



Friday Musicale President Mike Currie and Tom Gallacher hold programs for Friday Musicale's 128th season opening. [Read More, Page 29](#)



Kim Brown with Amy Creasman, Lina Caldropoli and Marica Pandjer at the annual Compassion by the Sea gala in support of Mission House. [Read More, Page 28](#)



Ernie and Rita Bono were among hundreds who filled the ballroom at Sawgrass Marriott Oct. 14 in support of Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. [Read More, Page 24](#)

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NOVEMBER 2017, VOL. 10, ISSUE 11

Resident

Community News

CHURCH MEMBERS WALK TO FIGHT HUNGER



Members from six local churches gathered at South Jacksonville Presbyterian Church in San Marco Sept. 24 to participate in the annual Crop Walk, raising funds for Church World Service and for United Community Outreach Ministry (UCOM) on the Southside. "It is a 1- or 3-mile walk, and the participants raise money by

getting others to pledge," said Angela Lopez, a member of South Jax Presbyterian. "We raised \$3,831 and 25 percent goes to UCOM." The other five churches which participated are Hendricks Avenue Baptist, Faith United Methodist, Southside United Methodist, Lakewood Presbyterian and San Jose Baptist Church.

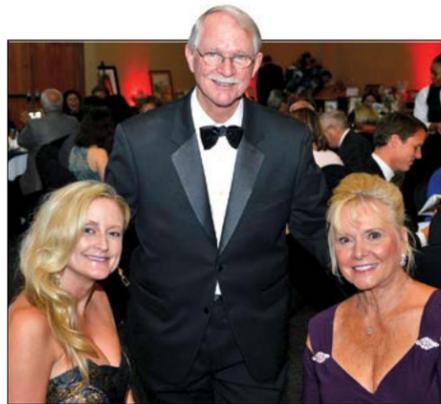
Councilwoman Boyer shares plans for river activation

By Lilla Ross
Resident Community News

District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer's plan to activate use of the St. Johns River picked up momentum in the new city budget, though damage from Hurricane Irma will slow things down.

Her goal is to have "rich, embellished landscaping with iconic features" at intervals along the downtown riverfront that will help tell Jacksonville's story and engage people in the river and the city. She presented some of her ideas at the Oct. 26 Waterways Commission meeting.

[Read More, Page 46](#)



Red Shield Ball draws great gathering

In black tie and ballgown elegance, Jen Ford, Congressman John Rutherford and Corkie Gooden showed their support for the Salvation Army of North Florida at the Red Shield Ball Oct. 14.

[Read More, Page 25](#)



Toasting MDA's mission for quality of life

Laura Saoud with Erin Cumiskey and Emily Magee helped support the fundraising efforts of the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) to send more kids to MDA Summer Camp and to support new strides in drug research and approval.

[Read More, Page 24](#)



Author Charles Martin with his wife, Christy, at a private friends-and-family screening for Martin's book "A Mountain Between Us," Oct. 6 at the San Marco Theatre.

[Read More, Page 21](#)



Sulzbacher success stories shared

Bill McConnell, general manager of SMG Jacksonville, and Michael Aubin, president of Wolfson Children's Hospital, attend Sulzbacher Center's 19th annual Transformations.

[Read More, Page 25](#)

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Publishers' Note

During this time of the year, when we count our blessings, we want to express our gratitude for everyone who supports the publications of The Resident Community News Group.

We are so fortunate to live and serve such a compassionate and giving community. Throughout the year within the pages of *The Resident* and its sister publications, *Historic Life – Neighbors and Newcomers Guide*, and *Circles – Social Datebook and Charity Register*, we have the privilege to report on the generous people and activities that make Jacksonville's historic communities such a great place to live.

This year, in the wake of Hurricane Irma's devastation to the streets, businesses, and homes that abut the St. Johns River, we are so grateful for the many first responders, elected officials, and neighbors who pitched in, helping their fellow residents recover so that our historic neighborhoods could bounce back quickly and become stronger. We hope reading their stories and the countless other good deeds done by residents within the community is as inspirational to you as it is to us.

We could not put out quality publications like *The Resident Community News* without the ongoing support of our advertisers who, in turn, rely on your support by shopping local. Why not take advantage of the cooler weather and walk to the shops and boutiques in your neighborhood?

Best wishes to all our readers in Jacksonville's historic communities and throughout the city for a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Pamela and Seth Williams
PUBLISHERS



Letters to the Editor

I shared the anguish of the residents of San Jose Forest when I read the story by Lloyd Lemons in the September 2017 edition of *The Resident Community News*. Indeed, the destruction of the natural wetland that provided drainage as well as a sound barrier for that neighborhood by the developer will be difficult to remedy.

For me, this story brought back words from an assessment of Jacksonville by the Kenan-Flagler School of Business at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill that was initiated during the administration of Mayor [John] Peyton in 2006.

The assessment made a clear case for Jacksonville to move in the direction of sustainability and predicted "that rapid growth could also be a threat to community competitiveness. A Growth Management task force suggests that the population will grow by 41% between 2000 and 2030, leaving no unclaimed land, no room for industry expansion, cluttered roads, a polluted St. Johns River, and too few classrooms in the schools." (p.32).

This prediction was made 11 years ago and I believe we are rapidly approaching its realization. The UNC assessment identified the City's "failure to negotiate with developers" (p.40) as a significant threat, both in terms of providing better incentives to redevelop downtown Jacksonville and to curb unbridled growth in the greater Jacksonville area.

From what was presented in this article, it seems clear that the City Council, then as now, seems unconcerned about creating sustainable solutions and I fear we will soon reach a tipping point that could ruin much of what has made Jacksonville a wonderful place to live and work.

Sincerely,
Paul Clark
Miramar

Editor's Note: To view the document, *A Competitive Assessment of Jacksonville, Florida*, go to residentnews.net and enter "assessment" in the Search bar.

I was interested to read the article about Betty Bergmark in the September 2017 publication of The Resident Community News Group but let me explain more.

I am Chairman of The Carl Rosa Trust in the United Kingdom which is a charitable Trust conserving the archive of music and memorabilia from the days of the Carl Rosa Opera Company. The Company was the longest touring opera company probably in the world from 1873 to 1960. During the period 1923 to 1960 it was owned and managed by my grandparents HB and Annette Phillips. My Aunt Ailne (Babs) Phillips organised the ballet in the Company for a period during the 1930s. Subsequently she became head of the Royal Ballet School and Ninette de Valois' assistant. She also danced with Ninette de Valois.

In the article I note that Betty Bergmark danced with the Carl Rosa and mentions that she studied with Ninette de Valois. She also mentions Nicholas Sergeyev who Ailne Phillips worked with. Moira Shearer of course was another person in the ballet world. I imagine that Betty may have known my aunt.

Kind regards,
Anthony Phillips
West Sussex, England

Hurricane collapses sewer line

San Jose Boulevard in Miramar reopened to through traffic in mid-October after being closed for more than three weeks due to a 30-foot collapsed sewer line at the intersection of San Jose and Mapleton Road.

The sewer line was compromised as a direct result of Hurricane Irma, according to Greg Corcoran, JEA Manager of Community Involvement and Project Outreach.

When JEA crews find an initial problem, they perform utility checks in surrounding water and sewer systems to ensure there are no additional issues that need attention, according to Corcoran.

While doing utility checks on Mapleton Road, crews found a failing manhole at Greenridge Road and San Jose. Following the repair of the Mapleton 30-foot sewer line, they repaired and rehabilitated the manhole.

Corcoran said in the near future JEA will use television cameras to further evaluate sewer lines in the immediate area to make sure there are not other pipes or manholes that require repair or replacement.

Funds for emergency projects like these come out of the JEA's yearly operations and maintenance budget.

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Jacksonville ranks second in most up-and-coming cities in America



Yelp, a popular rate-and-review website, has released a report indicating Jacksonville is No. 2 among the top 10 most up-and-coming cities in the United States.

The metrics go beyond traditional economic indicators, using data at the local level to turn the current business climate into a predictor for the future. One of the dozens of data points analyzed was whether a business had remained open in the past year, indicating how successful new businesses are likely to be and whether current businesses will survive. Yelp used those business indicators to determine local economic health.

In seven out of 10 factors, the River City ranked above 10. Jacksonville ranked No. 2 in Health and Medical, Shopping and Food, No. 3 in Restaurants, No. 6 in Automotive, No. 7 in Beauty and Spas,

No. 8 in Nightlife, No. 11 in Home Services, No. 19 in Event Planning and Services, and No. 25 in Active Life.

Best value destination

Jacksonville was also ranked No. 9 out of the Top 10 Best Value Destinations in Lonely Planet's Best in Travel 2018. The review noted the city's beaches, parks, family-friendly restaurants, craft beer and affordable hotel rates.

"There are long stretches of the St. Johns River, the Intracoastal Waterway and America's largest urban park system to explore on foot, by bike or, best of all, on a guided kayak tour," said Lonely Planet, the largest travel guide publisher in the world.

Jacksonville was the only American city to make the Best in Travel 2018 list.

Volunteer to put your heart in holiday spirit

If you're looking to put meaning in your holidays this year, consider volunteering with The Salvation Army.

If bell ringing for the Red Kettle campaign isn't your thing, perhaps you might enjoy serving Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner to the homeless. Maybe your heart is focused on needy children so think about being part of the Angel Tree program, collecting, sorting and delivering toys and clothing to children whose families have a financial hardship. You can also organize a food drive to create Thanksgiving food baskets for more than 1,600 Northeast Florida families in need.

Want to help?

Red Kettle bell ringers are needed Mondays through Saturdays from Nov. 10 through Christmas Eve. Call (904) 301-4852 or text JaxKettle to 41444 to reserve your preferred date and location.

Organize a Can-U-Care food drive and the Salvation Army will take care of drop off and pick up of collection barrels. Call (904) 301-4781 or email latesha.jackson@uss.salvationarmy.org.

Serve a holiday meal Nov. 23 from 12 p.m.-2 p.m. and Dec. 25 from 12 p.m.-2 p.m. Call (904) 301-4846 or email stephanie.arnold@uss.salvationarmy.org.

Organize and distribute bags filled with toys and clothes donated through the Angel Tree program from Nov. 27 to Dec. 18. Distribution is Dec. 19. Call (904) 301-4846 or email stephanie.arnold@uss.salvationarmy.org.

Consider adopting a quantity of Angels for the organization's Angel Tree program or hold new toy and clothing drives to help provide for Angels who do not get adopted. Call (904) 301-4841 or email darlene.uhler-batiste@uss.salvationarmy.org.

More information about The Salvation Army's holiday volunteer opportunities can be found here: <http://bit.ly/SAJaxVolunteer>

Enz to speak at Men's Garden Club Nov. 6

Jill Enz, the City of Jacksonville's park development and natural resources manager, will be the guest speaker at the Men's Garden Club of Jacksonville's monthly meeting, Monday, Nov. 6 at 7 p.m.

The public is invited to attend the presentation, which will be held at the Garden Club, 1005 Riverside Ave.

Enz, a landscape architect, joined the City

in May 2016. She has a master's degree in landscape architecture from Kansas State University, and has been a volunteer with Groundwork Jacksonville for the past two years. She donated professional services to design the S-Line Biodiversity Corridor, which will naturally clean Hogans Creek through stormwater management and bioremediation treatment.



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Carlucci returns to politics, announces campaign goals



Matt and Karen Carlucci with Gayle and Michael Balanky

Friends and family gathered on the Southbank Oct. 25 at the home of Michael and Gayle Balanky in support of Matt Carlucci's campaign for City Council At-Large representative.

Carlucci, who has spent nearly four decades in the insurance industry, has followed in the footsteps of his father Joe, who held positions in City Council and in the Florida Senate. Carlucci is a former three-term Council member and served as president 2001-2002, and was a 2003 mayoral

candidate. He was also former chairman of the Florida Commission on Ethics.

In his remarks to the gathering, Carlucci noted his family has called Jacksonville home for many generations and he would like to help make it a better one for his grandchildren. Citing his familiarity with city government and its budgets, Carlucci said "I know how to get things done...I know how to build consensus...and when to respectfully disagree."



Robin and Don St. Denis



Victoria and Joe Carlucci



Women's Center Board President Lisé Everly breaks down the wall of the old building for reconstruction.

Women's Center celebrates gift at opening of new center

The Women's Center of Jacksonville received a special gift Oct. 10 during a pre-construction tour of the new Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (S.A.F.E.) Center at 5300 Emerson St.

J. Wayne and Delores Barr Weaver, of Riverside, donated \$500,000 to help renovate the building and offered an additional \$500,000 matching grant for the project.

"The Women's Center of Jacksonville is delighted J. Wayne and Delores Barr Weaver have elected to help us build a new Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE) Center. Their generous gift of \$500,000 to start the initiative to renovate a building to serve as a state-of-the-art forensic exam center will help us begin construction," said Lisé Everly, WCJ board president.

"We are incredibly grateful for their support to help people of all genders who have survived sexual assault. With the help of the Weavers and people like them, we can tell survivors, 'You're Safe Here,'" she said.

The Women's Center assumed responsibility for conducting sexual assault forensic exams in October 2014 for rape

victims in Duval, Baker and Nassau counties, but needed a place centrally located in the Jacksonville area. The building is in need of a complete overhaul, said Teresa Miles, Women's Center executive director, and that's where the Weavers' donation comes in.

After renovation is complete, the new center will include two full accessible waiting rooms, two exam rooms with showers, an interview room, permanent and temporary evidence storage rooms, front and rear access to the building for confidentiality, counseling rooms, and rooms for staff and law enforcement, as well as a large conference room for training and community meetings.

The nonprofit said the purchase, renovation and endowment of the S.A.F.E. Center will cost \$3 million. They started a community initiative, "You're SAFE Here" to raise money, and donations can be made at www.youresafehere.org.

During the past 12 months, the Women's Center has fielded 2,682 hotline calls, conducted 339 forensic exams and served 705 sexual assault survivors.

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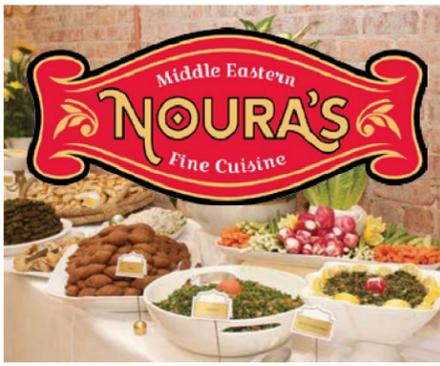
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San Marco residents still grappling with hurricane aftermath

By Lilla Ross
 Resident Community News

In the first 22 days of the recovery effort after Hurricane Irma, the City of Jacksonville collected 900 cubic yards of tree debris. That is more than all of what was collected after Hurricane Matthew came through in October 2016, said District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer. And the collection efforts continue.

The city is still in the process of making its first pass around the city, collecting debris left by the Sept. 11 storm.

A steady stream of trucks has been taking the San Marco area debris to the Jackson Square property on Philips Highway. A mountain of tree limbs has grown on the vacant lot and is being ground up for use as cover at the landfill, Boyer said.

The numbers are still being tallied but Boyer guestimates that Irma's bill could be in the \$60 million to \$70 million range. Matthew cost \$47 million.

"We thought that after Matthew we had lost most of the trees we were going to lose," Boyer said. "But we didn't."

Coastal flooding is still a problem, however. The St. Johns River Basin covers 8,840 square miles and flood water is still draining into the waterway. Nor'easters and seasonally high tides have aggravated the situation.

Floating debris will continue to be a problem because of the loss of so many docks, she said.



A nor'easter and higher than normal tides caused flooding in the streets of San Marco Oct. 5, three weeks after Hurricane Irma came through.

"Property owners need to know that if you take it out of the water, it's yours and you need to take it to the curb to get it collected," Boyer said.

Report debris in the river to the state Department of Environmental Protection at dep.state.fl.us.

Daryl Joseph, director of the City Parks and Recreation Department, said city crews have been removing debris from the river when they see it.

They also continue with repairs to infrastructure along the Southbank Riverwalk, parts of which were underwater during the storm. The public restroom was closed for about six weeks because the pump had gone out, he said. And a number of light fixtures had to be repaired or replaced.

"We're looking at retrofitting a lot of the fixtures and wiring," Joseph said. "We don't want to press reset every time there is a storm."



By the end of October, the debris field at Jackson Square had more than 1.2 million cubic yards of tree debris from Hurricane Irma.



Residents in San Marco express frustration over the long wait for tree debris pickup.

Building inspection fee refunds available

Jacksonville City Council unanimously approved a bill which will help property owners with hurricane damages. Bill 2017-695, introduced by District 9 Councilman Garrett Dennis, will refund fees incurred by property owners after Hurricane Irma. The legislation will provide refunds to property owners for certain city-related building inspection division fees in connection with permit applications made from Sept. 11, 2017 through Dec. 31, 2017 for re-roofing (non-structural roofing material repairs) and certain electrical service repairs on existing structures damaged by Hurricane Irma.

To inquire about refunds, property owners should contact the Building Inspection Division at (904) 630-1100.

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4/3-2-4,910 sqft. Magnificent Mediterranean style home boasts elegant features and upgrades throughout. As you pull up the circular drive you will be captivated by the beautiful landscaping and moss covered oak trees.



6740 EPPING FOREST WY N 105 - \$490,000
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906 GREENRIDGE RD
4/4-1-4,234 sqft. SOLD by Margee Michaelis! This beautiful San Marco home has a fantastic water view! Completely updated in 2012, complete with gourmet kitchen with Thermador appliances.



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1328 RIVER OAKS RD - \$430,000
2/2-1,657 sqft. Great bungalow in a fantastic location! Just a half mile from San Marco Square on the river side of Hendricks Ave. This home features a nicely sized living room with abundant light and a wood burning fireplace!



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Groundbreaking celebrated at Hope Lodge, Mayo Clinic Campus

Groundbreaking signals new hope for cancer patients

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

With the ceremonial lift of the shovel, the American Cancer Society broke ground Oct. 23 for the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation Hope Lodge, a \$19.6 million facility which will offer free lodging for patients seeking cancer treatment in the Jacksonville medical community.

The groundbreaking ceremony took place at the construction site, located at Mayo Clinic West Campus, and was attended by representatives from ACS, Mayo Clinic, local donors and members of the capital

campaign, led by Campaign Chair Charlie Tomm and Honorary Chairpersons Carter and Cheryl Bryan.

“One of the large motivating factors for us in this campaign was learning the very large percentage of cancer sufferers who do not follow up with the proper care after being diagnosed, even if they have proper insurance. They cannot afford the lodging and other costs in seeking treatment in a distant city,” said Tomm in his welcoming remarks.

When the Jacksonville Hope Lodge opens its doors, the 31-room facility will save cancer patients and their caregivers an estimated \$3 million annually in lodging expenses. Some patients spend days, weeks, even months away from home, which Bryan touched upon in his remarks.



