

V for ~~Victim~~
Victory

Despite being victims of a cruel theft, cancer patients and their supporters at V for Victory prove there is more good than bad in the world as the Jacksonville community and beyond rally behind them to replace hundreds of stolen LEGO sets destined for the recovering cancer patients.

READ MORE ON PAGE 46

Don't Forget the 904

As of Jan. 29, residents have to include the 904 area code when making phone calls and storing contact information. This is in anticipation of Jacksonville's new area code - 324 - which is expected to launch Feb. 26.

Dads+
Donuts



Camilo Ramirez and his daughters enjoyed donuts, coffee, a chapel service and visit to the book fair during the January Dads & Donuts event at San Jose Episcopal Day School.

17 years
COMMUNITY NEWS
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FIERCELY LOCAL NEWS ... FIERCELY LOYAL ... RESIDENTNEWS.NET | FEBRUARY 2024 | VOL. 17, ISSUE 2



The January meeting of the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary brought event Chairs Susie O'Quinn and Rita Cannon, celebrity chef and speaker Matthew Roop, Marilyn Carpenter, Nee Cee Lee and Michele Kehmert to Epping Forest Yacht and Country Club as part of the warmup to the 38th Annual Celebrity Chefs Tasting Luncheon and Silent Auction, Monday, Jan. 22. READ MORE ON PAGE 29



Duval County Public Schools Superintendent Dana Kriznar with Aria Brown

Brown Wins
Essay Contest

Aria Brown, a senior at Wolfson High School, was recognized on Dec. 6 as the third-place winner in the 2023 High School Essay Contest, sponsored by the U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Jacksonville Division. Brown's essay focused on the Constitution's 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party.

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Breaking Ground:
A Renewal 81 Years
in the Making



Spring Park Elementary, long after its massive 1968 fire, will finally get the phoenix-style revival it deserves. Groundbreaking for an all-new facility for the school is slated for April 4, on what is now St. Nicholas Park property. With a budget exceeding \$25 million, student capacity will almost double, and the learning capacity will be enhanced thanks to several technological innovations. READ MORE ON PAGE 41

Gray to Launch
New Concept in
Former San Marco
Theatre

A new restaurant concept is planned for the space at the old San Marco Theatre.

Electric Dough Pizza Co., the latest restaurant concept by chef Tom Gray, will move into the space originally intended for the Flying Iguana by restaurateur Al Mansur.

The announcement came in a Jan. 29 press release that indicated the lease for the restaurant space had been transitioned from Mansur to Gray and was finalized in January.

"This location has been a neighborhood cornerstone visually and historically for nearly 90 years. I am thrilled to be able to make it come alive once again to welcome locals and visitors alike," Gray said. "San Marco is my home, and we are inspired by the opportunity to preserve the soul of the building and breathe new life into the interior with stylistic touches that mesh our concept with the beauty and presence of the theatre." READ MORE ON PAGE 29

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Luis Roces was arrested and charged with second degree murder in connection with a fatal shooting on River Road in San Marco last month.

Suspect Charged in River Road Shooting

BY MICHELE LEIVAS

The Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office (JSO) has a suspect in custody following a fatal shooting on San Marco’s River Road on Sunday, Jan. 21.

According to the police report, officers were dispatched to a River Road residence at 1:32 a.m. in response to a shooting. When they arrived, they found 30-year-old Austin Fitzgerald suffering from a gunshot wound on the ground near the residence. The report indicated Fitzgerald was pronounced dead after being transported to a hospital.

The suspect, 36-year-old Luis Roces, has been charged with second degree murder. A witness recognized him

and told police he “occasionally resided” at the River Road residence, though the police report lists a Neptune Beach home address.

According to the arrest report, a witness stated she drove from the victim’s home to the Dart Bar on King Street, where the two met with another friend. While out, the witness said she received and ignored several text messages and phone calls from Roces, who – she said she later discovered – had been searching for her in the Riverside area.

After leaving the bar and becoming separated from her party, the witness then stated Roces approached her as she walked alone down the roadway and told her to get in his car, at which point he took her back to the River Road home.

The witness statement in the police report continued that, en route, the witness texted Fitzgerald, asking him to come pick her up at Roces’s house, stating that she was afraid of him, and, once there, remained in a bathroom near the front door to wait for Fitzgerald to arrive; Roces

remained in the bathroom with her. Once Fitzgerald arrived, the witness said Roces left the bathroom and began arguing with him at the front door, and the witness fled from the house.

The statement went on to say that the verbal altercation between the men continued as she and Fitzgerald attempted to get in Fitzgerald’s car – parked two doors down – to leave. Fitzgerald and Roces approached one another, still arguing.

Though statements pertaining to events immediately leading up to and including the shooting are redacted from the police report, a gun, at some point, was produced and Fitzgerald was shot.

The report stated a silver .38 caliber revolver was recovered on the front steps of the home and that another witness said Roces “appeared strangely calm” following the shooting.

Roces’s statements to investigators have been redacted from the police report. He was arrested later that Sunday afternoon and charged in connection with the shooting.

Special Exceptions for Beverages on Riverwalk

BY MICHELE LEIVAS

In November, *The Resident News* reported on a regulation approved by the Downtown Investment Authority (DIA) to establish the Jacksonville Riverwalk Specialty Center – a designated area along the North- and Southbank where pedestrians would be permitted to carry and enjoy alcoholic beverages in designated containers purchased from participating licensed vendors.

This designated area would run from the Fuller Warren Bridge to EverBank Stadium on the Northbank, roughly a two-mile stretch, and just over a mile to RiversEdge on the Southbank. Bridges are not currently included.

Earlier last month, the JAX Chamber issued a press release expressing its board of directors’ support of the program.

“The Chamber believes creating this Jacksonville Riverwalk Specialty Center will improve Jacksonville’s waterfront experience,” it stated.

“We need to continue to look at ways to activate the

riverfront downtown, and this is a simple addition that can give people one more way to enjoy downtown,” said JAX Chamber President and CEO Daniel Davis.

Ordinance 2023-0863, the proposed bill that would amend Ordinance Code Chapter 154 – Alcoholic Beverages to allow the creation of the specialty center, is now moving through the legislative process in City Council.

The topic of cups dominated the conversation at a Jan. 16 Rules Committee meeting, including what type of materials would be used to create the cups and how costs would impact participating business owners..

City Councilmember Terrence Freeman introduced an alternate amendment to one already introduced by the Neighborhoods, Community Services, Public Health and Safety (NCSPHS) Committee that struck the word “plastic” and replaced it with “environmentally conscious/friendly material” to ensure the production of sustainable cups given the center’s proximity to the river. Freeman’s amendment followed Boyer’s recommendation at that NCSPHS meeting to simply strike the word “plastic”

without inserting new language pertaining to the container’s qualities or materials.

“What I had indicated previously in committee was that if you simply struck the word ‘plastic,’ that gave the city the right to approve an acceptable container which – my thought was that we would not approve something that wasn’t environmentally friendly adjacent to the Riverwalk or to be used on the Riverwalk,” Boyer explained at the Rules Committee meeting.

Gordon explained this program is modeled after an existing one at the Tampa Riverwalk. Initially, he said, DVI plans to provide the cups to the participating businesses to ensure the program’s success, “but then eventually cover those costs.”

The program, Gordon added, is optional for businesses within the established program boundaries – of which there are currently “six or seven” – and no one is obligated to participate.

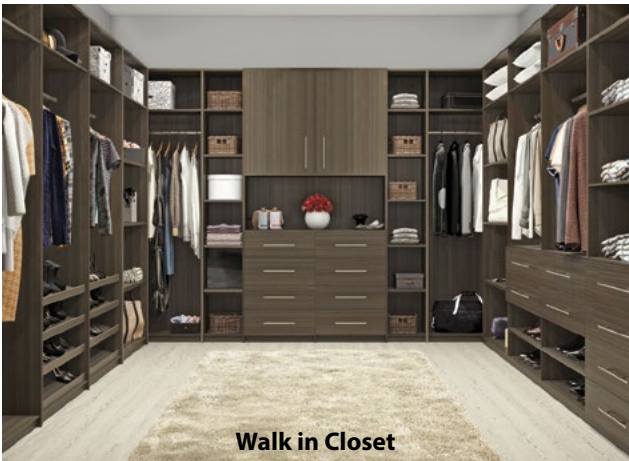
The Rules Committee unanimously approved 2023-0863 as amended. It will now move on to the city council.

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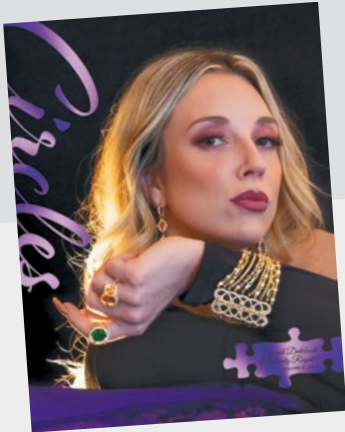
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The Downtown Investment Authority (DIA) approved a one-year lease on this two-acre parcel to JEA, which will in turn provide funding for the Park Street Road Diet project.

Bay Street Staging Area Tees Up Park Street Road Diet

BY MICHELE LEIVAS

The Downtown Investment Authority (DIA) Board gave its unanimous approval at a Jan. 17 board meeting to temporarily lease an estimated two-acre parcel of land on Bay Street for JEA to use as a construction easement for one year.

The parcel would be used as a staging area for the installation of chilled water lines on Bay Street. These lines would serve the Museum of Science and History (MOSH), the Four Seasons and other nearby developments.

An appraisal of the property placed its rental value at just over \$235,000. As payment, JEA has offered in-kind services at a minimum of \$300,000 for the Park Street Road Diet project – a City project several years in the making that would bring much-needed upgrades to the Park Street corridor in Brooklyn.

The week prior, at the DIA Retail Enhancement and Property Disposition Committee meeting, CEO Lori Boyer said, “The Park Street CIP is a project that will facilitate development of adjacent parcels in that vicinity. There is a developer who has already acquired the land, who’s been waiting for that road project to begin. Their engineers have identified water and sewage

upgrades that need to be made to serve that development so this is providing some of that work under the pavement that would ensure future development can happen in that area.”

“The CIP budget is for the street – so for pavement and curbs and trees and things like that. This is for utility work that has been unfunded.”

– Lori Boyer
CEO of the Downtown Investment Authority

The developer she referenced is the Trevato Development Group, which received conceptual approval from the Downtown Development Review Board (DDRB) last year for Block Nine, its proposed mixed-use Brooklyn development.

At the committee meeting, Boyer fielded questions regarding the \$300,000 in-kind services for the Park Street project and its

funding within the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). She clarified that these funds are not reducing the CIP budget.

“The CIP budget is for the street – so for pavement and curbs and trees and things like that,” she said. “This is for utility work that has been unfunded, and the question has been whether the developer was seeking incentives to cover the utility work and the developer was going to pay for the utility work, or whether JEA was going to pay for the utility work. There have been negotiations going on around that. So, this is a commitment for them to pay for at least a part of the work.”

She added that “the initial biggest concern” pertains to an iron pipe beneath Park Street that would require the street to get dug up in order to replace or repair it.

“I think the initial thought was, let’s either line or replace that iron pipe first. The other feeder lines can be additional phases from JEA or negotiated with the developer,” she said.

The resolution for the JEA property disposition includes an option to extend the lease for an additional 180 days after one year, but with the inclusion of additional consideration from JEA. At the conclusion of the lease, the parcel would revert back to the City.



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Laura Street Trio Awaits Next Steps

Historic properties require unique financing

BY MICHELE LEIVAS

The future of the Laura Street Trio remains in limbo as parties return to the drawing board to settle on a redevelopment agreement to help fund its adaptive reuse and restoration.

New year, new deal

At a Committee of the Whole meeting on Jan. 4, representatives from the development team and the City discussed the merits and concerns about legislation introduced as an emergency proposing the appropriation of \$22 million to fund a participation loan for the restoration and renovation of the historic trio. According to the bill summary, the bill waived several ordinance code provisions and policy guidelines.

At-Large Group 4 City Councilmember Matt Carlucci explained he introduced the bill as an emergency because of a deadline the developer had on locked-in interest rates with a lender. The developer would have needed the bill to pass quickly to secure those rates.

“Unlike any other deal in Jacksonville in recent times, you have a developer who is seeking to do the almost impossible: to rehabilitate not one, not two but three historically significant, post-Great Fire, legendary structures at the very epicenter of Jacksonville,” said attorney Jason Gabriel in his presentation to the council on behalf of the development team. “This is a true public-private partnership in the best sense of the phrase.”

Gabriel emphasized the need for haste in reaching an agreement on the project’s financing.

“The more time that passes in the financial planning phase, the more likely it is that market conditions will shift, making the initial financial plan obsolete before it can even be implemented,” he said.

In his presentation, Gabriel detailed the four parts of the deal, “three of [which] have remained the same all along, one of which is new in concept but has always been a part of the necessary ‘gap financing’ that’s necessary for this sort of rehabilitation project.”

The three previously discussed facets of the deal are the REV (Recapture Enhanced Value) Grant, the DPRP (Downtown Preservation and Revitalization Program) loan and the forgivable loan. The fourth was the aforementioned participation loan at the center of discussion.

Property owner and SouthEast Development Group principal and managing director Steve Atkins responded to questions regarding why the development team was pursuing this agreement versus one more traditionally structured.

“We have a stack of about \$24 million in private equity in this project. Equity is expensive; equity has to have a return. We have to either pursue other equity opportunities or we have to pursue a public-private partnership with the City of Jacksonville,” he said. “But the Capital One product that we had an opportunity to pursue is probably the best-case scenario in the market that we’re faced with right now.”

A constitutional concern

During their respective presentations, Downtown Investment Authority (DIA) CEO Lori Boyer, City Chief Financial Officer Anna Brosche, Council Auditor Kim Taylor, and Special Counsel to the Mayor Mike Weinstein all expressed concerns regarding the deal before the council. Among those concerns were those regarding the constitutionality of the proposed deal.

“The General Counsel has advised, and I think has spoken to many of you, that more likely than not, the participation loan and replenishment guarantee violate the Florida Constitution,” Boyer said. “The constitution prohibits the lending of credit for private activities unless there’s a paramount public purpose such as major job creation, public sports or entertainment venues, etc. and they consulted outside general counsel who came to the same conclusion. This is a concern not only because citizens can sue, it’s a concern for those of us who have to execute the documents and warrant that they are legal binding obligations of the city.”



Renderings of the SouthEast Development Group proposed adaptive reuse and restoration of the Laura Street Trio.

General Counsel Michael Fackler said his office’s analysis, in conjunction with an analysis review by an outside firm, concluded that “this project doesn’t meet that heightened standard of a paramount public purpose.”

Moving forward

After a lengthy discussion, Carlucci withdrew the emergency and the council opted to pass the baton back to the DIA Board to find a redevelopment agreement to which all parties can agree, though Boyer later said she believes the board’s charge is “much broader than that.”

“I think what was passed back to us is, figure out a way to get the historic buildings renovated,” she said. “The council president has said ‘work with urgency but don’t rush it, come up with something that works.’ We took that as it was important for staff to have two or three alternatives to offer the developer that we think would work and to have those ready by last week. So we do.”



City Councilmember Matt Carlucci calls the Laura Street Trio Jacksonville’s “three most historically significant buildings” in the downtown area.

Atkins purchased the Laura Street Trio and the Barnett Bank Building in 2013 and completed restorations on the latter in 2019. It is now a mixed-used development that serves as the North Florida flagship office for JP Morgan Chase and the home office for the Jacksonville Business Journal. It also offers residential space.

Atkins’ plans for the Trio include an Autograph Collection Hotel by Marriott offering 143 guest rooms, multiple restaurants and bars, ground-level retail space and 169 multifamily units, of which roughly 30% will be in the workforce category. The additional vacant acreage within the Trio’s footprint has allowed for the new construction add-ons, which will bring the total square footage to approximately 300,000.

Atkins said the Trio “really signifies and represents the most catalytic opportunity for change and revitalization in downtown Jacksonville.”

When asked about a backup plan for the Trio if a finance agreement could not be reached, he said, “Is there another program we could use? I don’t think there’s another use that we could come up with over a multifamily and/or hotel that would produce enough revenue to make it any different. We are committed to trying to make this program work. We think it’s not just the right program for those buildings, but we think it’s the right program for downtown and the needs of downtown.”

The Trio has sat vacant for more than 30 years, and Carlucci said their successful renovation would “be a 365-day-a-year economic development driver. It will develop jobs.”

“I just think we’re at a point now where everybody’s rallied behind it, just want to get it over the goal line, push it over the goal line,” he said. “The Laura Street Trio is kind of like our running back at the seven-yard line, and the whole city, and the DIA, and everybody is trying to push it across. That’s what I want to see happen.”

The three buildings – the Florida Life Building, the Bisbee Building and the Old Florida National Bank, or the Marble Bank – were built in the years following the Great Fire of 1901. Two of them – the Bisbee Building and the Florida Life Building – were designed by renowned Jacksonville architect Henry Klutho.

“Those three buildings took a chance on Jacksonville, and they helped rebuild Jacksonville’s present and pointed us towards a new future,” Carlucci said. “Ironically, all these many years later, those three buildings have the opportunity to help rebuild our present and rebuild our future again.”

