

SAN JOSE · SAN MARCO · ST. NICHOLAS

Resident

COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY FIGHTS BACK AGAINST COVID-19



Baptist Health's Katie Lakey, RN, is just one of thousands of medical professionals from throughout Northeast Florida who are banding together to fight Coronavirus. Drive-up testing for COVID-19 is taking place on Lot J near TIAA Stadium, and a field hospital is being set up at the Prime Osborne Convention Center, while six major hospitals are collaborating to ensure the community's health care needs are being met. From practicing social distancing and good hygiene to sheltering in place at home, residents throughout the First Coast are contributing their all to help flatten the curve.

Feeding the hungry as city shelters in place

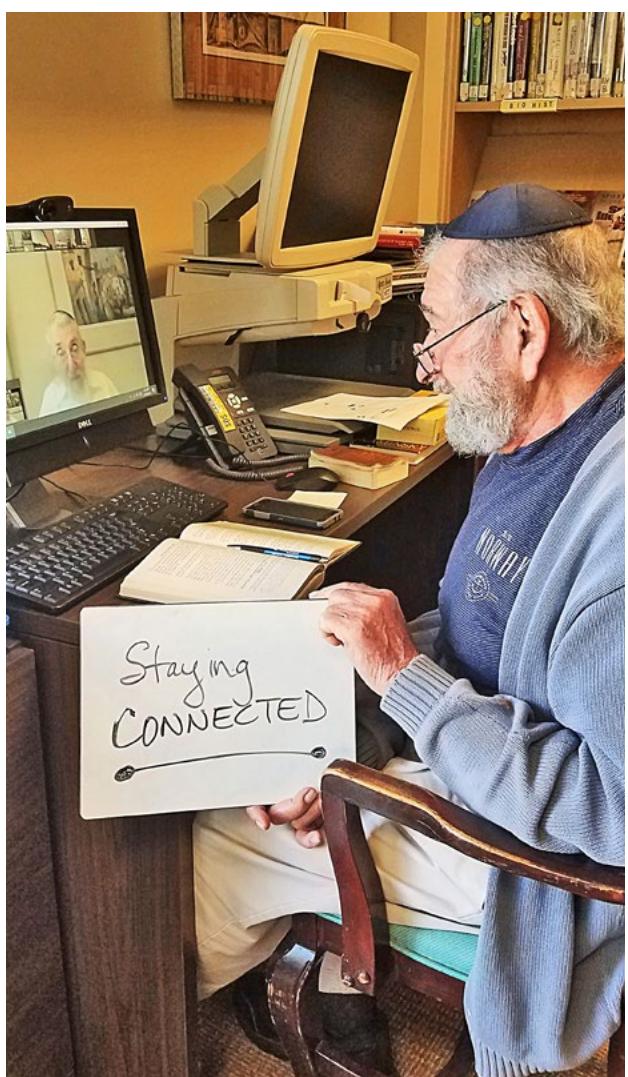
Several local nonprofits weather the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis as they continue to feed and provide shelter to Jacksonville's most vulnerable residents.

READ MORE, PAGE 14



Animals need families, foster and forever homes

Animal Care and Protective Services employee Shawnee Page plays outside with Beth, one of the shelter's adoptable dogs. As residents spend more time at home, homeless dogs and cats are increasing in numbers, visit www.coj.net, search 'adoptable pets'.



Developing green thumbs

San Marco residents Emma and Evelyn Jurado have been helping their parents, Dr. Gustavo and Julie Jurado, in the garden as their family shelters in place during the Coronavirus crisis. Helping around the house and working outside in the yard are good ways to keep kids positive and happy when everyone is forced to stay home.

STAYING CONNECTED

A resident at River Garden stays connected by communicating online in the library at the San Jose facility since visitation with relatives and friends is restricted during this time of social distancing.

Hospitals unite to set up master command center

We understand there is significant concern in the community regarding COVID-19. We all know a surge is coming, similar to an approaching hurricane. We are using sophisticated models and various scenarios to plan for the worst case while working to create the best case. That's why we are calling upon the whole community to do their part to flatten the curve.

The good news for us in North Florida is that since the beginning of this crisis, Jacksonville's hospitals have been collaborating to formulate the best response possible. As of today, all Jacksonville hospitals have the capacity to care for our patients, and more. We all are working around the clock on behalf of our patients, staff and community to ensure we are prepared for today's needs as well as those of the future.

We also are developing a master command center that uses a virtual supply tracking tool that will allow hospitals to work together with the City of Jacksonville's Emergency Operations Center to ensure our community's health care needs are being met. Additional details will be available in next month's issue of *The Resident*.



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UNITY – We are all here for connection, community

During these trying times, our community is quietly and positively living for tomorrow, and it is reflected throughout this latest edition of *The Resident*.

However, unfortunately, we are all more than aware that health experts and community officials expect this crisis may become worse before it gets better. Just as we were preparing to print this edition, we heard that our longtime bookkeeper, Sandy Rea, had lost her mother to Coronavirus. The news came as a shock to us and brought the seriousness of this situation home in a very real way.

We all are seeking a tomorrow where the necessity of 'social distancing' will be a thing of the past. When that day comes, we will hold dear the return of our daily routines and have a newfound appreciation of our local streets when they overflow with bustling businesses and teeming with activity. Never again will we take for granted large social gatherings, crowded sports arenas, and heartfelt family celebrations, such as weddings, anniversary parties, and graduations, that mean so much to all of us as the landmark occasions in our lives.

At a time when our community is overwhelmed with grief and uncertainty, it is our sincerest hope that you will find *The Resident* to be a lifeline. By delivering local, positive community news each month to your mailbox, we hope to reinforce a strong connection between you and your neighbors. We want to continue to bring hope and joy into your homes. Our goal has always been to have the monthly arrival of *The Resident* be something you look forward to with eager anticipation. We work hard to ensure it is a refreshing and unique media outlet that's reflective of the greatness in our community. After all, you can't spell community without UNITY.

From our newspapers and magazine products – *Circles – Social Datebook & Charity Register*, and *Historic Life, Community & Newcomers Guide* – to

our website, Facebook page, and social media channels (check out our NEW Instagram handle - @residentnewsjax), we're here to inform, remain positive, and reflect the general welfare of our neighborhoods. It's been entrusted to our business, and we take pride in our ability to showcase this marvelous place we call home.

Remember that there are others out there that may need your help, whether it be counsel, someone to talk to, a warm meal, a job, a few dollars, or something more. Through these pages, we share only a sample of some good works going on during this harrowing time, both locally and citywide via our network of nonprofits.

Also, if we could ask a favor, if you have the opportunity, please patronize our advertisers. We so appreciate their loyalty and continued support. It is what enables us to bring our newspapers to your doorstep. In closing, we look forward to sharing the most compelling story, the overcoming of this great neighborhood scourge, together.

Pamela and Seth Williams

Stay in touch by sending emails,
photos, links, etc. to
Editor@residentnews.net

We dedicate
this edition of
The Resident
to
**Betty Parker
Harrelson**



Baptist seeks medical supplies from community

The Baptist Health Foundation is asking for community help to buy more medical supplies, including personal protective equipment, during what officials describe as "an unprecedented and unpredictable crisis."

The foundation is accepting Clorox bleach wipes, hand sanitizer, face shields, goggles, CDC-approved masks, isolation gowns, non-contact thermometers, disposable coveralls and painters suits, powered air purifying respirators (PAPR), controlled air purifying respirators (CAPR) and even hand-sewn isolation gowns and face masks. At the end of March, hospital staff were predicting that gowns would be the first need and asked people who wanted to sew the gowns and masks to please use 100% cotton fabric that can be laundered and bleached.

For up to date details about donated goods or to make a cash donation, visit <https://giving.baptistjax.com/campaignforcaregiverscovinond19>. Official protective supplies from medical and dental offices and manufacturers may also be dropped off at Baptist Health System's San Marco East Plaza office at 3563 Philips Hwy, Jacksonville, FL 32207, on the I-95 side building



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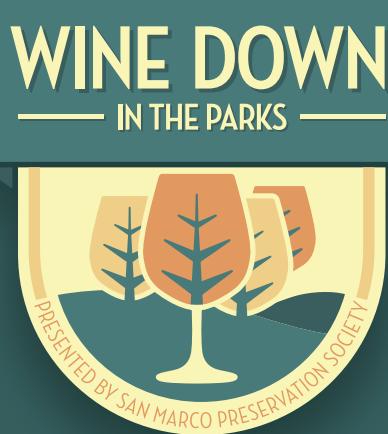
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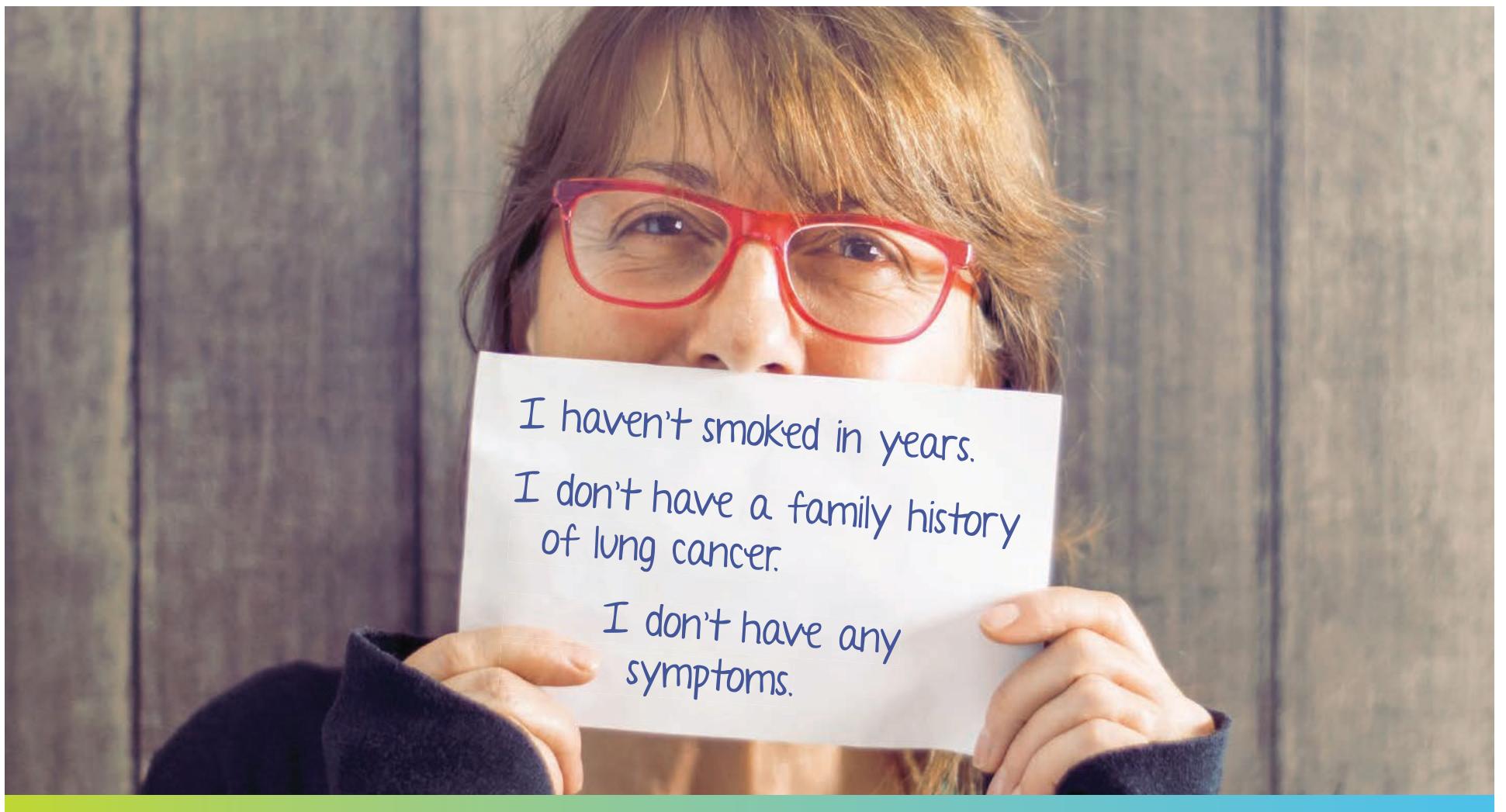
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Think you're not at risk for lung cancer? Think again.

Unfortunately, if you quit smoking 15 years ago or less, you may be at risk for developing lung cancer. You could also be at risk even if you have no family history and no symptoms.

What can you do to reduce your risk and catch lung cancer early?

Consider a lung cancer screening. Early detection of lung cancer can save your life. If you meet the following criteria, you could be eligible for a low-dose CT lung cancer screening, which is covered by Medicare and many insurance plans.

- ✓ You are between 55 and 77 years old.
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- ✓ You are a current smoker or have quit within the last 15 years.

To see if this screening is right for you, talk with your primary care physician or go to baptistjax.com/lungscreening.



Making Cancer History®

Residents find silver lining during COVID-19 crisis

By Jennifer Edwards

Resident Community News

There's the old cliché: "March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb," but in 2020, the reverse was true. Thanks to the spread of COVID-19, an unknown form of a known family of viruses that has sickened people throughout the world, Jacksonville residents have been advised by Mayor Lenny Curry to stay home as much as possible, work from home, and practice "social distancing," by standing at least six feet apart, while the institutions they know and love – schools, parks, beaches, churches, restaurants, sports and social activities have been shuttered for the foreseeable future.

Despite that, the residents of Jacksonville's historic neighborhoods were seen pulling together, finding ways to connect and spreading altruism despite sweeping changes in public life in March, which are expected to last throughout April and perhaps in the months beyond. Schools, work, and even some nonprofit events went online so that people could keep connected to create a sense of normalcy in what for everyone is uncharted territory. Neighbors found ways to help each other. But first, there were some major changes to navigate.

The closures echoed the waves of reported transmission of the virus. In early March, Baptist Health conducted a news conference to advise residents on ways to prevent Coronavirus transmission and advised people who might have been exposed to use an app, Telescope Health, to remotely see a doctor for a reduced cost. Baptist officials stressed that information about the virus was changing daily because the medical community knew so little about it. At the time of the press conference, things hadn't really shut down yet.

