



100 YEARS YOUNG

Ellen Cavert's two beloved granddaughters, Grace Sarber and Ellen Gould, were among a small group of close family and friends who gathered at her home to celebrate her 100th birthday June 30.

READ MORE, PAGE 28

CRAFT BEER SCENE TAKES A HIT DUE TO COVID-19



Susan and Brian Miller, owners of Bold City Brewery

By Lilla Ross, Resident Community News

Before the coronavirus hit, Jacksonville was getting a reputation as a great place for craft beer.

"We've built tourism around our breweries," said Brock Flores, owner of Fishweir Brewing Company in Murray Hill. "We have a great beer scene."

Make that "had" a great beer scene.

Jacksonville's breweries have become one of the casualties of the Coronavirus.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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COMMUNITY NEWS



Scouting The High Seas

Members of Boy Scout Troop 35, Thomas Brandler, Bo Brandler, Sam Craddock, Scott Pearson, Andrew Pearson, William Wright, Richard Black and Jonathan Wright enjoyed high adventure in the Florida Keys. READ MORE, PAGE 33

Oaklawn Cemetery expands

The parent company to Hardage Giddens Funeral Homes and Cemeteries has purchased nearly an acre of land next to Oaklawn Cemetery in Lakewood, where Calico Corners used to be, and plans to offer premium plots and private mausoleums on the site. The acquisition will also give more exposure to Legacy Lodge.

READ MORE, PAGE 6



Thanking a pandemic lifeline

Donna Cornell, Colonial Manor's favorite postal carrier, said it was the first time she was so honored, after neighborhood residents expressed their appreciation for her efforts by holding a drop-in reception June 28.

READ MORE, PAGE 25

Uncertainty haunts educators as start of school year nears

By Lilla Ross

Resident Community News

The only thing that is certain about start of this school year is that nothing is certain.

Due to a continuing spike of COVID-19 infections in Duval County, plans to reopen have been made, remade, and changed again. As of July 23, the Duval County School Board approved a plan to reopen Wednesday, Aug. 20, 10 days later than originally planned. In addition, students have online options. Masks in schools and on buses will be encouraged but not mandatory.

Elementary students in Pre-K through fifth grade will attend class on campus five days a week. Middle school students, grade 6-8, will have a hybrid model of both on campus and online learning via Duval

HomeRoom until Sept. 14, when they return to the classroom full time.

High school students will attend on campus twice a week and online three days a week until Sept. 14 when full-time, on-campus classes resume.

All students also have two virtual options: Duval HomeRoom, which allows students to remain at their current school, Duval Virtual Instruction Academy, which is a full-time virtual school. The deadline for enrolling in the virtual options was July 31.

Duval County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Diana Greene said she is working with Duval Teachers United to finalize plans for teachers who want to work from home.

The Duval County school district also will have a COVID-19 Rapid Response Team to do contact tracing when there is

a report of a positive test by a student, teacher, or staff member.

The plan must be approved by the Florida Department of Education.

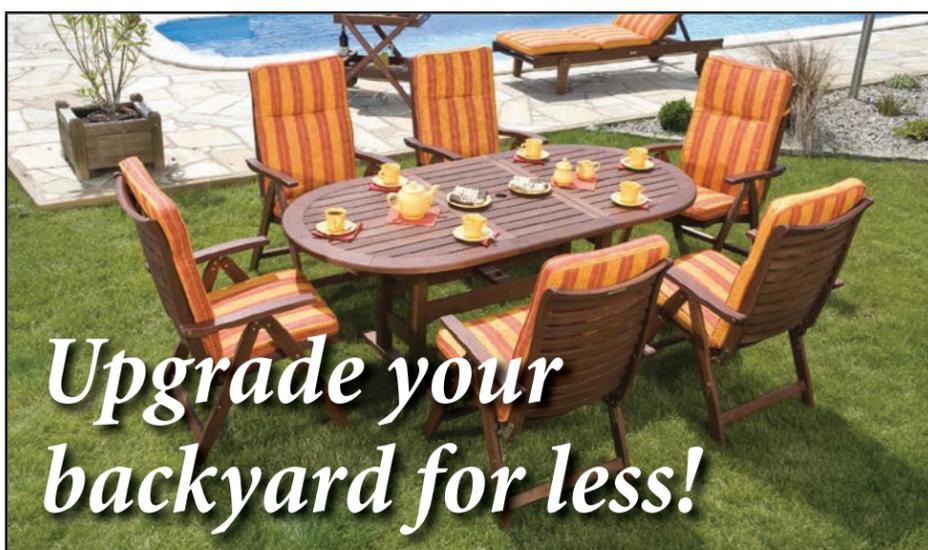
Education Commissioner Richard Corcoran issued an emergency order in July asking all school districts to open schools five days a week. In response, the Florida Education Association, the state's largest teachers' union, filed suit in Miami to overturn the order.

Greene asked the state for an exemption to the order to allow a phased reopening because of the area's rising Coronavirus infection rate and the Republican National Convention (RNC), which has since been canceled.

But Greene said the cancellation of the RNC doesn't change the infection rate, and she still thinks a hybrid model is most appropriate for Duval schools.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

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Letters TO THE Editor

The Resident, an important source of news, advertising

In these troubled times when the COVID-19 pandemic is keeping us distant from our family and friends, I have found *The Resident Community News* to be an important way for me to learn about what is going on in our city.

In addition to *The Resident*, *Circles Magazine* is really grand. The magazine, which highlights philanthropic endeavors within Northeast Florida, also is a way of keeping up with friends and organizations. Plus, the magazines are lovely, keepsake pieces of exceptional quality.

But I especially love *The Resident* because as a newspaper, it does so much to connect people, especially during this difficult time of estrangement. To my knowledge, there is not another piece of print journalism that connects people in our city the way *The Resident* does. We live in Atlantic Beach, and because I love the paper so much, I have it sent to our home at the beach. It lets me know what is going on in town and in San Marco. I read about what people, children and adults, are thinking and doing. It shares different opinions and provides a lot of local history. *The Resident*, through the vision and commitment of its publishers, Seth and Pamela Williams, is essential to this community.

Most sincerely,
Karen Wolfson
Atlantic Beach

I would like to take this opportunity to express how much we enjoy receiving *The Resident* magazine regularly to our house. We consider it an important source of news for the neighborhood. That neighborhood includes both Riverside/Avondale and Ortega. I am especially referring to news about activities of the city and businesses. We also enjoy the articles in *The Resident* about the people of the neighborhood. My mother and father were born here, in Riverside, and my father's mother was born and grew up on Adams Street downtown. And I would like also to mention that the advertisements and notices in *The Resident* are very important to us. We are firm believers in shopping locally and patronizing neighborhood businesses. *The Resident* is the easiest and best way to find out what is available nearby.

Thanks again,
Hardee Mahoney
Riverside

I just wanted you to know how much my husband and I enjoy receiving *The Resident* each month. This publication does such a wonderful job covering all the happenings in San Marco. Your reporting is always fair and balanced on serious issues; yet it's also refreshing to read about local activities and the "fun factor" in our unique neighborhood. In these times of isolation and uncertainty, we can always look forward to the latest issue of *The Resident* to keep us well informed on local events and important matters. Keep up the good work – I can honestly say, *The Resident* is one of the essential services we rely on.

Thanks!
Heather and Douglas Gollnick
San Marco

Children need wellness appointments, vaccinations

Numerous events have been canceled or rescheduled as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, but it shouldn't keep anyone from going to the doctor.

Families are encouraged to bring their children back into the doctor's office, and to get their vaccinations before school reopens in the next few months. It is safe to schedule well-child visits and important to stay up to date with regularly scheduled vaccines.

Vaccines are the best thing in medicine because they can prevent infection. Without vaccination, your child is vulnerable to disease.

Immunizations provide maximum benefit to children before they become at-risk for diseases such as polio, chickenpox, measles, mumps and rubella, which are preventable with routine childhood immunizations. Without vaccination, there could be a resurgence of vaccine-preventable diseases. Immunizations also prevent deadly diseases from spreading to others.

Vaccines undergo extensive safety testing and are held to the highest safety standards. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC)/American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) childhood immunization schedule is based on scientific research and data. The number of doses of vaccines and the timing of the vaccination have been planned for maximum benefit.

While leading researchers predict we are still a year away before we have access to a COVID-19 vaccine, children of all ages need other vaccinations

to stay healthy. Since the beginning of the pandemic, the AAP reports a significant drop in well-child checkups and vaccination delays. These missed visits could impact a child's health.

Well-child visits often find medical or developmental problems at an early stage in time to resolve them. Vaccines provide important protection against infections and diseases and keep children safe from many serious illnesses.

As the situation with COVID-19 continues to evolve, all Wolfson Children's facilities have additional guidelines in place to care for patients in a safe manner without exposing them to the risk of infection. These include prescreening and screening at the door, limited entry points, social distancing, requiring masks and frequently cleaning common areas.

More information is available at wolfsonchildrens.com/safety.

Wolfson Children's Hospital has been named year after year by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the best children's hospitals in the country. In 2019, Wolfson Children's was selected as one of only 10 children's hospitals in the country as a Leapfrog Top Children's Hospital, a recognition of patient quality and safety.

Mobeen Rathore, MD
Chief, Pediatric Infectious Disease and Immunology
Wolfson Children's Hospital of Jacksonville

Bethany Atkins, MD
Pediatrician

Thanks expressed for Open Doors program

Many difficult funding decisions had to be made by the Florida legislature this year as the COVID-19 pandemic has continued to impact the state's economy. Not all worthy projects received support. A well-earned and deserved thank you goes to Representative Cord Byrd whose sponsorship of the Open Doors Outreach Network ensures continuation of comprehensive services to sex trafficking victims ages 10-24 not only in NE Florida (Duval, Nassau, Clay and St. John's Counties) but in 32 counties overall in areas besieged by the cruelty of traffickers. Byrd's passionate involvement not only in his home base but his statewide view makes a lot of sense since Florida ranks third in

U.S. in human trafficking cases behind only California and Texas (according to the Human Trafficking Hotline).

We are especially proud that the Open Doors program, conceptually developed by the Policy Center and The Children's Campaign and through partnership with Voices for Florida has served 193 survivors since 2017 from Florida's First Coast. Statewide 923 victims have received timely and essential intervention services.

Thank you to Representative Byrd for being an amazing champion. Your support truly makes a difference to NE Florida's and all of Florida's most vulnerable children and young people.

Vicky Basra, president & CEO, Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center
Lawanda Ravoira, president emeritus, Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center
Roy Miller, president & CEO, The Children's Campaign
Linda Alexionok, president & CEO, Voices for Florida
Robyn Metcalf, Open Doors Statewide director, Voices for Florida

Way We Were story is interesting, inspiring

Your story about Ken and Leo Juro was very interesting and inspiring. Thank you for presenting their story. I looked carefully at the shadow box with Leo's decorations, awards, and service medals since I have our Dad's. Below is a guide Ken may be interested to see. Leo was indeed well decorated as I see at least two, maybe four combat medals, as well as the coveted Combat Infantryman's Badge (CIB).

Please convey my admiration and thanks to the Juro family!

Mary Bland Love
Riverside



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What can 3D mammograms do for your peace of mind?

New breast imaging technique makes breast cancer easier to see and reduces false-positives.



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

3D screening mammography is different from a 2D mammogram:

- 3D mammography makes it easier to see the layers of breast tissue, allowing for better cancer detection.
- 2D mammograms take one picture across the entire breast, in two directions: top to bottom and side to side. Unclear or suspicious findings from 2D views can increase the need for additional imaging and also lead to more false-positives.

3D mammography is designed to overcome these limitations. 3D imaging technology moves in an arc around the breast to take X-ray pictures from many angles in seconds. A computer quickly assembles the pictures to produce clear, highly focused 3D images. This allows the radiologist to view the entire breast, layer by layer, for **a more accurate screening** — especially important for anyone with dense breast tissue or patients with an increased risk of breast cancer.

Ask your doctor to recommend a facility that offers 3D mammograms. Or simply contact Baptist Health, now offering easy-to-schedule appointments for 3D screening mammograms at all six screening locations.

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Plasma sought from recovered COVID-19 patients

As COVID-19 cases continue to increase, the need for convalescent plasma is on the rise. LifeSouth is partnering with medical centers in Florida, Georgia, and Alabama to find plasma from blood donors who have recovered from the virus to help critically ill patients fighting the virus.

Convalescent plasma is the liquid portion of blood collected from blood donors who have recovered from COVID-19. Recovered patients form antibodies, these antibodies are found in plasma. Convalescent plasma therapy is considered an investigational drug by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and is widely used as a treatment by doctors in many local hospitals to help severely ill coronavirus patients. When transfused, the antibodies can help patients recover against the virus.

LifeSouth is now testing all successful blood donors for COVID-19 antibodies in search of convalescent plasma. Healthy blood donors who may have been exposed or recovered from COVID-19 are asked to donate. As part of the normal blood donations process, a test will be performed on the donor's blood to determine if antibodies are present in the plasma.

Dr. Chris Lough, LifeSouth's vice president of Medical Services, explained that no nasal swab is used on blood donors. "Unlike a test to determine if someone currently has the COVID-19 virus, the antibody screen we use tests a blood sample collected during donation," said Lough. "Individuals should understand that we are not testing for the live virus itself. If you are interested in knowing if you are infected with COVID-19, you should visit your physician or locate a public testing site."

Convalescent plasma donors must be fully recovered from the virus and symptom free before coming to LifeSouth to donate.

LifeSouth asks for help spreading the word to those who have recovered from COVID-19. Potential donors should visit www.lifesouth.org or call 888-795-2707 to schedule an appointment.



A train goes by the site of the new Southbank Apartments which is located at 959 Prudential Drive

Work commences on two Southbank construction projects

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

While the Coronavirus pandemic may have caused many Jacksonville businesses to slow down or come to a screeching halt, construction on two Southbank developments appears to be full steam ahead.

Construction crews were working hard in July on Southbank Apartments, an infill multi-family complex on the Southbank, which is being built near the railroad bridge where a 2.9-acre surface parking lot between the Acosta Bridge and the Eight Forty One building used to be.

The development, which is located at 959 Prudential Drive, is slated to be eight stories tall, a maximum of 85 feet, and include 185 residential units. Also included will be a 178-space parking garage and 33 surface parking spaces.

Meanwhile, Baptist Health is hard at work constructing its new critical care tower, that will serve as a new entrance to its medical campus on the Southbank. Already in place is a gleaming glass skybridge that



The new critical care tower at Wolfson's Children's Hospital is going up fast on Palm Avenue

extends over Palm Avenue that will connect Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville and Wolfson's Children's Hospital with the parking garage across the street.

The new seven-story tower will include a five floors devoted to children's critical care including a high-level 75-bed neonatal intensive care center as well as a 26-bed pediatric intensive care unit.

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Fund set up to rename Robert E. Lee High, other schools

The Jacksonville Public Education Fund has created a special fund to allow community members to support the renaming of several public schools through tax-deductible donations.

On June 16, the Duval County School Board voted unanimously, 7-0, to begin the renaming process for six public schools whose names honor Confederate leaders: Joseph Finegan Elementary, Stonewall Jackson Elementary, Jefferson Davis Middle, Kirby-Smith Middle, J.E.B. Stuart Middle and Robert E. Lee High. The fund would help offset the costs of renaming the six schools if the Duval County School Board approves the new names.

“Research shows students are better able to learn when they feel welcome and represented at school,” said Jacksonville Public Education Fund President Rachael Tutwiler Fortune. “JPEF plays a unique role in our community as a research-driven, independent nonprofit focused on education equity. As part of that role, we are honored to partner with Duval County Public Schools on this effort so that our community can seize this moment to make lasting change in Duval County.”

“This is an opportunity for people to demonstrate their support for this initiative by helping offset the cost,” said Warren A. Jones, chairman of the Duval County School Board. “I’m very thankful that JPEF is helping us establish this fund because it gives all corporate and individual residents an opportunity to really buy into change and progress and demonstrate that our city is truly pursuing a new future of anti-racism and appreciation for all residents.”

As a school board member, Jones initiated the process to consider new names for these six schools. The process will begin after school starts in August and is inclusive of stakeholders of each school including students, faculty and staff, alumni, and residents in the school’s attendance zone.

Through the School Renaming Fund, community members can make tax-deductible donations to help offset the costs of renaming the schools, which can include new signage, new paint, refinishing athletic fields and courts, and providing new uniforms to sports teams and bands. JPEF played a similar role when Nathan Bedford Forrest High was renamed Westside High in 2014. JPEF is proud to serve as fiscal agent for Duval County Public Schools in this effort, allowing contributions to be tax-deductible through JPEF’s 501(c)3 status. JPEF will use contributions to the fund to make grants to schools that are renamed. Supporters can make donations immediately at jaxpef.org/renaming.

Craft beer scene takes a hit FROM PAGE 1

The state ordered breweries, bars, and restaurants to shut down on March 17 — St. Patrick’s Day, always a busy day. They were only allowed to offer to-go service.

“When everything was shut down, when it was to-go, our sales were right on target,” Flores said. “We kept all of our staff with no reduction in pay.”

During the state’s Phase 2 reopening on June 5, breweries and bars were allowed to reopen at 50% capacity indoors and full capacity outdoors. Patrons were required to be seated; no standing-room service was allowed.



Aardwolf Brewing Company

But when the rate of COVID-19 infection surged, the state Department of Professional Business Regulation (DPBR) banned on-site consumption of alcohol on June 26. Despite statewide complaints, and a lawsuit by bar owners in Volusia County, on July 11, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis stood firm on the ban.

Last week, DPBR Secretary Halsey Beshears began meeting with craft-brewery and bar owners in an effort to resolve the dispute.

Establishments that had food licenses, known commonly as 509 licenses, could continue to serve customers, but most breweries don’t have food licenses.