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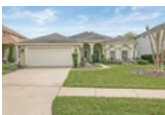
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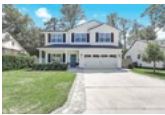
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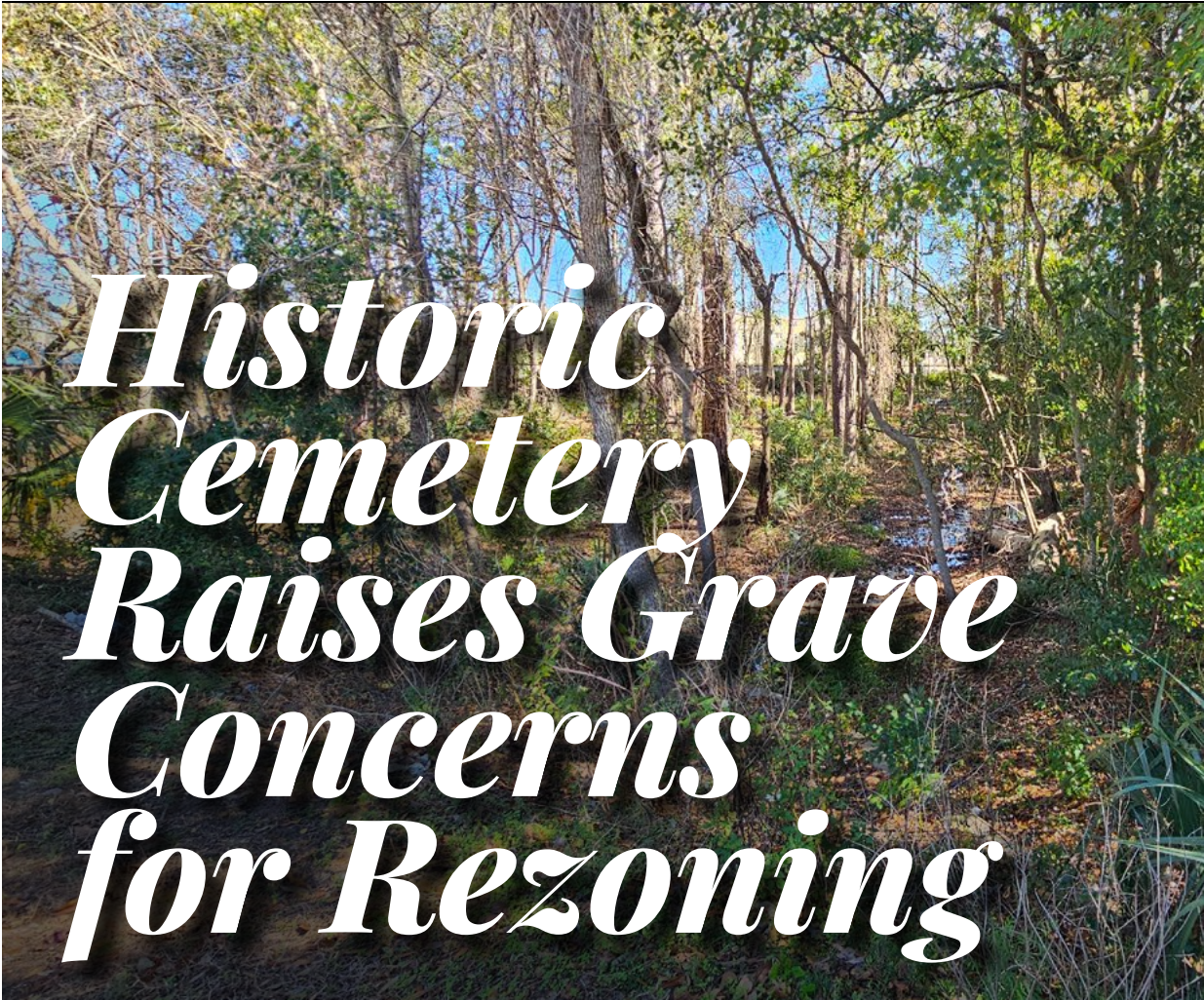
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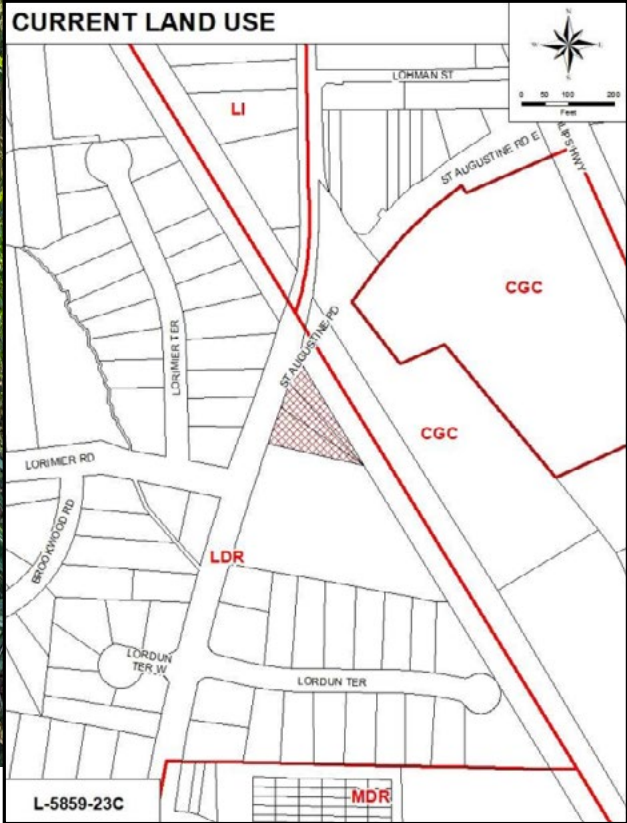
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The property owner of this pie-shaped parcel of land, just under half an acre, is seeking to rezone it to allow for a proposed single-story office with storage in the rear of the building.



The parcel is immediately adjacent to the historic Philips Craig Swamp Cemetery, which dates to the 1840s.

BY MICHELE LEIVAS

A proposed rezoning request for a parcel of land in San Marco continues to spur community conversations and opposition.

The parcel in question is just under half an acre immediately adjacent to the historic Philips Craig Swamp Cemetery, which dates back to the 1840s. The proposed request is to change the Land Use Designation from Low Density Residential (LDR) to Industrial Business Park (IBP) to develop the land for a proposed single-story office building with rear warehouse storage.

The legislation, along with two accompanying administrative deviations, was introduced last October. It went before the Land Use and Zoning (LUZ) Committee on Jan. 17.

Community concerns

In November, the San Marco Preservation Society (SMPS) submitted a letter to the LUZ Committee opposing the proposed rezoning and its deviations.

The letter read, in part, “Up-zoning this property from residential to industrial would reclassify this property from one of the lowest density uses to one of the highest; this change would be inconsistent with the spirit of transition of density encouraged by urban planning and our City’s Comprehensive Plan.”

SMPS also expressed resiliency and drainage concerns, as the property, a forested pie-shaped parcel of land nestled between the railroad tracks and the historic cemetery, is low-lying.

“The property itself dips noticeably in topography-almost 10 feet lower than the adjacent cemetery,” SMPS continued in its letter.

“There’s a resiliency issue where flooding could be exacerbated for the existing homes and potentially damage the cemetery because you would have increased water runoff into the cemetery therefore it may become more difficult for them to even maintain a grass in the area, it’s hard to know for certain,” said SMPS Resiliency and Sustainability Committee Chair Logan Cross.

SMPS Board Member Grace Davis said her preference would be to leave the plot of land undeveloped.

“I would say the preference is to leave it, preserve it as is,” she said. “No need to tear down nature unnecessarily and pave it over. I think with respect to the neighbors and the community, I think the best path would be to leave it as is.”

Approving the use “in concept”

At the Jan. 17 LUZ Committee meeting, attorney Cyndy Trimmer, on behalf of the applicant, stated that even if the property owner were to obtain approval for the rezoning request and administrative deviations, he still would have to move through the permitting process, during which any potential drainage issues or the like would be “fully vetted.”

“This is kind of the open stages of, ‘Is the concept of the use something that we could get behind?’” she said.

Still, Trimmer did address the drainage concerns, pointing out the existence of “a natural divide” between the property and the cemetery. Additionally, to concerns expressed by SMPS of future uses of the property, Trimmer said that due to the size and unique shape of the property, anyone seeking to repurpose the building, expand it or raze it to later build something new would have to come back before city council for the necessary approvals.

“The site really does naturally confine anything that could happen in the future on the property,” she said.

Trimmer and her colleague Michael Sittner both discussed three proposed conditions to which the property owner agreed “to directly meet the concerns with compatibility with the existing neighborhood.”

Those conditions, as stated by Sittner, are:

- “We agree to provide or preserve a minimum of five trees within 25 feet of St. Augustine Road, at least two of which will be shade trees. The remainder of the landscaped area along St. Augustine Road, excluding driveways, shall be landscaped with trees, shrubs, ground coverage, grass or mulch except that mulch shall not exceed 25% of the total landscaped area;”

- “We agree to have a maximum of one rollup garage door, which will be located on the southeastern façade facing the railroad. The rollup garage shall not exceed 12 feet in height;” and
- “The third proposed condition is applicant agrees the office’s architectural treatment will wrap the northwest façade of the building facing St. Augustine Road.”

Carlucci’s Conditions

As the district councilmember, Joe Carlucci played a prominent part in the LUZ meeting’s conversation surrounding the proposed development and the parcel of land upon which it would be built. Early in the discussion, he stated he’d completed his own evaluation of the site, including, he said, meeting with the City’s stormwater department head.

“He pretty much walked the whole entire parcel,” Carlucci said. “There were no red flags to him at all, so that gave me a lot of ease with it because when you look at it, it’s very low. And he gave me examples of how that can be rectified and how the water would not flow into the cemetery.”

Carlucci said he had reached out to the City’s chief resiliency officer, Anne Coglianese, for her input on this project, although he said there’s no report back from her regarding this.

“For this site, there was no immediate urgency for her to respond back, so I think we’re good there,” he added.

Pertaining to further concerns regarding the cemetery and site uses, Carlucci said, “I think we can curb that in in the administrative deviation portion of it.”

During the conversations surrounding the two administrative deviations, Carlucci presented a pair of his own conditions to the applicant.

The first was a limitation on how much of the building could be devoted to warehouse storage space. According to Trimmer, conversations surrounding usage space “have always been half-and-half.” Carlucci proposed a maximum 45% cap on the warehouse storage space, which Sittner said they could accept.

The second – more of a “concession” than a condition, Carlucci explained – was that should the development fail moving through the permitting process, the applicant would be okay with the city introducing legislation to rezone the property back to its original designation as LDR “because of all the concerns we heard about the drainage.”

Both Sittner and Trimmer said they could not agree to that, with Trimmer stating that was something “in all of the cumulative careers of my team no one has ever been asked.”

“Not to say that [the property owner] wouldn’t do it, it’s just this isn’t appropriate for this forum to do that,” said Trimmer. “If for any reason it did fail, he would like the opportunity to look at all of the other alternatives that might exist in consultation with the councilman and the planning department at that time, rather than commit him to one specific path, if for any reason this failed.”

“The issue I have with that is we’re here to represent the community the best way possible, to keep the integrity of the community, the zoning in general for this part of the railroad,” Councilmember Raul Arias said in response. “Clearly the community doesn’t want this. I, personally, I’m not on board anymore.”

“I have to do what I believe is right not only for the community but for this parcel and I think that’s what we’re going to do going forward,” Carlucci added.

“One of the biggest concerns for myself and the community was the drainage and they didn’t want to budge on the condition for drainage and that’s not something that I’m willing to budge on at all,” Carlucci later said in an interview. “Whatever they come back with, it has to be absolutely –it has to be risk-free from a drainage standpoint and that’s what my goal was [at the meeting] was to create kind of a risk-free situation for the historic cemetery, for the surrounding neighborhoods to make sure drainage would not be an issue.”

Ultimately, Trimmer asked to defer the final administrative deviation, which the committee agreed to do. To keep the three bills together, the committee also moved to reconsider and defer 2023-0704 and -0705.

All three will return to the LUZ Committee on Feb. 6.

The Resident News will continue to report on the situation as it develops.

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\$14.5 MILLION

(VERDICT, 5/4/2022)

PERSONAL INJURY: TRUCKING CRASH

KATHLEEN THOMAS* V.
GEICO INSURANCE COMPANY

\$14.4 MILLION

(VERDICT, 8/5/2022)

PERSONAL INJURY: CAR ACCIDENT

**Names changed to protect client privacy*

JOHN AND DEBRA SMITH* V.
LOCAL GLASS COMPANY,
OUT-OF-STATE GLASS COMPANY*

\$4.5 MILLION

(SETTLEMENT, 8/17/2021)

PERSONAL INJURY: WORKPLACE NEGLIGENCE

**Names changed to protect client privacy*

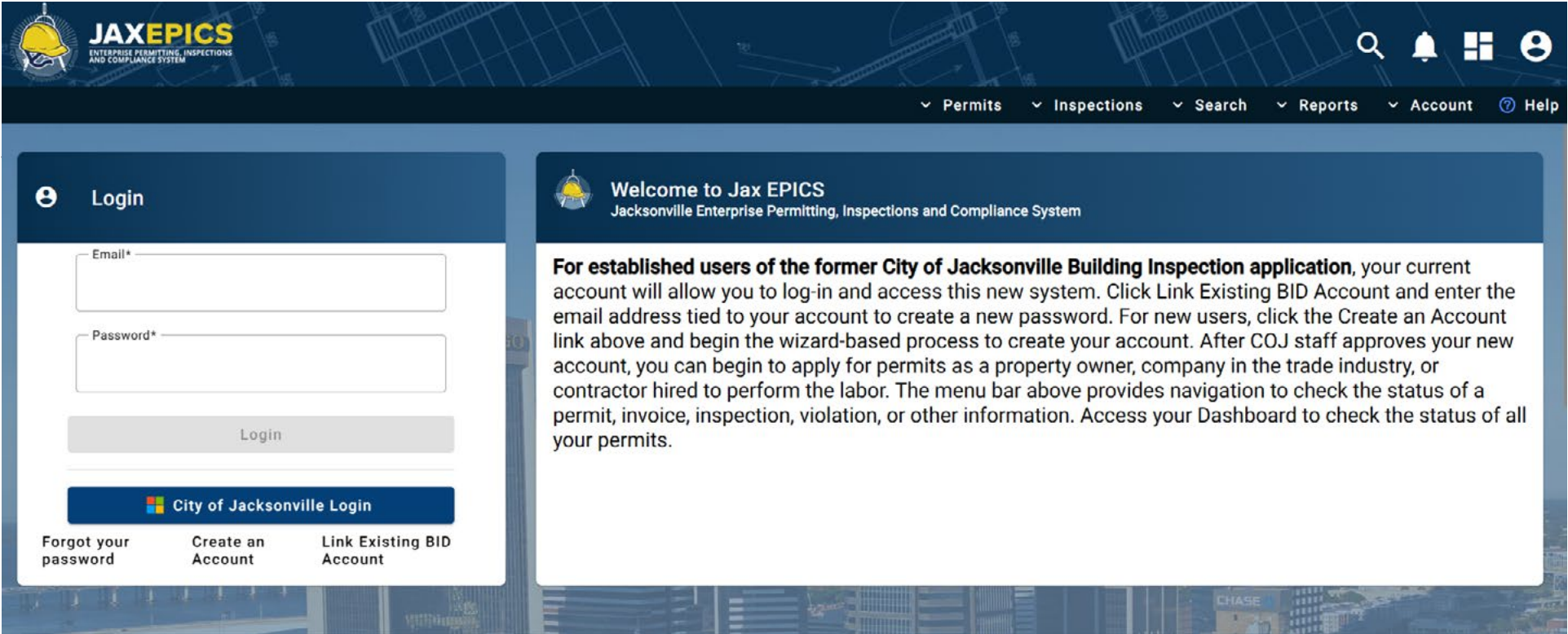
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EPIC News for Jacksonville’s Permitting Process



BY MICHELE LEIVAS

On Wednesday, Jan. 10, Mayor Donna Deegan announced the launch of Jax Enterprise Permitting, Inspections and Compliance System, or JaxEPICS, the City of Jacksonville’s (COJ) new permitting system.

Deegan made the announcement at City Hall alongside City Council President Ron Salem and COJ Chief Information Officer Wanyonyi Kendrick.

The permitting process – and the amount of time it took to move through – was a recurring complaint Deegan said she heard during her campaign and one that was again voiced during the community conversations Deegan hosted in all 19 districts shortly after becoming mayor. At the January press conference,

she said overhauling the permitting process “has been a priority of my administration since day one.”

JaxEPICS was soft-launched in December.

JaxEPICS and its website (jaxepics.coj.net) was created in-house with the City’s development team, “saving millions in taxpayer dollars,” Deegan said.

“By working on JaxEPICS internally, we were able to innovate quickly and ensure needs were met for every department that was involved in the permitting process,” she added.

Through JaxEPICS, permit applications and the necessary accompanying documents can be uploaded from both computers and mobile devices, and all parties involved – applicants and city staff – receive real-time notifications as the application moves through the process, along with any requests for additional information. Business owners are also able to see where their permits are in the process.

“We believe that JaxEPICS and these process improvements will significantly reduce the average time it takes to get a permit approved over the next six months, and we’ll now be able to accurately measure that process,” she said.

Deegan said the Mayor’s Budget Review Committee had also requested 10 new, full-time positions to help further reduce the review time for permit applications.

“I know as we went through our campaigns, ‘permitting, permitting, permitting’ was always a constant comment we heard from people all over this community,” Salem said at the January announcement. “I’m excited about the process, I’m excited about the timelines, and we will work with the mayor on those budget requests to try to get this moving in the right direction.”

On Jan. 23, legislation was introduced to the city council requesting the appropriation of \$512,866 from the Building Inspection 159 Fund Balance and General Fund to “various accounts within the Building Inspection Fund” to fund those positions.