But shortly afterward, the closures started and kept coming. The NBA shut down its season March 11 and the list of athletic closures extended in a cascade, from professional tournaments down to the high-school and middle-school level. On March 12, the PGA closed its signature event, The PLAYERS Championship golf tournament in Ponte Vedra, first to the public, then entirely after its first round. Charity events, public meetings, even neighborhood meetings were canceled, but the real pain for many families came when Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis made the hard decision to close all public schools.

The schools will not reopen until April 15 at the earliest and may not open again for the rest of the year. Students at Episcopal School of Jacksonville, The Bolles School, and Bishop Kenny, as well as many public schools in Duval County are now having students keep up with their studies through

classes online. Soon after, DeSantis ordered all gyms to close and restricted restaurants to take-out and delivery only, while easing some rules to allow alcohol delivery. On March 24, Mayor Lenny Curry ordered all businesses to allow their employees that could work from home to do so.

Meanwhile, stores restricted their hours and some, such as Publix, posted signs advising people who waited outside for the morning opening, to stand in single file to reduce the risk of spreading the virus. Shelves were bare in the toilet paper aisles and devoid of sanitary wipes by the end of the month. All governmental and quasi-governmental meetings were cancelled by the end of the month, too.

Despite all those drastic instructions, many in Jacksonville's historic districts found ways to congregate and interact in positive and uplifting ways. Many residents are supporting struggling local restaurants that were forced to close by ordering curbside pickup. Children have written letters of thanks to strangers, and created new ways for people to gather, and some residents even created a Facebook page so kids could participate in a kind of virtual scavenger hunt.

Annie Pajcic, who helms ThouArtExalted Ministries (TAE), with its headquarters on Talbot Street in the Shoppes of Avondale, said she was encouraging those who attended to "walk by faith, not by sight." In the meantime, she said a relative was repurposing beloved family garments into masks that could be washed for use by local nurses and medical staff.

In Venetia, Drew Haramis, a St. Mark's Episcopal Day School third-grade teacher, who also founded the nonprofit Angels for Allison, which helps bereaved parents, has bought takeout more often to support local restaurants and is teaching her students to practice altruism. Now, she teaches virtually over the internet because of the state mandate. But even so, she is practicing little ways of helping, as small as buying a \$5 sandwich or sharing a smile.



Andrew Lopez, a senior at Stanton College Preparatory School, takes a virtual class at his home in Granada.



Residents of the Granada neighborhood practice social distancing as they walk their dogs in the neighborhood park.



Executive Vice President Dr. Elizabeth Ransom, Dr. David Rice, senior vice president and chief quality officer, Dr. Matthew Rill, CEO of Emergency Resources Group and Dr. Mobeel Rathor, infection disease specialist at Baptist and Wolfson Children's Hospitals, discuss new information about the spread of Coronavirus.

"One of the greatest things we can teach our children is the gift of giving back to the community and others. One of the biggest things we did was to write cards and notes to local nurses and doctors. Or, write a letter to somebody you haven't seen in a while, one of your relatives, your family member. The art of writing a letter is dying and how exciting would it be to go to your mailbox and get a handwritten letter from someone?" Haramis said, noting she had her students send their letters to staff at Ascension St. Vincent's Riverside, Ascension St. Vincent's Southside, Mayo Clinic and Baptist Medical Center South, where her sister works as a nurse.

She is not the only one, by far. Neighbors are reaching out to each other in a multitude of ways. Take Suzanne and Joe Honeycutt of Colonial Manor, who are known for hosting neighborhood parties on their expansive deck overlooking the Duck Pond. They painted a table a cheery color – turquoise – and placed it outside their home on San Jose Boulevard. It created a way for people to gather in small groups, outside, where they could enjoy the fresh air. It's become very popular, which delights them.

"It tickles us to see people sitting on it," Suzanne Honeycutt said. "Especially at night, with the fountain lights on."

Honeycutt also mentioned a Facebook group, 904 Rainbow Hunt Group, an online way to gather and do scavenger hunts for rainbows that are posted throughout the San Marco neighborhood. As of late March, the group had nearly 3,000 members posting pictures of the rainbows they hid and were found.

This might be why, in the neighboring Granada subdivision, Angela Lopez said she has seen colorful chalk rainbows adorning her neighbors' driveways as she rides her bicycle through the neighborhood. She has also noticed that a youthful merry prankster has posted jokes on tree trunks near her home to cheer residents.

Churches are also trying to cope with the recommendation not to have parishioners gather in large groups and have been sharing their services on-line. District 14 Councilwoman Randy DeFoor, whose represents Riverside, Avondale, Ortega and Murray Hill, said that the shutdowns in the area have driven more participation in church services than usual through online sites.

And she said that even with the closures of bars and restaurants, residents were continuing to patronize local businesses by having them deliver food to their homes.

"I think people are really coming together for each other," DeFoor said. "I think we are going to see a lot of similar results as we did in wartime, when the nation came together and from that, we had a big boom afterwards. In the meantime, we want to support each other as best we can – from six feet away. This is a difficult time for retailers. I hope it won't be as long as we think. I think we need to hunker down and get through this difficult time."

Wayne Wood, founder of Riverside Avondale Preservation, said being encouraged to spend more time at home meant that he and his wife, Lana, were inviting others to socialize in careful ways, like playing croquet, but that they also were now able to be more productive. For now, they are focusing on producing more art – Lana is renowned for her creations using traffic cones – and writing, as Wayne has written many seminal historical works about his historic neighborhood.

Riverside Avondale Preservation (RAP) Executive Director Warren Jones said that residents are trying to connect with each other in more creative ways.

"Just like in a hurricane, people are very concerned about their neighbors. Right now, we are all trying to figure out what is needed," Jones said.

"If you are out, share a smile with someone," Haramis said. "Because we are all starved for that interaction. Say your prayers and think good thoughts."



A rainbow adorns the driveway of a Granada resident and may have been part of a scavenger hunt promoted by the 904 Rainbow Hunt Group on Facebook.

Letter TO THE Editor

Dear Editor:

I am a parent at South Jacksonville Presbyterian Preschool and the president of our Family Volunteer Organization, which is similar to a preschool PTA program.

I was given your contact info as a way to voice my concern about the fate of our preschool that has been in operation for more than 60 years and is home to at least three generations of family members who have attended our school over the years.

Our school currently resides in the part of the South Jax Presbyterian church property that is about to be sold to developers. There is a good bit of community concern around this future development but very little concern for the displacement of our young children and teachers.

We have been offered space at Southside Baptist Church across the street from our current location, but we have run into multiple roadblocks as it relates to building code. We were planning to have moved into our new location at the beginning of the 2019 school year in August, but the delays have been continuous. As parents, many of us feel as though we have been pushed aside and kept in the dark about a future location for our children. We are told the process is moving forward, but the feedback we are getting seems to be delivered with very low concern. At this point it feels as though we have passed the last-minute mark for making this happen.

As parents with small children, we are likely the only ones whole heartedly concerned about the future of our school, but we are tired of the lack of urgency here. We have already passed the registration period for attending other schools next year, and the majority of preschools in the area already have wait lists. This leaves our families in a situation with little options available.

Not to mention that our teachers are being kept in limbo as to whether or not they will have a job next year. There is low possibility that they would be able to even find a job at this late date to work at another preschool.

What concerns me the most is that bond that has been built at our school as families experiencing similar life situations come together to create a "village" for our kids to grow strong and supported. Our families have built a solid trust in our

loving teachers to take care of our children as their own and to support them as they learn how to make friends and begin their basic education. These teachers have been the confidence in me when I was unsure about what I was doing as a new mother. They taught me how to relax into parenting and become a better mother to my boys. Our school improves our families, improves our community and builds prepared and loving children.

My goal is to do my best to help ensure our teachers have their jobs and our children have a school to attend together as one big family. We are not a money-making operation, but we do sustain ourselves and have a very active group of parents to help and support our school. Our curriculum is top notch and our class sizes are small, and many of our parents have toured multiple schools only to end up choosing ours. It is important to me to be able to provide as stable a situation as possible for our kids at this young age.

If we can bring enough awareness to this situation to at least get an answer with regards to our building code issues so we can move forward with potential options, our families would have something to prepare for before it's too late.

Thank you for allowing me to voice my concerns,

Allison Naseri

Miramar

EDITOR'S NOTE: *The Resident* spoke with Curtis Hart, an experienced developer who has been hired by Southside Baptist Church to guide its application for the preschool through the City Zoning and Building departments. "Nothing is a certainty," Hart said referring to working with government entities, but he is confident permitting will be forthcoming to allow a preschool at the church by before next fall. "Southside Baptist does not currently operate a preschool," he said. "They have applied for a 'Change of Use' permit so that they can operate a preschool. So far there have been no hang-ups but there are a series of things that they need to comply with. They have started doing that, but it's not a fast process. To my knowledge there is no reason why they wouldn't be allowed," he said. Hart has an incentive to see the process through. Southside Baptist has agreed to pay him for his services if the preschool becomes a reality. If the process falls through, he said he will have done the permitting work pro bono. For more on this issue see next month's edition of *The Resident*.

YOU
ASKED
FOR IT

Is it legal for someone to go through your trash?

It has come to *the Resident's* attention that some readers have been wondering whether it is legal for someone to go through homeowners' trash after it's left out for collection. In response, *the Resident* did the research and found some interesting answers.

Recycling is off limits

According to a City of Jacksonville ordinance, it is a violation for anyone other than the City's designated recycling service to take recyclables that have been left out on the curb for pick up. Although the ordinance doesn't expressly state why, one of the reasons is may be that the City shares half of any profits with the recycling company with which it contracts.

Your trash (usually) isn't off limits

Dumpster diving and trash picking isn't illegal by itself. A U.S. Supreme Court Decision in 1988, California vs Greenwood, found that garbage was public domain when left in the 'outside curtilage' of a home or property, i.e., meaning that those placing trash by the curb have no reasonable expectation of privacy. Some states and cities have passed local ordinances that make trash picking illegal, but the City of Jacksonville doesn't have one.

The Supreme Court decision was based in part on its finding that the benefits to law enforcement of finding evidence of crimes, such as drug dealing, outweighed the costs, such as the expectation of privacy.

"Since respondents voluntarily left their trash for collection in an area particularly suited for public inspection, their claimed expectation of privacy in the inculpatory items they discarded was not objectively reasonable," Justice Byron White wrote in the opinion. "It is common knowledge that plastic garbage bags left along a public street are readily accessible to animals, children,

scavengers, snoops, and other members of the public. Moreover, respondents placed their refuse at the curb for the express purpose of conveying it to a third party, the trash collector, who might himself have sorted through it or permitted others, such as the police, to do so."

However, if someone commits a crime during the act of going through abandoned trash or is verbally warned not to trespass (or with a posted sign) but comes back anyway, they could be given a warning or arrested, according to Florida State Statute.

Under the Florida Litter Law, it is also illegal for someone going through trash to dump any of the trash on the street or on private property.

Your trash can yield a tremendous amount of private information about you

Some of the most seemingly innocuous materials in your trash can be used to discover a stunning array of details about you and even track your daily movements. Empty pizza boxes, discarded mail, utility bills, credit card and bank statements and shopping receipts can be used to find out whether you go to the corner pizza delivery for pickup every week or get your favorite pizza delivered, your social security number, the amount you have in your bank account, who you have called and when, what credit cards you have, what you discuss in private written correspondence, the grocery store locations you shop in most and when, which may reveal the times you are likely to be out of the house.

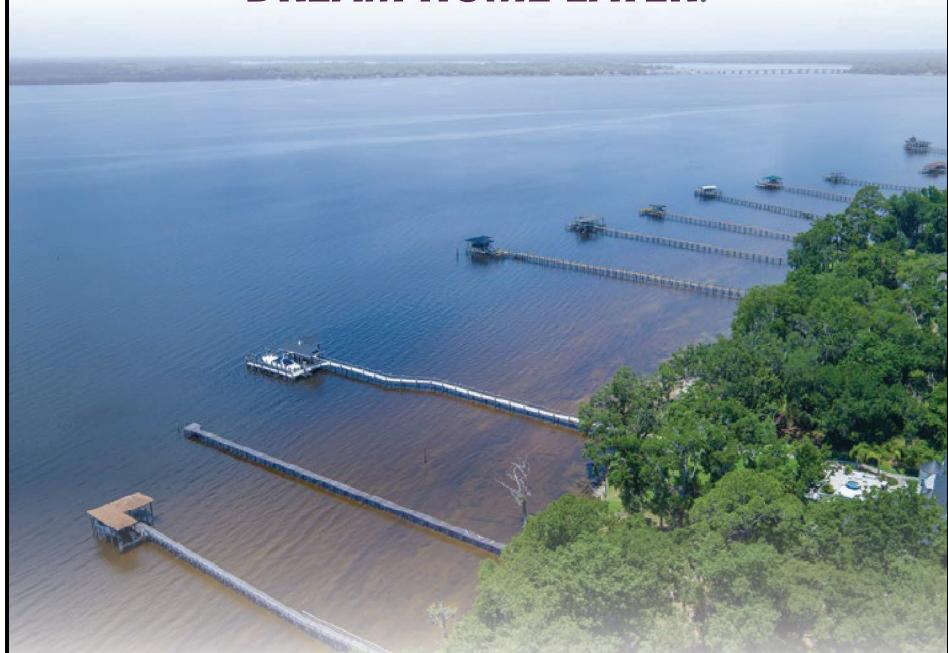
As mentioned, police can go through trash without a warrant in order to find evidence of a crime, which they can then use to get a warrant. But, so can private investigators that are hired by litigants in civil, insurance, divorce and custody cases. Suffice it to say, trash on the curb is open season for thieves, trash pickers, stalkers and others.

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Right Size San Marco files appeal against city ruling on Park Place development

By Marcia Hodgson

Resident Community News

Although it received the city's blessing, it won't be clear sailing for the folks at South Jacksonville Presbyterian Church as they endeavor to sell nearly three acres of their San Marco Square campus to an Alabama developer so that a four-story, 133-unit apartment complex and parking garage can be built on the site.

Right Size San Marco, a grassroots neighborhood group comprised of more than 750 residents filed two appeals against the city during the last week of March, within 30 days of the City Council's 17-1 vote Feb. 25, to approve the church's amended application to rezone the property. The new zoning legislation allows a four-story, 49.5-foot residential complex to be built within the San Marco Overlay, a zoning ordinance that mandates buildings shall not exceed 35 feet within its boundaries.