“When we reopened, we were doing things the right way,” Flores said. “We were doing table service. Everyone was wearing masks. It was the bars that ruined it. Breweries were the good actors, but the state cast a wide net rather than policing the bad actors.”

It’s what Preben Olsen, owner of Aardwolf Brewing Company in San Marco, calls discrimination by license type.

“We’ve been arguing the hypocrisy of this. They haven’t reduced the number of people drinking, just reduced the number of places. It’s discriminating based on license type.”

The DPBR says it doesn’t have enough agents to monitor alcohol consumption. Instead it suggests that breweries get a food license or buy a 1% share in a food truck.

“You can’t just wave your hand and have a kitchen,” Flores said. “You need equipment, a sink, a health inspection. And a food truck isn’t going to work for us. We’re on the same street with five restaurants.”

Setting up a kitchen isn’t an option for Aardwolf either, Preben said. “We would

have to purchase food and sanitation equipment. We don’t have the space, but we are considering a food truck. But how does that suddenly make me COVID safe?”

Olsen said getting a food license takes about 30 days, but he has been told the state is fast-tracking the process and pushing them through in 48-72 hours.

Bold City Brewery has a Downtown taproom on Bay Street and a production facility on Roselle Street in Riverside.

The production facility has a 509 license, but the taproom on Bay Street doesn’t.

“When they opened the bars at 50% that made it a little easier,” co-owner Susan Miller said. “When they closed it down again, they pull the rug out from under your feet. Just like that.”

Miller said they decided not to seek a 509 license for the Downtown location because of its physical size and the number of patrons.

The taproom had been slowly growing before the shutdown.

“We’re very dependent on sports, travel, entertainment,” Miller said. “We were doing pretty good, getting to the point of making a profit before all this mess.” Although there was much demand, food from Cowford Chophouse and Brew Box was available at the taproom.

The Downtown taproom closed completely, and the two employees were shifted to the production facility. Miller applied for federal and city emergency loans, which helped for a while.

The production facility has continued to get by, selling kegs to a sizable portion of the state, but demand is way down, Miller said.

“The production facility has a better chance of survival, but I’m not sure we’re going to reopen the Downtown taproom,” Miller said.



Broc Flores, owner of Fishweir Brewing Company

“I’d have to get a loan, and do I want to put the production company at risk to save the smaller business? I don’t know. I have a tough decision to make. It’s sad.”

Flores said if the ban goes on much longer, he and other breweries will have difficult decisions to make about their future.

“It’s not sustainable,” Flores said. “Sales are down 90%. If this goes on much longer, we will have to shut down.”

All the brewery owners said the playing field should be level – let everyone open with the same restrictions or shut everyone down.

“People still go out. Now they are driving the same number of people into fewer places,” Flores said. “Unless you take the option out entirely, they’re still going to go out. How is that keeping people safe?”

“It’s a frustrating situation. We don’t want to create an environment where people aren’t safe, but on the other hand the state is penalizing locally owned, family owned businesses because they don’t serve food.”



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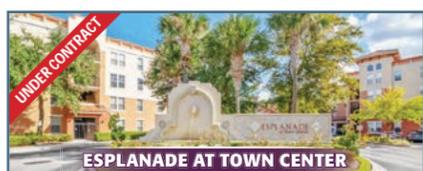




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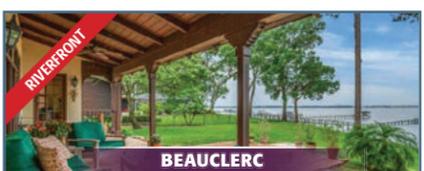
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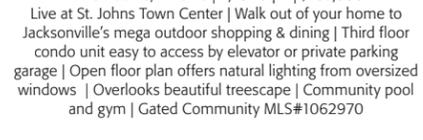
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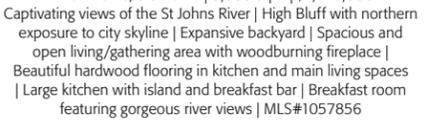
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Ryan Companies closes on land earmarked for new JEA headquarters

On June 30, Ryan Companies US, Inc. announced it has closed on the parcel of land where the new JEA headquarters will be built. Ryan Companies was selected, after a lengthy ITN process, in April 2019 to develop, design and build the new headquarters. The 1.5-acre parcel Ryan proposed for is on the 300 block of West Adams Street in downtown Jacksonville. The property was purchased by Ryan Companies for \$2.6 million. Construction is expected to begin in September and be completed in early 2022.

Since its selection, Ryan Companies worked to create a project focused on JEA's customers and employees, one that supports and strengthens the JEA culture, safety values, business continuity and security, said JEA CEO and Managing Director Paul McElroy.

"JEA looks forward to seeing the headquarters project move to the construction stage after a long planning period to address business continuity. The downtown location helps JEA as a municipal utility provide continued support to its customers, employees and the community," McElroy said. "We appreciate Ryan Companies work with us in adapting plans to meet JEA's goals and needs for years to come."

The current headquarters was built in 1962, and analysis completed in 2014 and 2016 showed improvements needed would rival the cost of a new building. The Downtown Development Review Board (DDRB) approved the initial building concept plans in December of 2019 and the revised design in June of 2020.

"The headquarters project will be a tremendous point of pride for JEA, its customers, its employees and the City of Jacksonville,"



A rendering of the new JEA headquarters to be built on West Adams Street

said Doug Dieck, president, Ryan Companies Southeast Region. "Today is a big step in a long process. Ryan, JEA and CBRE have been focused on a goal of bringing a world-class, class A office building to downtown Jacksonville to serve JEA for years to come. We are excited start to construction."

According to information supplied by Ryan Companies, JEA's new seven-story headquarters will break ground in October 2020 with a completion date in early 2022. The new building will include approximately 153,000 of rentable square feet, with an accompanying eight-floor, 640-stall parking garage. The facility will complement the surrounding area with a focus on the experience of the employee and the customer. From the skyline view to the customer experience, the architects considered all angles. Natural light, open flexible floorplates and access to outdoor spaces are part of the design elements included in the building. The team placed an emphasis in honoring the downtown skyline by designing with outdoor workspaces affording views of the courthouse lawn, the St. Johns River and the historic Hemming Park.

"Working with JEA and the City of Jacksonville over the course of the past year has been a great pleasure," said Dieck. "We know how important the decision to build was for the JEA board of directors, the JEA executive team and the City. Together we have come up with an excellent result."

Cemetery to expand onto Calico Corners site

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

Hardage-Giddens Oaklawn Cemetery and its popular event venue, Legacy Lodge, is due to get more exposure to travelers on San Jose Boulevard thanks to the funeral company's purchase of an iconic fabric store next door.

A casualty of business closures due to the Coronavirus, Calico Corners, a fabric store in Lakewood that specialized in decorator fabrics and upholstery shuttered its doors in early June after 37 years in business. The Jacksonville emporium was part of a nationwide retail chain that specializes in furniture and interior design.

SCI Funeral Services of Florida LLC, a Houston-based subsidiary of Service Corp. International paid \$895,000 to Joy Jax Holdings LLC of Jensen Beach, Florida. The deal closed on July 15, said Joseph "Jody" Brandenburg, president of Hardage-Giddens Funeral Homes & Cemeteries. He also said that he thought the price was "fair."

The property, which is nearly an acre, was home to the 8,856-square-foot Calico Corners store. The land lies north and adjacent to the 100-acre Hardage-Giddens Oaklawn Cemetery, which is owned by SCI under its brand Dignity Memorial, and is separated from Hardage-Giddens Oaklawn Legacy Lodge by Oaklawn Place, a small street formerly known as Inman Place, which was officially renamed when Legacy Lodge was built, said Brandenburg.

"We're just so pleased to have acquired the property that is so visible and so accessible on San Jose Boulevard," Brandenburg said. "It was the only piece of property available that was contiguous to Hardage-Giddens Oaklawn Cemetery. Part of our plans include signage and additional exposure and



At the corner of Oaklawn Place and San Jose Boulevard, the former Calico Corner's Fabric Shop has been sold to the owners of Hardage Giddens Funeral Homes & Cemeteries and will become an extension of Oaklawn Cemetery in Lakewood.

availability to the Hardage-Giddens Oaklawn Legacy Lodge, and event center."

Future plans for the parcel include razing the Calico Corners store building, Brandenburg said, although he had no idea at this point when that would occur. "We don't need any more buildings," Brandenburg said. "We don't have definitive plans. We feel like with the exposure on San Jose Boulevard, it will provide an opportunity for premium cemetery property and products. As a matter of fact, we have been contacted by families interested in constructing private family mausoleums there."

"The property being contiguous with Oaklawn Cemetery has long held interest for us as a continuation of the Oaklawn Cemetery. That's part of the value, too, is being contiguous to the cemetery property. It will enhance the entry way and facility signage and identification of Legacy Lodge," he said.

Brandenburg said the property will soon be dedicated as cemetery property and a continuation of Oaklawn. To become dedicated, Hardage-Giddens will make an official notification and request to the State of Florida Board of Funeral, Cemetery and Consumer Services, of which he is the chairman. "It's routine. There is virtually never a reason to deny it," he said.





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Question: In these unsettled times, what are you doing to manage stress?

By Marcia Hodgson, Resident Community News



Doing things that make us think about other people. We have bottled water on the back porch by the mailbox for anybody who makes a delivery if they are thirsty. We have a garden wall, and we are putting tiny toys in the wall so the kids that walk by every day can pick one out of the wall. We get to look out the window and see the kids agonizing over which one they want. They look to their moms and ask if they can have two. 'No, you can only have one,' they are told, so they have to think about it because it's a big decision. Our neighbors have all pitched in by donating their Happy Meal toys. We also put out a turquoise picnic table near our front yard so people can enjoy the pond. We have regulars that meet there for lunch and romantic couples that bring a bottle of wine and toast the sunset. We leave a bottle of germ killer out there, and we ask that they kill the cooties after they sit and enjoy it. We enjoy looking out our windows and seeing life. We are so grateful we live in the location that we live because we are not isolated. If we couldn't see people out of our windows, we would be really sad.

– SUZANNE HONEYCUTT



We have a weekly game night – just my husband and I – where we pick different old-timey games and we play them, like Monopoly, Careers or Parcheesi. We try to break the monotony by playing the games of our youth. We even have the versions from the 1970s. It's a lot of fun.

– HEATHER GOLLNICK



Exercise, working outside, and talking to friends on the phone.

– CATHYE ONUR



Play video games and take golf lessons at San Jose Country Club. The world is very different. We can't go to Adventure Landing anymore, and we can't go to the Batt Family Fun Center to play mini golf anymore.

– JAKE KING

I have no stress. I do what I have to do, and that's it. I'm not sure why people are stressing out. They blow things out of proportion. Like when someone was looking at old photos from 2017 [on NextDoor.com] and the first words out of their mouth is 'Why don't they have a mask on?' They don't bother to read what year it is from. It wasn't current, but their immediate reaction was 'why don't they have a mask on?' This was back in 2017 or 2019 – whatever year when they didn't need masks.



– EVELYNE BOEHME

I started doing yoga. That's been a positive thing to manage stress. I probably should have been doing it all along. Fortunately, my company has made some really good changes that have taken the stress level off. People are working from home, and everyone has been very supportive there. It's good to have that flexibility. It brings a good comfort level, with everything up in the air.



– STACEY KING

Game night and we have Zoom get-togethers. I have a weekly get together with my guy friends Friday night. We get together – long distance – to keep in touch. It's my Zoom mancave party. It gives me a change to blow off a little steam at the end of the week and still be able to share with my friends. Like my buddy was saying the other night, 'it's almost like being together, almost.' This way you have face-to-face interaction with the video. It's the next best thing. It helps, a lot.



– DOUGLAS GOLLNICK

The main thing we're doing is to participate in some Zoom calls and some stuff from our church. Tomorrow is the first time we are going to have a live service, but it will be outside on the point. We will still have regular Zoom and a drive-in service where you can listen to it on your radio. So, staying connected to our church and especially to our friends at the church is really important to us. I've also been doing a lot of passing outdoor hangings for Cindy Pearson who is a neighbor that is running for School District 3. I'm not going door to door, but instead to the super voters, the people who are in the district who are likely to vote in the primary because they usually vote in the primary. I'm only going to those houses. So far, we have done 3,000, but it's not only me. I've done 250.



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Millers Creek Special Tax District hires new attorney to pursue litigation

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

In July, the Millers Creek Special Tax District board hired a new attorney to confront litigation in a contract dispute with the company it hired to dredge Millers Creek.

In March, DredgIt, a Texas-based dredging company cited the unknown nature of COVID-19 and walked off its job of removing sediment from Millers Creek. Unwilling to discuss the matter with the Millers Creek board, DredgIt subsequently hired a Jacksonville-based attorney to sue the Millers Creek Special Tax District board for standby fees and half of the demobilization cost of removing its dewatering equipment from a lot on the shore of the creek. The furious Millers Creek board decided to countersue for attorney fees as well as the cost of finishing the project, at least \$336,000, the contracted cost to finish the job, which was only 40% complete when DredgIt decided to walk off the job site.

In one of four emergency board meetings held between June 15 and July 20, the Millers Creek board hired H. Keith Thomerson of Chartwell Law to handle the upcoming lawsuit against DredgIt. Thomerson, a litigation specialist, will represent the board not only in the lawsuit that was filed against the board by DredgIt, but also in its counter claim against the company.

The board still intends to retain the services of Wayne Flowers, an attorney with Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A. for all matters not involved in the litigation.

When it signed the contract with DredgIt in September 2019, the board had purchased a performance bond from Suretec Insurance Company at a cost of \$12,000. The bond was meant to ensure DredgIt would perform its work to completion and would pay any subcontractors it had hired to work on the creek.

Millers Creek President John Rowland said Flowers had heard back from Suretec in July regarding its claim. Suretec's lawyer said it would wait until the lawsuit with DredgIt was decided in court before deciding whether it would settle the board's claim. Thomerson will represent the board in any further communications with Suretec, Rowland said.

"They are making a stand in saying they don't know who is at fault," said Rowland. "They are trying to get out of paying us. They are saying they don't know if they [DredgIt] had a valid reason [for defaulting on the contract.] Although we don't see what the reason could be for the company that didn't finish the project and then is suing us, we have a problem with it, that's why we hired an attorney that specializes in dealing with bonding companies."

By hiring Thomerson and still retaining Flowers, Rowland said the board was in the process of finding out "a more aggressive way" to go about fighting the litigation.

"The more we delay the project, the more it is going to cost us because, in the meantime, we are losing ground of what we have already dredged."

— John Rowland,
Millers Creek President

Since its regularly scheduled board meeting June 15 at Mudville Grille, Lance Young of Brance Diversified Inc. has done a survey of the creek to determine a benchmark of how much sediment had been removed by DredgIt. Although it has not yet done the work, Brance Diversified intends to do another survey to determine how much of the soil left to be dredged contains benzo(a)pyrene and would have to be removed to the Trail Ridge disposal site.

DredgIt had specified that only 2,000 cubic yards of soil of the total 30,000 cubic yards in the entire project would be trucked to Trail Ridge.

The Millers Creek board is considering contracting with Brance Diversified to complete the project, which was left unfinished by DredgIt. It was hoping its policy with Suretec would cover the cost of the remaining work. Brance Diversified, Inc. was one of four companies that had originally bid on the work.

"We are trying to find out what the bonding company will come up with. Are they going to completely deny our claim and then we will have to adjust to that?" said Rowland. "If they deny our claim and we have to go ahead and pay for the dredge ourselves, we may hire Brance Diversified to finish what we can afford to pay for using what is left of our budget and then we will continue forward with the litigation," he said. "The more we delay the project, the more it is going to cost us because, in the meantime, we are losing ground of what we have already dredged."

In early March, DredgIt President Jared Mark had contacted former Millers Creek Board President Michelle Wright via phone and email saying he was suspending their job due to the unknown nature of COVID-19. Later DredgIt's lawyer in Texas communicated that the company wished to be released from its contract. Soon after, Jacksonville attorney E. Lanny Russell of Smith, Hulsey & Busey contacted the board on DredgIt's behalf, proposing if the board agreed to terminate the contract at no fault of DredgIt, it would drop "standby fees" of \$250 an hour but still demand that Millers Creek residents pay half of the demobilization fee – \$37,500 – to remove its equipment from the site.

The angry board decided to dispute the claim. In a letter written to DredgIt's lawyer by Flowers, the board stated it had done nothing to prevent DredgIt from completing the job and countersued to have the dredging company pay all attorney's fees for the tax district as well as \$336,000, the cost of having another company finish the job. They also demanded liquidated damages due to a clause in the contract that states for every day DredgIt is late past the contract date of January 31, DredgIt would pay \$450 a day as a penalty.



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Rare valuables and tangible assets are a hedge against turbulent times

The price of gold has skyrocketed to a record high causing both buyers and sellers of the precious metal to take advantage of the good deals that Bill Hatchett at A-Coin can offer.

Hatchett, a leading expert in coins, paper currency, and watches both in Northeast Florida and throughout the United States, is looking to trade cold hard cash for gold, silver, coins, watches, diamonds, jewelry, rare currency – Civil War notes, modern and national bank notes – as well as antique and modern firearms.

With the price of gold and silver soaring, a long line of customers looking to trade heirlooms and other precious items is often waiting for Hatchett to open the doors of his shop at 6217 St. Augustine Road each morning. “Gold is at an all-time record high. It’s the highest it’s ever been in the world since the beginning of time,” he said. “People

are selling to take advantage of the high prices. We are actually buying more items than we are selling, but that’s fine. Because of the extremely high prices, people are taking advantage of it and reaping a windfall,” he said.

In these unsettled times, people of all ages are both looking to invest in something tangible such as gold, or unload items that may be collecting dust around the house, items that have been in the family for years that they may not know the value of.

“Rare currency and coins have been a good value now. Certified coins are popular. I think people now want to have a tangible investment, something they can hold in their hand. The stock market goes up and down, but of late has been stagnant. I think there is more of an upside to precious metals,” Hatchett said. “Rolex watches are hot as a firecracker and a good investment right now. We can’t keep them in stock.”