According to the COJ, the city has received 2,261 building permit submissions between Dec. 18 through Jan. 24, during which time it has also completed 1,283 building permit final reviews. COJ added that it is still working through permits submitted originally through the old system, while concurrently “reviewing and issuing” permits submitted through JaxEPICS.

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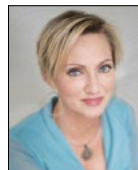
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MOVERS & SHAKERS



Alistair D.M. Dove

Dove Named MOSH CEO

The Museum of Science & History (MOSH)'s board of trustees announced the unanimous selection of Alistair D.M. Dove as the Museum's new CEO, effective Feb. 5. He was selected from more than 50 highly qualified applicants from around the world to replace the previous CEO, Bruce Fafard.

"Al is a renowned scientist, an experienced educator, a masterful storyteller and a proven leader from a world-class institution. He's the right fit at the right time and we can't wait for him to get to work," said William Magevney, board chair of MOSH.

Dove comes to MOSH with more than 17 years' experience at the Georgia Aquarium, where he has served as Vice President of Science & Education since 2020. His previous roles spanned multiple departments, including research, conservation, nutrition and development, while his academic work includes more than 75 peer-reviewed scientific publications and one book, along with research and professor positions at Cornell University and Stony Brook University.

"I am both eager and delighted to take on this incredible opportunity. MOSH is a cherished cultural institution and I look forward to leading this preeminent science and history museum through its current programming and into an exciting future through the MOSH Genesis project," said Dove. "Public institutions like science centers and museums are trusted community voices and I take the responsibility of keeping them a vibrant and relevant part of the social fabric very seriously."

MOSH is currently preparing for its future location at the Jacksonville Shipyards.



Elizabeth Andersen

Anderson Tapped as OneJax CEO

Elizabeth Andersen has been named the new CEO of OneJax, Inc., effective Feb. 5, 2024. The announcement was made by Dr. Mobeen Rathore, OneJax board chair.

"After an extensive national search for the right person to lead OneJax into the future, we found her in our own backyard," said Rathore. "Actually, we found her in our own board room, as Elizabeth joined the OneJax board in July. When the position became available this past fall, she decided to throw her hat in the ring, and we're delighted that she did."

Andersen is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor and former chair of the Duval County School Board. More recently, she served as the Chair of the Mental Health Subcommittee for Mayor Donna Deegan and the City of Jacksonville.

"We see Elizabeth as a catalyst for positive change, championing initiatives focused on social equity, resource accessibility and the common good. She is dedicated and comes to this position with a great sense of purpose. Her multi-dimensional involvement with community initiatives speaks to her values and her vision," Rathore said.

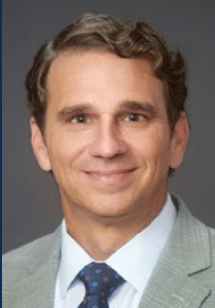
All Smiles for Dr. Hanania

Dr. David Alex Hanania has joined Dr. James Schumacher and the team at First Coast Smiles, located at 4201 Roosevelt Blvd. Dr. Hanania earned his dental degree from Nova Southeastern University College of Dental Medicine and his bachelor's in biochemistry from the University of Florida. He is a member of the American Dental Association and the Florida Dental Association.

In a statement on the company's website, Dr. Hanania said, "My mission in dentistry is to provide high quality and personalized care catered to each patient with integrity and honesty. My goal is to educate patients on the importance of their oral health and build trusted relationships with them and our community."



David Alex Hanania



BRIAN D. CHAPPELL, AIF®, CRPS™
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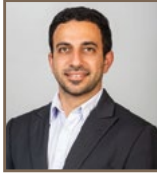
Dr. Erica Janson
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Alan Lipzin
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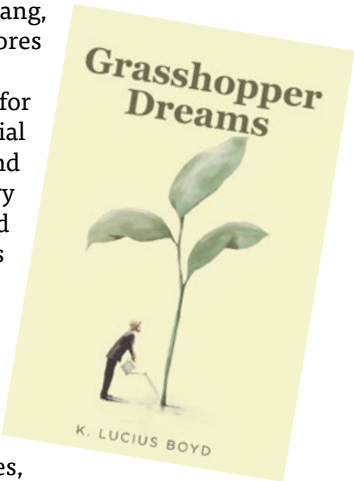
Ken Boyd

Local Author Boyd Publishes Book of Poetry

Author Ken Boyd has published “Grasshopper Dreams,” a collection of poems that reflects the author’s nearly 400 years of familial history in the American South. Through 39 entries replete with Southern slang, colloquialisms and universal wisdom, Boyd explores joy and suffering across different stages of life.

“‘Grasshopper Dreams’ is a collection of poetry for our times – times of change, uncertainty and social confusion,” said Boyd, who grew up in Avondale and is also a jazz musician and member of the Poetry Society of America. “It explores what confronts and eludes us. It takes on the unchanging uniqueness of the Deep South, family dramas, social tides and our wandering spirituality. It is composed of equal parts contentment, humor and confounding confusion.”

“Grasshopper Dreams” is published through Fulton Books under K. Lucius Boyd. It is available at bookstores, or online at iTunes, Amazon, Google Play and Barnes and Noble.



Tammy Daniel

Daniel Recognized for Nursing Leadership

Tammy Daniel, senior vice president and chief nursing officer (CNO) of Baptist Health, has been included on *Becker’s Hospital Review’s* list of Hospital and Health System Nursing Leaders to Know. The list acknowledges nursing leaders who leverage their clinical and leadership experience to provide exceptional patient care and create “professional pathways for the next generation of nurses,” according to *Becker’s*.

Daniel has spent nearly half of her 35-year career at Baptist Health. She joined the health system in 2007 and held several leadership positions within the organization before assuming the top nursing leadership role in 2018.

In congratulating Daniel, Matthew A. Zuino, executive vice president and COO of Baptist Health, called her an “innovator and advocate for advancing the role of nursing.”



Billy Dale Tyson, Jorge Morales, Michael Cascone, Betty Demetree, Elizabeth B. Cascone, Jay Demetree and Erik Kasper performed the ceremonial groundbreaking.



A rendering of the Betty & Jack Demetree Family Athletic Training Center

Bishop Kenny Breaks Ground on New Athletic Training Center

High school facility named in honor of the Betty and Jack Demetree Family

Bishop Kenny High School, Jacksonville’s first and oldest Catholic high school, broke ground on a \$10.1 million building on Jan. 3 with The Most Rev. Erik T. Pohlmeier, Bishop of the Diocese of St. Augustine, presiding over the event. The new Betty & Jack Demetree Family Athletic Training Center will house facilities and resources for the school’s student athletes. More than half of the student body participates in one or more of Bishop Kenny’s 23 athletic teams.

“Today is a historic day. We have long provided a strong, rigorous academic environment for our students. It is now time to level-set our athletic facilities to that same standard,” said Principal Todd Orlando.

The Athletic Training Center is the first of two building projects envisioned and made possible through the school’s *Legacy of Faith* Capital Campaign. The second, a practice gymnasium, will house lockers, weights and classrooms for use by the entire student body. Construction on the practice gymnasium will start after the opening of the training center.

“To be able to move this building forward while honoring our parents, Betty and Jack Demetree, is a special opportunity,” said Jay Demetree. “Our father would have been thrilled to join us here today as we break ground on this exciting project.”

In addition to the construction of these buildings, Bishop Kenny is also prioritizing the expansion of its endowment. Formally begun in December 2021, the endowment has raised more than \$2 million toward creating a restricted long-term fund to ensure the school’s financial sustainability.

The Betty & Jack Demetree Family Athletic Training Center will open during the 2024-25 academic year. kasper architects + associates and Auld & White Constructors are the design and construction partners on this project.



Billion-dollar Boom

The Chairman’s Cup-winning Avondale/San Marco Metropolitan office of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty recently celebrated their award, along with the company’s impressive \$1.4 billion sales volume in 2023, at the company’s “Agents are Forever” 2023 Annual Awards celebration. San Marco Metropolitan office Realtor Anita Vining led as the Top Producer with \$56.8 million in closed volume. Ann King, president of the company, praised the agents’ “unparalleled commitment” and indicated plans in 2024 to make “dreams come true for our clients, colleagues and the community.”

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Griggs Appointed Director of Community Initiatives



Charles Griggs

Mayor Donna Deegan appointed Charles Griggs to serve as Director of Community Initiatives in the Mayor's Office, effective Jan. 8. In his new role, Griggs will be responsible for promoting community initiatives that focus on public safety through crime prevention and intervention. This will include reimagining the Jacksonville Journey while

providing oversight to the City's current programs in that area. He replaces Lakesha Burton, who resigned in 2023 to care for her husband.

"Relaunching this vital program is a top priority of our administration," said Deegan about the Jacksonville Journey. "It will be in good hands with Charles at the helm."

Griggs was the president of Eighth & Whitner Group LLC, a media, marketing, and government relations agency focused on policy engagement and program issues that improve community outcomes. Prior to that, he worked for the Florida Department of Health in Duval County, serving as the Director of Communications and Community Engagement, then later as Director of External Affairs.

He is a longtime member of 100 Black Men of Jacksonville, Inc. and serves on the board of directors of the 100 Black Men of America, Inc. Griggs has also served on the Jacksonville Human Rights Commission, Arts in Public Places Commission, and the Jacksonville Journey Oversight Committee. In 2015, he received the Mayor's Lifetime Journey Award for his eight years of service on the Jacksonville Journey Oversight Committee.



Thomas B. Waters

Waters Responsible for Jacksonville Neighborhoods

Thomas B. Waters was appointed by Mayor Donna Deegan to serve as Director of Neighborhoods for the City of Jacksonville, starting Jan. 22. Waters will be responsible for neighborhood and housing services, as well as regulatory compliance for the City, including the Neighborhood Services Office, Housing and Community Development, Municipal Code Compliance, Environmental Quality, Mosquito Control, Animal Care and Protective Services, and the Office of City Link/630-City.

Waters has a long history with the City, having previously served as a Grants Administrator for the Department of Intra-Governmental Affairs, Project Administrator for the Department of Public Works, and a Planner/Coordinator for the Neighborhoods Department. He is also a City Council-appointed Commissioner for the Jacksonville Housing and Community Development Commission.

\$95K Granted to Revitalize Cathedral District

The Jessie Ball duPont Fund has jointly awarded a \$95,000 grant to St. John's Episcopal Cathedral and Cathedral District-Jax (CDJ) to help revitalize the 36-block Cathedral District in northeast downtown Jacksonville. The grant will provide general operating support for CDJ's work to repopulate the formerly thriving neighborhood through the prioritization of affordable mixed-income housing. The grant is the largest received by CDJ to date.

Ginny Myrick, president and CEO of CDJ, said that while affordable housing projects typically take two to three years to complete, CDJ is working to shorten that time for developers. She called the housing a "critical component" of a healthy neighborhood.

"CDJ's goal is to help facilitate 2,500 new residential units as soon as possible in the 36 blocks of the Cathedral District on Cathedral Hill, working for a recognizable sense of place in the neighborhood," said Myrick.

Since its inception, CDJ has worked with current landowners and potential sellers to gain control of properties and make them developable for private builders and developers. The affordable housing units are earmarked for residents earning 30%-80% of the area median income.

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New Trustees for The Community Foundation

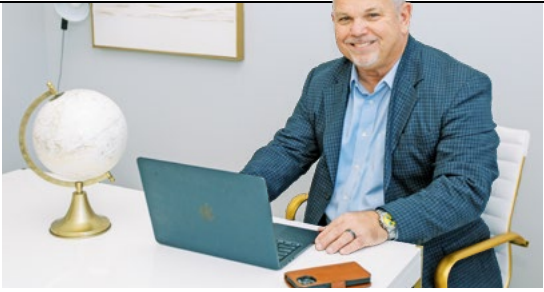
The board of trustees for The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida is welcoming new leadership, as Michael DuBow begins a two-year term as chair, and John Hirabayashi, John Peyton and Amy Wacaster begin three-year terms as new trustees. DuBow succeeds the Honorable Brian J. Davis, who completed his two-year term as chairman on Dec. 31, 2023, and will continue his service to the board as the chair of the governance committee.

Michael DuBow is the president of the DuBow Family Foundation, overseeing all grantmaking initiatives. He has served on the board of The Community Foundation since 2014. He was a previous president of the Jacksonville Jewish Center and board chair of the Wolfson Children's Hospital.

John Hirabayashi is retiring this year as the president and CEO of Community First Credit Union after leading it since 1996. He has served on the boards of the Jacksonville Public Education Fund, Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens, Florida State College at Jacksonville, JAX Chamber, the Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida, Jacksonville Community Council Inc., and WJCT Public Broadcasting.

John Peyton was named president of GATE Petroleum Company in January 2012 after serving two consecutive terms as Jacksonville's mayor. He has served as chairman of the Jacksonville Transportation Authority, Jacksonville Symphony Association, Greenscape of Jacksonville and the JAX Chamber.

Amy Wacaster is a retired equity trader who chaired the board of trustees at Beaches Episcopal School prior to its merger with Episcopal School of Jacksonville (ESJ), and now serves on the executive committee of the board. She is the current co-chair of the Boldly ESJ capital campaign and serves on Wolfson Children's Hospital's boards of directors and Davidson College's board of visitors.



Ron Elliott



Emily Lloyd

Hamilton Lloyd

20 Graduate Leadership Academy

Ron Elliott, Emily Lloyd and Hamilton Lloyd were among the Northeast Florida Association of REALTORS (NEFAR) Leadership Academy graduates celebrated during its 2024 Awards and Installation Gala.. Leadership Academy is a yearlong program designed to train emerging leaders in how to grow their businesses, expand their leadership skills, develop a sense of camaraderie with their peers and make a difference within the extended real estate community. For a full list of NEFAR's Leadership Academy class, please visit residentnews.net.



Daniel Burkhardt

Burkhardt Named NAI Hallmark Partner

NAI Hallmark, a commercial real estate services and advisory firm, announced the appointment of Daniel Burkhardt as its newest partner, effective Jan. 1, 2024. Burkhardt will assume a larger role surrounding the growth of the brokerage division and provide strategic guidance to the NAI Hallmark team.

Burkhardt joined NAI Hallmark in 2012 after graduating from the University of Florida. Throughout his career, he has represented clients in more than 200 transactions totaling over \$500 million in value, and said he was "honored" to take on this new role.

Christian Harden, Co-CEO at NAI Hallmark said, "His dedication to the community and commitment to excellence in his daily work have set the high-water mark and we are proud of the growth he's made in our team."

"Daniel's core values have always been in line with those of our company and witnessing Daniel's professional growth over the past decade has been truly inspiring," said Harden's Co-CEO counterpart, Keith Goldfaden.

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Listing Agents
Glenn Chandler & Matthew Jarvis | 760-239-1470

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Listing Agent
Cynthia Riegler | 206-250-9617

MEET THE AGENT

NATHAN BURT
Realtor
904-677-1255
nathan@cowfordrealty.com

I come from a healthcare and specialty pharmacy background, and my goal is to always be there for you, offering support and helping you make decisions with confidence! As your REALTOR® at Cowford Realty, I'll share insights from my experience and our team, using market data and trends to guide your decision-making. Let's chat about your goals, and I'll give you honest feedback to help you reach them.

What are the names of your last 5 pets?
Brad, Simon, Kenneth, Waffle Bobby, Stephen Carey

Would you rather explore the depths of the ocean or outer space?
Outer space! I'd rather run into an alien than find out what's been living beneath the water this whole time!

Is a hot dog a sandwich?
I'll go with an expert like Gordon Ramsey, yes a hot dog is a sandwich!!



Nina Chankelee and Clark Coombs

SENYAI Thai Brings Authenticity to Cuisine in 5 Points

For restaurateurs Clark Coombs and Nina Chankelee, food has always been at the forefront of their lives. For Chankelee, it was growing up in Thailand and being raised on the roots of the traditional dishes that ignited a passion for sharing generational Thai recipes with guests. For Coombs, it was a lifelong pursuit of travel and expansion of his palate while traveling to 28 different countries over the last few decades.

The pair has combined their passions to rebirth a local Thai concept, complete with a new name, new recipes and fresh ingredients. They have now unveiled their plans for an outstanding experience in 5 Points. Chankelee and Coombs took over operations of Aroi Thai at 820 Lomax St., renaming the concept SENYAI – Thai Street Food and Noodle Bar. The previous owners had survived the pandemic, but challenges remained that led to a change in ownership and ultimately, a better outcome for the neighborhood.

“I just love this neighborhood. From its youngsters and hipsters to the elders, everyone really lives together here in harmony; it’s a great area in which to build a business,” said Chankelee, while discussing their newly minted venture.

Coombs has lived the bulk of his life in Jacksonville and was born at Riverside Hospital, but he’s finally settled down after years of globetrotting. He’s a self-professed “foodie” who “will eat just about anything,” and loves to share his appreciation for unique eats, seasonings and flavors from around the world.

The pair is excited to share their cuisine and excellent service with a smile, coupled with high-quality ingredients that will please the most discerning palate. SENYAI is located along the one-way streetscape in 5 Points, just off the landmark flashing yellow beacon that defines the area. The restaurant can be reached by calling (904) 256-4979.



Brittany and Mike Cooney

Gemma Fish + Oyster Arrives Power couple births new restaurant

Gemma Fish + Oyster has arrived in San Marco after years of preparation, planning and anticipation at the plaza that houses Publix, Crumbl Cookie, Orange Theory Fitness, St. Johns Eye Associates and Foxtail Coffee Co., on the corner of Hendricks Avenue and Atlantic Boulevard at 2039 Hendricks Ave.

