

Co-Chairs Chris and Aly Leeper, Heather and Alan Creel, Jenny and Michael Brumback enjoyed luscious cuisine paired with fine wine and spirits at Ascension St. Vincent's annual Delicious Destinations event at The Ponte Vedra Inn & Club.

READ MORE, PAGE 27



Old Florida style bash brings in donations for kids

READ MORE, PAGE 24

Bernard Augustin and Kimberly Kelley with Nathan Fiore and Christina Castro, Pete and Deborah Gunnlaugsson and other generous patrons and volunteers gathered at the Garden Club to enjoy food, drink, live music and a silent auction to benefit Sanctuary on 8th Street, an after-school program and summer camp for kids living in the Springfield neighborhood.

BUDGET APPROVED FOR 5 POINTS CONCEPT PLAN

 $City\ Council\ unanimously\ passes\ bill\ to\ move\ the\ project\ forward$

By Kandace Lankford, Resident Community News

The 5 Points Concept Plan, in the pipeline since 2013, is about to become a reality. Bill number 2019-0505, a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) bill that contains provisions for the 5 Points improvements, was unanimously passed by City Council Sept. 24 and work is slated to begin in January.

District 14 Councilwoman Randy DeFoor, with the help of the Mayor's administration, secured \$820,000 in funding for this year, as part of a multi-year 5 Points Improvement Plan totaling \$1.5 million. The project entails improvements to three major intersections, including Park Street at Post Street; Post Street at Margaret Street; and the 5 Points intersection, at Park, Margaret and Lomax streets; three blocks on Margaret Street and one block on Lomax Street, and two crosswalks on Park Street opposite the Sun Ray Cinema, and on Margaret Street south of Oak Street.

The first part to be tackled is the redesign of Lomax Street. It will be reconfigured to create a more walkable district and eliminate the congestion caused by the prominent 5 Points intersection.

STORY CONTINUES ON PAGE 6



Cowford Ball raises money to fight cancer

Guests boot-scoot-boogied the night away at the 24th Annual Cowford Ball. The Western-themed event raised money to help give cancer the boot.

READ MORE, **PAGE 26**

Legal community honors its own at 20th Annual JALA awards

Kim Martyn and Joy Hamilton and others within Jacksonville's legal community commemorate philanthropy and volunteerism during JALA's annual awards celebration.

READ MORE, **PAGE 26**



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"A Night Under the Stars," a new fundraiser for Riverside Avondale Preservation (RAP), is on the horizon. As of press time, a few tickets remain for the Slow Fish Dinner, which will be held Saturday, Oct. 12 at the home of Wayne Wood and Lana Shuttleworth.

The event will bring historic preservation fans, foodies, and sustainability fans together to enjoy finely prepared seafood dishes. Slow Food First Coast and RAP have partnered to cultivate the culinary event.

Local chefs and other purveyors will be showing off their prowess, talents and procured creations at the event.

Activities abounded on National Gymnastics Day

READ MORE, **PAGE 45**





Who should I contact regarding cars parked on the sidewalk at the parking lot underneath I-95 at the Fuller Warren Bridge?



We occasionally receive requests from readers looking for answers to issues of concern. Last month a reader sent us an email regarding cars parked on the brick-paved sidewalk underneath I-95 at the Fuller Warren Bridge, where the Riverside Arts Market is held. The reader walks and runs along the Riverwalk every morning, and he said that each weekday, by 9 a.m., the sidewalk is full of parked cars, impeding access to the Riverwalk.

The Resident reached out to the City, and a City spokesperson, in an email response, said a City parking enforcement officer went to the site Sept. 19 and determined the cars were illegally parked. The officer issued 12 warnings.

Five days later, cars were still illegally parked on the sidewalk. *The Resident* reached out to the City a second time, Sept. 25, inquiring what further action

would be taken, and received an email response stating, "The lot is owned by the Florida Department of Transportation. They will need to determine how to move forward.

The Resident reached out to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) by phone Sept. 27 and spoke to Tracy Pace, communications manager. "Some of it may be ours, some of it may be the City's, it's kind of all convoluted in there; the best solution would be for DOT to contact the City and then take a good look at what's going on out there to try and come up with a solution that will alleviate the problem of people parking on the sidewalk."

No resolution was reached by the time *The Resident* went to press. We will continue to follow up with the City and the FDOT and report the outcome.

If you have questions or concerns about issues in your community, please email us at editor@residentnews.net.

If you ask for it, we will find the answers

ST. JOHNS RIVERKEEPER Friday November 15, 2019 7:00 pm Garden Club of Jacksonville Tickets available at: stjohnsriverkeeper.org or call 904.256.7591



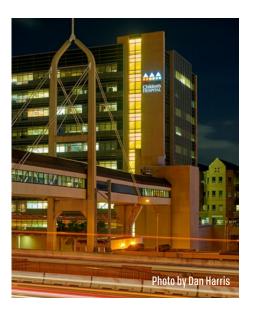


Wolfson lights Weaver Tower gold for childhood cancer awareness

September was National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, and to bring awareness to Jacksonville's "Home Team" of pediatric cancer specialists, the folks at Wolfson Children's Hospital and Nemours Children's Specialty Care celebrated by illuminating the Weaver Tower at Wolfson Children's Hospital in gold flood lights for a week in early September.

Mayor Lenny Curry kicked off the celebration during a press conference Sept. 6, where he issued a proclamation denoting September as "Childhood Cancer Awareness Month," to celebrate the more than 50 pediatric cancer specialists at Wolfson, Nemours, and UF Health Proton Therapy Institute. These physicians care for 95 percent of all children in the eight-county region who are diagnosed with cancer, said Michael Aubin, president of Wolfson Children's Hospital. The team of doctors, who are all part of nationally known and recognized organizations, treat children with 12 major types of cancer and more than 100 subtypes, he said

Also joining in the festivities were Keli Coughlin Joyce of the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund and Carla Montgomery of the Child Cancer Fund, two childhood cancer organizations that provide programs and services, so families of kids diagnosed with cancer within the Northeast Florida will feel supported and not alone.



During the month, the "Home Team" requested individuals within the community wear gold to show their support for the local childhood cancer awareness initiative.

Year after year, Wolfson is ranked among the 50 Best Children's Hospitals for pediatric cancer and pediatric neurology and neurosurgery by U.S. News & World Report. Along with Nemours and UF Health's Proton Therapy Institute, the conglomeration offers nationally recognized programs in the treatment of blood cancers, bone and soft tissue cancers, brain and spine tumors, liver tumors and solid organ tumors.



Celebrating National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month were Radiation Oncologist Daniel J. Indelicato, MD, UF Health Proton Therapy Institute; Jesse Dreicer, Esq., president, Child Cancer Fund; Carla Montgomery, executive director, Child Cancer Fund; Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry; Pediatric Hematologist Oncologist Howard M. Katzenstein, MD, medical director of the Wolfson Children's Hospital Cancer Center, division chief of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at Nemours; Pediatric Hematologist Oncologist Eric S. Sandler, chief of Hematology and Oncology at Wolfson Children's, Pediatric Hematologist Oncologist at Nemours; Paul A. Pitel, MD, chair of Pediatrics, Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at Nemours; Keli Coughlin Joyce, executive director of the Jay Fund; Gary Josephson, MD, chief medical officer, Nemours Children's Specialty Care, Jacksonville; NOT PICTURED: Michael D. Aubin, president of Wolfson Children's Hospital (Photo by Jeff Strohecker)





1650-302 Margaret St. #310,

Jacksonville, FL 32204

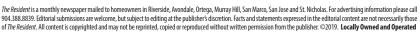
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WATERFRONT

4345 VENETIA BLVD - \$875,000 Exquisite 3/3 with 2847sf overlooking peaceful Pirates Cove. Covered porches, generously sized rooms, and a fixed staircase to potential 2nd floor space.



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AVONDALE WATERFRONT

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2786 RIVERSIDE AVENUE Gorgeous quadruplex with large 1-bedroom units over 1000sf each, ample off street parking, under contract in just 4 days!



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AVONDALE

1827 DONALD STREET - \$375,000 Avondale fixer-upper on a dead-end street to the river. 3/2, 2155sf, pool, and kitchen open to great room



ORTEGA FOREST - 4BR

4808 PRINCESS ANNE LANE - \$465,000 4/3, 2817sf, renovated ktichen open to family room, split bedrooms, and a pool!



FLEMING ISLAND

2014 POND RIDGE CT #1106 - \$210,000 Under contract! Fantastic second floor condo in The Enclave at Eagle Harbor, 3/3, 1966sf, hardwood floors and golf course views!



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8059 HOLLYRIDGE ROAD - \$750,000 **Exceptional Deerwood home** on the 10th hole, 3/3.5, 4482sf, beautifully renovated



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REDUCED!

4238 SHIRLEY AVENUE - \$199,000 Cute updated 3/1, 1215sf with new roof and AC, paver driveway and storage building



RIVERFRONT

4157 ORTEGA BLVD - \$1,695,000 100' waterfront! Timeless authenticity in this 1914 river home, 4/4, 2 half baths, 3796sf, salt pool, excellent layout



WATERFRONT

3934 MCGIRTS BLVD - \$1,099,000 Spectacular sunsets over the Ortega River! Custom 3/4.5 with amazing design, covered dock w/ lift + floating platform, big porches, and more



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4 | RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Riverside Park event helped pets find forever homes



It was a doggone fantastic day for the third annual Adopt a Bark in the Park, hosted by the Jacksonville Jaycees, Sept. 21 at Riverside Park.

The day featured adoptable dogs from local rescues, fun activities for dogs, including a doggie kissing booth and doggie ball pit, pet-friendly vendors, a demonstration from Jumpin' Jax Flyball Club, and a raffle.

There was also a collection drive for new or gently used items for the Animal Care and Protective Services (ACPS) shelter animals to which attendees donated toys, bowls, blankets, and treats – for both dogs and cats.

"The day we rescued Jack (dachshund mix) was the day our family became whole," said Genevieve Hall, Jacksonville Jaycees vice president for Individual Development and event organizer. "I may not be able to save every dog, but I can help these dogs. I couldn't ask for anything more than to help bring some joy to the shelter dogs, and make some families complete."

Proceeds from the event benefited Friends of Jacksonville Animals, Inc. FOJA works directly with the city of Jacksonville's Animal Care and Protective Services to benefit the lives of shelter animals by focusing on fundraising to assist with medical care, enrich the shelter environment, and promote adoptions to reduce euthanasia.

State of the River report raises red flags

Pollution and saltwater intrusion show cause for alarm

The 12th Annual State of the River report for the lower St. Johns River basin shows a striking jump in phosphorus as well as elevated levels of metals, continued loss of wetlands, and increasing impacts from saltwater intrusion and sea-level rise.

The report not only indicates an increase in phosphorous levels that are fueling frequent blue-green algae outbreaks, but also shows that sea-level rise from climate change and a legacy of dredging are causing salinity to rise and saltwater to move further upriver. This saltwater intrusion has "potential negative impacts on submerged aquatic vegetation," undermining the river's ability to filter out excess pollution and provide habitat for numerous aquatic organisms.

At the same time, South Florida is transporting its sewage sludge, a byproduct of wastewater treatment, to the head waters region of the St. Johns for disposal on farm and ranch lands. Sewage sludge contains high levels of phosphorus as well as a host of metals not removed in the treatment process. Since the St. Johns River flows north, excess pollution in its headwaters will eventually reach north Florida. Without immediate action to stop sewage sludge, which is also known as Biosolids, from being dumped in our watershed, north Florida faces a future of algal blooms and impact to human and ecosystem health, according to the report.

"There are early indicators that phosphorus is rising," said Gerry Pinto, chief scientist for the 2019 State of the River Report. "While the report card focuses on five-year trends, we do see an uptick in phosphorus and that is concerning for the lower St. Johns."

The 2019 River report showed several interesting findings:

- Total nitrogen and phosphorus levels remain unsatisfactory, exceeding state water quality standards. An abrupt uptick in phosphorous occurred in 2018.
- Metals, including arsenic, cadmium, lead, silver, and mercury show elevated levels and a unique pattern from the 2016-2018 previously downward trend.
- Sea-level rise is increasing groundwater levels. This reduces the capacity of
 the ground to hold and store nutrients and rainfall, resulting in more
 runoff, leaching and pollution.
- Saltwater intrusion is damaging wetlands and submerged vegetation that are critical to the river's health.
- Wetland losses continue, due to increased land development.
- Submerged vegetation destabilized by drought and back-to-back hurricanes has seen limited recovery.

Stephanie Freeman, chair of the St. Johns Riverkeeper Water Policy Group is also concerned. "As a mom, I am most concerned about the increase in metals being detected in our waterways," she said. "This newly released report makes me not only fear for the health of our river, but also the exposure to our children. As a family that fishes, boats,

and kayaks with my kids, I want my children to be able to enjoy our waterways without worrying about the harmful effects of metals, especially lead, in our waters."

Florida must prioritize a comprehensive statewide solution to deal with human waste," said Lisa Rinaman, the St. Johns Riverkeeper. "While the state is growing by 900 people a day, Florida must have a sustainable plan to dispose of human waste without polluting our waterways or threatening human health.

"While the state is growing by 900 people a day, Florida must have a sustainable plan to dispose of human waste without polluting our waterways or threatening human health."

- Lisa Rinaman

"This report underscores the fact that for Florida to be truly resilient to the growing threat of sea-level rise, we have to make better decisions to offset impacts," Rinaman continued. "We must protect wetlands, deny permits that accelerate impacts, and fortify our river for future generations."

The St. Johns Riverkeeper is circulating a petition asking for the same protections as South Florida to protect water quality in the St. Johns River from sewage sludge. To date, more than 13,000 have signed the petition. To read and sign the petition, go to www.stjohnsriverkeeper.org.





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6 | RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

5 Points Concept Plan

FROM PAGE 1

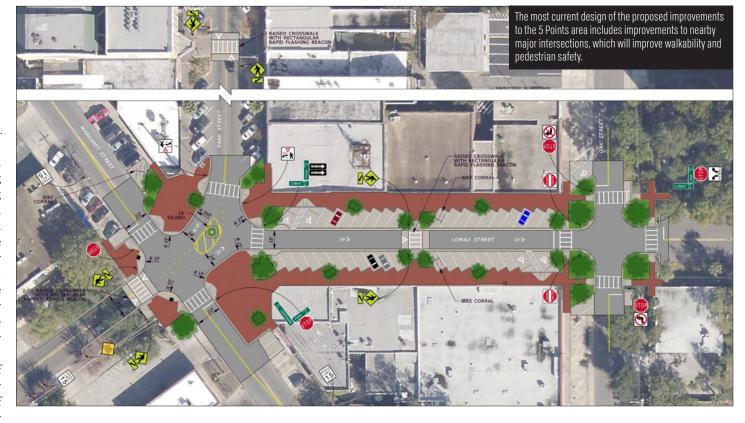
"I'm excited about the plan – this plan came from a group of individuals, along with RAP and others who have been working on this plan for several years. It didn't happen overnight, this concept has been worked on for years, and we are fortunate that we were able to get it passed through City Council – we need to thank the administration for assistance in that. We will be able to move forward on the project in January of next year," said DeFoor. "We were able to get it funded this year – it was actually not to be funded for five years."

The plan, which was just an inkling of an idea in 2013, grew into what it is today as the result of merchants and residents of 5 Points taking a walking tour with city leaders, engineers and traffic planners six years ago. Their conversation was three-pronged; they talked about the need to improve pedestrian access in the retail area, improve pedestrian and bicycle safety throughout 5 Points, and to achieve those results without losing any parking spaces.

Merchants and residents longed to transform 5 Points into an environment that would be safer and more welcoming for churches, businesses, visitors and those who live in the area, as well as for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users and drivers. Walkability is a prominent component of the plan, as it promotes slower vehicle speeds; more space for pedestrians; additional bike racks, and crosswalks that are shorter and more clearly marked. The plan also enlarges the amount of space available for meeting and dining, while potentially expanding the number of on-street parking spaces. Landscaping and lighting improvements are also included.

RAP President Warren Jones said members of the organization are pleased that the plan has finally passed. He largely credits DeFoor for successfully getting it pushed through ahead of schedule. "When Council Member DeFoor came in, this had been on the capital improvement list as something that was going to take place beyond five years from now. She came in and had a meeting with the merchants association, RAP was there, and she heard the merchants asking about this project that had just not been able to get off the ground. She said she would work on it and it would be one of her top priorities - she had only been in for office a few days. We are very thankful that she did that and got this approved," said Jones.

"The 5 Points intersection will get a significant amount of attention and signage



"Pedestrian safety will be enhanced through this, and the vehicular traffic, we hope, will be safer also with the changes they are making."

- Warren Jones, president, RAP

around that area. Pedestrian safety will be enhanced through this, and the vehicular traffic, we hope, will be safer also with the changes they are making," he added. "The sidewalk widening provides flexibility for merchants to do something in the future there. Ten years from now, we don't know who will be there, so it does provide that flexibility, and it's a great thing to have that built in"

As reported by *The Resident* in 2016, interested parties met a least a dozen times during 2013-2014 to review drawings of the proposed plan, and some expressed concerns that traffic might increase on Margaret Street and that there would be no appreciable gains in parking.

In mid-2014, it had seemed nearly everyone was on board with the proposed \$4 million streetscape proposal, which had the approval of the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission and Riverside Avondale Preservation.

The next step was the City Council's approval to put \$750,000 into the 2014-2015 budget for the design phase and construction drawings; however, beyond a \$99,000 line item for follow-up design and engineering studies, the 5 Points Concept Plan was not funded for the first phase, nor did it make it into Mayor Lenny Curry's 2015-2016 budget. Proponents waited for indicators that the project would be funded, if not within the 2016-2020 Capital Improvements Plan, then shortly thereafter.

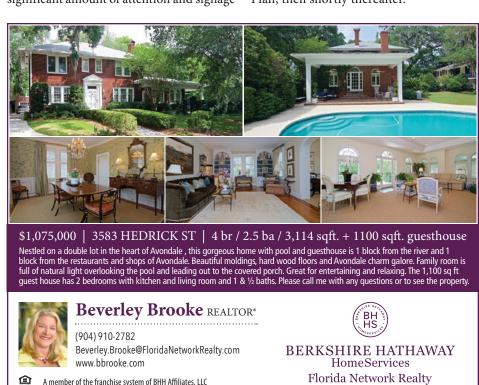
At a meeting in May 2016, there was much debate about whether a roundabout should be installed at the 5-way intersection and concern was raised about what would happen with the beacon, the Holy Grail of 5 Points. It was determined that improvements would be made to the intersection versus installing a roundabout, and the beacon would remain. Then the plan sat in limbo until DeFoor entered the picture.

"This has been such a long process and there have been a lot of merchants that have come and gone since the start of it. My understanding is, as with any project, there are merchants that are excited about it and merchants that maybe have concerns about it, but I think the overall feeling - at least on my part and merchants -- that I've heard is that any efforts like this plan, to make a historic district more pedestrian-focused and friendly, are positive developments for 5 Points and for local merchants, residents and potential visitors," said Kelly Pickard, owner of Alewife Bottle Shop and Tasting Room on Park Street and president of the 5 Points Merchants Association. "I think, in particular, Lomax is way overdue for getting some of the care and attention that we've seen given to Park Street. It's in the heart of 5 Points as well. Lomax can often be overlooked as you are going from Park to Margaret Street, or vice versa, so I think making Lomax more pedestrian friendly and getting more foot traffic is a positive development for those merchants."

Pickard emphasized that whoever is leading 5 Points in the future, while construction is taking place, needs to help their fellow merchants on Lomax Street during the process. "I think the big key will be just ensuring that we work together to make sure we try to alleviate any of those burdens that would take place during construction, whether it's loss of parking or streets being blocked off, and that we support those businesses on Lomax during the construction phase. The association is working with the City and with merchants to make sure we do that as best we can."

Steve Williams, owner of Hoptinger Bier Garden and Sausage House in 5 Points, said he is excited about the energy in 5 Points. On a recent Friday night, he had dinner at an area seafood restaurant and said the streets were packed with people. "I had never seen 5 Points quite that activated, and I was so excited about that. There is a lot of going on in the neighborhood right now.

"I love the plan. I think it's going to create a lot more of a safe corner, to be honest," he continued. "I know a lot of people are nostalgic about the current beacon and the last time I looked at the plan they had come up with an idea to save that beacon, which I think is very important. I don't know why it (the plan) didn't happen before but there is no point in looking back – let's get this thing rolling."







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1628 CHALLEN AVENUE 4/3, 2,621 square feet LISTED BY TRIPP NEWSOM \$569,000



4178 ROMA BOULEVARD 3/2, 2,254 square feet LISTED BY TRIPP NEWSOM \$299,000



4987 RIVER POINT ROAD 3/2/2 half baths, 3,314 square feet LISTED BY ANNE RAIN \$1,200,000



4755 RAMONA BOULEVARD 3/2, 1,513 square feet LISTED BY KEITH SOWIN \$249,000



3665 VALENCIA ROAD 4/3, 2,693 square feet LISTED BY CINDY COREY \$567,000



4771 APACHE AVENUE 4/3.5, 3,790 square feet LISTED BY WADE GRIFFIN \$799,000



1853 EDGEWOOD AVENUE SOUTH 4/3.5, 4,472 square feet LISTED BY WADE GRIFFIN \$1,325,000



3353 DELLWOOD AVENUE 3/1, 1,037 square feet LISTED BY SETH KIMBALL \$169,000



712 EDGEWOOD AVENUE SOUTH 4/1.5, 2,180 square feet LISTED BY ED AKERS \$250,000



1993 GLENFIELD CROSSING COURT 4/2.5, 2,430 square feet LISTED BY CHRISTIE RADNEY \$347,700



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Hawk takes refuge from storm at Ortega River Club

By Kandace Lankford

Resident Community News

While making storm preparations at the Ortega River Club the day before Hurricane Dorian was projected to make landfall, Adam Lundy had a wild encounter that he said he would never forget. He came faceto-face with a young red-tailed hawk, and the man and the bird ended up spending the next three days together.

When Lundy first saw the hawk on the back porch of the club, he realized something was wrong - the bird wasn't moving.

"I didn't know what to do at first and realized it was going to die out there, so I went and got a towel and some gloves. It was nervous when I got close to it with a towel, but I was being cautious, keeping the wing intact and making sure it didn't thrash around or hurt me at the same time," he said. "I brought her in and let her get comfortable in the ballroom and kind of left her alone for a little bit."