In order to bring the development into compliance with the San Marco Overlay, the City Council voted to approve an amendment to the 2030 Comprehensive Plan, which overshadows the San Marco Overlay and City Zoning Code, enabling the developers to use a calculated weighted average height, which has never before been used in Jacksonville, instead of the strict height measurement of 35 feet. The calculation averaged the 49.5-foot height of the residential building with the 26-foot, two-story parking garage that will also be built on the site so that the combined heights will not exceed 35 feet.

With the rezoning in place, the church is under contract to sell its property to

Harbert Realty of Birmingham, Ala., so that it can develop the property.

One of the appeals was filed with the Florida Division of Administration Hearings (DOAH) and the other was filed with the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, said Jon Livingston, one of the founders of Right Size San Marco.

Just days after City Council's approval of the plan, Right Size San Marco raised more than \$20,000 and hired Attorney Sidney F. Ansbacher of the St. Augustine law firm Upchurch Bailey and Upchurch to represent it and file the appeals, Livingston said. Ansbacher will replace the group's former lawyer, Clifford Shepard of Shepard, Smith, Kohlmyer & Hand of Maitland, who advised the group prior to City Council's vote, Livingston said.

The group is seeking to raise approximately \$57,000 and has set up a Go Fund Me page at rightsizesanmarco.com to assist in its effort.

"To put this in perspective, if 150 residents each donate \$233, that will cover it," Livingston said, noting the group has received several private donations – many anonymous – and that one resident has agreed to match up to \$10,000 in donations. He also said some residents of other areas in the city, such as Riverside and Arlington, that have zoning overlays, are making donations to support the appeal because they recognize that the City's ruling has set a precedent and developers might try to use it as a way to overcome overlay height restrictions in their neighborhoods.

Joining Right Size San Marco in opposition to the plan as it went through city channels was the San Marco Preservation Society

(SMPS). Both groups favored putting residential housing at that location, but objected to rezoning the property to Urban Priority, which allows the higher density of 60 units per acre and of the use of a calculated weight average height as a way to have the project conform to the San Marco Overlay.

However, the San Marco Preservation Society does not intend to support Right Size San Marco in its efforts to appeal, said President Linzee Ott. "SMPS has not been asked or approached to consider joining any appeals," she said. "Even so, the idea was briefly discussed at this week's board meeting. The board was disinterested in the idea of participating in an appeal."

Livingston said he was disappointed in the Preservation Society's reluctance to join and possibly lead the appeal.

"If the character of San Marco and the integrity of the San Marco Overlay are to be protected, oversight of developers needs to continue to ensure plans follow code," said Livingston. "We need to keep a pulse on what's happening in the surrounding community. Unfortunately, assuming the city planning department employees, as well as the City Council, will automatically stop projects from diluting the Overlay, is a fallacy. In our meetings with several councilmembers, it was clear that many didn't know the zoning code that well. Most even suggested that they would follow our district councilmember's desire. We believe that both of those factors were very evident in this project."

"The entire City Council, except for (At-Large Group 4) Councilmember Matt Carlucci, not only didn't listen to the residents of the community, they voted for special interests championed by our district council member. Two councilmembers outside of our area even went so far as to say they would never do this to their constituents and community, yet, minutes later, they threw their support behind our district councilmember," he continued, referring to District 14 Councilmember Randy DeFoor who represents Riverside, Avondale, Ortega and Murray Hill, and District 1 Councilmember Joyce Morgan, who represents Arlington. District 5 Councilmember LeAnna Cumber represents San Marco, San Jose and St. Nicholas including the area where the proposed project is to be built.

"To protect the San Marco Overlay, we need a community organization that isn't afraid to oppose and fight projects that do not comply with the law, including appealing adverse decisions," Livingston said. "If the appeal option isn't on the table, then, as we have seen, the Overlay will be easily ignored. Many believe the San Marco Preservation Society should

take this role. Since the San Marco Preservation Society has 'preservation' in its name, and presumably a goal of preserving and protecting the historic charm and character of San Marco, we believe it should be the organization on point for these issues. Not only does it need to work with developers to make sure they follow the laws set in place, but it also needs to stand firm to protect the Overlay, even if it means appealing a ruling."

"When the next local development starts to blur the lines of existing code, Right Size San Marco will be watching," Livingston promised. "Until then, our desire is for the SMPS to join us in supporting this appeal and allocating resources to fight for the Overlay."

Mark Middlebrook, an elder of South Jacksonville Presbyterian Church, said he wasn't particularly concerned about the appeal as it is the city's responsibility to deal with it.

"The appeal is not against Harbert Realty or South Jax Presbyterian Church. The appeal is against the city and is challenging the city's authority," he said. "The city feels confident, and its general counsel was fairly confident they were on firm ground, so we'll find out."

Middlebrook said that without any threat of appeal that construction or permitting on the project would not have started before July 2020. "So here we are in March. A lot can happen in the appeal. I don't know how fast the appeal can be processed by the city, but it's their responsibility. The permitting could be delayed beyond that time frame depending upon how long the appeal endures."

Middlebrook said during the "due diligence" period, Harbert Realty paid the church an advance of \$20,000 a month toward the eventual purchase price. "I can't say that will be the case going forward. Those amounts were toward the purchase price. Nobody was going to be out any money. It was just to help us cover it because our property was off the market. We are negotiating modifications to the contract to cover what we are doing today."

He also said the church's existing contract with Harbert Realty does not deal with the possibility of an appeal, so it is currently working on an agreement between the buyer and seller on what to do during and after the appeal. "We have been working since the City Council meeting and before the City Council meeting to modify our contracts to account for an appeal period," he said. "That has not been finalized. Harbert is still in it, and we still intend on selling to Harbert. We'll see how it shakes out."



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4 BD 2 BA 1 HBA 2,263 SF

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New law spells out maintenance duties in San Marco Square and public right-of-ways

By Marcia Hodgson

Resident Community News

For more than a decade, there has been a sort of informal “gentleman’s agreement” between the San Marco Preservation Society (SMPS), the San Marco Merchants Association (SMMA) and the City of Jacksonville’s Parks and Recreation Department when it came to shared responsibilities concerning the maintenance of Balis Park and the city right of ways surrounding San Marco Square. Now, thanks to a Community Association Right-of-Way Maintenance Agreement – Ordinance 2020-0066 – all guesswork has been taken out of where each organization’s responsibilities lie.

Approved unanimously by the City Council on Feb. 25, the ordinance was introduced by District 5 Councilwoman LeAnna Cumber and amended by the Neighborhoods, Community Services, Public Health and Safety Committee.

“The agreement formalizes the systems of maintenance and improvement that all three entities have been collaboratively operating under for, gosh, probably over a decade,” said SMPS President Linzee Ott. “As you know, SMPS and SMMA enjoy a cooperative and healthy working relationship with the city. Over time, there were things either the merchants or we wanted to accomplish in the Square and the City simply couldn’t afford or didn’t think were appropriate for them to be responsible for, especially if all the neighborhoods around Jax were to begin wanting similar items,” she said, referring to enhanced plant material, lighting, sound systems, etc.

“SMPS and SMMA began donating in-kind services to the Square because we felt it was our responsibility to make San Marco an

exceptionally great and attractive place to shop, dine and live. SMMA and SMPS have been donating these services for many years, but we, including the City, realized it was getting difficult to keep track of who was covering what,” she continued. “(Former District 5 Councilwoman) Lori Boyer started the conversation about drawing up some sort of document to delineate the responsibilities. Credit is also due to (former SMPS President) Bryan Mickler, SMMA President Joe Carlucci and District 5 Councilwoman Cumber,” she said.

“Bryan Mickler and Lori Boyer played a really big role,” confirmed Carlucci. “They were the ones that got this thing off the ground and deserve much due credit as well.”

Specifically, SMMA and the city divide most of the duties in Balis Park. The merchants pay for the weekly mowing, and edging of the turf, plant and shrub trimming, weeding, weekly leaf blowing, weekly skimming the leaves from the fountains and litter control. In contrast, the City Parks Department takes care of tree maintenance, fertilization, weed and pest spraying, irrigation maintenance and replacement, hardscape and furniture other than engraved pavers, pressure washing as needed of the pavers and the gazebo, fountain maintenance for both the Lions Fountain and the Gazebo Fountain, the installation and replacement of lighting in the trees and trash collection in the park and replacement of liners. Meanwhile, the Preservation Society’s only duty is to take care of the engraved pavers.

In the San Marco Square right-of-way and medians that extend down San Marco Boulevard from Naldo Avenue to Sorrento Road and along Atlantic Boulevard from Naldo Avenue to San Marco Place, the



District 5 Councilwoman LeAnna Cumber with San Marco Merchants Association President Joe Carlucci and San Marco Preservation Society President Linzee Ott

merchants are responsible for mowing and weed-eating, plant and shrub trimming and weeding, maintenance of the crepe myrtle trees, trimming and weeding of palm trees that are lower than 15 feet, and fertilization. The City is responsible for trimming palm trees taller than 15 feet, and irrigation maintenance and replacement. SMPS is to take care of paver maintenance, making sure they are level and replacing them if necessary. Preservation also takes care of plant, shrub, and tree replacement and installation. SMMA and SMPS split the cost of mulch and cleaning the pavers.

The City has the sole responsibility of caring for the right-of-way extending down San Marco Boulevard to Gary Street.

Caring for the Naldo and Landon Roundabouts is the shared responsibility of all three organizations with the merchants taking care of plant and shrub trimming and weeding in the Naldo roundabout while the Preservation Society pays for plant, shrub and tree replacement and installation and mulch in both. The City pays for plant and shrub trimming and weeding in the

Landon roundabout as well as tree and palm maintenance and irrigation maintenance and replacement.

Along Atlantic Boulevard from San Marco Place to the railroad tracks, the City is responsible for all maintenance.

“Just last year, SMPS added \$35,000 worth of new plant material in Balis Park, the two roundabouts, and a few other patches around the Square,” said Ott. “We were happy to do it, and I think the results look marvelous – especially with the excellent upkeep from SMMA and our landscaping company, Costa Verde. And, as an aside, this is a perfect example of why membership with SMPS is so important, because without membership dues and private donations, we wouldn’t be able to keep the Square and other areas of San Marco looking as beautiful as they do.”

“I think this is great for all parties because it really lays out exactly who is responsible for what and is not dependent on someone kind of remembering whether it is the responsibility of the City or the other organizations,” said Cumber. “Now it is actually written down. This makes it official.”

Buy produce, save a paycheck



Like all restaurants in Jacksonville’s historic districts, the Mudville Grille in St. Nicholas is limited to takeout and delivery due to the Coronavirus crisis. To ensure one of his employees, Sammy Reid, will still get a paycheck, Mudville owner Louis Joseph has set up a produce stand full of fresh vegetables and fruits from the Farmer’s Market in front of his restaurant at the intersection of Atlantic and Beach Boulevards. So far, St. Nicholas residents and others have been supporting the restaurant and the produce initiative by tipping generously and patronizing the stand as often as they can. “They’re spreading the wealth. They’re going to other small businesses and making sure that everybody’s got their business, which is great because it’s hurting right now,” Joseph said.



Sammy Reid and Louis Joseph



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Second River City Ball raises \$100,000 for local charities

Over the past 18 months, the River City United Foundation has raised \$200,000 for local charities and a huge part of that success was its second annual River City Ball. The ball took place Feb. 8 at the River Club and raised more than \$100,000 as well as provided an opportunity for young professionals to celebrate and build relationships.

During the event, River City United Foundation Board members Craig Walker, Jr., Luke O'Steen and Will Robertson presented checks to Community PedsCare and Tiger Academy. Both foundations received \$50,000. The silent auction proceeds benefitted Angels for Allison and The McKenzie Noelle Wilson Foundation.

The River City United Foundation is a group of young professionals, many of which attended The Bolles School, who have banded together with a common goal to better the community. There goals include: creating the opportunity and outlet for young professionals to network; getting involved in Jacksonville; working collaboratively with others to raise funds; and giving back as a young community to multiple foundations and local causes in Jacksonville.

Founding board members of the foundation who attended the event include Walker, O'Steen, Robertson, Barbara Sears, Caitie Delaney, Zach Ashourian, Hunter Geddes, and McKee Riley.



Craig Walker Jr., Lauren Gibbs, Luke O'Steen, Charles McWhite, Amy Davis, Margaret Szerba and Will Robertson.

Johnson, Ashmead top finishers in art show

Jacksonville Artist Guild (JAG) members 3rd Annual "Fresh Paint" exhibit opened in March and will be on display through April 24 at the Reddi Arts Gallery, located at 1037 Hendricks Avenue. Artists were encouraged to present new works and new members and emerging artists were encouraged to submit their work for the show.

The juried exhibit features paintings, photographs and sculptures by members of JAG many of whom will also be featured at the RAP Home Tour in April.

In all, 28 works of art were accepted by juror Allison Watson, also a well-known artist. Winning the show



Second place winner Helen Ashmead with Juror Allison Watson

was Douglas Johnson with his work, "Quiet Castaways Marsh." Taking second was Helen Ashmead of St. Nicholas for "Autumn Hickory." Chuck Martin placed third for his photograph "Snowy Egret."

Also competing in the show was Lisa Loftin of Murray Hill with her painting, "4 Miles to Citra."

The reception was a lively affair with food and drink and fun-filled conversation. The show is free and open to the public during business hours. For more information about joining JAG or upcoming programs and shows visit: Jacksonvilleartistsguild.org



Third-place finisher Chuck Martin

Wolfson bass tournament still on

As of press time, the Wolfson Children's Hospital Bass Tournament, is still a go.

The tournament is scheduled to take place, Thursday through Saturday, May 14-16 at the City Docks in Palatka. The largest bass fishing competition in Florida and the largest single-day bass tournament in the United States, event organizers hope that more than 1,000 anglers and over 600 boats will participate this year.

Online registration and applications will be accepted at the Palatka City Docks from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, May 15 and on Saturday, May 16 from 2 a.m. to 8 a.m. The Palatka City Docks are located at 309 River St., Palatka, Fla. 32177.

Now in its 31st year, the tourney, will award more than \$50,000 in cash prizes. In addition to fishing, the public may enter a drawing for a chance to win a rigged, 2020 Bullet Boat Model 21 URD with a Mercury Pro XS 250 engine, courtesy of Bullet Boats and Mercury Marine. The value of the prize is \$57,000. All proceeds from the drawing will benefit Wolfson Children's Hospital. To enter visit wolfsonbasstournament.com for more information.