The restaurant is the brainchild of Chef Mike Cooney and his wife, Brittany, a husband-and-wife team that has come on strong in the local dining scene following the debut of their first restaurant concept, Ember & Iron in St. Johns County in 2021. At Gemma, the couple has rolled out a menu deep with seafood – from oysters and lobster to Scottish salmon – as well as chicken and beef dishes. All dishes are served with intention, as Mike Cooney’s methods of cooking flavors from around the world heighten and bring to life the freshest ingredients available on the market.

“With Ember & Iron, the St. Johns community really embraced us and believed in the quality of service and food that we were bringing to that area, so when the opportunity came about to open a restaurant in San Marco, the decision was easy because of the uniqueness of a historic and quaint community,” said Brittany Cooney. “It is truly one of the most special areas in Jacksonville, and we look forward to the new relationships we will make.”

The couple will soon welcome their restaurant’s namesake and fifth child, a girl appropriately named Gemma.

The 6,500-square-foot building is made up of two floors with a second-floor rooftop bar rivaling anything San Marco has to offer, a fully stocked bar and relaxing table seatings from sofas to barstools. The ground floor is elegantly decorated, accented by several areas like a glassed-in private dining room and a 12-foot seafood display bar. The restaurant accommodates between 225-250 patrons, with plans for future street-level seating outdoors.

For more on Gemma Fish + Oyster, visit gemmafishandoyster.com. Reservations are also available through RESY, or by contacting the restaurant at (904) 593-7030.

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McLendon Named Multiple Sclerosis Society Partner

Dr. Loren McLendon, a pediatric neurologist at Nemours Children’s Health, Jacksonville, has been named a Partner in MS Care physician by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society (NMSS) for her knowledge and experience in treating multiple sclerosis (MS). McLendon is the only pediatric MS provider in the state of Florida. As part of the Partner in MS Care distinction, McLendon has at least 20% of her patients diagnosed with MS and/or other chronic neurologic illnesses.

“ This collaboration is a positive move forward in continuing to provide prestigious pediatric care for MS. ”


– Dr. Loren McLendon

“This collaboration is a positive move forward in continuing to provide prestigious pediatric care for MS,” said McLendon.

Multiple sclerosis is a disease of the central nervous system with symptoms ranging from numbness and tingling to blindness and paralysis. There is currently no cure.

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Linda Hutchins

LMH Realty Brings Real Estate to a Hot Corner in San Marco

The corner of Hendricks and Atlantic Avenues has always been a high-traffic, visible location for local businesses. Smart retailers and business owners know the benefits of great visibility – it is priceless – and can change the trajectory of a company.

Enter Linda Hutchins, a savvy and experienced real estate industry professional who has carved out her niche as Broker and President of LMH Realty, which she founded in 2009. The agency has a new spot to serve clients – both prospective buyers and sellers – on the corner of the plaza in Suite 4, at 2000 Hendricks Ave.

“I’ve been eyeing this location for years; the timing just wasn’t right,” said Hutchins. “I’m also a San Marco resident and have been for over 20 years.”

She had been trying to find out how to track down the owner and finally get a shot at holding down the landmark location. For Hutchins, the streetscape affords her the opportunity to showcase properties by way of a unique listing and lead generator integrated into her windows, where listings are displayed by “Windovision.” With this technology, paired with the continued growth of San Marco, Hutchins is counting on the walkability and foot traffic to increase year-over-year sales and leads.

The location is a game-changer for her business. LMH Realty has given her the autonomy to run her own show, call her own shots and employ other talented agents, giving them the chance to grow their careers.

As a broker in both Florida and North Carolina, Hutchins is carving out a niche to serve buyers in Waynesville and Maggie Valley in the mountains of Western North Carolina and looks forward to introducing buyers to the lifestyle that so many hope to achieve.

LMH Realty can be found online by visiting [LMHRealty.com](https://www.lmhrealty.com), or by calling (904) 683-5394.



Megan DeGance

DeGance Joins Five Star Veterans Center

Megan DeGance has joined Five Star Veterans Center as its marketing director after spending four years as the Center Operations & Programs Manager at USO in Jacksonville.

DeGance has an extensive background in center operations, programs management and marketing, having also held positions in operations and publishing throughout her career.

The Five Star Veterans Center is dedicated to assisting veterans with the housing and support services they need to transition to civilian living.



Marcello Villani

Limoncello Ristorante Opens in San Marco

Limoncello Ristorante, a new Italian-Mediterranean restaurant located at 1440 San Marco Blvd., has opened next door to Bistro X in San Marco, replacing its lounge area. The food is inspired by the Island of Capri on the Amalfi coast, from where owner Marcello Villani originates.

Many of the classic dishes are inspired by the ones “Mamma Lulu,” Villani’s mother, made for

Villani when he was little. Having recently passed from cancer, a portion of the profits will be donated to cancer research, in honor of her.

“With restaurants almost universally increasing their prices, we want to offer an affordable option while not compromising on quality,” said Villani.



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Demolition crews working at 3747 Hendricks Ave.

Demolition at Hendricks and Emerson

BY MICHELE LEIVAS

Demolition crews are clearing the sites at 3747 and 3757 Hendricks Avenue at its intersection with Emerson Street.

Permits were filed for both properties in December to demolish the existing structures that occupied both parcels.

According to public records, Raaj Properties, LLC acquired 3757 Hendricks Ave., its first parcel on the block bordered by Hendricks Avenue, Emerson Street, Grandy Avenue and Greenridge Road in July 2022. Last August, it acquired 3747 Hendricks Ave., bundled with two others – 1522 Emerson St. and 3704 Grandy Ave.; in a separate sale that month, it acquired 3710 Grandy Ave., making it the proprietor of five of the seven parcels within that block.

Currently, the city is investigating code violations at all five of these properties.

Public records list the principal agent of the LLC as Rajesh Shetty and its principal address matches the Gate Parkway/295 location of Florida Eye Specialists, of which Shetty is founder and currently CEO and managing partner.

Florida Eye Specialists currently has 13 locations in Northeast Florida, including one in San Marco on San Marco Boulevard and one in Riverside on Stockton Street.

The Resident News attempted to contact Shetty regarding the parcels at Hendricks Avenue and Emerson Street but did not hear back by press time.

More Questions in Quest for New DCPS Admin Building

BY MICHELE LEIVAS

The Duval County Public Schools Board (DCPS) is inching toward making a final selection between the two administrative building proposals recommended by its negotiation team last August.

One proposal is from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, Inc., the other, from Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) and Preston Hollow Community Capital.

According to a presentation given to the DCPS Board last August, the Blue Cross Blue Shield option would involve leasing space in the existing Riverside building and the offer includes “up to 130,000 [square feet] available in two different floor plan scenarios,” available immediately. The JTA proposal would be “build-to-suit” and includes a 40-year lease with an option for DCPS to purchase the building after six years.

Questions were raised at that August workshop regarding what the projected costs would be to remain at the current location for the next 20 years. To that end, an independent third party was brought in to complete a facility condition assessment for three buildings from which DCPS staff would consolidate in the new location. Those three buildings are the Prudential Drive administrative building, the DCPS Teams Center on Beach Boulevard and the Technical High School in Riverside.

The assessment analyzed both short-term deferred maintenance and estimated long-time capital improvement requirements projected for 20 years. For each facility, it put forth lists of immediate, short- and long-term maintenance repairs and upgrades. The assessment projected the “total capital plus operating cost through 20 years” at \$56,641,846 for the existing facilities at an a 20-year average annual cost of nearly \$3 million.

This assessment was presented to the board at a Jan. 10 workshop, though it raised several questions and concerns by board members regarding the accuracy of the numbers reflected in it.

DCPS Executive Director of Maintenance Tarek Ghandour shared his thoughts on the “discrepancies” he saw in the report pertaining to estimated repair and maintenance costs.

“Some items, yes, you are right in the ballpark, I believe, and some items you are not, based on my belief that we have relationships with our contractors who can do the job a lot more efficiently and we have a lot of in-house capability to get the job done,” he said.

Later, in a telephone interview, DCPS Director of Purchasing Services Terrence Wright elaborated, “This facility condition assessment was completed, however it did not allow the school district staff to be able to take a look and make sure that all the information was correct and accurate. So, after that meeting was held, it was determined that [DCPS real estate consultant] CBRE, along with the consultant who prepared the facility condition assessment, will meet with the DCPS staff to go over it and make sure that all the numbers are accurate and everything is accurate. Once that’s done, the final version will then be presented in some manner to the school board again.”

Wright clarified the option of staying in the current location on Prudential Drive was not an option recommended by the negotiation team, and this assessment is “extra due diligence.”

“This is a huge decision, and it just seems like they’re trying to make sure that they perform all the due diligence and get all the information that they need before they make the decision,” he said.

According to Wright, once DCPS staff has an opportunity to go over that assessment report in detail, at that point – barring any new questions or additional requests for information – the board will move forward with a final decision to accept one of the offers, a decision he hopes will take place sometime this year.

“No one has given a timeline for anything, but that would be my hope,” he said. “I do think that the new chairman wants to take some action on this. I haven’t heard him give a timeframe, but I do think that it will be something that’s going to be in consideration all the time until the decision is made.”

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The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida's Art Ventures winners. Top row: Ithiell Yisrael, Jessica Q. Stark, Andrew Fallon, Emily Cargill and Raquel Benjamin; Bottom row: Glenn Van Dyke (Kairos Creature Club), Julian Bryson, Marcus Jamal Williams, Barbara Hionides and Andrew Kozlowski

10 Artists Receive Art Ventures Grants

Ten Northeast Florida artists recently received grants of \$5,000 each as part of The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida's Art Ventures initiative, now in its 34th year. The awards provide a springboard for the artists to advance their artistic practices, pursue new projects and bring their work to new audiences.

"I hope this year's Art Ventures artists feel tremendous pride in their selection for these awards, which are a testament to the talent and ambition of our local arts community," said Amy Crane, senior director of grantmaking at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida.

The opportunity attracted more

than 65 applicants, a record-breaking number, and the awardees were selected for their artistic merit and determination to move to the next level of professional development, with additional consideration for how the artist is influenced by and impacts Northeast Florida. During this grant cycle, The Community Foundation increased the individual artist award amount from \$3,500 to \$5,000 and extended the award timeline from 12 to 18 months.

This year's selected grantees were drawn from the categories of Film, Creative Writing, Music, and the Visual Arts. The winners and their proposed projects include:

- Raquel Benjamin, Visual Artist – To support her fashion collection, "Protest Pinstripe."
 - Julian Bryson, Music Composer/Conductor –To perform, record,
- “ I hope this year's Art Ventures artists feel tremendous pride in their selection for these awards, which are a testament to the talent and ambition of our local arts community.”**

– Amy Crane
Senior Director of Grantmaking at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida

- Barbara Hionides, Visual Artist – To support the creation of a community-driven installation project in Historic Springfield titled "Main Street Series."
- Andrew Kozlowski, Visual Artist – To expand his studio's production capacity and create opportunities for it to be a resource for other creatives in Jacksonville.
- Jessica Q. Stark, Writer – To fund a book tour for her most recent publication, "Buffalo Girl," which includes poetry, original collaged photography, and prose influenced by folklore and her mother's immigration to the United States from Vietnam in 1975.
- Glenn Van Dyke, Musician and Audio Engineer – To market local ensemble Kairos Creature Club's debut self-titled album through an international promotion campaign.
- Marcus Jamal Williams, Visual Artist – To support a community engagement project involving video interviews with pillars in the African American community, evolving into a portrait series answering the question, "What makes you great?"
- Ithiell Yisrael, Filmmaker – To create a mini-documentary as a proof of concept for a larger project highlighting the underground hip-hop scene in Jacksonville.

Art Ventures began in 1990 as a commitment to invest in local individual artists as well as small arts organizations. To date, it has made more than 240 grants to individual artists and 150 grants to small arts organizations, totaling more than \$1.4 million.

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Who’s Reading Your Mammogram?

Boutique Breast Imaging provides a better mammogram because they’re read by breast experts

Kathryn Pearson, M.D. is a trailblazer in health care and one of the country’s most respected breast-trained radiologists. Having been personally impacted by breast cancer through a deep-rooted family history and the need for surgery herself, Dr. Pearson continues to advocate for better patient care. Trained at Stanford and University of California San Francisco, and practiced in breast imaging for over 25 years, Pearson recently opened the doors to a new breast imaging center in Jacksonville’s Southside: Boutique Breast Imaging, a state-of-the-art clinic providing the highest level of breast care, screening and diagnosis by experienced, fellowship-trained breast imaging radiologists.

“Patients receive a better mammogram when read by breast experts, and unfortunately that’s not always the case - more than 60% of mammograms are interpreted by general radiologists,” said Dr. Pearson.

Breast imaging radiologists have additional radiology board certification and are experts in breast cancer screening and diagnosis. Dedicated breast imagers are proven to have increased diagnostic accuracy with earlier detection of breast cancer and less false-positive “breast cancer scares.”

“If you want an expert in breast cancer diagnosis, you see a breast imaging radiologist,” said Dr. Pearson. “I want physicians to take back control and optimize patient care, and in my breast world, this means allowing fellowship-trained breast radiologists to have the time to talk with, examine and help educate patients.”

Dr. Pearson is providing the highest level of breast care, ultimately increasing screening and

diagnosis access and workflow through experience, collaboration and state-of-the-art technology at Boutique Breast Imaging.

“Patients deserve this,” Dr. Pearson said, “By improving and expediting cancer diagnosis, helping to answer questions, educating patients, and – quite literally – holding their hand, we will be able to improve patient care, reduce unnecessary stress and anxiety, and save lives. Our patients leave feeling they were really cared for and not just rushed through an impersonal process, valued only for their insurance card.”

Pearson has been pushing the envelope on breast health for decades. As the founder of Mammosphere, a technology company that stores and exchanges mammograms in a secure cloud, she constructed a platform providing physicians and patients access to prior mammograms for comparison.

“Having prior images for comparison helps us detect breast cancer earlier, reduce additional unnecessary imaging and exposure to radiation, while also reducing health care costs,” she said.

Through Dr. Pearson’s dedication to advancing medical knowledge and the compassionate care she provides, she opened Boutique Breast Imaging knowing it would make a significant impact on the lives of the patients.

“When I look at a mammogram, I see more than just breast tissue. These are images of women who often have children, grandchildren, family and friends who depend on them. I want to do everything I can to provide the best health care possible for women, and it starts by having the right people read your mammogram,” she said.



Kathryn Pearson, M.D

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Cameron Frazier with Alexis Jackson



Thomas Lee IV with Chris Warren, Mike Hightower and Andrew Kisz



Niko Negron with Andrea Williams, Belkis Plata, Megan Hayward and Shannon Schott

Empowered and Engaged

Gala celebrates Emerging Leaders grads

BY MICHELE LEIVAS

Class VII of the Hightower Emerging Leaders Fellowship celebrated its graduation at the annual black-tie holiday party at the River Club of Jacksonville on Jan. 6.

Seventeen individuals were selected for the 2023 class from more than 70 applications – with an equal representation from both the corporate and nonprofit sectors “because a great city has to have that balance,” explained fellowship co-founder and namesake, Mike Hightower.

“For those of you all who got here, congratulations, because you’re the best of the best,” he said.

In addition to celebrating these individuals, the evening recognized the passing of the torch from Immediate Past Chair Lauren Braddock to the 2024 Chair Belkis Plata.

“She’s going to represent you all so well and she’s so genuinely humbled and proud to be the chair this year,” Braddock said, introducing Plata. “The fellowship is going to be in such good hands with her at its helm, and I have been a better leader with her as my partner.”

“As we look forward ahead, our focus remains on harnessing our collective talents to better our community,” Plata said. “This program is not just about individual success; it’s about creating a lasting impact on Jacksonville and beyond. I’m deeply thankful for this opportunity to lead and learn among such inspiring individuals.”

The Hightower Emerging Leaders Fellowship was created in 2017 and is a program of the JAX Chamber.



