, she takes children – mainly babies or toddlers – for a day, a weekend, a week or two, or occasionally longer, so that foster parents can vacation or have a night off. Many of her young charges are repeat clients and have suffered from fetal alcohol syndrome, abuse, PTSD, or neglect. She loves each one, but without the attachment she feels for her own children.

"Some people say, 'Oh my gosh, you're such a saint,' but I say, 'Don't say that!' I say nurses are saints or a teacher is a saint. I used to do that, and I'm so thankful there are people out there willing to teach my kids because it's a hard job," said Day, a Bolles School graduate and former science teacher at School of Success (SOS) Academy on the Westside.

"Everybody has gifts, and I don't expect anybody to do what I do," she said. "I don't feel like I'm special or closer to God for

doing this. I just feel like I'm doing what God has asked me to do."

It was at Christian Family Chapel in Mandarin that Day and her husband, Greg, got the idea of becoming involved with the foster care system. Greg had been interested in becoming a Boys and Girls' Club mentor, and when the couple spotted a table set up by Florida Baptist Children's Home at church, they decided to investigate becoming foster parents.

"Some people at church were taking classes and some were fostering," Day explained. "When the music minister got up in front of the church and said he and his wife had foster-adopted a child, something happened in my heart. I knew Greg and I really liked kids. If Greg did the Boys' and Girls' Club he'd be off with somebody else's kid. This was something we could do in our normal everyday life – opening our home up to a child."

It took the Days six months to a year to get into the foster system, she said. As a

couple, they took classes sponsored by Family Support Services and the Florida Baptist Children's Home. They had their home inspected for lead and child-proofing and underwent a background check by the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office as well as an in-depth "church" check because Florida Baptist Children's Home wanted to place kids in Christian homes.

Day, who considers respite fostering her Christian ministry, can often be seen pushing a stroller in her neighborhood or taking the children to nearby San Marco playgrounds. Her foster children join her at neighborhood gatherings, her teenager's soccer games, cookouts, and parties, and they accompany her to Epping Forest Yacht and Country Club where she utilizes the fine childcare facilities as she works out. "So many people from San Jose see me with all these different babies and wonder, I'm sure," she said.

In fostering, you never want to accept a child older than your youngest child because you want your own children to feel special by being the oldest, and because the children may have suffered from varying kinds of abuse, Day said. Although there are exceptions, families usually do not have more than five children – including their own – in a household, she said.

While some might think the hard part would be returning the children to their full-time foster parents, Day said giving the kids back is not hard. "It's not about me, it's about the child," she said, noting she works for the kids, not the adults she subs for. "This is my answer when people ask, 'How can you give them back?' If your brother or sister were sick or in an accident, you would take their kids in a heartbeat, but when it's time for them to return home, you give them back. The feeling here is the same," she said.

The hardest part of respite fostering is not fully understanding what trauma a child has endured, she said, adding that scheduling your life around court-ordered parental visitations is also difficult. What's important is to be patient and loving, especially when the children inevitably "melt down," which can be often and scary. "You don't know what a child has lived through before they come to you," she said. "The kids have been through a lot and don't know how to process it. They haven't experienced real love," she said. "I don't know how non-Christians do

it. Some days you might say, 'this kid is killing me, I need to have a drink.' I rely on the Lord to give me strength."

The state normally pays respite foster parents a stipend of \$10 to \$15 per day, enough to supplement the power bill, Day said, noting FSS will also pay working parents for day care. "People are not making money doing this," she said. To help supplement the children's needs she has utilized Foster Closet, Southside United Methodist Church's HAPI House, and help from the Florida Baptist Network, which has supplied her with clothes, food, and diapers. Facebook friends and her neighbors often assist by occasionally picking up her children at school or dropping off clothing at her house, she said.



Amelia Frazer Day, her puppy, Zoe, and a foster baby

Most importantly, fostering is a "family team effort," and she said she appreciates her children – Decker, 16, Laurel, 14, and Cameron, 12 – who help out at home and babysit, as well as her mother, Ginger Frazer of San Jose, who serves as chauffeur, babysitter and sometimes cook. "I think it's made my children more open-minded and more generous," she said, adding that the work has also kept her close to her husband.

Having strange children with issues in the house has not always been easy on her children, Day admitted. A student at Julia Landon College Preparatory School, Cameron said when he was younger he felt his mom was often distracted and he craved her attention, but now he enjoys having the foster kids stay with his family. "It's interesting. I've learned how to take care of children, and it's helped me get a lot of babysitting jobs," he said. "I feel it helps out other people who can't help themselves."

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# DO SOMETHING

Want to get involved in the community? Sometimes it just takes a little push to do something, from the smallest gesture to the grand donation. Get ready to get nudged.