American Cancer Society's Hope Lodge campaign donors, fundraising professionals and executive staff members ready for the groundbreaking on the Mayo Clinic Jacksonville Campus. With shovels in hand, the group prepped for the official throwing of the dirt on the future sight of the Hope Lodge.



Hope Lodge Campaign Chair Charlie Tomm with Kellie Ann Kelleher, Hope Lodge Campaign Director and Tim Torgerson, Nationwide Director, Leadership and Campaign Giving at American Cancer Society.

“The history of Hope Lodge goes back about 35 years when I was serving on the [Florida] Division Board [of ACS] and I was in a budget committee meeting and looking at a line item for housing of \$250,000,” said Bryan, who was told it for cancer patients who have to go out of town and were put up in the cheapest motels. “I thought this was not right, there has to be a solution.”

The solution was found when Bryan, along with Robert Davis of the Winn-Dixie Foundation, launched a campaign in 1986 to build the first lodge constructed from the ground up, in Gainesville, on the University of Florida campus.

Now, many generous local philanthropists, including the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation, have stepped up to the plate to put a Hope Lodge in Jacksonville. Schulze acknowledged the part played by the Foundation and other major contributors, but also gave praise to another group.

“What’s often not talked about are the 4,200 people who stood up and said ‘We want to help make a difference for people suffering from this dreaded disease,’” he said. “It’s not even just the dollar and cents, candidly, it’s the personal skin in the game from so many of these volunteers that not only feel the importance of making a contribution to make this happen today and on into perpetuity, but at the end of the day just to be volunteering as helpers in this facility, be a part of the process that goes on.”

At full occupancy, the Jacksonville Hope Lodge facility will provide nearly 12,000 room nights each year. It will include private guest suites, a library, shared living room, kitchen and dining areas, help-yourself pantry, daily access to linens, space for recreation and contemplation, and free transportation services to and from the world-renowned cancer centers within the Jacksonville medical community.



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Downtown Dwellers taking active role on Riverwalks

By Lilla Ross
Resident Community News

The Downtown Dwellers sipped wine and mingled, saw their new website, heard about what's going on downtown and asked lots of questions at the first membership meeting of the year at the Museum of Science and History.

A year ago, the group representing Riverwalk residents disbanded, only to reconstitute itself and try again. It is now a nonprofit in the state of Florida and is working on tax-exempt status with the IRS. It has a website – thedowntowndwellers.weebly.com, a newsletter and has organized the Friends of the Park to promote the use and care of the Riverwalk on both sides of the river.

“The Riverwalks are unusual parks, they’re linear and overlook our greatest asset.”

— Jill Enz, City Parks and Recreation Department

So, there was lots to talk about at the Oct. 26 meeting.

“Most people think of the Riverwalk as a path to somewhere else,” said president Sandra Fradd. “For us it’s home.”

Katherine Hardwick, vice president of marketing for Downtown Vision, Inc., talked about upcoming events in downtown, including Small Business Saturday on Nov. 25.

Eric Miller, DVI’s new director of district services, talked about the city’s effort to

make the Riverwalks “clean and safe” with the use of ambassadors who help keep the area clean and report any safety issues.

Downtown Vision is adding a social services outreach director who will help the homeless and vagrants in the area access local resources, Miller said.

Landscape architect Jill Enz of the City Parks and Recreation Department encouraged the residents to use the Riverwalks to build a sense of community and deter crime.

“The Riverwalks are unusual parks, they’re linear and overlook our greatest asset,” she said. “That’s why it’s important to have a Friend of the Park group. Parks aren’t static. Things change. Trees grow. Pavers pop up. When you see something, let us know. It’s your backyard.”

Susan Strauss, who developed the group’s new website, showed how residents can use a form on the website to record how often they use the Riverwalk. Downtown Dwellers wants to track usage so the city will have data that can justify further investment in the area.

District 5 Councilwoman Lori Boyer, who represents San Marco, updated the group on efforts to improve access to the river for pedestrians and boaters and to restore Friendship Fountain. (Read more about this in the Waterways Commission story on page 1.)

Boyer also gave updates:

- The Riverplace Boulevard Road Diet: Construction, which was supposed to start after the first of the year, has been delayed by waterline issues. Work should begin in the spring.
- Demolition of the old City Hall and Courthouse: The city has approved \$8 million for the work, which can begin as soon as it is bid.
- Berkman Plaza 2: Boyer said she hasn’t heard anything official but the scuttlebutt at City Hall is the city is in talks with a prospective buyer who wants to use the existing building for hotel and residential.

The next meeting of the Downtown Dwellers is Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2018.

Ventures Development approvals appealed by adjacent property owner

By Lilla Ross
Resident Community News

The proposed 13-story apartment project by Ventures Development Group has hit a bump in the road in its plan to develop a riverfront parcel on Prudential Drive.

GV-IP Jacksonville Owner LLC, which owns the Aetna building, is appealing zoning deviations granted in August by the Downtown Investment Authority and in July by the Downtown Development Review Board that would allow Ventures to more than double the size of the residential complex and reduce the amount of parking.

With the deviations, Ventures can reduce parking spaces from 559 to 337; change the landscaping along the railroad tracks; increase the building height from 60 feet to 190 feet; and reduce setbacks along the property line and along the bulkheads.

DIA approved the final design for the 2.9-acre project over the objections of GV-IP and Baptist Health that a 300-unit building would produce too much traffic for the small area that already has safety issues.

It already is a high-traffic area with the Baptist Health complex, which includes the emergency room, and the 20-story Aetna building. Traffic comes from two directions: from the Fuller Warren Bridge via Palm Avenue and from San Marco Boulevard and the Acosta Bridge via Prudential Drive, crossing the FEC railroad track.

“The main objections of GV-IP Jacksonville are that the development is going to exacerbate safety in the area,” said attorney Daniel Bean, who represents GV-IP. “The height has increased over 200 percent from 60 feet to 190 feet and the parking has been reduced by 40 percent. And there are frontage issues, too. There should be a 50-foot setback. The building is too close to the river.

“It is an odd-shaped little crevice of land,” Bean said. “We understand the need for development but this isn’t proper. They shouldn’t have been given the deviations.”

The City Council’s Land Use and Zoning (LUZ) Committee is scheduled to hear the appeal on Tuesday, Nov. 21. LUZ meetings take place at City Hall, beginning at 5 p.m.

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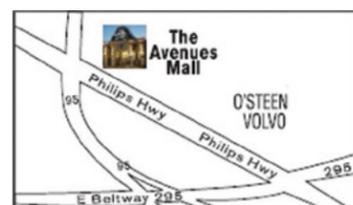
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Military to be honored at TaxSlayer Bowl

TaxSlayer, title sponsor of the TaxSlayer Bowl since 2011, has rolled out the Honoring Our Heroes program to thank military members and their families.

TaxSlayer will provide 5,000 heroes with a complimentary ticket to the 2017 TaxSlayer Bowl Saturday, Dec. 30, 2017 at EverBank Field, including a post-game concert at the stadium's new event amphitheater, Daily's Place.

"There is no greater honor than to have a title sponsor that gives back to those who have done so much for us and our country," said TaxSlayer Bowl President and CEO Rick Catlett. "Jacksonville is such a proud military town. What better way to say thank you to our heroes than by providing them with an unforgettable

experience during one of the most storied matchups in college football."

TaxSlayer's Honoring Our Heroes program, which has a value of \$500,000, is available to all active duty service members, retirees and veterans with a military ID or VA Identification Card. Each serviceman or woman may request up to four tickets per military ID.

Each participant's game day experience will include a ticket to the TaxSlayer Bowl, a ticket to a post-event military appreciation concert at Daily's Place, as well as in-stadium tribute during the TaxSlayer Bowl game. Limited transportation options will be available from the surrounding area, including direct transportation from Fort Gordon. To register for tickets, visit www.taxslayerbowl.com.



TaxSlayer Bowl Chairman David Long with Sgt. Tony D. Simmons, Marketing and Public Affairs Representative, Recruiting Station Jacksonville, Commander Luis C. Parrales, U.S. Coast Guard, Chris Moloney, Tax Slayer Chief Marketing Officer and Alan Verlander, COO, TaxSlayer Bowl

Community Hospice & Palliative Care Attains New Star in National We Honor Veterans Program

Military veterans can experience the end of life differently than those who didn't serve. For some military veterans, the psychological effects of combat can remain dormant for years, only to re-emerge when they are facing their own mortality.

There are an estimated 200,000 military veterans in Northeast Florida alone, which is why Community Hospice & Palliative Care continues its commitment to raise the standard of veteran-centric care in the communities it serves.

It's important to provide these heroes with specialized care that honors their service to our nation and the unique physical and emotional challenges they may face. Community Hospice physicians, nurses and expert counselors are specially trained and prepared to identify these needs and assist in the healing and resolution process for veterans and their loved ones.

The organization recently attained Level III Partnership in We Honor Veterans, a program of veteran-specific caring techniques developed by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) in collaboration with the Veterans Administration.

In addition to meeting prior We Honor Veterans milestones, to attain Level III status the organization had to develop a process to assist veterans with their VA benefits and provide information and resources on other veteran services. The organization was also required to match veterans in its care with volunteers who also served in the military.



WE HONOR VETERANS

"I am honored to be a Community Hospice volunteer visitor to many former members of the military," said Timothy Lynch, Community Hospice volunteer and retired Navy Captain who spent his 32-year career flying jets after receiving his Navy Wings in 1963. "Two noteworthy veterans come to mind – one who served as a gunner in a USN patrol plane during WW II and the other landed in the invasion of Europe at Omaha Beach and fought all the way to Berlin. Men like these and their comrades in arms, most now passed away, will always be heroes to me as men and women of the 'Greatest Generation.'"

There are currently 88 former members of the military volunteering at Community Hospice and available to help with the program. As part of the admissions process, the organization implemented a "Military History Checklist" to report demographic information related to the patient's service history to the We Honor Veterans national program.



Clerk of Courts show support for domestic violence awareness

During the month of October – Domestic Violence Awareness Month – the Duval County Clerk of Court's office and the 4th Judicial Circuit's Family Court Services office collected donations of essential nonperishable food and household items for Hubbard House,

Each Wednesday, Clerk's Office staff wore purple as a visible reminder of their support for Domestic Violence Awareness Month and for Hubbard House. According to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, there were more than 120,000 cases of domestic violence reported in the state last year, including approximately 5,000 cases in Duval County.

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Library of the Year bestowed, celebrated

Friends of the Library honored for winning budget battle

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Contrary to “digital” belief, libraries are not dead. Nor are their supporters.

Long before the Jacksonville Public Library Foundation was founded in 1986, the nonprofit Friends of the Jacksonville Library was established in June 1955.

And even before that, in 1902 Andrew Carnegie granted the City of Jacksonville \$55,000 to build a library at 101 E. Adams St., where “Open to All” was etched above the doors.

The sentiment hasn’t changed in over 100 years, thanks to efforts by the local Friends of the Library groups.

In the 62 years since their founding, the Friends have taken to the sidewalks gathering petitions for a variety of concerns. They have raised funds to supplement programs in the neighborhood branches. In 2013, they collected signatures to try to implement an independent tax district to fund libraries. They have lobbied vigorously against proposed budget cuts and, as was the case this year, were successful in getting \$1.1 million in funds reinstated.

“Good libraries build collections but great libraries build communities,” said Kevin Hyde, board chair for the Jacksonville Public Library Foundation. “We appreciate the Mayor and City providing ongoing support for the library’s day-to-day operations as well as restoring \$850,000 to the budget to purchase additional books, audio and video



Florence Cunningham, Friends of Brentwood Branch Library; Ronnie King, Chair, Jacksonville Public Library Board of Library Trustees; Judy Klein, Friends of Murray Hill Library; Nancy Beecher, Friends of Murray Hill Library; Josh Messinger, Friends of Beaches Branch Library; Jennifer Giltrop, Interim Library Director; Margaret Smith, Friends of Jacksonville Public Library, and Roxanne Henkle, Friends of Willowbranch Library. Not pictured: Friends of the Olga L. Bradham and Etta L. Brooks Branch Library, Friends of the Dallas Graham Branch Library, Friends of the South Mandarin Branch Library, Friends of the Maxville Branch Library

“Good libraries build collections but great libraries build communities.”

— Kevin Hyde, Jacksonville Public Library Foundation

materials. They demonstrated their commitment to the entire Jacksonville public library system.”

In gratitude for the many hours spent by members of the local Friends of the Library groups, the Board of Library Trustees declared October 15-21 “Friends of Libraries Week.”

Prior to the budget victory, the Jacksonville Public Library had been named Library of

the Year by the Florida Library Association from among more than 800 libraries.

“The Friends of the Library groups play a key role in advocating and supporting libraries throughout the city and the library system as a whole,” said Jennifer Giltrop, interim director for the Jacksonville Public Library. “Within the last few months, during the City’s budget process, representatives from the various Friends groups formed a joint advocacy committee. This committee worked to raise awareness with the community and city council regarding the need for budget restoration for the Library. We couldn’t be more grateful for the great Friends Groups we have in Jacksonville.”

“We clearly have a great library. As far as we know, this is our first time being named Library of the Year,” said Jamie Self, executive director of the Jacksonville Public Library Foundation.

“This library has really pulled forward and the Library of the Year award is an incredible means of acknowledging its success,” said Betsy Lovett, who served on the Library Foundation board for several years. “No one can take our education away from us and the library is one of the greatest means we have to achieve an education. It’s very important that it’s recognized and the City should continually support it.”

Hyde also acknowledged it takes the support of private donors and businesses to truly make the library great. “Private donations support the wonderful programs that led to our library being named Florida’s Library of the Year,” he said. “We want to thank our supporters and encourage them to celebrate with the Foundation on November 9th.”

The Foundation is hosting a Library of the Year Celebration, Thursday, Nov. 9, 6:30 p.m. in the Betsy Lovett Courtyard at the Main Library on Laura Street.

Warehouse Bag Sale benefits library programs

The Friends of the Jacksonville Public Library will hold a Warehouse Bag Sale Nov. 17-19 at 3435 University Blvd North.

Friday, Nov. 17, 4-8 p.m., is Members’ Night, which means anyone with a current membership card can come in and buy two bags of books for the price of one and get a 25 percent discount. Memberships can be purchased at the door for \$5 and are good for the remainder of 2017.

Saturday, Nov. 18, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., is open to the general public. Buy two bags, get one free (\$15 a bag or 3 bags \$30, plus tax).

The blow-out clearance sale is Sunday, Nov. 19, noon to 5 p.m. Buy one bag, get one free (\$15 for two bags, plus tax). Proceeds support the Jacksonville Public Library.

The warehouse is two blocks north of Jacksonville University with plenty of free parking. The Friends of JPL recommend bringing reusable shopping bags with handles for easier toting, although they will supply brown paper bags to put in the shopping bags.

“Our sales benefit the residents of Jacksonville and surrounding counties by offering affordable reading materials, which in turn benefits the programs offered by the Jacksonville Public Library,” said Jane Wittwer, member of the Friends of JPL board of directors. “We make a large financial commitment to the Jacksonville Public Library and need to increase our customer base. We also welcome new volunteers.”

Many changes have been made in the last couple of years, said Wittwer.

Nonfiction categories include arts and crafts, biographies, business, classics, computers, education, fine arts, food and cooking, gardening, health and medicine, history, hobbies and collecting; house and home, humor, other languages, law and true crime, pets, psychology, reference, religion, science, sports, and travel.

“There are subcategories within those categories to help narrow down one’s interests,” Wittwer said. “Fiction is arranged alphabetically; there is an African-American section, a science fiction section, a western section, even a large print section. We have sections for children and teens, and a small section of graphic novels. There are books on CD and DVD. We also have a music CDs, sheet music and vinyl records.”

The warehouse is open to the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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Roosters brings upscale, high-quality experience to San Marco

There's a new concept in men's grooming that's coming to a neighborhood near you. Matter of fact, it's right around the corner in the San Marco Square. This new men's salon, dubbed Roosters Men's Grooming Center, is a unique and game-changing experience that will leave customers satisfied with the way they look – and the way they feel.

Roosters salon will not only raise the bar, but will increase the customer's level of satisfaction by maintaining a consistent and outstanding level of service. Today, so many salons have forgotten the practices of sound hospitality, courtesy, and quality. This salon will make you feel like you've taken a step back in time.

By delivering a sophisticated, modern-day answer to the barbershop, one thing will become apparent – the focus is on the man, his time and his satisfaction. "With busy lives, professional men need a place where they can relax and unwind while taking care of themselves. At Roosters, we're committed to providing excellent grooming and great customer service in a comfortable environment," said Pete Helow, proprietor.



removed. Once you have a fresh haircut and rinse, a hot facial towel treatment and a relaxing head and neck massage ensue. This service, otherwise known as the Club Cut, includes a neck trim with a razor, and the cleanup of lengthy and unwanted eyebrow, nose and ear hair.

As if these few important grooming extras weren't enough, an application of aftershave lotion or talc on the neck helps to soothe those with the most sensitive of skin types. After this methodical treatment, a complete check of your attire is accomplished and stray hairs are

eliminated by the application of a lint roller. To leave no stone unturned, your shoes get a quick shine with a silicone sponge before you leave the chair.

In addition to these great services, the store will offer the award-winning Billy Jealousy hair, skin and shave products exclusively formulated for men. The Edwin Jagger line of razors and shaving accessories are also carried in-store, providing high-quality manufactured products from England for gift ideas and royal treatment.

Company Background, Strength

Helow, the local businessman and entrepreneur responsible for the arrival of Roosters, has spent his adult years owning and marketing businesses and enhancing the way people live. As an agency man, he knows the power of a solid franchise and the ideas that fuel their growth, having launched products and marketing campaigns – from concept to completion.

With the support of Regis Corporation (NYSE:RGS), the beauty industry's global leader in beauty salons, hair restoration centers and cosmetology education, Helow knew he could open the local franchise with confidence. As of April 30, 2017, the company owned, franchised, or held ownership interests in approximately 8,700 worldwide locations. Currently, there are over 80 Roosters Men's Grooming Centers in 23 states. Helow believes this is a great reason to be excited for the future.