Robin and Laura Braddock



Daniel and Janine Burkhardt



James Shepard with Belkis Plata



Yanira “Ya Ya” Cordova with Nicole Hamm and Megan Bush Del Pizzo



Whitney Meyer with Sarah Small and Amber Wilson

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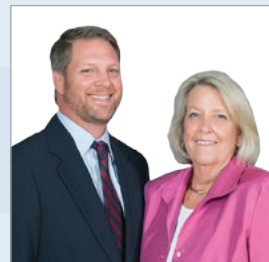
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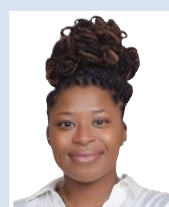


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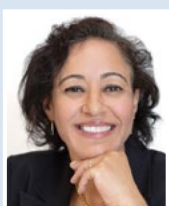
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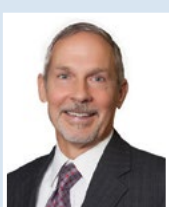
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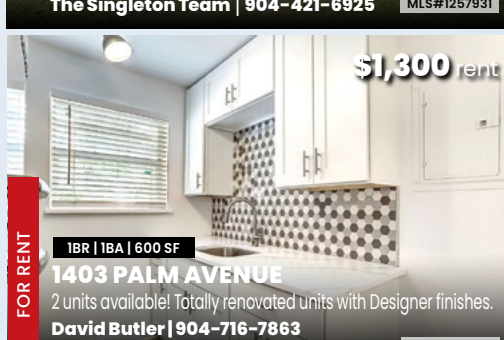
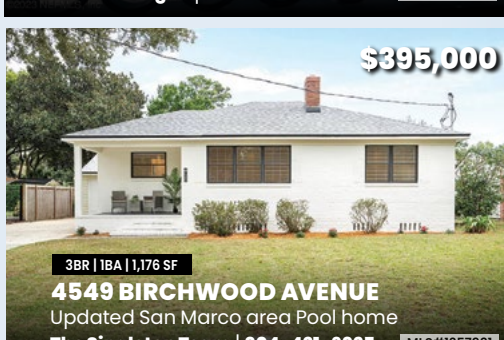
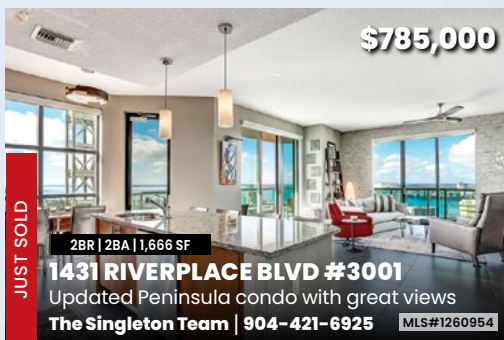
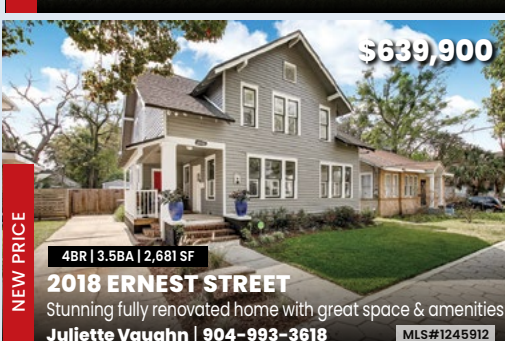
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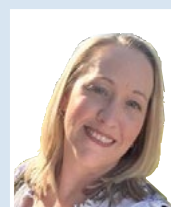
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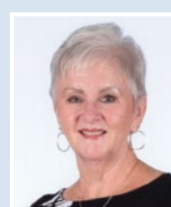
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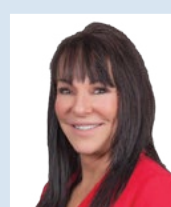
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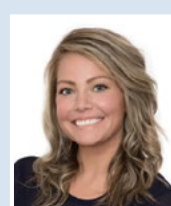
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Janet Wozniak with Jennifer and Chris Spires and Suzanne Hinckley



Elli Zimmerman with Gracie Register



Michael Grove with Clancy Houston and JoJo Grove



Rick and Sammie Graham with Dr. Mark and Ellen Gould, Andrew Wooten and Grace Wooten



David and Susanna Barton with Lindsey and Ryan Riggs



Jennifer and Chris Spires with Janet Wozniak, Leslie and Will Montoya



Nathan and Kat Miller with Meg and Tom Davis

Wozniak Warms Up the Forum

The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital hosted Steve Wozniak at the Jacksonville Center for the Performing Arts on Jan. 17 as part of its Florida Forum speaker series. A Silicon Valley icon, technology entrepreneur and philanthropist for more than 40 years, Wozniak helped shape the computing industry with his design of Apple's first line of products and co-founding of Apple Computer Inc. He was inducted into the Inventors Hall of Fame in 2000.

Wozniak is the second in the Florida Forum lineup. Funds raised from the evening will go toward a new Kids Kare Mobile ICU, a neonatal and pediatric critical care transport vehicle for Wolfson Children's.

The final speaker in the Florida Forum series will be retired Adm. James Stavridis on Monday, Feb. 26 at 7 p.m. at the Jacksonville Center for the Performing Arts.

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MEMORIAL PARK GALA—

Celebrating 100 Years of Olmstead Brothers in Jacksonville

Memorial Park Association celebrated the kickoff of Memorial Park's Centennial Anniversary with a gala at Timuquana Country Club on Saturday, Jan. 20. The evening of celebration, live music, dinner and drinks reflected on the history of Memorial Park and raised money to preserve and protect the park for generations.

The Olmstead Brothers-designed Memorial Park was officially dedicated on Christmas Day in 1924 in honor of

the more than 1,220 Floridians who died in the first World War. The park is home to Florida's World War One Memorial, the iconic Spiritualized Life sculpture and 100 years of Jacksonville residents' memories.



Jeanne Winston with Agnes Danciger



Harrell Jennings with David Wingard, Kate Hallock and Mackey

Tracy Arthur with Lana Shuttleworth Wood and Dr. Wayne Wood

Mike and Debbie Crumpler

Holland Gibbs with Kristi Emmet and Catherine Friedline



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LOCAL FOLKS

BY JENNIFER JENSEN

Jacksonville is a proud military town, and it's proud of the military families that call it home, even if just for a short while. Although Alise Morales may not be a local from Jacksonville, she's a local "for now" and enjoying the five years she's spent here so far. Her husband, Joe, is active-duty U.S. Navy, so there's always a chance of being deployed elsewhere, but Morales has invested her time in Jacksonville wisely: She found a new hobby that turned into a business, connected with the active maker community and had a beautiful baby boy named Mateo.



Alise Morales with husband, Joe, and son, Mateo.

When the Morales family first moved to Jacksonville, they lived in Southside. A couple of years later, they decided they wanted to venture elsewhere and fell in love with the San Marco, Miramar and Lakewood areas. Now, it is where they happily reside.

"What we liked was that it's like this small town within a bigger city," Morales said. "I love that I can walk to the Winn-Dixie or a local restaurant. It has a much different feel than other places and we love it."

Prior to moving to Jacksonville, Morales lived in Indianapolis and worked as a special events coordinator for the Indianapolis Zoological Society. She met Joe Morales in October 2017 when he was in training for the Navy, living in Pensacola. Her best friend was dating Joe's roommate and Joe needed a date for the upcoming Navy Birthday Ball in Pensacola. At her friend's suggestion that she should go, Alise bought a plane ticket for \$600 and went to Pensacola with her friend.

As they say, the rest is history. The couple married December 2018.

"Luckily, it worked out, and it's the most expensive first date I've ever had," Morales said. "I was not expecting it, my parents were not expecting it, but sometimes I think they like my husband more than me."

Early in their Jacksonville days, Morales was working for a nonprofit doing fundraising. But when COVID hit in 2020, she realized that wasn't what she wanted to do any more. She quit her job and started graduate school to be a therapist. Shortly after, her husband deployed, and she went in search of a hobby outside of school.

She started doing digital art and tried making candles but hated it. She picked a business name, Jasper and Elm, and created an Instagram account, while still trying to figure out what she wanted to make.

"I wanted something that sounded semi-boutique, but not high end," Morales said. "I also didn't want to limit myself with the name."

Polymer clay was having a huge boom in 2020 and she's "an accessories girl" at heart, so she thought she'd give it a try. She bought a \$20 polymer clay kit from Amazon and got started.

"Everyone was at home and looking for something to do. I kept seeing videos of it, so I thought I'd give it a try," said Morales. "I made my first couple pairs of earrings and they were terrible. My mom still has hers, and she still wears them - no matter how ugly they are."

With six months by herself, she threw herself into that creative outlet.

"It was very therapeutic and healing for me," Morales said. "It was also a great escape from grad school, which could sometimes be intense material related to marriage and family therapy. Being able to create on the side was a really good balance for that. I feel like that's the kind of most important thing, that it was very important for my mental health. Doing creative things is just healing."

Coming from an entrepreneurial family, she made and sold jewelry very successfully in 2021 and thought maybe being a therapist wasn't what she was supposed to be doing either.

"I thought, maybe I want to have my own business for forever," Morales said. "So, I dropped out of grad school, and I've been doing this ever since."

When she sits down to make her jewelry, she often she just lets her creativity flow. She only has a handful of designs she makes repeatedly, but most of her pieces end up being one-of-a-kind exclusives. Morales also began attending art events and became immersed in the maker community.

"I love the makers community in Jax because people are really open and friendly," she said. "I've had questions about making methods and found other makers genuinely interested in sharing their own experiences. I'm even friends with several other polymer clay artists - it's wonderful to have that support in an area where there can be competition. I try to help foster that 'community over competition' vibe because it's so important."

An original "dog mom" to a black, pit bull mix named Nym, Morales's mom life changed again for the better when she gave birth to Mateo in June 2023.

"He's such a happy baby," Morales said. "I don't know how he is this happy."

However, his birth presented some challenges, as Morales developed carpal tunnel syndrome during pregnancy, which made it difficult to make her jewelry. She also developed a staff infection a week after birth that sent her back to the hospital. Morales took several months off to focus on her health and her growing family.

"I'm a very determined person I would say, so if I have something I want to accomplish, it's hard for me to not just do," Morales said. "I try to remind myself when I can only do 10 hours of work in a week, that rest is important, and I'm caring for another person who doesn't know how to be a person yet. I try to stick to those kinds of foundations."

Honoring her new season in life, Morales recently did a small launch for her mom-focused apparel. She's also branching out into other types of jewelry making and other mediums. Eventually, she hopes to open her own store.

In the meantime, Morales spends a lot of time exploring the parks around town and hanging out in San Marco and Taverna, her favorite restaurant. She also plans to take little Mateo to dip his toes in our Jacksonville beaches.



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Mary Love McArthur with Mary Love Strum, Marilyn Carpenter and Major Candice Biggers
Major Keith Biggers with Sheila Jackson and Major Candice Biggers

Salvation Army Women’s Auxiliary preps for Celebrity Chefs Luncheon

The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary gathered its members for a preview of its signature fundraiser, Celebrity Chefs – Tasting Luncheon and Silent Auction, which will celebrate its 38th year April 2024. The group of philanthropists met at Epping Forest Yacht and Country Club for their January meeting over breakfast as they enjoyed good company, faith-filled dialogue and camaraderie.

The ladies invited special guest and celebrity chef Matthew Roop to speak about his leadership role as the Northeast Florida Multi-Area Director for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). Roop took time to share the mission of supporting coaches, athletes, schools and congregations with the spiritual equipment to grow programs full of leaders and mentors on their path to achievement. The luncheon was hosted by Marilyn Carpenter, who graciously welcomed each guest upon arrival as the event kicked off Monday, Jan. 22.

For more information about the event, or to learn more about sponsorships and how to help celebrate 38 years of caring for others, contact darlene.uhler-batiste@uss.salvationarmy.org, or call (904) 301-4841.



Diane Bailey and Debra Register



Event Co-Chair Susie O'Quinn and Nee Cee Lee with guest speaker and celebrity chef, Matthew Roop and Event Co-Chair Rita Cannon

Tim and Stephanie Cost Make Transformational Gift to Launch Cost Honors College

Jacksonville University (JU) announced the formation of the Cost Honors College with plans to formally launch in 2025. The naming of the Cost Honors College, endorsed by JU's 26-member board of trustees, recognizes President Tim Cost and First Lady Stephanie Cost for their philanthropic support of the university, which now totals \$10 million. The Costs' catalytic gift enables JU to elevate its honors program and transition to become an honors college. The Cost Honors College will focus on three pillars: academic excellence, residential life and global citizenry.

"Tim and I believe in the impact that a high-quality, challenging education can have on a student's life and their trajectory," said Stephanie Cost. "Our lives bear witness to the critical importance of education as students ourselves, as parents of two children who graduated from excellent universities, and now having observed and influenced the life paths of thousands of students over the past decade. We're gratified to make this investment in the Honors College that will benefit today's students and future generations."

JU's Honors Program has been offered for more than three decades. Today, there are 220 students in the program. All students already enrolled in the Honors Program will become members of the Cost Honors College with the first cohort graduating Spring 2026.

"This is the next important step toward again upgrading what we do here," said Tim Cost. "Our goal has always been to build a much better university, serve the broader Jacksonville community, unlock potential, and graduate more ambitious, competitive and well-rounded citizens."

The University has already established The Honors College Executive Council, comprising 22 well-respected business leaders, entrepreneurs, innovators, alumni, trustees and staff who will serve as thought leaders and advisors through JU's transition from the Honors Program to the Cost Honors College.

Lisa Sutherland has been tapped to lead the Cost Honors College as executive director.

For more information and a full list of Executive Council members, visit residentnews.net.



Jacksonville University President Tim Cost with Cost Honors College Executive Director Lisa Sutherland and First Lady Stephanie Cost

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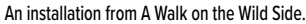
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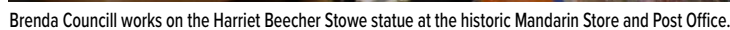


MOCA Jacksonville opened *A Walk on the Wild Side: '70s New York in the Norman E. Fisher Collection* at MOCA Jacksonville on Jan. 18. The exhibition explores the dynamic culture of New York in the 1970s that spurred a decade of collaboration and innovation between artists working in a variety of genres. It features a special collection within the museum's permanent collection paired with loans from around the country, including artists like Joseph Kosuth, Gordon Matta-Clark, Robert Mapplethorpe, Richard Nonas, Yoko Ono and Andy Warhol, as well as writers, dancers, musicians and singers including William Burroughs, David Bowie, Lou Reed, Philip Glass and Robert Wilson.

Comprised of nearly 700 objects in a variety of media, the Norman E. Fisher Collection is one of MOCA Jacksonville's most significant holdings. It was donated to the museum in 1979 by the family of Jacksonville native Norman Fisher, who became immersed in the New York cultural scene in the 1970s, befriending many of the luminaries of the time.

"It has been incredibly exciting to work with the Norman E. Fisher Collection in preparation of the exhibition," says Senior Curator Ylva Rouse. "The artworks, printed media and documentation that Norman Fisher amassed give us a rare insight into this boundary breaking period in American Art, that in many ways prefigured the ways in which artists present their work today."

The exhibition will be on display at MOCA Jacksonville through June 30, 2024.



Renowned local artist Brenda Councill recently completed work on a life-sized sculpture of Harriet Beecher Stowe, which will be installed at Walter Jones Historical Park on Mandarin Road later this year. With the sculpting completed, the statue of Stowe and two young children is currently at the foundry and will return after bronzing. A model of the sculpture can be seen at the Walter Jones Historical Museum.

Councill, who grew up in Mandarin, is dedicated to promoting the legacy of Stowe's contribution and promotion of education for children, regardless of race, and to recognizing her place in local history.

Stowe is best known as the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and lived on Mandarin Road during the winter from 1867 to 1884 where she operated an orange grove.

“Dignity and Pride,” a new exhibition by Marcus Williams, opened at The Ritz Theatre and Museum on Jan. 21. The exhibit seeks to challenge prevailing narratives and foster a deeper understanding of the impacts of colonialism by shedding light on its obscured stories. While the dominant discourse has often highlighted the achievements of colonial powers, “Dignity and Pride” takes a step towards acknowledging the voices that were discouraged, marginalized and silenced during this period.

The exhibit highlights hand-based communication within the Black community, its use as a means of survival, and its related cultural significance between Black people across various geographic and social landscapes. By highlighting the intricacies in the language of our hands, from greetings to rhythms, accessorizing to prayer, Williams celebrates the spirit of dignity and pride within the Black community.

"This is for the culture, for the art lovers, for the community," said Imani Thorne. The exhibit will run through March 3.



Families celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day with free admission to The Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens on Jan. 15. Andrea Barnwell Brownlee, the George W. and Kathleen I. Gibbs Director and CEO, said while the museum is typically closed on Mondays, it opened specifically for locals to “gather together and reflect on the extraordinary contributions of Dr. King and Coretta Scott King to the betterment of humanity.”

The Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African American History and Culture comes to Jacksonville in February as The Friends of the Brentwood Public Library presents "A Place for All People: Introducing the National Museum of African American History and Culture."

A grand opening and reception for the commemorative poster exhibition will be held on Feb. 1 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Brentwood Public Library in celebration of Black History Month. The celebration will continue on Feb. 24 at 12:30 p.m. for the organization's 124th Anniversary of Lift Every Voice and Sing: A Place for All People Symposium, and God's Trombones at Brentwood Branch.

“A Place for All People” highlights key artifacts that tell the rich and diverse story of the African American experience. From the child-size shackles of a slave and the clothing worn by Carolotta Walls on her first day at Little Rock Central High School to Chuck Berry’s Gibson guitar, “Maybellene,” and the track shoes worn by Olympian Carl Lewis, the exhibition presents a living history that reflects challenge, triumph, faith and hope.



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FEATHER: A Second-Chance Champion

BY JULIE KERNS GARMENDIA

Feather is a regal, brindle-colored racing greyhound. Alone in the shelter at approximately one year old, she no history except a tattooed ear. She was assumed to have likely failed on the racetrack like countless other greyhounds and given away, but unlike the other dogs who often met worse fates, this “failed” dog became an inspiring story of how a second chance can uncover a sleeping champion.

A Change of Fate

Samantha Valle is a professional trainer of herding dogs. Remembering when she first saw greyhounds running, she thought they were the most majestic, athletic dogs she had ever seen and decided she wanted to adopt one. So, she contacted Star City Greyhound Adoptions in Roanoke, Virginia.

“I emailed all the greyhound rescues and decided to drive the four hours to Star City. Feather came right to me, and I knew she was the one,” said Valle. “She was my first and only greyhound.”

Valle, who started training dogs at age 15, believes the key to success is never comparing them, but instead responding to each dog’s needs with patience and consistency.

“People have misconceptions about rescue dogs, believing that because someone else threw them away, there must be something wrong with them,” she said.

While Feather may not have won races, she shocked Valle one day by jumping so high that she accidentally hit the ceiling. Seeing her natural jumping ability, Valle decided to train Feather to perfect it.

“Her talents became apparent so fast. As soon as she understood what I wanted her to do, she jumped a height of 60 inches like it was nothing, and just kept going,” Valle said. “Plus, her heart sets her apart. She’s just a bundle of affection.”