Also, worth checking out is rare currency, called national currency that was printed from 1865 to 1935 and perhaps issued on Jacksonville banks that are now out of business or were absorbed by other banks. Some of those notes are extremely rare and now worth between \$50,000 and \$100,000 apiece. “I think there are a lot of hidden gems in this city that are owned by people who have no idea what the value could be,” he said. There are lots of items out

there that people would be shocked to know they own, they could hold on to, or they could sell for a hefty return.

Hatchett once purchased a rare note of currency from the vice president of the former Barnett Bank, a man whose father was president of the bank. He is also aware of a rare \$10 bill that surfaced recently that was distributed by the First National Bank of Jasper, a small North Florida town near the Georgia border, which is an hour or so away from Jacksonville. It was worth \$50,000. “There’s good stuff out there, and people don’t know what they have,” he said.

So, if you have gold or a silver tea service, silver flatware, old jewelry, coins, diamonds, or a spare Rolex watch hanging around your attic, vault box, or in your dresser drawers, bring them over to A-Coin & Stamp Gallery, Inc. “I think there are unearthed treasurers out there. Remember, gold is at its all-time high, ever,” Hatchett said.

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“I think people now want to have a tangible investment, something they can hold in their hand. The stock market goes up and down, but of late has been stagnant. I think there is more of an upside to precious metals.”

– Bill Hatchett



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First link of Emerald Trail to break ground this fall

Groundwork Jacksonville unveiled the design of the Emerald Trail Model Project — the first segment of the Emerald Trail linking Brooklyn to the S-Line Rail Link through LaVilla on June 18. Construction of the project, named the “LaVilla Link,” will begin this fall and take a year to complete at an estimated construction cost of \$3.9 million.

“Our guiding principles are to design a beautiful, low-maintenance amenity that connects and honors our historic neighborhoods, incorporates green infrastructure wherever possible, and creates a safe habitat for birds, bees, pedestrians and bicyclists,” said Kay Ehas, CEO of Groundwork Jacksonville.

From Park and Stonewall streets in Brooklyn, the 1.3-mile LaVilla Link crosses over the Park Street Bridge and heads north along Lee Street. It then turns west at Church Street and meanders northward across Beaver Street until reaching the S-Line Rail Trail at Wilcox Street and State Street in the Railyard District.

The 14-foot-wide concrete pedestrian/bicycle trail is designed for both active and passive recreation with abundant shade trees and native plantings. It features several signature points of interest like the Park Street Bridge and the Lee Street Pond, where users may pause and reflect. In addition, the trail will honor the LaVilla neighborhood through wayfinding, storyboards and public art installations while connecting to the historic landmarks, Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing Park and Florida C. Dwight Memorial Playground (Park).

The 30-mile Emerald Trail is a public-private partnership between the City of Jacksonville and Groundwork that will connect 14 historic urban neighborhoods to downtown, the St. Johns River, McCoy’s Creek, and Hogans Creek when completed by 2029. Design of the next two segments, Hogans Street and the S-Line Connector, will begin later this summer.

“We are one step closer to creating an amenity unlike any other in our city,” said Mayor Lenny Curry. “The Emerald Trail will promote historic communities, physical activity and wellness, and Jacksonville’s natural beauty. I remain grateful for the leadership of the Groundwork Jacksonville team and the contributions of the donors.”



Groundwork has raised nearly \$1,000,000 for the Emerald Trail design from private donations. Major funders to date include VyStar Credit Union, the Delores Barr Weaver Fund, the David C. Miller Fund, Michael Ward and Jennifer Glock Foundation, The Law Firm of Pajcic & Pajcic, the Pajcic family, and JTC Running.

The LaVilla Link of the Emerald Trail was designed by Pond, a full-service architecture, engineering, planning and construction firm based in Atlanta, with offices in Jacksonville. Pond has designed and implemented more than 400 miles of greenway

and multi-use trail projects throughout the south including work on the Atlanta BeltLine. “Our goal with this project is to connect people to place,” said Daniel Ashworth, Jr., AICP, RLA, ASLA, Pond’s project manager. “The trail represents an emerald thread weaving together the gems that are our urban core neighborhoods. So, while the design is contemporary, it offers opportunities to celebrate the history and culture of Brooklyn and LaVilla.”

The LaVilla Link Model Project is part of the Emerald Trail Master Plan that was developed by Groundwork Jacksonville and was adopted by City Council on March 26, 2019. The master plan was created in collaboration with the PATH Foundation and KAIZEN Collaborative and was privately underwritten by a donation from JTC Running (JTC) as well as through grants from Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) and the Giving Forward Community Endowment Fund at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida.

The Emerald Trail will link 16 schools, two colleges, and 21 parks among other



destinations like restaurants, retail, and businesses, with an additional 13 schools and 17 parks located within three blocks of the trail. A catalyst for neighborhood revitalization, economic development, recreation, tourism, mobility, and improved community health, the Emerald Trail intends to transform Jacksonville’s urban core.

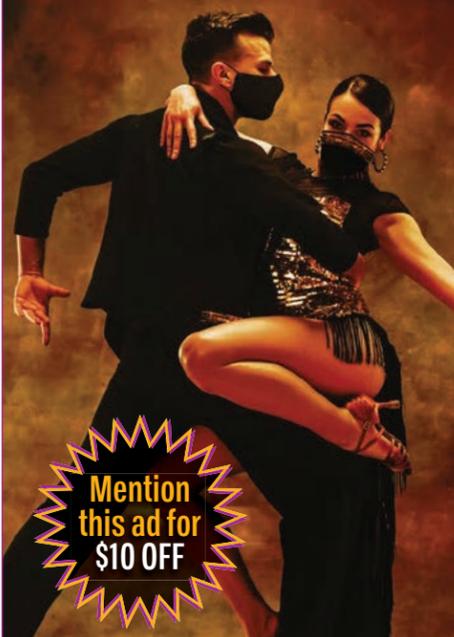


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Movers & Shakers

Couple finds love in The Salvation Army



Lt. Cornelius and Lt. Noldine Walton

The Salvation Army of Northeast Florida welcomed Lieutenants Cornelius and Noldine Walton into its ministry in Jacksonville on June 22.

Salvation Army Officers are transferred to different locations, typically every 3-4 years, and the Jacksonville appointment is the first for Lieutenants Cornelius and Noldine Walton as a married couple.

Cornelius Walton was commissioned in 2019 and appointed in Fort Lauderdale as the Associate Corps Officer. Noldine Walton was commissioned in June of 2018 and served her first two years in Naples, as the Associate Corps Officer.

Cornelius was born in Vicksburg, Miss., while his wife was born in Haiti. They met at the School for Officer's Training in 2018, got engaged in April 2019, and married on June 15, 2020. They said they both found true love with each other because of their mutual relationship with Christ. The newlyweds are passionate about serving people in need and excited to embark on this new journey creating a ministry together.

"It has been an amazing experience learning and truly having fun in what God called me to do," said Noldine. "We look forward to meeting the needs of this community and 'Doing the Most Good' alongside the staff, volunteers, and supporters of The Salvation Army."

The couple is responsible for all church programs at The Salvation Army including Youth Character Building Programs, Women and Men ministries, and leading the Jacksonville Citadel Corps.

"Many people don't realize that The Salvation Army is a church," said Cornelius. "We invite everyone to join us for Worship each Sunday at 11 a.m., at The Salvation Army, located at 900 W. Adams Street, here in Jacksonville. We look forward to meeting you soon!"



Dan and Ruthie Sharp with Ronni and Stewart Nagel

From white walls to a dolphin pod

Residents of The Peninsula on the Southbank have discovered that art has the power to transform weary, been-there settings into places that invite people to smile and stay awhile.

A team of four Peninsula residents led by Stewart Nagel, has transformed the ninth floor of the condominium building at 1431 Riverplace Blvd., which is undergoing structural repairs. Garden areas at the outer edges of the pool deck that once held magnolia

trees and colorful plantings had been replaced by white-walled spaces that remain closed until the construction is complete. White fences did little to enliven or inspire, until the team of big-brush painters saw them as large canvasses that could brighten the pool area.

Nagel, better known as "Stu," is a local artist extraordinaire who has taught art at the university level for 30 years. The team also included Nagel's wife, Ronni, and Ruthie and Dan Sharp. Nagel drew and outlined the images by taping the walls, then his team filled in the spaces with preselected-colors, like large paint-by-number images. Once the scenes were finished, the tape was removed, leaving six large mosaics. Throughout the three-day paint-in, the team wore masks and remained socially distant as they created whimsical images of a pod of dolphin swimming down river.

Community Foundation awards grants to help at-risk youngsters

The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida has made five grants from its Jacksonville Children's Endowment Fund to support service enhancement for at-risk youngsters between the ages of 0-6 years in the community.

Two grants of \$7,000 apiece will support the introduction of SAIL into Kindergarten, an evidence-based curriculum that addresses key content areas for rising at-risk kindergarteners at Crawford Early Learning Center, which is located at I.M. Sulzbacher Center for the Homeless, and All About Kids Childcare Center. The Florida Institute for Education (FIE) at the University of North Florida first developed and piloted the curriculum in Duval County, and FIE will be a partner to both childcare centers in delivering immersive learning in literacy, math, STEM, digital literacy, movement and family connection. Eighteen children at the Crawford Early Learning Center and 36 children at the All About Kids Childcare Center will be served.

Episcopal Children's Services (ECS) received a \$10,000 grant to equip children



Four happy children in last year's SAIL into Kindergarten program. Photo courtesy of the Florida Institute of Education at the University of North Florida

on the autism spectrum with deeper social-emotional, communication, and self-regulation skills by training their educators and families in a specialized module of conscious discipline.

Lutheran Services Florida, Inc. received a \$10,000 grant to implement a new parenting curriculum and family engagement tool called Ready Rosie. The program trains parents on principles of positive child discipline and supports them to engage in their child's school readiness transition to kindergarten. The project would support a

full-scale rollout possibly impacting 1,403 students served by LSF.

Duval County Public Schools' Early Childhood Education Department received a \$10,000 grant to provide customized summer learning kits to support rising kindergarteners with numeracy and literacy skills. DCPS analyzed the most recent Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener data (FLKRS) and mapped which childcare centers' students scored in the bottom third. The program would combine Parent Academy events to train parents on the use of the learning kits, with a total of 250 students served.

"These innovative programs are more important than ever to ensure continued progress in light of the disruption in early learning that took place this spring," said Emmanuel Fortune, program director for The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida. "We recognize that some of these programs will need to adapt to today's somewhat different environment, and we are offering maximum flexibility to the agencies so that they can fulfill the program objectives."



At-The-Table, A Florida Political Committee, Endorses Candidates For The August 18, 2020 Election.

Board of Directors 2020

Linda Lanier, Co-Chair
Connie Hodges, Co-Chair
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Edythe Abdullah
John (Jack) Allen
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Barbara Drake
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Gracie Simendinger
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Courtney Weatherby
Ellen Wiss

At-The-Table is a registered Florida political committee formed to assist qualified, accomplished women in North-East Florida to run for local and state office and win!

Recognizing women have not been equally representative of the population by numbers, in state and local politics, ATT was formed in 2016 to change that dynamic.

ATT's diverse Board of Directors interviews, financially supports, and endorses female candidates who have made the decision to offer themselves for public office. The reach of ATT is Duval, Nassau, St. John's, Clay, and Baker counties. This year they invited 12 candidates to complete questionnaires and interviews.

This year's group of candidates were excellent in so many ways....committed to their community, experienced leaders, and accomplished women in their own right. Our Board of Directors of AT-THE-TABLE are proud to endorse them and financially support them with the maximum donation allowed by the State of Florida.

— **Connie Hodges & Linda Lanier, Co-Chairs**

Please vote for the following excellent candidates.

Michelle Cook - Sheriff, Clay County
Kelly Coker - Duval County School Board Dist. 1
Lori Hershey - Duval Co. School Board, Dist. 7
Chris Hoffman - Mayor Jacksonville Beach
Ellen Glasser - Mayor Atlantic Beach
Nicole Hamm - Jacksonville City Council, Dist. 4
Miriam Rose Hill - Ocean Highway Port Authority, Nassau Co.
Tracie Davis - FL House, Dist. 13
Angie Nixon - FL House, Dist. 14

St. Johns welcomes new head of school



Valorie Baker

St. Johns Country Day School welcomed Valorie Baker as its eighth head of school effective July 1. St. Johns was founded in 1953 and is a founding member of the Florida Council of Independent Schools.

“The Board of Trustees is delighted to welcome Mrs. Baker to the St. Johns community as our eighth head of school,” said Rick Gregson, president of the school’s board of trustees. “We are confident that she will use her knowledge, breadth of experience, passion and spirit of teamwork to lead our school firmly and smoothly into the future.”

Baker returns to the Jacksonville area after previously working at other First Coast private schools. “Moving back to Jacksonville, and to St. Johns, feels like coming home,” said Baker, “and I am honored to be able to call the St. Johns community ‘family.’”

Baker joins St. Johns from the Webb School of Knoxville, Tenn., where, for the past three years she has served as the head of middle school, directing all aspects of a division of 300 students and 40 faculty and staff. Prior to the Webb School, she served at Miami’s Palmer Trinity School as director of Auxiliary Programs, and at Louisville Collegiate as director of Community Relations, and at two First Coast schools—the Episcopal School of Jacksonville as director of Counseling and Student Services, and The Bolles School as a college counselor.

Bishop Kenny graduate enters priesthood

Clay Ludwig, a graduate of Bishop Kenny class of 2011, was ordained as a priest in the Catholic church at The Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine on June 20.

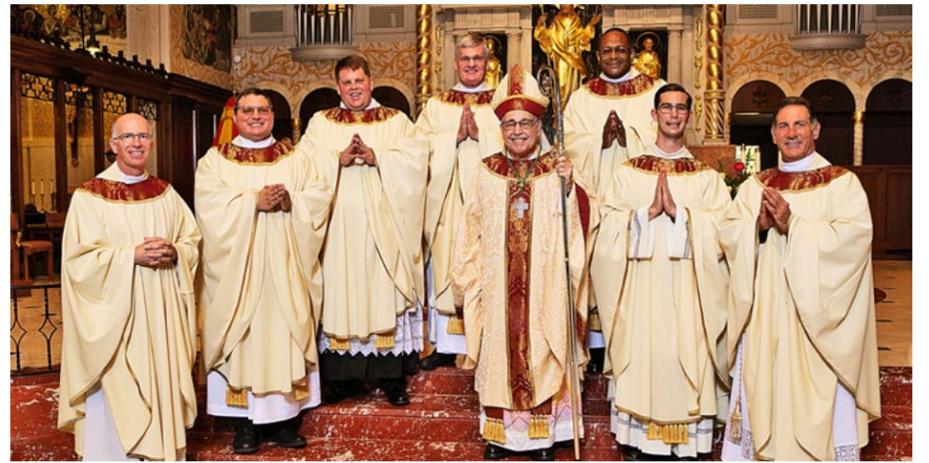
While serving as unofficial chaplain his senior year for Bishop Kenny’s football team Ludwig said he began listening to an inner voice that called him to the priesthood. “Maybe God is calling me to lead people for my entire life,” he said, noting that academics, athletics, and faith at his high school alma mater set him up for success. At Bishop Kenny he was a member of the wrestling team, president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and junior and senior class president, but was particularly influenced by the time he spent in chapel.

“I loved my time at Bishop Kenny,” said Fr. Ludwig, “and there is no substitution for daily mass and the availability of the sacraments, which was a true blessing for me.”

Now fluent in Italian, Spanish and English with multiple degrees under his belt, Ludwig found academics in high school especially challenging because he had difficulty verbalizing his thoughts due a stutter. Even at a



Fr. Clay Ludwig Photo courtesy of St. Augustine Catholic/Scott Smith



Bishop Felipe Estevez ordained Fr. Clay Ludwig and five others to the priesthood June 20. From left, Fr. Steven Zehler, director of vocations and seminarians; Fathers Jared DeLeo, Christopher Knight, Mason Wiggins, Bishop Felipe Estevez, Fathers Maurice Culver, Clay Ludwig, and Anthony Hamaty. Photo courtesy of St. Augustine Catholic/Scott Smith

young age, Ludwig worked tirelessly to persevere, and he credits that his mental strength came from his mother, Suzy Ludwig. Each day, his mother told him on the ride to school that he had important things to say and that people deserved to hear them. “Don’t let this stutter get in the way of you saying what you know you need to say,” he recalled her saying before they would recite aloud together a verse from the Bible, Philippians 4:13, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me,” and Timothy 3:14, “And God did not give you the spirit of fear but of power and love with a strong mind.”

Joining with former Student Council President Bobby Yarborough, as a student Ludwig had a large white cross placed on the Bishop Kenny river front as a symbol so people viewing the campus from downtown Jacksonville or the river would recognize Bishop Kenny as a Christian property. Thankful for a Bishop

Kenny education they wanted the class of 2011 to leave a dedicated mark for all future students, alumni, and guests.

A 2015 graduate of St. John Vianney College Seminary, Ludwig received his degree in philosophy with a minor in theology then advanced to the Pontifical North American College in Rome to continue his seminarian studies. Upon completion, Ludwig returned to the United States for his pastoral year. He later graduated from Pontifical Gregorian University with a bachelor’s degree of Sacred Theology. Currently a priest at St. Joseph Parish in Mandarin for two months, he will later return to Rome to complete his license in dogmatic theology.

Ludwig is looking forward to being a full-time Diocesan priest, and in his words, “bringing a continual joyful presence of the priesthood and bearing witness of Christ’s love for us to everyone.”

Veteran advertising firms merge

Two Jacksonville advertising firms joined forces in July to diversify services and grow clientele.