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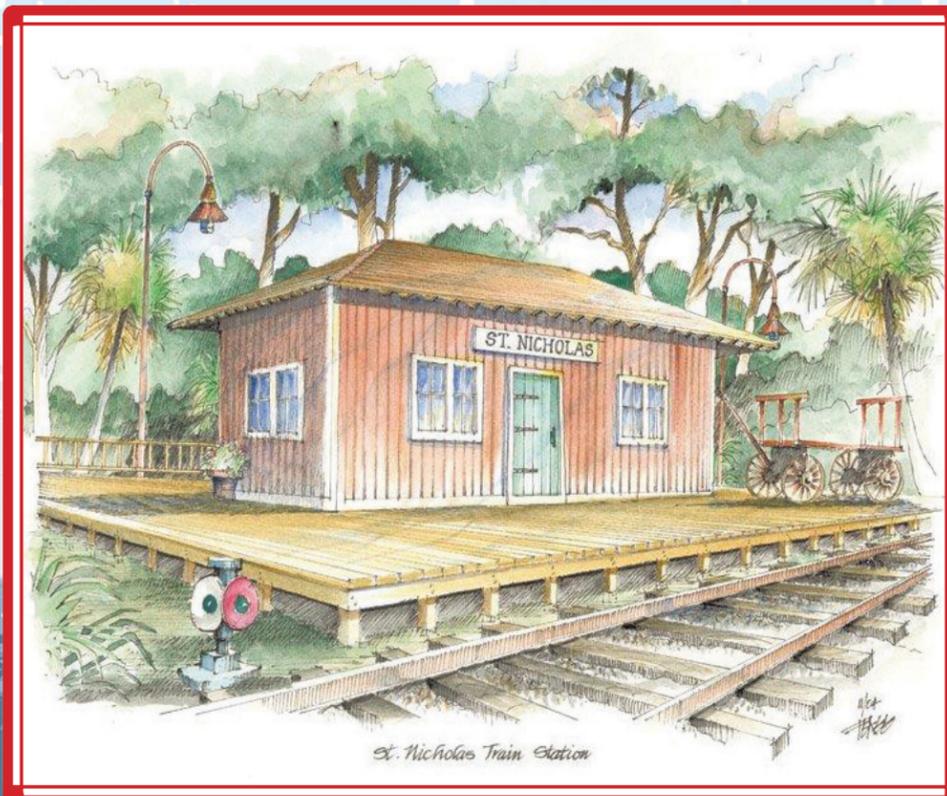
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Clayman Family tradition reflects devotion to fishing, charity

Clayman Plastic Surgery supports School for Autism

It was another year spent on the water for the Clayman boys, as the annual Flounder Pounder charity fishing tournament drew to a close in late October. Since the early years, parents Loren and Elana Clayman have been fostering a love for fishing with their boys. As their sons have grown from boys to men, the love for fishing has also taken on a whole new meaning, as they now combine fishing with charitable contributions.

This year's Flounder Pounder fishing tournament was no exception and it afforded the family another chance to support others, those struggling with autism and related spectrum disorders. The 8th Annual Jacksonville Flounder Pounder, held Oct. 21 at Beach Marine drew 154 boats, nearly twice the number which competed in the inaugural fishing tournament in 2010, which raised \$10,000. The tournament raised \$67,000 – bringing the eight-year total to more than \$250,000 – to benefit the Jacksonville School for Autism.

The charity fishing tournament was started by Chip and Teresa Davis and Troy Hutto in September 2010. But it's more than a fishing tournament – it's an opportunity for families to have a good time and make memories, while supporting a great cause.



Bob Thomason, Loren Clayman, Bobby Clayman with Jake, Teddy Clayman, John Coughlin, Mark Clayman

This year, Dr. Clayman's Plastic Surgery Center & Miracle Spa sponsored a team in support of JSA; Drs. Loren and Mark Clayman of the Riverside-based practice took time away from the operating room to enjoy the weigh-in with family and friends.

The surgical practice has been engaged in therapies and work to enhance the quality of life for autistic children for years, a passionate pursuit of Dr. Loren Clayman. "We've always been supportive of families with autistic children, doing our best to help them navigate the complex medical needs they may face," said Dr. Clayman. "We're glad we could participate alongside other selfless families that get out and support the tournament."

Just as Dr. Clayman's Plastic Surgery Center & Miracle Spa crafts each component of a procedure to meet the unique and personal goal of each patient, the Jacksonville School for Autism integrates a variety of curriculum and methodologies to meet each child's individualized educational goals.

"We align our practice with similar missions, to better the life of those that we're entrusted to care for," said Dr. Mark Clayman. "That's why we align with the Flounder Pounder, marrying our love for fishing with the compassionate care for those with autism."



Teddy, Loren, Mark and Bobby Clayman

Then...

PD. ADV.

Cowford Chophouse opens downtown, restaurant group bullish on undertaking



Milan Malinovic, Design Cooperative principal, Aundra Wallace, Downtown Investment Authority CEO, Alexandria Klempf, Director of Development, Forking Amazing Restaurants, Tracy Klempf, and Jacques Klempf, co-owner and principal, Forking Amazing Restaurants

Once a building that was home to three banks (First National Bank, Guaranty Trust and Savings Bank, and Brotherhood State Bank), after the start of the Great Depression the Bostwick Building was converted to office space and from mid-1940s to 1960 the home of Henry J. Klutho's architectural office. It then sat vacant for five decades, almost as long as it was previously occupied.

In 2014, Jacques Klempf bought the historic landmark at auction and began the painstaking process of returning the building to its former glory with new life as a 302-seat restaurant with rooftop dining. Plans were originally optimistic for a summer 2016 opening, however, a sinking foundation and rotting walls, likely due to water intrusion, required significant stabilization before restoration could begin.

During construction, crew found about 200 unopened lockboxes in two vaults that had been closed since 1926, said Klempf, who noted there were about 30 or 40 lockboxes that contained artifacts, all of which were donated to the Museum of Science and History.

Two and a half years, Klemp opened the Cowford Chophouse with interior finishes that complement the existing architecture.

"Come take a look at a historic building that was restored on the outside to the way it was rebuilt to 1902, then look at the modern finishes we put in," said Klempf during a media tour Oct. 20. "It's a great dining spot. I think the building will be here for a long, long time based on what we did to the building."



Jacques Klempf, co-founder and partner of the Forking Amazing Restaurant Group describes the native Florida Cracker Cattle, those depicted by local artist Jim Draper on the walls of the upstairs dining room, not far from where they were forded across the St. Johns River.



The ceiling design on the second floor was inspired by the original tin coffers found in ruins during construction.

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Pajcic family, law firm gives to hurricane relief

With the stroke of his marker, Curt Pajcic added half again as much to the initial \$100,000 donation made by the Law Firm of Pajcic & Pajcic and the Pajcic Family Foundation to the Jaguars Foundation in support of hurricane relief.

The resulting \$150,000 donation will be evenly split between relief programs for Hurricanes Irma and Maria, as well as support for ongoing Jaguars Foundation community initiatives.

“While we have many collegiate allegiances in our office, we all rally around the Jaguars and support the team’s community improvement efforts throughout the year,” said Pajcic, an Avondale resident. “Following the devastation in the wake of Hurricanes Irma and Maria, now seemed like the right time to continue the proud tradition of our founders Gary and Steve Pajcic in giving back to a community that has afforded us so many opportunities.”

“The Pajcic Firm has a long history of supporting those in need in Northeast Florida and beyond,” said Jaguars President Mark Lamping at the Oct. 3 event at EverBank Field. “We’re honored not only



Helen Pajcic Nicholson, president of the Pajcic Family Foundation, with her cousins Curry, Curt, and Seth Pajcic and her brother, Michael Pajcic

by their investment in the good work of the Jaguars Foundation, but in their commitment to join so many local companies in rebuilding Jacksonville as one following Hurricane Irma.”

The Jaguars Foundation supports a wide range of local non-profit programs including youth fitness, education, military and veterans and women’s health and wellness. Jaguars Owner Shad Khan and the Jaguars Foundation recently joined with other local companies to donate more than \$2.8 million to Florida’s First Coast Relief Fund.



Curt Pajcic increases a donation for hurricane relief on the spot at the media conference Oct. 3.

Cathedral Arts Project welcomes 10 new board members

Residents from Avondale, Ortega Forest, San Marco and San Jose are among 10 new members welcomed to the Cathedral Arts Project board of directors for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

Randle P. DeFoor, of Ortega Forest, is a senior vice president with Fidelity National Title Group. She serves on the boards of the Florida State College at Jacksonville (former chair), JIA Community Redevelopment Agency, the Innocence Project and the Women’s Board for Wolfson Children’s Hospital.

Marty Kern, of San Marco, is the Manager of Strategic Accounts for Constellations

Brands, Inc. and began volunteering for CAP in 2009.

Mark R. LaBorde, of San Marco, is the former president of the Southeast region for Aetna and president of Aetna Florida. He is a member of the Dean’s Council of the School of Health, University of North Florida, and a member of the Florida Health Insurance Advisory Board. He attended the Episcopal School of Jacksonville and now serves on their alumni board.

Karen Montana, of San Jose, is a graduate of Georgetown University and spent her professional career in bank marketing for Chase and Bank of America. She is actively

involved at Assumption Catholic Church as a volunteer and supports the local community through CAP, Catholic Charities, United Way, Mayo Clinic, and more.

John-Paul Saenz, of Avondale, is president of the Consumer and Packaged Goods Group for Haskell, where he has worked since 1997. He is a member of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association, UF MBA Advisory Board, and Riverside Presbyterian Day School Board of Trustees.

Veronica Scott-Fulton, of San Marco, is vice president at Wolfson Children’s Hospital, a courtesy professor for the University of Florida and an executive

champion for the American Diabetes Association.

Also joining the board are Robyn Kreimborg, client service manager for CH2M; Teena Manners, an attorney with Fisher, Tousey, Leas & Ball and a member of the board of AMikids Jacksonville; Tracy McDougal, Baptist Health Adult Auxiliary Director, and Peter O’Brien, a wealth advisor with Morgan Stanley, mentor for Take Stock in Children, volunteer for Community Hospice Foundation, and member of the leadership council for UF Health Jacksonville, Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center Leadership Council, and Leadership Jacksonville Class of 2015.



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Nat Ford elected chair of national transportation association



Nathaniel Ford

The America Public Transportation Association (APTA) Board elected Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) CEO Nathaniel P. Ford Sr. as Chair for the upcoming year at their annual business meeting in Atlanta last month.

“Being selected by my industry peers at such a critical time in our existence is one of the greatest honors in my 36-year career,” Ford said. “It is truly a privilege to be the first JTA CEO to represent Jacksonville as Chair of APTA. This prestigious role will bring national industry attention to the JTA and the City of Jacksonville.”

APTA is the nation’s leading force in advancing public transportation in bus, light rail, commuter rail, subway and waterborne passenger services, as well as high-speed rail and paratransit services.

Ford’s career spans more than three decades, including a combined 16 years as CEO of the Jacksonville Transportation

Authority (2012-present), the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (2006-2011), and the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (2000-2006).

A champion of multimodal transportation, walkable neighborhoods, public-private partnerships, and transit-oriented development, Ford is an expert on industry best practices and international transportation issues of which he enhanced by participating in global trade missions.

Ford also holds positions on the boards of the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Northeast Florida, JU College of Business Executive Advisory Board, and Goodwill Industries of North Florida.

MOSH awarded grant for minority fellowships

The Museum of Science & History (MOSH) has been awarded an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Museums for America grant in the amount of \$22,198. The grant will allow MOSH to expand its existing diversity and inclusion efforts by implementing a fellowship program that offers minority college students semester-long paid positions in the Museum’s curatorial department.

“These are extremely competitive grants, 147 organizations submitted requests and of these, only 28 were selected for funding,

and we were one of the grantees being awarded our full request,” said Maria Hane, MOSH president.

The program will provide six minority students the opportunity to gain insight on pursuing a museum career through real-world, hands-on experience in museum collections and information management while working at the Museum. During these fellowships, students will learn and demonstrate essential curatorial competencies by researching and documenting a Museum history collection.

Paws for Giving celebrates pet therapy



Brittany Tygart and Amanda Tygart with Lucy and Dan Croft

The Paws for Giving Party, sponsored by Therapy Animal Coalition, was held Oct. 6 at the Jessie Ball duPont Center downtown. Gypsy, a therapy mini-horse who volunteers at Nemours Children’s Health System, made an appearance to the delight of guests.

The event featured cocktails and kibble appetizers, a welcome speech by the charity’s president, Kristi Leonard, an appearance by David Frei, longtime host of the Westminster Kennel Club and author of “Angel on a Leash,” as well as a video about area therapy animal programs.



Alisa Abbott, Bright Wallace and Alicia Strayer

Frei was the keynote speaker at the Therapy Animal Expo on Oct. 7. (Photos by Maggie FitzRoy)

New speech and hearing center offers expanded hours

The 68-year-old nonprofit Jacksonville Speech & Hearing Center (JSHC) opened a new facility at 1010 North Davis St. in September, replacing the 55-year-old former home on North Laura Street.

According to Michael Howland, president and CEO, the new location includes expanded areas for speech-pathology and audiology services, new hours and technological upgrades.

“Our North Davis Street location is designed and built specifically to give our patients the best possible experience,” said Howland. “Selling the building we owned in Springfield, leasing the Davis Street location and investing the proceeds in our mission is the right choice to make in an era of tight funding for nonprofits.”

In conjunction with the move, JSHC is announcing the introduction of the 1010 Society. Those who invest \$1,010 in general support to the JSHC over the year will become Founding Members of the Jacksonville Speech & Hearing Center 1010 Society.



Denver McClellan, patient care coordinator, offers a welcoming smile to visitors at the new Jacksonville Speech & Hearing Center.

“The 1010 Society and 1010 Club, along with naming opportunities for our new location, will provide critical support for our expanded operations,” said JSHC Board Chair Amy Ruth, a senior executive with Florida Blue. “We’re excited to build upon a legacy of community service that began when the Junior League of Jacksonville gave us our start in 1949.”

The new location features free parking, access to bus lines, with hours from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays. For more information, visit shejax.org.

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Astleford retires from Visit Jacksonville

Four years after moving to Jacksonville as the new president and chief executive officer for Visit Jacksonville, Paul Astleford informed the board of directors and staff that he is retiring from the organization.

Astleford, of Epping Forest, said he made his decision after the Tourist Development Council (TDC) recently completed a new contract with Visit Jacksonville, coinciding with the September 30 end of the fiscal year for Visit Jacksonville.

“With the start of the new fiscal year and the fact that the new 5-year contract is in place, I feel that the timing of my departure will not be disruptive to the team,” said Astleford. “Over the past several years, I have been fortunate to put in place a strong group of people who are all talented and work well together. The time is right for me to do what I planned to do soon – step aside and start a new chapter in my life with my wife and family. We plan to stay in Jacksonville and I look forward to staying active in the community that we have adopted as our forever home.”

During his tenure, Visit Jacksonville saw an increase in visitor spending from \$2 billion in 2013 to \$3.2 billion in 2015,



Paul Astleford

which has continued to increase since then; the Bed Tax income rose from \$15.5 million in 2013 to \$22.9 million in 2016, and hospitality jobs increased from 22,000 in 2013 to 55,000 in 2016.

Bill Prescott, chairman of the Visit Jacksonville Board of Directors, said the Visit Jacksonville Executive Committee had been discussing a succession plan, but wanted to wait to start the process pending the outcome of the new TDC contract process. Until that time, Prescott will work closely with the staff leadership to manage the day-to-day operations of Visit Jacksonville.

Baptist Health earns third consecutive Magnet recognition

Baptist Health has received re-designation as a Magnet™ Health System by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) for the third time in the past 10 years.

Magnet is considered the gold standard among health care organizations that meet ANCC standards for quality patient care, nursing excellence, and innovations in professional nursing practice. Fewer than 7 percent of all registered hospitals in the United States enjoy Magnet designation, according to the American Hospital Association.

Baptist was the first health system in North Florida to achieve Magnet recognition and the seventh in the state since 1998. This redesignation was earned simultaneously

by all five Baptist hospitals, which includes Wolfson Children’s Hospital, and Baptist’s home health care division.

The ANCC, which is an independently governed organization within the American Nurses Association, first granted Baptist Health the four-year Magnet designation in 2007. Baptist earned its second consecutive designation in 2012. To earn Magnet status, organizations undergo a vigorous, multi-faceted evaluation.

More than 500 pages of narrative and 400 supporting documents were electronically submitted to the ANCC in late 2016. In July of this year, the Magnet appraisal team interviewed more than 1,000 members of the Baptist Health staff as well as community members, physicians, and board members. Magnet appraisers visited nursing units at each of Baptist’s five hospitals and home health care division during a week-long site visit.

Gatsby party illustrates amazing venue at Marina at Ortega Landing

The perfect party includes sunsets, poolside relaxation

At a recent “Dirty Thirty” birthday party, guests were greeted by river views, gentle breezes and an amazing sunset on the Ortega River as they danced the night away to live music and catered cuisine.

The party was held at the Marina at Ortega Landing, a resort-style venue that is nestled along the Ortega River near the historic neighborhoods of Avondale and Ortega Forest. The unique Ski Lodge clubhouse setting includes high ceilings with exposed beams, stone fireplace, large windows with spectacular water views, wrap-around deck, private restrooms and galley kitchen – perfect for private social gatherings.

“This is one of the nicest and warmest private party venues in Jacksonville. The views are incredible, the décor is wonderful, and it just feels like we are entertaining friends in our own private Lodge



on the river,” said Rose Caballes, a recent party planner.

The venue hosts special events for groups of 60 or less, and is an ideal setting for bridal and baby showers, birthday parties, and special occasions. Considered to be the premier yachting experience in Jacksonville, the marina’s boating guests enjoy amenities second to none.

A limited number of event dates are available for area residents, so if you are planning an event please contact the marina office to arrange a tour of the clubhouse – you won’t be disappointed.



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Bolles hosts 'Treehouse' ribbon-cutting on Whitehurst Campus

Many branches of the Bolles family tree were out on the Lower School Whitehurst Campus early on Sept. 27 for a special ribbon-cutting event celebrating the new Arnold Family Outdoor Learning Center, also known as "The Treehouse."

The 488-square-foot riverfront treehouse, built by Sauer Construction Inc. and designed by Luke Architecture PA, is the newest learning facility and certainly one of the most uncommon structures to be built at Bolles – or at any other independent school campus in the region.

With views overlooking the St. Johns River, the treehouse is made of concrete, heavy timber, wood logs and shingles including railings carved by Native Americans. Beams for the treehouse were grown in Minnesota and weigh almost 2,000 pounds. Each post is hand-shaped to fit with the other posts and construction crews used special tools custom-made for the project.



Brittany Groover, Whitehurst Campus Head Carol Imfeld, Terri Arnold, Anika Comar and Chip Skinner

The structure was designed to hold an entire class of students to provide an inspiring, fun environment for learning. The treehouse addition further emphasizes Bolles' belief in the power of play – both inside and outside the classroom.

"The Treehouse Outdoor Learning Center is the result of much generosity and great vision," said President and Head of School Dave Farace. "What an inspiring place to learn and appreciate the outdoors – our students and faculty are incredibly fortunate to celebrate education and discover new ideas here."

The Treehouse Outdoor Learning Center was made possible by a generous gift from the Jack C. Arnold Jr. Charitable Family Trust, and with special support from Frank and Christina Gatlin III, Michael ('64) and Elaine Sandifer, Richard and Kim Sisisky, and the Bolles Parent Association.