In 2017, Feather jumped the officially recorded 75.5 inches to win the Guinness World Record for the highest jump by a dog, surpassing the previous record – held

by greyhound Cinderella May – by more than 19 inches.

“Every adopted dog cannot be a champion, but Feather is living proof that rescue dogs can be as loving, talented and remarkable as any other dog out there,” Valle said.



Feather and Samantha Valle



Feather in action on her world-record jump.

Impressive by Design

Historically, hunters prized greyhounds because of their speed up to 45 mph, chasing and killing game by sight. Kept as pets since at least the age of Egyptian Pharaohs, greyhounds were immortalized on tomb paintings, murals and artifacts. They are highly adaptable, devoted pets, often chosen by adopters for their calm, gentle, sensitive, affectionate temperaments and intelligence.

Greyhounds are natural runners built for speed with larger than normal hearts and long, strong legs on a slim, lightweight, sleek-coated body. They also have the highest percentage of fast twitch muscles of any dog breed. Their unusually flexible spines stretch to maximize the body length of catapulting leaps from rapid-fire steps. When racing, they are airborne 75% of the time, gathering speed and covering increasing ground with each stride.

It is a misconception, however, that retired greyhounds require miles of running each day. Routine daily exercise is sufficient, and soft surfaces are easiest on their feet and bodies. When adopted, most racing greyhounds are unfamiliar with a home and must learn to walk on floors or stairs, as Feather did.

Tour of Champions

During the pandemic, Scott and Joan Houghton, producers of the *Mutts Gone Nuts UNLEASHED* Show, adopted Feather from Valle. They knew when public performances resumed that their show was the perfect way for her to continue interacting with people and performing when she retired from jumping.

Feather, now eight years old and 55 pounds, loves performing her comedic routine for people, especially children. Feather recently visited Jacksonville and the Florida

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Feather, with her adopter and trainer Samantha Valle, is still unbeaten in her 2017 Guinness World Record Highest Jump by a Dog honor.

Theatre stage with her other *Mutts Gone Nuts* canine castmates – many of whom were also adopted – and all-star trainers. The cast entertained and highlighted the adoptability of shelter dogs and the animal welfare work of K9s for Warriors and EPIC Outreach.

Joan Houghton said Feather typically naps on a dressing room couch before performances. Then, when it is time for her to go on stage, “it’s like a switch flips on; she’s instantly awake and excited.”

“We had a show outside, and it began to rain. We did not want Feather to attempt any jumps, so we put her into our mobile home at the venue,” Houghton said. “Feather is so smart and driven to be on stage, when she heard her performance music, she broke through a screen door and appeared onstage, right on cue!”

The Houghtons plan for Feather to live out her life with them on their Maryland farm enjoying her golden years. Adoption and a second chance to live a happy life is their wish for every homeless animal. Locally, Jacksonville’s Animal Care & Protective Services and Jacksonville Humane Society stay critically full with hundreds of homeless dogs and cats desperate for fostering or adoption.

As World Greyhound Day is celebrated on Feb. 1, Feather’s incredible life story as a failed-racing-greyhound-turned-shelter-dog who beat the odds to become world-famous is slated to be part of a documentary film in fall 2024.

Hey Jude

Wolfson Children’s Adds First Facility Support Dog

Patients at Wolfson Children’s Hospital are benefiting from a new member of the Family Support Services care team, but this team member has four legs and a tail. Jude, the hospital’s first facility dog and founding member of “Wolfie’s Woofpack,” works with Child Life Specialist Kara Williams to provide therapeutic interventions for pediatric patients and bring a little joy to their hospital stay.

As a specially trained facility dog, Jude complements Williams’ efforts by reducing patient anxiety and motivating patients to achieve clinical goals. Williams said Jude has been “trained specifically to assist in service dog tasks such as providing a deep pressure comfort hold to alleviate anxiety or serving as an alternate focus during painful procedures.”

Jude came to Wolfson Children’s Hospital after a two-year training program with Canine Companions and was matched specifically with Williams, who he lives with full-time.

“When you’re going through the matching process, the staff tells you that you won’t pick the dog, the dog will pick you,” she said.

Jude knows over 40 commands and assists children through activities like rolling a ball back and forth with a patient to improve motor function, motivating a patient to walk around the unit, or

taking “medicine” from a syringe in his mouth during a medical play session to help make syringes less scary for patients. With Williams’ help, Jude also “writes” encouraging notes to patients he has assisted.

“These dogs play such a vital role in the healing process and make such a significant impact on patients. Facility dogs can turn a sometimes-scary place into a safe place,” said Williams. “It has been amazing to see the difference that he makes in patients’ lives. They truly light up when he walks into the room.”



Jude with Child Life Specialist Kara Williams

PHOTO: FACEBOOK@WOLFSONCHILDREN

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17 REASONS TO

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OUR HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOODS

BY WINDY TAYLOR

As everyone begins to embrace the spirit of love this month, let’s celebrate by turning our affections toward the heart of our community. It is a great time to reflect on the many reasons we’re lucky to live here - not just in Jacksonville, but in one of her historic neighborhoods. These communities have deep roots, made possible by residents committed to tending them. Sometimes, like when our city is turned into a (hilarious) running joke on television’s “The Good Place,” it’s easy to lose sight of the reasons we chose to come here and the reasons we choose to stay. Whether this is your first year in a historic neighborhood or you’ve loved your community for decades, we’re honoring our 17 years here with the 17 things we can all appreciate about the unique place we call home.

- 1

Water, Water Everywhere
Jacksonville is known as the River City, but that goes way beyond the St. Johns. Many rivers flow through the county, giving every resident a chance to enjoy views of the water, even on a trip to the grocery store. Water does more than hydrate our bodies - it soothes the soul. The city’s original planners grasped this, and residents of our historic neighborhoods enjoy the most exposure to our waterways.
- 2

A Culinary Oddity
According to the New York Times, the camel rider (a pita stuffed with anything from lunch meats to tabbouleh) is Jacksonville’s most recognizable contribution to the American culinary landscape. Traditionally served with cherry limeade, Jaxsons can find these tasty lunch staples at many locations throughout our neighborhoods – from Pinegrove Market in Avondale, to Gina’s in Murray Hill, to the Sheik on the edge of San Marco. They’re delicious reminders of our vibrant Middle Eastern community.
- 3

The Dolphin Show
Who needs Sea World? For a taste of the life aquatic, head to the riverfront near downtown to view dolphins frolicking in the channel. They are most active during the warm months in the morning. Excellent viewing spots include the gardens of the Cummer Museum in Riverside and the South Bank Riverwalk in San Marco.

- 4

Food
In Jacksonville, the answer to “What’s for dinner?” is “Anything!” From fine dining to food trucks, there’s something to please every palette. Jacksonville’s ethnic diversity is showcased in its culinary offerings. Ethiopian? Got it. Caribbean? Check. Syrian? Thai? Turkish? Absolutely. But if you’re craving pizza, barbecue or seafood, we’ve got that covered too, with local restaurants to serve up whatever your heart desires.
- 5

Drink
From morning coffee to an evening cocktail or a Jaguars tailgate, your lips never have to taste a beverage made outside the city limits. Rise and grind at Brew in Five Points or Southern Grounds in San Marco. Crack open a cold Duval Light while you cheer the Jags at home, or mix up something special with spirits from Manifest. Murray Hill’s Fishweir Brewery and San Marco’s Aardwolf have become neighborhood gathering places for the happy hour crowd.
- 6

Neighborhood Character
Our neighborhoods don’t have strict borders, but you can almost feel the moment you cross from one into another. Each of our historic ‘hoods has a distinct flavor, from the quirky vibe of Murray Hill to the Spanish influences in San Marco. In some ways, Jacksonville feels like a collection of small towns, each with its own walkable commercial district.
- 7

Trees and Parks
Jacksonville has the largest urban park system in the country, and many of those parks are in our historic districts. From the understated elegance of Memorial Park to the wild beauty of Tillie Fowler Park or the hidden gem that is Inwood Park, Jaxsons can always find a place to relax. Many of our parks are right on the water, giving everyone access to our most beautiful resource. And most of our parks are dotted with beautiful shade-giving trees, providing respite from the heat in the endless summer.
- 8

Houses of Worship
Jacksonville has both long-standing worshiping communities as well as a fine collection of historically significant houses of worship. Congregation Ahavath Chesed, the oldest Jewish congregation in Florida, worships in a modern building in San Jose, while the recently rebranded Riverside Church at Park and King worships in a Mizner-designed sanctuary that appears on the National Register of Historic Places. These buildings serve as important gathering places for the neighborhoods in which they stand, as well as architectural landmarks that contribute to neighborhood character.

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9 Unique architecture
After the Great Fire of 1901, Jacksonville drew the attention of many up-and-coming architects. Rather than seeing a charred devastation, they saw a golden opportunity. Luminaries like Henrietta Dozier and Henry Klutho blended architectural styles in ways that remain fresh and harmonious to this day. Dozier in particular kept her focus ferociously local.
“Every house should be designed for the climate and all materials should be suitable to this climate,” she said. “I believe, wherever it is possible, it is wisdom to use all Florida materials, also Florida labor. For the houses I build, all material is purchased right here in Jacksonville.”

10 Education Matters
The St. Nicholas neighborhood has the distinction of housing not one, but two of Jacksonville’s finest high schools: Episcopal and Bishop Kenny. However, every neighborhood offers a range of educational opportunities. Bolles, a top-ranked boarding school, brings students from all over the world to San Jose. New charter schools, like Jacksonville Classical Academy in Riverside, are offering even more choices to families.

11 Planes, Trains and Automobiles
Everyone who lives in Jacksonville’s historic neighborhoods has had the exquisite frustration of being held up by a train, either in San Marco or on Roosevelt Boulevard. But while these delays are aggravating, our neighborhoods just wouldn’t be the same without the railroad lines that cross them. The same is true for the air traffic from the Naval Air Station, especially when the Blue Angels are in town for the air show, which Ortega residents have affectionately dubbed “No Nap Weekend.”

12 Walkability...
While Jacksonville itself is too big to be walkable, each historic neighborhood functions as a small, walkable town. Our flat terrain and shady trees make walking or rolling easy for all ages and abilities. And that walkability extends to our four-legged residents! Many restaurants and shops are dog-friendly, and dogs seem to enjoy the weekly Riverside Arts Market as much as their humans do.

13 ...But Also, Driveability
As cozy and insulated as our historic neighborhoods seem, they are also conveniently located next to two major interstates. In as little as 20 minutes, historic neighborhood residents can get to Jacksonville International Airport, EverBank Field or the Jacksonville Zoo. Additionally, because our historic neighborhoods don’t have walls or limited access, there is always an alternate route to your destination.

14 Home Team Spirit
Whether you’re sipping a crisp sauvignon blanc at one of our country clubs or throwing back a domestic draft at one of our dive bars, one topic of conversation is sure to come up: How ‘bout those Jaguars? No matter if it’s a rebuilding year or a championship season, our hometown team dominates the discourse from August until February. Riverside Avondale Preservation schedules its annual Luminaria evening around the Jags schedule, and many a bride has breathlessly awaited the release of the NFL season to choose a wedding date. College loyalties have long divided Jacksonville, but the Jaguars are one thing we can all agree on (even if, for years, we only agreed they were terrible.)

15 Shop Small
If your mission is to keep your shopping dollars local, you are in luck. Our historic neighborhoods each boast a great variety of small businesses to tempt you, from well-established shops like Underwood’s in Avondale, to Syrene, the new kid on the block in San Marco. Quirky Murray Hill has Bee Friends Farm, a beekeeping supply shop. And if you find yourself in need of sustenance, head somewhere like Mixed Fillings Pie Shop in Five Points, where the delicious pies come with delightful names.

16 To Protect and (Pre)Serve
Riverside Avondale Preservation (RAP), and its southside counterpart, the San Marco Preservation Society, advocate strongly for their neighborhoods to retain their distinctive characters. San Marco has submitted a neighborhood action plan to the City Council to act as a blueprint for future growth that is sustainable and thoughtful. RAP hosts events like the Home Tour, Garden Tour and Riverside Arts Market that bring many Jacksonville residents into the neighborhood to experience for themselves the historic character of the area.

17 The Resident News
There is only one paper committed to exclusively covering Jacksonville’s historic neighborhoods – and you’re holding it in your hands right now. For the last 17 years, *The Resident News* has been a valuable resource for citizens of the city’s distinct communities. Every month, we bring you the stories of the people who make up the fabric of these neighborhoods, look to the past with humility and look to the future with enthusiasm.

LOCAL LOVE LETTERS:
What Makes Our Neighborhood So Special?



“Maple Street Biscuit Co. for breakfast, Matthew’s for the food and Publix. Publix has unique items at this location that they don’t have at other locations.” – Michelle Birt



“I love the combination of the shops, amazing restaurants and people walking along the sidewalks. It also has a great park environment to either hang out, read a book or work on my laptop.” – Jim Cannan



“I like the weather. It gets a bit chilly here. It’s also urban. I don’t like being in the country. I want to be around people.” – Leah Simms



“We love Chart House for happy hour. Missy Riley Art and Pieces. I can’t wait for new space to open. Also, Foxtail Coffee Co. I love their coffee.” – Camala Stringer

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RESIDENTS

Junior



District 6 Senior Vice Commander Rich Possert with essay winner Fabianna Nassar

Nassar Wins Patriotic Essay Contest

Fabiana Nassar, eighth grader at Assumption Catholic School, won first place for Veterans of Foreign Wars (FVW) Post 3270 in the Patriotic Youth Essay, Patriots Pen contest, sponsored by the VFW and VFW Auxiliary for Florida District 6. Students were challenged to write about how they were inspired by America. Nassar's essay advanced to win second place in the district and a cash scholarship. She was recognized at an awards ceremony on Saturday, Jan. 13, where she had the opportunity to read her essay to the audience. In addition to Nassar, eighth grader Brooklyn Denmark also placed first for Post 7909 and won a scholarship.

Harden Wins Cross Country Coach of the Year

Jackie Hardin, Bishop Kenny High School's Girls Cross Country Coach, was the recognized as the Florida Dairy Farmers 2023 Girls Class 2A Cross Country Coach of the Year.

Under Hardin's leadership, the lady Crusaders placed first in their district and region before winning the FHSAA Class 2A State Championship – the ninth title in program history and their first since 2008.

"I am honored to receive this award and I know that I am only one of a very large number of cross country coaches who are deserving of this recognition," said Hardin.

Hardin has been at Bishop Kenny since 2016 as a guidance counselor in the Office of School Counseling and the girls head coach for eight years.

"I couldn't do this without [assistant coach] Mike Curran. We have worked together for eight years, and he has been instrumental in the success of this program. The expertise that Mike brings to our girls and the training regime is incredible. We wouldn't have the success this year without his valuable knowledge and love for the program."



Jackie Hardin

Wolfson AP Program Applications Open

Applications to the Samuel Wolfson School for Advanced Studies' AP Magnet Program are still open and can be found on the Duval County Public Schools Parent Focus account under the Magnet Program link. The deadline to apply for the AP program is Feb. 29, 2024.

The AP Magnet Program is part of Wolfson's college magnet programs. Wolfson transitioned from a neighborhood school to an exclusively application-based magnet school in 2017. This threshold has

afforded students higher levels of math and science through its AP and IB programs. It was recently recognized as one of the top 13 schools in Florida by the Florida Department of Education.

"Every single student who has graduated from our IB program in the past five years leaves with college credit," said Principal Christopher Begley. Students hoping to join the incoming class of 2028 will find out next month if they've been accepted to the IB program.

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Sophomores Hallie Stewart, James McCranie and H Burkett helped dig a hole for a septic tank on their mission trip to the island of Jamaica.

Community Kindness Reaches Jamaica

Six Bolles upper school students traveled to Jamaica on a mission trip with St. Mark's Episcopal Church's youth group during winter break to help those living in the small mountain town of Mandeville. From Jan. 1 through Jan. 6, Hallie Nelson, Ellie Stewart, William Barakat, H Burkett, James McCranie and Harrison Spencer helped build a kitchen for a community center and dug a 7-foot-deep septic tank hole. Alumnus Dan Dearing also joined the students to assist them on their trip.



Assumption kindergarteners put on a joyful Christmas musical presentation.



Benjamin Martin, Owen Lanahan, Reagan Meyer, Eliana Gebreyesus and Thomas Felix represent the Nativity.

Honoring the Reason for the Season

Assumption Catholic School students honored the true meaning of Christmas with a kindergarten musical presentation and first grade Nativity play in December. Kindergarten students spent weeks practicing with music teacher Katie Rewa to perfect a medley of Christmas songs that they performed for their families prior to the holiday break. The highly anticipated, annual first grade Christmas Nativity play involved the entire first-grade student body, dressed either for a specific role or in their Sunday best as part of the ensemble.



PHOTO/JANET WATSON PHOTOGRAPHY

Debutante Coterie Presented at 146th Christmas Ball

Twelve debutantes in traditional white gowns made their final, formal bow on Dec. 28, 2023, at the 146th annual Florida Yacht Club Christmas Ball and Presentation, held at Timuquana Country Club. The coterie included, front row: Mimi Page Kurlas, Meagan Dianne Donovan, Sarah Alice Craddock, Hannah Pendleton Goldfield, Catherine Kelly Kunz, Barley Jemison Hilpert, Elizabeth Alston Rachels; back row: Evelyn Elizabeth Miller, Catharine Tucker Ogletree, Ann Genevra Miller, Wentworth Grace Pajcic and Eleanor Somerset Acosta-Rua.

Chen Performs at Carnegie Hall



Bolles senior Yancin Chen performed in the Weill Recital Hall in New York City's famed Carnegie Hall on Dec. 23 as a winner of the 2023 American Protégé International Piano and Strings Competition. Chen won third place in the Piano Intermediate Category (age 15 to 18), earning a recital spot at the renowned classical concert venue.