Mary Fisher, CEO of Fisher Design and Advertising, a longtime San Marco advertising and marketing firm, is joining forces with Erin Gordon, founder/CEO of Savvy Outsourcing, a nationally recognized digital marketing firm also based in San Marco. Together their cadre of creative and digital professionals provide the special expertise that can represent nearly all major industry sectors.



Erin Gordon



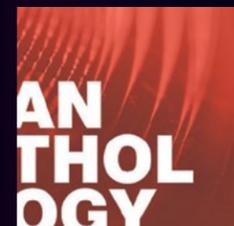
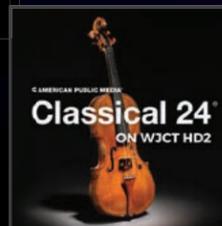
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MOSH names new trustees



Brian Bucher Brian Wolfburg Emily Rhodin



Jill Davis Khwaja Shaik



Lindsey Riggs Teneya Gholston Timothy Johnson

The Museum of Science & History (MOSH) welcomed eight new members to its Board of Trustees for three-year terms. The new members included Brian Bucher, Jill Davis, Teneya Gholston, Timothy Johnson, Emily Rhodin, Lindsey Riggs, Khwaja Shaik, and Brian Wolfburg.

The Board of Trustees also announced its new officers for two-year terms: Christian Harden, chair, managing partner at NAI Hallmark; Coley Jones, vice chair & chair-elect, senior vice president at Bank of America; Khwaja Shaik, vice chair, IBM Thought Leader at IBM Services; Justin Avery, treasurer, partner at KPMG; Leslie Scott Jean-Bart, assistant secretary, attorney at Terrell Hogan; Richard Lovelace, growth strategy chair, senior vice president at Stellar; Lisa Rinaman, governance chair, St. Johns Riverkeeper; and Parvez Ahmed, Ph.D., immediate past chair, professor of Finance, University of North Florida.

Three appointed to leadership positions at The Bolles School

In the wake of the expected retirement of two long-time campus heads, the 2020-21 school year will bring new leadership to both the Bolles Lower School Whitehurst and Ponte Vedra Beach campuses.

Christy P. Lusk, incoming head of school on the Bolles Lower School Whitehurst Campus, will take over for Carol Imfeld, while Stacey Hendershot, the new Bolles Lower School Ponte Vedra Beach campus head, will fill the position vacated by retiring Peggy Campbell-Rush.

Meanwhile, Kila McCann has been hired as Bolles new dean of admissions and financial aid. She will replace Scott Smith.

Lusk comes to Bolles with more than 20 years of experience as a teacher and senior administrator, most recently as assistant head of school at The Bright School, a Pre-K through Grade 5 independent school in Chattanooga, Tenn. She has directed many initiatives including faculty professional development and evaluation, student enrichment and academic support and budget management and is a believer in family relationships and rigorous, child-centered curriculum.

Lusk has an Ed.D in School Improvement and Ed.S in educational technology, as well as an M.Ed. in early childhood education from the University of West Georgia and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Hendershot brings the same high level of experience and dedication to the school community. She was most recently the assistant head of lower school at Carrollwood Day School in Land-O-Lakes, Florida. In this role, she has served two lower school campuses and led the school's lower division with scheduling, curriculum, professional development evaluation and diversity inclusion initiatives. Her more extended background, however, is as an independent and public-school educator in Florida and Michigan, where she taught first, second, fourth and fifth grades as well as literacy and math



Kila McCann



Christy Lusk



Stacey Hendershot

intervention. Hendershot has a master's degree in elementary education from Marygrove College and a Bachelor of Arts in education from Central Michigan University.

In the wake of 2020's "new normal," the Bolles Office of Admission is also welcoming a new face. Following Dean of Admission and Financial Aid Scott Smith's announced departure this fall, the school conducted a national search and hired McCann, director of admission & financial aid/director of enrollment management at Fountain Valley School in Colorado Springs, Colo. There, McCann was a central member of the school's culture and led a team of five admission officers tasked with increasing enrollment through outreach and partnership with the school's advancement department.

Closer to home, McCann spent many years as an administrator in several key roles at Darlington School in Rome, Ga. Prior to her time in Georgia, McCann worked in admission and international development positions at Fulford Academy School of English Boarding Preparatory and St. Lawrence College in Brockville, Ontario, Canada. She received her B.A. in business, marketing & public relations at St. Lawrence College in Canada and a B.S. in human services, psychology, at Shorter University in Georgia.

Teach For America welcomes new board members



Cindy Reynolds

Kevin Hyde



Riley Keys

Elizabeth Thompson

Teach For America welcomed four new members to its Regional Advisory Board, with three-year terms beginning with the 2020-2021 school year. The new members are Riley Keys, general manager at Fanatics, Inc.; Cindy Reynolds, senior vice president and chief philanthropy officer at Baptist Health Foundation; Elizabeth Thompson, executive vice president and chief people officer at Southeastern Grocers; and Kevin Hyde, managing partner of the Foley & Lardner Jacksonville Office.

"All four of these individuals have demonstrated outstanding leadership in business and within the community," stated Lakeisha Palmer, Teach For America

Jacksonville's executive director. "We are excited for the opportunity to learn from their unique perspectives and look forward to their increased engagement as we collectively work to reach educational excellence and equity."

Teach For America works in partnership with communities to expand educational opportunity for children facing the challenges of poverty. Founded in 1990, Teach For America recruits and develops a diverse corps of outstanding college graduates and professionals to make an initial two-year commitment to teach in high-need schools and become lifelong leaders in the movement to end educational inequity.



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Woman's Club awards scholarships to worthy students



Alison Johnson



Ashley Cyrus



Autumn Transue



Emma Flaire



Hannah Corbat



Jana Ngyyen



Jazmin White



Shelby Galligher



Tasha Koller



Susan Conyers



Madison Kozee

Although it was unable to hold its annual scholarship luncheon due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the Woman's Club of Jacksonville continued with its mission, to award 11 deserving young women scholarships to the colleges of their choice.

Chaired by Nancy Chamblin of San Marco, who headed the philanthropic committee, the club honored each deserving student with a \$2,000 scholarship. The scholarship winners received their checks via the U.S. Mail. A celebration of their accomplishments will be held later date.

As the time to set out on a new chapter of their lives is about to begin, some scholarship winners are waiting to hear from their respective colleges whether or not they will actually be on campus, taking courses from their schools on line, or having a different adventure in college living.

Florida State College at Jacksonville will welcome the following young women:

Susan Conyers and Shelby Galligher, nursing; Hannah Corbat, Associate of Arts & Bachelor of Science degree; Kylie Kooler, business.

Recipients attending other schools included: Ashley Cyrus, the University of South Florida (USF), education; Emma Flaire, Eckard College, marine science and studio arts; Allison Johnson, Florida Southern University, psychology; Madison Kozee, USF, physics; Jana Ngyyen, University of North Florida, exercise science; Autumn Transue, Baptist College of Florida, elementary education; Jazmine White, Florida A & M University, pharmacy.

For more information about the Woman's Club, please visit the website: <http://womansclubofjacksonville.org>.

Barnes joins Historical Society board



Kristanna B. Barnes

Kristanna Broward Barnes was welcomed as a new member of the Jacksonville Historical Society Board of Directors during its meeting in May.

Barnes, who is the daughter of the late Robert Broward, a noted Jacksonville architect, and the late Marjorie Broward, is co-owner of Wick: A Candle Bar in San Marco. Her passion for Jacksonville has been passed down through generations of the Broward family, who have called the River City home since 1764.

"Both of my parents instilled in me a sense of duty to ensure that Jacksonville both preserves its history while at the same time learns from the past to create a better city and society for future generations," said Barnes, a Granada resident and seventh generation native who has spent her career advocating for the betterment of the Jacksonville community through her involvement in education, healthcare, and property development/rehabilitation efforts.

A longtime proponent for public education, Barnes has served since 1991 on a wide variety of boards and associations including the Duval County School Board (2000-2008), the Florida School Boards Association (2002-2007), several parent teachers associations (1991-2002), and The Board Institute for School Boards (2003-2008), among others. She has also served on the boards of the Jacksonville Symphony, the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, the Schultz Center for Teaching and Leadership, and the Alliance for World Class Education.

Barnes has been a member of the Jacksonville Community Council, Inc. (JCCI), the Children's Commission, and the Duval County Joint Planning Committee. Additionally, she was a member of the Duval County Construction Trades Qualifying Board. She currently serves on the City of Jacksonville's Value Adjustment Board and is engaged in property development and rehabilitation.

Leadership Jacksonville announces board of directors

Leadership Jacksonville, an organization that educates, connects, and inspires diverse leaders to build and to strengthen their communities, announced its board of directors for 2020-2021 on June 29.

Elected as board president was Bruce Fafard, chief operating officer with the Museum of Science and History (MOSH). Joining him as top board officers were President-elect Kathy Miller, senior vice president of Financial Services and Tax for Regency Centers Corporation and Secretary/Treasurer Ron Pellum, president of Ennis, Pellum & Associates, CPAs. Chuck Hedrick, a retired partner with Foley & Lardner LLP is the immediate past president.

"Leadership Jacksonville has a long history in Northeast Florida of engaging current and emerging leaders in the issues that impact our community by providing a forum for learning and civil dialogue. It is this engagement that not only expands our collective understanding but something that is needed now, perhaps more than ever," said Fafard



Bruce Fafard



Kathy Miller



Ron Pellum

Also serving on the board will be Mary Fisher, president/owner, Mary Fisher Design; Helen Jackson, pastor, Prince Chapel AME Church; Debbie Johnson, director of Operations, St. John's Cathedral; Mincy Pollock, owner/founder, Florida Care Assurance Group; Sandy Ramsey, retired from Acosta Sales & Marketing; and Mark Sirota, vice president of Finance, Jacksonville Jaguars.

"With a continuation of outstanding leaders, we are ready for another year, preparing adult and youth leaders to make a difference in our community," said Leadership Jacksonville Chief Executive Officer Jill Langford Dame.

To learn more about Leadership Jacksonville and its programs, visit www.leadershipjax.org or call (904) 396-6263.



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Gary and Nancy Chartrand donate \$200,000 for new Morning Star fitness center

Morning Star School, the only special education school in the Diocese of St. Augustine serving K-12 children with learning and intellectual differences, will soon break ground on a new fitness center thanks to a \$200,000 donation from the Gary and Nancy Chartrand Advised Fund.

“We are extremely grateful to the Chartrand family for helping us make this important addition to our campus,” said Morning Star School Director of Development Maria Johnson. “It has never been more important to teach our students how to stay fit and healthy in a fun outdoor atmosphere. It is an important part of a positive learning experience, especially in our current pandemic environment.

While all students at Morning Star School will use the outdoor fitness center, Johnson said it will be specifically designed for the older students – since the school already has a playground geared to the needs of the younger students. The project will include an open fitness field with artificial turf, exercise equipment including parallel parts, a square pull-up station and a ‘double turbo challenge’ area – along with the construction of a three-foot retaining wall at the rear of the property. It also provides a huge open field for all types of play.

“We feel strongly that the excellence that Morning Star School provides in the classroom should be available to

students when they are outside as well,” said Nancy Chartrand in regard to the gift made from the Gary and Nancy Chartrand Advised Fund at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida. “Having a state-of-the-art outdoor fitness area will not only meet the needs and unique abilities of these young people, but it will encourage healthy activities and habits that are so important in life.”

Johnson noted that the students at Morning Star School also assisted in fundraising for the outdoor fitness center – with junior and senior high school students participating in a fundraiser selling Spanky’s Gourmet Pickles to help raise funds for the project.

“This time of uncertainty we just faced with COVID-19 is a great example of why the fitness center area is of great importance,” said ‘Coach’ Natalie Bryan, a physical education teacher at Morning Star. “Stress is inevitable and, as it varies for individuals old and young, the fitness center contributes to good health and helps to address stress, even now. Also, students who maintain their fitness and good health are more likely to become active healthy adults – improving student learning while reducing obesity and participation in high-risk behaviors, as well.”

Permitting is now under way for the project, with construction scheduled to begin later this year.



A rendering of the playground equipment to be installed in the new outdoor fitness center to be built at Morning Star School.



The location of the new outdoor fitness center that will be built at Morning Star School thanks to a \$200,000 donation from Gary and Nancy Chartrand

The school, which shifted to virtual learning only for all students in March, plans to open on Monday, August 10 for the 2020-21 school year offering a hybrid-learning model of in-person and virtual education.

Josserand comes out of retirement to join Spark

Dave Josserand of San Marco has joined Spark advertising agency as chief strategic officer.

After a career in radio management for Nationwide Communications and Prism Radio, then 20 years helping grow the Dalton Agency into one of the top ad agencies in the Southeast, Josserand returned to the agency business when he joined Spark, a Jacksonville-based agency.

In his role as chief strategic officer, Josserand oversees development of strategic marketing and communications campaigns for clients to align with their business goals and leads Spark’s account management team. He will leverage his experience in analyzing market insights, trends, and consumer behavior to engage clients’ target audiences and support sales strategies. He also leads Spark’s business development initiatives, including securing new business and staff development.

Josserand came to Jacksonville 1993 as vice president/general manager of Prism



Dave Josserand

Radio Partners, which owned four Jacksonville radio stations and launched the Jaguars’ Radio Network. After joining Dalton in 1997, Josserand became a partner and group president until he took early retirement at the end of 2017. During his 20 years with Dalton,

the agency grew from 10 employees in one office to nearly 100 employees and offices in Jacksonville, Atlanta, and Nashville. As group president, Josserand managed the largest group of McDonald’s co-ops in the Southeast with more than 800 restaurants, 100 franchisees and \$2.3 billion in sales.

In addition to media and agency work, Josserand served as chairman of the national board of directors of the American Heart Association from 2008-2009 and currently serves in that role for the Alliance for a Healthier Generation. He was also vice president of Development for the Central/North Florida Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association, and has served as president of the San Marco-based Ronald McDonald House Charities.



Jane Scofield

MOSH names new CFO

The Museum of Science & History (MOSH) announced the appointment of Jane Scofield as its chief financial officer July 8. Scofield has

more than 20 years of experience in finance as a certified public accountant licensed in the state of New Mexico, a chartered global managerial accountant, and a certified fraud examiner.

“We are excited for Jane to join us in our work to fulfill our mission of inspiring the joy of lifelong learning by bringing to life the sciences and regional history,” said Maria Hane, MOSH president. “Jane brings numerous years of experience to the museum; she is a financial expert and a business leader in our community. Her knowledge and proven record of leadership will elevate MOSH to new heights, so we can better serve Northeast Florida and the region.”

Scofield most recently served as the chief financial officer for 121 Financial Credit Union where she was responsible for the accounting, finance, and human resources teams. She was also responsible for ensuring the onboarding and offboarding process, training, and everything finance. Prior to that, Scofield was the principal and director of business advisory services at Ennis, Pllum & Associates, CPAs where she had a wide variety of business clients.

Scofield earned a Master of Business Administration in accounting from the University of New Mexico and her Bachelor of Arts degree in health issues casework from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. She volunteers in the community and serves on many boards including the Jacksonville Housing Finance Authority, the JAX Chamber, and is a founder of the Access to Capital JAX Bridges program for entrepreneurs. In 2019, she was selected as an honoree for the annual United Way’s Women United Leadership Giving campaign.



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West Jax Rotary names new officers, board members

Dan Maloney, past president of the West Jacksonville Rotary Club recently handed over the gavel to incoming President Mary Pat Wallmeyer as the club installed new officers in early July for the upcoming 2020-2021 year.

Wallmeyer, who has been a member of the club for eight years, works as manager of procurement and grants for the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation. "Our club has a rich history of service above self," she said, noting the club was founded by two titans of service to the community, Robert Shircliff and W.W. Gay, both of whom passed away earlier this year. "It's a huge honor for me to carry on the tradition," she said.

This year the club's goal is to renovate the Miracle League Baseball Grounds for disabled individuals at Lew Brantly Park on 118th Street, Wallmeyer said. "Our club originally built the facility from the ground up back in 2003-2007. It is named after one of our members."

Joining Wallmeyer as club officers this year will be Vice President Ike Sherlock of Total Distribution, Inc.; Treasurer Eric Sherlock, Department of Defense-State Liaison Office; Secretary GiGi Carroll of



Dan Maloney, past president of the West Jacksonville Rotary, receives a plaque recognizing his service from West Jacksonville Rotary President Mary Pat Wallmeyer

Jacksonville Electric Authority; Sargeant of Arms Dane Jensen of W.W. Gay; and Past President Dan Maloney, deputy director and director of Animal Care and Conservation of the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens.

The Club's Board of Directors will be comprised of Phil Voss, Logistic Services International, U.S. Navy, retired; William Milne of U.S. Bank; Carter Rosenbloom, SaniGLAZE International; Rahul Sharma, The Bolles School; and Tim Johnson, Jacksonville Police and Fire Pension Fund.

DeFoor named chair of Resiliency Committee

District 14 Councilwoman Randle DeFoor of Avondale has been named chairman of Jacksonville's Special Committee on Resiliency for the upcoming legislative year. She took over the chairman's position from At-Large Group 4 City Councilman Matt Carlucci of San Marco.



Randle DeFoor

In a memorandum dated June 30, Jacksonville City Council President Tommy Hazouri confirmed his support for the continuation of the resiliency committee, and in a meeting July 14, Carlucci, welcomed DeFoor's appointment. In addition to Carlucci and DeFoor, Councilmembers Michael Boylan, Garrett Dennis, and Joyce Morgan will sit on the committee.

The Committee also established the creation of three subcommittees so that it can submit a report of its findings by its June 30, 2021. The subcommittees include the Environmental Planning subcommittee, the Infrastructure and Continuity of Operations for Essential Services subcommittee and the Education, Protection of Local Neighborhoods and Community Outreach subcommittee.

The Environmental Planning subcommittee will be chaired by Brooks Andrews, board chair of the Riverside Avondale Preservation. His committee will focus on environmental shocks – hurricanes and storm events – as well as sea level rise and will provide input related to how Jacksonville can better protect local communities in relation to those hazards.