Lundy made some phone calls, trying to find out who could best help the bird, but no one answered his calls because, like him, they were preparing for the storm. He left a message for Bird Emergency Aid and Kare Sanctuary, or B.E.A.K.S., a nonprofit organization that rehabilitates injured wild birds, and did some research online to determine what he could do in the meantime.

He cleaned a turkey baster and through it, gave the hawk a few drops of water here and there. Then, he went outside and dug up some earthworms to feed to the bird. "She ate the earthworms and she got comfortable with me and trusted me," Lundy said. "She stared out the window from the back of a chair. She was able to hop around



perched on Club, where it camped for three days during last month's storm

and I let her have free roam of the place. I stayed away from her – I tried not to bother her too much because she is a wild animal."

Lundy stayed with the bird the whole time, except when he went home at night to sleep. When Publix opened after the storm had passed by, Lundy bought some raw chicken livers, gizzards and drumettes for his feathered friend. "She loved it; she ate it up. You could see the wild instinct in her when she went for it. I put it on a plate, and I left her to it, and I stood back and videoed it," he said. "She attacked the liver and her instinct came out – she had to grab it with her talons and snatch it to her and then she ate it, and after she was done, she fluffed her wings – like saying thank you."

On the third day, B.E.A.K.S arranged for someone to come pick up the injured bird and bring it back to the rehabilitation center. Lundy put the bird in a box that was tall enough for it to stand up in, packed up the leftover chicken to send with it, and said farewell to his new friend. He followed up with B.E.A.K.S. and was told that the bird's wing fracture was not as bad as it could have been, and it is on the mend.

"I was sad to part with her when the time came, but I knew she needed the attention that B.E.A.K.S. could give her to be rehabilitated and released back to her home," said Lundy. "I hope that someday she will be flying in the neighborhood and stop by the Ortega River Club again, as she used to, and perch on the grill house by the river."

Brooklyn construction progressing as planned

By Kandace Lankford

Resident Community News

The excavation at the corner of Riverside Avenue and Leila Street will soon emerge as Brooklyn Place. The city issued permits in late September for construction to begin. The commercial and retail development will be comprised of two buildings, totaling 11,451-square-feet. Tenants will include Bento Asian Kitchen + Sushi, Chipotle Mexican Grill and Panera Bread.

Ferber Company, a Ponte Vedra developer, is spearheading the approximately \$1.75 million project. The architect is FWH Architects, and the engineer and landscape architect are England-Thims & Miller. The development is being built on the northeast side of Brooklyn Station at the site of the property known as the Jug Handle, which was once used as a stormwater retention basin and included a turnoff for motorists to enter the Florida Times-Union property across Riverside Avenue after exiting the Acosta Bridge.

Brooklyn Place will consist of two separate buildings - a 3-unit, 7043-square-foot building at 50 Riverside Avenue and a second, smaller single-unit tenant building (4,408-square-feet) at 10 Riverside Avenue. The buildings will be compatible with the existing Brooklyn Station.

Tom Mundy, Ferber vice president of retail services, said it is expected that the amenities at Brooklyn Place will appeal to both nearby residents as well as daytime workers taking advantage of the attractive streetscapes along the Riverside Avenue pedestrian promenade.

Vista Brooklyn, which is being developed by Nashville-based Bristol Development Group and locally based Hallmark Partners, will bring 308 multifamily units and 13,000



Brooklyn Place will bring three new eateries plus retail space

square feet of ground-floor retail to 200 Riverside Ave. Plans also include a rooftop pool, clubhouse and dog park. That project is currently under construction and is slated to be completed in February 2021.

"We think for walkable urban neighborhoods to thrive it is important for there to be ground-floor retail creating energy at the pedestrian/street level. We think the Vista Brooklyn development team has been very thoughtful about designing the retail space and the overall project to create a quality experience for the retail tenants, their guests and the residents of the apartments.

"The development will feature 13,000 square feet of retail space along with a promenade for outside seating fronting Riverside Avenue and dedicated retail parking in the garage. We will be targeting local, regional and national retailers and restaurants that will fit into the fabric of the neighborhood while still having the ability to draw customers from across Jacksonville," said Keith Goldfaden, principal, NAI Hallmark, adding that Hallmark is not ready to announce anything regarding retail tenants at this time.





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POW/MIA memorial gets new name, bill introduced to Congress

The National POW/MIA Memorial & Museum may get federal designation

By Jennifer Edwards

Resident Community News

The POW/MIA memorial complex at Cecil Commerce Center is a big step closer to a sought-after national historic designation that could help net funding for further development.

It also has a new name: The National POW/MIA Memorial & Museum.

Retired Navy Capt. Robert "Bob" Buehn said that U.S. Reps. John Rutherford and Al Lawson introduced legislation to the House Sept. 20 that would federally designate the memorial as the National POW/MIA Memorial and Museum.

The legislation is currently in committee but could be out on the floor for a vote as soon as mid-October, said memorial Executive Director Mike Cassata. From there, it would go to the Senate and, if passed, on to the president for signature.

"It's a big step," said Buehn, the keynote speaker at the memorial on Sept. 21, National POW/MIA Recognition Day. "We are going from just a base to a national memorial and museum."

The event included status updates, a missing-man table ceremony by the Filipino American Veterans Society, a flyover, a car and bike show and an address by Buehn. Attendance was 400 to 450 compared to last year's 350, said William "Bill" Dudley, retired Air Force lieutenant colonel, another event speaker.

Perhaps more importantly, the event foreshadowed big things on the horizon at the memorial.

While the legislation is not yet a done deal, Buehn told the crowd that "we are confident it will be a national memorial that honors all POWS and the 82,000 still listed as missing in action and unaccounted for."

Cassata said that the volunteer group that staffs the non-profit memorial has now begun officially referring to it as the National POW/MIA Memorial & Museum. He said that in addition to possible funding opportunities, the national designation would comfort the families of POWs and those still missing in action.

"There is not a national memorial in the country," Cassata said. He believes Jacksonville's memorial should be that memorial, noting that the national flag devoted to prisoners of war and those missing in action – the iconic black flag with the soldier in the white circle – was created at Cecil Field.

He said that growing up as a military dependent, he was fortunate to have his father come home. Other families didn't, he said, and for those who never learn what happened to their loved one, grief can be never-ending.

"We could move on," he recalled. "These families couldn't. It's a big deal, it's an issue, and I am shocked that our nation does not have (an officially designated) national memorial."

The memorial is situated at the former NAS Cecil Field Master Jet Base (now Cecil Commerce Center) and has an existing memorial to NAS Cecil Field aviators stationed there during the Vietnam and Desert Storm conflicts. It contains markers for 16 pilots who were lost, a pavilion with a stage and a metal aircraft display.



Members of the Filipino American Veterans Society of Duval County are pictured during the Gathering of the Pines at the Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial Sept. 21.

The current memorial non-profit has a 26-acre lease with the City of Jacksonville and its volunteers plan to continue improving the property. They dedicated its Chapel of the High-Speed Pass in March after more than a year of restoration and renovation.

In November 2018, the Jacksonville City Council voted to designate the chapel as a historic landmark.

There are also plans to bring historic Viet Nam-era planes to the park soon, and parts for one of them are already nearby. Buehn said a nearby hangar contains an A-7 Corsair fuselage that will need to be rebuilt.

Albert "Buddy" Harris, memorial spokesman, said plans are on the table for at least four aircraft. He said those planes include the Corsair, an A-4 Skyhawk, an S-3 Viking and an FA-18 Hornet.

"There may be more in the future, but these four are definite," Harris said. He said the first to go in would be the A-7, perhaps as soon as March 2020.

Meanwhile, Buehn encourages county residents to lend a hand at the memorial.

"If you can, get involved," Buehn told the crowd at the gathering in September. "We are going to make it beautiful."

But there were already would-be volunteers in attendance.

Frank Lange of Port St. Lucie, a retired aircraft mechanic, drove up especially for the event presentations and the car show that came after.

Local ties prompted him to offer his help. "I was stationed here for almost 14 years," Lange said. "And I had an uncle that was a POW"

He hopes the name of his uncle, Joseph McCarthy, will join other names at a memorial wall that is among other future projects possibly in the works for the memorial.











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12 | RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Best-selling author wows capacity crowd at Southside Baptist Church

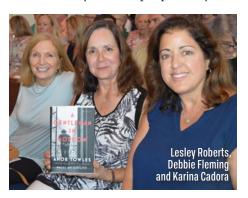
By Marcia Hodgson

Resident Community News

Every seat in the sanctuary – including the balcony – of Southside Baptist Church was filled to capacity as more than 650 avid readers came to hear *New York Times* best-selling author Amor Towles discuss his second book, *A Gentleman in Moscow*.

The evening with Towles, whose debut novel is *The Age of Civility*, was sponsored by Desiree Bailey, owner of San Marco Bookstore. Bailey won the opportunity to have Towles visit her bookstore to speak and sign books after she entered a window-display contest sponsored by Penguin Books. Her bookstore was one of three in the United States selected to win a visit from the author as the grand prize.

"I was just thrilled with the evening! Our planning paid off, and Mr. Towles was an eloquent and entertaining speaker. Good books, like *A Gentleman in Moscow*, have the power to bring people together, and I'm still amazed at the phenomenal response," said Bailey, expressing her sorrow that it was necessary to turn people away two



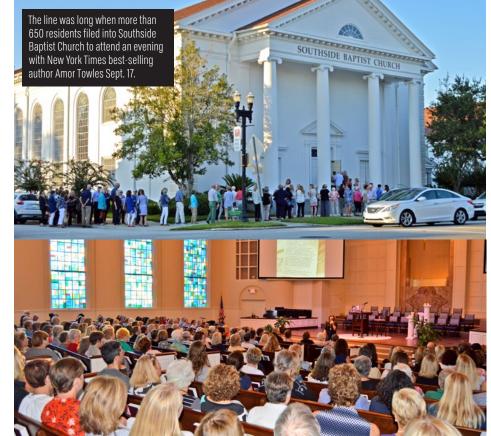
weeks prior to the event after 650 tickets were sold due to a limited amount of space in the church.

Bailey's display window consisted of a medley of different items representing elements within the story and included a typewriter, an accordion, film reels, wine bottles, suitcases, books read by the title character, Russian nesting dolls, fine China tea cups and saucers, and Hotel Metropol key fobs that Bailey designed herself. Several San Marco merchants assisted her with the display, including the owners of Town Hall, The Wardroom, and the San Marco Theatre.

"I entered this contest knowing that we are just a small independent bookstore in Jacksonville but hoping that our design would appeal to a larger audience," she said, after learning she won the award. "To me, this window shows how books can both transport and connect people, because over the last few weeks, I've thoroughly enjoyed hearing what people thought of the book and how they have encouraged others to read it."

Having the display window shine from a small independent bookstore was what Towles had in mind when he and his Penguin Books publisher discussed launching the contest. "I wanted to go to an independent bookstore where I haven't been, in a town where I haven't seen a large group of people," he told the audience.

Penguin complied by sending him photos of the various displays from across the country, narrowing it down to the seven best out of 50, he said. "It was easy to pick the top three," he added, noting that San Marco Bookstore's display reminded him of a "Cabinet of



Curiosity," boxes or rooms filled with objects popular at the turn of the century that were precursors to modern museums.

"I'm a Joseph Cornell guy. He is the 20th Century American artist who makes little boxes with collages and small objects inside. Perhaps you have seen them at MOMA (Museum of Modern Art) or the Chicago Institute of Art. You can look at them for hours. I've found them fascinating since I was a little child," he explained. "When I saw Desiree's display I thought, 'oh wow, this is so neat.' She nailed it for me, and luckily I was on the (selection) committee."

Plans are currently in the works to make A Gentleman in Moscow into a 16-hour

miniseries starring Kenneth Branagh, Towles said. "I love his work. I think he's terrific, and I'm glad he's doing it.

"I was adamant it not become a feature film," he continued. "There was a lot of interest in making a feature film, but I said we can't do it. We started with a six-hour plan – Apple with its new streaming service is producing it – and they were like, six is not enough. We could go 12, 14, or 16. We will do the story of the novel in 16 hours. When and if it happens, that's tough. With Hollywood you never know until the last minute, but they are writing the screenplay right now. Everyone is signed on contractually, so it should happen."

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ASK THE EXPERT

Residents debate favorability of infill projects in the neighborhood

Q:

Are you or are you not in favor of the increase in infill projects in our neighborhoods and neighboring growth points? Why or why not?

By Marcia Hodgson, Resident Community News



I would say I'm opposed to them in that I think they need to work on traffic before they bring more population in. I think the traffic is already bad, and when you build high-density units, it can make it worse. There is bumper-to-bumper traffic at certain times of the day, especially along St. Johns (Avenue) near River Vue. I've noticed more traffic there, especially during certain times of the day.

- CASEY BOSWELL, VENETIA



I'm in favor of it. Absolutely. Why not? I love the growth and seeing new things happen. I think River Vue is wonderful. That corner had nothing in it. The building was dated, and it was half occupied and look at what has been done for that corner. It's beautiful. Whoever built it, they did the landscaping right, they spent money on it. It's tasteful. It's very well done. I like seeing that added to the neighborhood.

- GARY MCCALLA, AVONDALE



I'm in favor. I would like to see this area blossom and succeed. Everything could get better. That's with every person, place, and thing. It can be improved. It looks nice now, but they can always improve it. Having more apartments is good, but it also depends on the people moving into the apartments, the clientele. This is more of an up-class area. It's not the ghetto. It's not the hood. The residents have to be up-to-par.

- TIM BELL, AVONDALE



No. I think growth from a residential standpoint is not necessarily warranted in this area. The infrastructure is not in place in order to facilitate that. The downtown area of Avondale is busy with shops. There is not enough parking, and we can do a pretty good job with what we have. There is no need to expand. The infrastructure won't accommodate it.

- MICHELLE GRANT, AVONDALE



I just moved from southern Florida, and I didn't like all of that. I like more of the traditional neighborhood walkability without having a lot of high rises or apartments. I feel apartments draw in more transient residents who aren't as invested in their community.

– JANEE KRAUTH, ORTEGA



It depends on whether they keep the infrastructure and need for parking in mind. I realize we do need housing in the city, and in this part of the city, affordable housing, but the way is usually to put it in with an absence of any consideration of the infrastructure and parking. Because they do it that way, I might be against particular projects because they haven't put enough thought into it. We had the former mayor of Charleston here speaking to us. He talked about putting affordable housing into open spaces that are in the downtown where we have blight.

Where he put in things were in open areas and were a Charleston-type of architecture, so they blended in and made his city more beautiful. I think we should be looking at building that kind of project. I think it's a really neat idea.

I guess it depends on the project. We had problems with the bank over here wanting

to put in a project that simply didn't fit in

the neighborhood. It was too large and

involved a parking situation and problems.

It was overbearing as far as the residents in the area were concerned, to have the

small cottages nearby dwarfed by a four-

story building up beside them. I know we

need to have plenty of housing for families and people in our

neighborhood, but I think we need to be very careful about main-

taining the quality and the appearance of the neighborhood.

– CATHY HEFFERNAN, LAKESHORE



I generally think it's a great idea to have mixed use in our neighborhoods. This is what Riverside is about, but I don't trust our city government to enforce its own codes and regulations. I've learned that from personal experience in my own neighborhood. Until the city is willing to be more transparent and to actually interface with the community

and their concerns, I would have to say I'm against those projects and I didn't start out that way. I started out thinking mixed-use was a grand idea.

- MICHELLE BUSBY, RIVERSIDE



I live in Ortega but will answer this as a business owner in Avondale. I'm all for development if it's done responsibly and follows the community's needs and wants. The

designs must be appropriate and the drainage responsible. As long as we do responsible development, we are on the right track, because you can't stop development. It's going to continue, and the more we constrict as a town and be centralized we can redevelop Downtown and other parts of the city that need it as much as we tend to overdevelop places that are already developed. So, there are entities that wish to improve the neighborhood by bringing in business, but they're more often times revitalizing themselves and not so much the community. There are other places in the community these investors can invest their money, and it would benefit everybody as well as them in the short-term medium and more appropriately long term, same as Downtown. We've got to get in there and start making these investments so we can start seeing the payoffs. You miss 100%of the balls you don't swing, so if we don't get in there and start swinging a little bit then we're are going to miss 100% of the opportunities. Again, I'm all for development if it's done to fit the community and done responsibly. You can be responsible and be profitable. Nowhere does it say that by making money you destroy the community. In fact, we need to rewrite those tenets to say we can make money by restoring, beautifying, expanding our great town without displacing poor people. A lot of times when you come into a community you displace poor folks, and the problem with that is, that's a community, a community of poor people. It is still a community of people, and those people have sustained that community. For other people to come in and kick them out - displace them - I feel is an example of irresponsible development. So, if we could work together with the city, the community, the developers, the investors, we can do it. Jacksonville has a lot of special things about it, always has. We can prove that we can do it ourselves. and we can prove we can do it locally, regionally, state-wide, and then we could use the model nationally. We can reinvent the footprint. We can make money and be responsible at the same time.

– IAN CHASE, ORTEGA

THE BIGGEST THING HAPPENING IN 2020: 5G

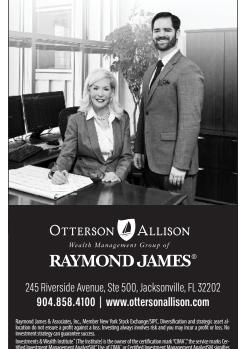
Fifth generation wireless technology (5G) isn't just poised to add another "G" to cellular's alliterative alphabet. It may signal the start of a new industrial revolution. While it takes time to adopt and fully utilize new technologies, each wireless generation had drastically changed our world. 5G has the potential to be the most disruptive yet. 5G could be the biggest thing to happen in 2020 because of the speed, reliability, and size of its network.

In 1981, 1G allowed us to make wireless calls in neon ski clothes but we had to wait until the Shania Twain era before 2g gave us the ability to either text or play Nokia's snake game. In 2001, 3G gave us the ability to access emails if we somehow hit the right combination of bunny pellet buttons on our Blackberry while we pretended to work from home. In 2008, 4G allowed our employers to see what we were doing while working from home as video streaming became available and 2020 is when 5G is set to take the stage. That performance has a lot of expectations.

1G: calls
2G: calls, text
3G: calls, text, data
4G: calls, text, data, video
5G: calls, text, data, video,?

The reason there is an enhanced anticipation around 5G is the potential disruptive power of low latency, high reliability, and high speeds. Whenever you click to watch Baby Shark at a lower quality because you need it to play NOW, you are reducing the latency or the delay happening between the signals. 5G has such a low delay and such a reliable network that things like manufacturing equipment no longer need to be hardwired together, instead, you have an entire factory wirelessly communicating what is happening in real time. In a home setting, this results in your A\C turning down, the lights and TV turning on, and the coffee machine starting just because you and your phone walked from your bedroom to the kitchen in the morning. While convenient and potentially noisy, take that same concept into the factory except there the small sensors allow for an engine to tell itself to send coolant to a specific coil that just started overheating. Overlay that concept on a city and you can see why GM is set to spend \$1 billion on self-driving technology. Many things never live up to their expectations, e.g. my decade old "How to Play the Bagpipes" book, but 5G gives plenty of reason to mark 2020 down as a potential year of change.

Caleb Cronic is a financial advisor with Raymond James & Associates, Inc. Opinions expressed in the attached article are those of the author



- ILA RAE MERTEN, RIVERSIDE

Sunken vessels and abandoned boats in Ortega River continue to be problematic

By Kandace Lankford

Resident Community News

The two vessels submerged in the Ortega River may be in their watery graves a while longer, as the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) continues to investigate both cases. One has been submerged since Memorial Day; the other since July 3.

Meanwhile, homeowners on the Ortega River are left looking at the eyesores and are forced to reckon with the growing number of vessels that park in the river for long periods, often with no owner aboard. They are beyond frustrated and feel like their rights are being completely ignored, according to Mike Barker, one such homeowner.

"At first there were just a few, and it didn't used to be bad. But during the recession, more boats started to show up. It got to the point where people started living on boats – it's cheap – and everybody found out the state of Florida doesn't police these boats so they could live on them anytime they wanted to. They could dump in the river, throw trash in the river, do whatever they wanted and then if the boat sank, they would just walk away," Barker said.

For Barker, things really became troublesome about six years ago, when Class Action, a dilapidated vessel, anchored near his home. He said the boat's generator was so loud that he couldn't have a normal conversation in his house. He reached out to FWC, the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, the City – all to no avail. One agency passed the buck to the next, he said, and there was no resolution in sight. "I finally called

our councilman, who called JSO on our behalf and the boat got dragged further out in the river, away from everybody. A month later, it sunk," he said. It took nearly a year for the Class Action to be removed from the waterway.

In 2009, major boating organizations rallied together and got the Florida Legislature to strip local governments' power to regulate anchoring, resulting in a host of problems. The intention was to allow mariners to have more freedom to drop anchor, but the law's change also served to open the waterways to those who are irresponsible, essentially allowing vessels that are barely afloat to have free reign.

Those same boating organizations were opposed to Florida laws passed in June 2016, which redefined distressed and derelict vessels and gave law enforcement the leverage it needed to ward off problem boats before they caused damage. Even so, it is a long, arduous process to address distressed and derelict boats.

A distressed boat is defined as one that isn't properly maintained, and a derelict vessel means any vessel that is left, stored, or abandoned in a wrecked, junked, or substantially dismantled condition upon any public waters in Florida, according to state statutes.

"It is not a fast process by any means – it's someone's property. We are essentially taking someone's property out of where they left it, so there are things we have to do in order to make sure we are doing the right thing by both other constituents and other users as well as the property owner," said Officer Lance Haskins, the spokesman for the North Central Region of FWC.

When it comes to the boats in the Ortega River, the FWC was unable to provide specific information about how those cases are progressing. "Both cases are currently under investigation. More information will be available once the cases have closed and we can release the reports. But, at this point in time, because it is a potential criminal investigation, I am not allowed to give you any information on what's going on and their current status. When the reports are released, you'll be able to see exactly what happened and what the process was," said Haskins.

According to Capt. Jim Suber, waterways coordinator and dockmaster for the City of Jacksonville, there is some debate between the City and the FWC as to whose responsibility it is to handle the boat that sank July 3. The FWC has deemed that it is a floating structure rather than a vessel, because it has no means of propulsion. FWC is not responsible for floating structures.