BY MARIAN JOHNS, RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Even though the thought of summer vacation coming to end may bring a frown to kids' faces, there is still a bit of excitement about a new school year. However, for many children, their family may be struggling to afford the most basic school supplies, with some kids starting the school year out in old clothing and shoes which they have outgrown.

Now is the perfect time to take a look at those in our community who are helping to make sure students are on the right track toward a successful start for back to school. Look at who's making a difference for local students with back-to-school initiatives and learn how you can do something for the kids.

## SOUTHSIDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

For the past five years, volunteers with the Southside United Methodist Church have helped to collect needed clothing, shoes and school supplies for Hendricks Avenue School families who are struggling. Through the church's Hendricks Avenue Partnership Initiative (HAPI), clothing, shoes, school supplies, backpacks and other essential items are collected so students can have a great start to that all-important school year.

**DONATE:** You can help the HAPI program by donating items for students such as new clothing (for elementary-age children) and school supplies. HAPI also collects nonperishable food items for Hendricks Avenue School families in need. You can also donate nonperishable food items for families in need of meals. Go to [www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0c44aaa623aa8-hapi1](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0c44aaa623aa8-hapi1) to sign-up to donate specific items. Amazon gift cards are also greatly appreciated as they can be used to order supplies for the classrooms.

**VOLUNTEER:** Help stuff backpacks and sort school supplies through August 9, or volunteer for one of the other HAPI school programs and events which help students and families in need throughout the school year. Contact Tina Joel at (904) 382-3056 to volunteer.



Southside United Methodist volunteers with back-to-school bags for Hendricks Avenue Partnership Initiative.



Hendricks Avenue Elementary Student Council helped bag food during a food drive.



Two Hendricks Avenue Elementary students sort clothes at HAPI House.

## TINA JOEL DID SOMETHING

San Marco resident Tina Joel, a member of Southside United Methodist Church, knows what it is like to be one of those children she helps through the HAPI back to school drive.

"My family was there, so I know what people are going through," Joel said. "Every child deserves a chance in life."

Joel, who is heading the HAPI back to school drive for the church, said she hears all too often from a teacher that a student

is wearing shoes two sizes too small because their family can't afford to buy them new shoes.

"My heart feels for those who struggle and I feel like this is my calling to help those less fortunate," said Joel.

Thanks to Joel and other Southside United Methodist HAPI volunteers, students are able to have a successful start to their school year and most importantly, they see the example of people helping one another.



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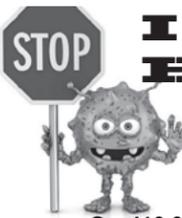
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# Flashbacks

In years gone by, Sixmile Creek, also known as the Ribault River in Jacksonville, was a popular site to swim and dive during the summer months. The photo is from the from the Kielman Collection at the Jacksonville Historical Society.