As a way of thanking Bolles parent Missy Pearson for promoting the idea of a treehouse classroom, she and her two lower school-aged children were the first to use the treehouse slide.



With trees and the outdoors as their theme, Bolles students paraded into the celebration wearing bright orange sunglasses and leafy headbands.

San Marco Chamber Music Society makes annual donation to JDRF

The San Marco Chamber Music Society held its annual concert to benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Sept. 24 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. The audience was treated to music by Arnold Bax, Beethoven, and Ennio Morricone.

Although the concert had been postponed from Sept. 10 due to Hurricane Irma, the

Chamber Music Society had a good and generous audience. The event raised \$2,778 to help cure Type 1 Diabetes.

JDRF Board Member Leslie Burkhalter spoke about the latest in diabetes research. Over the past 10 years, SMCMS has raised over \$20,000 for JDRF.



JDRF North Florida Chapter Development Director Candace Monroe, San Marco Chamber Music Society Board Members Rod Morris, Sandy Brinson, Ellen Olson, Eric Olson and Larry Tallman, Brooks Biagini, JDRF executive director, and Pam Williams, JDRF development manager

Former publisher takes reins at Jacksonville Bar Association

Jim Bailey, former publisher of the Daily Record, came out of a brief retirement to take on the role of executive director of the Jacksonville Bar Association, a 120-year-old nonprofit with a membership of more than 2,000 in the legal industry.

"We're really lucky Jim's come aboard to provide energy and effectiveness," said Tad Delegal, 2017-2018 president of the JBA Board of Governors. "He has always been a tremendous supporter of the Bar."

Bailey was third-generation publisher for 41 years of the Financial News & Daily Record, founded in 1912. He sold the Daily Record in January 2017 to Observer Media Group.

In addition to his four-decade tenure as a publisher, Bailey has served as board chair for the Downtown Investment Authority, dedicated to overseeing and guiding downtown economic development and growth.



Jim Bailey

He has also served on the Downtown Development Review Board, the Jacksonville Waterways Commission, Downtown Vision, Inc., the Rotary Club of Jacksonville, the Florida Theatre, We Care Jacksonville, and the Episcopal School of Jacksonville, among other boards.

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Lori Ann Whittington takes helm at Pine Castle

Lori Ann Whittington has been selected by the Pine Castle Board of Directors as the next CEO for Pine Castle. She will succeed Jon May upon his retirement on Nov. 3.

Whittington, of Jacksonville Beach, left her current role as Director of Advancement with Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens where she has served for the past three years. Prior to her work at the Cummer Museum, Whittington had leadership roles at the national and local levels with The American Cancer Society for over 10 years. She has a passion for nonprofit services and persons with disabilities, and looks forward to moving the Pine



Lori Ann Whittington

Castle organization forward with a focus on the key elements of People, Strategy, and Operations.

"I am confident that Ms. Whittington will be an effective and impactful leader of our mission," said May, who served as Pine Castle's CEO for the past 29 years.

Public education volunteer corps to address perceptions of educators

Jacksonville Public Education Fund (JPEF) initiated the first cohort of ONE by ONE: Public Ed Ambassadors – its new elite volunteer corps – at a kick-off event Oct. 21 at the Jessie Ball duPont Center.

"The Ambassador initiative is designed to power the potential of local stakeholders to affect change from the ground up, and to equip them with new knowledge and skills as advocates committed to ensuring all students receive an excellent education," said Trey Csar, JPEF president.

The public education advocates group is made up of students, parents, educators and business leaders, who are tasked with

improving public perception of the teaching profession, and how best to strengthen the school leadership pipeline, among other responsibilities.

At the induction event, the 31 new ambassadors were given an opportunity to become more familiar with ways to utilize their community engagement, research and writing skills to make a difference throughout the year as well as provided with a sneak peek of some of the high-level findings from JPEF's upcoming Talent Study, a research series examining the opportunities to improve high-quality teacher recruitment and retention in Duval.



Representatives of 2017 LGBT Community Fund for Northeast Florida Grantees: Front: Ellen Schmidt, PFLAG; Linda Levin, ElderSource; Cindy Watson, JASMYN; back: Kaitlin Legg, UNF LGBT Resource Center; Heidi Katz, ElderSource; Teresa Miller, Women's Center of Jacksonville; Deirdre Conner, Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida; Angela Strain, JASMYN; Michael Meyers, LGBT Fund president (Photo courtesy of The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida)

LGBT Community Fund awards more than \$150,000 in grants

The LGBT Community Fund for Northeast Florida's 2017 grants in the record amount of \$158,000 will support LGBT youth, elders, families, workforce and women in crisis.

The LGBT Community Fund was created in 2014, and has made a total of nearly \$475,000 in grants since inception.

"I'm especially pleased with the grants this year, as the grantees continue their important work making Northeast Florida a more inclusive place for all while evolving their grant focus and showing increasing self-funding for their programs," said Michael Meyers, president of the LGBT Community Fund. "A great example is the UNF LGBT Center, which is taking over staff funding costs for the Club-Do mentoring program, while adding an LGBT Employment Conference."

The 2017 grants include \$30,000 for ElderSource to develop an LGBT Elder Friendly Business Certification for LGBT

elders to find referrals to LGBT safe and friendly businesses;

\$50,000 for JASMYN to continue its work with Opening Doors for Homeless Youth; \$26,000 for Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida to support a program of reflective practice, where groups of people learn and improve their work together; \$17,000 for Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) to support elements of PFLAG's strategic plan; \$25,000 for UNF LGBT Resource Center to support three connected projects that sustain LGBT college students; \$10,000 for The Women's Center of Jacksonville to provide mental health counseling to LGBTQ+ women/girls.

Additionally, the Steering Committee will reserve \$10,000 to provide outreach, fund research and be able to respond to emerging small grant requests throughout the year.

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- 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Cathedral Family Service
- 10 a.m. Church on the Mat, Cummings Chapel
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- 11 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Cathedral Traditional Service with the Cathedral Choir
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Thanksgiving Morning

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Attorneys take up mops, shovels



Casey Wagner, Bruce Maxwell, The Honorable John Guy, Philip Vineyard, The Honorable Gary Flower, Carla Ortiz-Ramos, and Rodney Brown

Members of the Judicial Relations Committee of the Jacksonville Bar Association held a work day Oct. 14 to clean up the storm-ravaged Family Nurturing Center at the Lillian Saunders Community Center near Douglas Anderson School of the Arts in St. Nicholas.

The work group included The Honorable Gary Flower, The Honorable John Guy, The Honorable Libby Senterfitt, attorneys Carla Ortiz-Ramos, Philip Vineyard, Casey Wagner, Rodney Brown, and Bruce Maxwell, who washed and re-waxed the floor, repaired shutters and cleaned up the grounds, among other chores.

Sandi Mathis, Family Nurturing Center board member and family law attorney from the firm of Rogers Towers, provided breakfast for the volunteers.

Annual pet fair, blessing raises funds for medical care

The 5th annual Family Pet Fair & Blessing of the Pets, held Oct. 14 in Fletcher Park, included pet adoptions, a charity "laundromutt" where 29 willing pooches were given a bath, silent auction, pet costume contest, many animal-related vendors and the main event, Father John Oliver from St. Philip Neri, who blessed more than 75 dogs of all sizes, a cat and, from the Wildlife Rescue Coalition's exhibit, a snake, possum, brown skunk and raccoon.

Proceeds of just over \$4,000 from the popular fall event went to the St. Philip Neri Animal Ministry to help pets in need of medical care.

"The ministry started as a way to provide comfort and pastoral support to pet owners that were struggling with the death or end of life decisions for their beloved pets. Eventually the ministry's mission grew to include providing food, resources,

and support to God's creatures and the individuals that love and care for them," said Becky Hamilton, chairman of St. Philip Neri Animal Ministry.

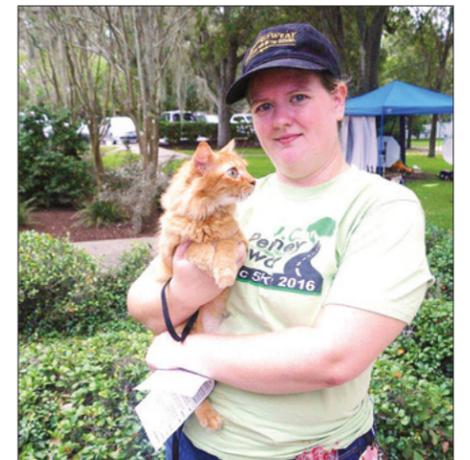
Today, the mission has further expanded to support programs that benefit shelter animals while still continuing to provide support to pets and their parents. Since its creation in 2011, the Animal Ministry has provided assistance to over 30 individuals/families and their pets, and is currently assisting three families on limited incomes with their pets' medical needs and expenses. Two pets are being treated for heartworms while another will undergo surgery to remove multiple tumors.



San Marco Resident Elizabeth Hill with Bentley, her blue merle Chihuahua



Finlay with Henry, Claire and Toby



New Riverside resident Kat Meredith with Daisy



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Silver screen debut of Martin's "A Mountain Between Us" gathers friends, family

Although there was no red carpet, the film premiere of Charles Martin's novel, "A Mountain Between Us," was in every other respect a "red carpet" event at the San Marco Theatre Oct. 6.

Theatre owner David Blue coordinated a book signing with Desiree Bailey of the San Marco Bookstore, and served champagne after the premiere, where Martin's oldest son, Charlie, made a toast.

More than 200 were in attendance, including Mayor Lenny and Molly Curry.

"Everyone agreed it's cinematically stunning and we are grateful Charles' book was made into a film," said his wife, Christy. "We were delighted to have so many of our longtime friends, San Marco neighbors and family who have all been super supportive and faithful to us during this process."

An after-party at Rue St. Marc was hosted by some of the Martins' nearest and dearest friends, she said.



The Martin boys, Rives, Charlie and John T, with their grandparents, Alice and Douglas O'Neal



Bill, Faith, Ross and Heather Johnson



Jennifer and Mark Bachara with Kathryn and John Peyton, Renee and Jay Farhat



Virginia McNulty with Patty Hendricks

Civic Orchestra opens second season at St. John's Cathedral

By Peggy Harrell Jennings
Resident Community News

When pipe organ soloist Timothy Tuller played his opening chords from Camille Saint-Saëns Symphony No. 3 in C Minor at the Civic Orchestra of Jacksonville's season opening performance, goosebumps rose. Even the orchestra members who had not done a full rehearsal with the pipe organ were thrilled.

"This is an extremely difficult piece. I was amazed and awed and so proud of the musicians. We have grown so much," said Nadine Terk, president of the Board of Directors and violinist. "This was my favorite piece to play; I just felt like it was raining music."

In its second year, the 60-piece nonprofit orchestra consists solely of volunteer musicians who give their time to rehearse and perform classical concerts for free throughout the community.

In addition to the Saint-Saëns piece, the orchestra performed an exciting Carmen Suite No. 1 by Georges Bizet to a packed house at St. John's Cathedral on October 5.

The focus of the orchestra is to collaborate with musicians, dancers and visual artists to engage the community in the



Members of the Civic Orchestra of Jacksonville at the season opening performance Oct. 5. (Photo by Dr. Mitchell Terk)

creative process. Melinda Gopp, current artist-in-residence, translates musical selections onto canvas to show the interconnectedness of music and art. Her work was on display at the champagne reception following the performance.

In August the orchestra was presented with a prestigious Arts Alive grant of \$10,000. Terk said the grant will help with their spring concert at the Terry Auditorium, which highlights cultural diversity, aid

their artist-in-residence program, and promote an educational element by allowing presentations in schools.

Director Marguerite Richardson, an Australian native and former full-time violinist with Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, is "an incredible conductor," said Terk. "She is very demanding, but extremely witty, funny and fun. As an educator she helps us with the process, as well as focusing on the end result. The selections she makes are challenging and designed to push us to the next level. She understands that this is a volunteer group with limited time but she fosters that passion in us!"

Orchestra members Molly Sweet of Riverside, Carolyn Coppedge and William Roberts agree that Richardson's dynamic style is engaging.

"Her conducting style works well to translate and interpret the music to the musicians," said Roberts, a clarinetist.

Richardson is currently associate professor of strings at Jacksonville University, where she teaches violin and viola studies and is conductor of the JU orchestra. Several of her JU students play in the Civic Orchestra, but the musicians come from all areas of the community and from a variety of professions.

Playing with the orchestra helps keep up their skills. "It is my way of self-care," said Coppedge.

The second season of Civic Orchestra began with energetic and masterful direction by Richardson, dynamic music, and enthusiasm and dedication from the musicians. The orchestra will next perform at Jacksonville Jewish Center on Sunday, Dec. 10 at 3 p.m.



Peggy Holt, Rick Beaver and Ginger Harris supported the Civic Orchestra Oct. 19 at "An Orchestration of Food, Wine and Music" benefit at Riverside Liquors.

MARKET TALK FROM ANNE AND JESSE RAIN

These are not easy times for Realtors no matter what you see on HG-TV. We have too many buyers and not enough houses. We're writing offers as fast as we can but our buyers end up putting in several offers before they get one accepted. Sellers are smiling all the way to the bank. Been here before...2005 all over again maybe? Low supply and high demand is pumping up our values probably higher than they should be. Dare I say that? SELL NOW!

Builders are building houses like there is no tomorrow. Northside, Southside, Westside, Eastside, St. Johns and Nassau Counties - no matter where, they are building. I was driving around today trying to absorb all the new

construction popping up everywhere in Mandarin. Mandarin may be the next great choice with tons of revitalization happening and still an easy commute staying off the highways.

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British cuisine sets tone for Young Collectors gathering

A passion for art and antiques can begin at any age, and to support the annual Art & Antiques Show, Dec. 1-3, the Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital sponsored a Young Collectors Party Oct. 17.

Beer, wine and small bites inspired by London cuisine to complement the show's theme, "London Calling," was enjoyed at Intuition Ale Works. The event, which raises awareness of the work of the Women's Board among supporters 40 and under, included a silent auction with items from local shops and restaurants.



Art and Antiques Show Co-Chairs Kelley Kunz, Frances Hutto and Jan Kirby with Kim Dewan



Katherine Byra with Kate Buschini



Maddie Taylor, Alexa Michaelis, Megan O'Steen, Holly Hepler



Josh and Annie Bryan, Mishayla and Michael Schmidt, Caroline Brinton

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'Learn to Read' changes lives, improves lifelong achievements

Guests dressed in cocktail best or as their favorite book character came together downtown Oct. 7 at the Jacksonville Public Library in the Betsy Lovett Courtyard and atrium to support and benefit Learn to Read at the annual Night at the Library gala.

Honorary Chair Dr. Margo Martin and Event Chair Natalie Stockton, along with Master of Ceremonies Dr. Julius Demps, invited attendees to bid for items in the silent auction, while enjoying delectable food, drinks, music and entertainment by singer, actor and model Akia Uwanda.

The programs at Learn to Read are changing the lives of nearly 500 adults a year in Jacksonville, enabling them to earn their GED, fill out job applications, or help their children with homework.



Learn to Read Executive Director Judy Bradshaw with board member Carolyn Williams



Emcee Dr. Julius Demps with his wife Kenyonn



Betsy Lovett with Ward Lariscy



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Lamping honored at annual Miracles Gala for JDRF

With a nod to the Jaguars' signature teal, "Into the Blue," the 17th annual Miracles Gala to support the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) was held Oct. 14 at the Sawgrass Marriott.

Mark Lamping, president of the Jacksonville Jaguars, was presented with the JDRF Living and Giving Award by the JDRF North Florida Chapter for his and the Jaguars unwavering passion and commitment to philanthropic efforts in the Jacksonville community, including supporting JDRF's mission to accelerate life-changing breakthroughs to cure, prevent and treat type 1 diabetes (T1D) and its complications.

More than 400 guests attended the black-tie event, presented by Johnson & Johnson Vision



Allison and Steve Ziff with Honoree Mark Lamping and Cheryl Lamping

Care, Inc. and the Jacksonville Jaguars, co-chaired by Kasey Repass and Katie Bush.

Patty Crosby served as master of ceremonies for the live auction, which included a TODAY Show behind the scenes tour, a one-week stay in the Exclusive Wolf Laurel Club north of Asheville, and a three-night guided fishing trip to the Blackfly Lodge in Abacos, Bahamas.



Susan Mantegari with Holly Emas



Debbie and Jeff Parker with Dave and Deonne Josserand



Co-Chair Kasey Repass and Leslie Burkhalter with JDRF Executive Director Brooks Biagini



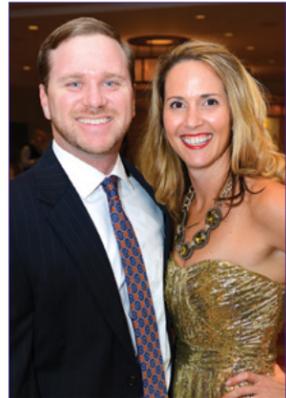
JDRF Development Managers Pamela Williams and Candace Monroe



Jeff and Shannon Kinney



Chris and Sally Hazelip



Stephen and Olivia Frick

MDA celebrates year of progress, promise at Toast to Life

The annual MDA Toast to Life Gala, co-chaired by Elaine Ashourian and Randall Whitfield of Ash Properties, featured food, fun and music by Chris Thomas Band – an evening guaranteed to raise funds to send children with Muscular Dystrophy (MD) to summer camp, the highlight of their summer.

Held at the Sawgrass Marriott Oct. 6, guests bid on several fabulous trips in the

live auction, including a six-day/five-night stay at a private villa in Costa Rica, and a seven-day/six-night African photo safari at Zulu Nayala Private Game Reserve.

Monies raised also help support the medical efforts of Mayo Clinic and UF Health—Gainesville in treating patients with MD as well as ALS. Through the generosity of 400 attendees at this year's event, organizers successfully raised \$403,000.

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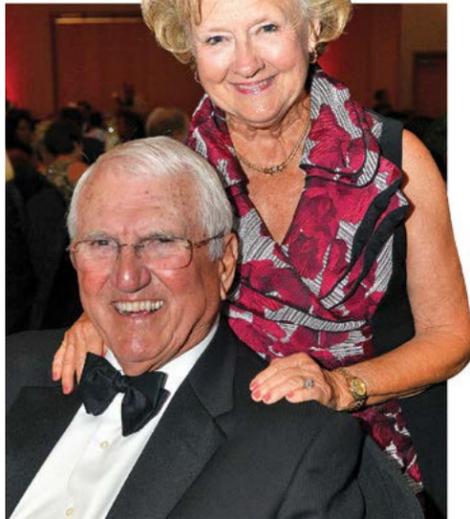
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Josh Guess with his wife, Co-Chair Meredith Guess, Sheila and Claude Collier



Pete and Marilyn Carpenter



Michael Ward with Jennifer Glock



Anna and Oscar Barnett

Families find hope, help at Red Shield Lodge

The Salvation Army of North Florida celebrated its fourth annual Red Shield Ball at the Adam W. Herbert University Center at UNF, Oct. 14, with live music, dancing, an elegant seated dinner, and live and silent auctions. This year's honorary chairs for the sold-out gala, which raised over \$200,000, were Michael Ward and Jennifer Glock.