"We feel like it is a derelict vessel because it was built on top of what was at one time a vessel, and second of all is that the waterways of the state of Florida belong to the state of Florida, so just because they classify it as a derelict vessel or a floating structure, it doesn't relinquish the responsibility of the state to include FWC in the proper removal of that obstruction - it's not the responsibility of the city. Our only responsibility is to cooperate and help in the funding and the resources for removal," Suber said. "But we will work through it because we have a great relationship of cooperation on these issues with the City of Jacksonville, the FWC, JSO and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection," he added.

Suber issued a caveat for boat owners who sell their vessels. "If you ever sell a boat, you need to make sure that you go the DMV and fill out a form they have that identifies who you sold the boat to and for how much, so it will relinquish you from the responsibility in the future if that boat comes back as a derelict vessel – otherwise you will have to pay for damages. It's very important for people to that," he said.

While Ortega River homeowners wait for the two sunken vessels to be removed, there are others in the river that remain problematic, including the sailboat that has been parked near Barker's dock for nearly three years, most of which with no owner aboard. A boater himself, Barker doesn't oppose navigations' rights for mariners, but believes that those who abuse the law should face the consequences in a timely fashion.

"We are going to have to come up with a policy enforcing that people engage with their boat or get rid of it. So that means you're buying insurance, you're actually navigating with it, you can't use anything except a commercial anchor – no engine blocks, no concrete blocks none of that – you have to provide a septic holding tank pumped out receipt on demand, you need at least a 300-foot buffer between any dock and an anchored boat and a noise limit on generators," he said.

However, he said he isn't very hopeful, considering that his pleas for help have fallen on mostly deaf ears at all the agencies involved with policing the waterways, and the distressed and derelict boat problem continues to grow. "The people in Ortega are really pushing hard to make things better, and this isn't helping," he said.



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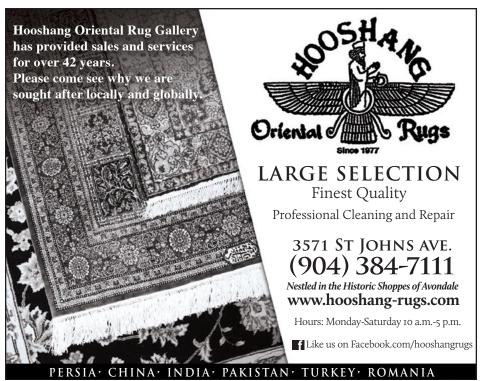
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A golden opportunity awaits in St. Nicholas

Calling entrepreneurs, business owners and savvy investors

There's commercial space in St. Nicholas for lease that's ripe for strong business concepts. The collection of buildings, located from 2705 to 2727 Atlantic Blvd, is being redefined as a pet-oriented campus, and can accommodate anyone looking to grow their business in conjunction with one of the best loved animal hospitals in the Jacksonville area. The location is prime, next door to San Marco, the bustling Southbank and our growing Downtown.

Forward-thinking entrepreneurs can take full advantage of the innate factors that matter most to the success of businesses – high traffic counts, street visibility and the nearby affluent customer base, along with a built in draw of 1,000s of loyal pet owners, bringing their furry family members to St. Francis Animal Hospital from all over Northeast Florida. Currently, St. Francis occupies 5,000 of the 20,000 square-foot campus, leaving plenty of availability for grooming, boarding, retail, day care, and food concepts catering to pet owners.

"The entire block has such potential, from the surplus of parking, to the steady flow of traffic on the thoroughfare that is Atlantic Blvd.," said Dr. Susie Shelton, owner of the property. She's also the lead veterinarian at St. Francis Animal Hospital that occupies the building and knows that the campus can suit a multitude of uses. "There's approximately 15,000-square-feet of indoor space available to work with and great outdoor potential as well. We feel that the possibilities are endless for the right fit," she said.

Shelton has enlisted the help of Jon Singleton with Watson Realty, one of the area's top real estate agents. Jon is confident in the strength of the market and the demand for this type of use. He's so confident that he's immediately jumped in and taken on the showings and conversations with future tenants and is working to foster the right relationships for Dr. Shelton in future ventures.

"Susie and I have worked together for years, she's a great businesswoman and a compassionate veterinarian. She understands the market, and she knows we can find some fantastic people that want to either partner up with animal-based business models or can provide a service outside of that niche that takes advantage of this customer stream," shared Singleton. "There are models that exist in the pet industry and many of them would marry nicely into this business. Susie has such a loyal following, and this will simply complete the package and provide a more holistic experience for her customers," Singleton continued. "We also really enjoy collaborating, and have partnered with the fundraiser Chariots of Fur, and other endeavors in the past. She and I have both been recognized as city-wide favorites through numerous venues, and love combining our positive energies!"

While not dead set on an animal-related concept, Singleton and Shelton are also welcoming ideas for an entirely new venture – like a brewing company, natural juice bar, gym concept, wellness center, or any other 'outside of the box' tenant. With ample parking and a sprawling oak that provides shade and green space in the back of the property, there's a lot to work with. "The fact that I have a thriving practice with clients coming from over 25 different ZIP



codes is huge," said Shelton. It provides a pipeline for any animal related businesses or others that offer amenities for those waiting for their pets.

For the entrepreneur seeking space for expanding a model concept like Kanine Social in the Brooklyn area or Brew Hound in Atlantic Beach; the immediate impact could be felt by way of the veterinary practice. Many animal procedures take time, grooming takes time, and the recovery from trauma takes time. This time could be spent enjoying downtime at a hybrid brewing concept, a juice bar, or perhaps a complimentary wellness concept for animals. Additionally, services like boarding could be combined with grooming in a

campus-like setting with shopping and other amenities.

If you have a project and want to explore the options, visit the buildings, and walk the property, give Jon Singleton a call or visit **www.2727AtlanticBlvd.com** to view photos, learn more and discover the best location for your next venture. Bring your concept to the masses and get noticed in this prime piece of real estate by calling 904-226-3480, ask for Jon Singleton.









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MOVERS & SHAKERS



Hair Peace brings equanimity to troubled tresses

For the past 23 years, Bruce Musser has been taming crazy curls, framing faces with fabulous hairstyles and using his hair color expertise to create new looks for his clients. As the owner of Hair Peace, Musser has made it his mission to help people go with the flow when it comes to their hair – hence the name of his salon.

"I came up with the name because I had clients who were at war with their hair. It was a long time ago and we didn't have all these fabulous products and the technology that we do now. So, clients were blow drying and flat ironing and burning their hair – then they

would wet it and start all over again – they were mad," Musser said. "I said, 'That sounds like a terrible morning – you need to make peace with your hair. You need to have hair peace.'

For 20 years, Musser's salon was in the heart of 5 Points, but three years ago this month, he made a bold move – he relocated to 2534 Oak Street. Although he was "snug as bug in a rug" in 5 Points, it was time for a change. "It was time for me to move and grow the business and get a bigger footprint," he said. "I bought a building in Riverside and renovated it to suit me, and we've really grown a lot since we've been here."

Musser's expertise is cutting and coloring, and his specialty is curly hair. He and his team of stylists collaborate to help clients find the best styles and solutions for their hair. He said his favorite part of being a stylist is the transformation. "That transformation could be physical, or it could be emotional," he said. "Somebody comes in telling me they look tired and feel tired and want me to fix them – so I do. I give them a new haircut, or a new color and they walk out standing a little straighter and feeling rejuvenated. That transformation is really cool, and that's energizing to me."

Multi-million-dollar bequests made to local non-profits

Several large bequests will help four local non-profits continue their good work, thanks to the Honorable John H. Moore II and Joan Kraft Moore Living Trust. Judge Moore passed away in July 2013 and was followed by his wife, a high school English teacher, in April of this year.

Community Hospice and Palliative Care Foundation, Dreams Come True, Mayo Clinic, and Ronald McDonald House Charities of Jacksonville each received \$2.4 million this August, according to a news release. Thomas M. Donahoo Sr. and Thomas M. Donahoo Jr., from the law firm of Donahoo & McMenamy, presented the last trust distribution on Aug. 22 to Amy Davis, vice president of the Community Hospice & Palliative Care Foundation, according to the release.

"The Moores were a prime example of giving back to the community," Davis said. "Their legacy will live on through their thoughtful gift that will impact future generations.



Community Hospice & Palliative Care Leadership: Mary Waldroff, director of Major and Planned Gifts; Andrea Fritz, vice president of Finance; Amy Davis, vice president and Executive Director of Philanthropy; Middle: Thomas M. Donahoo Sr. and Thomas M. Donahoo Jr. of the law firm of Donahoo & McMenamy and, Community Hospice & Palliative Care Leadership: Carlos Bosque, chief financial officer of and Jim Monahan, vice president of Education and Community Engagement

"We will continue to provide compassionate end of life care, as well as providing for comfort and care for both children and adult patients. This transformative gift will be invested into our endowment, enabling our free programs to continue and grow into the future," she continued.

New Nemours physician to bring hope to kids with hearing loss

Children in North Florida with conditions ranging from hearing loss to sleep disorders now have more resources for life-changing treatment close to home. Pediatric otolaryngologist Scott



Dr. Scott Brietzk

Brietzke, MD, MPH, has joined the team at Wolfson Children's Hospital and Nemours Children's Specialty Care.

Brietzke, who maintains special interests in sleep apnea and cochlear implants, comes to Jacksonville from Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital in Hollywood, Fla. He will focus on the following treatment areas: adenoidectomy, bone-anchored hearing aids (BAHA), complex sleep disorders, ear drum repair, ear drum reconstruction, facial nerve disorder treatment, fiberoptic laryngoscopy, foreign body removal, laser laryngoscopy, laser bronchoscopy, mastoid disorder treatment, middle ear reconstruction, myringotomy with ventilating tubes, nasal endoscopy, obstructive sleep apnea, otology treatment, pediatric sinus disease treatment, tonsillectomy and trachea reconstruction.

"I looked for an opportunity where I could be part of a team that offered the most comprehensive care for children and their families," Brietzke said. "When children come to Wolfson Children's and Nemours, they have access to a full range of specialists to treat every aspect of each individual condition."

Brietzke served in the U.S. Army for more than 20 years and was the director of pediatric otolaryngology and adult sleep surgery at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. He has also directed 11 humanitarian missions to Honduras to provide adult and pediatric ear surgery and hearing rehabilitation.

"The military has played a huge role in my life, and it's an honor to be able to serve military families in a city like Jacksonville that appreciates its service members," he said.

Brietzke and his wife have five children. In his free time, he enjoys attending his children's sporting events, participating in church activities, and cycling.



Neurosurgery Outreach Foundation celebrates 10 years

It's been 10 years since Dr. Philipp Aldana and his wife, Carmina, formed the Neurosurgery Outreach Foundation. A pediatric neurosurgeon and co-medical director of the Stys Neuroscience Institute at Wolfson Children's Hospital, Aldana was trained in his field in Miami, which is where he noticed the stark contrast between neurological care and resources in the United States and those in his native land, the Philippines.

"We are so lucky to have all the medical resources available to us here in the U.S. Simple treatments that we take for granted here are scarcely available in most underdeveloped countries," Aldana said.

Currently there is a large unmet need for access to all forms of surgery globally. The lack of access to surgical care results in more deaths than those ascribed to malaria, HIV/AIDS and TB combined, he said. To help address this need, Aldana and his wife, Carmina, who were both born in the Philippines, started the Neurosurgery Outreach Foundation (NOF) to advance neurosurgical care in underserved communities through education, service and support, particularly in Southeast Asia.

Over the past decade, NOF has gathered generous donations of time and resources from First Coast residents. These donations have made their way to help patients, hospitals, and neurosurgery trainees halfway around the world. The donations have helped treat approximately 500 patients with neurosurgical conditions and have facilitated the training of 130 doctors through education and surgical missions in the Philippines. They have also provided scholarships for the education of 44 neurosurgical trainees from countries as far away as Nepal, Malaysia, Bangladesh, India, Vietnam and Indonesia.

One such neurosurgery trainee that has taken advantage of the nonprofit's assistance is Dr. Astri Avianti, a neurosurgeon from



Dr. Ricardo Hanel of Baptist, Dr. Philipp Aldana of Wolfson Children's Hospital and UF, Carmina Aldana, co-founder of NOF Melanie Boree, board member of NOF, Dr. Gordon Deen of the Mayo Clinic, Dr. Karen Lidsky of Wolfson and UF.

Indonesia. She went on to practice in her field in her native land and was later motivated to receive further training by observing at Wolfson Children's Hospital and Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville.

"I was inspired to become a pediatric neurosurgeon after attending my first advanced course in pediatric neurosurgery as a fourth-year resident," said Avianti, noting she could not have done it without the help of a NOF education award.

NOF celebrated its 10th anniversary with a sold-out Philippine-themed fundraising event, Filipiniana, at WJCT Studios Aug. 17. It featured a fancy dinner crafted by Jax Filipino Chefs and pieces of art by Filipino artists from around the world. The goal of the event was to raise funds and sustain its programs for 10 more years.

For more information about NOF and to support its programs, visit http://www. neurosurgeryoutreach.org/.

LGBTQ Community Fund for Northeast Florida welcomes new advisory board members

To further its effort to support and enhance the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer/questioning community in Duval and surrounding counties, the LGBTQ Community Fund for Northeast Florida has added four individuals to serve on its advisory board.

Mario Decunto, Samir Gupte, Ellen Thrower and Jake Wolfburg, will assist the existing advisory board members in managing the fund's affairs, including recommending grants, developing relationships with potential donors and communicating the mission and impact of the fund.

Decunto is a licensed mental health counselor at Episcopal Children's Services. Gupte is chief change officer with Samiracles Consulting. Thrower is a retired executive director and professor at St. Johns University's School of Risk Management, Insurance and Actuarial Science in New York, and Wolfburg is a policy advocate for community and regional affairs.

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"This is a pivotal time in the fund's work, as we are poised to make our 2019 grants to area nonprofits that are building greater togetherness within our LGBTQ community, and making Northeast Florida more welcoming to its LGBTQ population," noted Dr. Joe Barton, chairman of the LGBTQ Community Fund Advisory Board. "Mario, Samir, Ellen and Jake will add a wealth of additional experience and perspective to the knowledge we have gained in our first five years of grantmaking."

In addition to Dr. Barton, other members of the advisory board include Garry Bevel; Barbara Drake; Carter Elliott; Randy Kammer; Jesse Kraker; Michael Meyers; Glenn Miller; Sharòn Simmons; Carl Utter; and Nina Waters, president of The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida.

Since it began making grants in 2014, the LGBTQ Community Fund has awarded \$640,000 to various organizations that

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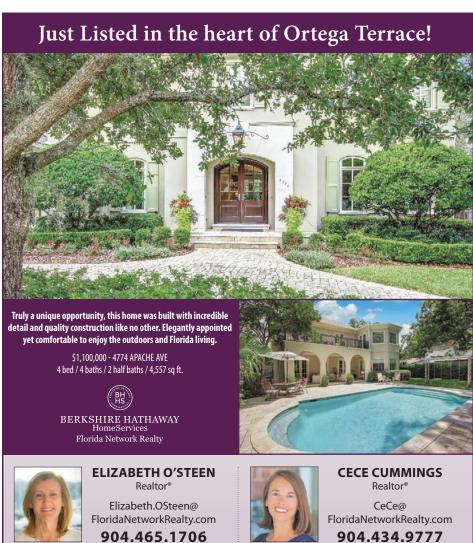


Ellen Thrower



represent the LGBTQ population and invested \$168,000 in local research and convenings to improve the lives of those in the LGBTQ community. In 2019, the LGBTQ Community Fund added a Grassroots Grants Program grants up to \$1,500 for organizations to improve their competence and/or capacity to serve the LGBTQ community. The Chartrand Family and Delores Barr Weaver have established a \$1 million LGBTQ endowment that will anchor the work of fund for years to come.

The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida is Florida's oldest and one of its largest community foundations. Now in its 55th year, the Foundation has assets of \$384 million and has made \$500 million in grants





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Clay Eye Physicians & Surgeons welcomes new medical surgical retina specialist

One of Jacksonville's own, J. Parker DuPree, M.D., has returned to his roots to begin his tenure with Clay Eye Physicians & Surgeons. Dupree graduated medical school from the University of Florida and completed



J. Parker DuPree, M.D.

his internship and residency at the University of Kentucky, Department of Ophthalmology, where he also completed his vitreoretinal fellowship.

"Jacksonville is my hometown, and I'm really happy for the opportunity to be back. I have always loved the city, the culture and this community. Clay Eye has an amazing reputation and a longevity that I knew I wanted to be part of. Clay Eye offers comprehensive eye care with sub specialists to support any and all patients," said DuPree.

Established more than 40 years ago, Clay Eye's ultimate mission remains the same – to put the needs of the patient first, said Dr. Russell Pecoraro, ophthalmologist and retina specialist for Clay Eye.

"We hire new associates not solely based on skill set, but also the ability to fit into our culture...as a team and as a family," Pecoraro said. "Dr. DuPree will provide a full complement to the existing care of patients with macular degeneration, retinal disease, and diabetes related eye problems. In addition, he will bring an entirely new skill set to the Clay Eye family, to include the surgical correction of retinal related problems, which will expand our reach to the community even further. We are very excited about Dr. DuPree joining Clay Eye."

Clay Eye Physicians & Surgeons offers comprehensive eye care in numerous specialties, including glaucoma surgery, diabetic eye disease and macular degeneration, laser cataract surgery, and more. They also offer routine eye exams, contacts lenses and boutique eyewear. The 12-physician group has offices in Orange Park, Fleming Island, Mandarin and Riverside.

Bolles honors Coach Corky Rogers with a plaza

Thanks to longtime Bolles football supporter A. Chester Skinner, Jr. and his family, the accomplishments of Charles "Corky" Rogers, the Bulldog's former head football coach, will live on in perpetuity.

Skinner, a member of Bolles class of 1940, sponsored the construction of a new plaza honoring Rogers' storied career. The plaza, which is located at the west entrance to the stadium on the school's San Jose campus, creates a new arrival point for fans and showcases Rogers' legendary wins. It was unveiled prior to the start of the Bolles vs. University Christian football game Aug. 24. The game was the finale of the inaugural Bold City Showcase, an event created by Airstream Ventures, which was founded by Bolles alumnus Alan Verlander.

Bolles President and Head of School Tyler Hodges joined Skinner and Rogers at the 50-yard line as he shared remarks on Rogers' coaching history and announced the official opening of the plaza to an enthusiastic crowd during the end of the game's first quarter.

Famous throughout Florida and the United States, Rogers' name is listed in the National High School Hall of Fame, the Florida Sports Hall of Fame, the Gator Bowl Hall of Fame, the Florida High School Athletic Hall of Fame, and the Florida Coaches Association Hall of Fame, among other honors. During his coaching career, he racked up a 449-80-1 coaching record within the 43 years he spent overseeing football teams at both Robert E. Lee High School and Bolles. Over 16 years at Lee,



Charles "Corky" Rogers and his family join A. Chester Skinner and his family during the opening of the Corky Rogers Plaza at The Bolles School Aug. 24.

his record was 141-39-1. During 27 years at Bolles, he tallied 304 wins, 41 losses and 10 state championships.

During his tenure, he ranked fifth nationally in career wins among active coaches and is the eighth coach in the history of high school football throughout the United States to reach 400 wins. He was named National High School Football Coach of the Year for 2004-05 by the National High School Coaches Association. In August 2015, he landed on top of a field of 28 high school, college and NFL head coaches in the "Greatest Football Coach in Florida" bracket established by the

Orlando Sentinal, where he beat out Bobby Bowden of Florida State, Steve Spurrier of the University of Florida and Don Shula of the Miami Dolphins.

"When Coach Rogers retired from Bolles in 2016, we knew we had to do something to commemorate such an outstanding career and influential person," said Hodges. "The Skinner family, led by Mr. Chester Skinner from the class of 1940, stepped up to create a space to honor Coach Rogers' important legacy. Thanks to their generosity, the new Corky Rogers Plaza was built – establishing an entirely new front entrance to our Skinner-Barco Stadium."

Treaty Oak park lights up for Festival D'Vine

Festival d'Vine is a notable occasion when patrons spend a cool evening outdoors in the Treaty Oak Park on the Southbank listening as the music jams, the fine wines are poured, and some of the areas finest food is served.

"Every year the goal of Festival d'Vine is not only to bring our community together for a delicious and fun event, it's to raise crucial funds that help Catholic Charities continue to be a resource for the most vulnerable in our community," said Lauren Weedon Hopkins, regional director for Catholic Charities Jacksonville. "We're grateful for the continued support of many local organizations, sponsors and guests."

Barbara Bredehoeft, proprietor of two local legendary restaurants – bb's in San Marco and Biscotti's of Avondale – has been a longtime supporter of the event and always lends a hand in the execution of Catholic Charities events. "It's a fabulous time of the year, there's always a great band and the wines are spectacular," she

said. "Everyone is dressed in jeans, relaxed, and the knowledge of the wines being poured is extraordinary."

Festival D'Vine is held annually in November, so take note when ticket sales roll out for the Oct. 25 event date with a 6 p.m. kickoff. Sponsorship opportunities from \$500 to \$10,000 are still available. Please call Nicola Barnack at (904) 899-5505 for more information. To purchase tickets, visit the Catholic Charities website at ccbjax.org.







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Philanthropists Cindy and Dan Edelman establish excellence in teaching fellowship for Duval County

Public and charter school teachers will create their dream professional development experience

Dan Edelman honored his wife, Cindy - a passionate public education champion - by initiating the establishment of a fund at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida to provide professional development opportunities for K-12 teachers in the Duval County Public Schools.

The permanent fund, The Cindy Edelman Excellence in Teaching Fellowship, is intended to identify and reward excellence in teaching, and support a program of professional development or research. It will provide successful applicants up to \$6,500 per teacher or \$10,000 per teacher team to pursue career-enhancing strategies for professional educators.

"Great teachers share an incredible passion to elevate their practice so they can be more effective in the classroom," noted Cindy Edelman, who is a retired art history educator. "With this fellowship, I hope we can open doors for these dedicated professionals to have the learning experience they seek to advance their craft and deliver even more impact for

The Fellowship will be administered by the Jacksonville Public Education Fund (JPEF), a nonprofit organization that



works to close the opportunity gap for low-income students by investing in great leaders in and around area public schools. Cindy has been deeply involved in JPEF since its inception ten years ago, chairing its board of directors in 2012 and 2013. She also chaired The Community Foundation's board of trustees in 2010 and 2011 and helped lead the Foundation's Quality Education for All Initiative, and its private philanthropy component, the Quality Education for All Fund.