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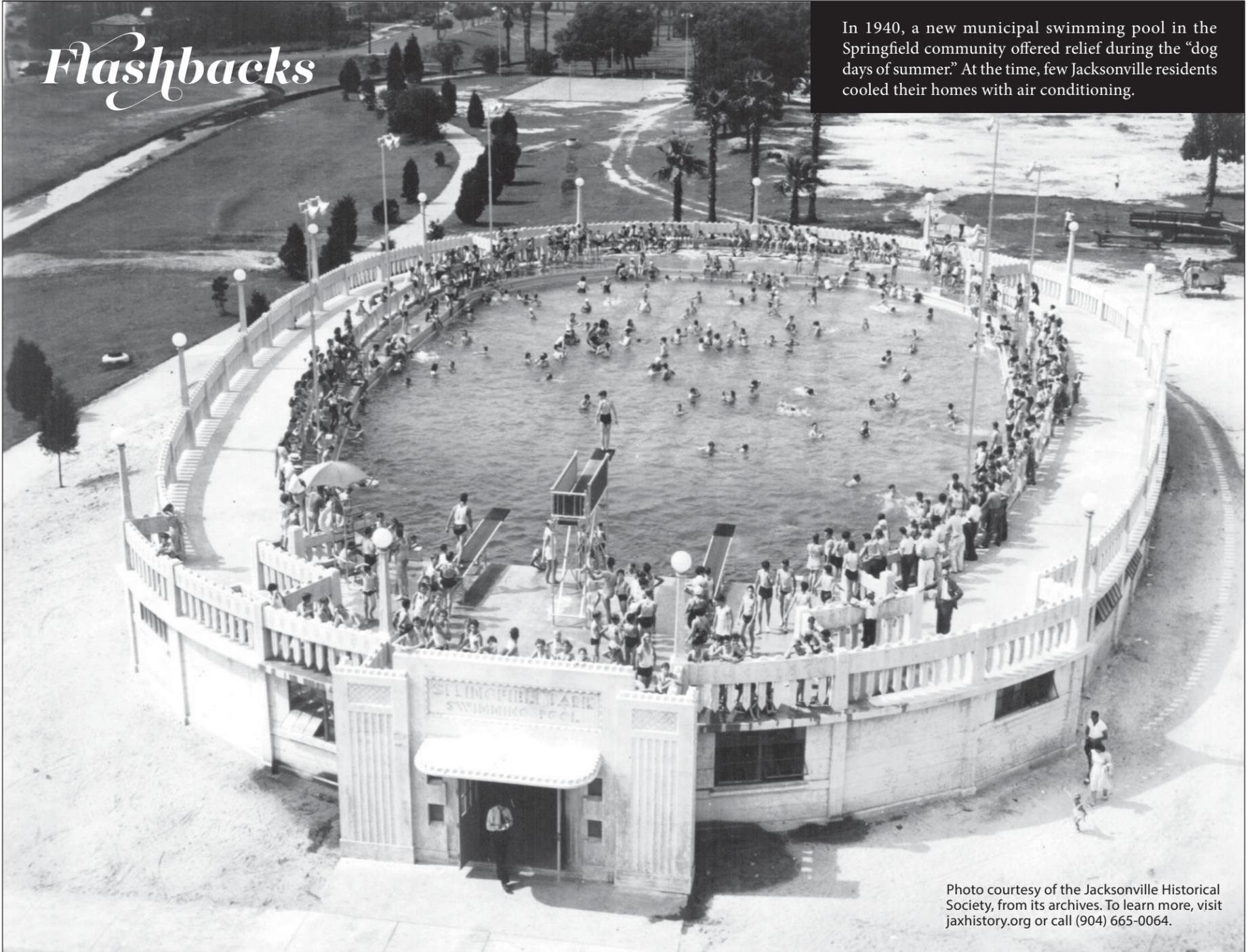
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# Flashbacks



In 1940, a new municipal swimming pool in the Springfield community offered relief during the “dog days of summer.” At the time, few Jacksonville residents cooled their homes with air conditioning.

Photo courtesy of the Jacksonville Historical Society, from its archives. To learn more, visit [jaxhistory.org](http://jaxhistory.org) or call (904) 665-0064.

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#### Dr. Lewis Obi

Expert in Stem Cell Research, Application in Plastic Surgery

Surgeon with over 45 Years of Experience

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#### Dr. David R. Heekin

Stem Cell Injection Specialist

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#### Dr. Orlando G. Florete

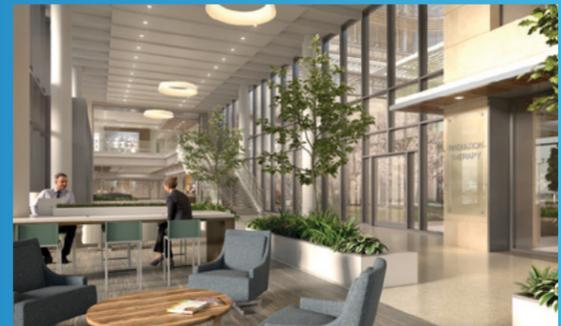
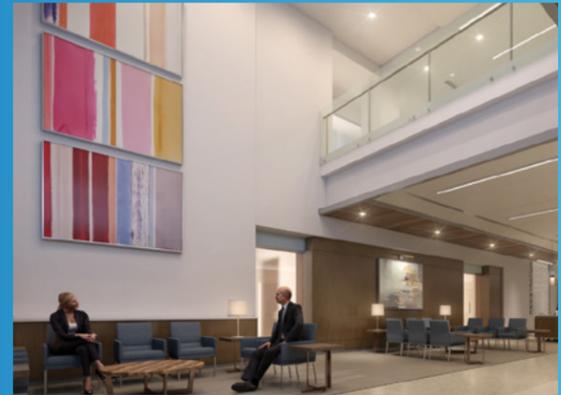
Anesthesiologist and Pain Management Specialist

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# The new Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center



Standing as a symbol of our partnership with world-renowned MD Anderson Cancer Center, our new, nine-story cancer center is designed to be uniquely responsive to the needs of patients and families, as well as their care teams. Scheduled to open in summer of 2018, this extraordinary building will expand the capacity of our current facility, serving as a beacon of hope to more cancer patients throughout the region. In this light-filled and inspiring environment, our dedicated cancer care teams will provide all-encompassing care that addresses the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of each patient.

To learn more, visit us at [BaptistMDAnderson.com](http://BaptistMDAnderson.com).