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New AI Policy Changes Address the Good, Bad

Episcopal School of Jacksonville's (ESJ) division heads and Student Life office recently worked to develop a new policy for grades six through 12 regarding the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the classroom, balancing its frequent misuse with the need for graduates to work within technological advancements such as AI.

ESJ's new policy reads: "Our approach and philosophy regarding this type of content is authentic to the future our students will live and work in, but more importantly is rooted in our mission and our learner-centered approach to education. Episcopal will teach students to utilize machine intelligence ethically and efficiently, ensuring that our programs and pedagogy continue to emphasize the irreplaceable value of that which makes us human."

"The most important word in our policy is 'human,'" said Natalie Herford, ESJ Head of Upper School. "We are and our students are, first and foremost, human beings. No machine can take the place of our creativity, our joy for learning, our Harkness classroom discussions or our imagination. But we can use AI for learning with parameters placed around it."

In the past, much of grading has depended on the final product a student submits. With the development of AI, the process the student goes through to create that final product now becomes exponentially weightier. Learning now has become the process, instead of learning being the final product.

With AI, it is easy to turn in a polished product and learn nothing in the process," said Herford.

While AI can be useful in the classroom for problem set generation, brainstorming idea generation, and even as a tutor in certain circumstances, faculty is also using the misinformation AI produces as a learning tool, having students correct and edit AI responses. Methods to further protect the learning process include the increased use of Google docs and assignment checks throughout the project.

Award-winning Singers Return Home for Concert

The award-winning Washington and Lee University Singers, conducted by Shane Lynch, will perform at St. John's Cathedral on Sunday, Feb. 5 at 5 p.m. as a part of the choir's national tour of the Southeast.

Members of the renowned a capella choir include Jacksonville locals Libby DeVooght and Will Pittman. DeVooght is a 2022 graduate of Stanton College Preparatory School, previous worship leader at Southside Methodist and veteran of the Jacksonville Children's Chorus and the Florida All-State Women's Chorus. Pittman graduated in 2020 from the Episcopal School of Jacksonville.

The performance will include music from Bach to Mendelssohn to Argentinian composer Ernesto Herrera, highlighted by set from renowned composer Rosephanye Powell. As is tradition, the University Singers will end their performance with folk songs. Admission to the concert is free.

In 2022, the University Singers choir took third place at the City of Derry International Choir Festival in Ireland and was the first to represent the U.S. at the competition.



Libby DeVooght and Will Pittman



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Alex Torres



John Erdal



Sawyer Weakland with her mother, Ang Weakland

Making Waves

Jacksonville water polo trio shines at Olympic Development Tournament



Members of the Jacksonville Water Polo Club practice at Bolles.

Three standout members of the Jacksonville Water Polo Club showcased their skill and dedication at the USA Water Polo Olympic Development Program (ODP) Super Regional Tournament held in Dallas, Texas, Jan. 12-14.

Alex Torres, John Erdal and Sawyer Weakland played on separate Southeast Zone Super Regional Teams during the three-day tournament: Torres and Erdal on the Development Blue and Red teams, respectively, while Weakland contributed her skills to the Youth Red team.

Torres, a 12-year-old student at Landon Middle School, Erdal, an 11-year-old attending Pine Island Academy, and Sawyer Weakland, a 17-year-old student at Episcopal School of Jacksonville, all excelled as attackers with each scoring multiple goals for their respective teams during the tournament.

“Playing as part of the Southeast Zone team has opened up doors to play with clubs from NYC, North Carolina, and beyond. It allowed me to compete at much higher levels, including the Super Futures Tournament in San Francisco, California,” said Weakland, now in her second selection for the Southeast Zone team.

“ODP was a great way for me to meet players from other teams and develop new friendships. I also loved playing against top-level players from around the country,” said Torres. “It allowed me to see a higher level of competition and different playing styles.”

John Erdal said the thing he loved most about the experience was traveling to play against people he’d never competed with before.

“It was an exciting event with a lot of players and fans,” he said.

Coach Manny Torres believes – with the 2024 Olympics approaching, and as awareness of water polo increases in the community – that more families will be inspired to have their children try the sport. To learn more about the Jacksonville Water Polo Club, visit jaxwaterpolo.com.



Bolles Students Show “Love is the Gift”

More than 90 Bolles upper school students spent over 40 hours collaborating to create a sculpture entry titled “Love is the Gift” for the Jacksonville & The Beaches Unite with Lights Student Challenge as part of the inaugural Deck The Chairs at James Weldon Park. The design won the Judges Award for exemplifying the meaning of this year’s theme.

Senior Trent Carter proposed the chair’s design with the help of his Honors 3D Art class. The concept was brought to life by the Art Club and students taking Foundations in Art and Painting with upper school fine arts teachers Tiffany Gonzalez and Lily Kuonen.

The student artists provided the following description of the piece: “Inspired by the idea of elves preparing gifts for the world, the final design represents the symbolism of gifting as an expression of love. Love is the real gift, uniting us all in its light.”

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Un-bee-table Skills

Sixth grader Vi Janikowski proved to be unbeatable through many rounds of challenging competition, emerging victorious as the San Jose Episcopal Day School spelling bee champion. She will advance to the district level to represent San Jose Episcopal Day School at the Duval County Spelling Bee.



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As of February 16, 2024, we are consolidating our Mandarin Smiles office with our neighboring practice, Larroc Dental at the Town Center. If you were a patient at our Mandarin Smiles office and would like to obtain a copy of your records or have your records sent to another provider, please email us at PatientRecords@nadentalgroup.com or stop by our Larroc Dental office 7768 Ozark Dr., Suite 200, Jacksonville, FL 32256, (904) 442-6000 and we will provide you with a release form, which you can then return to someone at our office. If you have questions, please contact our privacy office at 1-833-429-0597.



Student Council Secretary Sarah Ruen, Student Council Vice President Louise Schwegel, Principal Maryann Jimenez, Fr. Jason Trull, mascot Georgie, Fr. Mousa, Assistant Principal Jennifer Jardine, Student Council Treasurer Brooklyn Denmark, Student Council Chaplain Isa Miller and Student Council President Cesca Werstine in front of Assumption Catholic School's new playground.

A New Castle for Assumption Knights

Students at Assumption Catholic School celebrated the installation of brand-new playground equipment in a ribbon cutting ceremony on Jan. 23.


This new playground equipment cost nearly \$250,000 and Principal Maryann Jimenez said it took two cycles of the school's annual fundraisers to fully fund. The school selected New York-based Play By Design – the same company that designed and installed the equipment for Jacksonville Beach's Sunshine Playground at South Beach Park – for this new installation, which created custom-designed and -built, castle-themed playground equipment for the Knights to enjoy during their recesses.

“That was something very unique about this company that we really loved,” Jimenez said. “We didn’t want playground equipment that you could see at other places. A lot of the playground equipment around town is just

similar pieces, and this was very special to us because this company specifically designs for your community.”

The fundraisers for this new equipment saw support from current Assumption families and the Assumption community, but also from Assumption alumni, the Knights of Columbus Bishop Kenny Council 1951 and the Men's Club from Assumption Catholic Church.

This new equipment replaces the previous setup, installed sometime in the early 2000s, Jimenez said, and completes the first of the school's multi-phase long-term fundraising goals for “Outdoor Enhancements.” Phase two is comprised of a new sports court featuring basketball and, possibly, pickleball courts, for which the school has already raised nearly \$20,000 as of Nov. 17. Later phases include ideas like an outdoor classroom and a greenhouse for the school's STREAM program.



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A rendering of the anticipated new Spring Park Elementary facility.

New School for Spring Park Elementary

BY JENNIFER JENSEN

After 81 years, Spring Park Elementary is finally getting a brand-new school. The groundbreaking ceremony will be held April 4, and it is expected to be completed by August 2025. Estimated budget for the new school is \$25,847,200. The completed project will give the school a capacity of 794; the school currently has 470 students.

“It’s been slow coming,” said Lyn Corley, 30-year volunteer at Spring Park Elementary. “It’s just a left-behind school. But it has blossomed.”

The school was built around the same time as Henricks Avenue Elementary School with a similar layout, but a fire in April 1968 destroyed the main wing of Spring Park

Elementary School. Arson was suspected and damage was estimated at \$300,000 at the time. When the school was rebuilt, the windows were filled in and not replaced. Instead, fire escape doors were put into the classrooms, according to Spring Park Elementary School Principal Davina Parker.

The new school will be built on the adjacent St. Nicholas Park property, which belongs to the city. Land swap negotiations between Duval County Public Schools (DCPS) and the city’s Parks Department are ongoing.

Some of the new features will include a dedicated STEM lab, media center with maker’s space, four

playgrounds, computer lab and technological innovations like interactive boards.

“The boards are interactive and having that kind of technology, where they get instant feedback and the correct answer right away, that’s what our kids need,” Parker said. “This gives us the opportunity to catch up and propel them forward.”

The new school is part of the Master Facility Plan (MFP), paid for in part by the half-penny referendum passed by Duval County voters in 2020, and developed by the DCPS to address aging buildings, create safe and secure spaces for students and staff, remove most of the portable classrooms, decrease excess seat capacity and increase utilization of existing seat capacity.

As part of the MFP, Englewood Elementary School is getting a new school as well. Once both new schools are open, Love Grove Elementary School will close. Students from that school will be split between Spring Park and Englewood. The new school boundaries have yet to be drawn, but meetings with parents and community leaders are ongoing.

“These students might come from poverty, they may be immigrants, or just a refugee, really any walk of life, and they walk into a space that’s there’s, that they can take pride in, that’s clean, that’s new and innovative, and that they have the newest things at their fingertips... That can really impact them.” Parker said. “It shows how much you care for them and how much you want them to have this level of excellence. It’s not only aesthetics, but the excellence we can provide them.”



Boy Scouts from Assumption Catholic Church's Troop 106.

Knights, Scouts Remember Our Veterans

Knights of Columbus, St. Bernadette Assembly, participated in the annual Wreaths Across America on Saturday, Dec. 16 by sponsoring the event at the Historic St. Nicholas Cemetery. Volunteers placed wreaths at the graves of veterans that are interred in the cemetery. Boy Scout Troop 106, from Assumption Catholic Church, assisted the Knights by performing a flag raising ceremony and providing refreshments. The ceremony concluded with Knights of Columbus member Tim Lynch playing “Taps.”

The Knights of Columbus Assembly then proceeded to San Jose Catholic Church and placed Wreaths at the columbarium located on the San Jose campus, where several veterans are interred.

Approximately 40 people attended the event.

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THE WAY WE WERE

Agnes Anderson Ellis Danciger

BY SUSAN D. BRANDENBURG

Agnes Ellis (Danciger) was the first female to walk across the Mathews Bridge. Living just one door south of the bridge that was being built to connect downtown with Arlington, Agnes remembers the noise of construction and the excitement of making the bridge a one-of-a-kind playground.

"My sister, Sarah, and I would roller skate, ride bikes and have picnics on the bridge," she recalled. "All the workmen knew us, and we watched as they placed rivets by hand." When the bridge officially opened in 1953, Agnes, 12, walked across it, followed close behind by her sister, Sarah, 14.

Born to George and Agnes Ellis in 1941 at Riverside Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida, Agnes is a 5th generation Floridian whose mother was the daughter of Jesse Williams, the first periodontist in North Florida. Her older sister, Sarah, and her younger brother, George, remain in Jacksonville.

Agnes began her schooling at Arlington Elementary when she was six years old, from first through sixth grade, and then went to the Bartram School for junior high, graduating from Robert E. Lee High School in 1959.

As a girl, she was always involved in church and social happenings in Riverside and Ortega.

"I was part of Riverside Little Women, sponsored by the Women's Club of Jacksonville. I participated in the May Fete put on by the Woman's Auxiliary of the Church of the Good Shepherd," said Agnes, adding that she was also a member of the Junior Assembly, a cotillion put on by the parents of eighth and ninth grade students. She still remembers each and every one of her group from Junior Assembly, as most have remained her friends all of their lives.

In May 2021, Meta Magevney and Neely Towe hosted a gathering of friends who were 1959 graduates from

Robert E. Lee High School, followed that evening by a dinner given by Beth Slifer. Many of the names from the Friday Musicales group attended the 2021 gathering.

After a lovely girlhood of cotillions, fetes, high school parties and being active in clubs at school as well as activities at church, Agnes attended Duke University. Although her mother had gone to Sweet Briar, Agnes chose Duke, following in her sister's and father's footsteps. She opted to take a six-week European trip in place of making her debut and then settled down to higher learning. Again, she was active and popular, being courted by young men from the neighboring University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. While she was at Duke, Agnes and her mother were pictured in the Jacksonville Journal's February 17, 1960 edition in a pictorial article titled "You Look Just Like Your Mother." She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1963.

Agnes's daughter-in-law, writer Susanna P. Barton, wrote in her book *The Girls of Your Genes* that Agnes resisted the young men from Chapel Hill and Duke and fortunately (for Susanna) "married Quinn R. Barton, Jr. on September 7, 1964, in St. Matthews Church with a grand reception at Timuquana Country Club with over 500 guests and a treasure trove of fine silver wedding gifts." That marriage produced



Agnes and Sarah on the Mathews Bridge



The Ellis family in 1948: George, Sarah, Agnes (mother), George Jr. and Agnes (daughter).



Agnes Ellis at age 12.

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Linda Burbridge (Knight), Bonnie Patterson, Beth Walker (Slifer), Brian Rosborough, Agnes Ellis (Danciger), Bob (Robby) Breen, Meta Bond (Magevney), Bill Gibbs, Dorothy Coulter (Adams), Gress LeMaistre, and Robin Rhodes (Browning) pose for a group photo at a 1950s-era Junior Assembly dance at Friday Musicale.

four children, including Susanna's husband, David.

As a young mother of four, Agnes demonstrated a unique ability to multi-task, volunteering her time, tenacity and energy to many community endeavors without ever skipping a beat as a homemaker. Over the years, she served as president of the Junior League of Jacksonville, Volunteer Jacksonville, Inc., Greenscape of Jacksonville, Inc., Tree Hill, and was chosen as the first female president of the American Cancer Society, Duval County Unit. Growing up in Jacksonville with so many friends who knew her well definitely helped groom her for her volunteer career, and her no-nonsense, friendly and fearless approach was also a factor in her leadership success.

“My sister, Sarah, and I would roller skate, ride bikes and have picnics on the bridge. All the workmen knew us, and we watched as they placed rivets by hand.”

– Agnes Ellis (Danciger)

Her active membership as a board member of United Way of Jacksonville Executive Committee, the Greater Jacksonville Fair Association, Friends of Guana, Hurricane Island Outward Bound, and St. Johns Riverkeeper have garnered her lasting respect and admiration throughout the community. However, as a board member of Jacksonville's Memorial Park Association, Agnes played a key role in having the park named to the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, she served as co-chairman of the Spirit of Victory Campaign that helped raise \$1.5 million to preserve and enhance the park. For that stellar service, she was a finalist in 2018 for the coveted Florida Times-Union EVE Award. She was also appointed to serve on the City of Jacksonville Parks & Recreation Committee, the Florida Cancer Control and Research Advisory Board, and the Vestry of St. Mark's Episcopal Church. She was editor of St. Mark's magazine, The Marksman.

Professionally, Agnes served as assistant trainer for the National Information Center on Volunteerism, worked as an advertising representative for Jacksonville Today, the director of advertising for Jacksonville Monthly, a health care consultant for Florida Health Alliance, and was the Director of Community Affairs at the College of Health, University of North Florida.



Agnes and her mother reading together, as photographed for a 1960 Jacksonville Journal.

The special brand of individualism, energy and enthusiasm possessed by Agnes Danciger – whose second marriage was in 1993 to Ed Danciger, now deceased – manifested itself in much more than service to her family and community. In the 1980s, for example, Agnes ran the 26.2 Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C., went snow skiing in Vail, Colorado, and even learned how to windsurf. After her marriage to Ed Danciger, she learned to sail and live on a sailboat, sailing to places as far away as Maine and the Bahamas.

Beloved by her four children: Margaret, Quinn, Ellis and David, and fondly called “Gigi” by her eight grandchildren, Agnes was presented



Back row: Angie Jones (Conway), Dorothy Coulter (Adams), Beth Walker (Slifer), Hazel Harby (Donahoo), Meta Bond (Magevney), Neely Paul (Towe). Front row: Robin Rhodes (Browning), Betty Stanly (Cates), Billie Kirby (Haynes) and Agnes Ellis (Danciger).



Agnes Ellis Danciger as president of Junior League

a special book on her 70th birthday by her family that listed by number her many accomplishments as well as her personality traits. Among her accomplishments were “caught a barracuda,” “rode in hot air balloon,” “read countless books,” “sailed the Thousand Islands,” “survived a possum bite and the subsequent series of rabies shots,” and “taught her grandchildren how to enjoy life.”

Among the 70 “Things We Love About Agnes” were: “Agnes would do anything for her family and is always at the forefront in times of need,” “She is the world's best mother,” “Her dancing skills – they not only wooed Ed, but they also got her awarded the Ms. Mama Jama at the Florida Yacht Club 4th of July Party,” “She is a wonderful hostess,” “She always finds a way to get things done.” Number 70 simply stated, “She is our Agnes!”

Currently, Agnes is an active legacy member of the Women's Giving



Agnes, second from right, with her adult children David, Margaret, Quinn and Ellis.

Alliance, an Honorary Director of Leadership Jacksonville, on the board of Jacksonville University's Marine Science Research Institute, and continues to enjoy sailing, entertaining, travel, reading and exercise. Agnes Danciger is, according to her children and grandchildren, “the quintessential matriarch everyone loves to be around.”