"Investing in excellent education will always yield an invaluable return to our children and the entire community, and I could not be more grateful to the Edelmans for this tremendous gift to our educators," said Duval County Schools Superintendent Dr. Diana Greene. "Our teachers are our foundation. They are what keep Team Duval moving forward, and I know these fellowships will provide more fuel in our journey to becoming an A-district with outstanding student achievement."

Sarah Pasion, the 2019 Florida Blue Duval County Teacher of the Year, is enthusiastic about the prospect of such a generous professional development opportunity. "When teachers are inspired to teach, students are inspired to learn," she said. "The Edelman Fellowship is an incredible opportunity for public school teachers in Duval County to design their own learning experience and pursue their passions. I'm grateful to the Edelman family for their steadfast support of educators."

Applications for The Cindy Edelman Excellence in Teaching Fellowship are now open now-the deadline is Jan. 10, 2020. Fellowships are available to full-time Duval County Public School and Duval County Charter School teachers in any subject area. Funds may be used for approved expenses for any learning experience that will help transform their classroom teaching and provide greater impact for their students. If selected, the grantee's funds must be spent within one year of being awarded the grant. Please go to www.jaxpef.org/ edelman for details and instructions on how to apply.

Gast named Outstanding Young American

JCI USA, commonly known as the Jaycees, has announced that Lindsey Gast, 40, of St. Johns, has been named one of the 2019 Ten Outstanding Young Americans to be honored at a black-tie awards ceremony Saturday,



been named one of 10 Outstanding Young Americans

Sept. 28, at the Omni Hotel in Corpus Christi, Texas. The Ten Outstanding Young Americans program is one of the oldest and most prestigious recognition programs in America.

Gast, who launched her firm GastHouse Public Relations in 2015, was chosen for her excellence and achievements in the area of business and entrepreneurship.

"I am humbled to be honored as one of the Ten Outstanding Young Americans" said Gast. "To know that this award highlighted the lives of such historically notable Americans like John F. Kennedy, Elvis Presley, and Howard Hughes reminds us that success is not an achievement, but a mindset. I can only hope that my future will pay homage to the caliber of those honored before me and serve as an inspiration for those to come to continue to serve their communities and the ideals of the Jaycees."

Also named as a JCI USA 2019 Ten Outstanding Young American was Jacksonville's Jessica Armstrong, 39, assistant director/assistant team coordinator of the UF First Coast Child Protection Team.

Suicide prevention focus of event at Episcopal School

Mental health and suicide prevention were the focus of the first student health, safety and well-being event at Episcopal School of Jacksonville Sept. 12.

Dr. Elise Fallucco, chief of UF Health's Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Dennis Gillan, a mental health advocate and professional speaker, addressed the crowd. Fallucco addressed anxiety, depression, and coping strategies that promote maintaining mental health. Gillan shared his personal message about the importance of suicide prevention and awareness. He also held a session for parents.

In addition, stationary bicycles were installed on the school's Kirwan Flag Plaza so that students, faculty and staff could log miles to



support Cycle Around the Globe, an initiative to raise awareness of the risks of suicide and to fund suicide prevention activities. Faculty, staff and students were encouraged to ride a few minutes Sept. 12 and 13 as a way to tangibly connect to the need for suicide prevention and awareness around the world. The bicycles and their installation were supplied by Open Road Bicycles and the Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida.

"We received great feedback from students, faculty and staff, and parents on our speakers.

Dr. Fallucco and Mr. Gillan provided education about mental health, suicide prevention, and how to take care of each other," said Amy Perkins, director of Student Services at Episcopal. "Participating in Cycle Around the Globe connected our conversation to a worldwide effort to promote suicide awareness and prevention. The students seemed to really love having the chance to bike a mile or two during the day. The fact that it supports a great cause made it even better. We logged more than 400 miles over two days!"

Bake sale raises money to end Alzheimer's

Visiting Angels, an organization that provides in-home care services for seniors, walks alongside the aging population in more ways than one.

The nonprofit recently raised \$301 with a bake sale held to benefit Walk to End Alzheimer's, the world's largest event to fight the disease. The sight of fresh baked wares greeted those entering the lobby at the Aging True building on Lakeside Drive, enticing building tenants to enjoy the tasty treats while benefitting a good cause. Smallcakes Cupcakery and Creamery provided a variety of cupcakes, and Visiting Angels employees donated baked goods for the sale as well.

Visiting Angels will continue its efforts to raise money for the cause through the month of October. The Walk to End Alzheimer's will take place Nov. 16 at Hemming Park. For more information, visit https://act.alz.org



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Mom's battle with cancer inspired bike shop owner to help

Holt Tucker, an Ortega Forest resident and owner of Open Road Bicycles of Avondale, said his mother is the reason he has become one of an increasing number of men raising money to battle breast cancer.

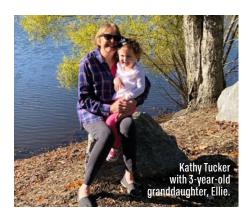
Kathy Tucker fought breast cancer nine years ago and survived but, unfortunately, had a friend who was not so fortunate, he said.

"She's doing great," he said, referring to his mother "It hit me hard, but she has a really good support system. The main goal is always to find a cure, and that's what I am hoping, that we will beat it."

To help others overcome the struggle, Tucker has joined this year's local Real Men Wear Pink fundraiser, which empowers men to raise money and awareness for breast cancer. To that end, he will be organizing a race Oct. 3 in Willowbranch Park, auctioning off a bike and wearing his pink bicycle jersey out and about, including at a recent Jumbo Shrimp game.

Holt is one of many men joining in the fight against breast cancer. Nationally, Real Men Wear Pink has grown exponentially since it began six years ago, said American Cancer Society Communications Director Joe Culotta. The event grew from a campaign in Jackson, Tenn., in 2013 and expanded to 200 communities and 3,500 participants in 2019, Culotta said, adding that campaign participants have raised \$9.5 million nationally so far.

Local participants say fundraising has grown in Jacksonville as well. "The trend has definitely been that we raise more money year over year," said Charlene Shirk, local campaign public relations chair. Shirk said this is the fourth year for the Jacksonville-area campaign.



The group has raised \$289,000 total since 2016 and seen participation rise from 28 men the first year to 38 in 2019, Shirk said Last year alone, the local campaign brought in \$140,000, campaign Co-Chair Chris Condon said in a news release.

Each year, organizers start with a list of 60 men as potential fundraisers and then narrow down the list somewhere in the 30s or 40s, Shirk said

"It ends up being a magical mixture, different backgrounds," she said. "Some are business managers, some are corporate leaders, some are educators." All are asked to make a commitment to fundraise or write a check for \$2,500 at minimum.

While some men contract breast cancer, it occurs overwhelmingly in women. Still, men are powerfully impacted as well, Shirk said.

"When a woman in their life is diagnosed, the men in their life are significantly impacted," she said, noting that men may have to take over the women's normal roles due to appointments and treatments and chemotherapy-associated sickness.

"She is going to go through physical changes that her partner is obviously going to go through as well with her," Shirk said "The minute a woman is diagnosed with breast cancer, then man in her life is impacted."

Those interested in helping Tucker's campaign can visit his bike auction site at https://www.32auctions.com/RMWPpinkbike1.

JDRF plans annual gala

The North Florida chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation will host its Miracles Gala from 6-11 p.m. Oct. 19 at the Sawgrass Marriott. The night will include a cocktail hour, silent and live auctions, a special Fund A Cure segment, inspirational program, dinner, and dancing. Tickets are available through the chapter website, https://www.jdrf.org/northflorida/.

Steve Halverson, Chairman of Haskell, will serve as the Honoree. Steve and his wife Diane, of San Marco, will be recognized for their many contributions to the community and presenters will award him with the Living and Giving Award.



Steve Halverson, Chairman of Haskell, is serving as Honoree for the upcoming JDRF Miracles Gala, planned for Saturday, October 19th at the Sawgrass Marriott. Steve and

Junior League of Jacksonville celebrates new president

Katie Thompson Neilson

The Junior League of Jacksonville recently installed Katie Thompson Neilson as its 2019-2020 president. Neilson has been a member of the Junior League for eight years and has served as president-elect, secretary and legal counsel.

A Jacksonville native, Neilson is an alumna of St. Johns Country Day School, Florida State

University, and Florida Coastal School of Law. She is in-house counsel for Government Employees Insurance Company, where she has worked since 2015 and also serves as a board member of the Jacksonville Association of Defense Counsel, Neilson lives in San Marco with her husband, Rob.

The 2019-2020 Junior League Board of Directors includes: Megan Bush Del Pizzo, president-elect; Jennifer Suharmadji, executive vice president; Latasha Brown, executive vice president-elect; Natalie

Woods, treasurer; Bevin Ankrom, treasurer-elect; Ashley Clark, secretary; Vanessa Proudfoot Andrews, nominating chair; Tonya Wood, nominating chairelect; Ellen Ball, legal counsel; Bonnie McCormick, sustainer representative; Lori Bayler and Linda Kim, members-at-large.

Since 1923, the Junior League

of Jacksonville has been committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers, according to its website. During the past 90-plus years, the organization has contributed over \$1.3 million and more than 1 million hours of service to the community. Their efforts have reached all areas of concern: young people, the elderly, families, health issues, education, the arts, and the environment.

Haskell Company helps beautify school

In keeping with Haskell Company's core value of service, Haskell team members partnered on Sept. 7 with LaVilla School of the Arts for the Green Apple Day of Service, an international movement for schools to set aside a day for environmentally sustainable education and projects.

Haskell team members worked alongside LaVilla parents, students and faculty to green up the school's front yard, using native plants to create a sightly and sustainable entrance to the school. More than 150 volunteers turned out for the project.

"Here at Haskell, we have a sustainability council and that council is charged to try to keep sustainability on the front of everybody's mind – it's an important part of how we do business," said Jacob Thurlow, director of project development at Haskell. "When this opportunity first came up, we thought this was a great fit for what we do because

we design and build schools from time to time, and here was our chance to go to an existing school and provide some improvements."

Along with sprucing up the grounds, Haskell team members installed signs that explained the importance of native plants and installed seating areas and interactive art made of reclaimed wood donated by Eco Relics. Additionally, Earth Works donated several plants and discounted other items, Tremron donated pavers, and Sunbelt Rentals provided wheelbarrows for the day.

Haskell has been participating in the annual Green Apple Day of Service at various schools since 2013, according to Thurlow. "It's always a lot of work, but it's always a lot of fun to see everybody from the community come out and work hard and then to see the results from all the hard work," he said.





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Rice Family Foundation gifts \$70,000 for Morning Star tuition assistance

Morning Star School, a Catholic school serving children in grades K-12 who have learning differences such as intellectual learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder, processing deficits and high-functioning autism, received a \$70,000 grant from the Dianne T. and Charles E. Rice Family Foundation for tuition assistance this year. The donation comes on the heels of a \$50,000 grant from the nonprofit received by the school last year.

Thanks to the Dianne T. and Charles E. Rice Family Foundation's generosity for the past two years, tuition assistance is in good shape for this coming school year, however, looking ahead towards the needs of its families, the school has recently set up a Tuition Assistance Fund to allow more families the opportunity to attend the special education school.

Funds received from tuition, which is nearly \$12,000 a year, only cover the cost of school employees' salaries and benefits, said Maria Johnson, development director. "Everything else comes from fundraising," she said.



Charles Ray, Sharon Cascone Ray, Michael Cascone, Jr. visit what will soon become the Morning Star Life Skills Center

In addition, tuition only covers 80% of the actual cost of educating a single student. Florida's McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program covers between 50% and 75% of the school tuition, and Florida Tax Credit Scholarships, administered by Step Up for Students, may provide free tuition to low income students who qualify, but in most cases they only cover 50% of the tuition costs, according to the school website.

"Each year, Morning Star School sets aside funds to help families who need financial assistance," said Johnson. "The



money used to assist our families is taken from the previous year's fundraising initiatives. Unfortunately, these funds are never enough, and we are forced to turn many families away. Often, assistance is also needed during the year, due to extenuating circumstances after the commitment to attend our school is made. These hardships may also include a death in the family, unexpected loss of employment, or serious or sudden illness with extraordinary medical expenses. Establishing a tuition assistance fund will allow more families the opportunity to attend our special education school," she said.

Two years ago, Morning Star received a lead gift of \$50,000 from the Michael, Jr. and Elizabeth Belyea Cascone Family Foundation to convert a single-family home, which lies next to the campus, into a Life Skills Center for Morning Star high-school aged students. This year, the school is seeking to raise an additional \$500,000 to renovate and equip the house into educational classrooms to help high school age students up to the age of 21 transition from schoolage to adulthood. In the center, students will learn daily responsibilities such as food preparation, employment skills, technical skills, college opportunities and job preparedness. Also, part of the new program will be a focus on citizenship, self-determination and interpersonal skills to develop self-awareness, self- confidence, socially responsible behavior, independent decision making and communication skills.

TTV Architects celebrates 25 years in business



Lori Vu, Jessica Vu, Lejon Smith, Donnell Pinder, Chad Horton, and Rachel Noel Bottom: William Hoang, Tri Vu, and Chris Noel

TTV Architects is celebrating a memorable milestone this year, 25 years in business. The firm opened its doors in October 1994 and through the years, has always placed a huge priority on respecting its clients, employees, and peers; remaining competitive, professional, and honest, and always striving to gain knowledge and flourish as individuals and as a team.

The staff at TTV said they sincerely appreciate all of their clients, friends, and families who have supported them during their 25-year journey. They look forward to an exceptional future for TTV Architects and many more milestones to celebrate.

Brewing Company celebrates one-year anniversary, family business

It's been a year of successful business operations for the Peterson family of Tabula Rasa Brewing. Their operation has provided local beer enthusiasts and those seeking a great event space the opportunity to enjoy another stop on the Jacksonville Ale Trail. With a varied lineup of beers on tap, a taproom event space and an outdoor setting that includes a green space along McCoy's Creek complete with fire pits and frisbee space for the dogs and humans alike, Tabula Rasa offers a great escape from the typical taproom.

"We have had our share of obstacles, but the rewards have been great," shared co-owner Jackie Peterson. "Not only do we get to work together as a family, but our customers are now a part of our extended family. They are the foundation that keep our pillars strong and make coming into work fun and exciting. I must give a shout out to Randy and Ryan, head brewers, for making such great craft beer. Their brews keep our phenomenal customers coming back."

Located at 2385 Corbett Street in the Railyard District off Stockton Street, the brewery is only minutes from the Riverside area. Along the way, the brewery has cultivated and curated some of the city's finest suds. Some of their best batches include a Corbett St. Cream



Ale; Cream Ale, the Scarlet Ibis; IPA- American, Dancing Palms Tropical Ale; Blonde Ale, The Tartanic; Scottish Ale, Garcon De Soleil Belgian Blonde, Crazy Mona Coconut Porter; Porter-American, Beorn's Table Beer; Farmhouse Ale, Bier Abbey; Belgian Dubbel and One Ping Only; IPA New England, to name a few.



Spaghetti dinner fundraiser to benefit local charities

To help support its philanthropic mission, the GFWC Lakeshore Woman's Club at 2352 Lakeshore Blvd. is hosting its 8th annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser, Thursday, Oct. 25, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Meals are \$8 and include spaghetti with meat sauce, or meatless sauce, or meatballs; plus salad, dessert and tea. Meals are available for dine in or take out. Proceeds will be allocated to the club's local charities. For ticket information, contact Nancy Ware at 904-412-6770.



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Floral designer takes inspiration to brick and mortar, retail space

For Ann Evans of Cypress Floral Design, flowers are her passion, one that was ignited during the first steps in her career at a high-tempo, event-planning company in New York City. After working in the busy event world, she moved to Jackson Hole, Wy., to work in a busy floral operation. It was there, while working with some of the finest flowers from vendors around the world she realized this passion could be a career.

After returning to her native Jacksonville over a decade ago, she began building her clientele and her experience level in floral design, one beautiful arrangement at a time. From weddings to special events and photo shoots, she's making a name for herself. While taking her business to the next phase,

she has now made the move to a brick and mortar location, setting up shop at 45 W. Bay Street Sept. 18.

"I wanted to bring a fresh retail space down [Downtown]. I think it's desirable, because lots of people are here, there's a pulse during the work week," she said.

Evans now has space to consult, show off her style, and provide a few items for sale, including some local works of art, candles, floral arrangements, coffee table collectible books, home decor and more. She also has plans to incorporate an online web-based retail outlet, so flowers can be delivered with unique and thoughtful gifts. Her shop is open on Wednesdays only, but she be found online at cypressfloraldesign.com and reached by phone at (904) 236-0806.

Jazzercise still strong after 50 years, local center celebrates 32 years

During the past 50 years, Jazzercise has evolved to meet the fitness needs of its clients. It has grown from "the original dance party work out" to include multi-faceted types of training for all fitness levels.

Lucia Miller, a certified Jazzercise instructor since 1994 and owner of Jazzercise Jacksonville Westside Fitness Center for over two years, said she is excited about Jazzercise's 50-year celebration, as it coincides with the 32nd anniversary of her center, which last year relocated to its current location on St. Johns Avenue.

"Everything is brand new – we did a whole new build out at the center. We have top-of- the-line flooring that not only has the padding underneath, but also has the clips in it so there is a lot of give, so your joints don't hurt at all," Miller said. "We

provide everything – the mats, handheld weights, the resistance bands and the stability balls. There is a lot of natural light that comes in. It's a great place to be and people are really positive about the changes."

As part of the national 50-year celebration, Hip-Hop Hope, all local Jazzercise centers will hold a large fundraiser for The Breast Cancer Fund, Sat., Oct. 5, the Marriott Jacksonville beginning at 9 a.m. All proceeds will help local, underserved women with screenings and treatment, if needed.

The last Saturday in October, Miller will be holding a special celebration specific to her location to mark their anniversary. "We will have an hour and a half long teamtaught class, with all the instructors teaching favorites than span the 30-plus years that our center has been in existence," she said.



Junior Achievement of North Florida climbed in national ranks

Recently released national statistics from Junior Achievement USA show that Junior Achievement (JA) of North Florida is excelling at its goals. The nonprofit organization was ranked 21st out of 108 organizations in student reach for the 2018-2019 school year – up two spaces from the previous year – and 16th for market share nationally – up three spaces from the last school year.

"We hit many milestones this past school year, which was the most productive in our 57-year history," said Steve St. Amand, president of JA of North Florida. "We reached 62,355 students last school year, up 2,916 from the previous year, and the most we have ever reached in a single year. Also, up from previous years was the number of New Town Financial Literacy Center students reached, the number of classes taught, the number of volunteers who helped us achieve this goal and the donors who helped make it possible. We appreciate all who helped and hope to reach more milestones this school year."

JA of North Florida ranks 16th nationally in market share and first for all of Florida, with 17.2 percent of the local market, meaning the organization successfully reached the largest number of students among all potential students. Additionally, the JA Financial Literacy Center in New Town also achieved record highs with 6,125 students reached in a single year. The JA Financial Literacy Center is where third-grade students from throughout Duval county participate in the JA's Our Community program and the JA Eating Healthy on a Budget program, which includes a shopping trip to the Jacksonville Farmer's Market.

"This was the first year our staff was responsible for all of the logistical aspects of the programs at the Financial Literacy Center including the scheduling of teachers, students and buses," said Teresa Smith, vice president of programs for JA of North Florida. "We previously had an arrangement with Duval County Public Schools to help schedule the programs for students. I am proud of the hard

work of our staff who are directly responsible for this milestone."

JA is the world's largest organization dedicated to educating students about workforce readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy through experiential, hands-on programs. JA of North Florida has been operating in Jacksonville since 1963 and includes a satellite office in Tallahassee. In partnership with the business community, educators and volunteers, JA of North Florida helps young people connect with relevant learning and the importance of staying in school.

JA of North Florida needs volunteers to help achieve its goals for the 2019-2020 school year. Opportunities include assisting in teaching financial literacy, entrepreneurship and workplace readiness to students, grades K through 12. Those interested in volunteering can sign up at janfl.org or call (904) 398-9944. To learn more about Junior Achievement of North Florida, visit www.janfl.org.



Cultural Council LEAPs forward, celebrates impact of the arts

The Cultural Council's 43rd Annual Arts Awards brought like minded art advocates and fans of the cultural fabric of Jacksonville together to celebrate leaders in the community. Attendees were welcomed to the Aetna Building on the Southbank of the St. Johns River, where the marble clad atrium provided the backdrop for the evening award ceremony. Creatives donned their best 'black tie' get ups and enjoyed the soiree with friends and supporters.

Award winners were Christina Parrish Stone, Helen Lane Founders Award; Hope McMath, Robert Arleigh White Award for Advocacy; Erin Kendrick, Art Educator of the Year; Donald Bowen, The Art of Giving Award; Keith Marks, Art Innovator Award; Community Impact Award, Art Republic; Special Recognition Awards for Lifetime Service to the Arts went to Baptist Health MD Anderson Cancer Center Healing Arts and the Cultural Heritage Icon went to Ritz Theater and Lavilla Museum.

The evening was emceed Tenikka Hughes, anchor on CBS47 & FOX 30 Action News Jax, and the welcome introduction to attendees were made by event chair, Diana Donovan.







A true SHINDIG benefits Sanctuary on 8th

At the Sanctuary on 8th Street's annual friend-raiser Sept. 20, supporters filled the Garden Club to celebrate the organization's achievements and to generously give to fund future endeavors. Attendees mixed and mingled amongst the old Florida décor - the theme for this year's event - while listening to live music and enjoying food and drinks.

Silent auctions items, including trips, art and more, were up for bid, and the amazing students from the Sanctuary put on a show-stopping performance. Shindig was hosted by the Delores Barr Weaver Forever Event Fund, the Jacksonville Jaguars Foundation and J. David Tax Law.









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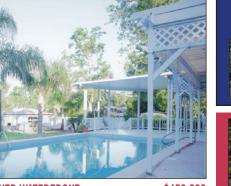
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Equal Justice Award named for 2019

Judge Hugh Carithers, chair of the Fourth Judicial Circuit Court Pro Bono Committee, took home the Equal Justice Award hardware during the 20th Annual Robert J. Beckham Equal Justice Award Celebration Sept. 18 at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront. Carithers recently retired after serving as administrative judge of the Family Division of the Fourth Judicial Circuit. He previously has served in all the court's other divisions and as an associate judge on the First District Court of Appeals. The awards event celebrated philanthropy and volunteerism within the legal community, and all proceeds support Jacksonville Area Legal Aid. The keynote speaker this year was Maurice P. During, professor of sociology at Princeton University.