Proceeds from the tournament will support the hospital's heart surgery program, a collaboration between Wolfson Children's Hospital and UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. Since its inception, the tournament has raised more than \$4 million for Wolfson.

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Keig named National Social Worker of Year

Zander Keig, MSW, LCSW, has been named National Social Worker of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). Keig was honored for his unparalleled work in promoting the dignity and health of people who are transgender, living with a mental illness, or serving in our nation's military.

"Zander Keig's large body of work personifies the spirit and mission of the social work profession, the love of service to others, and the heart for social justice," said NASW CEO Angelo McClain, Ph.D., LICSW. "He is a compassionate man who is also a strong advocate, especially for groups of people our society ignores, misunderstands or stigmatizes."

The NASW Social Worker of the Year Award honors a member of the association who has demonstrated the best of the profession's values and achievements through specific accomplishments. The award also highlights superb accomplishments in the practice of social work.

A disabled U.S. Coast Guard veteran, Keig worked as a homeless outreach social

worker and HUD-VASH senior social worker for the Department of Veterans Affairs in the Veterans Healthcare Administration from 2012-2016.

He was also the clinical social work case manager for the Navy Medicine West Transgender Care Team at Naval Medical Center San Diego 2016-2019. In that role, Keig developed best practices for patient intake and improved the orientation process for the 230 Sailors, Marines, and Coasties navigating a Command Approved gender transition during his tenure.

Keig currently works at the Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at Centerstone in Jacksonville, where he provides individual, couple and family therapy for veterans and their family members.

Keig is well known for his expertise in helping transgender veterans, who are often marginalized, find the services they desperately need, whether it be safe housing, therapy or simply encouragement. He has also helped uplift new members of the social work profession

and other people who are transgender through mentorship.

Keig has mentored undergraduate and graduate social work candidates since 2013 and people who are transgender for 14 years. His published works, including articles and contributions to publications, have provided data that is used in transgender veteran research.

Besides working with individuals, Keig has also tried to improve the way the military and our larger society treat people who are transgender through his advocacy work with the Transgender American Veterans Association (TAVA), as a board member since 2015 and recently as their newly elected vice president, as well as an appointed member of the NASW National Committee for LGBT Issues since 2013 (Chair 2017-2019) and an appointed member of the Diversity Committee of the NASW California Chapter from 2013-17.

Keig, formerly a long-time California resident, lives on the Southbank with his wife.



Zander Keig

"We are so thrilled that Zander is the national social worker of the year," said Jolene Hui, MSW, LCSW, membership director for the NASW California Chapter. "He has done such amazing work across the country and has built a career on helping people in so many different areas. Not only does he do great work, he is a kind, generous, person."

Local philanthropists honored in virtual gala



Peggy Bryan



Martha Frye Baker



Julia "JuJu" Taylor

Well-known Jacksonville philanthropists Peggy Bryan, Martha Frye Baker, and Julia "JuJu" Taylor were supposed to be honored for their service to children during Episcopal Children's Services Champion Gala at a reception, silent auction and dinner at the Adam W. Herbert University Center of the University of North Florida March 26. However, everything has changed due to state-mandated social distancing. The women will still get their deserved time in the spotlight – just online. And, that's happening April 2 at www.ecs4kids.org.

The Virtual Children's Champion Gala will celebrate all three honorees digitally by recognizing these dynamic women through video and social media features. The previously planned silent auction will continue as an online auction and "Text-2-Give" will also still be available for additional donations from patrons.

Bryan is known for her commitment to many organizations including Learn to Read, Leadership Jacksonville, PACE Center for Girls, and Youth Leadership Jacksonville. She also created Serenity Park in honor of her father, one of the founders of Gateway Services.

Baker, a founding member of the Women's Giving Alliance, has served organizations such as the Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital, Beaches Habitat and the Museum of Science and Industry. She is also one of Jacksonville's Women of Distinction and is a Women with Heart honoree.

A founding member of the Women's Giving Alliance, Taylor has been recognized with the EVE Award for Community Service, the Junior League's Tillie K. Fowler Award for Community Service and Volunteer Fundraiser of the Year.



Y to provide virtual workouts to homebound residents

The First Coast YMCA is doing everything in its power to keep Jacksonville's historic districts strong by connecting the community to its workout instructors through a new hub of free virtual services that are available to the entire community at FCYMCA.org. Available through the hub are dozens of on-demand workouts from YMCA instructors and trainers as well as daily fitness classes held live on First Coast YMCA Facebook. There is also an exclusive, complimentary access to Les Mills' entire on-demand library as well as SilverSneakers for community members over age 65, "Magical" kids' activities from Camp Immokalee and story time, art lessons for children, and virtual challenges through the Y's mobile app. The YMCA is also responding to requests from the medical community to help with childcare for their healthcare team so it can care for those who are sick.



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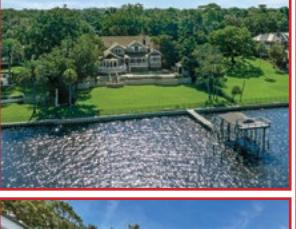
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Rear Admiral Christopher A. Asselta, deputy for Naval Construction Force Navy Expeditionary Combat Command, Capt. Michael Monreal, CO NAVFAC SE, Regional Engineer CNRSE, Jack Coyle with the Navy's youngest active duty Seabee and Capt. Todd Anderson, the oldest active duty Seabee.

Lakewood WWII veteran honored at Seabee Ball

World War II Seabee veteran John Thomas Coyle was honored by more than 200 service members and their families during the Command Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) 78th Annual Seabee Birthday Ball at the Hyatt Hotel in Downtown Jacksonville March 7.

During the gala, which embodied the theme, "a promise to remember," Coyle was invited to cut the birthday cake with a 36-inch ceremonial sword. After the cake cutting, there were multiple toasts to all the Armed Forces as well as to family members for their continued support. The finale of the evening included the guests singing a special anthem, "The Song of the Seabees."

Coyle, a Jacksonville native, attended St. Paul's Elementary School in Riverside and The Bolles School, from which he graduated in 1944. Shortly after graduation he joined the Seabees and was sent to Great Lakes, Michigan for boot camp. Later he was stationed at Port Hueneme, Calif., before boarding the SS Sea Bass. He spent 15 days on the sea before arriving at Guadalcanal

by way of New Caledonia. Coyle served as a Machinist Mate 3rd Class attached to Construction Battalion Detachment #1056. In Guadalcanal, Coyle's stevedoring duties included loading and unloading cargo to and from U.S. ships.

After the war ended, Coyle was honorably discharged and attended Georgetown University in Washington D.C. After his college graduation, he returned to Jacksonville to go into the family business, George P. Coyle and Sons, with his father and older brother, Bob. At the age of 65, Coyle retired from the family firm as a vice president and turned the business over to the next generation, although he continues to be an integral part of the company to this day.

Coyle lives in Lakewood with his wife, Anne. They have nine children, 15 grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. The Coyles recently celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary. They are members of San Jose Catholic Church and have supported many missionaries throughout the years.

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Members of Hightower Emerging Leaders Fellowship announced



Whitney Meyer



Jack Moran



Will Tutwiler



Alvin Kennedy

More than a dozen young professionals from a variety of different industries have been selected for the 4th annual class of the Hightower Emerging Leaders Fellowship.

The fellowship is named for Mike Hightower, who as JAX Chamber Chair in 2009 helped launch ImpactJAX, the Chamber's young professional organization. The fellowship is a program to connect talented young professionals with community leaders.

Community leaders who will be speaking at monthly meetings include Ed Burr, Tim Cost, Daniel Davis, Nat Glover, Audrey Moran, Darnell Smith, John Peyton, Peter Rummell and Susie Wiles. Betsy Lovett and Ambassador John Rood will serve as co-hosts at the fellowship closing reception.

The program will conclude in December.

Four members of the 2020 class – Whitney Meyer of Avondale and Jack Moran, Will Tutwiler, and Alvin Kennedy, all of San Marco – live in Jacksonville's historic districts. Meyer serves as director of the Community Alliance for Student Success and Fearless Woman Initiative at the University of North Florida. Moran is an assistant State Attorney with the State Attorney's Office, Fourth Judicial Circuit of Florida. Tutwiler is director of development projects for the Jacksonville Jaguars. Kennedy is co-founder/business manager of Total Foot Care & Wellness Clinic.

Included in the the 2020 class are: Jacob Benton, general manager, Champion Brands; Stevan Brown, co-owner and director of public relations, Hotel Palms; Daniel Burkhardt, senior vice president, NAI Hallmark; Anne Detlefsen, director of digital content, PGA TOUR; Kyle Dorsey, vice president of operations, Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville & Wolfson Children's Hospital; Bill Hoff,

Healthcare for Homeless Veterans outreach coordinator, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; Jason Peoples, executive director, Jacksonville Arts and Music School (JAMS); Belkis Plata, managing partner, Plata Schott Attorneys & Counselors at Law; Sarah Small, vice president of membership sales and marketing, GATE Hospitality Group; Tierney Suggs, human resources business partner, Stein Mart Inc.; Heather Walton, operations manager for Neurology & Integrative Medicine at the Mayo Clinic; Erika Weitz, president, Latin Community Services, Inc.; and Amber Wilson, executive director of the American Heart Association.

Tyler Mathews of England-Thims & Miller and 2017 Hightower alumnus will lead the 2020 Hightower Fellowship Board. Liam O'Reilly of GreenPointe Holdings and 2018 Hightower Fellowship Alumnus will serve as vice chair of the board.

Other members of the 2020 Hightower Fellowship Board include: Lauren Braddock, SERVPRO of Jacksonville Beach/Ponte Vedra, Mandarin and St. Augustine, 2019 Hightower Alumna; Christopher Conner, Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens, 2018 Hightower Fellowship Alumnus; Andrew Kisz, Ernst & Young LLP, Hightower Fellowship Founding Member; Thomas Lee IV, Lee & Cates Glass, Hightower Fellowship Founding Member; Ashley Pratt, Mayo Clinic, 2019 Hightower Alumna; Gracie Simendinger, Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry Inc. (BEAM), 2017 Hightower Fellowship Alumna; Nwabufo "Obi" Umunna, Esq., Umunna Legal Group PLLC, 2019 Hightower Alumnus; and Christopher Warren, University of North Florida, Hightower Fellowship Founding Member.

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Slattery appointed Cummer Museum interim director



Kerrie Slattery has been tapped by the Board of Trustees of the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens to serve as interim director effective April 2020.

Slattery, who has been serving as the museum's chief advancement officer, will replace Adam M. Levine, Ph.D., who was serving as the museum's George and Kathleen Gibbs director and chief executive officer. Levine is departing the Cummer to return to a similar position at the Toledo Museum of Art.

Slattery began her career at the Cummer in January 2019 when she was appointed chief advancement officer. Previously, she held several leadership positions in the nonprofit, business, and banking industries. Most recently she served as chief development officer for Baptist Health Foundation.

A nationwide search for a new director is underway. The Cummer Board of Trustees has formed an eight-member committee, led by Vice Chair Susan Towler, and engaged the executive search firm of Phillips Oppenheim to complete a search for a new director nationwide.

ADA welcomes new location, board, executive committee

The 2020 year has brought a lot of positive changes to the North Florida American Diabetes Association (ADA) including a new office, board and executive committee.

Residents can now visit the ADA office in the 5 Points Theater building, next to Brew, at 1022 Park St., Suite #405. The North Florida office is staffed by Market Director Elizabeth Dakens, and Development Manager Kara Barber.

The Jacksonville ADA proudly announced Pete Gunnlaugsson as chair of the Community Board for 2020. Gunnlaugsson, director of Corporate Marketing at FIS, has been involved with the American Diabetes Association since 2016. Current board and executive committee members include Justin Avery, Dr. Babu Balgopal, Bill Buchholz, Shawn Dugan, Anthony Austin, Brent Bolick, Tom Goden, Phillip Lee, Lynn Sherman, William Lyle, Michele Meyers, Darnell Smith and Neda A. Sharifi, Ph.D.



From Left to right Front row: Bill Buchholz, Kara Barber, Ebony Berry, Jessica Cummings, Neda A. Sharifi, Ph.D., Stephanie Boyd, and Paula S. McGarvey. From Left to right Front row: Pete Gunnlaugsson, Elizabeth Dakens, Brogan Carty, Shawn Dugan, Anthony Austin, Justin Avery, William Lyle, and Lynn Merritt

Incoming new board and executive committee members include Jessica Cummings, Ebony Berry, Dr. Tambi Jarmi, Paula S. McGarvey, Lynn Merritt, Mauren Piucco, Mary Reval, Stephanie Boyd, Brogan Carty, and Patrick "Joey" Greive.

The North Florida ADA, along with its board, is bringing the following events to the First Coast in 2020: May 21-24 Clinical

Conference on Diabetes at the Sawgrass Marriott; June 8-12 Camp JADA for children at the Jacksonville Jewish Center; November 14 Tour De Cure at the FIS Campus in Riverside.

For more information, please find us on Facebook (American Diabetes Association North Florida) or call the local office at 904-730-7200.

Art Ventures makes 30 grants to celebrate 30 years

To celebrate three decades of arts grant-making, The Community Foundation will make a total of 30 grants to individual artists and small arts organizations in 2020—approximately double the number of grants given in a typical year. There will be 18 grants for individual artists and 12 grants for small arts organizations. Art Ventures, an initiative of The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, has been making grants to encourage individual artists and strengthen small arts organizations since 1990. In that time, more than \$1.3 million has been invested in nearly 200 local artists and 125 small arts organizations.

"As we reflect on the quiet power of the Art Ventures Fund to nurture our individual artists and small arts organizations over the past 30 years, it's clear that this has been a remarkable investment," noted Martha Frye Baker, chair of The Community Foundation Board of Trustees. "By expanding the number of grants in this anniversary year, we hope to draw attention to the significance of

having a vibrant arts community and its role in making Northeast Florida a better place for all its citizens."

Art Ventures grants for individual artists will fund up to \$3,500 per artist so recipients can explore or refine the next level of their craft. To celebrate the work of the talented artists who have received Art Ventures grants over the years, there will be an exhibit of selected Art Venture recipients at the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens from June 3-June 28, 2020.