The annual event helps to grow programs and heighten awareness related to services offered at the area's Red Shield Lodge, a shelter for women and families. One of the area's longest serving nonprofits, the Salvation Army serves on average 150 families each year and, in any given year, more than 400 children are typically served.

Lives changed, stories shared at Transformations

Billed as the "feel good event of the year," the 19th annual Transformations: Putting the Heart in Healthcare celebrated individuals and families who overcame the despair of homelessness to achieve self-sufficiency and permanent homes.

Held Oct. 12 at the Florida Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts, the long-standing event was co-chaired by Darnell Smith, Florida Blue North Florida Market president and Ann-Marie Knight, administrator of community relations at Mayo Clinic. Honorary co-chairs were Patrick Geraghty, Florida Blue CEO, and Hugh Greene, president and CEO of Baptist Health.



Hawley Smith, Jr. with Ashley Smith Juarez

The program was kicked off with a cocktail reception and silent auction, and followed by a dessert reception. During the program, an update was given for Sulzbacher Village, which is expected to welcome women and families in April 2018.



Ruth Owen with Dr. Annamarie Sullivan



Event Co-Chair Darnell Smith with event Co-Chair Anne-Marie Knight and Gary Knight



Jerry and Burma Habeck with Lorie Easterling and Linda Yocom





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Lee Haramis with Heather Moseley, Tom and Perrin Murray

Festival of Flight raises funds and awareness at annual event

Angels for Allison's 7th Annual Festival of Flight soared at Riverside Arts Market Oct. 21, after having been rescheduled due to Hurricane Irma a month earlier.

The festival benefits the Allison Brundick Haramis Foundation, which provides assistance with funeral grants to families struggling with the loss of a child.

The event included a raffle with great items including a Disney package, a Sea World package, an Aquatica package, as well as a beach package and a beauty package, a paddle board package and a \$500 Townie bicycle.

The foundation began in 2010 and raises funds through its community-based art



Ashley Helmick with Angels for Allison Executive Director Sissy Horn

program, Angels for Allison, which encourages individuals and groups to paint metal angels, sold throughout the year.

(Photos courtesy of Sophia Williams)



Laura and Michael Magevney



Kylie McNeil with Jordan Whitsell

Foundation gives back to its 'Friends'

More than 225 women attended an appreciation luncheon for the Friends of the Foundation, hosted by St. Vincent's Foundation, Oct. 18 at the Timuquana Country Club.

Mary Cook and Maxine Kroll co-chaired the event, and guest speaker was Dr. Steve Dorman, an allergy specialist, and San Marco resident.

"For more than 25 years, this has been one of the Foundation's many gifts back to the community," said Jane Lanier, CFRE, president and system chief development officer, St. Vincent's Foundation. "There were many longtime Friends there, a lot of generational philanthropy at the event," she said.

Lanier noted generations of giving to St. Vincent's Foundation is important in the passing of the torch. "How you support the good in this community is so important to pass on," she said.



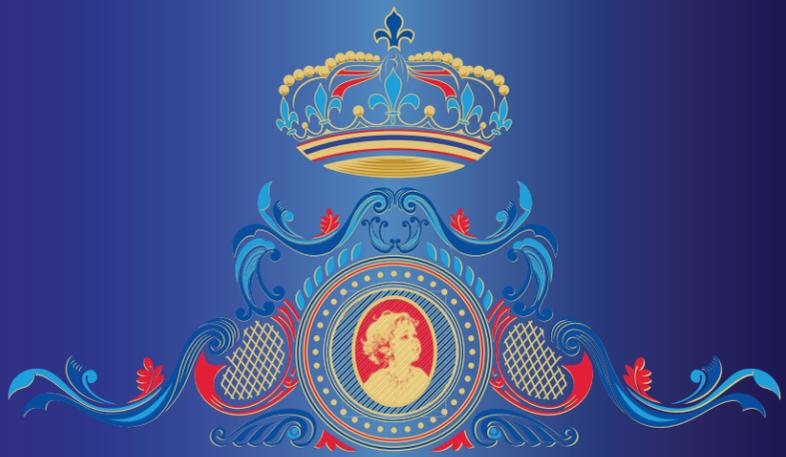
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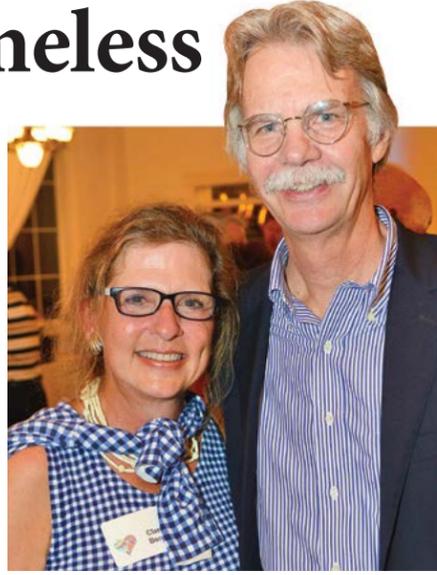


Toma Clark Haines

‘Hope from the Heart’ given to homeless

With a live auction goal of raising \$1,000 for each of the 20 years serving the homeless in the Beaches communities and providing them with an avenue to self-sufficiency, Mission House celebrated the anniversary milestone with its annual Compassion by the Sea gala Oct. 5 at Casa Marina Hotel & Restaurant.

The funds raised from the live auction will purchase a new stove for Mission House and add an equal amount to the Jim Shield Memorial Endowment Fund, while additional monies raised will continue to support the overarching mission. Over 270 attended the gala chaired by Terry Wilson and Dina DeMarco, raising nearly \$70,000.



Clare and Vance Berry



Janie Kratzert with Missy Vanover, Tara Haley, Kelley Bost and Susan Knapp



Ally Meyns with Mindy Moriarty and Dina DeMarco



Kim Brown with Amy Creasman, Lina Caldropoli and Marica Pandjer



Amy Bern and Larry Thomas, Atlantic Beach Mayor Ellen Glasser and Beaches Habitat President Guy Cuddihee

Beaches Bash adds Chef’s Challenge to annual benefit

The Ultimate Chef’s Challenge was a rumble like no other as 10 local chefs squared off with their best cuisine to raise funds for Beaches Habitat for Humanity.

The Oct. 17 event held at the newly renovated Sawgrass Beach Club included live music by The Groov Band, live and silent auctions, and the change to win jewelry valued at \$3,000 from Global Diamonds. The annual Beach Bash benefits Beaches families in need of affordable housing.



Susan and Keesy Goebertus



Brent and Sandy Paris with Holly and Jeff Tyrrell

Halloween benefit ‘Lucky 13’ for Community PedsCare

Thirteen may be an unlucky number for some, but for Community PedsCare® the 13th annual Halloween Doors & More was a blessing for children with serious illnesses or life-threatening conditions. During the first 12 years, the benefit has raised more than \$4.2 million and funds nearly one-third of the nonprofit’s budget.

The family-friendly event kicked off Oct. 20 with the Monster Mash Dash 5K, then the Jacksonville Fairgrounds was the place Oct. 21 when superpowers were unleashed from behind 14-foot-tall fantasy doors where Super Heroes, games and activities awaited children and their families.

“Five words sum it up,” said Laurie DuBow, whose DuBow Family Foundation sponsored the Trick-or-Treat Theatre. “It’s all about the kids.”

Photos courtesy of Sophia Williams)



Halloween Doors and More Co-Chairs Nicole Carr and Leslie Young



Laurel, Belle and Caleb Dunlap



Nancy Chartrand and her daughter Meredith Frisch with the Frisch girls (l to r) Lila, Hannah and Abby



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Amy and Rick Morales, Judy D'Antignac, Robin Love

Cummer brings together French history, art and fashion through jewelry exhibit

Members of the exclusive Ponce de Leon Society for The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens gathered for the VIP opening of the museum's newest exhibit, Bijoux Parisiens: French Jewelry from the Petit Palais, City of Paris Fine Art Museum, on Oct. 11.

While guests strolled among the exhibit to strains of live music, and enjoyed cocktails and small bites, Chief Curator and Acting Director Holly Keris spoke about the progress in the gardens ruined by Hurricane Irma Sept. 11.

Bijoux Parisiens displays dazzling works from the Paris jewelry houses of Boucheron, Cartier, Chaumet, Lalique and Van Cleef & Arpels to tell the story of French jewelry from the 17th to the 20th centuries. The exhibit features 50 works of jewelry and over 150 drawings, fashion prints, paintings and photographs, on display through Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018.



Jackie Cornelius and Patti Carson

Friday Musicale honors past presidents at 128th season opener



The ribbon is cut to commemorate the opening of the 128th season for Friday Musicale.

It was fitting, indeed, that the 128th season opening concert at Friday Musicale, starring Elena Doubovitskaya and Svetlana Belsky of the EStralla Piano Duo, was dedicated to the original Ladies of Friday Musicale.

Friday Musicale began in 1890 in the living room of Claudia L'Engle. Traditionally the president of the non-profit has been a woman.

Past presidents still in the area were invited to celebrate the new season at a pre-concert reception and commemorative ceremony. Henson Markham, the only past male president, was in attendance, as was Dr. Charles Moreland, representing the Office of the Mayor. Moreland noted he had helped fight the fire in 1995 which partially destroyed the original auditorium.



Past President Henson Markham with Executive Director Naomi Sheridan



Ruth Conley, Mike McDowell and Doris Boone with (back row) Mae Beattie, Peggy Power and Rosa B. Smith.

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Hurricane-damaged medical equipment replaced through local nonprofit

By Phyllis Bell-Davis
Resident Community News

Hurricane evacuations and the subsequent return to normality can be difficult in the best of circumstances, but add a disability into the mix and the challenge becomes even greater.

Thanks to the Brooks Temporary Loan Closet (TLC) at the Independent Living Resource Center (ILRC), 2709 Art Museum Dr., people requiring Durable Medical Equipment (DME), such as electric scooters, wheelchairs, hospital beds, commode chairs, walkers, etc. were able to get what they needed and avoid red tape.

After Hurricane Irma, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services deemed it necessary to issue a blanket waiver to suppliers of DME, according to Avondale resident Tyler Lasher Morris, executive director of the ILRC. Under this waiver, the loan closet became a clearinghouse for DME and was able to provide the consumer a temporary loan if their equipment had been rendered unusable.

“We were able to bring relief to the consumer who, in the wake of the hurricane, had to evacuate quickly and didn’t have time to retrieve their equipment, or the equipment might have been irreparably damaged in the storm,” explained Morris. “We also made deliveries to shelters where there was a need for DME.”

Morris added that, since his 11 years with the ILRC, “We have provided free equipment to the community as a short-term loan generally for about 90 days. But



The ILRC assisted the Rodriguez family from Port Lavaca, Texas, who sheltered in Jacksonville during Hurricane Harvey, with a wheelchair battery charger, standard wheelchair and transfer shower seat.



Air Force members receive Durable Medical Equipment at Landmark Middle School from the Independent Living Resource Center.

“This is a great opportunity to get involved and provide a service for people in need.”

— Tyler Morris, ILRC executive director

occasionally, we’ve donated the equipment, when needed.”

Hurricanes aside, equipment is also available to individuals who are on short-term disability and are going through the rehab and recovery process, said Morris. “People don’t have to spend money or wait on insurance companies to pay for DME. They can borrow from the TLC which prevents unnecessary wait time fostering a quicker recovery,” he said.

Morris noted that it only takes about 5-10 minutes to complete an online request but you must have a prescription or referral signed by your doctor.

“As of January, the TLC has experienced a significant increase in requests from hospitals and rehabilitation facilities. This growth is due to the improved effective communications with medical personnel through the online inventory and new request process at www.theILRC.org/TLC,” said Morris.

Additionally, since January, the loan closet has managed inventory and medical equipment distribution with an estimated value of \$299,032; distributed 79 pieces of medical equipment at no cost to patients in the care of Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital valued at \$38,785; and, obtained a \$35,000 specialized wheelchair for a patient with ALS while he awaited custom-fit equipment from partner, Brooks Rehabilitation, according to Morris.

“The partnership between Brooks Rehabilitation and the ILRC was born out of the need to supply reliable durable medical equipment to consumers in the community who may not have insurance or the funds necessary to secure the equipment needed for a safe transition to home or to be able to stay independently in their homes,” said Marion Anderson, executive director, Community Health with Brooks.

ILRC is looking for donations. “We have an extensive wait list,” said Morris. “There is high demand, and low inventory, for electric scooters, standard wheelchairs, and rollators (walker with a seat). We have a list of partners, including Brooks Rehabilitation, but we receive the majority of our equipment from the community. Family members donate DME from loved ones who pass away; individuals who no longer have use for the equipment put it back into the community; and, we receive an annual award from Brooks Rehabilitation.”

Volunteers for the TLC are also needed, said Morris. “We need volunteers to help distribute the equipment and collect donations. We’re only asking for at least four hours a month. This is a great opportunity to get involved and provide a service for people in need.”

Interested persons can contact the ILRC Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., toll free at 888.427.4313, locally at 399.8484, or via email to info@theilrc.org.

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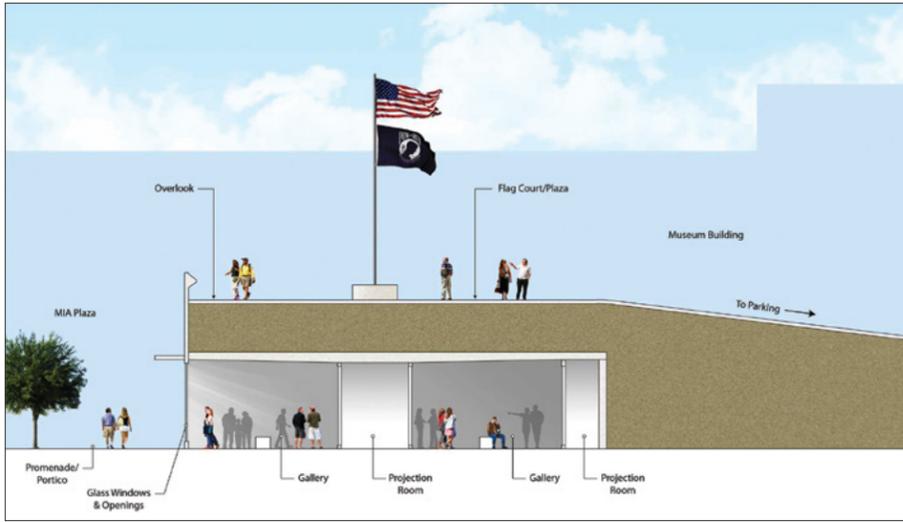


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Military's 'lost' honored with new chapel, plans for memorial museum



An elevation drawing of the proposed MIA Plaza at the Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial.

By Lilla Ross
Resident Community News

The Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial will begin taking shape in the coming months with the restoration and dedication of the chapel, a static display of aircraft and a museum.

That's just Phase 1 of the project that Executive Director Mike Cassata hopes will become the national memorial and museum that will tell the story of the more than 83,000 military personnel who are still unaccounted for, going back to World War II.

The organization reached an agreement with the city in August to lease the 26 acres at the former Cecil Field Naval Air Station, which was decommissioned in 1999.

The base chapel was gutted and turned into storage. The building wasn't maintained and needs to be completely renovated, said Sam Houston, who was base commander from 1992 to 1994.

Renovation work, which is expected to cost between \$400,000 and \$500,000, will begin after the first of year. The building will be rededicated and renamed Chapel of the High-Speed Pass during an open house at 11 a.m. Nov. 3. The work should be completed by next summer.

An area will be cleared and readied for a static display of aircraft. The base, established in 1941, was home to the first Atlantic Fleet Squadrons to fly the A-7 Corsair II, the F/A-18 Hornet, the S-3A and S-3B Viking, and the ES-3A Shadow. Cecil Field squadrons were aboard every Atlantic Fleet carrier deployed to Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War.

Thirteen pilots from Vietnam and three others from more recent conflicts were listed as POW or MIA and are remembered with a Hero's Walk and Freedom Trees behind the chapel.

Phase 2 is more ambitious. It is expected to cost between \$10 million and \$15 million and take five years to complete.

The names of the 83,000 missing and unaccounted for will be on display in a tunnel.

"The ones who are still missing will be projected on the wall. You won't be able to touch and feel them," Cassata said. "But when they are identified they will be etched on the wall. When you can touch them, you know they are home."

Above the tunnel will be an observation deck overlooking the site that will include a reflection pond with a deck in the shape of the bow of the USS Saratoga. A small museum will be in the old base theater.

Nearby will be a field with 83,000 disks. "From 20 feet, when you look down on the field, you'll see the volume. It's an amazing number of people," Cassata said. "It's about the same number of seats there are at the Florida-Georgia game when they open up all the seats at EverBank Field."

The number of missing changes on a weekly basis as more remains are returned to their families. Advances in forensic pathology and the use of DNA are enabling the identification of remains from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm and the recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

One of the names that will be etched on the wall is Frederick W. Wright III, commander of Carrier Air Wing 3, who was shot down Nov. 10, 1972 over Vietnam. It was 18 years before his remains were returned to his family. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

His daughter, Cynde Covington, was 10 years when her father was shot down. She remembers his memorial service at the base chapel.

The family lived at the base from 1970 to 1973. Covington said she and her brother did almost everything on the base — shop, go to the movies, hang out at the teen center.

Covington said her mother was active in the wives group that included Mary Hoff, who inspired the creation of the black-and-white POW/MIA flag. Her husband, Lt. Cmdr. Michael Hoff, was shot down in 1970.

"We would spend hours sorting flags and [POW/MIA] bracelets that the wives were doing to raise awareness for the men. I remember when I was 10, 11, 12, sitting on the floor sorting them in boxes," Covington said.

"Having grown up at Cecil Field, I was pretty frustrated when they closed it. It was my last military home," she said. "We didn't know what was going to become of the memorial trees that were dedicated for my father and all those other men. I was really stunned to see what happened to the chapel."

Covington describes herself as the "emotional family adviser" to the organization as plans for the site have developed.

"I am very, very pleased with the design," she said. "The first time I saw it, I was moved to tears. So all this that is happening now, that we will have a place of honor for all the military branches who have unaccounted, is huge for me."

Houston said he thinks the memorial will become a national destination. "There's lots of walls and memorials and exhibits but there's not a single memorial that lists all 83,000 MIAs," he said. "We would be the only one of its kind. We'd like for it become a national park."