Duel at Cowford raises money to battle cancer

Dueling piano players were the featured entertainment as guests armed themselves with a favorite song list during the 24th Annual Cowford Ball, which benefits the American Cancer Society. Honorary chairs Kami and Alex Harrison joined Event Chairs Donna and Tommy Zaccour in inviting guests to don their Western best while giving generously and purchasing glow bracelets to honor or in memory of friends or family who have vigorously aimed to shoot down the dread disease. Since its inception in 1995 the Cowford Ball has raised more than \$9 million in the fight against cancer.







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Love for animals feted during Humane Society gala

Longtime animal lovers Tom and Betty Petway were honored during the Jacksonville Humane Society's 21st Annual Toast of the Animals gala at TIAA Stadium Sept. 21. Hundreds of guests roamed the spacious US Assure Club West while enjoying scrumptious fare and drinks from 24 vendors and restaurants. Jacksonville Jaguars General Manager Dave Caldwell and his wife, Joelle, served as co-chairs, leading the official toast to the Petways and Jacksonville's furry rescue friends. Also on hand were Kristine Cherek, president, and Denise Deisler, CEO, of the Humane Society. The society expected to raise \$250,000 to benefit its medical fund, said Lindsay Levendecker, senior manager of Education and Outreach.



St. Vincent's draws a crowd for Delicious Destinations

The Ascension St. Vincent's Foundation brought friends together, as top donors and the mission's biggest fans made way to the beaches to celebrate the 18th Annual Delicious Destinations. The Ponte Vedra Inn & Club played host to the gathering of top chefs from throughout the Southeast who served superb cuisine paired with fine wines and spirits. Ascension St. Vincent's mission continues to grow and serve the region's most vulnerable populations who simply cannot afford medical services. From free healthcare services, wellness, exercise and nutritional education, to essential items such as food and clothing; support from the donors and attendees of Delicious Destinations assists in making compassionate care possible.



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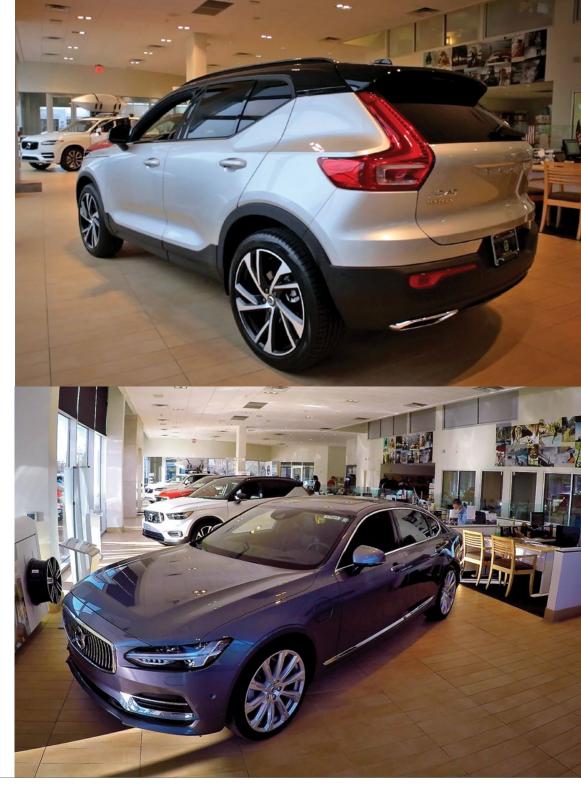
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From London to Tokyo, this wealth-management firm goes the distance

BREXIT provided opportunities and a new firm strategy

During 2015, Capital Dimensions Wealth Management started advising its clients that U.S. markets would at some point slow their ascent, as the Federal Reserve began throttling back on its quantitative easing and began to implement plans to start raising interest rates. Among the solutions we offered for this scenario was for certain clients to further diversify their portfolios and consider changing the proportion of U.S. versus non-U.S. assets held.

While we strive to ensure portfolios include high-quality U.S. assets, the number of holdings outside the United States can vary depending on many factors. We kept that in mind while also considering the unforeseen vote to separate the United Kingdom from the European Union (BREXIT). After the vote, we analyzed country-specific industry and individual company data and created a plan to diversify.

Rather than just adding another international mutual fund or ETF to our client's portfolio, Capital Dimensions staff felt that the Brexit vote produced a price reduction, of anywhere from 15 to 30 percent on many stocks. We then interviewed many of those companies, before making any investment decisions.

There's a good chance that you won't get that type of advice or direction from your \$4.95 per trade discount broker.

Since this initial international foray, we have visited, interviewed and invested in great companies on almost every continent. This international-process is in our company's DNA now, transforming Capital Dimensions Wealth Management from a local firm to a neighborhood financial source with first-hand international expertise. We now invest for clients who live coast to coast and in 13 states across America – all thanks to word-of-mouth referrals from existing clients.

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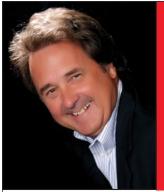




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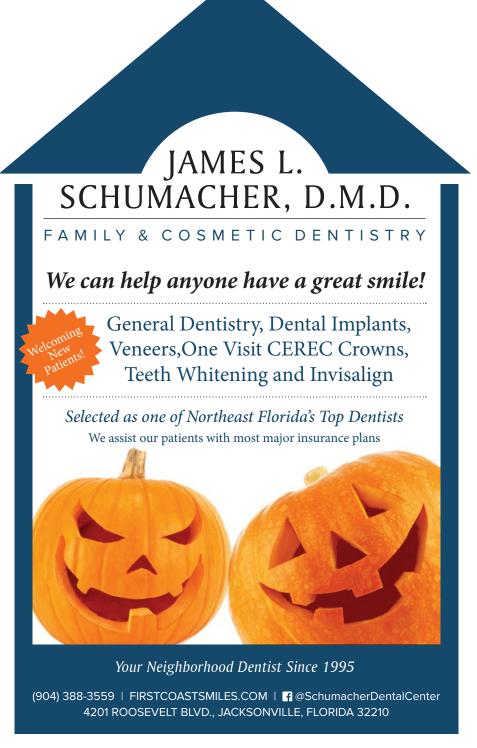
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Sulzbacher celebrates those who have overcome homelessness

Sulzbacher held its biggest fundraising event of the year, Transformations, at the Times Union Center for the Performing Arts Sept. 19. The celebration started with a reception that included dinner, drinks, live music, and a silent auction and was followed by a theater program where Sulzbacher clients, who went from surviving to thriving, shared their victory stories. The evening concluded with dessert – a fitting end for a night filled with sweet success.



The Transformations host committee co-chairs were Bill Gulliford, a former City Council member, and Steve Moore, president of the Vestcor Companies, Inc. The Transformations honorary co-chairs were Mayor Lenny Curry and Aaron Bowman, City Council member.



Clara White Mission exceeds goal, celebrates community generosity



Board members Dinah Mason, Tasha Cathey and Kris Mattson with Curry Pajcic of Pajcic and Pajcic, Executive Director Ju'Coby Pittman, The Very Rev. Kate Moorehead, Jamie Shelton of bestbet, Chris Sutton of the Jacksonville Jaguars Foundation, Amanda Crawford of VyStar Credit Union and board members pastor Carlton Jones and Thomas Waters and Joe Whitaker.

The Clara White Mission recent budget shortfall has been fully funded, and further exceeded its goal thanks to generous community members, businesses and foundations. At a press conference Friday, Sept. 13, Clara White staff showered thanks and praise on attendees, as patrons of the mission dined in Taliaferro Hall.

The announcement came during a lunch service for Clara's at the Cathedral, 256 E. Church St., one of the critical funding targets made whole by generous donors.

After a federal grant was reduced in budget cuts – from \$800,000 to \$300,000 – the mission was falling behind and short of funds. Cuts to the organization affect job programs, culinary education and food service for those in critical need of food and job placement.

Service interruptions were inevitable if emergency relief from the community did not come through by the deadline of Aug. 30. With the initial target of \$455,000 by Aug. 30, the mission had an uphill battle to fight for funds.

"I want to thank the media for following us from day one, to make sure that we were in this thing together. I can't tell you how excited I am to know that we don't have to go from five days a week, to three days a week," said Ju'Coby Pittman, executive director of Clara White Mission, referring to cuts in meal provisions and job training.

"Today is such a special day, and I also want to thank Dean Moorehead for allowing us 13 years of partnership in the community ... a long-term partnership. And we are just excited, that as a partner they've been around for over 100 years, and the Clara White Mission has been around for 100 years," she continued.

"Well, I'm here today to tell you that we exceeded our goal, and I want you all to say this together with me ... \$536,933 dollars," she proclaimed, to rounds of applause by those in attendance.

She closed her remarks by stating a call to action, "Do all the good you can, for all the people you can...and all the places you can, in all the ways you can, while you can."

Donations poured in from all reaches of North Florida, from the legal team at Pajcic and Pajcic, to Vystar Credit Union, bestbet, Jacksonville Jaguars Foundation and many others.



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Kicking off a fundraising first, a Circle of Sisters unite

At a recent luncheon in September, Rethreaded, a local nonprofit dedicated to the betterment and wellness of the lives of women who have been exploited in sex trade and trafficking, brought strong women together from across the First Coast to initiate a first-of-its-kind fundraiser. Coined the Circle of Sisters, the new group will help to strengthen the good works and mission of the organization, as it knits more extensive networks of like-minded women together.

"This is the launch of our Circle of Sisters, our giving initiative. We're surrounding Rethreaded with strong women that will



invest their time and finances to create a solid foundation for our ladies to have space to heal. It's their financial [obligation], their influence and it's whatever they're giving back to community. And we're doing it through community, because that's how women work," shared Kristen Keen, executive director of the organization. Keen also made mention of the strong support from leadership at the St. John's Cathedral, who have been partners in the work of the nonprofit, providing space and networks of support for women's causes by way of their ministries.

Rethreaded has had many reasons to celebrate of late; the organization celebrated its 8th birthday Aug. 3. Also, coinciding with the luncheon was an announcement from Florida Senator Marco Rubio (R), chairman of the Small Business Committee in the Senate, naming the organization as the Senate Small Business of the Week in Washington, D.C.- a major plus for the nonprofit to notability and increased visibility throughout the country.

The luncheon was held in Taliaferro Hall on the campus of St. John's Cathedral Sept. 14. For more information on how you can join the Circle of Sisters, visit rethreaded.com.



















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Luncheon host and sponsor, Camille Ott of Oaklawn Cemetery will share four simple steps you can take to prepare for the future. She will be joined by Chris Haley, COO of LegacyShield, a digital asset protection specialist as well as financial planners.

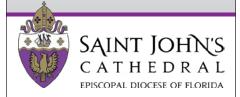
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Neighborhood institution delivers world class opening of 130th season

It was an evening to remember as history was made when the oldest musical institution in the State of Florida, Friday Musicale, opened its doors for the 130th season Sept 20. The organization, known for its rich tradition of free music for all attendees, continues to raise the bar as talent from around the globe makes its season rich with musical performers from near and far.

"It's a wonderful tradition, once again, too few know about it," said Linda Fisher, a past president and longtime supporter of the organization, who attended with her husband and a few friends. "We've always heard about the Friday Musicale, but never came," shared Cathy and David Keener of Arlington, who enjoy all styles of music. "David has played the trombone for many years, he's proud to say that he still has his Olds at home," said Cathy The couple was thrilled to be able to attend and learn more



Lines formed outside of the 130th Season and Opening Night of Friday Musicale

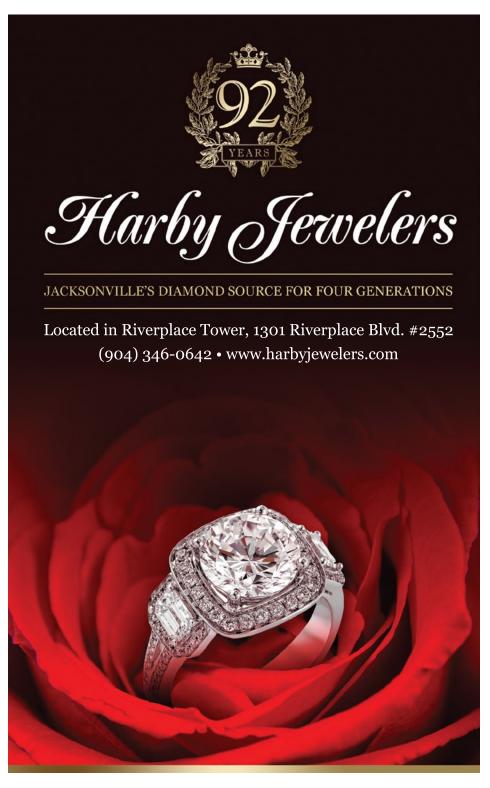


about the offerings inside the grand old hall, complete with massive white pillars that front Oak Street.

Opening night featured solo acoustic classical guitarist and internationally known performer Ana Vidovic, a world-renowned artist known for her beautiful tone, precise technique, well-defined phrasing and thoughtful artistry. She traverses the globe and frequently performs recitals, concerto engagements and festival performances, travelling to Europe's cultural destinations including Amsterdam, Brussels, Budapest, Copenhagen, London, Oslo, Paris and the list goes on. Friday Musicale was fortunate to have welcomed her to the stage and continues to up the ante on their schedule for the 130th season.

Friday Musicale also continues to offer scholarships for aspiring musicians, educational outreach opportunities to local students, and lends its support to the next generation of musicians and music educators through college scholarship awards. The neighborhood icon, located at 645 Oak Street, also offers venue space for local recitals and special events, not to mention, performances rich with exceptional talent and charisma.

To learn more about upcoming programs and concerts at Friday Musicale, or to dig further into the history of the organization, which went by the name Women's Friday Musicale in the early 1900s, visit www.fridaymusicale.com.







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Experts at making you look good

In a world of cellphones and selfie sticks, anyone can snap a picture, but it takes the professional eye of Dan Harris or Matt Culpepper to capture the image that is the best version of you.

A fixture in custom photography in Jacksonville for more than 20 years, Harris owns Dan Harris PhotoArt LLC, a full-service studio in San Marco that specializes in weddings, bar mitzvahs, professional portraits, and corporate events. He and Culpepper, his protégé, are masters at everything involved in producing a superb image, including setting up the photo shoot, retouching, editing, photo restoration, fine-art printing, framing, matting, and printing calendars or brochures.

"We do it all. We capture, perfect, and preserve photos, then finish them by framing or creating an album," said Harris. "Our real strength is that we capture the personality of the event," he said, noting he has photographed more than 750 weddings during his career.

"You can have a friend come and take pictures for free, but they seldom catch the true feeling of the event. They just take random snaps of the people who are there. We learned the photography business by doing weddings, and our goal is to capture the story line – to make an album that tells the whole story so that someone, who was not at the event, can look at our photos and feel like they were there," he explained.

To take a great picture, photographers not only need to know how to properly use their camera and the computer application Adobe Photoshop, they also must have an understanding of lighting, color, and facial structure, he said. "It's not equipment that makes you a good photographer, it's how you apply and use it."

"Sometimes people say they hate having their picture taken," Culpepper said. "We want the person to be comfortable with the situation and us as photographers. We try to make it easy and fluid and, at the end of the day, we come up with the best picture of you that's realistic. Usually it's a natural picture where everyone looks relaxed and happy."

Dan Harris PhotoArt can also fix other people's snapshots, including family vacation photos, and duplicate historic photos without damaging the original. "You can bring in a one-of-a-kind family heirloom, and we'll reproduce so it is as good as new. We can also frame it in an antique-looking oval frame with rounded glass," Harris said. "Our prints are better than the original because they are printed in a manner that will last 300 years."

Harris began his career with a Brownie camera at 8 years old. In high school, he had a dark room in his garage and took impromptu lessons with his best friend's father, a photography teacher at school. As a college student majoring in photojournalism, he worked for Brigham Young University's newspaper, The Daily Universe, winning a regional award for "Best News Article." After graduation, he became a stringer for the Associated Press and later owned his own printing business.

Harris has also served as president of the Jacksonville Professional Photographer's Guild and is a member of the Professional Photographers of America.



Culpepper, who majored in photography at the University of North Florida, joined Dan Harris PhotoArt eight years ago as an intern and was hired on fulltime after graduation. Under Harris's tutelage, he has learned to mirror his mentor's techniques. "I trained Matt to operate as I would, and today you can't tell the difference in our photographs,"

said Harris. "We know each other's style and can do more for clients because we are able to produce the same product in the end.

"It pays to hire us because of the quality of our work," he continued. "We're good at making you look good. We capture the moment accurately, and whatever we print will last for generations."

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Bridge club promotes friendly, fun play



River City Duplicate Bridge Club, founded by Kent and Sharon Carter, welcomes players of all levels.

When Kent and Sharon Carter founded River City Duplicate Bridge Club, their goal was to provide a friendly playing experience for all bridge players – no matter their level of experience. That is why they established and enforce a strict "Zero Tolerance" policy, meaning that no one is allowed to act offensively to their partners or to the opponents.

Although it is primarily a club for duplicate play, Sharon says they welcome social players. "The game is the same, and with such a friendly group of players, we urge social players to give us a try," she said.

Bridge games fall into two categories: Social and Duplicate. Social or "rubber" bridge is usually played in a relaxed environment in someone's home with one or two tables. Players may keep the same partner or switch around during the game to play with others. The emphasis is on socializing with the other guests. You and your partner try to win two games to win the "rubber."

Duplicate is different in that it is more competitive and is usually played in a

club that has multiple tables. Partners remain the same, as pairs, and sit either North-South or East-West throughout the game. The game usually consists of 21 to 27 hands. To make the game fair, players are placed in a "stratum" based on their experience and are scored against other players in the same stratum. Partners are awarded points for winning and earn different levels of achievement from the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL).

The Carters have a wealth of experience and expertise when it comes to playing bridge. Kent is an ACBL accredited director of whom many players speak highly due to his running the games efficiently and his fairness in rulings when one is required. Sharon is an ACBL Best Practices teacher who has also earned the designation of Master Teacher from the American Bridge Teachers' Association. She offers to meet with social players at no cost to answer questions about the mechanics of playing in a duplicate game.

Sharon is available to teach in homes and clubs, or you can join one of her ongoing classes in Orange Park. River City DBC holds two games a week; one on Mondays and one on Thursdays. For further information about the games or lessons, please contact Sharon at 904-213-9277 or bridgeteacher4u@gmail.com.



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Tourney raises money for Gabriel House

It was a sold-out affair when Gabriel House of Care held its 8th annual golf tournament Sept. 16 at Marsh Landing Country Club.

The event, which was sponsored by BACARDI®, Mayo Clinic Florida, Availity, and Baston-Cook Construction, included a net captain's choice, lunch, raffle prizes, on-course contests, awards barbeque and more.

Proceeds from the tournament support the lodging and integrative therapy programs Gabriel House provides to organ transplant and cancer patients along with their caregivers, who come to Jacksonville medical centers for specialized care.

Historic home provides happy ending for newly engaged couple

By Marcia Hodgson

Resident Community News

Part of the former Barnett Estate, Magnolia, a renowned San Marco home with an expansive antebellum-style porch, became the site of another happy ending when Jonathan Heldenbrandt and Palmer Kuder became engaged on the doorstep of the historic house Sept. 6. Built in 1938 by entrepreneur David H. Tart of Pensacola, the home was originally a wedding gift for Tart's son, David H. Tart Jr. and his bride, Elizabeth Brogden, a Jacksonville native who was born in 1916.

"Last Friday I got engaged on the front steps of 1021 Greenridge," said Heldenbrand. "The house was originally built in 1938 as a wedding gift. While my fiancée, Palmer, and I had looked at the house, she wasn't aware that I was in the process of purchasing it. We drove to the house, and I had a large bow placed on the front door. To her confusion, I casually asked her if she liked her wedding gift. I then proposed and asked her to spend the rest of her life with me in this beautiful house."

Kuder said she was "surprised, shocked, and elated," by Heldenbrand's proposal and the gift of the house. "It was a wonderful mix of emotions," she said. "I'm honored and humbled to carry on such a beautiful tradition with my new family in this house. It's really a dream come true."

Heldenbrandt, the groom-to-be, is chief investment officer for Sleiman Enterprises. He grew up in New Mexico and has lived in Jacksonville for 14 years, having discovered the First Coast during his tenure at the University of Florida business school. His bride-to-be grew up in Ortega, attended the Bolles School and lived in Avondale after graduating from the University of Alabama. She currently works for Mayor Lenny Curry. Her family has owned Rayware Hardware in Avondale for four generations.

Heldenbrand has two daughters from a previous marriage that live with the couple and attend San Jose Catholic School. "This area will be great for us," he said.



Jonathan Heldenbrand and Palmer Kuder in front of their new home

The couple is planning to be married at Timuquana Country Club next fall.

Magnolia looms gracefully over historic Greenridge Road Park in Colonial Manor and was originally part of the old Red Bank Plantation, which was first built by the French in the 1700s. Since 1938, the home has only been owned by two other families, the Tarts and the Barnetts. Tart, who owned several businesses including three cooperage manufacturing facilities in Florida and Georgia, gave it to his son and daughter-in-law. Oscar F. Barnett and his wife purchased the home in 1958 and later sold it to William G. Barnett and his wife, Amy, in 1984.

The younger David Tart lived in the home for 20 years and brought up a family of three boys, who attended Hendricks Avenue Elementary. During their tenure the Tart family attended Swaim Methodist Church in San Marco. The family eventually moved to Valdosta, Ga., to manage his family's cooperage manufacturing business.

Oscar Barnett and his wife, who were second-generation Jacksonville business owners, raised their four children in the home, while William and Amy Barnett raised three children before selling the home to Heldenbrand.

According to a written history of the house, Magnolia has been a happy place of celebration for five generations. Two weddings, Christmas and birthday parties, Young Life meetings, Easter Egg hunts, Bible studies, and even a James Bond event have taken place within its borders. "It's been the location for several television productions airing worldwide on HGTV, Discovery networks, and PBS. One of the visiting celebrities said it reminded her of Martha Stewart's home," according to the written history.