The Infrastructure and Continuity of Operations for Essential Services subcommittee will be chaired by Dennis and will focus on critical infrastructure within Duval County, such as bridges, hospitals, grocery stores, roadways, and drainage systems.

The Education, Protection of Local Neighborhoods, and Community Outreach subcommittee will be chaired by Morgan. It will focus on ways where the City of Jacksonville can better inform its citizens through community engagement efforts.

The Special Committee on Resiliency encourages support and suggestions from local community groups related to the resiliency and betterment of Jacksonville and encourages attendance at upcoming resiliency committee and subcommittee meetings.



Demico takes over as Clarke School director

Cynthia Robinson, co-director of Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech is retiring and her partner, Co-director Alisa Demico, is taking over as the sole director of the school.

Demico has been at Clarke School for 22 years and has served as co-director of the nonprofit's southernmost location at 9803 Old St. Augustine Road since 2011. As co-director, she led Clarke Florida's team of speech-language pathologists, provided director services to children and families, collaborated, and

built strong relationships with external partners, and managed grant projects.

Meanwhile, Robinson will continue to serve the school part-time by supporting students and families as Clarke Florida's Coordinator of Child and Family Services.

Demico holds a bachelor's and master's degree from West Virginia University. She is the co-author of the Picture-Perfect Preschool and has presented and partnered with national organizations and publications, including the

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, OPTION Schools, the Hearing Review and more.

Demico will oversee programs and services offered in-person and virtually. Clarke Florida annually serves more than 200 students and their families from birth to age 7 through early intervention, preschool/ kindergarten, mainstream and speech and language services.

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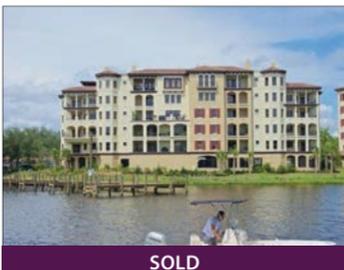
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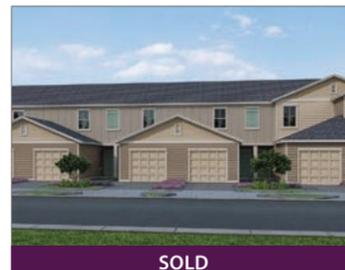
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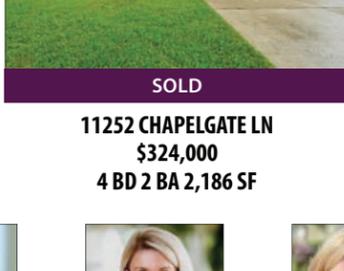
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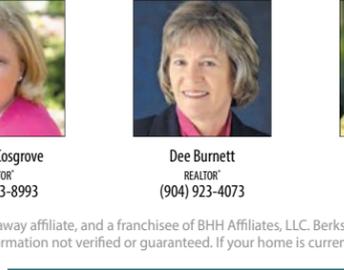
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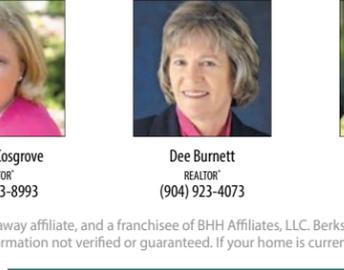
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Argie Mitra

Fashion stylist and designer

Most people see shop towels and think of them as rags, something to wipe off their hands or clean up a mess.

Then there's Argie Mitra. As a little girl, she found some of the towels in her dad's garage, but she didn't see rags: She saw fashion. Specifically, she envisioned a beautiful, blue ball gown, like Cinderella would wear.

"I used to watch my grandma sew and make dresses for me. But I didn't know how to sew. I was 5 years old!" she laughs. Using little more than tape and her imagination, Mitra designed her very first piece. "I didn't really know what I was doing," she says, "but I really knew I wanted my [Barbie] dolls to wear those dresses!"

Mitra's passion for all things fashion continued into high school where she designed and made costumes for the Bishop Kenny's theater department. She even made it her course of study at Jacksonville University graduating with a degree in art and minor in costume design.

Over the years, Mitra's created three complete collections which she debuted in Jacksonville. And in 2016, she won Best Designer in the Jacksonville Magazine Fashion Project, the most prestigious fashion competition in Northeast Florida. She's worked as a stylist, designer and seamstress on countless projects for print media, commercials, runway shows, and TV and movie productions and created custom designs for clients. More recently, she worked aboard a cruise ship fitting costumes and making alterations for the cast of stage performers. And, if that's not cool enough, the job enabled her to visit Barcelona, Morocco, Rome and Trinidad, to name a few stops, and cruise along the Amazon River.

Mitra, who describes her personal style as "sexy grandma" for her love of vintage patterns and lace—while showing a little skin – loves the creative process and being able to tell a story visually through fashion. But to her, the true joys of being a stylist and designer are helping others.

"I help people feel better about themselves," she says. Whether it's fine tuning their image by helping them break out of a fashion rut with her creative and collaborative



style, Mitra makes clients look their best so they can feel their best. (Her sheer ebullience alone is enough to improve anyone's mood!)

As further proof of her desire to give back, she has designed and sewed about 3,000 masks during the COVID-19 pandemic—with half of those donated to Community Hospice of Northeast Florida. And she's still selling and donating masks through her Etsy store @dressmitra.

"What makes my job cool is having the opportunity to be creative, make scraps into magic," she says, "and being able to influence the way people think about dressing and developing their own personal style."

Cool Jobs

By Kerry Speckman, Resident Community News

Brian Miller

Director of brewery operations, Bold City Brewery

Brian Miller was content at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida. He wasn't in the market for a new career. But then he took up a hobby that would change his life.

"About 20 years ago, I decided I was going to learn how to brew beer," Miller recalls. He had always enjoyed baking and preparing barbecue for family and friends, so it seemed like a natural extension of his culinary creativity and way to entertain family and friends – those of the legal drinking age, of course. After visiting a local home brew shop, he says, "I got a book and just did it."

Making that first batch, he says, was overwhelming. By batch number three, the kitchen was declared a disaster area and Miller's wife, Robin, banned him from the premises. Undaunted, he built a three-tiered, gravity-fed brewing system and continued to hone his craft in the garage.

Friends and family soon became craft beer converts, showing up at his house for his home brews. The fact it was such a hit inspired him even more. By 2008, Brian and his mother Susan, had both resigned from Blue Cross Blue Shield and opened Bold City Brewery in Riverside.

In the early days, Miller was the brewmaster. Serving patrons from the production tap room, he enjoyed challenging their preconceived notions of craft brews and beer in general. Even today, when someone states they don't like beer, his response is they just haven't found a beer they like ... yet. And though he isn't as hands-on in the brewing department as he once was, he still enjoys introducing beer naysayers to new flavor profiles like raspberry lambics, vanilla cinnamon stouts, or one of the 15 other brews Bold City has on draft in the tap room.

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What do a fashion designer, brewer, newspaper editor and marketing/events manager have in common? They all enjoy their jobs and get up each day excited for another day at work. Meet Argie Mitra, Brian Miller, Marcia Hodgson and Stephanie Lynn who are fortunate to have some of the "coolest" jobs around and nothing but love for what they do.



Stephanie Lynn

Senior marketing manager, concerts and events, Bold Events/Jacksonville Jaguars

Stephanie Lynn remembers her very first show as marketing manager at Jacksonville Veterans Arena. Having previously worked at the 1,800-seat Thrasher-Horne Center for the Performing Arts in Orange Park, she was used to escorting photographers to the media section at concerts but nothing on the scale of a sold-out Chris Stapleton show at a 15,000-seat venue.

That night, she says she was so excited to be in the pit that she wasn't paying attention and stood directly in front of a stack of speakers. When Stapleton strummed that first chord to start the show, the sheer volume nearly knocked her down. Add to that the roar of thousands of people clapping and cheering, and it was a moment she will never, ever forget.

"I felt the vibration of the guitar and the arena full of screaming fans go right through me. I had goosebumps all over my body," she recalls. "And in that one second, I felt more alive than I ever had at any job before. It was so thrilling!"

Last July, Lynn succeeded in upping the ante, yet again, when she became the first-ever senior marketing manager for concerts and events with Bold Events, a sister company

of the Jacksonville Jaguars. Her very first show at TIAA Bank Field? The Rolling Stones' "No Filter" Tour.

As senior marketing manager, Lynn creates marketing strategies for non-football-related events at the stadium and Daily's Place amphitheater, including advertising budgets and buys, as well as social media and non-traditional promotions. To promote the Rolling Stones show, for example, she envisioned a grassroots plan with concert signage at City Hall, "painting" the band's signature tongue logo on sidewalks, producing teaser videos (featuring Jaguars players, no less) and getting Mayor Lenny Curry to proclaim Rolling Stones Day in Jacksonville.

While Lynn admits her ultimate responsibility is "to put butts in seats," she believes marketing is so much more than that. "I want to sell tickets, but I also want to find out ways to connect with our audiences," she says. "I consider music important. It's not just fluff. And I truly believe music saves lives. I know it's saved mine."

The only uncool thing about her job, she says, is herself. Having worked with Luke Bryan, James Taylor, and Lionel Richie, to name a few, Lynn admits to some internal fan "girling" over the years. Like the time she was standing backstage for a meet and greet and looked up to see Keith Richards looking right back at her. "Then here comes Ron and Charlie and Mick Jagger," she laughs, "I'm having to be cool and not freak out. So, I was texting someone to look busy, but inside I was screaming like a teenage girl."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21



As cool as it is to see the beer he helped create on shelves at Publix, Winn-Dixie and Target or hear someone ordering a Duke's or Killer Whale at Longhorn Steakhouse, Busch Gardens or Aloft Hotels, Miller says the real rush of owning a business is spending more time with his family.

"I'm much more involved in my boys' lives now," he says. "I've been able to go to school functions and even coach baseball. It gives me a sense of freedom I've never had." Miller also gets to work with his wife Robin, mom Susan, brother Kevin and sister Jennifer, along with long-time employees who have become family over the years.

And while Miller is the first to admit, there are plenty of ups and downs with owning a business – especially during a pandemic – every set back and challenge has made Bold City Brewery's success all the more sweet. Plus, he says, "I get paid to do what I love."



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Cool Jobs

Marcia Hodgson

Managing editor, Resident Community News Group

Some writers spend their whole lives trying to get their big break in a national publication. Marcia Hodgson is not one of those people.

Growing up, Hodgson had always been creative. She was especially good at writing, so much so her friends frequently sought out her help with school assignments. While writing and editing might have come easily to her, she chose political science as her major at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Once enrolled, it wasn't long before Hodgson found herself editing papers again but for college journalism students. Only this time, it piqued her interest so much she decided to sign up for a journalism course.

In taking the introductory class in basic reporting, she felt as if someone had pressed her "on" button, and she excelled in the class. In fact, her professor thought the second article she wrote, a story about an all-female collegiate crew, was so well-written she should submit it to *The Washington Post*. Although they didn't publish it, they did offer her a part-time job in the sports department. Later, she took an investigative reporting course and wrote the lead story of an award-winning five-part series which was published on the front of the *Post's* Sunday Real Estate section. It was her first byline and was printed on her college graduation day. Seriously, how cool is it to write for one of the leading newspapers in the country—when you haven't even graduated from college yet?

After graduation, Hodgson continued working as a sports writer, reporter, photographer, and editorial designer at publications as diverse as *The Day* in New London, Conn., *The Milford Cabinet* in New Hampshire, *Anchorage Daily News* in Alaska, *The Christian Science Monitor* in Boston, and *The Beaches Leader* in Jacksonville Beach and has covered everything from local sewer district meetings, U.S. presidential campaigns, and Olympic athletes. She even won a couple of awards from the Alaska Press Association. Yet never one to rest on her laurels, Hodgson returned to school in 2013 and earned a Master of Fine Arts degree in creative writing from the University of Tampa.

In 2015 she started with *The Resident Community News* as a freelance writer and rose up the ranks to managing editor of both editions overseeing nearly every facet of editorial production. In addition to her own interviews, articles, and photography, she supervises all freelance writers, including assigning, proof reading and editing stories. She attends countless meetings and special events, coordinates layout and design with the graphic artist and works with the publishers to determine which stories they cover. She also serves as managing editor of the company's annual *Historic Life Community & Newcomers Guide* and *Circles Social Datebook & Charity Register*.



Marcia Hodgson with Martha Baker

Hodgson admits that writing for a community newspaper may not sound as exciting as some of her previous positions, but she could not be happier with the way things turned out.

"I'd rather cover grass-roots community news than anything else. I love my job because the stories we cover are so local, and I get to meet so many different kinds people. You really get to know them and see that you can make a difference. We always try to shine a light on the good things happening here, the good deeds, the philanthropy, kids' bake sales..." Hodgson says. "I believe everyone has a story and something to say."

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Sinus, breathing issues vanish thanks to Turner Underseal

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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Jacksonville Classical Academy hosts first faculty luncheon

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

Faculty, staff, and board members of one of the city's newest charter schools, Jacksonville Classical Academy, mixed and mingled – albeit at a safe distance – for the first time over lunch at the new educational facility on Forest Street June 27. The luncheon provided an opportunity for the school's employees to get to know each other before they begin preparing for the school year in July, said Head of School Dr. David Withun. School is slated to begin August 10.



Jacksonville Classical Academy Head of School Dr. David Withun with Alexandria Spry, dean of students.

model the pursuit of wisdom and knowledge for our students. That is what defines a classical curriculum," Withun said. Latin and cursive writing are emphasized and very little technology is used in the school, although the facility will have two technology labs where children can learn to type, program, computer code and do research, said Kelly Chufo, school operations manager. "Our children will not be learning from videos and cell phones will be off during the day," she said, noting there will also be specialty rooms for ESE (exceptional student education), art music. In two to three years, the school will also expand further to include a gymnasium. "It's back to the basics."

"We're just thrilled that we're getting to the point where we're opening. Jacksonville Classical Academy offers a different alternative for people who are looking for a different choice in education," said Ambassador John Rood, chairman of Vestcor Companies, Inc., a trustee, and founder of the school. Rood noted the school is affiliated with Hillsdale College in Michigan, which models a classical liberal arts curriculum. "Obviously with this virus, things have slowed down a bit, but we've had tremendous interest in the school." The academy is drawing students from all over Duval County making for a rich diverse student body, Rood said.

"The reason this place is going to make a difference is its commitment to excellence, which is deep in the DNA of John Rood and deep in the DNA of Hillsdale College," said the Rev. Canon Allison DeFoor, a trustee.



Aaron Levine, third grade teacher with Remy Van Nostrand, Latin teacher, Ambassador John Rood, trustee, and Tajji Schmid, kindergarten teacher

More than 50 staff members, including 35 teachers, and five board members attended the luncheon. The diverse group of teachers had been hired from throughout the United States based on their ability to teach a classical curriculum, Withun said. "Most of us hadn't met each other, and a few were hired based on Zoom or phone calls so that even I haven't met them in person yet," he said.

Although the 90,000 square-foot facility can accommodate grades K-12 and 1,200 students, no more than 692 pupils in grades K-6 will be enrolled during the first year, he said, noting only the elementary school wing will be in use. "The children who start with us in sixth will move up next year," he said.

"What sets us apart are that our teachers are subject matter experts who are there to

Local artists display work at MOSH

Several artists from Jacksonville's historic districts have work on display at the Museum of Science and History.

The exhibit, "The Essence of Jacksonville," runs through Sept. 27. In it, the museum challenged artists from the Jacksonville Artists Guild (JAG) to create works that "reflect Jacksonville's unique identity." The resulting show, juried by MOSH Curator Paul Bourcier and Karen Lamoree, archivist and collections manager of the Beaches Museum, features the work of 15 artists from JAG, which represent the diverse and interesting aspects of the city.

Included among the artists are Pat Setser, "Cranes at Jaxport," Beth Hazlip "Treasures of Mayport," Midge Scelzo "Mayport Fishing Boats," Doug Johnson "Dawn Recovery," Greg



Lisa Loftin with "5 Points: A Round About Perspective."

Przbyasz "Main Street Bridge," Paul Ladnier "Fuller Warren Bridge," Pat Harris "Good to the Last Drop," Lisa Loftin "5 Points: A Round About Perspective," Jim Pearce "San Marco," Marlene Scheer "Guano Preserve," Mary Ann Miller "Jacksonville Skyline," Elizabeth Davis "Sailing on the St. John," Leslie Kruzicki "Heading Home," Peggy Harrell Jennings "My Jacksonville in Bits and Pieces," and Ron Episcopo "Full Stop Jacksonville."

The show, an interesting reflection of enduring moments of beauty and poignancy, represents many layers of the community in present and past times.

Landscape paintings by San Marco artist and environmentalist Allison Watson are also on display showing the natural beauty of local sites. Her show remains up through September 24.



Ron Episcopo with "Full Stop Riverside."



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Uncertain school year FROM PAGE 1

However, if the state doesn't grant an exception, Jacksonville could lose up to \$70 million in state funding.

"There is no winning in this," Greene said at the close of the School Board meeting July 23. "We are going to have to come together, do what we need to do. There wasn't a playbook written for this. It will be the team from the board to the classroom that will get us through this school year."

Catholic Schools

The Diocese of St. Augustine plans to open its schools on Wednesday, Aug. 19 with extensive sanitation protocols in place, including mandatory masks.

Originally, the diocese set Monday, Aug. 10 as the opening date, but delayed the resumption of classes to give all the schools time to make sure they had all the supplies to secure the safety of students, faculty, and staff in place, said Deacon Scott Conway, superintendent of schools.

The Diocesan COVID-19 Task Force and the Diocesan Council on Catholic Schools talked weekly with the school principals to develop the 300-page Return-to-School Plan.