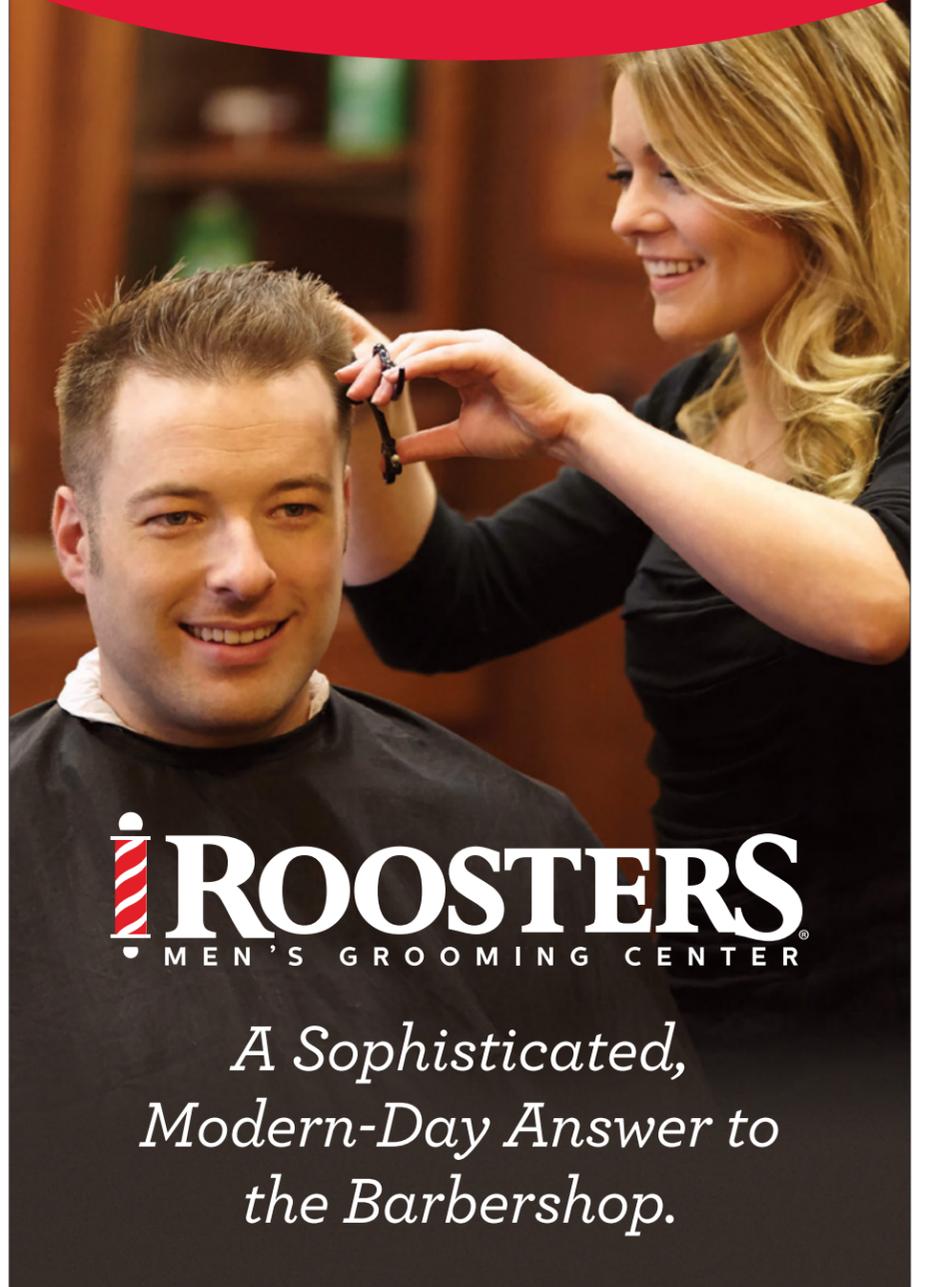
The group also is trying to rename New World Avenue along the site to POW/MIA Memorial Parkway.

To publicize their efforts, the group is dedicating a POW/MIA chair at EverBank Field on Dec. 3. A similar one was dedicated in September at the Baseball Grounds.

"It's a reminder that they will never be forgotten," Cassata said.

For more information, go to www.powmiamemorial.org.

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Share the Journey supports refugees through acts of compassion

By Lara Patangan
Resident Community News

The cadence of foreign languages, the sparkle of native dress, and the rhythmic choral sounds of different cultures singing in harmony traveled to the highest spires of downtown's Basilica of the Immaculate Conception as Bishop Felipe J. Estévez of the Catholic Diocese of Saint Augustine celebrated a special multicultural mass to kick off a campaign to support 65 million refugees and migrants.

The two-year "Share the Journey" campaign is a global effort commissioned by Pope Francis, which calls on the faithful to support refugees through prayer and acts of compassion.

While September 27 marked the commencement of the concerted movement to



support migrants and refugees, the journey for Bishop Estévez began at age 15 when he immigrated to Miami from Cuba as part of Operation Pedro Pan.

Coined after the popular children's book, "Peter Pan," almost 15,000 minors left their parents and their homeland to escape the communist government. The mass exodus, led by the Catholic Welfare Bureau, occurred quietly over a two-year period as to not draw the ire of Fidel Castro, the oppressive dictator from whom they fled.

Estévez was eventually reunited with his parents, and remains grateful for the opportunities and hospitality he encountered in the United States.

"I experienced that goodness, generosity and openness of the American people and that is why I can stand witness and say that goodness cannot be repressed," he said.

In his sermon to kick off the campaign which is intended to bring awareness to the plights of refugees and encourage the faithful to answer the Gospel's call to "love our neighbor," Estévez emphasized the significance of welcoming, protecting, promoting, and integrating refugees who come to the United States.

"What we are praying for in communion with the entire church is a conversion," said Estévez. "Because of sin there is a pushback for immigrants to be seen as problems, not as brothers and sisters."

Estévez said he knows many people are worried that refugees and immigrants could be a threat to the United States. "We acknowledge that security is a real concern, and the country has a right to protect its borders, but we cannot close our hearts. We must pray, 'Lord, create in me a new heart.' Our nation needs a compassionate heart," he said.



According to Michelle Karolak, Director of the Refugee Resettlement Program for Catholic Charities, more than 65 million people worldwide have been forced from their homes as a result of conflict, violence, human rights violations and persecution. There are also 10 million stateless people who have been denied nationality and access to basic rights including education, healthcare, employment and freedom of movement. Locally, more than 1,000 refugees resettled in Jacksonville last year.

"Migrants and refugees – people who are on the move – are a huge global reality for us today because there is so much suffering due to war and lack of work," said Estévez. "But we must welcome them with compassion and mercy. Jesus said, 'I was a stranger and you welcomed me.'"

Emphasizing the "immense suffering" represented by these numbers, Karolak said that Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement programs follows the call of Pope Francis "that no family should be without a home, no refugee without a welcome and no person without dignity."

For Anita Hassell, CEO of Catholic Charities Bureau, Inc., the launch of the "Share the Journey Campaign" is personal.

After fleeing the communist government in Poland, Hassell spent four months in a refugee camp in Italy before arriving in the United States at the age of 24. Speaking no English she took cleaning and factory jobs despite the master's degree she held from her education in Poland.

"I started with cleaning jobs and today I am CEO," said Hassell. "There are lots of misgivings about refugees. They work very hard. They don't come here for a handout."

Johanne Belizaire, a medical doctor from Haiti, who came to the United States after the 2010 earthquake that devastated her country, isn't looking for a handout but to use her medical training. Although she is employed as a medical assistant for a private practice physician she does not

have the credentials to practice medicine in this country.

"For me, that is the biggest challenge," explained Belizaire, who spoke the first reading at the mass in her native Haitian-Creole. "I can't work as a doctor. It's not because I don't know it. It's because I studied abroad. It's tough."

Estévez acknowledged the richness of diversity that extends beyond business and politics. "Each culture brings something different and together we are one. We are the greatest country in the world in terms of resources and we excel in generosity," said Estévez. "We need a global fraternity to go with the global economy."

Continued on page 33



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According to Hassell, despite the growing need, the number of refugees arriving annually continues to drop with the typical threshold set at 120,000, diminishing to 70,000 last year and 50,000 this year.

“There is a tremendous need going on – a global crisis and we are closing our doors,” said Hassell. “We are so afraid of terrorism. We put everyone in one basket but the Gospel tell us to ‘welcome the stranger.’”

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops is calling on all parishes, schools, and people of good will to embrace the message of the “Share the Journey” campaign, through education and advocacy.

Estévez was touched that people from as far away as Gainesville traveled to attend the evening mass that kicked off the campaign. Refugees from Mexico, Venezuela, Haiti, and Burma were among those present and many of them had specific roles in the multicultural mass that represented the melting pot of cultures which has been synonymous since this country’s founding.

Rooted in the Gospel’s message “to love our neighbors,” the mass was intended to remind others of the broad context of that call.

“It damages the American identity if we are anti-immigrant,” said Estévez. “There is a goodness about Americans, a generosity that is universally recognized. Let not our actions be opposite, especially when we are able to do it.”



“There is a goodness about Americans, a generosity that is universally recognized. Let not our actions be opposite, especially when we are able to do it.”

— Bishop Felipe J. Estévez, Catholic Diocese of Saint Augustine



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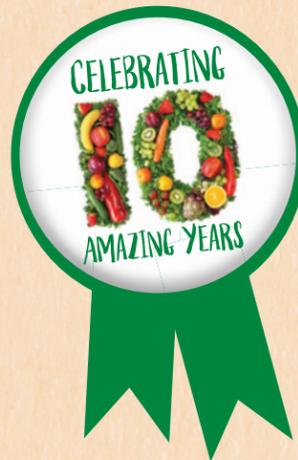


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THE WAY WE WERE: MARJORIE BROWARD

By Susan D. Brandenburg
Resident Community News

She's prayed in a Sikh temple in India and walked through treetops in a rainforest on an island formerly known as Borneo. She's had drinks at Raffles Bar in Singapore and dined at the Four Seasons in New York. She's watched the waters of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans come together at the Cape of Good Hope, flown in a helicopter over the Great Barrier Reef, sunned on the beaches of Cancun, Fiji, Sydney, Palau, Jamaica, and Namibia, taken a river cruise through the Netherlands and a boat trip up the Inland Passageway to Alaska. An avid student of art, music, and culture, she has admired paintings by Aborigines in Kakadu National park, wooden carvings of the Maori in New Zealand and been there when Joan Sutherland sang "Tosca" at the Sydney Opera House.

At age 93, as retired librarian Marjorie Broward reviewed just a few of the many adventures she's experienced, she marveled.

"Me! Born and raised in a small village in a rural Minnesota farming community during the Great Depression," she declared, smiling.

"As a preschooler, I was given a picture book of children from around the world. Later, choosing a career as a librarian guaranteed I would have access to unlimited travel through books, but I never thought I would see young children press their faces against the window of a car stopped at a red light in Nairobi as they begged for food, or see a duckbilled platypus, or meet an Aborigine. I never thought my wildest dreams of travel and adventure would come true ... but they did!"

Born July 28, 1924 to Joseph and Anna Grimes, Marjorie grew up in Grand Meadow, Minnesota and earned a Library Science Degree at the University of Michigan in 1948. While serving as Librarian for Architecture/City Planning at Georgia Tech in 1951, she met architectural student Robert Charles Broward, a protegee of Frank Lloyd Wright. They were married in August 1952.

"We moved to Bob's hometown of Jacksonville in 1953 because he was eager to begin to practice architecture," recalled Marjorie. "He felt the city had great potential, seeing the river as a special asset. We had both become passionate about city planning and would speak about it before any group that invited us. We were especially concerned about strip malls and urban blight - Main Street being a prime example at the time."

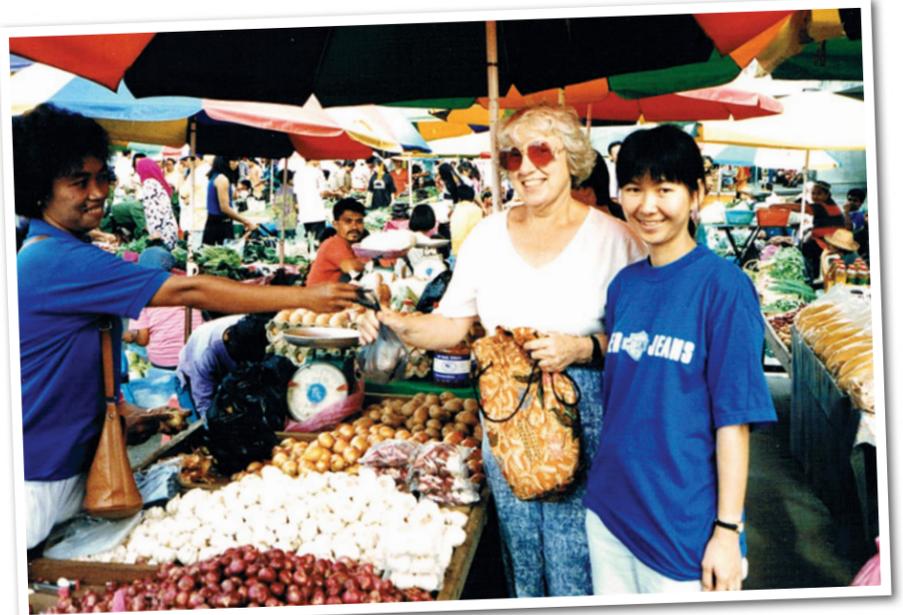
Bob and Marjorie Broward moved to Switzerland (northwest St. Johns County), where they built their home, Eventide, and welcomed their daughter, Kristanna, into



Marjorie Broward with map of her travels



Marjorie and Kristanna Broward, Colorado 1967



Marjorie Broward visiting a marketplace in Borneo

Continued on page 35



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the world in September 1954. During the next decade, Bob Broward began to establish himself as a highly acclaimed architect who would eventually design more than 500 projects and earn many honors including induction into the Florida Artists Hall of Fame in 2012.

Although Marjorie and Bob Broward divorced in 1963, they remained friends throughout his life and Marjorie was deeply involved in helping him write his book, *The Broward Family: From France to Florida*,

1764-2011, published in 2011 by the Jacksonville Historical Society. Robert Broward died in 2015, at age 89, leaving an important legacy behind.

“Our city is still striving to reach that potential which Bob Broward envisioned over 60 years ago when he chose Jacksonville over a career working with Mr. Wright,” noted Marjorie, who has, herself, made significant advances for the citizenry of Jacksonville.

In the 1950s, Marjorie Broward established the Bookmobile Service for the Jacksonville Public Library and in 2002, following her amazing globe-trotting career as a librarian, she returned to Jacksonville and coordinated the JAXREADS project which began with students across the city reading the novel, *To Kill and Mockingbird*.

Back in 1964, having moved to Boulder, Colorado and taken a position as Business Librarian at the University of Colorado, Marjorie traveled to New York to work in the World’s Fair at the library in the U.S. Pavilion. A six-week course at IBM on early use of computers prepared her to help people learn about subjects like space, history, science, geography and more. Marjorie was fascinated by computers.

After her daughter graduated from Boulder High School in 1972, Marjorie took a leave of absence and went to Melbourne, Australia to teach in the Library School at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology.

During the mid-1970s, back in the United States, she consulted with the Manville Corporation, taking frequent trips to New York to meet with Space Design Staff and eventually going to work for Manville full-time. She spent some years in Sydney, Australia organizing Insearch Dial Services at the New South Wales Institute of Technology, and working on other projects, eventually returning to Jacksonville when



Marjorie Broward with friends in Nambia 1997

her daughter, Kristanna, got married. During the 1980s, Marjorie split her time between Jacksonville and Australia, consulting with Consolidated Press in Sydney, and enjoying grandchildren at home.

In 1994, at age 70, Marjorie Broward volunteered with the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) Global Missions, assisting librarians in organizing and computerizing theological seminary libraries in Malaysia, Namibia and Kingston, Jamaica during the next seven years.

“I broadened my understanding of different countries and cultures, and most importantly, found my faith strengthened through contact with Christians of other cultures,” Marjorie said.

Recognized in 2006 with the Volunteer Jax Literary Award, Marjorie continued her travels, remaining actively involved in her church and community. In 2016, she and her family took a trip to Vietnam, where she sailed on the Mekong River and toured the ancient library at Angkor Wat, Cambodia.

Today, Marjorie Broward lives in a Lakewood high-rise apartment and can be seen almost daily walking on the treadmill in the exercise room or swimming in the pool.

Is Jacksonville’s most adventurous librarian preparing herself for the rigors of another exotic trip?

“There are still some wonderful places I’d love to visit,” said Marjorie. “Only God knows where I’ll go next.”



Marjorie Broward, Harrison Barnes, Kristanna Broward Barnes, Hampton Barnes, Margaux Barnes



Marjorie Broward at Eventide with daughter Kristanna



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World War I serviceman rubs elbows with aviation pioneers



By Lilla Ross
Resident Community News

Airplanes first caught Bernard “Toby” Overby’s eye during World War I and when he came back to the States he decided he was going to learn to fly one.

He already knew how to drive a car. He told his son, Robert, that as a teenager he worked in the afternoons parking cars in Richmond, Virginia. After the war that skill came in handy.

He decided to strike out on his own and took the Florida East Coast train south. His son isn’t sure why he stopped in Jacksonville, but recalled his dad was advised when he got to Jacksonville he should talk to the cab drivers at the station about where he might find work.

“He had a job in 30 minutes,” said Robert Overby, who owns Overby’s Auto Repair.

And when he had the chance, Toby Overby learned to fly. His license was

signed by aviation pioneer Orville Wright, and he joined a small club of seven Jacksonville pilots led by Laurie Yonge, the first licensed pilot in Florida.

Yonge was responsible for Charles Lindbergh’s only visit to Jacksonville. After Lindbergh made his historic trans-Atlantic flight in the “Spirit of St. Louis,” he returned to the U.S. by ship. Yonge painted “The Spirit of Jacksonville” on his plane, flew out to the ship and dropped a capsule containing an invitation for Lindbergh.

Local aviation pioneer

Toby Overby gave flying lessons and took people sightseeing by air, his son said.

In the early days, everyone flew biplanes, which only needed a few hundred feet to land. Jacksonville had any number of open fields, not to mention the beach. One of the earliest airfields was Paxon Field on the Westside, which opened in 1923. A few years

Toby Overby and other pilots stand next to their biplanes at South Jax Airfield. The Park Lane condos in Riverside are visible in the background.

later a field on North Main Street near the City Prison Farm opened as the Municipal Airport, remembered today as Imeson Airport.

And South Jacksonville had an airfield, too, next to the ostrich racing track on what is today the Southbank. There’s an old photograph showing Toby Overby and other pilots standing next to their biplanes at the riverfront field. The Park Lane condos in Riverside are visible in the background.