Former general manager returns to Hardage-Giddens

Ginny Taylor brings experience and a familiar face

Hardage-Giddens Oaklawn Chapel & Oaklawn Cemetery has added a new but familiar face to its growing family of staff members.

Former general manager Ginny Taylor has been brought on as general manager again, one of several changes that have taken place at the San Jose Boulevard establishment in recent years

Taylor was president of Oaklawn Cemetery and Funeral Home when in 2010, the Taylor family sold it to Hardage-Giddens. The cemetery has been a landmark in San Marco/San Jose for more than 90 years and was owned by the Taylor family from 1955 to 2010 before becoming Hardage-Giddens Oaklawn Chapel & Oaklawn Cemetery. The change in ownership brought in additional



staff and added many improvements. Taylor continued as general manager until 2013, when she left to spend time with her family.

"With the construction of our new Legacy Lodge and our new San Marco Hedge Estates, we are really excited to have Ginny back," said Marketing Director, Matt Tucci. "This is the perfect time for her to come back and oversee families that are both old and new to Oaklawn that have more options than they did previously."

Taylor said she is thrilled to come back after what she jokingly referred to as a "six-year vacation.

"The best thing about being back is the staff and the families we serve," Taylor said. "I look forward to seeing them every morning."

As general manager, Taylor said she is following in the footsteps of Tom Harris, who had been general manager for the past three years. "We are fortunate to have Tom still a part of our team as he serves as family services manager as well as being a licensed funeral director," she said. "Tom's involvement in the community combined with his love for Oaklawn makes him the perfect choice for his new role."

At the time that Oaklawn was sold, the Taylor family had just completed the current chapel after tearing down the previous, smaller building. Ginny Taylor worked with Bill Jaycox, Julie Catlin and eventually, The Angelo Group to design it, selecting everything by hand from the tiles and the fixtures to the millwork and the gorgeous boxed-beamed ceilings.



Afterward, Oaklawn added more acreage from the acquisition of the Shad property, now known as the Legacy Lodge.

"So many families are getting away from the traditional service and are having celebrations of life to honor their loved ones," she said. "The building can accommodate almost any type of service a family chooses. We also offer catering and a full-service staff."

Oaklawn employs about 26 people, many of whom come from different fields.

"I like to say this is a career that you cannot fully appreciate unless you have experienced a loss. Our family has suffered several losses since 2010, and it is through those losses that I have a deeper understanding of love, loss and the fragile nature of life," she said.

Besides the staff, there's also another reason Taylor is back: The search for a more fulfilling life. "My husband and I have traveled, remodeled an older San Marco home, seen our daughter through college and a law school graduation this coming May," she said. "You find yourself saying, there's got to be more purpose for me."

Hardage-Giddens President Jody Brandenburg said he has known Taylor for 30 years.

"We've been friends for so long, only recently colleagues and teammates," he said, adding she brings a high degree of professionalism to Oaklawn.

Former Gov. Charlie Crist appointed Taylor to the Board of Funeral, Cemetery and Consumer Service, the state regulatory board that regulates and licenses the profession, Brandenburg said. "We served together until 2010. Ginny Taylor brings a quality to our profession in Jacksonville that is of the highest ethical and customer service standards," he said. "She lives our core values of respect, integrity, service, excellence and enduring relationships."

He also said she was well-known in the community. "Customers and staff appreciate and welcome her return," he said.

For her part, Taylor wants to keep Oaklawn's standards high. "My goal is to keep everything running smoothly, make sure the staff are fully supported, and to serve the families with compassion and integrity," she said.





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THE WAY WE WERE: MARGARETTE JEANNE HARDAGE CHAMBLISS

BY PEGGY HARRELL JENNINGS RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

A conversation with Jeanne Hardage Chambliss is an amusing, witty journey filled with interesting stories of growing up in Riverside, her extensive world travels, fascinating people she knows and has known, her 40-plus years of teaching experience, and what it takes to live and die.

Chambliss's family helped shape her into the memorable person she is today, but the Hardage family wasn't exactly Ozzie and Harriet. As the baby of five brothers and three sisters, Jeanne was born at home on Belvedere Avenue in Riverside in July of 1938. Her closest sister, Derry Jo, was 14 months older and her oldest brother was 18. Her mother, Winifred, went into labor when she was scrubbing the bathroom floor. One of the older siblings called the doctor, who was so accustomed to the Hardage baby boom that he was practically a member of the family. Chambliss's parents named one of her brothers after the good doctor.



Jeanne, age 3

Chambliss's mother was very strict and religious and considered it "God's intention" for her to have nine children." The family attended Riverside Park Church of Christ, and Chambliss related that part of her lifelong rebellious nature stemmed from having to attend church every Wednesday night and three times a day on Sundays.

When her older siblings were going to the beach on Saturdays, Derry Jo and Jeanne had piano lessons, then Bible class. While Derry Jo continues to embrace her religious upbringing, missing out on the fun when they were young only fueled Jeanne's rebellious nature, said Chambliss. She longed to take ballet class at Thelma Johnson Baggs's Studio, catty corner from her home on King Street, but ballet, along with swimming at Good Shepherd Pool, was not allowed. "Of course, we went swimming anyway!" she said.

After attending West Riverside Elementary School and John Gorrie Junior High, Chambliss was on the swim team at Robert E. Lee High School and took ballet classes while in college. "Being forbidden to do something? I learned so many lessons about rebellion! My daughter said I never gave her anything to rebel against!" Chambliss laughed.

Hers was a lively family with many high-spirited personalities. "If you survived this household, it was a great preparation for life," she said.

The Hardage family frequently gathered around to sing and play instruments, although now she probably couldn't even find middle C, Chambliss joked. Her father, Hugh Hardage, Sr., particularly loved "When Irish Eyes are Smiling." Another past time was listening to the radio. A show called "Digger



The Hardage home, at 1700 King Street (corner Riverside and King), was demolished in the 1970s

O'Dell" was filled with jokes about undertakers, including the catch phrase, "This old Southern planter will be shoveling off," to which her father would respond, "Have hearse will travel," – an amusing comment considering her father was an undertaker and his profession was a defining part of Chambliss's upbringing.

Her father worked for a casket company before opening Hardage and Williams Funeral Home in 1929. It later became known as Hardage and Sons, as four of the boys joined him in business, then eventually became Hardage and Giddens. Conversations in the household often centered around death.

A fun activity for Chambliss, if her father had to stop by the "office" after church, was to sneak into the embalming room, which was strictly forbidden. "Death was a frequent topic in our house. Undertakers have a wicked sense of humor. Growing up around the funeral business, the mystery of death was gone. I saw the practicality of the whole

business. I'm the only member of the family to feel this way. The others remained religious. But I lean more to Joseph Campbell's mythology. I am bonded to the existentialists and the Theater of the Absurd. I can relate many incidences in anyone's life to the absurdist views. We are going through it right now, every day!"

That ever-present mindfulness of death increased when Chambliss's mother was diagnosed with cancer and struggled for seven years before dying when Chambliss was only 13 years old. "There was so much life in our house, but there was also a focus on death. The word cancer was never mentioned, and we certainly could not say "breast." It just wasn't discussed, but we had to be quiet in the house all the time because my mother was sick. Fortunately, we had the run of Riverside," she said.

From riding bikes to Memorial Park, walking to Seller's Drugstore at Park and King, jumping out of hedges to frighten walkers on King Street, being rescued by the nuns at St. Vincent's when their older sister tied their feet together and threatened to throw them in the river for walking down the street in her high heels, or being tied to a tree by the housekeepers – there was always something going on. Death may have been a normal everyday topic, but life in the Hardage home was definitely lively!

As events form us, so do places, and there was no more interesting place to grow up than the Hardage home at 700 King Street, on the corner of King Street and Riverside Avenue, which her father bought in 1941. It is featured in George Hallam's' book, "Riverside Remembered." Gone since the 1970s, this 28-room house was three stories with a full basement, which Chambliss described as looking like a hotel laundry



Sisters, Derry Jo and Jeanne

CONTINUED ON **PAGE 37**



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Jeanne during her modeling days

room. Big Pearl and Old Louise, the family's two housekeepers lived in the basement. Chambliss called Louise, the housekeeper, "old" to distinguish her from Young Louise who came during the day to work. A German gardener, Mr. Neuhaus, who gave the girls coffee with lots of sugar in it, also shared the basement. Going down there was forbidden, of course, which made it particularly enticing, Chambliss said. "My father had to go vouch for Mr. Neuhaus since this was during the war. At one time we had an aunt, grandmother and two nurses from St. Vincent's living in the house, too."

The porch was expansive enough for parties, a ping-pong table, and for the kids to roller skate. Mrs. Hardage placed flower planters around the porch to keep the children from falling off.

Her mother ran that huge house even though she was dying, she said. "I recently saw a movie of her having a party for the church ladies. She was so generous to people. My mother being ill obviously had a huge impact on my life, and my father died when I was 25."

With their older siblings grown and their father working, Chambliss said she and her siblings turned to Pearl and Louise for comfort when their mother died.

About a year after his wife passed away, Mr. Hardage remarried, sold the house and the family moved to Hedrick Street. "We made it our mission to make our stepmother as miserable as possible and were frequently farmed out to brothers and sisters when she got upset. I was so defiant. Daddy learned it was easier to give in instead of being confrontational," Chambliss said.

Later, she and her sister, Derry Jo left Jacksonville for Pepperdine University in California, where an older brother lived. "Want to torment a teen? Send her to California to get straightened out. First of all, the school was integrated, which Jacksonville schools were not at the time, and it was much more liberal than Jacksonville. I stayed my freshman year then I came home and went to Jacksonville University to major in English. But I was in no hurry. I knew it would never get any better than that. Dad paid for everything, but I had to fight. My sisters had gotten married at 19 so I assume he thought I would too," she said, noting Derry Jo left to go home earlier.

After modeling locally for major department stores like Furchgotts, Purcell's and Levy's, and for well-known photographer Lou Egner while at Jacksonville University (JU), Chambliss took off to Dallas, Texas, to live with her older sister, Mary, and work for the John Roberts Powers Modeling Agency. She modeled and taught modeling for a while before coming back to Jacksonville to finish her degree at JU. After graduation, she taught at Terry Parker High School before moving to New York City to continue her modeling career. "That didn't go so well, but I didn't have any fear about it at all," she said. "Actually, nothing could have stopped me. But it was hard - no computers then to figure out how to do things."

Chambliss met Aubry Hayes in 1958 and married him three weeks later, but the marriage only lasted through the summer. In 1968, she married Gerry Chambliss, and her daughter, Shaula, was born in 1970. Chambliss was divorced in 1972. She had friends in London, including Herbert Kretzmer, who is known as the lyricist for "Les Miserable," so she and Shaula moved to London for three and a half years. She and Kretzmer remain friends, and she visits him every summer.

For a girl whose goal was to get out of Jacksonville, she certainly achieved that during her marriage to Chambliss, who owned an international marine insurance company. They traveled all the time, she said. "Rome four times a year. India, Honduras, Central and South America, Libya, Kuwait and too many other places to list. Always first class and with a driver in each city. His favorite place in the world was the Cavalieri Hilton in Rome, so Shaula and I went there after he died four years ago and sprinkled some of his ashes in the sculpture garden. We slipped around while people were dining, sipped champagne and spread a few ashes in the planters of Harry's American Bar as well. It was somewhat distracting to people."

Shaula Chambliss and her mother, Jeanne

Ironically, for someone who couldn't wait to get out of Jacksonville, she returned in the 70s, earned a Masters degree at the University of North Florida, and taught

school in Clay County for 41 years. Chambliss's career included teaching at Florida State College Jacksonville and working with Orange Park High School's gifted program. She remains close with many of her students, including Greg Smith, who graduated from Orange Park High when he was 10 years old. Chambliss appeared in a segment of 60 Minutes with Ed Bradley about her work with the young genius. Her innovative and creative teaching methods - particularly the Great Gatsby parties, recreations of the sets and props for "The Glass Menagerie" and "The Scarlett Letter"

I just bought Michelle Obama's book. I admire her," she said. Chambliss celebrated her retirement by sky diving with five of her students and now has more time to read, travel and perhaps try her hand at writing and talking. She loves to go on about her travels, her childhood adventures in Riverside, the unusual elephant "bone" she recently

passed on to Shaula, and the time she wore

the unmentionable objects to guard against

conception that were designed by Gunnel

- are legendary. "Each book that I taught

inspired me. I love Oscar Wilde quotes, and

Faulkner's Nobel prize acceptance speech.

Chambliss continues to explore the world. She and her traveling companions, which include Shaula, her niece, Elaine Wheeler, as well as Gunnel Humphries, sister Derry Jo, and their dear friend, recently deceased Sally Evans, have spent time with Herbert Kretzner in London, toured Italy, and taken trips to Barcelona so that Chambliss can visit a special shop to buy her favorite Beatles socks. Chambliss said she loves the Beatles, especially John Lennon's song "Imagine."



Jeanne Chambliss, with Gunnell Humphries, leaving London

Humphries so she could teach a class on abstinence to teenagers.

She also loves to discuss ideas and people, such as the time she was with Billy Daniels and met Dr. Martin Luther King and Jesse Jackson on their way to an NAACP march in Chicago. Literature, art, philosophy, making a difference in the world, and a defining moment in her life - having a daughter – are also favorite topics. "I wanted a daughter. Now, we are so close. Shaula is a better person than I am – so nurturing to humans, animals. So generous."

As a former model, Gator Bowl Queen candidate, teacher, and "Gorgeous Aunt Jeanne," as she instructed her 23 nieces and nephews to call her, Chambliss at 81 is still gorgeous, fashionable, witty, droll, defiant and full of fun. Eccentric? That, she said, as she modeled her Yellow Submarine socks, is something to which she can only aspire.





One Man's War

Hurricane unearths treasured World War II memorabilia in Lakewood

By Susan Brandenburg

Resident Community News

When Hurricane Irma slammed into Jacksonville in September 2017, flooding caused severe property damage to many homes along the St. Johns River, but for one Lakewood family, Irma turned up a treasure-trove of priceless memorabilia.

While attempting to salvage items from the water-soaked storage area of his in-law's condo, William Harrell discovered the weathered, leather-bound WWII journal and the Bronze Star of Major William J. Hicklin, Jr., United States Army Air Force.

"I opened that soggy cardboard box, found a journal and Bronze Star. When I began to turn the damp pages of that journal, I was amazed," recalls Harrell. "My late father-in-law never mentioned, even to his children, that he earned a Bronze Star in WWII. He never talked about the war at all, but here it was – hand-written in vivid detail, the heroic story of one man's deep love for family and country."

When Harrell revealed his discovery to his wife, Barbara, and his mother-in-law, Mignonette (Mig) Hicklin, they were moved to tears, and Mig was literally flooded with memories.



Capt. William J. Hicklin, U.S. AAF, 1944

The Hicklins had been married in Jacksonville for just seven days when 1st Lieutenant Bill Hicklin was called to active duty with the U.S. Army Air Force Sept. 20, 1941. A graduate of Georgia Tech with a degree in civil engineering, Hicklin was suddenly in great demand as a chief engineering officer of the 434th Troop Carrier Group. His role was helping conceive, develop and train transport aircraft and gliders, along with paratroopers, in preparation for massive airborne assault forces.

During the next two years, Hicklin and his young bride moved 14 times, from one military base to the next. In Alabama, Wisconsin, California, Michigan, Connecticut, Missouri, Georgia, Indiana, Texas, North Carolina, and Nebraska, they lived as vagabonds in small towns unprepared for hundreds of wartime guests.



Back row: Keith Ainley, Cindy Smith, William Harrell, Joan McCord. Front, Jerry Smith and Barbara Harrell

They celebrated their second wedding anniversary and Mig's first pregnancy just as Hicklin was ordered to report for duty in the European Theatre of World War II. He was not destined to meet his daughter, Barbara, until the war ended.

In a journal note of January 1945, Hicklin wrote: "Barby became a year old. From all reports, she has no equal as babies go; certainly not as far as I am concerned. It's certainly been hard not to have seen her yet, and the reunion of the three of us."

While his wife and baby waited in Jacksonville, Hicklin was quickly promoted to Captain and then to Major as he and his fellow Troop Carrier Command members readied the 434th Troop Carrier Group's four squadrons for D-Day. Hicklin's journal contained many historic newspaper

clippings, including an interesting little item that was later published about the week before D-Day. The British Air Service Command sent out an urgent appeal for 80,000 paint brushes and 37,000 gallons of black and white paint. After one British paint company came to the rescue, troops spent hours secretly painting large black and white zebra stripes on each aircraft so that assault ships and supporting aircraft could tell friend from foe.

All of this and much more was recorded in her late husband's worn leather journal and, as war-time memories engulfed her, Mig decided she wanted to somehow preserve this treasure as a Christmas gift for her children, grandchildren and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 39



great-grandchildren. "Mother told us she wanted them to know that the freedoms and blessings they have so richly received did not come cheap," said Barbara.

"Can you digitize this?" William Harrell asked his friend, Jerry Smith, handing him the tattered journal. Smith, an Emmyaward winning film maker, owns Pineridge Film and Television Company with his wife, Cindy, and knows a treasure when he sees one. "Digitize it!" declared Smith. "This is an incredible piece of history! I'll do more than digitize it!"

Within five months, Jerry Smith and his team had produced the 30-minute "One Man's War" video, a remarkable real-time story of the Troop Carrier Command's role in WWII, including four rare aerial photographs taken on D-Day of scores of C-47 "Skytrains" on the Aldermaston Airfield south of London preparing to tow their 2nd wave of 101st Airborne support gliders into Normandy.

The fascinating video, "One Man's War," has become much more than a gift for children and grandchildren. It has received well-deserved acclaim everywhere it has been shown. In an epilogue, the video notes that Mig Hicklin, at 99, has lived through sending a husband, a son, both sons-in-law and a grandson-in-law into the military – all being deployed overseas during wartime conditions. The video dramatically captures the terror of war, the courage and loneliness of a soldier far from home and family, and the conflict of those in the "Greatest Generation" who returned unscathed from war and reluctantly accepted medals of

"Mother told us she wanted them to know that the freedoms and blessings they have so richly received did not come cheap."

- Barbara Harrell

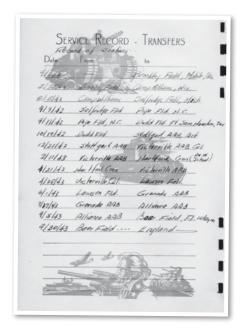
valor, knowing that the real heroes died serving their country.

When Harrell presented the video about his father-in-law to the Rotary Club of South Jacksonville May 21, an invitation immediately followed to present it to the Rotary Club of West Jacksonville. This led to a request by Rotary Club of Deerwood as well as the Association of Naval Aviation's Bald Eagle Squadron at their NAS Jacksonville meeting. More presentations will follow in November, with the public invited to a showing at All Saints Episcopal Church Nov. 17 in honor of Veteran's Day, Nov. 11.

Noting that his Hurricane Irma salvage operation miraculously turned into a Godsend, Harrell speaks on behalf of the Hicklin family and the Pineridge Production team when he says he hopes this video about "One Man's War" will remind future generations that freedom is not free. "We also hope this video will, in some small way, help the heroes and their Gold Star families to rest in honor and peace."



Original D-Day photos of double-tow gliders at Aldermaston Airfield in England from William Hicklin's journal



Page from William Hicklin's journal documenting his 14 moves over two years from Sept. 1941 to Sept. 1943

Annual Awards luncheon recognizes champions for reading

Literary Pros of Jacksonville, a nonprofit founded 16 years ago to train tutors to help eradicate illiteracy, held its annual awards luncheon Sept. 18 at First Presbyterian Church. The purpose of the luncheon was to honor outstanding contributors for their service to literary projects and the eradication of illiteracy throughout northeast Florida.

Winner of the Sarah Van Cleve 2019 Achievement Award, so named for the organization's founder, was Julia Henry-Wilson. Wilson was honored for her for exemplary leadership as president of Literary Pros for the past for three terms. She has led the organization through maintaining its core founding purpose to tutor JSO inmates and teach them to tutor their fellow inmates, and through an expansion to serve the youth of Jacksonville with literacy programs aimed towards prevention.

Janice Gendreau was the recipient of the President's Award, and Tenikka Hughes, board member of Literacy Pros of Jacksonville and anchor at Action News Jax, was the event's keynote speaker.



Standing: Lakesha Burton, Stanley Mitchell, and Bridget Allen Seated: Michelle Fletcher, Rhonda Warren and Krystal Powell



Sa'sha Barnhart, Len Chatman, Jennifer Blalock and Kim Varner, Sr.



Literary Pros Board of Directors: George Pratt, Tenikka Hughes, Janice Gendreau, Diantha Ripley York, Shawn Strange, Jennifer Blalock, Scott Luckey, Julia Henry-Wilson, Vickie Miller and Sarah Van Cleve (Photo by Photography Jax.)

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Literary and Visual Arts Exhibit Transforms Community

By Peggy Harrell Jennings

Resident Community News

Six women artists and six women writers paired up to give a "bird's eye view" of the significance of birds in the community and to promote appreciation and conservation efforts and enhance connections within the arts community.

Inspired by Anne Lamott's book, Bird by Bird, writer Jenny Anderson and artist Emma Greenhill, writer Shawna Brooks and artist Mary St. Germaine, writer Janessa Martin and artist Sylvi Herrick, writer Nancy Murrey-Settle and artist Penny Edwards, writer Alexa Naparstek and artist Lorn Wheeler joined

Jennifer Wolfe and artist Suzanne Pickett in using poetry, essays, journals and, of course, art to "inspire, connect and educate" viewers on the importance of birds.

Fifteen additional artists exhibited during the well-attended Fall Art Show Sept. 20 in Riverside. The event was sponsored by Women Writing for A Change, a nonprofit led by Executive Director Jennifer Wolfe.

Events will be ongoing through November including readings, a bird walk, lunch and learn, and a Literary Arts Festival focusing on the theme "Transforming our community, bird by bird, and word by word." Check out www.WomenWritingJacksonville.com for more details.







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- In Memoriam -

Alvin "Pete" Carpenter

January 24, 1942 to August 20, 2019

It's no secret that CSX Transportation past president and chief executive officer Alvin "Pete" Carpenter, who died Tuesday, Aug. 20, at age 77, was highly influential in his company's rise to a major transportation corporation.