The plan includes the protocols that will be implemented in all 39 schools in the 17-county diocese:

- All students, faculty and staff will wear masks, unless they are at least six feet apart.
- Social distancing will be practiced throughout the day and the number of students allowed in the hallways and bathrooms will be limited. And seating in the cafeterias will be arranged to allow for social distancing.
- Teachers will be trained to recognize symptoms. Any student with symptoms

will see the school nurse and will be sent home if they have a temperature of 100.4. They must self-quarantine for 14 days before returning to school.

- Frequently touched surfaces will be sanitized throughout the day.
- The buildings will be electrostatically sprayed daily.
- Visitors will not be allowed on campus.

"Safety is our number one concern in reopening our Catholic schools," Conway said. "Our protocols have been tested here in the diocese for the past five months."

The diocese's eight Early Learning Centers have remained open and implemented the protocols, with only one student testing positive.

"We have had a few students test positive during our summer workouts at the high school level, and we communicated with all parents/guardians regarding the positive tests," Conway said. "We have had no spread of the virus because of the same health and safety protocols."

The Bolles School

The Bolles School plans to resume on-campus classes Thursday, Aug. 13 but has prepared four scenarios to allow for online learning either part-time or full-time as conditions merit.

Students who opt for At-Home Learning can return the campus for the beginning of the second quarter on Thursday, Oct. 15.

Protocols will be in place for all four Bolles campuses, including mandatory masks and daily wellness checks. Classrooms have been arranged to allow for social distancing and in some cases have been relocated to larger spaces.

Students who take the bus will be screened when they get on the bus. And all buses will be sanitized routinely.

Boarding students must have a Coronavirus test before arriving at school. If they test positive, they must quarantine for 14 days off campus.

Class arrivals and departures will be staggered to limit the number of students in hallways and entrances. Hand sanitizers will be available through the schools and athletic fields.

Parents and visitors will not be allowed on campus.

Lunch breaks will be shorter, with 20 minutes allowed for small groups of students. Plexiglass and contact-free payment systems have been installed, and in some cases boxed lunches will be delivered to classrooms.

The Athletics Department is waiting for word from the Florida High School Athletic Association about the resumption of team sports. In anticipation, however, student athletes have begun conditioning with distancing and sanitizing protocols.

"After going through distance learning last spring and meeting all summer to review new protocols due to COVID-19, we are no longer responding to a crisis and are confidently pursuing a safe return to school," said Bolles President and Head of School Tyler Hodges.

The Episcopal Schools

The Episcopal Schools will return to campus Tuesday, Aug. 11 with synchronous Online Access for students who require it. Students will be screened upon arrival at each of the three campuses. Students with a fever will be asked to leave the campus. Any student who tests positive must quarantine for a minimum of 10 days but must also have three

consecutive days with no fever and improved symptoms before returning to school.

The mask policy for students at the Beaches and St. Mark's campuses is still being determined, but faculty and staff in contact with students must wear masks. Students, faculty, and staff at the Munneryn campus must wear masks.

Students at the Beaches and St. Mark's campuses will remain in their classrooms and teachers will rotate.

Furniture will be arranged for social distancing and students are required to sanitize their hands several times during the day.

Lunch breaks and chapel will be done in small groups to allow for social distancing.

Anyone traveling to high-risk areas or outside the United States must notify the school.

Athletics is waiting on guidance from the Florida High School Athletic Association, but students have begun conditioning and practices are expected to resume soon.

Visitors will be allowed on campus as long as they wear masks and socially distance.

Families

The Centers for Disease Control have issued guidelines for reopening schools that put the onus on parents. The CDC urges parents to make sure their children know Coronavirus protocols and understand the importance of wearing masks, social distancing, and washing their hands often.

Parents also are asked to screen their children every morning for symptoms including fever, cough, body aches, breathing difficulties, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and loss of taste or smell. If a child is sick, they should stay home, and depending on the severity of symptoms, see a doctor. The school should also be notified.

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Neighborhood expresses appreciation to ‘quiet hero’

The old creed, “Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds,” which is long associated with United States postal workers easily applies to Donna Cornell, who delivers mail in Colonial Manor, to the Orlando Circle area in Lakewood, and to several businesses on Hendricks Avenue. Switch out “snow” with the words “Coronavirus pandemic,” and the saying fits Cornell very well.

To show appreciation for Cornell and all that she does for the community during these especially hard times, Suzanne Honeycutt and her husband, Joe, held a small socially distanced reception – complete with punch and strawberry trifle – for their favorite postal carrier June 28 on the driveway near their Colonial Manor home facing the Duck Pond. At least 20 residents stopped by in increments of five or six to show their appreciation for Cornell with many more leaving off cards of appreciation and personal notes, said Joe.



A drop-in reception was set up at the Honeycutt's home in Colonial Manor for their favorite letter carrier, Donna Cornell on June 28.



“She is one of those quiet heroes that has been our lifeline during the pandemic,” said Suzanne. “We have had so much more being delivered to us than we used to in the old days when we would just get in the car and go pick up things at the post office. Donna totally deserves it. She is so cheerful.”

In a telephone interview, Cornell said she loves all the customers on her mail route and works hard to know each one by name. She delivers to more than 368 businesses and residences daily. Working through the COVID-19 pandemic has not been too hard, she said, because “with my job it’s me, air, and Jesus,” and she is grateful most of her customers are sensitive to social distancing. “The hardest part of my job is when my customers move or pass away,” she said. “I work hard to get to know them and it hurts. They’re like family.”

A postal service employee for 14 years, seven within the San Marco area, Cornell said the get-together came as a surprise. “This was the first time that somebody outwardly appreciated me for doing my job that I do.” The festive gathering enabled her customers to not only say thank you but also get to know her as a person beyond “just a how do you do,” she said, adding she was happy to know she is appreciated in the neighborhood. “It was special. It made me feel so good.”

O.R.C.A.S. set sail on San Marco Duck Pond



Gary Dickinson, president of the North Florida O.R.C.A.S., stands beside the Tom O'Dell, a model of a Douglas Greg tugboat, as club member Charlie Johnson looks on during an ORCA's get-together at the duck pond in San Marco July 11.

After being cooped up for so long due to COVID-19, the North Florida Operational & Radio Control Association of Shipwrights (O.R.C.A.S.) ventured out in public during a special get-together at the Duck Pond in San Marco July 11.

“It was an opportunity to run our radio controlled scale model boats,” said Gary Dickinson, O.R.C.A.S. president, noting the club travels throughout Northeast Florida but holds events in the summer and the third Sunday of December when it hosts its traditional light parade. “The Duck Pond in Colonial Manor Park is really where our club began. Today we are having a fun float to give the public an opportunity to look at the boats. We really never do races. Our club is about scale model boats, socializing, having fun and looking at the building skills.”

As a social event, Dickinson said the July gathering practiced strict social distancing with many club members wearing masks. “We still have something to be concerned about, but it is time for us to get back outdoors,” he said.



Joe Honeycutt stands with a 75-year-old model of a Chinese junk that his father bought before he was born and was restored by O.R.C.A.S.'s club member Bill Dion. Along side the junk is a Styrofoam swan that Honeycutt often uses to scare geese. Club members later installed a radio-controlled motor to allow the swan to swim alongside the boats.



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THE WAY WE WERE: MOLLY KNIGHT

BY MARY WANSEER
RESIDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Molly Knight nee Johnson is living a life built on parallels and patriotism. Like her mother and grandmother before her, and both of her daughters after her, she is a loyal member of DAR—Daughters of the American Revolution.

But it's not only her national heritage that Molly is proud of. She comes from a long line of locals, and there was a glint to her eye and a grin on her face as she recounted stories of the way they were in San Marco and Mandarin reaching as far back as the early 1900s.

With her husband, Jay, at her side, Molly recalled her maternal great grandfather, Walter Jones, for whom Walter Jones Historic Park on Mandarin Road is named. Jones had been the proprietor of the Mandarin Store and Post Office, and when he passed away in 1928, it was his daughter, Molly Knight's Great Aunt Aggie Jones, who, after attending boarding school in downtown

Jacksonville, took over as post mistress until 1960. To travel from home to school, Jay Knight supposed it possible that his wife's great aunt might have gone by boat up the St. John's River. He told how in Mandarin on County Dock Road there used to be a huge commercial dock—old wood pilings from which still must be navigated around when traveling the waterway. Steamer boats would haul oranges and other produce out of Mandarin up the river toward downtown Jacksonville and carry passengers, too, back and forth.

Aggie's brother, W.J. Jones, who was commonly known as Jack, left Mandarin permanently and moved to Colonial Manor, near the duck pond. He did not relocate alone. By 1918, he had already met Lucile Brunson at a house party and married her in 1920. Brunson, a teacher, was the daughter of a Mayport railroad depot clerk. Driving from Mayport to Mandarin today would be a 40-minute trip by modern automobile. Back then, it would have taken all day. Molly speculated that in going courting, her grandparents may have traveled by horse and buggy. Those were the days when Baymeadows Road was two lanes through cow pastures.

The reason for Jack and Lucile's move from Mandarin to San Marco, according to Molly, was the neighborhood's proximity to town, as her grandfather had his sights set on starting his own business. He bought a piece of property on Forsyth Street where he opened a wholesale candy distribution center from 1930 to 1940 before getting into real estate as W.J. Jones Company with an office on King's Avenue in San Marco. That building still stands today as a 1-story, 5-unit strip mall of offices close where to the I-95 overpass



During the 1992 Daughters of the American Revolution Constitution Week, Jacksonville Mayor Ed Austin stands with Molly Knight, president of the DAR Regents Council. From left: June Mahan, Ann Wales, Marilee Cory, Mayor Ed Austin, Molly Knight, Bea Langlois, Josephine Tinny



Betty Jones Johnson with her daughters, Molly and Sally, at their home in San Jose

Jack was friends with Mr. Lester of the Utsey and Lester Buster Brown Shoe Store in Lakewood, and Molly remembers well having new shoes at the start of every school year and on Easter Sundays. She also remembers her pediatrician, Dr. Joel Fleet, a neighbor of her grandparents on Waterman Road. He'd make home visits to Molly's darkened bedroom while she lay ill with the measles in 1966, listening to "Winchester Cathedral" by radio for nearly two weeks. Fred Ossi, the Brookwood Pharmacy owner, was like family.

Molly's childhood included walks with her grandmother up and down the aisles of the A&P in Lakewood and Pantry Pride on St. Augustine Road. Bike rides to Normans Pharmacy in Miramar for frozen Cokes and to The Sheik for limeades were mainstays. Dog tags for national defense drills and practice evacuations in carpools were signs of the times.

Molly's education, like that of her parents, was all local up until college. She attended San Jose Elementary, Dupont Junior High, University Christian School, Episcopal School of Jacksonville, and Wolfson High. Her love life is an All-American Girl story that parallels her mother's.

comes through near the dialysis center on the corner of Kings Avenue and Atlantic Boulevard that used to be a grocery store. Before he died in 1977, Molly's grandfather owned over 150 rental properties, many of them small houses along Bertha Street behind his San Marco office building.

Jack and Lucile's daughter, Betty Jones, Molly's mother, attended South Jacksonville Grammar School in San Marco. Later, she was a Lionette, a baton twirler, in Landon High School's class of 1946 where she met Bobby Johnson, the man who would eventually become her husband. They first met when they were 14 years old and in the eighth grade. Bobby grew up in Miramar, near where the Players Grille and the Toscana Restaurant are located now. He worked at the Gulf gas station in San Marco after class and played on the school's football team until he was drafted in 1945.

Throughout the years, Betty remained loyal to Landon, even after it was transformed into a middle school and then a magnet middle school. As a staunch member of its alumni association, she organized many events, including her 50th high school reunion.

After high school, Betty attended Wesleyan, an all-girls college in Georgia, for two years. She had chosen it because she thought Bobby would have been stationed at Fort Benning nearby while serving in the army at the tail end of WWII, but sadly, he wasn't. He was shipped overseas to serve in the occupation of Italy. Upon his return from duty in Italy, he completed his education at the University of Florida (UF).

In 1949, Bobby and Betty married, and their wedding reception took place at the San Jose Country Club. For the ceremony, they chose Church of the Good Shepherd in Riverside because it held more people than Betty's church, All Saint's Episcopal in San Marco. At that time, All Saints was a tiny building that has since been torn down but had stood in the same spot where Rogers Hall stands today. The larger church edifice that fronts Hendricks Avenue was not built until 1965, and Molly's Grandpa Jack was a committee member who helped make that happen. He could not have known then that 14 years later his granddaughter would marry Jay Knight on that altar.



Molly and Jay Knight on their wedding day

It was upon her transfer from Episcopal to Wolfson in 11th grade that Molly Johnson met Andrew "Jay" Knight. By fate of the alphabetical listing of their last names, they had been assigned the same homeroom class. Jay was on the football team and president of the Latin Club. Molly was a cheerleader. They ran against each other for a seat in student government, and Molly won. "I started my political career in the House of Representatives," she said, referring to that class service role. "She knew everybody," Jay said. Another win for Molly was a literature contest hosted by the Florida PTA for a poem she had written, expressing sadness over those who did not appreciate the freedoms that the American flag represents.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27



Betty Jones stands with her father, W.J. "Jack" Jones in front of his Forsyth Street confectionary store in 1936

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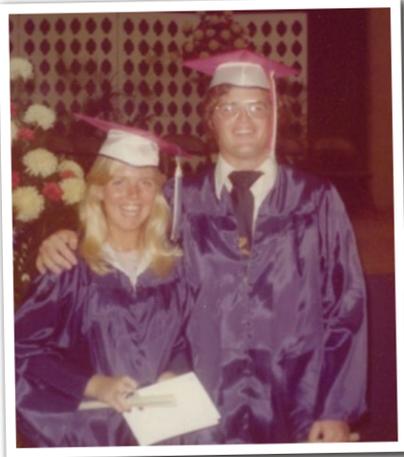
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Molly Johnson and Jay Knight on their graduation from Wolfson High School in 1976

Needing to earn money so he could take Molly to the movies when they had begun dating in April of their senior year, Jay worked after school and over summers mowing many lawns of the rental homes owned by Molly's Grandpa Jack. They had several dates at the San Marco Theatre. But their first date was to the movie theatre at Philips Mall, which formerly had been called Philips Highway Plaza and afterwards turned to Market Square Mall, then Metro Square and is now called San Marco East. They saw "The Three Musketeers." That theatre is now an indoor rock-climbing establishment. "The Philips Mall in the 1970s was a busy place," Jay said. It contained department stores like J.M. Fields, where he used to work in the sporting goods section, and Montgomery Ward along with a food court, including Renna's Pizza, and more.

The Knights recalled that things to do in San Marco and San Jose back then were limited, so they often visited another Jacksonville hot spot for dating in the 70s, Regency Square Mall, which housed Big



Selected as the D.A.R.'s Outstanding Jr. Member in 1994, Molly Knight stands with Florida gubernatorial-candidate Jeb Bush

Daddy's restaurant and lounge and Mr. Dunderbak's, a Bavarian-style deli. Outside the mall were places like the bi-level Annie Tiques, a restaurant and bar where the Olive Garden stands now. After eating, they'd head to Nichols Alley at Beach Boulevard and University where Kmart is now to show off the disco lessons, they had taken at the Jessie Ball duPont Center.

If it seems as though Molly were born for patriotism, the same might be said for Jay. Molly was born July 2, 1958 and Jay a day later on July 3. It's no surprise that July 4th is their favorite holiday. They graduated together in the bicentennial class of 1976 from Wolfson High School with Molly's main duty as baccalaureate at that ceremony. Their class colors were red, white, and blue, naturally. As her mother did for Landon, Molly still plays an active role in all reunions and keeps all memorabilia and banners.

The Knights went to separate colleges: Jay to the University of Mississippi in Oxford on scholarship, Molly to Wesleyan, like her mom and older sister Sally Johnson Jackson had done, where she majored in elementary education.

But Molly remained at Wesleyan for only two years, then transferred to Ole Miss as a junior because the phone bills to keep in touch with Jay, a Phi Kappa Psi pledge, had become too high. There, she joined the Zeta Tau Alpha women's fraternity. She's a past president of the National Panhellenic Conference and is currently serving on their Past Presidents' Committee.

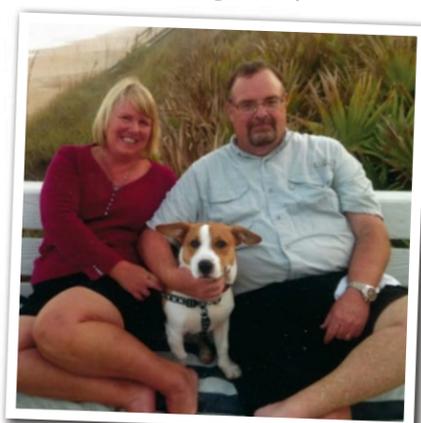
The Knights married during Christmas break of 1979 while in their senior year of college, months before their graduation. Since Molly's dad had died at the age of 38 when she was only 7, his brother gave the bride away. Her uncle, Billy Johnson, was service manager at Claude Nolan Cadillac and served as his niece's chauffeur to the reception at Riverside Women's Garden Club on Riverside Avenue in a brand new and borrowed 1980 white Cadillac. In Molly's hand was clutched a lace handkerchief, a gift from Miss Molly Rubinstein, owner of The French Novelty Shop in Lakewood.

Immediately following graduation, they moved to Gainesville for Jay to attend law school at University of Florida while Molly taught at Archer Community School. It was a year later, at the age of 21, that Molly joined DAR, just as her mother had done in 1955 and her grandmother in 1954. All three have held the title of Regent of the Fort San Nicholas chapter, Molly three times. Prior to coming of age, Molly had belonged since 1966 to C.A.R.—Children of the American Revolution—an organization that her sister had joined in 1959 and both of Molly's daughters would join decades later. In fact, Molly travelled all over the country during summers for over 10 years with her younger daughter, Kelly, to national and regional leadership conferences to promote national projects. The groups gave Molly the chance "to honor my heritage and give me positive opportunities for service to America through educational, historic, and patriotic interactions. I belong for the friendships, and I feel an allegiance to family, friends, and country," she said.