For small arts organizations, The Community Foundation has already provided organizational assessments grants in 2020 through the Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida to three area nonprofits: The 5 and Dime Theater Company in Jacksonville, tag! Children's Museum, and Limelight Theatre in St. Augustine. Three more small arts organizations will be selected for organizational assessments this fall.

Furthermore, in conjunction with the celebration of the 30th anniversary of Art

Ventures, The Community Foundation announced six general operating grants of \$5,000 each to small arts organizations which have successfully completed a capacity building grant in the past five years. Included among the five was Don't Miss A Beat, Inc. which provides artistic and academic enrichment to inspire and educate students in the Riverside and Brooklyn communities.

"This award is confirmation and affirmation of our hard work and desire to provide the best environments for artistic learning for our children. These dollars will go towards the sound and interior design in our new 'Movement House.' We are so thankful to Community Foundation for always supporting our mission and vision," said Ulysses Owen Jr., founder of Don't Skip a Beat.

Other operational grant award winners were Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival, Inc., Clamour Theatre Company, Inc., Florida Chamber Music Project, Inc., Hope at Hand, and Jacksonville Dance Theatre.

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Nonprofits adapt quickly to cope with health shifts, more need

By Marcia Hodgson, Resident Community News

Business as usual has come to a halt all over Northeast Florida as residents heed government orders to shelter in place, yet several nonprofits continue to serve the needs of Jacksonville's most vulnerable citizens. Seven nonprofits that assist the homeless, elderly, and unemployed continue to do important work while the city endeavors to halt the Coronavirus pandemic.

To keep staff, volunteers, and clients safe from COVID-19 many nonprofits have modified the way they do business. "As we are figuring out our new reality for the next weeks or months, I am awed by the cooperation and collaboration taking place among the organizations that serve our most vulnerable populations," said Susan King, president/CEO of Feeding Northeast Florida. "I am confident that we will get through this difficult time stronger as a sector and as a community."

Read the full version online at Residentnews.net

Clara White Mission

Clara White Mission has been working with a "skeleton" crew since the Coronavirus crisis began as it seeks to provide for significantly more homeless clients each day, as well the veterans that live at the mission.

Previously, the mission hosted a congregate breakfast each morning. Now it serves breakfast-to-go outdoors with plenty of sanitary precautions and social distancing. Clients are served immediately upon arrival and ushered on their way quickly. A portable hand sink is available, and staff asks each person five health-related questions to determine whether anyone is ill. The City Health Department is contacted immediately if clients require COVID-19 testing, President/CEO Ju'Coby Pittman said, adding that clients who need to be quarantined may be sent to unused rooms in Downtown hotels.

Since mid-March, the Mission has seen a sharp uptick in the number meals it provides, feeding as many as 400-500 per day. More families have requested packaged food, she said, noting volunteers are scarce,



Checking in at the City Rescue Mission Shelter begins at 2:30 p.m.

and administrative staff has been forced to step in. Church services and community meetings have been discontinued, and Pittman expressed gratitude for volunteers from Celebration Church and Hopewell Church, for their continuing assistance.

In addition to volunteers, non-perishable food, and monetary donations are needed, Pittman said. "Our main interest is caring for the homeless, who count on us every day to provide a nutritious meal."

City Rescue Mission

Accommodating as many clients as possible while keeping her staff safe is City Rescue Mission (CRM) Executive Director Penny Kievet's primary goal. "We are taking anybody in need of overnight services at our New Life Inn downtown," she said, noting each client must fill out a questionnaire and submit to a temperature reading. If medical help is required, CRM will contact the City Health Department.

Clients within CRM's addiction recovery programs are served by medical staff on the nonprofit's campus for everything other than urgent health care, she said.

Surprisingly, CRM is discouraging volunteers from joining its efforts. "We are asking them to come back when we don't have the worry of COVID-19," Kievet said. "It has reduced our staff, but it's the right thing to do for our volunteers."

In March, CRM provided more than 1,200 daily meals, an increase of 450 per day,



A dinner meal for outside guests of the City Rescue Mission starts at 4:30 p.m.

Kievet said. She expects to serve more than 2,000 meals a day in April.

Donors can help by providing food – canned tuna fish or chicken or vegetables in industrial-sized containers – white sheets, pillowcases and cheap pillows and monetary contributions. "I've heard Walmart is selling two pillows for \$5. Those are great gifts to us because we go through them very quickly. These are the things that we really, really need."

Aging True

Aging True continues to provide services to Jacksonville's senior population and is still accepting people who qualify, said Director of Development Lori McMullin.

At Cathedral Towers, many senior residents are self-quarantine, and the nonprofit is providing to-go meals that residents can take to their rooms. No visitors are permitted, and the nonprofit is using only essential staff to better keep the residents safe.

Also different is the way meals are provided to Duval County's senior centers, which have been closed during the pandemic. Instead of a congregate meal in the

center's dining room, the nonprofit provides to-go meals for the seniors to bring home.

In its Meals-on-Wheels program, which provides food to home-bound seniors, precautions are being taken to protect both the clients and staff who deliver the meals. Volunteers are asked to wear masks, gloves, and to sanitize their hands frequently, said McMullin.

"The best way to support Aging True is to make a monetary donation so it can continue to provide these vital services to our elderly, frail and vulnerable clients. Money allows us to deploy resources where they are most needed."

Feeding Northeast Florida

Jacksonville's largest regional food bank, Feeding Northeast Florida, is working to keep food pantries stocked. However, with food flying off supermarket shelves, the amount of supplies donated by retailers is diminishing.

To solve near-term shortages, the nonprofit is buying food to make up for the shortfall and requests monetary donations to help cover costs. To make a donation, contact Sarah Dobson, director of Relationship Management by email at sdobson@feedingnefl.org.

Feeding Northeast Florida's other great need is for volunteers. All workers practice social distancing and will be required to answer screening questions related to foreign travel, exposure to people testing positive for the virus prior to entering the warehouse.

The nonprofit is providing food agencies with "Family Meal Kits," containing shelf-stable food items, produce, and meat when available. It is also urging food pantries to shift to a drive-through model of distribution consistent with social distancing guidelines.

In March, after the THE PLAYERS Championship was cancelled, the PGA Tour donated its excess food supplies. Feeding Northeast Florida also benefited from the closure of Disney World, which donated excess food when its amusement parks were shut down. "The food is not going to waste," said King. "It's going into the community at a time when it's needed most."

The Salvation Army of Northeast Florida

Safety is The Salvation Army's utmost priority among its employees, volunteers and the individuals it serves. In response to the pandemic, the Army's meal ministry has been shifted to a field kitchen located outside of its Towers Center of Hope on W. Adams Street and dinner is provided for families and individuals every night at 6:15 p.m.

The Army's food pantry on North Davis Street is many more than the 250 income-eligible families it normally serves. Bagged lunches are available for pick up during food pantry hours. To be safe, no more than five individuals at a time are allowed in the pick-up area to receive food. Volunteers are required to use hand sanitizer and wear gloves. Hand-washing stations are available on site.

Army staff is monitoring the men, women and children in its shelter Downtown for COVID-19 symptoms. If residents develop symptoms, they are sent immediately to emergency medical services. If quarantine is necessary, they are separated into a room with its own ventilation unit and separate bathroom.

Also, The Salvation Army's church services have shifted online.

Volunteers, food, monetary donations, and sanitizing supplies are the Army's greatest need. For more information on how you can help, call 904-356-8641.

Sulzbacher

While providing housing, healthcare, and meals to homeless citizens, Sulzbacher is endeavoring to keep staff, residents and patients as safe and healthy as possible. To do this, Sulzbacher is altering staffing levels, screening all patients, conducting stringent and frequent cleaning of all locations, and practicing social distancing.

Sulzbacher now limits the number of people on its campuses. Volunteer activities have been cancelled until further notice. Everyone who enters Sulzbacher's campus is medically screened, and Sulzbacher's new health mobile is stationed at its downtown campus to aid with screening.

Sulzbacher appreciates the \$100,000 emergency response grant received from the Jan Moran and Jim Moran Foundation. The grant will provide funding for meals, housing, childcare, and loss of employment and income for those affected by the virus.

Even with the grant, Sulzbacher still needs funds to cover additional staff time and equipment. Donate online at sulzbacherjax.org, or via mail to Sulzbacher, 611 E. Adams St., Jacksonville, FL 32202. In-kind donations are also welcome. To donate food, medical supplies such as masks and gloves or hygiene items, call 904-662-2352.

UCOM Urban Serve, Inc.

The United Community Outreach Ministry (UCOM) is continuing to assist folks needing help in its service area. "UCOM's goal is to connect faith organizations and mission partners' efforts in the Southside so we have one cohesive action plan," said Executive Director Sara Mitchell.

UCOM's food pantry is open Monday through Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with a few safe-distancing modifications. Clients need to make an appointment by phone at 904-396-2401. No walk-in appointments are permitted, and no new client intake or crisis/case management will be taken in person, according to Mitchell.

UCOM is seeking volunteers, food and cash donations. Donors will not be asked to enter the building or be in close contact with anyone. "UCOM will not be distributing hand sanitizer or toilet paper but will instead share travel-sized bar soap with every client. We will have a table set up in the parking lot for donations to be placed. Volunteers will bring them into the building," said Mitchell. Anyone wishing to volunteer can email saramitchell@ucomjax.org.



A staff member at Cathedral Towers distributes ready-to-go diners to the residents.

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Celebrities, guests mingle at Furyk and Friends concert

Twenty-nine members of the PGA Tour, seven celebrity musicians, five professional baseball players, four NFL players and coaches, one member of the National Basketball Association and Comedian Jackie Flynn joined PGA golfer Jim Furyk and his wife, Tabitha, at the 10th Annual Furyk and Friends Foundation concert and celebrity golf Classic at TPC Sawgrass March 8. The festivities included a celebrity chef experience, a 17th hole shootout with PGA celebrities, and a private concert featuring Furyk and Friends house band – Justin Bertoldie, Nick Buda, Jackson Eppley, Reed Pittman and Jonathan Trebing – as well as celebrity performers Patrick Davis, Colt Ford, Lauren Jenkins, David Nail, Tyler Reave and Chase Rice.

First annual Foster Closet gala a success

There was no question the 1st Annual Fostering the Light of Hope gala to benefit Foster Closet was an overwhelming success. Approximately 160 guests attended the event, which was held at the Jacksonville Marriott, Feb. 29. Co-chairing the event were Jayne McLeod and Mae Skoglund. Former Jaguar Greg Huntington joined Staci Spanos of WJXT as emcees for the occasion, which included dinner, dancing to the band, Who Rescued Who, a silent auction and live auction "paddle race," to raise cash to fill the needs of children aging out of foster care. During the event, foster children modeled attire from Foster Closet, a nonprofit founded by John and Tammy McGuire to assist foster families with much needed supplies.

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Florida Blue Market President for North Florida Darnell Smith and Carmen Stokes of the American Heart Association



Judge Ramona Gonzalez with John Stuber, Maria Gonzalez, Dr. Jackie Thielen and Dr. Kent Thielen, CEO of Mayo Clinic Florida



Laura Baer with Jane Brennan



Dr. Sally Henin and Dr. Leon Haley, CEO of UF Health



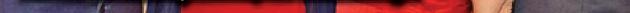
Scott Wooten and Grace Sarber



Drs. Scott and Elizabeth Ransom with Baptist Health President and CEO Brett McClung



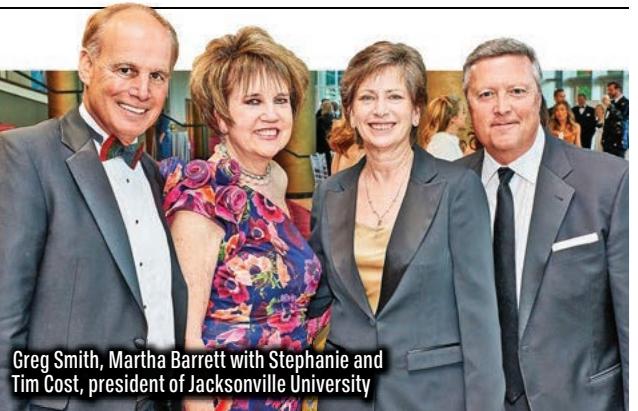
Sandy O'Leary with Karen Fickling



George Scanlon with Emma Jabbour and Heart Ball Co-Chairs Frances and Anthony Jabbour, CEO of Black Knight



Jesse Monkman and Kate Caliendo



Greg Smith, Martha Barrett with Stephanie and Tim Cost, president of Jacksonville University



Jeff and Brianne Peterson with Chuny-Hoe and John Casler



Sam and Lauren Sohi with Akin and Lisa Agav



Trevor Lee and Cayla Adams



Gabrielle and Andrew Sodl



Janice and Mark Sur

Heart Ball raises record \$1.7+ million

Chaired by Frances and Anthony Jabbour, CEO of Black Knight, the 2020 First Coast Heart Ball March 7 at Sawgrass Marriott raised a record-breaking \$1,766,000, making it the most successful ever for the American Heart Association on the First Coast. Funds from the event support life-saving research, education and raising awareness for cardiovascular diseases and stroke. Frank and Marisa Martire of Ponte Vedra were the evening's honorees. The evening also featured the compelling story of nearly 2-year-old Canon Johnson, who was born with multiple congenital heart defects and has already undergone several open-heart surgeries with more on the horizon, possibly including a heart transplant.

Grammy-winning vocalist wows crowd at Symphony Gala

Guests had the opportunity to hear Susan Graham, a familiar voice in the Metropolitan Opera in New York, when they attended the Jacksonville Symphony Gala March 7 at the Times Union Performing Arts Center. The Grammy-winning mezzo-soprano sang music by Gershwin, Rodgers and Hammerstein, Lehar, Ravel and more. The concert included a VIP red carpet reception and silent auction as well as a seated dinner and live auction after the performance. Courtney Lewis, music director of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, served as conductor during the concert.