Carpenter had become president and CEO at age 49, and it was after a long career with railroads that started with his summer title of brakeman for the Louisville & Nashville (L&N) Railroad, which later became part of CSX.

Later he would go on to oversee the CSX merger with Conrail, CSX's increased revenue, record-high stocks and drastically increased operating income, however, those who loved him best remember a different side of him.

His wife, Marilyn, met Carpenter after he moved from Mount Vernon, Ky., to her small railroad town of Ludlow, pop. 4,500, where he began sixth grade in her small school.

Marilyn saw Carpenter go from newcomer to become captain of the school's high school basketball team, the Ludlow High School Panthers, while she was cheerleading captain.

"We were thrown together a lot," she said. "When I knew Pete back then, he was a bit full of himself, let's say," she said with a laugh. "He didn't demonstrate humility. That came later when he got into college."

The high school sweethearts went on to marry in 1962, when he was 20, she 19. Carpenter graduated from the University

of Cincinnati in 1964 after transferring from Transylvania University, then went on to join the sales department at the Chessie System in Cincinnati.

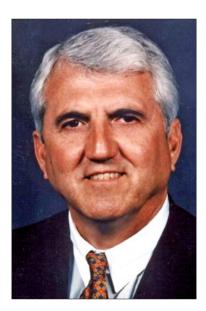
Carpenter held numerous positions at CSX including Trainmaster, Superintendent of Terminals, Superintendent of Operations, Division and Regional Manager and Executive Vice President-Sales and Marketing. He became president and CEO of CSX in 1992, when he

was 49, and continued in that position for

He retired as CSX Corporation vice chairman in 2001.

He also served on the board of directors for numerous other retail, energy, banking and insurance companies including Florida Rock Industries, PSS World Medical, Regency Centers Corporation, Stein Mart, Consol Energy as well as NationsBank, Barnett Bank, American Heritage Life Insurance Company, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Florida, and One Valley Bancorp of West Virginia Inc.

Former Gov. Jeb Bush appointed him to the Commission on Workers' Compensation



Reform, which Carpenter chaired, and his Advisory Council on Base Realignment and Closure. He was also Chairman of the Board of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra in 2002 and 2003.

Transylvania University administrators named a building in his honor in 2018. The Carpenter Center cost \$4.5 million to renovate.

"Pete took the bull by the horns in everything he ever attempted," Carl Wenderoth, an old basketball coach commented

in his on-line obituary. "He was a natural leader, very aggressive, very headstrong. A person determined to succeed."

"Everyone will say this about him: He had tremendous leadership skills and a very zany sense of humor," agreed Marilyn. "He was just a very good person, a very honest person and a person of integrity."

Carpenter died about 17 months after diagnosis of stage four pancreatic cancer but had a wonderfully positive take on his illness, Marilyn said. While they had 16 months of knowing that Carpenter was not going to get better, they had more than six decades of shared life and happiness, including their courtship.

"He said 'If I was 60, I would be upset, but I am in my 70s. I have had a great life. I have no regrets. I am going to face it and whatever happens, happens." she recalled.

Throughout their married life and as Pete Carpenter moved to positions of evergreater responsibility, the couple enjoyed 19 corporate moves all over the country, to small towns and large cities and among many different cultural regions. Their daughter, now 54, grew adaptable and resilient and Marilyn said she learned a truism.

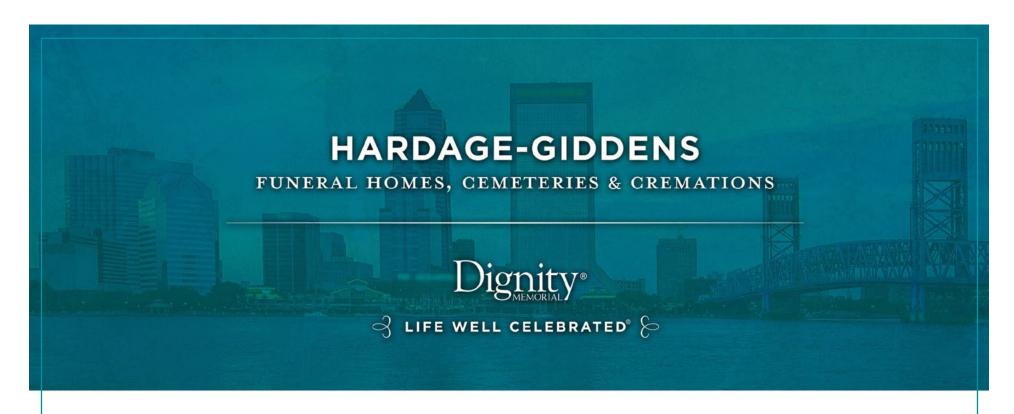
"No matter where you go in the country, people may have different accents, but they all want the same thing," she said, "I think everybody wants a good family, a good relationship with their Maker and the ability to earn a living so they can take care of their family. People all over the world, those are the three things they want."

At the end of his life, Pete Carpenter wanted to continue doing the things he loved: reading - he read the Wall Street Journal every day seeing friends and hunting.

"He loved to hunt quail, grouse, ducks, anything with feathers," Marilyn said. And he got to do it one last time, at a friend's ranch in South Dakota. Right up until the end, he got excellent care.

"Now that he is gone, I look back with nothing but gratitude," she said.

Marilyn and Pete Carpenter had been married 57 years when Carpenter died. Along with his wife, a daughter, three grandchildren and two English cocker spaniels survive him.



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It's been 50 years since the Class of 1969 graduated from Bishop Kenny High School, and to celebrate, alumni gathered at the Sheraton 4 Points Hotel in Jacksonville Beach to honor the momentous occasion.

Approximately 100 attendees, including spouses, gathered in the large meeting room off the hotel lobby for a "meet and greet" event Sept. 6. The main event occurred the evening of Sept. 7, when classmates gathered at the hotel to enjoy drinks and dinner and the opportunity to further rekindle old acquaintances.

Of the 285 Bishop Kenny1969 graduates, 26 have passed away, and their names were inscribed on a memorial white board. Graduates enjoyed a continuous slide show of photos taken back during their student days, as well as a table of yearbooks and other school memorabilia saved by class members. Included among the reunioners were several high school sweethearts that later married, including Denise Kittel Ostertag and her husband, John, Judi Taylor Logue and her husband, Tom, and Susan Schenkel Robinson and her husband, Tom.

"It feels good to see everybody we grew up with. Nobody has changed at all!" said Joann Nackashi Thomy.

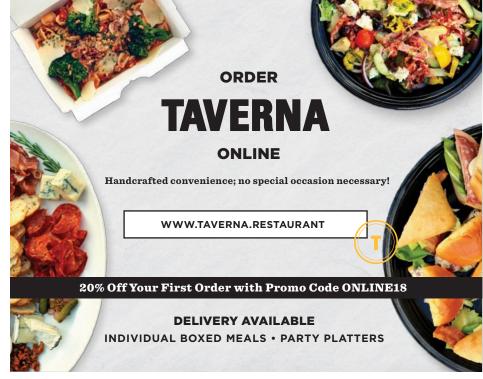
Her classmate, Sylvia Batah, agreed. "I think we look better now than we did back then," she said. "We are so blessed to have each other and to be able to celebrate each other. There's something good about the aging process. We've all enjoyed life's experiences through the past 50 years, and we radiate that. That's why we all look better," she said.

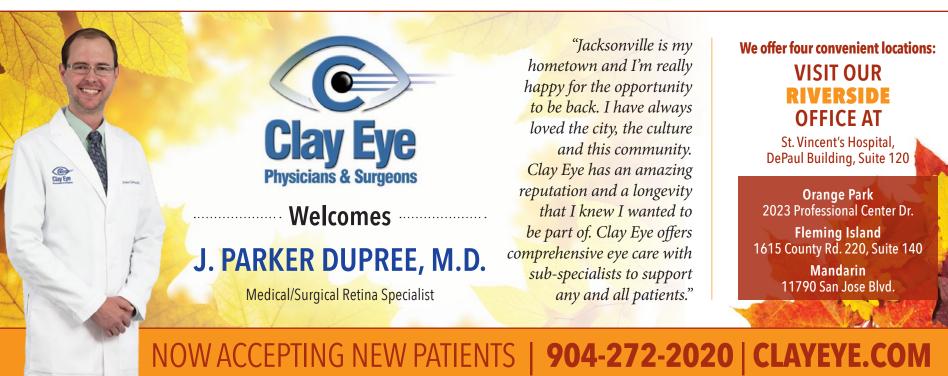
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Physician recommends healthy lifestyle to ward off aging, disease

To remain healthy and combat many diseases that go hand-in-hand with aging, Dr. Lewis Obi recommends turning back the clock to a bygone era to make healthy lifestyle choices.

"We need to go back to the traditional ways in our lifestyle. I think we need to live like we used to live before the 1960s," said the renowned plastic surgeon, who holds both a pharmacy degree from the University of Florida and a medical degree from the University of Miami, noting there has been a rise in obesity with the prevalence of fast food and more sedentary habits. Attention deficit disorders are now common in children as they play video games and young people remain glued to laptop computers, he said. "You never used to see ALS or Alzheimer's before the 1960s and 70s. We can avoid 80% of diseases with a healthy lifestyle and stem cell therapies."

At age 84, Obi has long practiced what he preaches.

Obi was born on the same day Hurricane Three made landfall in 1935 and began working to help his family from the age of 6, walking an average of 25 to 30 miles a day throughout his youth. He joined the Marine Corps at age 16, earning the rank of Staff Sergeant by the time he was 19. He earned his first black belt during the Korean War. After he served in the Korean War, he started his education toward an undergraduate degree in Pharmacy and Pre-med at the University of Florida. He worked as a pharmacist in Jacksonville, before heading to the University of Miami Medical School where he acquired his M.D. degree in 1965. After graduation, he completed his internship in the United States Navy during the Viet Nam War. After four different residency trainings, he became board certified in plastic surgery at the age of 38.

Now a renowned plastic surgeon and internationally recognized stem cell specialist who spearheads Obi Plastic Surgery and Pangenics Regenerative Center at 3599 University Blvd., Obi works 18 hour days in his plastic surgery clinic, needs no glasses to read or to drive, ran his first of three marathons at age 63, and is currently working on earning a second-degree black

belt with a private karate dojo. "I have all my faculties. My cognition is outstanding. Genetics is important, too, but you can bypass genetics with lifestyle. If you have good genes, you can negate those with lifestyle. For instance, we never used to see autoimmune diseases, but they are very prevalent now, because we absorb foreign proteins through a compromised GI tract from eating bad foods."

Genetic mutations can be caused by unhealthy habits or exposure to chemicals and substances, he said, adding that rheumatoid arthritis, lupus, and multiple sclerosis can be mitigated with a healthy lifestyle and stem-cell therapy. "A healthy lifestyle helps you ward off a lot of these diseases," he said, recommending people stay away from TV, especially the news, and if they must watch, stick to classic movies from the 1930s and 40s. Watching violence on TV can be very stressful, he said.

To stay healthy and vigorous, Obi recommends eating only healthy organic foods, such as eggs, rice with no gluten, cheese, chicken sausage -- nothing greasy - vegetables and fruits, choosing lots of berries over citrus or bananas, which are highly caloric. "Stay away from carbs, fast food, and GMOs. Diets do not work. Obesity is epidemic today. Over half of Americans are overweight, and they have tons of diets - none of them work. It's lifestyle change that is needed to lose weight. I was overweight when I started running marathons. I had tried many diets and I ran 70 miles a week and didn't lose a single pound," he said.

Obi's daily schedule, which is not for the faint of heart, requires he sleep only three hours per night, heading to bed at 11:30 p.m. and arising between 2:30 and 3 a.m. Once he rises, he eats his largest meal, followed by five to six smaller meals throughout the day until 5 p.m., after which he consumes no calories. Smoking is forbidden. Alcohol should be limited to one glass of wine or a highball, preferably not too close to bedtime. "Eat food early. Eighty percent of your calories should be ingested in the first half of your day. The body stores the calories we take in at nighttime in the form of fat," he said. He



Lewis J. Obi, ABPS, BSP: Medical director of the Lewis Obi Plastic Surgery Clinic (www.obiplasticsurgery.com) and The Pangenics Regenerative Center (www.stemcellsurgeryflorida.com)

also drinks eight to10 glasses of filtered water – not bottled -- or probiotic drinks each day and eats only fresh food – none with labels – or fast foods. When he eats out, which is infrequently, it is only at select restaurants. "I prepare 95% of my own food," he said.

Obi's vitamins/supplements are all fat and water soluble and are an important part of Obi's dietary regimen. Fat soluble vitamins, including all of his eye vitamins, are taken together after his breakfast, which contains a little fat. He also takes other vitamins throughout the day, after eating a series of small meals, consuming approximately 45 vitamins/supplements in total.

Obi also schedules at least two hours of exercise into his early morning routine. From 4:30 to 5:30 a.m. he works out with a seventh-degree karate dojo in the studio at his clinic before heading to HCA Columbia Hospital to do an "insanity" cross-training workout.

"You truly are what you eat, and it is so true in terms of the quality, quantity, and food types," he said. "The most important aspect of life extension is caloric restriction. Obesity and belly fat is the number one risk factor for cancer, heart disease, stroke and cognitive disorders. Exercise of body and mind with equanimity of mind and without injury to joints is important."



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Jr. RESIDENTS OCTOBER 2019

Neighborhood families built global friendships this summer

More than 25 youth from Avondale, Ortega, St. Nicholas and San Marco represented the USA at international CISV programs this summer. A global, nonprofit organization dedicated to educating and inspiring action for a more just and peaceful world, CISV helps its young participants develop as future leaders and active citizens so they can make a difference in their communities and the world. CISV, which was formerly known as Children's International Summer Villages, also gives them the opportunity to build global friendships and networks that last a lifetime.

CISV's flagship program is called "Village." It brings together 11-year-olds from around the world to live together for a month to learn to cohabitate cooperatively, share cultures and build global friendships.

Tula Reisinger, a sixth grader from St. Nicholas, went to Village in Brazil. "Village was my favorite CISV experience so far. It was so much fun meeting everyone and making global friendships. I have become more aware of how big the world is," she said.



Tula Reisinger, Bridget Lawrence, Lean Jimenez, Jack Sparks, Javek King at Brazil Village

Cyrus Vaghefi, a sixth grader from San Marco, visited Village at the very top of Norway and had a similar experience. "My favorite CISV experience so far has been Village, because it has changed me. CISV has changed me by becoming more mature and has made me pay more attention to things around the world," he said.

Another CISV program, "Interchange," allows Jacksonville families to host a child from another country for two weeks before



Kelby Siddons, Lena Kehrer, Julia Winter, Alexis (Lexi) Maganano, Hannah Kolle, Genevieve Curley, Maxwell Lewis, Timo Hieden, Nicole Nimmrichter, Charlotte Nolan, Nathan Heekin, Stefan Klimisch, Jakhye Wilkins, and Nicholas Hoberstorfer

their child goes to live for two weeks with the family of the child they hosted. This program allows children to have the chance to experience family life in another country and share their own community and home. In 2019, 11 CISV Jacksonville families participated in an interchange with Netherlands for children ages 12 and 13, while six families with teens ages 14 and 15 interchanged with families from Graz, Austria.

Avondale resident Ian Rasch, an eighth grader, participated in the Netherlands interchange. "CISV has helped me try new things, make new friends, appreciate different cultures, and be really grateful for all I have!" he said. "My CISV experiences have made me excited to travel more with CISV programs. I also want to travel more with my family and, when I am older, travel all over, hopefully with friends I have made through CISV!"

Luke Meyers of San Marco was a delegate to the Netherland's Interchange. "CISV has made me a more open-minded person and made me think on how others feel," he said.

Charlotte Nolan, an Avondale ninth grader, shared similar enthusiasm after participating in the Austria Interchange. "My CSIV experience has definitely made me more confident in myself. I have friends in other parts of the world and understand other cultures better."

For ages 14 and 15, CISV offers the Step Up program, a three-week international leadership camp. This program encourages young people to take a leading role in planning and organizing activities.

Bella McQuade from Ortega and Ryan Napoleon from Avondale attended Step Up camp in Florence, Italy. "I feel that because of CISV, I am less shy and CISV has also made me love learning new languages," said McQuade. Napoleon agreed. 'Step Up allows you to meet kids from different countries. I have friends all over the world that I made at each camp," he said, noting CISV impacted his life by helping him learn about other cultures and see a different perspective.

"CISV has made me a more kind and compassionate person. I also have made many lifelong friends around the world that I know will be there for me the rest of my days," said Nico Summa, of Avondale, who attended camp in Germany.

In July 2020, CISV Jacksonville will participate in an interchange with French teens ages 12 and 13 and Italian teens ages 14 and 15. Other programs for 2020 will be announced at an event at Jacksonville University on Saturday, Oct. 26 at 4 p.m. More information is available at https:// jacksonville.cisvusa.org or by email to cisvjax@gmail.com.

Student families help foster relationships at all grade levels



Families are formed from students of different grade levels, and once a student is assigned to a family, they remain in that family throughout their time at St. Paul's.

For decades, St. Paul's Catholic School Riverside has had a tradition of pairing older students with younger ones when attending the weekly student mass. But this year, St. Paul's has decided to take the buddy system to a much bigger level, by forming student families.

To help turn church and school life into a more meaningful experience, the school decided to make student families with pre-K through 8th graders, according to Adrienne Baldwin, VPK director, primary physical education, and intervention at St. Paul's. The families will not only sit with each other at church but will also meet monthly for activities throughout the year.

Once a student is assigned to a family, they will stay with that family for the duration of their time at St. Paul's. The students get the chance to know each other and work together for several years. They will be able to look forward to becoming an eighth grade "family leader."

"The family program is a way to bring together the children from different grade levels and give them the opportunity to form meaningful relationships with their peers. We hope that it will also, teach the older children the responsibility of guiding and caring for others," said Baldwin.



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DeFoor speaks at Episcopal student government installation

District 14 City Council Member Randy DeFoor was on hand as new members of student government at The Episcopal School were installed Aug. 26 at the Munnerlyn Center.

DeFoor, a member of Episcopal Class of 1982, spoke at the event, sharing her experience as a student body president and explaining how the leadership opportunities she experienced at Episcopal shaped her life.

Included in the student government cabinet are President Lizzie Conklin, a senior, Vice President Jake Murphy, a junior, and Secretary Ansley Walker, a sophomore.

Class officers were also installed.

Serving the senior class are President Anders Amlie, Vice President Emilie Fazio, Secretary Tori Zlatanoff and Senators Jack Laborde, Nial Murphy, Charlotte Rosenburg and Mabel Smith.



District 14 City Councilwoman Randy DeFoor gave the address at the installation of Episcopal School's student government Aug. 26.

Serving the junior class are: President Isabella Wright, Vice President M.J. Goodman, Secretary Hannah Goldfield and Senators Jack Adams, Kami Eppley and Anna Kate Smith.

Serving the sophomore class are President Dan Ferber, Vice President J.P. Coll, Secretary Gabby Parker and Senators Lizzy Curran and Parklyn Gardner.

Serving the freshman class will be President Chloe Simpson, Vice President Cohen Chesser, Secretary Kate Adams and Senator Ella Bisher.



Members of student government at The Episcopal School this year

Gyminators brings community together for National Gymnastics Day





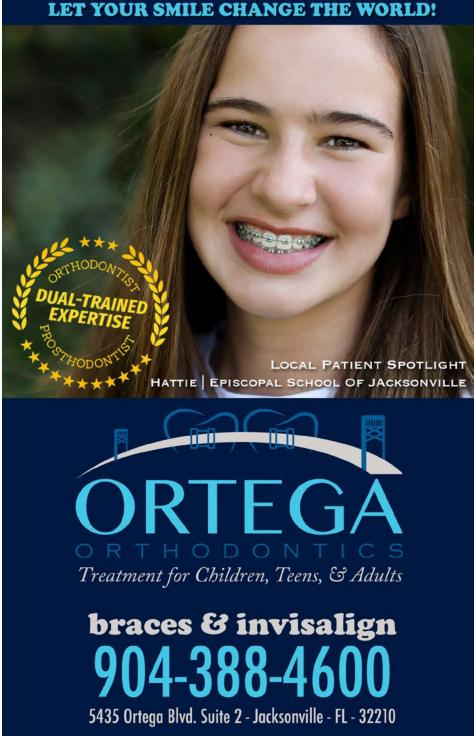




A recent weekend brought both experienced and novice athletes to Gyminators Gymnastics on Blanding Blvd for a day of celebration. From vendors and snacks, to an exercise filled afternoon in her facilities, Paula Falls welcomed parents, top students and guests to enjoy an open house full of activities.

Kids tumbled, flipped, rolled, jumped and balanced their way to greatness as Gyminators staffers helped attendees have a great time. "It's a really great opportunity for kids here today [to be able to enjoy gymnastics]. But super cool to see parents with their kids here that I taught years ago," shared Paula. "To have kids teaching today that have been here for years...it's full circle." Gymnastics Day was celebrated Sept. 14 at the local facilities, located at 4603 Shirley Avenue.







Childcare will be provided with a registration: www.stmarksdayschool.org/showcase

Learn More

Jacksonville Club donates funds so deaf and blind students can ski

Thanks to the generosity of the Jacksonville Ski Club, a student or two from the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind will have an opportunity to hit the slopes this winter.

Bianca Roos, president of the Jacksonville Ski Club, presented a check for \$3,200 to Jennifer Enache of the school during the club's annual meeting at Maggiano's Little Italy restaurant Aug. 18.

Each year the St. Augustine school takes between 10 and 20 students to mountains in the northern or western regions of the United States to experience snow and try their hand at the sport, said Jim Arre, a ski club board member. The cost per student to take the trip is between \$2,000 and \$3,000 and is only funded by donations. The Jacksonville Ski Club donated \$2,000 and then raised the balance of its gift with a raffle and silent auction during its annual meeting, he said.

Last year the students traveled to Vermont to ski at Bolton Valley Ski Resort.



Jacksonville Ski Club Board members (red shirts) Bianca Roos, Karen Clarke, Ashley Dopf, Sonia Cardoos and Kathy Lawton join Jennifer Enache and students from the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind during the Ski Club's annual meeting Aug. 18 at Maggiano's Little Italy Restaurant at the Town Center.