Some of the pilots were daredevils, known for their acrobatics. Others barnstormed across the country, stopping to buy gas from unsuspecting farmers. Robert Overby said his dad kept his flying local, taking excursions to St. Augustine, Daytona Beach or Lake City.

The local pilots would fly support for the celebrity pilots who came to the airshows. Robert Overby said his father talked about meeting the famous black aviatrix Bessie Coleman, who died in Jacksonville in 1926 while rehearsing for an airshow.

Robert Overby said his dad quit flying during World War II. Toby Overby, born in 1892, offered his services to the military as a flying instructor but was told he was too old, his son said.

“He was done flying when I was born,” Robert Overby said. “I don’t know why he quit. But I think being told he couldn’t help in World War II put a bad taste in his mouth.”

From biplanes to bootleg

But Toby Overby had other adventures, his son said.

In the 1920s, during Prohibition, his father was in the whiskey business.

“Boats from Cuba would come up the coast and locals would go out and buy their goods,” Robert Overby said. “The trick was to know the day and the time.”

And when Prohibition was lifted, Toby Overby opened the first bar at Bay and Clay streets across the street from the Federal Building, his son said.

Later in the 1930s, he went to work as a salesman for a distillery, though his son isn’t sure of the brand.

“He would go into a bar, buy a round of drinks of his brand, socialize with them and convince them to drink his brand,” Robert Overby said.

Later, he worked for Florida Beverage Company. “He was a well-liked, nice guy, could talk to anyone,” his son said.

Robert Overby said his parents also traveled around the Southeast selling an invention — meat slicers. “They loaded up the back of the car and drove around to little towns visiting grocery stores and showing how to slice their hams,” he said.

Toby Overby worked until he was 78 and died in 1979 at the age of 87.

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Bishop Kenny alumni from its first four graduating classes gather for lunch.

Bishop Kenny 'seniors' stay in touch

Members of Bishop Kenny High School's first four graduating classes, 1953-1956, gathered for a luncheon at the Athens Café Oct. 5.

Principal Todd Orlando and Director of Advancement Sheila Marovich were invited to attend this month's luncheon, where Orlando delivered an informal "State of BK" message to the gathering of approximately 35 to 40 alumni.

Orlando reported a robust enrollment of 1,232 students, a strong academic program with 100 percent of last year's seniors being accepted to college, advancements in technology, the addition of a sailing program

in cooperation with Florida Yacht Club, a good start to the year in fall athletics, and more. The graduates listened with great interest as news of their cherished alma mater was shared.

J.P. "Pat" Thornton ('53) is the founder and leader of the group, Door Openers, which has been gathering two to three times each year for the past 15 to 20 years.

Orlando and Marovich agreed the welcome could not have been warmer and the camaraderie among the group any more genuine, extending thanks to Thornton and all of the Door Openers who coordinate the gatherings.

The Friars plan centennial anniversary celebration

Almost 100 years ago, when Woodrow Wilson was delivering his Fourteen Points speech to the U.S. Congress on Jan. 8, 1918, and when Congress was approving the use of Daylight Saving Time, a group of young men in Jacksonville joined together to create a social club that would later become known as The Friars.

The Friars originally operated in the Ortega area, but with the repatriation of veterans from World War I, the group quickly expanded its membership to other neighborhoods.

The organization is a carryover from a time when socializing was exclusively performed in person and without the aid

of telephones, smart devices and photos shared instantly through mass media.

Next March, The Friars will celebrate their centennial anniversary at the Florida Yacht Club, and invites all of its members, former and current, to attend. Although plans are still being developed, the organizers are trying to gauge the number of Friars interested in attending, particularly its former or inactive members, for whom they do not have contact information.

The Friars request that those interested in attending the centennial event email Ellis Barton at ellisbarton92@gmail.com, or stop by the Florida Yacht Club to obtain additional information.

Pine Castle honors longtime CEO upon retirement

After serving Pine Castle for 29 years, Jon May retired Nov. 3 from the nonprofit which serves adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Upon hearing of his retirement, May's supporters had no loss for words when asked to describe their experiences with him over nearly three decades.

"Mr. May has been a tremendous source of strength, wisdom and kindness to all of us over the years. Mr. May always makes time for everyone and I personally will miss our conversations. He will be greatly missed by everyone," said Terry Garcia-Ginder, a 35-year Pine Castle employee.

"Mr. May has been a good friend of mine and I have known him a long time," said Chip Hays, a program participant at Pine Castle. "I like talking to him a lot."

Since joining Pine Castle as CEO, May has grown the agency from a \$1.5 million budget with 65 staff in 1988, quadrupling the budget to \$6 million and nearly doubling the staff to 125 in 2016.

"In 2007 he conceived and directed the construction of the Borowy Life Enrichment Center, a 17,000-square-foot multipurpose building which is the focal point of the campus housing a health clinic, numerous programs, and an indoor sports and recreation area," said Jim Henry, a volunteer, board member, and two-time board chair. "Jon's contributions to Pine Castle and our community are significant, meaningful and long lasting, which have impacted people with disabilities both at Pine Castle and across the state."



Jon May

May gives a lot of credit to his staff for the success of the organization.

"I have, over the years, been fortunate to attract and retain the most dedicated, talented and creative staff who have worked daily to make the most positive impact on the lives of adults with intellectual and developmental differences," he said.

May leaves his successor, Lori Ann Whittington, with the wish that Pine Castle remains relevant in meeting the changing needs of adults with intellectual and developmental differences.

"That means staying true to our Mission of enabling our clients to have opportunities to learn, work and be connected to a meaningful life in our community," he said.



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Jr. Residents

San Marco school ambassadors get dressed up for the job

By Kate A. Hallock
Resident Community News

Thanks to Beth Seeker, teacher of gifted students at Hendricks Avenue Elementary School, the 50 or so fifth-grade students who serve as school ambassadors have a new look, bringing back the more formal “dress whites” previously worn by the school safety patrol.

The ambassadors are composed of two student groups – the fifth-grade patrol and the Leaders of Tomorrow – which were joined a few years ago. Prior to the merger, the two groups wore different uniforms, then after they became one group they adopted T-shirts and khaki bottoms (shorts, slacks or skirts) as their uniform.

“The uniforms for either group were never discontinued, just relaxed to accommodate a much larger group of children doing different things around campus,” said Seeker. “The motivation to bring back the ‘whites’ was simple – bring back a longstanding tradition from Hendricks Avenue, and with it an expectation of service, discipline, and strong character by those wearing it.”

The new uniform is a white shirt, white bottoms (slacks, skirt, shorts), and a navy tie. During the cooler months, they may wear a white long-sleeve shirt. The ambassadors wear them each Friday and on special occasions, according to Erin Lenhart, fourth-grade teacher and Ambassador sponsor for three of the past four years.



Fifth-graders Parker Shell, Henry Cosper, Grant Tedder, James Cook and Gavin Duva are just a few of the many Hendricks Ave Elementary School ambassadors.

“We have a flag raising ceremony about once a month and all of the ambassadors participate in that. They then lead the school in the Pledge of Allegiance,” said Lenhart.

“The ambassadors have always worn some type of uniform, but this year we reverted back to a uniform that they wore a few years ago,” she said. “It’s a classic look and I think does a better job of making them stand out compared to the uniforms we have used in the recent past.”

Lenhart said the ambassadors are typically the first point of communication for many of the school families, assisting with the

car pool lanes in the mornings and afternoons. “Our patrols are spread throughout the campus to help ensure safety during our busiest times.”

She said student ambassadors are chosen based on criteria such as attendance, grades, and conduct. “They have worked hard to earn a spot as an ambassador and they deserve to stand out and earn that recognition.”

“The response from our faculty has been very positive,” Seeker said. “With the more formal and traditional dress, the kids really stand out, forcing them to act as examples to other students and to one another.”



Students, families rally to support hurricane victims in Puerto Rico

Dr. Frank Trogolo and his son Christian get ready to transport nearly 600 items donated by San Jose Episcopal Day School (SJEDS) students and families for residents in Puerto Rico following the devastation Hurricane Maria left in its path. Dr. Trogolo is from Puerto Rico and is a member of the Puerto Rico Physician Association of North Florida, which led the effort in Jacksonville.

“We were amazed to see so many donate to a cause in a place so far away with such little time. When the hurricane struck Puerto Rico, Frank and I cried as we watched the devastation unfold on our television,” said Christen Trogolo, who organized the supply drive with her husband. “While we had heard from his family that they were safe, we were seeing the aftermath of the storm and knew the devastation was far worse than any of them could imagine.”

Cargo planes quickly delivered the items to those in need within a few days.



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Bishop Kenny Interact Club packs meals in Hunger Fight event

The BK Interact Club and the Rotary Club of South Jacksonville joined forces in support of *Rise Against Hunger*, a non-profit organization that provides international hunger relief by distributing food and other life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable and disenfranchised people.

The Interact Club responded to a request made by Bishop Kenny alumnus and South Jax Rotary member Hobart Joost Jr. ('67), who requested both the support of the BK Interact Club and permission to use the school as a host location for a food-packing day event.

In the end, the Rotary Club, the BK Interact Club and the Nease High School Interact Club, along with the support of many families, purchased and packed over 16,135 meals to be sent to those in need.

The event was organized by Dr. Dan Robie, president of the Rotary Club of South Jacksonville. "Dr. Robie was awestruck with the success of the event, the joy of the Interact members who served, and the \$2,000 donation made by the BK Interact Club," said Interact advisor Chris Keyser.

Interact students raised the funds by selling spirit buttons during homecoming week. "This food will certainly be a great blessing



to the many hungry people who will be fed," said Keyser. "It has been an equal blessing to the volunteers who made it happen."

The Interact program was launched by Rotary International in 1962 as a service opportunity for young people 12-18 years old. Since then, Interact has grown to more than 15,000 clubs in 142 countries. The BK Interact Club has 155 members.



Jog-a-thon exceeds goal by 10 percent



The Bishop Kenny High School track was one of two venues used during the Assumption Catholic School 4th annual Jog-a-thon Sept. 29. With a goal to raise \$20,00 to replace cafeteria chairs in Jordan Hall, kindergarten to second-grade students ran on campus, while third- to eighth-grade students used the nearby track at Bishop Kenny. Students exceeded their goal by \$2,000.

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Sophia Shelton, Robin Peeples, American Red Cross regional philanthropy officer, Janne Pelz and Armando Atanda

Rotary exchange student raises funds for hurricane victims

Janne Pelz, an orchestra student at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, was moved by the plight of Hurricane Irma victims.

Pelz, who is a Rotary Youth Exchange Student from Rostock, Germany, is living with Peter and Bea Fore for the 2017-2018 school year. While YouTube videos of older Ellen DeGeneres Show segments during Hurricane Irma from her host family's home, Pelz was struck by the devastation and wondered what she could do to help.

"Ellen's slogan, #BeKindToOneAnother, inspired me," said Pelz. "Nothing is easier than making music as a musician, so I thought about playing a benefit concert for those who were impacted by Hurricane Irma."

Along with fellow orchestra students Armando Atanda and Sophia Shelton, Pelz reached out to other music students and organized the concert, held Oct. 12 at Southside Baptist Church. The event raised \$2,000 for the American Red Cross.

Bea Fore, who serves as secretary and treasurer for the Rotary Club of South



A quartet kicked off the benefit concert and included Eva Karjono and AJ Pulliam on violins, Kaitlynn Thornton on viola, and Alejandro Ochoa on the cello.

Jacksonville, said Pelz is the fifth exchange student they have hosted.

"I am so thankful to Rotary that they made my dream come true to be an exchange student and also for supporting me attending this wonderful school," said Pelz. "Rotary is the only reason why I am here, and I cannot say it often enough, how thankful I am, that they gave me this amazing opportunity."

Local rowing club hosts 29th annual First Coast head Race

Stanton Riverbank Rowing (SRB) hosted the 29th Annual First Coast Head Race Oct. 14. The oldest rowing "head" (5,000m) race in Florida included more than 20 organizations from up and down the East Coast and engaged over 45 volunteers from SRB and Jacksonville Rowing Club (JRC), who worked more than 300 hours to help make the race a success.

The First Coast Head Race brings together rowers of all ages to participate, volunteer and support both the sport of rowing and Jacksonville's waterways.

Each year, the race begins north of the Mathews Bridge on the St. Johns River, runs under the University Boulevard and Cesery Boulevard bridges on the Arlington River, then runs down Jacksonville's protected waters past residences and marshes.

Always on the cutting edge of technology, Regatta Director Marley Brown developed an innovative framework for posting results. With the new framework, times were recorded and posted before athletes came off the water. Other participating organizations observed his model to help make their regattas run more smoothly and efficiently.

Local rowers included both adult and youth athletes from SRB, JRC, Episcopal School of Jacksonville and The Bolles School. A full listing of results is available on regattacentral.com.



Women's Youth Bronze winner Ireland Haueter, Silver winner Carly Boyd, Gold winner Kate Begley



Men's Youth Bronze winners Gannon Nolan and James Meschia, Silver winners Brandon Pond and Sanjay Mokha

Bolles Sweethearts crowned at homecoming



Homecoming Sweethearts Ann Maris Walton '18 (left) and Orlando Heggs '18 (in uniform) with the 2016 Homecoming King Quincy Greene '17 and Bolles Head of School Dave Farace during the halftime Homecoming Court presentation on Oct. 27.

Ann Maris Walton and Orlando Heggs were voted Bolles School Homecoming Sweethearts, and were presented at the 2017 Homecoming football game against the Ponte Vedra Sharks Oct. 27.

The court, in alphabetical order, included the following members of the Class of 2018: Mills Acosta-Rua, Elizabeth Anderson,

Brooke Bowmaster, Caitlin Collier, Frankie Collier, Amann Doolabh, Orlando Heggs, Matthew Johnson, Gabriela Landolfo, George Lewis, Alexander Maniatis, Ian McPheters, Skyler Mitchell, Jessica Pentel, Rushton Roberts, Rachel Shapiro, Nathan Skinner, Gracie Surface, Cameron Perry Walker and Ann Maris Walton.

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Young girl recognized for acts of kindness

The American Civility Association recently honored Kingsley Killis as a Kindness Super Hero for all the ways she has shown and continues to show kindness.

"She sincerely takes to heart the needs of others and is setting a beautiful example for children and adults to make this community and beyond a happier place to live," said Amy Barnett, founder and president of the American Civility Association.

Killis, 6, was given a Kindness Super Hero cape Oct. 8 at Creative Grain Studio during a Kindness Rocks event she held that day. Barry Henry, treasurer and member of the association's board of directors, presented Killis with her cape in recognition of the funds she raised for K9s for Warriors.

The association is planning a fundraising event in May 2018 at which time it will present someone with the Kindness Hero



Kingsley Killis strikes a pose in her new Super Kindness Hero cape presented by Barry Henry of the American Civility Association.

of the Year award. The 2017 recipient was former Jacksonville Jaguars Quarterback Mark Brunell.

The Journey2Kindness Suitcase Party will benefit at-risk children and youth in Northeast Florida.

Students do their part to address food insecurity

Nancy Darragh, Grade 3 teacher at San Jose Catholic School, and her husband, Mike Darragh, member of the Rotary Club of South Jacksonville, with San Jose Catholic students James Nackashi (Grade 3), Jalila Nackashi (Grade 6) and Cole Madden (Grade 5), who helped pack 16,800 meals in the Rotary Club's "Rise Against Hunger" meal-packing event at Bishop Kenny High School Oct. 7, organized by Hunger Fight. The Club's goal to pack 14,040 meals was exceeded by nearly 20 percent.



Budding broadcast journalists keep classmates in the know

For nearly two decades, fourth- and fifth-grade students in the WHAE news crew at Hendricks Avenue Elementary School have kept fellow students, staff and faculty up to date with school news by airing morning announcements at 8:30 a.m. each day.

Sports Mania, Teacher Spotlights, Wacky Wednesday and Thoughtful Thursday, featuring the leadership skill of the month, are just some of the segments produced by the students.

The program began in 1998 when the library was renovated with a studio, and this year, thanks to the HAE PTA and the Box Tops for Schools program, the newsroom was outfitted with brand new state-of-the-art broadcast equipment and a green screen.



Leighton Yates, Isaiah Narain, Abram Caccam edit clips and run sound checks before the daily broadcast at Hendricks Avenue Elementary School.

The crew learns editing, how to operate cameras and sound boards, and how to use the green screen. After the first few weeks of school, the program is run totally by the students with support from Media Assistant/Computer Lab Coordinator Andrew Hurst, Media Specialist Ashley Halil, and parent volunteers.

Rosary procession honors Mary



Sisters of the Home of the Mother, who came to the convent on the Assumption Catholic campus in 2006, held a rosary procession around campus Oct. 3 to honor Mary, the mother of Jesus. The sixth-grade class led the procession and the entire student body participated.

"When Our Lady is taken out in procession it is a victory for her and her Son. She abundantly pours out her graces into open hearts," explained Sister Kelai. "Remember how, in the Old Testament, when the king and the soldiers would come back victorious from a battle they would enter the city in a big procession, processing through the street and singing and rejoicing in their victory. Well, that's what has to take place in our school. This is Our Mother's school, her Son has given it to her as a gift, and she has to be able to walk through our hallways, our courtyards, our entire school, victorious. Knowing that these hearts are hers...that she and her Son are loved, and that they reign victorious in the hearts of all who are here."

Wearing onesies for hurricane relief

During its Sept. 21 "We Are One" varsity basketball games at Assumption Catholic School, students wore colorful onesies and held a bake sale to benefit St. Paul's Catholic School in Jacksonville Beach, which suffered significant storm damage to the school gym during Hurricane Irma. Assumption students raised \$500 to help out their Catholic peers.



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Council Page program offers youth glimpse into legislative process

San Jose resident experiences contentious deliberation

By Phyllis Bell-Davis
Resident Community News

For youth aspiring to leadership, learning about the local legislative process through the Jacksonville City Council Page program is a great place to start. As a Council Page, students gain firsthand knowledge of how the legislative body makes the laws that govern the way of life for the citizens of Jacksonville.

“Last year, students from 13 local schools and other community organizations were Pages. The program is open to eight-year-olds through college-level students,” explained Carol Owens, chief of Legislative Services, who has coordinated the program since 2005. “We receive Page recommendations from public, private and home schools, college freshmen and community organizations such as 4-H and Scouting groups. It helps if the student has a good attention span.”

Owens noted that when recommending a Page, her office needs to know what school or organization the individual represents, a phone number, date the individual wants to volunteer, and name of the person making the recommendation.

The Page can be recommended to the Office of Legislative Services by a parent or City Council staff as well. According to Sally Hazelip, City Council staff contacted her son, Collin Hazelip, to be a Page after they saw a newspaper article honoring him as a “Remarkable Senior.”