In 1983, after Jay finished law school, the Knights moved back to San Jose from Gainesville and bought Molly's childhood home behind the football field at Dupont Middle School that her family had moved into in 1958 when she was 9 months old. "I told Jay we could move anywhere as long as it was in Jacksonville, and that's the house he found available, the one my mother had sold back in 1980. It was a surprise for me," Molly said.

Jay's first hire as an attorney was with Toole, Taylor, Moseley, and Joyner, a Jacksonville law firm. Ironically, Toole and Taylor were classmates of Molly's parents at Landon High and both men lived in San Jose. Joyner lived in San Marco. Their firm moved its offices to the 1887 Partners building, the remodeled Modelo cigar factory, the oldest remaining building in downtown Jacksonville that had survived the Great Fire of 1901.

Today, Jay is partner in Moseley Prichard Parrish Knight & Jones, a maritime law firm. His partner, Richard K. Jones, is the husband of Suzy Jones, a kindergarten classmate of Molly's from Grace Chapel. Jay has been a member of SAR—Sons of the American Revolution – for the past 10 years.



Molly and Jay Knight with their dog, Chug, celebrate their birthdays on July 4 in Ponte Vedra Beach

The Knight's daughters, Jayne and Kelly, were both born at St. Vincent's Hospital, just as Molly, her sister, and both their parents had been. The Knights moved to Laurel Road in San Marco so that the girls could attend Hendricks Avenue Elementary. Molly has worked on and off at HAE as both a tutor and substitute teacher since 1995.

Like their mom, Jayne and Kelly are both teachers. Kelly, who is younger, lives close by in St. Nicholas and is an instructor at Riverside Presbyterian Day School. Meanwhile, Jayne lives 9,000 miles away on Australia's island state of Tasmania where she and her husband, a Canadian, recently made the Knights grandparents. Due to the COVID-19 crisis, it has not been possible yet for Molly and Jay to meet 2-month-old Claire Noelle who, by the way, has three countries in her: Australia, Canada, and America. Her grandmother thinks that's pretty special.

Molly and Jay, after 28 years in San Marco, moved to Fort Caroline a couple of years ago, and with the move have come full circle, she said, noting she has a photo of herself as a baby being held by her grandmother at the DAR dedication of the Ribault Monument. "I was supposed to end up back here, right next to the Ribault Monument," she said.

Along with their rescue dog, Chug, they enjoy the nautical motif of their new home and the natural beauty of their views. Still, every July 4th, they rent a house in Ponte Vedra to celebrate their birthdays, their life, their independence.

Molly Knight's roots run deep in Jacksonville; she's the fourth of five generations here. Just as deep is her loyalty for country. Her life has been a theme of parallels and patriotism. "We have so much to be thankful for in the United States," she said.



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Women's Board founder celebrates 100th birthday

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

Ellen Cavert, founder of The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital, marked her 100th birthday June 30 with close family members and a quiet celebration over strawberry crème cake and ice cream, her favorite. Her family sang an exuberant rendition of "Happy Birthday," and she was also able to view a video of birthday greetings from family members unable to attend in person. But perhaps most important, the centennial occasion gave some of her closest friends the opportunity to reflect on the special person she is and what she means to the Jacksonville community.

Forty-eight years ago, Cavert's 8-day-old granddaughter, Abbie, died at Wolfson Children's Hospital because the facility did not have the proper equipment to care for the needs of critically ill newborns. Cavert's daughter, Ray Martin, had given birth two months prematurely to twin girls, Abbie and Annie, and Cavert watched anxiously while the tiny babies struggled to survive by taking turns on a ventilator designed for an adult. At the time, Wolfson had no neonatal



Ellen Cavert (seated) celebrated her 100th birthday with a small group of family. From left: Scott Wooten; Grace Martin Sarber, granddaughter; Grace Cavert Nelson, daughter, and former Senator Bill Nelson (both on phone); Dr. Mark Gould; Ellen Gould, granddaughter; Albert McCaffrey; Mac Walters, great grandson; BaBa Cavert McCaffrey, daughter; August and Luke Gould, great grandsons; Josephine Sarber, great granddaughter; Richard Sarber, great grandson (front).

equipment to support even one premature infant, let alone two. After Abbie died, Annie was transported in an incubator in the back of her parent's station wagon to Shands Hospital in Gainesville, where she regained her strength and eventually returned home.

Determined no other family would have to experience such a loss, Cavert hand-picked 40 of her friends and family who she knew had a heart for children, and The Women's Board at Wolfson Children's Hospital was born. Its mission is to raise funds so that every sick child in Northeast Florida can have access to the best healthcare possible.

Now nearly 50 years old, The Women's Board probably would not continue to exist without the sustained commitment and motivation of the women Cavert brought to the organization, said Hugh Greene, retired CEO and president of Baptist Health. Greene, who called Cavert "a force" when it comes to fundraising, said her intense faith in God was instrumental in the board's success. He recalled that the 1989 meeting where he met her for the first time began with prayer.

"I was the new chief operating officer and a relatively young man," he remembered. "She came in, and we sat at a conference table and she said, 'before we begin, is it okay if I begin with a prayer?' She came next to me, got on her knees physically, reached out and held my hand and her prayer involved praying for me in my new job and praying for the children at Wolfson," he said. "I tell that story because of the inseparability of her own faith and the mission she owned. You just don't run into people who have that sort of sustained commitment and the force to motivate and inspire others. The people at Baptist Health and Wolfson will always be eternally grateful to Ellen and the difference she has made in children's healthcare," he said.

Greene also added that throughout the years, representatives from other children's hospitals have visited Wolfson in an effort to figure out how to duplicate its Women's Board.

"We would always say, 'you don't understand, but you don't have Ellen Cavert. She's not duplicatable.'"

Karen Wolfson, a former president of The Women's Board, first met Cavert in 1985 through her mother-in-law, Hazel Wolfson, a founding member of The Women's Board. "Ellen is a determined, compassionate, and passionate person," Wolfson said. "She has a total reliance on God and the mission He had for her in relation to the children's hospital. She is someone who takes a personal interest in people. She wants to know what you are doing, and she is a huge motivator for that reason. With her, you don't look at what you

can't do, only what you can do," she said, adding that she would often visit Cavert and her husband, Tillman, when she was board president. "She would help give you a perspective and a way to think about something, perhaps a new approach," Wolfson said. "I would leave energized every time. Ellen is someone who, for me, has taught me the joy of living every day and that there is joy in every day you live. For her it isn't thinking, 'ain't it awful,' but 'what is the joy that is in this event? What can we do that is positive?'"

Susan Smathers concurred. Smathers, who first met Cavert years ago when she was a worker on Bill Nelson's Congressional campaign, said she was immediately impressed by Cavert, who was introduced as Nelson's mother-in-law. "She struck me as a gracious, elegant lady who had not lost her common touch. I was a grown woman who had just graduated from law school, but I thought, 'when I grow up, I want to be like her.'"

After Smathers married her husband Bruce, who was Nelson's roommate at Yale, she moved to Jacksonville. She decided to look Cavert up and join The Women's Board. "Ellen was a person who would not take no for an answer when she was asking people for financial assistance or in-kind donations in the early years," she recalled. "People were willing to help, and Ellen would always say, 'who can say no to sick children?' We would literally get butter and sugar donated for an opening night party, and all of that was coming from Ellen. We learned it from her," she continued. "When the party was over, we tried to sell everything if it wasn't nailed down to reduce our expenses. It would mean more money for the children's hospital. She has a sweet and infectious spirit and was able to use that to galvanize many other women and men to action."

Greene agreed. "Ellen is not the first person who has had such a tragedy, and people do make an impact with the funds they create, but there are very few examples of this kind of commitment being sustained over a number of years and the ability to motivate and inspire others to become involved in what you care about," he said. "That's what differentiates Ellen from other people who have done great work that has emanated out of personal tragedy. In her case, she was able to make a lasting, ongoing, never-ending difference and bring people with her. That is the reason we must pay tribute."



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In Memoriam

David D. Williams

June 13, 1954 to June 30, 2020



Retired Bishop Kenny High School teacher, coach, and administrator David D. Williams passed away on June 30 after a three-year battle with ALS. In the classroom, on the playing field, and as dean of students, Williams made a big impact on the Bishop Kenny community.

“Dave was liked and respected in all of his roles at Bishop Kenny. The students knew he would listen to them, and treat them fairly, and the faculty admired his professionalism and valued his friendship. Dave will certainly be missed by us all,” shared Bishop Kenny Principal Todd Orlando, a long-time friend.

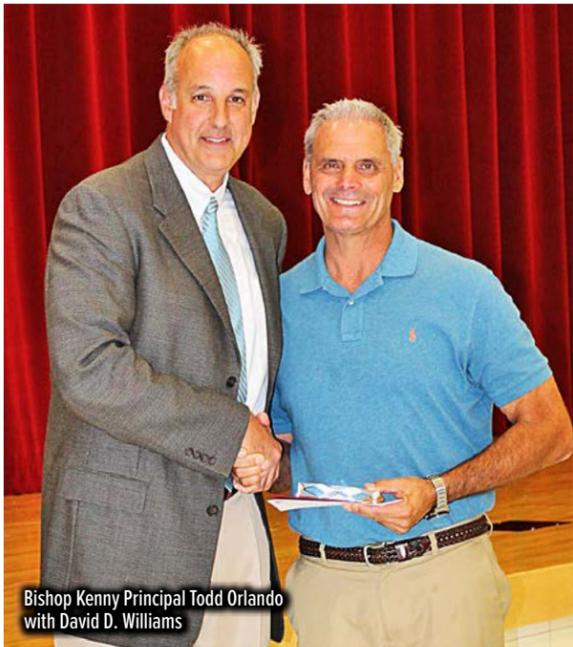
Earlier this year the school dedicated the David D. Williams Beach Volleyball Courts located at their waterfront sports complex in Williams honor.

Williams was a fixture on the Bishop Kenny High School campus for 32 years. The Colorado native was hired by former Bishop Kenny President Msgr. Daniel Logan to join the faculty as a member of the social studies department in 1984. During his years at Bishop Kenny, Williams shared his signature dry wit and love of history with more than 3,000 students.

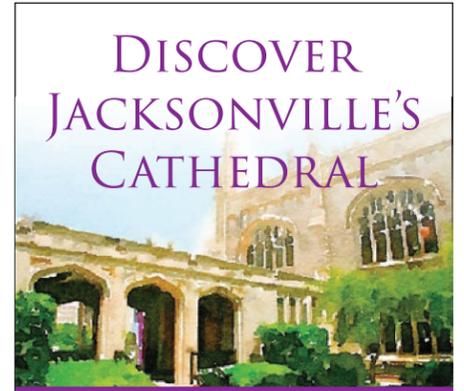
A gifted life-long athlete who attended Illinois State University on a wrestling scholarship, Williams’ participation in, and love of, athletics helped make him a talented coach who served as head coach of the Crusader tennis, track, golf, and wrestling teams at different times during his career. He also served as an assistant football coach. “Coach Williams’ positive and calm leadership propelled me on to what was a successful high school, collegiate, and professional career. I will never forget his unending confidence in me. He influenced so many lives, including my own, for the better. I pray he is now at peace,” said Kathryn Cusick Dougan, Bishop Kenny class of 1994 and current head coach of the Jacksonville University women’s golf team.

In 1994, after earning a masters’ degree in educational leadership from Jacksonville University, Williams moved from full-time teaching to school administration as dean of students. He maintained that position until his retirement from the school in June of 2016. During his tenure as dean, Williams initiated many educational programs for students and parents focusing on drug and alcohol awareness, internet safety, among other topics.

Williams is survived by his loving wife, Terry, and daughter, Nadine, who was a member of the Bishop Kenny class of 2015.



Bishop Kenny Principal Todd Orlando with David D. Williams



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Animal House

By Julie Kerns Garmendia Resident Community News

RIVERSIDE FOSTERS RESTORE HEALTH TO TWO 'MIRACLE' KITTENS

Whether it's an orphaned kitten that rode 38 miles on the frame of a tractor-trailer truck or a "COVID" orphan kitten, three days old, found in critical condition, only a truly dedicated foster-to-adoptive family could handle these two: Juan Vegega and Hardee Mahoney of Riverside.

No one knows how the first orphan, a two-week-old male orange tabby kitten, survived the truck ride from Lawtey to Jacksonville. Miraculously, when the truck driver stopped, he heard wailing and rushed the badly dehydrated kitten to Duval County Animal Care & Protective Services (ACPS). The ACPS dream team painstakingly extracted the tiny hitchhiker from caked-on layers of grease, road dirt and grime.



Zoey meets Ryder

ACPS kitten fosters Pam Newby Love and her husband, Russell, of Avondale, worked their magic and continued the intensive care begun by ACPS to nurture the newborn. When their friends, Riverside residents Vegega and Mahoney heard the orange kitten's story, they could not wait to meet him.

"It was love at first sight when Juan and Hardee met the 'truck kitten.' They came to visit him every other day to see how he was doing. They have the biggest hearts and care so much for animals," Love said. "They decided to apply to become ACPS fosters with the intent to learn how to care for orphan kittens, and to eventually adopt him." The Loves taught the couple orphan kitten care and Ryder was soon named.

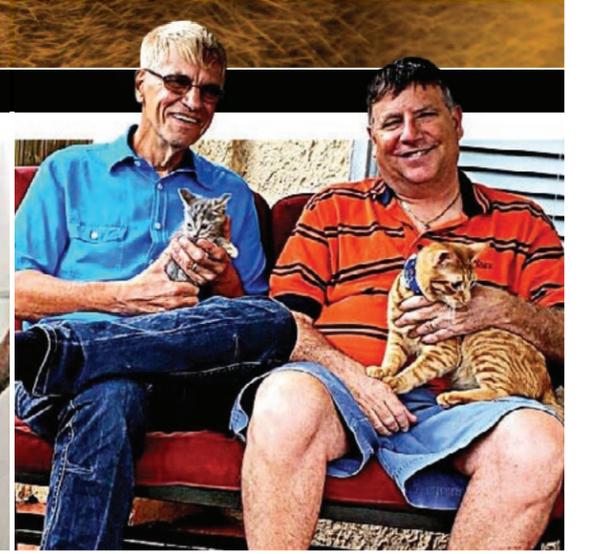
Not only did Vegega and Mahoney instantly click with Ryder, to their surprise, so did their 15-year-old rescue cat Gus. Although Gus recently passed, both men recall how Ryder, a daredevil who rips through the house at break-neck speed combined with hair-raising vertical leaps, always joined Gus for leisurely window-watching or porch-sitting.

"We all fell in love with Ryder. It was completely weird how well he immediately got along with our Gus and how they even looked alike: two gorgeous orange-colored cats. During the time they had together, Ryder was absolutely his mini-me," Vegega said. "Ryder definitely has his quirks though. He is mesmerized by weather maps and radar tracking and sits at attention to watch Tim Deegan, First Coast News meteorologist."

With the loss of Gus and their delight with Ryder, it was no surprise that foster-to-adopt



Ryder after he was rescued from his 38-mile truck ride



Juan Vegega holds Zoey while his partner, Hardee Mahoney, holds Ryder

rescue kitten number two soon caught the couple's interest. Zoey, (short for Zosime, which is Greek for "survivor"), was a "COVID" kitten, approximately 9 days old. She was found with her sibling who did not survive. Despite her terrible condition and double-eye infection, the gray, blue-eyed kitten's instinct to live was so strong, she attacked the bottle and even tolerated baths.

A "COVID" kitten or puppy is a pandemic-inspired description of a situation directly caused by the Coronavirus community restrictions. Animal rescuers coined the phrase to describe orphans left outside much longer than usual without nourishment, because fewer people are active outdoors to find and save them. The "COVID" orphans arrive at shelters or veterinarian offices much weaker, often ill or with advanced infections, flea or parasite infestations. These orphans face a higher mortality rate and rougher road to full recovery.

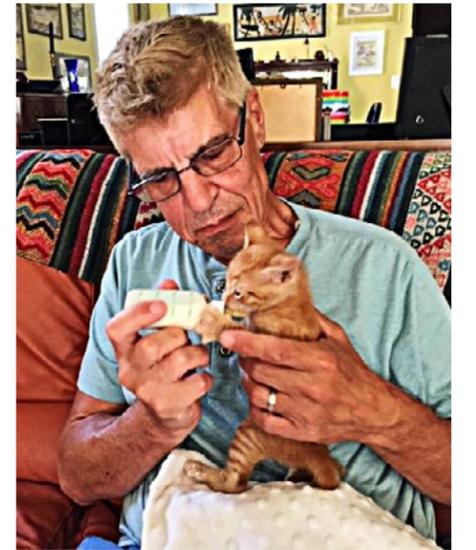
"Zoey has been something else. She is precocious, weaned herself at 4 weeks and steals food right off the plate; steamed asparagus is her absolute favorite. She also likes pork buns from S & R Dim Sum in 5 Points, kielbasa sausage and even cheese pierogi!" Vegega said. "She and Ryder play wonderfully together, but when he grabs her toys, tiny Zoey puts 9-pound Ryder right in the corner."

Although they have had three sets of rescue cats share their lives during their 30 years together, the couple had never fostered or bottle-fed newborn kittens. According to their more experienced foster friends, they have learned to successfully nurture orphaned, neonate kittens into pudgy, playful dynamos.

"They were in heaven! So excited to learn how to foster and bottle-feed Ryder and totally thrilled with his every milestone and watching him thrive and now they've successfully added Zoey to the family," Love said.