Upson students welcomed to the "Greatest Little School on Earth"

Ruth N. Upson Elementary students enjoyed their first day at the "Greatest Little School on Earth." The Murray Hill campus was the scene of a full day of fun to kick off this year's theme and a year of learning. Activities included a bounce house with a Popsicle cool down, clown noses and tattoos, a variety of games and school teeshirts. The PTA provided the bounce house and contributed to the purchase of tee-shirts for every student. The annual teachers' skit, "be a leader, not a clown" was another highlight.

Gabriella Vargas, Landen Lopes, Isaac Byers, Henry Massey, (sitting) Ainsley Byers and Ariel Stokes

DA first in Duval County to receive National Magnet Certification

Since Douglas Anderson School of the Arts was transformed into Jacksonville's only public arts magnet school in 1987, its students and faculty have garnered many local, regional and national awards. In August, DA added another laurel to its pile when it was recently named Duval County's first nationally certified magnet school, a distinction that its students, faculty and administrators are especially proud of, said Melanie Hammer, principal.

"We are honored. The 10-month process to apply for this distinction required self-reflection and documentation of how DA exemplifies the standards of excellence," Hammer said.

Those standards of excellence are from the National Institute for Magnet School Leadership (NIMSL) and include demonstrated accomplishments and consistency in diversity, family and community, academic excellence, high quality instructional systems, innovative curriculum and professional development.

The national certification process was created by Magnet Schools of America and conducted by its affiliate NIMSL.

Prior to being transformed into an arts magnet school, DA had a rich history as an African American school dating back to 1922. As its students learned of the national magnet certification, many said they were not surprised to hear that DA was the first school in the county to be recognized in this way.

"DA is known for diversity," said Miracle Singleton, a senior majoring in creative writing. "Students roam our halls wearing all shades of skin and come from different backgrounds. One thing they all have in common is a love and passion for their art."









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Girl Scouts as good as gold

Young leaders shine in their local communities

Sixteen remarkable young women representing the Girl Scouts of Gateway Council (GSGC) recently joined the sisterhood of Gold Award Girl Scouts after spending a minimum of 80 hours each completing projects that set them apart as difference makers. The Gold Award is the top scouting honor and a pinnacle that is reached by only about 5% of Girl Scouts.

Receiving the Gold Award were: Katherine Ballard, Navarre; Lauren Collins, Tallahassee; Rachael Conomea, Orange Park; Abigail Floyd, Orange Park; Courtney Gill, Fernandina Beach; Isabelle Jacobi, Ponte Vedra; Creed King, Tallahassee; Sara Kissane, Fleming Island; Daniela McCarty, Saint Johns; Molly Paris, Jacksonville; Kaitlyn Sagul, Gainesville; April Sanchez, Jacksonville, Fla. Amelia Still, Jacksonville; Jillian Thigpen, St. Johns; Olivia Wingert, Jacksonville; and Josephine Wondracek, Jacksonville.

For their Gold Award projects, these Girl Scouts confronted numerous community issues including childhood obesity, mental health awareness, local and international poverty, childhood literacy, STEM career opportunities for girls, skin cancer prevention, nature conservation, wildlife conservation, water safety, and more.

The Gold Award is earned by high school aged Girl Scouts who demonstrate extraordinary leadership in developing sustainable solutions to local, national, and global challenges



Debora McCarty (parent of Daniela McCarty), Lisa Still (parent of Amelia Still), Josephine Wondracek, Rachael Conomea, Sara Kissane, Jillian Thigpen, Seven-Time Olympic Medalist Shannon Miller, Kaitlyn Sagul, Mary Anne Jacobs CEO Girl Scouts of Gateway Council, Traci Jenks Past President of Rotary Club of Jacksonville, and Molly Paris.

"Congratulations to our amazing Gold Award Girl Scouts on their outstanding efforts," said Gateway Council CEO Mary Anne Jacobs. "The Gold Award is the standout achievement of girls who develop meaningful, sustainable solutions to challenges in their communities and the world. In the girl-only, girl-led environment of Girl Scouts, a young woman pursuing her Gold Award gains the

experience and life skills—strategic thinking, communication, collaboration, problem solving, time management, and more—that set her apart on the way to making her world a better place."

Girl Scouts of Gateway Council serves more than 12,500 girls in grades K-12 and 6,000 adults in North Florida. Their service area includes 35 counties.

Semifinalists for National Merit Scholarship Program announced

Semifinalists for the 2020 National Merit Scholarship program were announced in September.

Forty-seven students from eight Jacksonville schools including Douglas Anderson School of the Arts (DA), The Bolles School, Episcopal School of Jacksonville, Paxon School for Advanced Studies, Providence School, and Stanton College Preparatory School were included on the list.

Three students from DA were listed: Adam X. Agonoy, Samuel A. Pabon, and Mallorie C. Sievert.

Six from The Bolles School were named: Caleb D. Cohill, Yash A. Gulani, Rishi Misra, Tyler J. Popp, Anne Ruperto and Caroline R. Shore.

Anders G. Amlie and John LaBorde from Episcopal, Aaron Connor and Nandhini Kathiravan of Paxon School for Advanced Studies, and Jade K. Hannan were also on the list. Stanton College Preparatory School boasted 25 candidates including: Stephen W. Boyd, Brian J. Chiang, Kaylee Conrad, Aryan Gupta, Monica Gupta, Arhum S. Imam, Sri M. Kopparthi, Shirsika R. Kimmeta, Caleb Leimer, Andrew P. Lopez, Richard W. McCoy, Craig W. McFarland, Kevin T. Nguyen, Kylo J. Nocom, Rajan H. Patel, Caroline M. Peck, Sarah G. Penland, Raha Riazati, Makenna N. Sarab, Jenna D. Sheldon, Kate E. Simmons, Katherine E. Stevens, Joshua Valan, Ronak N. Venkata and Jeannie K. Wang.

The program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying test, which serves as an initial screen of approximately 1.6

million entrants each year – and by meeting published program entry and participation requirements.

In early September, approximately 16,000 students or one third of the 50,000 high scorers – the highest scorers per state – are notified that they have qualified as semifinalists. In February, some 15,000 semifinalists are notified by mail that they have advanced to finalist standing. High school principals are also notified and provided with a certificate to present to each finalist. Approximately 7,500 finalists nationwide are awarded \$2,500 college scholarships on a state-representational basis. Winners are selected without consideration of family financial circumstances, college choice, major, or career plans.

Attending our Open House can be a life-changing moment.



Join us for an Open House and learn how The Bolles School has transformed the lives of literally hundreds of students over many decades. You'll enjoy meeting some of our current students when you attend a daytime event.

Ponte Vedra Campus October 10, 9-11 a.m. November 19, 6-8 p.m. Whitehurst Campus November 5, 9-11 a.m. December 3, 6-8 p.m. Bartram Campus November 6, 6 p.m. November 7, 9 a.m. **San Jose Campus** October 25, 8 a.m. November 15, 8 a.m.

Discover the possibilities at Bolles. To see all upcoming Open House dates, visit www.Bolles.org or call us at (904) 256-5030. #ThisIsBolles

The Bolles School is a college preparatory day and boarding school for students in Pre-K through Grade 12.





GUYS & DOLLS OCT 17-20, 2019 @ 7:30 PM DUBOW THEATRE, DA CAMPUS

EXTRAVAGANZA FEB 7, 2020 @ 6:30 PM DUBOW THEATRE, DA CAMPUS

DA AUDITIONS FOR 2020-2021 JAN 21 & JAN 28, 2020 DUBOW THEATRE, DA CAMPUS



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51% of seniors pursuing degrees/careers in the arts

Auditions to be held on Jan 21 & 28, 2020

Please visit DA website for more information and audition requirements; www.da-arts.org



Comes to the Bold New City of the South, October 21-25, 2019

Douglas School of the Arts and its foundation are thrilled to host the 2019 Art Schools Network (ASN) Conference on the First Coast. Jacksonville now joins the ranks of cities like New York, Chicago and Seattle as a destination for more than 300 conference goers.

"This is not just an opportunity for Douglas Anderson to show its innovative approach to arts education," said Melanie Hammer, principal of Douglas Anderson School of the Arts. "It is a chance for the First Coast to shine as a destination for arts and culture.

"The conference serves as a hub for innovators and creatives to network and grow momentum, building stronger art education opportunities nationally and abroad.

To learn more about the ASN Conference visit artschoolsnetwork.org

Assumption students celebrate Blessed Mother's birthday

Spirit shirts help fund new Ping Pong Service Club; National Junior Honor Society inductees announced

In the first few weeks of school, Assumption students enjoyed a variety of activities.

On Aug. 27, nuns from the Order of Home of the Mother, who live on the Assumption School campus, visited several classrooms to help students celebrate the Blessed Mother's birthday.

Also, on Aug. 27, students who were honored as 8th grade National Junior Honor Inductees participated in an induction service at Mass and then celebrated with refreshments at Kohl's Hall following the religious service. National Junior Honor Inductees included: Lizzy Austin, Davis Johnson, Elle Charboneau, Cat Haen, Claudia Stockard, Clare Coyle, Natalie Navidi, Gordon Whitcomb, Nick Amico, Elizabeth Lumpkin, Andrew Patelli, Riley McDaniel, Cecilia Fannin, Rachel Howard, Emma Lawrence, Mallory Swain, Mary Katherine



Sister Kelly, of Our Sisters from the order of Home of th Mother, plays the guitar as Sister Marina and Sophia Gjergji watch when the nuns visited classrooms at Assumption School Sept. 6 to celebrate the Blessed Mother's birthday.

Monahan, Marcela Perez, Madeline O'Neill and Keegan Gallup, Ellie Kirsch, Alex Iznaga, Rafael Perez, and Ava Charboneau.

On Aug. 30, students who chose to give a donation were allowed to wear "Spirit Shirts" with their uniforms as a way to support the school's newest 8th grade service club – the Ping Pong Service Club. Students in the club mix in a little table tennis while providing tutoring help for other Assumption students. They also help by improving the campus grounds.



Eighth grade students in Assumption's Ping Pong Service Club include: Back row: Caleb Couch, Quinn Chandler, Carson Cope, T.J. Gaines, Tripp Heekin, Lucas Soubly, Clare Coyle, Sophia Alfonso, Jayden Pettyjohn and Caleb Davis. Middle row: Nathan Chau, Hau Cing, Davis Johnson, Alex Iznaga, and Nicole Toney. Front row, Lizzy Austin, Emory Nelson, Mary Katherine Monohan and Cecelia Fannin. Front: Daniel Gurung



Eighth graders at Assumption School were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society Aug. 27. Back row: Lizzy Austin, Davis Johnson, Elle Charboneau, Cat Haen, Claudia Stockard, Clare Coyle, Natalie Navidi, Gordon Whitcomb, Nick Amico. In between back and middle row: Elizabeth Lumpkin and Andrew Patelli. Middle row: Riley McDaniel, Cecilia Fannin, Rachel Howard, Emma Lawrence, Mallory Swain, Mary Katherine Monahan, Marcela Perez, Madeline O'Neill and Keegan Gallup. Front row: Ellie Kirsch, Alex Iznaga, Rafael Perez, and Ava Charboneau.



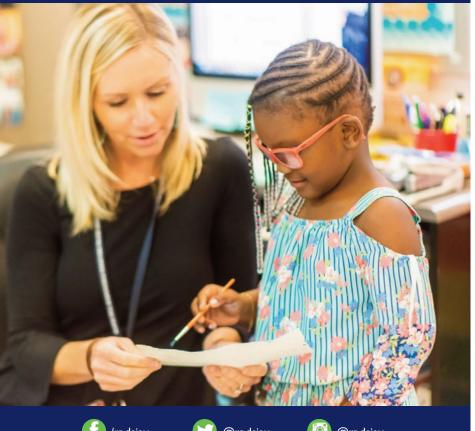
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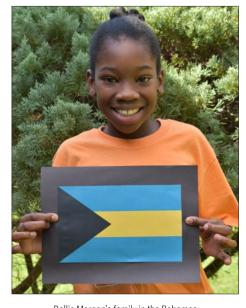
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Students host donation drive for Hurricane Dorian

When 6th grade students at St. Mark's Episcopal Day School learned that one of their peers, Dallis Morgan, had family in the Bahamas that lost nearly everything to Hurricane Dorian, they made it their mission

In the days following the storm, the 6th graders - with the help of Doneth and Damon Morgan, parents of daughter, Dallis '20, and son, Dillan '19 - began a donation drive to collect a list of items the Morgan family members needed "to help stabilize their surroundings in hope of a new level of normalcy."

Over the course of a few days, the St. Mark's community donated clothes, shoes, bed linens, school supplies and packed food items. They collected enough to fill



Dallis Morgan's family in the Bahamas was greatly affected by Hurricane Dorian.

two large crates that were loaded onto a ship to Grand Bahama with Doneth Morgan's brother for delivery to the family and others



Sixth grade students, Wright Bowyer and Roy Hamilton, sort items collected for the donation drive.

Hurricane brings call to action at Bishop Kenny

When the students at Bishop Kenny High School learned that Hurricane Dorian ravaged the Bahamas, they took it as a call to action. The Campus Ministry and Student Government Association learned that cash donations to the Archdiocese of Nassau would be best directed to those in need. The Bishop Kenny community soon raised \$8,000 to send to the Archbishop, as well as numerous cases of rice and beans.

Meanwhile, Bishop Kenny wrestlers Connor Bowman, Ryan Mayer, and Will Weinbecker joined Head Coach Nick Tillem, Katrina Buckley and wrestling team mom Laura in helping a local organization with Hurricane relief. They provided the muscle to load supplies and



Sarah Ward, Syrus Bakkar, Matthew Blaquiere, Lily England, Dailey Jackson, Principal Todd Orlando and Scott Sberna

move four truckloads and a 20-foot trailer filled with supplies to the St. Augustine airfield. The supplies were transported to HeadKnowles, the leading hurricane relief organization in the Bahamas.



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By Kandace Lankford

Resident Community News

When Nancy Mercedes Genao de Hilburn of Avondale passes by, her kind, giving spirit emits an energy that causes the darkness to flee and draws in those who are homeless, hurting and downtrodden. Her heart's desire, stemmed by her faith and family upbringing, is to embrace those in the throes of pain - to not only meet their practical needs, but to let them know that they are seen, heard, and loved.

The eldest of 11 children, Hilburn was born in the Dominican Republic and immigrated to the United States with her parents at the age of two. She comes from a culture where family is of paramount importance and was raised in an environment where faith is life's compass. Helping others has always been her heartbeat.

"I do it on the spur of the moment – if I see the opportunity, I seize the opportunity to do something," she said. "No matter how insignificant it might seem, it doesn't really matter. It's all about how I can bring happiness, even if it's for an instant, to that other person that's near me."

When Hilburn speaks about the joy of giving, she beams. As she segues into the plight of the homeless, tears fill her eyes and her voice begins to quiver. She attempts to explain how important it is to allow God's blessings to flow through her onto others.

"When we look at the homeless, we might pity them. Or the other extreme is we ignore them, because we have become

MEET YOUR | Faith and family fuel Neighbor | a lifestyle of giving

desensitized to the fact that they are part of us - we are one. With that thought it in mind, when I see a homeless person that is in distress or lonely or just near me, I'll say something. If that hello leads to something else, then I follow. I accompany the homeless on their journey. While we are walking, we will talk. I ask them their name and I say their name. I want them to come out and meet me halfway. I want them to know that they count and that their existence is acknowledged."

When she finishes filling their souls, she fills their bellies and tries to help them with other things they need, though she doesn't typically give anyone cash. "I prefer to meet the need directly, to make sure the money is being used for their good," Hilburn says.

Hilburn recently encountered a group of kindred spirits with whom she has bonded and feels compelled to help. The chance meeting occurred at the hospital, where Hilburn was visiting with her priest while he convalesced, when a young woman who "was like a butterfly" entered the room. She was part of a Guatemalan community who meet in each other's homes for fellowship and worship, and she invited Hilburn to come join them.

"The community is like a little goldmine, the way I see it. They are very loving, and they are very prayerful. Although they have a lot of obstacles, they have made it their business to come together and praise the Lord from their own homes, and I think that that is huge. It reminds me of the way things are in the Dominican Republic,

where lay people take on the responsibility of keeping God within the community because the priest can't always come to village," she said. When Hilburn discovered that the group wanted to say the rosary, but not all of them knew the rosary, she went to the bookstore and bought rosary pamphlets to share with them.

Another giving opportunity presented itself when Hilburn was sitting in church. She noticed a lady coming into the church with a large piece of luggage and her son in tow. Externally, the woman seemed fine - she was clean and well dressed and didn't appear to be in distress, but Hilburn said she sensed some inner turmoil. "She looked very pretty and very well put together, but something was not quite right. I wasn't going to walk away; I could tell she needed help – so I walked up to her and asked her how I could help."

The woman, named Carla, was from Trinidad. She had come to Jacksonville with her 13-year-old son because she was concerned for his future and wanted to make sure he got a good education. Her only request was that Hilburn help her find a place to store her luggage while she looked for a place where she and her son could stay, but Hilburn went further. She got permission to store Carla's luggage at the church, then tried to help the woman and her son find a place to stay.

"I went to the shelters with her. It was a full day's work and we did not find a shelter - not one - that would take her, because her son was 13 years old and too old to stay



with her. They would be separated, and he would have to stay in a men's unit, and Carla said she'd rather sleep with him on the street than see that happen," Hilburn said.

Not sure what to do next, Hilburn prayed for answers, which led her right back to the church. She spoke with the priest, who spoke with their finance person, and they were able to arrange a three-night hotel stay for Carla and her son. Carla decided to go back to Trinidad, where she was living with her sister before she came to Jacksonville. But the story doesn't end there. She and Chris, the finance person at the church, kept in touch and were eventually married. Carla and her son are in Trinidad, awaiting approval to live in the United States.

Hilburn laughed and said that not all her encounters have such a fairy-tale ending, but that is of no concern to her. She said she follows the path God has carved out for her and tries to help all those in need who come across that path. "Jesus says to love everyone," she said. "So, if I love, and I see someone suffering, shouldn't I help?"





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3D mammography (digital breast tomosynthesis) is approved by the FDA and is quickly becoming the standard of care for breast cancer screening. Because it's a newer technology, 3D screening mammography is not available at all screening facilities – but it's **now available at all Baptist Health screening locations.**

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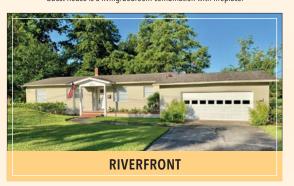
909 INWOOD TER - \$339,000

4 BR / 2 BA / 1 HB / 1,948 sqft.

Charming brick bungalow and adjoining guest house on a wooded lot and a half.

Main house has 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, a large living room with adjoining sun
room, dining room and large family room leading out to the deck and side yard.

Guest house is a living/bedroom combination with fireplace.



2554 LAKE SHORE BLVD - \$399,000

3 BR / 2 BA / 1,708 sqft

Brilliant open floor plan boasting large windows with soothing river views on a nearly 1 acre lot located on the Cedar River. Original restored hardwood floors. Custom vanities, travertine tile, glass showers with river pebble floors and subway tile in both baths. New roof and freshly painted exterior. This is a must see!



4613 ROYAL AVE - \$191,000

3 BR / 1 BA / 1 HB / 1,470 sqft.

Adorable brick bungalow in the growing Murray Hill neighborhood. Beautiful hardwood floors throughout. Close to Four Corners Park, Murray Hill unique shops and trendy restaurants, Riverside Avondale, as well as ease of access to 195 and 110.



2060 COLLEGE ST - \$499,900

4 BR / 2 BA / 1 HB / 2,768 sqft.

1920's Classic 2 story home with rocking chair front porch, rear deck, Detached 2 car garage with extra electric panel. High Ceilings, wood floors, lots of mouldings and dual staircases plus a cook's kitchen make this one a must see! Formal living and dining rooms on first floor. All bedrooms up including fabulous master suite.



3119 HERSCHEL ST - \$455,000

5 BR / 3 BA / 2,276 sqft.

Cedar Shake 2 story home with classic 1920's architecture. Hardwood floors throughout, large living room, dining room, pocket doors, garage, great fenced backyard with patio and Large front porch.



4815 POLARIS ST - \$149,900

3 BR / 1 BA / 1,016 sqft.

Adorable home boasting beautifully refinished hardwood floors. Conveniently located in the popular Murray Hill neighborhood with easy access to nearby Riverside/Avondale, NAS JAX, and downtown.



2523 FORBES ST - \$590,000

6 BR / 6 BA / 3,468 sqft.

Riverside 6 unit property. Front unit is a classic Riverside quad with 4 units renting at \$740/month & rear building has 2 units with alley access renting at \$630/month. Property is fully occupied & with minor updating rents could be over \$850/mth.



3899 HERSCHEL ST - \$324,900

3 BR / 2 BA / 1,813 sqft

Move-in ready Avondale home. Refinished hardwood floors, updated bathroom and kitchen. Sun porch, fireplace, security cameras, bonus room in rear. 2 kitchens give this home lots of potential uses. Currently subdivided into a 2/1 and a 1/1. 1/1 is rented thru Sept 2019 for \$700 per month.



6848 LA LOMA DR - \$300,000

4 BR / 3 BA / 2,543 sqft.

Traditional 2 story home in the San Jose area. Large Living Room, Dining Room, Family Room, Original Parquet Flooring on first floor and Oak Wood Flooring on second floor, Newer Kitchen with Mud room or office area off of Kitchen, a two car Garage and a fenced Backyard.



2030 HERSCHEL ST 3 - \$1,895 (Residential)

2 BR / 2 BA / 1,211 sqft. / \$1895 security deposit

Riverside 2nd floor apartment for rent. Living room, dining room, kitchen with breakfast nook, hardwood floors with inlays, washer & dryer hook ups in laundry room. Non-Smoking building NO PETS preferred, may consider cats with NRPF, award winning restoration, office with built-in desk and book cabinet.



1424 AVONDALE AVE - \$2,100 (Residential)

3 BR / 2 BA / 2,138 sqft. / \$2,200 security deposit

Avondale home with living room, dining room, fireplace and sunroom. Gorgeous refinished original hardwood floors throughout and baths with vintage tile. Kitchen plus breakfast nook and butler's pantry. Two covered parking spaces. Laundry room with washer/dryer. Lawn service included. May consider small pet w/NRPF, no smoking.



2063 OAK ST - \$2,500 (Commercial)

4,505 sqft

Riverside office space for rent. 3 Large Offices,1 Bathroom, Large Storage Room, Upstairs Balcony Downstairs/Open Porch, Reception Area, and a shared Kitchen.