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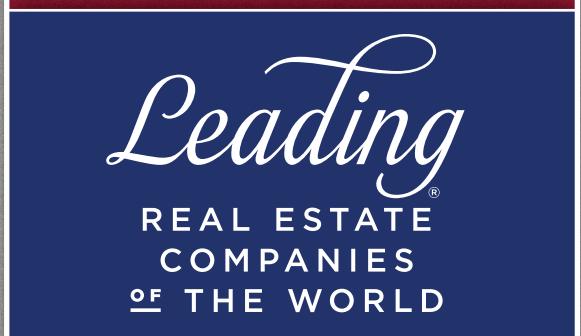
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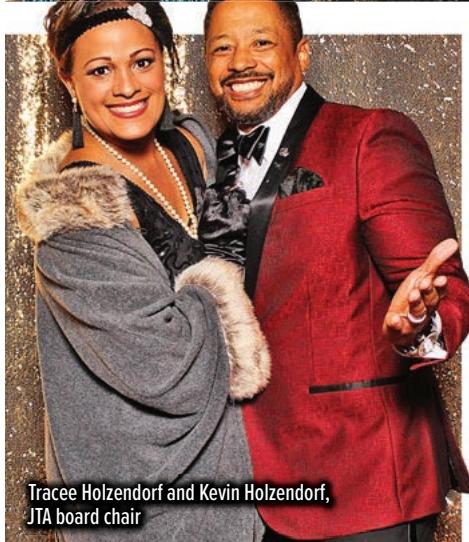
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Ritzy donors raise money for Downtown

Downtown was putting on the ritz Feb. 29, raising more than \$60,000 towards its Lively and Beautiful Sidewalks Initiative during the 5th Annual #DTJax: Feeling Ritzy gala at One Enterprise Center.

Guests enjoyed an evening of live jazz, sensational swing dancers and a roaring good exhibit from the Ritz Theatre and Museum. Vintage fare and libations from several Downtown eating establishments were on the menu. A photo booth, silent auction, VIP lounge with a private bubbly bar, also kept guests entertained.

Proceeds from the #DTJax Gala will assist the city's Lively and Beautiful Sidewalks (LABS) placemaking program to turn passive spaces into active public places. LABS is based on four principles: Creative walkable connectivity, activate the streetscape, enhance public space, and engage the community.



Supporting the hungry with food and drink

It was an evening of bold beverages, savory food and lively games when guests converged on the Strings Sports Brewery in historic Springfield to support Feeding Northeast Florida's Bourbon & Brisket fundraiser Feb. 29.

On the menu were great bourbon and sumptuous barbecue prepared by some of the area's best smokehouses, and bourbon tastings led by a whiskey sommelier as well as signature bourbon cocktails from local distilleries, and craft beer and wine from the Strings brewery.

Funds from the event assisted Feeding Northeast Florida with its mission of addressing food insecurity, poverty and poor health among 257,300 individuals in the region. In 2018, the nonprofit provided more than 14.1 million meals to its network of social service agencies throughout eight counties in Northeast Florida.



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San Jose Episcopal gala marks school's 70th anniversary

San Jose Episcopal Day School celebrated its 70th anniversary when it presented its Denim, Diamonds and Dice Gala March 7 at the school. The event included delicious food, drinks, a silent auction, live auction and casino games also marked Lori Menger's 10th anniversary as Head of School.

Featured as emcee and auctioneer was Anna Baumeister of Mandarin, a 2012 graduate of the school. A student at Columbia College in Chicago, Baumeister is majoring as a comedy writer with a minor in television writing. Needless to say, the event's 140 guests found the event to be a rollicking good time filled with plenty of laughter.



Emily and Eli Stovall with Head of School Lori Menger



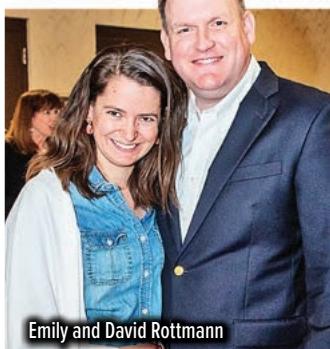
Erin Casniskey with Daniel Caplin and Courtney Taylor



Colin and Cyndi Hodges



Michael and Misty Skipper with Charlotte and Brian Logullo



Emily and David Rottmann

Equality Jacksonville bestows leadership awards at gala

Two leadership awards were presented during Equality Florida's Greater Jacksonville gala Feb. 29 in the Prudential building on the Southbank.

Being recognized by the LGBTQ nonprofit were Genece Minshew and the Jacksonville Black Pride Board. Minshew received the Voice of Equality Award, which honors an individual that has helped move the LGBTQ community closer to full equality.

Meanwhile, Jacksonville Florida Black Pride celebrated 21 years of existence as a nonprofit organization that seeks to develop and empower the black LGBTQIA community through events that focus on the cultural needs and biases that may be dissimilar to other racial and ethnic groups.



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Britt Hansen and Sander Moody



Ryan Homer and Simone Eglomobski



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Alumni, friends, and students rock the docks at JU

Students, alumni, friends and supporters of Jacksonville University's signature waterfront programs had a merry time drinking, dining and dancing to live music during a special celebration at River House March 6. The event served as a fundraiser for JU's sailing, marine science, OCEARCH and rowing programs and the future that lies ahead.

The two-day event also included a waterfront family festival March 7 at the JU Negaard Rowing Center, where kids of all



Linda Stein with Kimberly and Richard Sisisky

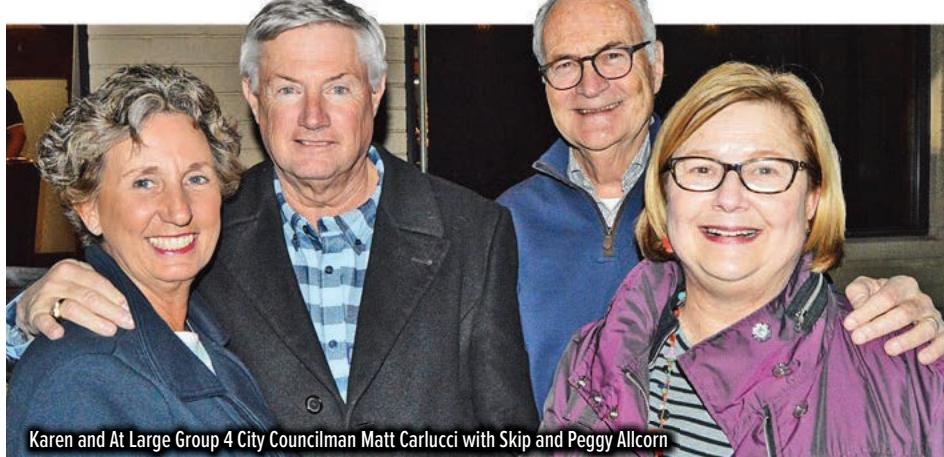
ages enjoyed food trucks, a cash bar, bouncy houses, kids' games, and JU giveaways. Highlighting the weekend was a race between the JU men's and women's rowing teams against Embry Riddle, as well as a JU sailing regatta, tours of the M/V OCEARCH, and kid's marine science activities at the school's Marine Science Research Institute.



John Yokitis with Maria Pellegrino-Yokitis, Paul and Mindy McCord and Jacksonville University President Tim Cost



Annette Negaard with Jackie Beckenbach and Carolyn Woods



Karen and At Large Group 4 City Councilman Matt Carlucci with Skip and Peggy Allcorn

Shoppers eye treasures at Junior League rummage sale

Shoppers from all over the city enjoyed Jacksonville's largest pop-up rummage sale Feb. 29 at the Jacksonville Fairgrounds. Sponsored by the Junior League of Jacksonville, the Whale of a Sale offered 30,000 square feet of furniture, clothes, home goods, toys, tailgating gear, and more for patrons to sort through. Food, drinks, and entertainment were offered during the League's preview party the evening before, where VIP shoppers had a chance to shop early to get first dibs on the goods.



Laura & Jeanne Davenport and Amy Kisz



Magda Bela, Rachel Garland, and Rachel Lundgren



Danielle Agis and Lisa Tham



Danielle Bush Stacy, chair; Katie Thompson Neilson, president; Megan Bush Del Pizzo, president-elect; and Lori Bayler, president-elect

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Guests raise funds for state embassy in Washington

For 47 years, Florida House in Washington D.C. has been the state's best-kept secret, but no more. To raise funds for the Sunshine State's "embassy" in Washington, the nonprofit held a fundraiser at the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens March 1.

Florida is the only state to have an embassy in Washington D.C., said Florida House Executive Director Diana Beckman. The house, which is located directly across the street from the U.S. Supreme Court and the Library of Congress, offers Florida residents and tourists a quiet sanctuary and a cold glass of orange juice as they tour Capitol Hill. Founded by Rhea Chiles, wife of former U.S. Senator Lawton Chiles in 1973, the house is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit that is owned by the people of Florida. It is strictly non-partisan. As a non-profit that does not accept federal or state tax dollars, it relies on private donations for its support and has the purpose to "connect, celebrate, and champion Florida to the world," Beckman said.

The goal of gathering at the museum was to raise at least \$15,000, Beckman said, noting she expected to "blow that out of the water." Guests enjoyed a meet and greet, silent auction, and a special tour of the exhibits conducted by Adam Levine, director and CEO of the Cummer.



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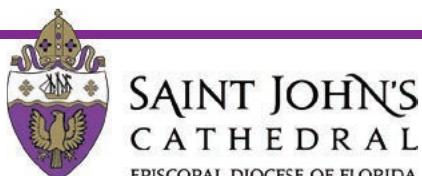
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First Coast YMCA celebrates volunteers, successful year

The First Coast YMCA (Y) hosted its 10th annual Y-Bash March 2, in order to celebrate staff, volunteers and community partners as well as the Y's impact in Northeast Florida over the past year. The event raised \$10,000 in one night, to support key Y initiatives such as Tiger Academy, safety around water, LIVESTRONG at the YMCA and military families.

Highlights from the bash also included the recognition of a successful fundraising campaign that netted almost \$2 million in 2020, the most ever raised in a year. The Y also awarded the E. William Nash Jr. Legend Award for Corporate Partner of the Year to Patriot Transportation and named Peggy Bryan, a former chairwoman of the Metropolitan Board of Directors, its 2020 Volunteer of the Year.



Maria M. Aristizabal, vice president of youth development/operations of the First Coast YMCA; Eric K. Mann, president and CEO of the First Coast YMCA and Shelly Boynton, chair, First Coast YMCA Metro Board of Directors.



The First Coast YMCA served more than 116,000 people in 2020, of which nearly 30% received financial assistance, according to a news release.

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Turners Underseal helps Ortega residents' respiratory issues

Joe and Tracy Markley bought their 1,850-square-foot mid-century home in Ortega more than five years ago, but it wasn't until recently that Joe started to make a connection between his frequent sinus issues, breathing problems and constant sneezing and his home, surrounded by water and infiltrated by Florida humidity. He had started doing some research on Nextdoor, he explained, trying to figure out how to handle the dampness that seemed to be seeping in and causing health problems. That's where he learned about Turners Underseal.

"I never had a crawlspace before or issues with humidity or moisture in my crawlspace," the Ohio native said. "We moved into the house and from the start, my wife and I have both had some kind of respiratory illness, sinus issues, constantly sneezing. We've been dealing with this for five years. I installed a dehumidifier and it helped with the moisture in the house, but we kept getting the stale odors that, as it came out, came from the crawlspace. I did quite a bit of research and saw a lot of recommendations on Nextdoor for Turners Underseal. Chris Turner came over and spent an hour and a half educating me on the differences between the encapsulation and dehumidifying the floor and ceiling."

That's when the couple decided to hire Turner to sanitize and install a system to keep the crawl space below the home dry. After learning more about the issue, Markley chose against encapsulating the space, a common remedy, and Turner himself

adamantly opposed it for the crawl space – the empty area beneath historic homes meant to allow access to plumbing and infrastructure. Encapsulation involves sheathing the area in plastic, which Turner says traps moisture and creates liquid pockets where sickness-producing mold can flourish. Turner instead uses various techniques including a mechanical drying system that keeps the space under the house sanitary and dry.

Markley said that when Turner came to the house to get a read on the interior condition of the home, the humidity level was more than what would cause the flooring to buckle over time from air saturation. The couple also knew they wouldn't want their grandchildren breathing unsafe air.

"He was pretty convinced that he was going to make a big difference," Joe Markley said. "He came and sprayed the whole underside and then came and did the whole install. Legitimately, when I would get up in the morning, I could breathe in and there was a cracking in my chest, like (an) asthmatic."

But a little more than week after a treatment by Turners Underseal and "The crackling in my chest has gone, the sneezing has gone," Markley said. He later wrote in a Google Review that "Chris tested for moisture and mold in the crawlspace and felt like this method would make a substantial difference. He was right! We can already tell the changes in the air quality. The moisture is now around 50 percent in the crawlspace and the air quality in the house reflects it. You should call Chris so he can give you the same service ... very happy!"



In addition to the Turners Underseal Dry Crawlspace System Turners Underseal also does sub-floor sanitizing, permanent wood sealing and home air quality inspections. For \$300 off installation services, contact Chris Turner at (904) 903-9569 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. or check out Turners Underseal at turnersunderseal.com

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THE WAY WE WERE: CAROLE POINDEXTER

BY CHRISTINA SWANSON
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Sometimes you don't have to leave home to make an impact in others' lives, or succeed in business, breaking a few glass ceilings and motivating folks along the way. For Colonial Manor resident Carole Poindexter, being a life-long "stayer" – in her family neighborhood, with the same company her entire career, and by increasing dedication to goals that encourage others' success, such as mentoring adults, helping disadvantaged youth, and spreading the love of reading to youngsters – "staying" has brought satisfaction and achievement to herself and all those lives she's touched.

It's been a strong, determined and, even, tender life-journey for Poindexter, proving that "The Wizard of Oz" got it right. There really is no place like the home of your roots. Is there any other place where you can feel comfortable at being authentic, be available to help each other, feel freer to explore passions and goals, and ultimately be at peace at the end of the day? Although some

folks feel they can only succeed in life by venturing out, Poindexter's life and that of her family show that "staying" may be the smartest "app" to success and happiness.

Poindexter's father died in 1964 when she was only nine, and soon after her mother, Jean Jones, moved her children to a bungalow cottage in Miramar. Having attended five different schools following her dad's jobs, the move brought her a first taste of a stable life in a friendly neighborhood. "This neighborhood is what gave me the permanency to grow, feel connected and safe, and really start enjoying a charmed childhood with close friendships," said Poindexter.

Somehow her family of seven fit in the two-bedroom, one-bath home where her grandparents also lived in the detached garage apartment. Today, her mother's home remains in the family with her sister's family living there. It has since been enlarged to include the apartment area, and additional master bedroom and bath, and a pool.