Collin, who has Down syndrome, served as Page during 2016 when he was a San Jose



Sally Hazelip, Collin Hazelip, City Councilman Greg Anderson

Forest resident and student at North Florida School of Special Education.

“It was a good experience and a lot of fun hearing everybody’s points of view and listening to the debates. Now when I’m in my politic mode, I know how to make a point and how to successfully argue my point,” explained Collin about the impact of being a Page.

Once the Page is appointed, they are required to arrive by 4:45 p.m. on the day of the City Council meeting. The full Council meets at City Hall on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m., with the exception of meeting once in July and in December. Because the meetings are held primarily on school nights, the Page is dismissed at 8 p.m.

Owens said at least two Pages per Council meeting are used but there has been up to four Pages at a meeting. “We try to accommodate the organization/individual’s request to serve, based on staff’s needs. Also a Page can serve more than once.”

“Sometimes we don’t get the clear picture of how things are done and it’s good to meet the people who are making the decisions.”

— Sally Hazelip, North Florida School of Special Education

The Page is responsible for making sure the comment cards are collected from individuals who wish to address the City Council during the public hearing or public comment section of the day’s agenda, and disseminated properly. The Page also makes sure each Council member has the various handouts and notes needed during the meeting. For their service, the Council president gives the Page a special token and poses for a photo with the Page.

“Collin loved being a Page! I think he felt like he was in the big league,” said his mother. “There are a couple of Councilmen who are members of the church we attend and it was a great thing for Collin to see them in a different place, working hard for the community.”

Sally, who is Head of School at North Florida School of Special Education, highly recommends the City Council Page program.

“I’ve attended many City Council meetings, which were all eye-opening experiences. When possible, families should get involved in community events, especially City Council meetings,” she said. “Sometimes we don’t get the clear picture of how things are done and it’s good to meet the people who are making the decisions.”

Sally added that during Collin’s experience, there was a very significant discussion concerning a restaurant and the parking associated with same. She said, “On the way home, Collin commented, ‘Boy, they really had a lot to work out! They had to make some big decisions. Not all people get along, do they?’”

Sally said it was a teachable moment which led to Collin’s understanding that, although the members were divided, it takes cooperation to get things done in the community.

“You can see meetings on TV but to be involved personally, it makes me appreciate our leaders, and the way decisions are made. It’s great to know that there’s a program in place to give our young people an idea of how government works on this level,” she said. “I salute the City for having this type of program that gives our children an option to be engaged in something that is very important.”

Collin agreed the program is a great way to get involved. “Our leaders need your help!” he said.

To become a City Council Page, contact Owens’ office at (904) 630-1404.

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San Marco students reach out to hurricane victims

As part of a recently created initiative, Positively Assisting Within School (PAWS) at Julia Landon College Preparatory School in San Marco, students collected new and gently used items of clothing, toys, books, school supplies, bedding, and toiletries as well as nonperishable food to assist hurricane victims.

Tables were set up in the school’s courtyard Oct. 7 for local victims to pick up much-needed items. Some of the donations were added to a pallet for Hurricane Maria victims in Puerto Rico; other items were disbursed to various local faith-based groups. Donations of pet supplies were delivered to Animal Care and Protective Services.



Julia Landon College Preparatory School seventh-grade students clothing and organize donations for hurricane victims.

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Wolfson students pack meals for food bank

Several students from Wolfson High School joined forces in October to pack meals at Feeding Northeast Florida for community members in need.

The student participants were selected by their school to participate in the Chick-fil-A Leader Academy™, a national high school leadership program that not only teaches students leadership skills, but also empowers students to put their skills into action. The program is a year-long curriculum, taught once per month in school for approximately one hour. It can be taught during or after school for up to 30 students, grades 9-12.

Students are expected to learn leadership skills and apply them throughout the school year to plan and implement an “impact project” such as a special needs carnival or



Front to back, Caroline Grace Posgay, Morgan Renfro, Caine Bureson, Will Davis, Christian Cosper, Grace Whipple, Augustina Cole

charity softball game. The students don't just learn about leadership in the classroom, but they get out in the community to put it into action, making an “Impact through Action” in their community.



Caroline Grace Posgay

Students learn servant leadership on Make A Difference Day

Participating in Make A Difference Day Oct. 11, Bolles School freshmen experienced firsthand the hard work and satisfaction of servant leadership.

The day's goal was to familiarize students in the Class of 2021 with the many opportunities for volunteerism in the Northeast Florida and to remind them that their greatest concern should be what they are doing for others.

During the morning, small groups of students traveled to Angels for Allison, Lutheran Social Services, Hope Haven, Mandarin Museum and Historical Society, McKenzie's Academic Resource Center at Chet's Creek Elementary School, Naval Air Station Jacksonville, North Florida School of Special Education, Pine Castle; Sanctuary on 8th Street, Museum of Science and History, Sulzbacher Center, and two residential facilities for Taylor Residences.

After spending the morning off-campus, students returned to hear insightful presentations by Bolles senior volunteers from the Class of 2018, including Ann Maris Walton, Jessica Pentel, George Lewis, Sarah



Bolles freshmen Jackson Baumeister and Nolan Zaepfel paint walls at the Sanctuary on 8th Street on Make a Difference Day.

Kate Levin and Nick Maniatis. They also collaborated on a T-shirt design project for next year's freshman class and spent the remainder of the day making blankets, painting items, assembling decorations and filling Comfort Bags in 20 large boxes for the American Red Cross, among other service activities.



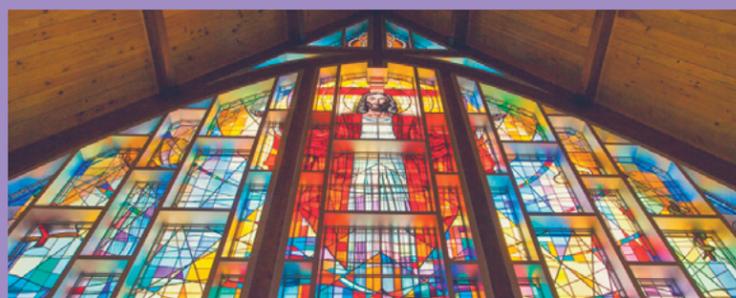
Bolles freshman Caulder McGriff works at the bioswale at the Museum of Science and History on Make a Difference Day.



Bolles students Ethan Asbury, Mary Kate Kelley, Abby Lynch, Catherine Kunz, Olivia Landolfo and Gunner Boree (in orange shirts) in the kitchen with three students at North Florida School of Special Education

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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

Every day in our country, nearly 2,000 children become victims of abuse or neglect. The Guardian ad Litem (GAL) program plays a vital role in the advocacy of children. GAL volunteers provide not only a voice for children who are involved in the court system, but also a chance for a child to have a bright future, regardless of their circumstances.



First Coast Guardian ad Litem

The roots of the Guardian ad Litem program were established 40 years ago in Seattle, when a judge introduced the concept of using trained volunteers to provide information about and advocate in the interests of abused and neglected children involved in the court system. Two years later, in 1979, the forerunner of the First Coast program was created through a pilot program of the Jacksonville chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women and the Junior League of Jacksonville.

Today, there are several ways you can make a difference in the life of a child.

Volunteer: By working as a child advocate volunteer, you can become the voice of compassion and care on a child's behalf. Sign up at galfirstcoast.org or call a GAL child advocate recruiter at (904) 255-8440. The time you give will change a child's life forever.

Judge David Gooding officiates at the January 2017 swearing-in ceremony for new GAL volunteers at Duval County Courthouse.

Donate: Give a financial contribution to the GAL Foundation of Florida's First Coast to help ensure a brighter future for the children in our local court system. Donate directly online at galfirstcoast.org under the "support" tab. Call (904) 255-8440 or email info@galfirstcoast.org for additional information.

Attend: You can also support GAL at the second annual "There's No Place Like Home" fundraiser, which will be held Friday, April 13, 2018 at the Duval County Courthouse. The "Oz" themed event is not only a magical evening of ruby red slippers and a yellow brick road, but also an opportunity to help GAL raise funds for its volunteer recruitment and training for the 4th circuit Guardian ad Litem program, a program that serves Clay, Nassau and Duval counties.

Kellie Prusiecki Did Something

It was during her college years when San Marco resident Kellie Prusiecki first realized how she could make a significant difference in a child's life through Guardian ad Litem. As a member of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority, she got involved with GAL, Theta's national philanthropy, and saw firsthand the critical role GAL can play in a child's life, and knew from the start that is what she needed to do.

Prusiecki says her passion for GAL and helping children continues today because she believes children are an investment in the future.

"I truly believe what we do for our children today is a valuable investment in our communities for generations to come," Prusiecki said.

"GAL, as you know, serves children whose lives are impacted by abuse, neglect or abandonment, and they need help to survive and succeed," said Prusiecki. "Advocacy and being a voice for these children helps keep their lives stable, safe and secure – something every child needs and deserves."

Prusiecki, who serves as an ambassador and foundation board member for GAL, planned and produced GAL's inaugural fundraiser, "There's No Place Like Home," in 2016.



Kellie Prusiecki

"Transforming the Duval County Courthouse into the Land of Oz for the evening was extremely successful and our community's support was overwhelming," she said.

Prusiecki's volunteer work with GAL also includes educating the public and helping to promote the vital work the organization does to fill the void in a child's life.

"In my current role as a foundation board member, it is most rewarding to be an ambassador for GAL," said Prusiecki.

"Time spent educating and informing our community about these children who have landed in the dependency court system – through no fault of their own – means more volunteer guardians, increased funding for children's needs and greater awareness of the critical role a volunteer guardian plays in a child's life," Prusiecki said.



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Friday Musicale director has big visions for venue

By Cheryl B. Lemine
Resident Community News

Inside the elegant, white-columned, 1930s Colonial Revival-style building of Friday Musicale's Riverside auditorium, a second-story, climate-controlled storage room is filled with rows and rows of tables lined end to end.

Covered with white tablecloths, the items beneath are donations and artifacts of the nonprofit – some dating back to its establishment in 1890. They wait to tell their stories about this 127-year-old nonprofit whose main mission is to provide Jacksonville free musical concerts and support local music students with competitions and scholarships to pursue music study at the college level.

There amid programs, scrapbooks, photos and even printed napkins from former concerts, the past is very much alive – but so is the future and the organization's three-part improvement plan.

When Executive Director Naomi Sheridan arrived last fall and began excavating through the memorabilia she said she knew archiving it would be important. With the help of two summer interns, the items were sorted chronologically and now await the next steps.

"I thought 'Why not transform the storage room into a more usable space by making it a mini-conference room for 20 and create a small museum to feature the items?'" she said.

Within the next six months Sheridan's vision should become reality as Friday Musicale awaits onsite plans before proceeding with its second and third segments. Phase 2 will take undeveloped greenspace between the triad of buildings it owns and create a landscaped and multipurpose area.

The space is conducive to a courtyard and would improve offerings for outdoor events, explained Jeff Tawney, venue director.

On Oak Street, L'Engle Hall can seat 150 and has its own baby grand piano. Next door, its auditorium features 39-foot ceilings, glass chandeliers, solid oak flooring, seating for 250 and a small stage. Its third building, located on May Street, is office rental space.

The changes, according to Tawney, are planned to expand Friday Musicale's concert



After the 1995 fire



Friday Musicale rebuilt after the fire in 1995

reach in the Jacksonville area and the options it can provide as a rental venue.

Phase 3 is the biggest project: enhancing the current auditorium. After the site plans come in and plans are drawn, they'll provide the details Sheridan needs when she applies for a \$500,000 State of Florida facilities grant next June 2018.

"We have no proper backstage area," Tawney explained.

The green room with a restroom, for performers to relax, is the space behind the side stage. A narrow hallway behind the stage connects to another space.

The hope is to increase seating capacity from 250 to 350, add a loading dock and backstage area large enough to expand the green room area, provide classrooms for master classes with the artists and to allow for proper storage and the ability to move its two Steinway & Sons concert grand pianos, which currently dominate the 15-foot by 35-foot stage. Sheridan said the stage is so small that previous groups too large to fit there would set up on the floor. The hope, she said, is that within two years all the improvements will be completed.

"Jacksonville is host to world class cultural arts organizations like The Cummer and great community theatre but we're virtually unknown," said Michael Currie, Friday



Jeff Tawney and Naomi Sheridan sift through piles of documents for archiving.

Musicale board chair. "We want to get more people involved in our programs and this year moves us toward more musically diverse ones as we experiment [with genres in addition to classical]."

Sheridan and Friday Musicale's concert committee select performers.

"Since we've been around for so long, I get about 500 emails a year from various artists," she said. "From there the committee and I work to narrow down whom to include."

This season more than 15 events will feature offerings such as the Estrella Piano Duo on Opening Night, Oct. 13, to Kai Alece & Company's '50s Soul and Jazz Mar. 9, 2018, and its annual Outstanding Young Pianists competition, April 28, 2018.

According to Friday Musicale's website, the organization was originally the Ladies Friday Musicale because its membership was limited to women who played musical instruments, auditioned to be a part, and

paid monthly dues of \$2. It began in the home of Claudia L'Engle Adams, a highly trained musician who had studied at Baltimore's Peabody Conservatory of Music. After moving to Jacksonville, she invited 11 women "in the parlor of her East Monroe Street home for weekly afternoons of musical study and performance."

Through the years, the group grew, hosted concerts, and in 1923 changed its bylaws to "honor the contribution of men within the organization" and also dropped the word "ladies" from its name. Since its early existence, the group has supported Jacksonville youth with music programs. For example, it even purchased Victor Talking Machines for public school music classes and supported a Youth Orchestra for 50 years.

Since its creation in 1890, the nonprofit had volunteer staff and its membership ran the organization. In 2010, it hired its first paid executive director.

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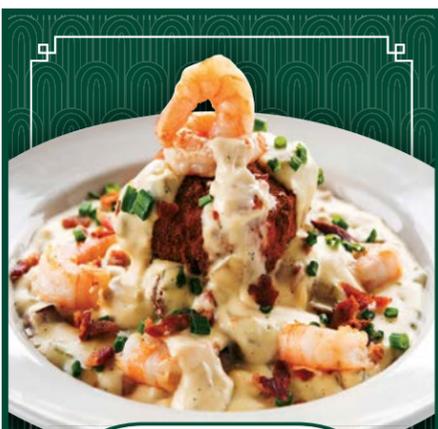
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Children gather as part of a marker dedication in Hemming Park. The children, dressed in costumes representing the Spanish, French, Florida Natives, and English in Florida, along with Boy Scouts, are at the park for a Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) ceremony marking the location where the King's Road met the Old Spanish Trail.

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

Councilwoman Boyer shares plans for river activation

FROM PAGE 1

There's \$1 million in the city budget to begin work on three of what she calls "nodes" at Friendship Fountain, the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts, and the USS Charles F. Adams, a floating naval warship museum planned for the Northbank.

Boyer has been consulting with the local chapter of the American Institute of Architects about the nodes and recently had a "charrette" – or brainstorming session – to come up with ideas for the Friendship Fountain node.

Chris Allen, director of design at Haskell Co., said the nodes are meant to be thematic activity spaces that connect to transportation and connect people to the river.

One idea is to have "river towers" that would be 40 to 60 feet tall to mark each node and be identifiable from a distance, Allen said. The space around Friendship Fountain could be opened up to create a park, a splash zone and an area for food trucks.

Boyer said there's money in the budget to restore Friendship Fountain so it can

become a focal point for lighting up the Riverwalk with music and light shows, possibly playing off the Performing Arts Center and Acosta and Main Street bridges.

She envisions about a dozen nodes along the downtown riverfront that could include pocket gardens and highlighting an aspect of Jacksonville history like the Great Fire, sports and the military.

AIA has hired a consulting team to develop a master plan that should be ready by March 2018.

Boyer also said money is now available for the demolition of the old City Hall and Courthouse buildings (\$8 million), putting in finger piers behind Riverplace Towers (\$300,000), docks behind the YMCA and at Post Street (\$900,000) and a kayak launch at the Duval County Public School administration building (\$200,000).

About two dozen floating docks need to be repaired from damage caused by Hurricane Irma, including ones off Metropolitan Park,

the Northbank Riverwalk and Riverside Arts Market. Short-term repairs were made to downtown docks for the Florida-Georgia game, said Lt. Tim Smith of the City's Emergency Preparedness Office.

Most of the damage occurred when the post-storm surge pushed them over their pylons. A few also lost their gangplanks, said Bob Skalitzky chief of the City's Natural and Marine Resources Division. The repairs are expected to cost about \$7.2 million,

Another 14 sites, including the River Road bulkhead, Memorial Park and parts of the Riverwalks will require about \$7.8 million in repairs, Smith said.

The city is applying for FEMA money for the repairs and will also seek FEMA funding for mitigation work that would "harden" the infrastructure against future storms, Skalitzky said.



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The impact of Hurricane Maria, the Pajcics kicked in another \$50,000 to help those in Puerto Rico who were devastated by the storm.

The Law Firm of Pajcic & Pajcic and the Pajcic Family Foundation teamed up with the Jacksonville Jaguars to offer relief to those suffering from the recent hurricanes. The original donation was going to be \$100,000 to the Jaguars Foundation for Hurricane Irma victims and other community projects. With the devastating

The Pajcic Firm was honored at a recent Equal Justice Awards Celebration as it was announced that a total of \$100,000 was raised through the Pajcic Yard Golf tournament and the firm's matching donations.

The money goes to Jacksonville Area Legal Aid and will be used to fund JALA's litigation and advocacy director.



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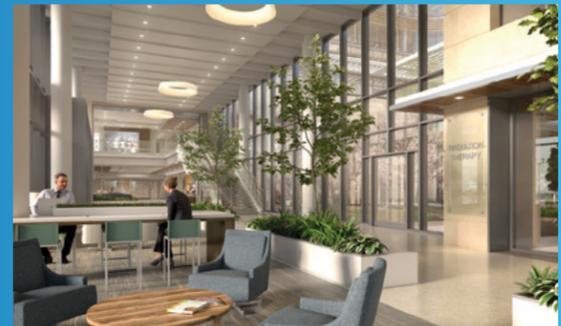
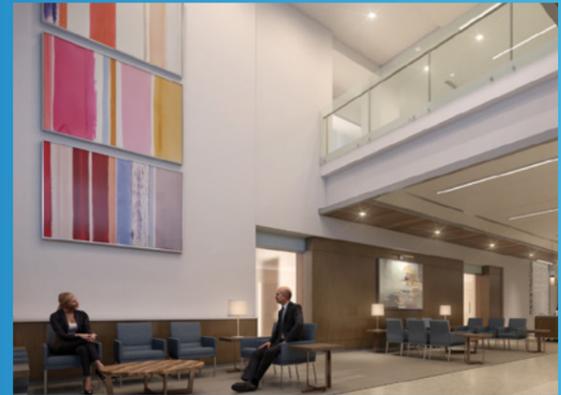


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