Married since 2014, Vegega and Mahoney moved to their 1926 Spanish bungalow in Riverside in December 2017 from Washington, D.C. They relocated back to Mahoney's hometown after Vegega's retirement, to help care for Mahoney's mother, Olive Fleming Mahoney. Olive, 93, still lives in the family's Ortega Forest home. Her late husband was Bill Mahoney, an engineer who worked for Reynolds, Smith & Hill (now RS&H, Inc.). Olive worked at Lord's in the shops of Avondale for years, but now enjoys quiet days spent with her adopted ACPS cat, Twinkles. Both of Mahoney's parents grew up in homes approximately four blocks from the couple's bungalow. The Mahoney family has been in Northeast Florida for generations.

Mahoney's brother, David, lives in Riverside. David's son, local professional artist Caleb Mahoney, his wife, Jennie Crosby Hugo (Riverside's Crosby Designs), and their son Oliver, 1, (named for great-grandmother Olive), live in Ortega. David's daughter Kylie Mahoney and her partner, Bradley Turner, and their son, Hudson, 4, live in Venetia.



Juan Vegega bottle feeds Ryder

Hardee Mahoney works as a computer consultant for ABT Associates and participates in a classical Greek study group that originated at Georgetown University, but now meets remotely online. Vegega, retired from a 31-year career in mortgage finance, enjoys gardening, cooking and monthly First Coast Tiger Bay club meetings that discuss current events. Together they enjoy worldwide travel, especially trips to Argentina where Vegega still has family. Members of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, they support local businesses, charities, and cultural organizations, including PFLAG of Jacksonville Scholarship Program, Cummer Museum, Riverside Avondale Preservation, WJCT, Florida Theatre, and the FSCJ Artist Series.

Anyone can learn to foster kittens that are already eating and drinking on their own, that may simply need to gain weight. There is always an ongoing shortage of fosters willing to learn to bottle-feed (must be fed every two-three hours round-the-clock), or care for "mushers." "Mushers" are kittens transitioning from liquid formula fed by syringe or bottle, to softened, mushy kitten chow or moist canned food mixed with water or formula. Next, the youngsters graduate to eating soft food, then hard kibble and drinking on their own. During normal times, ACPS and the Jacksonville Humane Society offer free classes and training for interested potential kitten fosters.

Fosters agree to transport their foster animals to veterinarian appointments for vaccines and spay or neuter surgery, all which must be completed prior to adoption. After an animal recovers from sterilization surgery, their foster parent may choose to adopt or return the animal to the shelter where it becomes available to the public for adoption. All fosters are encouraged to publicize their foster animals and work to find adoptive homes whenever possible to help reduce the population that must be housed at any of the local shelters. Check each shelter's website for complete foster information, current needs and temporary changes to hours of operation.

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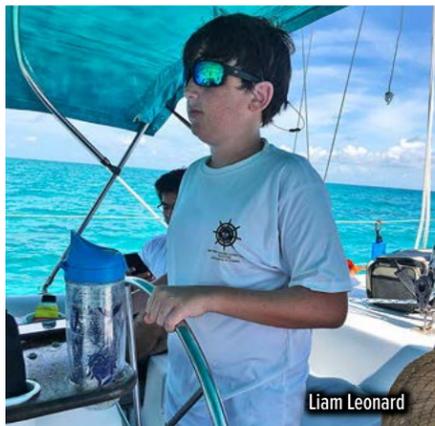
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Boy Scouts experience high adventure on tropical seas

Boy Scout Troop 906, which is based at St. John's Cathedral, enjoyed a Sea Base trip this summer which included a Key West sailing adventure aboard a 40-foot sailboat, the Bahama Rouge. The scouts took part in a week of high adventure on the Atlantic Ocean sailing from Camp Sawyer in Marathon Key to Key West and back. Included in the week's activities was learning how to sail, snorkeling on the reefs, and fishing in shallow seas. Chaperoning the troop were Mark Eckels and Dr. Sharon Leonard of San Marco, who watched over six scouts, Max Moorehead, Conner Scheider, Nick Snyder, Andrew Snyder, Liam Leonard and Kamm Eckels. "Many great memories were made and lessons learned on this once-in-a-lifetime trip," said Sharon Leonard.



Liam Leonard



The Bahama Rouge



Nick Snyder and Kamm Eckels



Troop 906 enjoyed high adventure sailing in the Florida Keys



Top row, Conner Scheider, Nick Snyder, Max Moorehead; bottom row, Dr. Sharon Leonard, Andrew Snyder, Kamm Eckels, Liam Leonard and Mark Eckels.



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Cure for boredom creates thriving business for Assumption students

By Marcia Hodgson
Resident Community News

When Bella Cruz, a rising eighth grader at Assumption Catholic School, suffered a traumatic brain injury just as quarantine began in early March, she found it difficult to watch TV, text, or read. As an alternative way to keep busy, she and her sister, Ellie, a rising Assumption fifth grader, decided to learn to sew. Soon they were turning out cloth masks by the hundreds and Masks by Cruzette's was born.

"When the Corona chaos started, my girls were bored and looking for activities to keep busy," wrote Aymee Cruz, their mother, on the Masks by Cruzette's Facebook page. "My 13-year-old, Bella, had just suffered a traumatic brain injury and wasn't able to keep up with friends on her phone. This was a real struggle. All screens caused migraines. Ellie, my 10-year-old, was eager to sew and work on a project for school. I saw a post about hospitals needing masks and the idea was born."

At first, the sisters, who live near Empire Point, were just making masks for hospitals, but then the project morphed into something more.

"The girls caught on fast," said Aymee. "So quickly that we needed to borrow machines from friends to keep us all going at once. Soon, after we all got the hang of things, we settled into our groove, and we've now mastered who does what. Some days we sew 10-12 hours. The girls enjoy something to keep busy. We've donated over 300 masks, and we plan to continue giving to hospitals in need."

The girls soon received multiple requests to make masks for friends and family and



Bella and Ellie Cruz are spending their summer making masks.

have since filled orders from people all over the country. They are even filling orders for businesses. The sisters try to create fun masks with popular characters and themes to make this difficult time more positive. Working in their kitchen, they have made more than 2,000 masks at home by sewing every day and keep approximately 200 on hand for quick sales. Most sales occur from their front porch, but they also try to set up a table at Solomon Ventures each month.

"Before starting the mask business, I thought it was a crazy idea," said Bella. "I realized, though, how bored I was, so I went with it. It is a lot of work to keep up with orders. I always remind myself that I'm helping everyone who has ordered a mask, and what I'm making is making a difference. I've definitely learned a lot from making masks, and I get to see so many smiles every day."

Her sister Ellie agreed. "Quarantine was boring. This gave us something to do. It makes me proud when I see people wearing my work," she said.

In addition to learning to sew, making the masks has been beneficial in many other ways, said Aymee. "They have learned to work with each other and to be a team," she said, noting her daughters now know how to iron and use a sewing machine as well as to manage money, keep multiple orders organized, and to be able to speak to strangers about their product. "It's been great for Bella to overcome her fear of other people," she said. "Before she was so shy, she wouldn't ask for an extra packet of ketchup at Chick-fil-A."

And the girls now understand the rewards that come from hard work, she said. The masks go for \$8 apiece, and the girls have accrued \$4,000 in their bank account so far. Bella plans to spend her portion on gymnastics equipment while Ellie is saving her share for a rainy day. "It's not easy, Bella has had days when she has woken up, had breakfast, and hasn't stopped sewing until bedtime because she is just filling orders. They are on our porch every day selling from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.," Aymee said. "We've officially cancelled all our vacations this summer. We're doing this."

To learn more about the girls' sewing adventures turn to Facebook @ Masks by Cruzette's.

Would-be techies learn coding skills at free computer camp



Blake Caven tests his equipment during the week before camp

Eight would-be techies took a deep dive into coding and computational thinking during a free camp held at the Caven home in Granada June 22-24.

Created by Blake Caven, a senior in the International Baccalaureate (IB) program at Stanton College Preparatory School, the focus of the day camp was to use the programming language SCRATCH from Massachusetts Institute of Technology to learn computational thinking and how to code through interactive experience with Sphero programmable robots. The camp, which was created by Caven as a service project, allowed the campers to work through levels of accomplishment and then compete against each other to test their skills.

"I put together this coding camp to give a unique experience and new skills to young people in my community," said Caven. "When I was 10, I learned how to code, and it was a lot of fun for me and useful later in science fair projects. I realized that my coding background allowed me to create a memorable hands-on experience and give them the gift I was so lucky to receive myself."

Helping create the coding experience was Caven's brother, Chace, who is a sophomore in Stanton's IB program. He assisted in developing the curriculum and running the camp. "It was definitely a fun, positive learning environment. You could see the excitement as they figured out new ways to control the Spheros," he said.

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The 65th graduating class of St. John's Country Day School

St Johns celebrates 65th commencement in June

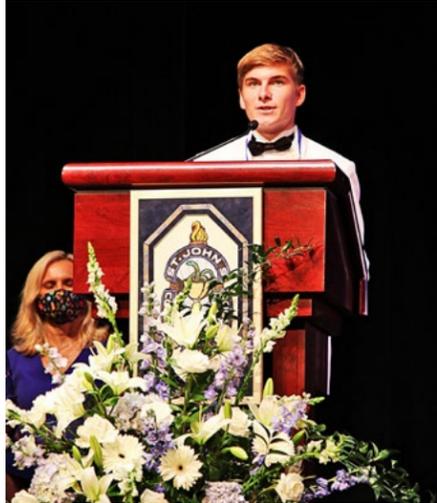
Capping off what has been a most unusual year, 47 members of St. Johns Country Day School's Class of 2020 -- finally— had their commencement ceremony on June 26. The original graduation date, May 30, had to be canceled due to the closure of school and the Thrasher-Horne Center because of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Phase 2 of Florida's reopening limited attendance at the socially distanced commencement ceremonies, which were the 65th in the school's history. Families were seated in blocks of four, with space between each block.

Each family received up to two blocks of four seats, and everyone else was invited to join the ceremony by livestream. And it wasn't just the audience that was distanced—the graduates themselves were spaced apart on the stage, and afterwards, guests went immediately outside to take photos and greet the graduates. The Thrasher-Horne Center also asked everyone in attendance to wear masks, which speakers removed prior to speaking and then put back on again afterwards.

Otherwise, the ceremony was very much in keeping with St. Johns tradition, and graduates, families, and faculty alike all breathed a heavy sigh of relief that the school was able to schedule and host it in these unusual times.

"The Class of 2020 has had to give up so much that we really wanted them to have their



Parker Robbins was one of three graduation speakers

graduation," said Head of Upper School and Acting Head of School Mary Virginia Fisher.

"They missed their prom, their trip to the zoo with their first graders, athletics senior nights, and so much more. It was important for them to have this."

And so they did. Other than the masks and social distancing, it wasn't much different from the 64 commencements that came before. In keeping with school tradition, student speakers were elected from among the graduating class. This year, seniors auditioned for the role via a Zoom conference call, and students voted online for their favorites. The voting was tied, however, so slightly atypically, three speakers were selected: Parker Robbins, son of Doug and Ivonne Robbins of Avondale, Kendall Sage of Fleming Island, and Joshua Soffler of Mandarin.



St. Johns Valedictorian Jordan Sierra Sabo



Edwin Paul Heinrich Award winner Sheila Alfredia Hodges

San Marco scout troop sets sail in Florida Keys

Five Boy Scouts and three adult leaders from Troop 35 in San Marco set sail from Bahia Honda State Park for a "high adventure" trip around the Florida Keys July 6. Their 41-foot sailboat, "Silvercrow" was skippered by Captain Cheryl Kurpui. While aboard, the scouts had many responsibilities such as cooking, cleaning, tending the sails, docking, loading and unloading supplies. The scouts also had the opportunity to sail the boat as the captain at the helm.

Known as Sea Base, this adventure gives scouts the opportunity to spend six days sailing and snorkeling through the tropical paradise of the Florida Keys. One highlight of the trip was snorkeling the coral reefs where they saw numerous sharks, rays,



Richard Black snorkels during a Boy Scout trip to the Florida Keys

dolphins, and other colorful fish. Another special experience was designing their own rope swing using the boom and mooring lines and swinging into the clear, blue water. "On our shore day, I really enjoyed exploring the historic town of Key West," said Andrew Pearson, a member of the troop.

Boy Scouts have been offering High Adventure trips since the 1930's to challenge scouts to use their hours of training as a team in practical, real life situations. Troops are eligible for one of four trips annually on a rotation. Many Scouts sell popcorn and "camp cards" to help finance their trips.

"Doing a high adventure takes a lot of commitment. Everything you have learned in scouting to date is put to use," said Assistant Scout Master Jonathan Wright of St. Nicholas. "You have to be responsible. You have to be able to follow commands, and you have to be a problem solver. Once you finish the week, it is a great accomplishment because it is a not an easy task but very rewarding and a lot of fun. It really is a team effort."

In addition to Wright, Assistant Scout Masters Bo Brandler of San Marco and Scott Pearson of Miramar accompanied the scouts. Taking part in the trip were Andrew Pearson of Miramar, William Wright of St. Nicholas, Thomas Brandler of San Marco, Sam Craddock and Richard Black, both of Miramar.



Thomas Brandler and William Wright take a leap off the handmade rope swing during their scout trip to the Florida Keys



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Graduation, finally!

Six former Hendricks Avenue Elementary students celebrated together after they graduated from Stanton College Preparatory School July 20. The commencement exercises were delayed due to the Coronavirus. The students share a special bond, and although they plan to go to different colleges in the fall, they are sure to remain close friends for life. From left, Andrew Lopez, University of Pennsylvania; Piper Breecher, Florida State University; Avery Glenn University of North Florida; Amelia Frost, University of North Florida; Ellen Reid, Florida State University; and Mary-Mac Chown, Florida State University. *Photo courtesy of Angela Lopez*

Episcopal senior honored with Mary Award



Ortega's Lauren Nott, a senior at The Episcopal School of Jacksonville, was awarded the Mary Award for leadership by the Ascension St. Vincent's Foundation.

The Mary Awards honor exceptional young women that are high school seniors. The prestigious award promotes the values, lifestyle, and leadership by recognizing young women who uplift society and serve as positive role models in the community. The Ascension St. Vincent's Foundation has long been an advocate for women of all ages and their important role in the fabric of society as civic, volunteer, family, and business leaders. The awards seek to empower young women while supporting Ascension St. Vincent's in its core values: Service of the poor, reverence, integrity, wisdom, creativity, and dedication.

"Lauren has a very mature faith and lets her faith guide her words and actions," said Episcopal Chaplain The Rev. Teresa Seagle. "She was a dedicated senior warden during a very challenging year for the vestry. When the call for nominations came out for the Mary Awards, I immediately thought of Lauren, who exemplifies the characteristics of these exceptional young women."

Angels for Allison honors local students with awards, scholarship

Four Northeast Florida students were recognized in June for their service by Angels for Allison, a non-profit organization that provides financial assistance for expenses associated with the death of a child.

Recipients of the second annual Angels for Allison Service Award were Anna Medley of Paxson School for Advanced Studies, Jahkari Smothers of Robert E. Lee High School, and Jordan Whitsell of Douglas Anderson School of the Arts. Angels for Allison works with more than 100 local high school students annually, and the service awards honor high school students that best represent the spirit of service and volunteerism with Angels for Allison and inspire their peers to give back to the Jacksonville community. It also recognizes students who have shown outstanding service and passion for the organization and made lasting and meaningful contributions.

For the first time this year, the nonprofit awarded the Allison Brundick Haramis Scholarship as a way of providing financial assistance to a rising college freshman. The inaugural winner was Kylie McNeil of Fernandina Beach High School, who received the scholarship for her exemplary service, leadership and commitment in helping others.



Scholarship winner Kylie McNeil with Drew Haramis, Angels for Allison board president, and service award winners Anna Medley and Jordan Whitsell. Jahkari Smothers is not pictured.

A small award ceremony given by the Foundation's Board of Directors took place on June 8 at the Madison residence in Ortega.

The ability of the youth in Jacksonville's historic communities is huge. Last year, to further celebrate Allison's spirit, a secondary mission of The Allison Brundick Haramis Foundation was created. The new mission is to create a welcoming and inspiring environment for service to others, and to cultivate the future of philanthropy through focused programs for youth participation and leadership. The nonprofit is pleased to offer opportunities to local high school students.



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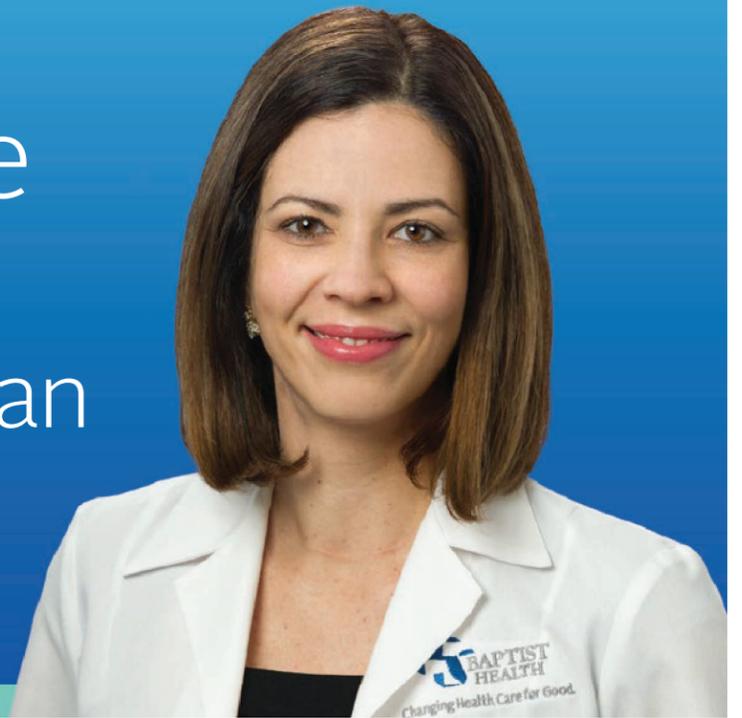
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