As the oldest child, Poindexter first attended Hendricks Avenue Elementary School (HAE) as a fifth grader, enjoying the area with classmates who rode their bikes together throughout the neighborhood or walked to the Coley-Walker drug store on Hendricks Avenue together to play the pinball machines and purchase penny candy. She has many fond memories of HAE and the exceptional education and teachers there, recalling each year how the sixth-grade class would learn and perform an operetta on multiple nights, just like a professional production.

During Poindexter's time in elementary school, her class performed "The Prince of Pilsen," with photos still featured on the Facebook group for the class of '67. At 5-foot-8 – the same height she is today



Carole and Al's wedding day in May 1976 at Lakewood Methodist Church, with, from left, sisters Cathy, Connie, Carole and Al, and brothers Mark, Matt, and Mike.

- Poindexter was the tallest girl in her class and played a French maid in the play.

"It was good for us to learn and perform something so involved at such a young age making it an unforgettable experience," said Poindexter. "The event gave us confidence, highlighted our abilities, and I believe, contributed to our future success." Along with so many caring teachers at HAE, Lillian Walker, stands out in Poindexter's mind because of the extra things she did, such as teaching on her own time a "how-to-study" course, who Poindexter and other classmates attribute as a reason for their future success. "Even my kids loved her as she was still teaching when they went there," said Poindexter.

Another example of teaching through responsibility were the "TOTs" and "patrol" programs. Here the girl "TOTs," or teachers of tomorrow, dressed in plaid skirts and white shirts to help the teachers, while the patrol boys, in their uniforms, kept kids safe as crossing guards.

"A lot of remarkable people grew up in the neighborhood and many of us are still friends with some still living here," said Poindexter. For the last several years, the "class of '67" has been reuniting at the school for a picture in the auditorium and then having dinner together.

Although she met the girl who would be her best friend at Hendricks and she was part of the crowd of weekend roller-skaters, it wasn't until they were in the same biology class at Landon Middle School that they realized commonalities and announced their "best friend" status to each other. It stuck because, today, Poindexter and Sandra Hedrick remain best friends, live within two miles of each other, and even shared a nanny when both of their kids were young.

As teens, Poindexter and Hedrick had great times riding the city bus downtown to shop the department stores. Searching for the 45 records of the latest hit songs at Woolworths, trying-on clothes and makeup at Sears, and dining on club sandwiches upstairs at the Jean Ribault Dining Room pretending to be little ladies imitating their moms.

"I'm convinced that the friends you make when very young are the best kind to be real friends because there's a bond formed when young," said Poindexter.

By the time the neighborhood kids were at Landon Middle School, they were spending after-school time hanging-out in the heart of San Marco walking to Peterson's Five and Dime, Mim's Bakery, and the public library. Reading by age four, Poindexter has been a voracious reader her entire life with the library a favorite spot. Even at her busiest with both career and volunteer work, she read around 150 books a year, and still does, so it's no surprise that teaching kids how to read is also a favorite pastime, especially at HAE.



Carole Poindexter's little library, a part of the national registry of little libraries, where folks can "check-out" books for free, in her front yard.

She even has her own little library in her front yard, which is part of the national registry of little libraries, and it enables her to share her love of books with neighbors. Poindexter's mother was always employed as an accountant and active women's business association member, even into her 80s, and eventually owned her own accounting firm. When as a teenager, Poindexter noticed her mother's friend, a stay-at-home mom, dropping a stack of books on the kitchen

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

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table having just come from the library, "I got a visual of what all I could do as an adult," she said.

Advancing to Wolfson High School with the neighborhood kids, Poindexter graduated in the upper part of her class and was awarded Jacksonville University's presidential scholarship. Following her mother's example, Carole studied accounting at JU, and between her junior and senior years, married Al Poindexter, the guy she first met in Sunday school as a child and became friends with again when he returned from the University of Florida. "It was special for us to get married in my grandma's church, Lakewood Methodist," recalled Poindexter.

Poindexter and her husband ended up working for distribution firms for many years, with Carole recently retiring after 42 years at Baker Distributing. The couple is looking forward to celebrating 44 years of marriage this year.

Poindexter started her career at what was then Baker Brothers, Inc., in 1977, when she began working as a staff accountant. At that time the firm was a small public company in the HVAC distribution business. She earned her Florida CPA license in 1980 and an MBA at the University of North Florida in 1981.

Despite several company turn-overs, she continued to earn promotions to the positions of Controller, Vice President of Finance, CFO and Executive Vice President. In 1999, she became President of Baker Distributing and remained in that position for 14 years. After Baker was acquired by Watsco, Inc., a NYSE company, and for the last seven years of her career, Poindexter also served as Vice President of Strategic Initiatives for Watsco, working in their Miami-based headquarters.

Poindexter broke the glass ceiling in a male-dominated field by working hard and focusing on the work. "When I took the accounting job at Baker Brothers in 1977, I had no idea I would end my career there in 2019," she said. "The prevalent thought was that you had to move around to progress in your career. When the company was sold in 1982, I was advised that since I was a financial person I should go ahead and find another job since I would be terminated when they brought in their own financial team. I decided to work hard and to wait and see. As it turned out, the new owner canvassed the field team and told me that I was the 'most common denominator and critical to the company's success.'"

Instead of being terminated, Poindexter was promoted within a year and progressed again when the company was sold to Watsco, to rise to the top as president of Baker in 1999. "I learned you can move around and make progress by staying with the same company and working hard to show your worth," she said. "I have shared this experience with many of those I have mentored in the business and out in the community."

One example is when she spoke to a class about her career at Stetson University and one young lady came over to her and expressed how much her words meant when explaining how she rose in a male-dominated field.

"It's important to focus on your competencies and not get distracted with issues that could discourage you in your work," said Poindexter. This was in the year 2000 and during one of many talks Poindexter would give, so it was heartfelt when recently this same young woman reached out to her on LinkedIn, telling Poindexter she was now a logistics professional in a national company and how she has leaned on her words during trying times.

Through the years, Poindexter has also made a positive impact as a member of various business/accounting-associated organizations including National Association of Accountants and Financial Executives Institute, where she became president for both of these organizations. She was also member of Women in HVAC and the Leadership Jacksonville 2000 class.

Carole's volunteer work spans the same number of years as her career and both are so accomplished that she exemplifies John C. Maxwell's definition of success as, "... knowing your purpose in life, growing to reach your maximum potential, and sowing seeds that benefit others."

All her volunteer work has revolved around her passion of mentoring youth whether it be reading to classes at Hendricks Avenue Elementary, steering youth at The Bridge of Northeast Florida in Springfield, or guiding JU students as part of their business advisory board. "I wanted my kids to learn that a part of life should be giving back," said Poindexter said.

Some of the many community boards she has served include past board chair of The Bridge of Northeast Florida; board member for the Boy Scouts of America; JCCI (Jacksonville Community Council, Inc.); and being part of the governing body of the Athena Powerlink Program mentoring women business owners. Promoting communication and understanding amongst all types of people has played a large role in her work focus as reflected in her past presidency of the Interfaith Council of Jacksonville, which is now part of OneJax. Poindexter is also currently a member of the Jacksonville Women's Network, and the Women's Giving Alliance.

One of the initiatives she is most proud of is being a founding member of Inside/Outside, Inc., a faith-based organization that, for more than a decade, mentored juveniles in the Duval County jail after they had been tried as adults. It began as a concept at an interfaith gathering where she and other members spent three hours rotating Sunday nights encouraging about 18 boys between the ages of 14 and 19 with positive activities such as group discussions, reading



Carole Poindexter's family recently gathered at Treaty Oak Park, which is meaningful because Poindexter's love for the stately oak trees of her neighborhood. From left, Katherine, James and Sophie Poindexter, Al and Carole Poindexter, with Paul and Avery Sander.

aloud, poetry writing, motivational videos, making greeting cards for family members, performing plays and goal setting.

When they learned that positive connections were also needed after their release, Poindexter and others developed an "outside" program on Monday nights, picking-up the boys or meeting them at a local venue to continue the mentoring. "The purpose was to help them avoid falling into their old ways and crowd," she said.

Wanting to do more to help those kids that had nowhere positive to live upon release, they grew Inside/Outside, Inc., into a nonprofit, and with funding was able to open a half-way house for six parolees with 24/7 on-site supervision. This helped the young men get jobs, go to school and not be repeat offenders.

"There were many successes celebrated and sad failures we mourned," recalled Poindexter. "One of the boys I connected with was an excellent artist and gave us pencil drawings of celebrities and wonderfully poignant poems. He ended up going to prison. While another finished high school and went to college after his release." Their

mantra was that if even one person was saved from prison or early death, their work was worthwhile.

"This experience changed me and my beliefs about people in these circumstances," said Poindexter. "I also felt like it was an important role for my children to see as I believe it was one of many community involvements that has contributed to making them the people they are today."

Over the years, Poindexter has been honored with numerous awards such as the Girl Scouts' "Women of Distinction" award, a "Women in Business – Corporate Leadership Award" by the Women Business Owners, the Jacksonville Business Journal's "Woman of Influence" award, the "Spirit of Rosie" award from the Women's Center of Jacksonville. Also, she has been a Florida Times-Union's Eve award finalist in the employment category. Her alma mater, Jacksonville University, where she has served as a trustee board member and on the Executive Advisory Council of the Davis College of Business, has honored her with the prestigious "Community Woman of the Year" and the "JU Distinguished Alumni" awards.



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In Memoriam

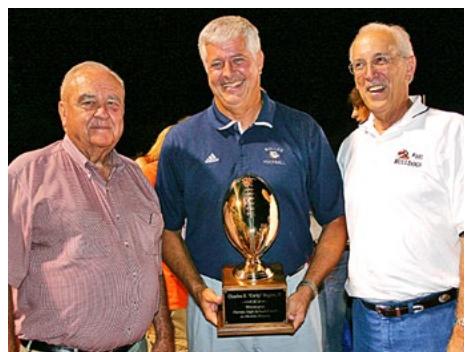
Charles “Corky” Buxton Rogers IV

December 19, 1943 – February 26, 2020

He was a man with a smile that would light up the room, and to glance at his career wins and losses on the football field, he had plenty to smile about. Corky Rogers, one of the winningest high school coaches ever to guide the game, passed away of cancer Feb. 26 at the age of 76, leaving his family, hundreds of former football players, and the entire Bolles School community brokenhearted.

As former head football coach of both Robert E. Lee High School (1972-1988) and The Bolles School (1989-2016) he never had a losing season. In all, Rogers retired from 45 years of coaching with 465 wins, 84 losses, one tie, and 10 state championships to become the most successful coach in the history of Florida. In fact, in his 45 years as head coach, his teams reached the state title game 16 times.

During his tenure, he ranked fifth nationally in career wins among active coaches. In 2011, he was the eighth coach in the history of high school football throughout the United States to reach 400



Chester Skinner with Corky Rogers and Dr. John Trainer

wins. During his career, he also held the Florida state record for most state titles won among coaches and racked up 83 playoff victories – 78 at Bolles alone – which is more than any coach in state history. In 2016, he led Bolles to its 17th appearance in the state championship, a state record.

Rogers was named National High School Football Coach of the Year for 2004-05 by the National High School Coaches Association, and in August 2015, he landed on top of a field of 28 high school, college and National Football League (NFL) head coaches in the “Greatest Football Coach in Florida” bracket established by the Orlando Sentinel, where he beat out Bobby Bowden of Florida State, Steve Spurrier of the University of Florida, and Don Shula of the Miami Dolphins.

Not only a great coach, Rogers was also a great athlete. A graduate of Robert E. Lee High School in Riverside, he played football and baseball for the Generals, winning the Class 2A state baseball title in 1961, the year of his graduation.

Rogers went on to play football at Georgia Tech and attended NFL training camps with the Baltimore Colts and Washington Redskins as a tight-end receiver. His first coaching job was at Ribault Junior High, where he served as offensive coordinator before being appointed Head Coach at Lee High School in 1972. During his 17 years at Lee, he accumulated 10 consecutive district titles, which was a state record at the time, and a winning record of 141-39-1.

An impressive number of his athletes have gone on to play football at the collegiate



Corky Rogers Family in Dec. 2019: Clint Drawdy, Jennifer Rogers Drawdy, Price Drawdy, Sennett Drawdy, with Keith White, Tracy Rogers White, Linda Rogers, Corky Rogers, and Sidney Yost. Front row, Mae Drawdy, Shelby Drawdy, Mason Yost and Rachel Alba-Jean

level, including 156 at Bolles. Rogers also coached 11 former players who went on to compete in the NFL.

In a letter written to Roger’s widow, Linda, Steve Hyers of Miramar expressed his gratitude for the great impact the coach had on his life. “Thank you for letting Coach Rogers spend those late afternoons, and in some cases weekends, preparing us not only for sports – but life,” Hyers wrote. As a former 1975 graduate of Lee High School who played football for Rogers, Hyers said he received a football scholarship to University of Tennessee where he played football, graduated cum laude, was vice president of the student government, was All-Academic Conference, and was nominated for a Rhodes Scholarship. He now runs a \$35 million company.

In the letter, Hyers said he never forgot the “maxims” Roger’s taught his players, which he credited with his success, such as “it’s the little things that count,” or “compensate for your lack of talent by outworking your competition,” or “address

and work on your weaknesses before enhancing your strengths daily.”

Bolles’ Upper School Dean of Students John Newman said Rogers was an inspiration to all who played or worked with him. “As someone who competed against Coach Rogers when he was at Lee, coached with him at Bolles for years, and had my son play for him, I have nothing but great memories of Coach Rogers. In addition to his passion for competing, he was humble, kind and a great role model for all of us. Because of his leadership, we were able to take the guys in our program and develop them into young men who understood the importance and value of sacrifice, commitment, determination, and family. We also won a few football games, too. Coach Rogers will be missed, but never forgotten.”

Perhaps even more than football, Rogers loved his family and reserved every Sunday to be with them, either at the beach, eating at different restaurants around town, or,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

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during football season, sitting with them at Jaguars games. "He always tried to put our family first," said his daughter Tracy Rogers White. "I don't know if my dad has always come across as putting family first, but he always put my sister and I and our mom before anything else, and he always tried to make up for the time when he was away coaching."

During family time, Rogers enjoyed music and dancing, White said. "We would dance on the beach. We would dance in my parents' home. We would dance if we went to listen to live music together. He would listen to music for hours, and he always wanted you to hear the same songs over and over," she said, noting some of his favorite musicians were the BeeGees, Elvis Presley, and the Four Seasons. "As Dad grew older and the grandkids came along, he would do funny dances such as 'The Sprinkler.' They knew that every time they would see Papa that he would say, 'listen to this song' It was a big part of our family."

And football was, in a way, also a family affair. Rogers taught his daughters several of the same "maxims," he shared with his football players such as to work hard and to treat others as you wish to be treated. "We were always told to give and do our best. Success will come and follow, but every day, as long as we give it our all and put everything

in, that was all he expected from us and from others as well," she said.

White cheered for her father's team when she was in high school at Lee. Her sister, Jennifer Rogers Drawdy, cheered for him in high school at Bolles, as did White's daughter, Sidney Yost. White's son, Mason Yost, was on his team at Bolles and went on to play college football at Liberty University. "To play and cheer for their grandfather was a huge part of their lives and something they had looked forward to their whole life," said White.

Since her father's death, White said many of his former players have reached out to share how he touched their lives. "My dad was always there to pick someone up and help them through the tough times," she said, noting for one player he purchased shoes and for another he bought eyeglasses because the boy couldn't see and was failing in school. "Finding out these stories after he passed has just been, well I can't even express it in words," she said. "I had no idea the stuff he did or the amount of lives he touched."

Rogers is survived by his wife, Linda, daughters, Tracy Rogers White (Keith) and Jennifer Rogers Drawdy (Clint), and six grandchildren: Sidney Yost, Mason Yost, Sennett Drawdy, Price Drawdy, Shelby Drawdy and Mae Drawdy.



Charles Towers Ragsdale

In Memoriam

MAY 14, 1985 – APRIL 4, 2019

One year ago our dear Charlie left us. You are loved and you are missed, and you will always live in our hearts.

In loving memory from your family.



In Memoriam Michael Cascone Sr.

July 29, 1920 – Dec. 22, 2019

Michael Cascone Sr., 99, died at his home Dec. 22 after having lived a long life dedicated to serving others. His many accomplishments included founding what would later become VyStar Credit Union. He and his wife, Dorothy, who died in 2018, spent many decades volunteering for organizations in their community, his son Michael Cascone Jr. recalled.



civilian of the station's many different commands. He and Dorothy had five children, all of whom survive them.

After his return to NAS, Cascone Sr. noticed a need for a credit union after seeing that many NAS Jax employees were being penalized heavily for borrowing money, his son said.

"When he got out of the service, he went back to NAS and the (civilian) industrial relations department and one of the things he noticed over the next couple of years was there were a lot of people having their wages garnished," Cascone Jr. explained, noting that after he had checked with the military payroll office, his father discovered military personnel were purchasing civilian clothes at astronomical interest rates that they would never have the ability to pay back. "It appeared to my father that the sellers were charging usury rate, something up to 25%. People were paying off interest, not paying off the principal, they were getting their wages garnished. He went to the bosses and asked around about starting a credit union," Cascone Jr. said.

A similar effort had begun in the '40s and failed, so Cascone Sr. had his work cut out for him. However, he finally found enough people to put up \$5 each to form the union, which was a lot of money at that time. Even after the union was sold and became VyStar, Cascone Sr. volunteered on the board for decades, his son said.

Cascone Sr. served the community and many other organizations too numerous to mention, but which included the Jacksonville Urban League and Boy Scouts of America. He is survived by his five children: Marie Wilkinson (Larry), Michael Jr. (Elizabeth), Michele Cugno (Joe), Sharon Ray (Eddy), and John Joseph (Jennifer). Mike had 16 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

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Interact Club member Matthew Giordano sits with some of the students from Best Buddies during a softball game at Bishop Kenny Feb. 20.

Best Buddies students enjoy softball at Bishop Kenny

On February 20, the BK Interact Club invited Best Buddies to watch the girls' varsity softball home game. It was a wonderful day with beautiful weather, and there were smiles all around. The Buddies enjoyed pizza, cotton candy and wore their new softball bracelets as they watched the game with the Interact Club members. They received some Bishop Kenny swag after the game as well, with each getting a softball and a team photo that the softball players personally signed.

Best Buddies is a Florida program that enriches the lives of youth and adults with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). This is the second major event that the Bishop Kenny Interact Club has sponsored with the Best Buddies of Jacksonville. It was a wonderful experience for both the players and the students from Best Buddies.

Landon students, families enjoy PTSA health and wellness fair

The Julia Landon College Preparatory campus in San Marco was a flurry of activity after school March 3 when the halls and courtyard were filled with people enjoying Landon's "Family Fun and Wellness Day."

The weather was beautiful as approximately 200 students and their siblings, as well as 40-50 parents, and many faculty members moved around to various activities organized by Landon's PTSA Executive Board. Games like Giant Jenga, Connect Four, cornhole and badminton were placed in the grassy courtyard for people to use at their leisure. Students especially enjoyed the fast pace of the gaga ball game, which had been donated last year by the nonprofit organization, Friends of Landon.

"We tried to think of unstructured games that everyone could enjoy. We had planned to rent some large inflatable interactives to get people moving, but our entire budget was only \$500," said PTSA President and event organizer, Terri Nelson.



PTSA Board members Sara Washburn and Terri Nelson enjoy the hula hoops.



Landon students and their families pose with the crew from Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Engine 13, which is based in San Marco, during Family Fun and Wellness Day at Julia Landon College Preparatory School March 3.

It was PTSA board member Doreen Abbott who suggested that the money would be better spent by purchasing smaller games that could be used again at future events. "It was gratifying to look around and see people – even adults – really enjoying the outdoor activities versus being on their phones. One of the favorites of the adults was the meditation and relaxation session led by a registered nurse. A few of the teachers said they wouldn't mind having that session every day!" Nelson said.

Besides the outdoor games, participants were able to browse the indoor booths of many local businesses providing information about their health and wellness programs or services. "We reached out to businesses from various sectors who would represent

different aspects of health and wellness – physical, mental, dental, swim, educational & financial health," said Nelson. "We appreciate the 18 local companies who teamed up with us to provide helpful information to Landon families. Participants also had the chance to check out a fire truck, thanks to the crew from JFRD Engine 13 in San Marco."

Getting people of all ages to think about ways to live a healthy life was the goal of this event. By providing physical activities and informative displays by area businesses, the PTSA hopes that Landon's Family Fun and Wellness Day was beneficial to all who attended. To see more pictures and a list of all participating vendors, visit www.julialandonptsawebly.com.

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Bolles Head of School Tyler Hodges with Haley Bowmaster, Adarsh Aratikatla, Jason Du and Zekum Wang

Three San Jose students named to Bolles President's list

Three San Jose students were named when President and Head of School Tyler Hodges announced the President's List winners during the Third Quarter Honors Convocation on the Bolles Upper School San Jose Campus March 3.

On the list were Haley Bowmaster, a senior and juniors Jason Du and Zekum Wang, who joined Adarsh Aratikatla as the only students to receive the prestigious honor. All four are students who have gone "above and beyond" in their demonstration of The Bolles Way – Pursuing excellence through courage, integrity and compassion, Hodges said.

Bowmaster has long been a member of the Bolles Buddies organization and is currently the club's president. She works in the school's Extended Care program and learned that the North Florida School of Special Education needed volunteers to assist their students who would be modeling in their annual "Hearts of the Runway Fashion Show," held last month. She took the lead and solicited volunteers from the

Bolles Buddies organization and made sure that each student was cleared by the Deans' Office. She coordinated the 16 Bolles student volunteers at the event.

Du and Wang have shown great leadership in the Bolles community and beyond. They are the driving force behind the Chinese Club and their hard work was instrumental in making Chinese Week a success. From decorating the campus to running a range of different activities, the students managed the week's progress. They also enthusiastically participated in the Chinese New Year Celebration with the fifth graders at the Bartram campus, leading 24 fifth graders in learning a variety of Chinese language and cultural activities for the entire day.

Aratikatla, also a junior, devised a way to help other students with academics. He organized and led hour-long, after-school review sessions before each test for students in Biology Honors. The many freshmen students who attended looked forward to and benefited from this student's guidance and support.

Episcopal Chorale turns in superior performance



Choir Director at Florida State College Jacksonville Tommy Shapard conducts a guest rehearsal with the Episcopal Upper School Chorale.

The Upper School Chorale of the Episcopal School of Jacksonville earned straight superiors from all the stage judges during the Choir Districts at Mandarin High School March 6.

For the event, the students had to perform two contrasting pieces on stage and sight read a rhythm and harmony piece.

Assisting the students from Episcopal in preparing for the juried performance were former Episcopal Choir Director Mary Helen Solomon and Tommy Shapard, choir director at Florida State College Jacksonville.

Ansley Gibson crowned Miss Bishop Kenny

Ansley Gibson, a junior, was selected as Miss Bishop Kenny for 2020-2021. The pageant was held March 4.

Mary Elizabeth Shoemaker, Miss Bishop Kenny 2019-2020, performed the crowning ceremony. Gibson's victory means that she will advance to compete in the Miss Senior High pageant representing Bishop Kenny.

Gibson said she was drawn to enter the Miss BK pageant because she wanted to step out of her comfort zone. She was also the recipient of the Scholastic and Service awards. "I feel very fortunate to attend Bishop Kenny – a faith-filled environment where students are encouraged to grow spiritually and to care for others," she said.

Gibson has accrued over 650 service hours by volunteering for Camp I am Special, Brook's Adaptive Rowing, and sewing surgical caps for Wolfson Children's Hospital.

Junior Sarah Roberts received a first runner-up award for talent in her lyrical



Mary Elizabeth Shoemaker, Miss Bishop Kenny 2019-2020 places the crown on her successor, Ansley Gibson, a junior at the school.

dance to the music, "Everywhere is You." She was also named Miss Congeniality and received the award for the top interview. Roberts is also a busy student and is actively involved with the BK NJROTC (Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps.)

Junior Elizabeth Coyle was named second runner-up and Most Photogenic. Coyle is very involved in efforts to help the community and volunteers her time with the Jacksonville Soup Kitchen and the Learn to Row camp for middle school students.



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Wolfson students shine in academics, arts and athletics

Students at Samuel Wolfson School for Advanced Studies are excelling in academics, arts and athletics. In January, four students from Wolfson's Latin Club participated in Regional Latin Forum. Three students won awards including Nicolas Davidson, fourth place, History of the Roman Empire; Michael Cantor, first place, Derivatives I; AJ Horkan, fourth place, Advanced Vocabulary and fifth place, History of the Roman Empire.



Wolfson chorus, twirling and dance and photography

Wolfson's chorus program lived up to its reputation as one of the best programs in the county. The vocal ensemble earned an "excellent" rating and the women's chorus earned "superior" ratings on stage and in sight reading during the Music Performance Assessments (MPA) at Mandarin High School March 6.

At the Twirl Mania International Championships, Ahnaliyah Robles, a junior, earned six top 10 placements and won her division. The competition was held at Disney World in February.

Three Wolfson students have been recognized for achievements in photography and dance in the PTSA Reflections contest. Isabella Dodani received an Awards of Excellence in dance and photography; Ever McClain-Folwell received an Award of Excellence in photography; and Stephen Atkins, an Award of Merit in photography. In the state competition, McClain-Folwell received an Award of Merit for Visual Arts.



MAUNDY THURSDAY

- 7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist & Washing of Feet

GOOD FRIDAY

- 12:10 & 6 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy

EASTER SUNDAY

- 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Easter Vigil
- 9:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt & Flowering of the Cross
- 10:30 a.m. Festival Choral Eucharist

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Boys' soccer and wrestling

Wolfson Boys' soccer team defeated Episcopal 1-1 in penalty kicks (5-3) to advance to the district championship against Bolles. The Wolfpack lost to Bolles, but advanced to the regional championship as the District runner-up. Wolfson lost to Pensacola Catholic High School in the regional game played in Pensacola.

In wrestling, nine wrestlers qualified for Regionals competition after doing well in the district championships at Clay High School Feb. 19. The regionals were held in Crawfordville on Feb. 28.

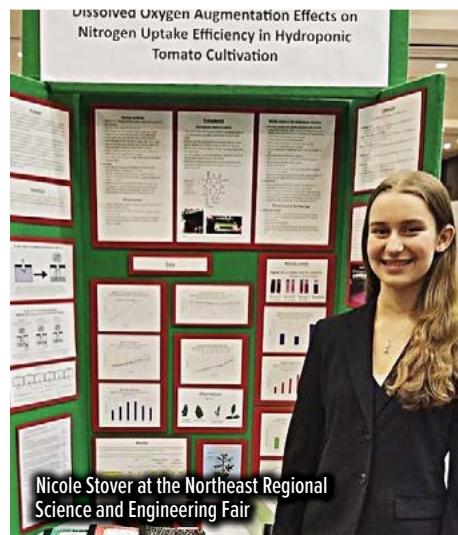
Freshman Kaylee Carolan advanced to State competition in weightlifting. In the fall, Carolan competed in the state diving competition as well.



Science Fair and National History Day

At the Northeast Regional Science and Engineering Fair, Sophomore Nicole Stover won the botany competition and progressed to the State competition, which was unfortunately cancelled due to Coronavirus concerns.

In the National History Day competition, Charlotte Caccam, a freshman, and Campbell Scharer placed second in the district competition and qualified for state competition. They can compete in the state contest in early May at Tallahassee Community College. Sophomores Violet Leuthold and Mayson Wilkins placed third for their entry. The Wolfpack World Affairs/Great Decisions Club won a local World Affairs competition.



Sunshine State Scholar and Joe Berg Seminars

Junior Jacob Gazalah has been recognized as a Sunshine State Scholar, and qualified to go to a two-day conference with other high school juniors in Florida who have an interest in STEM related occupations.

Nine Wolfson sophomores have been selected to participate in Joe Berg Seminars including Sean Bailey, Joey Perry, Kaylee Priest, Nicole Stover, Amari Blake, Sam Davis, Kaden Powell, Jake Whitley and Mayson Wilkins. The Joe Berg Seminars of Jacksonville are a prestigious academic series which offers 12 seminars yearly between September and May in each of the Humanities and Sciences. Membership extends from the middle of the sophomore



year to the middle of senior year. All seminars are held at the Museum of Science and History unless the group is on a field trip. The speakers who host the seminars are college professors and professionals from the Jacksonville community.

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