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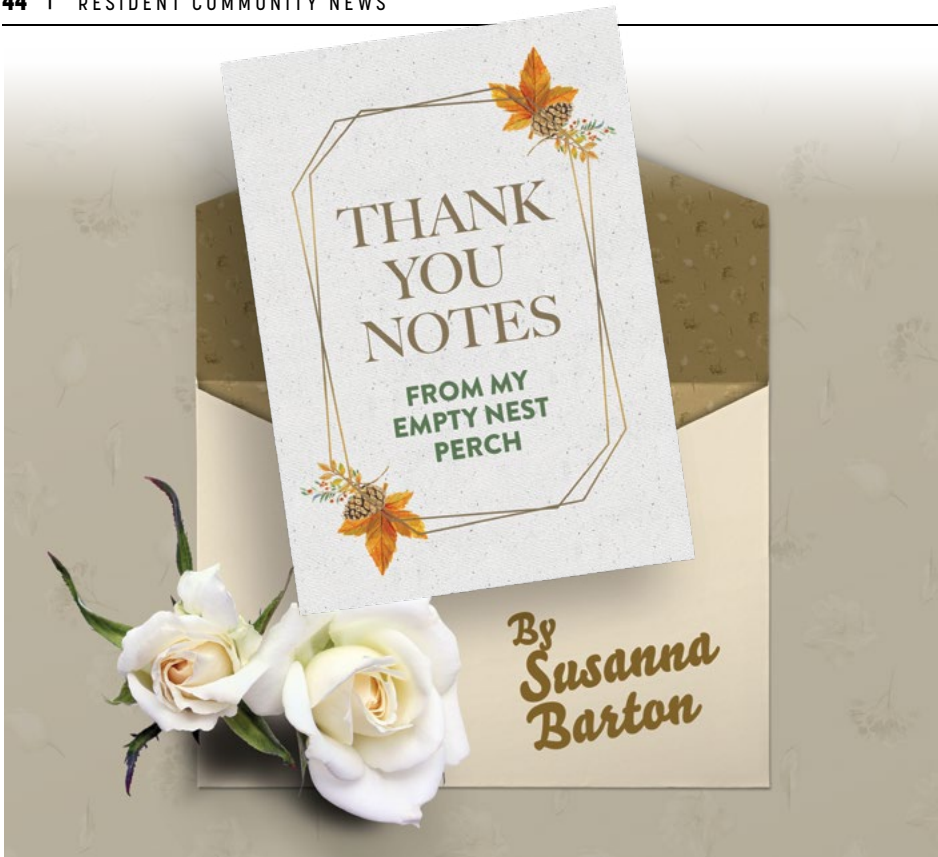
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I had no idea how rich our neighborhoods were in local bookstore offerings until writing my own books in late 2023: *Grand Plans: How to Mitigate Geri-Drama in 20 Easy Steps* (and its workbook pairing, the *Grand Planner*) and the 2024 latest Lenten challenge book, *Rolling My I-s: A Lenten Challenge to Give Up Me, Myself & I Talk*. I learned there is no excuse for anyone in our neighborhoods to be bored, dull or stupid with that much creative work and mind-stimulating material nearby. Dog-ear this, dear readers: proximity to local bookstores makes our Resident community a smarter, super shelf-righteous place to live.

According to a 2019 study from the Washington, D.C.-based American Enterprise Institute, local amenities like bookstores promote social connection and trust – essential ingredients to neighborhood health, sustainability and value. Key points from the study include:

- “Americans who live closer to community parks, libraries, restaurants and theaters are more content with the neighborhood, more trusting of others, and less lonely regardless of whether they live in large cities, suburbs, or small cities or towns.

- Residents of amenity-packed neighborhoods are likelier to say their community is an excellent place to live, to feel safer walking around the neighborhood at night, and to report greater interest in neighborhood goings-on.
- Americans living in communities with little access to amenities are likelier to feel socially isolated.”

Bookstores provide many other important perks to our Resident communities – namely, cultural vibrancy, opportunities to connect with and support each other, and, let’s not forget their big cha-ching factor: bookstores keep local dollars in local circulation for local prosperity and local growth. No plot twist there.

All of the bookstores I encountered during my local book-marketing extravaganza demonstrated these strengths and more. My first stop was a late November book launch for *Grand Plans* at the Literary Lounge in Murray Hill. It had only been open for about eight weeks when I hauled my books in there for a signing event. Mother-daughter proprietors Terri Reynolds and Shelby Giltz, who had recently moved to the area with their family from North Carolina, designed a beautiful little re-

treat on Edgewood Avenue with dark library-green walls and a broad collection of yummy titles. They were so hospitable and generous with their space, and like the other bookstore owners I encountered, they made me feel important as a new author. They encouraged future use of their bookstore for book clubs, author events and workshops. I noted how community-building seems to be one major cornerstone of local bookstores in our neighborhoods. I look forward to being a part of it.

My next stop was San Marco Bookstore in San Marco Square. Store Manager Desiree Molyneaux Bailey, part of a three-generation ownership team that has been running the bookstore since 1999, met me for coffee at Bitty & Beau in the square to discuss options for a December launch in her family’s store. She, too, talked about workshops and book clubs and opportunities to showcase my books at the square’s holiday happenings – Black Friday, Small Business Saturday and Holiday Magic events. The bookstore helps manage and publicize these important seasonal retail events – events that benefit every single business in the square! She made me feel like my literary contribution was part of the neighborhood buzz and that my work was part of the greater good.

Along the way, I also ducked into CX904 The Creative Exchange – a light, spacious and whimsical retail space in a street-level corner of downtown Jacksonville’s Bank of America tower at 50 North Laura Street. An extension of Fogle Art Consulting, this beautiful market promotes, sells and showcases local art, books, jewelry, gifts and more. Their emphasis is on benefiting creators and the community. Underscore community. My conversation with the CX904 folks was mostly about sharing with the community and bringing people in. We discussed opportunities to participate in Art Walk events and other fun possibilities. As an author, this store made me feel like an integral part of a creator’s community; it made me feel like a changemaker and contributor!

My final stop on the local bookstore tour was the St. John’s Cathedral Bookstore & Gift Shop, managed by my friend and neighbor Kathryn Bissette. Actually, the Cathedral bookstore was my first stop earlier in the year when I launched (late in the season) a bound collection of Lenten challenge books I’d published on the Facebook over the years. This store has serious comfy vibes – and it’s like going to church or your grandmother’s house, but where you can browse and flip through juicy books and buy pretty things. They are providing a wonderful resource to the downtown residential community. I made plans with Kathryn to launch my 2024 Lenten challenge book, *Rolling My I-s*, there in late January.

The four stores with which I connected are just a few of the book-gettin’ and -borrowin’ places in our neighborhoods today. We are fortunate to have so many options. Other fabulous bookshops in our area include:

- The San Marco Public Library, the Bill Brinton Murray Hill Branch Library, the downtown Jacksonville Public Library and the Willowbranch Library
- The Chamblin Bookmine in the Ortega area and Chamblin Uptown in downtown Jacksonville
- Happy Medium Books Café in Riverside
- Femme Fire Books on Park Street
- And of course, all the Free Little Libraries we see throughout our neighborhoods.

Author John Updike described bookstores as “lonely forts, spilling light onto the sidewalk. They civilize their neighborhood.” And how can we best show gratitude for this community staple, this essential, incredible light-spilling fort? I say participate in their events, patronize their businesses and promote, promote, promote their existence! Supporting our bookstores makes a big difference for all of us, whether you’re a new author like me, or simply a person who likes to engage neighbors in illuminating conversations about timely topics. Bookstores are a valuable resource. The End.

Susanna Barton loves books and writing, especially during Lent when she publishes unconventional challenges. This year’s series is called “Rolling My I-s: A Lenten Challenge to Give Up Me, Myself and I-Talk,” and it is available at the Literary Lounge, St. Johns Cathedral Gifts & Bookstore and the San Marco Bookstore. Her favorite authors are Ann Patchett, Anne Lamott and anything by David Sedaris. A Granada resident, Barton has written professionally for The Jacksonville Business Journal, *The Resident News*, Jacksonville University and The Bolles School. She currently manages an online community called *Grand Plans*, which encourages healthy conversations about aging and preparing for it on www.mygrandplans.com.

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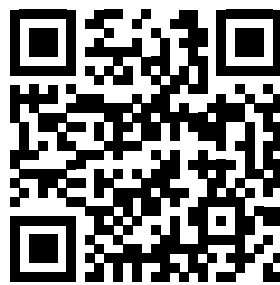
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11-year-old Mila poses with some of the LEGO sets that helped her regain dexterity in her left arm where surgeons had to remove large portions of bone during her bone cancer treatments.

Community Unites to Replace Stolen LEGO Sets for Cancer Patients

BY LAURA PHELPS

Jacklyn Overby was in shock when she opened the doors of a Jacksonville warehouse in late December.

Earlier in the fall, the warehouse contained hundreds of LEGO sets donated for cancer patients through the non-profit organization V for Victory. But on Dec. 27, the space was empty.

“The LEGOs were just gone. There was nothing in there,” said Overby, the executive director of V for Victory. “It was honestly devastating.”

Overby estimates just over \$50,000 worth of LEGO sets were stolen from the warehouse. The Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office is investigating the theft, which includes a thorough review of hundreds of hours of security camera footage spanning October through December.

The sets were part of V for Victory’s Bricks of Love program, which began in 2021 when LEGO donated two semi-trucks full of LEGO sets to the organization. The donation included robotic sets, LEGO roller coasters and rare replica sets such as the iconic Millennium Falcon from Star Wars, which values at nearly \$800.

V for Victory partners with local hospitals and treatment facilities to distribute the sets. As patients come in for treatments or hospital stays, they receive a token to pick out a new LEGO set at the V for Victory “LEGO Store.”

V for Victory served more than 825 families in 2023 and distributed more than 2,000 LEGO sets to children and adults who are fighting cancer. That’s more than double the number of families they served the previous year.

As V for Victory closed out its busiest, most successful year yet, Overby says the devastating theft left her feeling helpless and uncertain about how the organization

would navigate this setback. She immediately thought of the “warriors” – the cancer patients she serves.

“I’m very connected with the work that we do. It’s very personal to me. Every one of our families I care very deeply for. So, I took it so personally to see that empty room, and knowing how many children and how many families this was going to impact was heartbreaking for me,” Overby said.

As heartbreaking as the theft was, it was nothing compared to the overwhelming response from the community. Word spread quickly. Cash donations and new, unopened LEGO sets started pouring in from Jacksonville and from all over the country. Messages came in from supporters all over the U.S., from New York to Hawaii. Some were from children who wanted to donate their unused LEGO sets.

“Here are some LEGOs I got for Christmas to replace ones that were stolen,” a child from Long Beach, New York, wrote in the card accompanying three LEGO sets

she shipped to the organization.

V for Victory organized a donation drop-off day on Jan. 7 and assembled a wish list on Amazon to help replace the stolen LEGO sets. People donated LEGO sets in honor of loved ones they lost to cancer. Some of V for Victory’s own cancer Warriors returned sets they hadn’t yet opened.

A video shared on Facebook after the event shows piles upon piles of LEGO boxes and shipped packages. The positive response surprised and re-energized Overby and her team.

“Seeing the hundreds of people who’ve reached out and said, ‘We’re not going to let this be the end of the program,’... that means so much more than that one person who [stole from us],” Overby said.

WHY LEGO?

Living with cancer certainly isn’t fun or easy. Nine-year-old Thomas was diagnosed with leukemia nearly two years ago and has frequent medical appointments and hospital visits. He lost his hair and sometimes doesn’t feel well enough to go to school.

But picking out a new LEGO set after each medical appointment and building it with his dad while they listen to classic rock is something Thomas looks forward to, said his mother, Lisa Johnson. Thomas now has more than 100 sets, and the V for Victory team calls him their “Little LEGO Master.”

Last year, Thomas’ health took a turn for the worse. He was in the hospital for 38 days, including nearly two weeks on life support. Thankfully, he pulled through, and Johnson was deeply touched when V for Victory staff dropped off some LEGO sets at the hospital for Thomas to enjoy while he was recovering.

“There are so many amazing organizations around, but V for Victory is so close to my heart,” said Johnson. “For kids that can’t leave the house because they don’t feel good, there’s only so many video games and so many things you can do to keep your child occupied. And these LEGOs help not only keep him busy, but they actually help with his occupational therapy as well.”

Similarly, 11-year-old Mila has been fighting osteosarcoma for two years and is about to mark the one-year milestone since her first relapse of the bone cancer. Her father, George Ivanoff, said the LEGO sets are not only a source of joy for Mila but have also helped her regain dexterity in her left arm where surgeons had to remove large portions of bone.

“The Bricks of Love program... really gave Mila a way to approach scary appointments and surgeries and chemotherapy as something to look forward to, instead of something to dread,” Ivanoff said.

In a Facebook post, one mother of a 4-year-old diagnosed with leukemia shared: “When [V for Victory] told me about the Bricks of Love program, I thought it was awesome, but didn’t know just how much it would transform my son’s treatment. I don’t say lightly that this program, along with all of the support from V4V, has gotten us through treatment.”

MORE GOOD THAN BAD

While V for Victory may never fully replace some of the rare LEGO sets that were stolen, they are well on their way to rebuilding their inventory thanks to community donations.

Overby says they still have a few more items on their LEGO wish list and she hopes the community will continue to give generously at vforvictory.org.

In the true spirit of V for Victory’s mission, Overby wants the recent events to restore faith in humanity and hope for the future: “I hope the community will see there is still much more good out there than there is bad.”

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A Celebration Worth Pre-Planning

by Elainah Ehrlichman

Pre-planning your funeral service gives you the freedom to customize your service and grants you the peace of mind that comes with knowing your plans are safe and secure.

What is a Pre-Planned Funeral Arrangement?

Prepaid funeral arrangements are funeral plans that are made before the imminent need for a funeral service arises. You can make these plans at any point in your life, and though there is no right or wrong time to make these arrangements, we strongly suggest making them as early as possible.

Why Are Pre-Arranged Funeral Plans Important?

Many people progress through their lives without stopping to consider their own funeral, and some even make active efforts to avoid thinking about it at all. We understand the hesitance that surrounds facing this topic head-on, but we want you to understand why it's so important to take the time to think about your funeral plans. Many people opt for pre-planning their funeral because the price locks in from the time of purchase, meaning that even if prices increase in the future, your price remains untouched. Another reason people choose to pre-plan their service is for peace of mind for both themselves and their family.

Let's Look At Martha...

Martha constantly goes out of her way to make sure she takes care of the people around her. Throughout her life, she's done everything for everyone. She's seasoned and stirred hot home-cooked meals for her family, tended to her children's wounds when they hurt themselves playing games, rooted for her husband during his various business ventures, and consistently showed up to every music recital and hockey game with posters and megaphones (and all other necessary supporting mom gear) to support her kids. Martha has been an amazing, caring member of her family, and in the coming years, she will face the next major chapter of her life: Her golden years.

This will be an exciting new time for Martha, and to ensure these years are as stress-free as possible, she decides to pre-plan her funeral service. Now she can relax and enjoy the comfort of knowing that her funeral arrangements are handled, and that her family won't need to worry about a thing. She's paid for all expenses and made all of the big decisions. Her kids won't have to second-guess what their mom would have wanted because Martha secured these decisions in advance. There won't be any tension or fighting between family members over different options because Martha took care of everything - just like she always has.

What's the Process?

One of the first steps to officially pre-planning your funeral is to speak with one of our trusted funeral professionals. When you arrive for your arrangement session, our staff will welcome you and help you feel comfortable (we promise we're friendly!). During your meeting, you will cover all of the most important aspects of your service. You'll discuss casket or urn choice, catering, displaying memorabilia, music selection, Life Story displays, and so much more. You'll have the opportunity to highlight everything that's important to you and that you'd like to have represented at your service, because after all, this is your day. It should be exactly how you envision it. You'll be able to finalize all details with the funeral professional helping you through each step of this intimate process. We're here to help you so that pre-planning your service is as easy as possible. We promise you'll thank yourself for thinking ahead!

Common Questions

We understand that you likely have questions and concerns about the pre-arrangement process, so here are answers to some common questions. Of course, this is not all-encompassing, so please reach out to any of our Hardage-Giddens locations to discuss your pre-arrangement plans in detail.

I don't have the financial capacity to pay for my pre-planned service in full. What happens now?

If you aren't able to pay for your pre-arrangement in full, that's okay! We have other available options that are easier on your wallet. Our flex options allow you to make payments toward your service on a monthly basis at a rate that works for you.*

If I move, will I still have to use the same funeral home I set my pre-arrangements with?

Great news! Even if you move away from the funeral home you've pre-planned your service with, you can take that arrangement with you as long as you use another Dignity Memorial provider.*

Can I alter my choices if I change my mind?

Even after your pre-arrangement plans are complete, you'll still have the freedom to change most aspects of your service.* We want your service to be everything you want it to be, so please feel free to contact us so we can discuss the changes you have in mind.

A Celebration for You, Created By You

The milestones in our lives are important. From our first steps to our last birthday, and for everything that comes in between, those around us celebrate with us to ensure we know how special we are. A funeral service should be no different because it is your very last celebration: a celebration of your life.

Pre-arranging your funeral service allows you to harness full control over all of the big decisions and provide your family with one last gift: The gift of eliminating worry over what you might have wanted. Thanks to you, your family will never have to worry about if they made the right choice - because just like Martha, you made it for yourself.

Please call any of our Hardage-Giddens locations to discuss pre-planning your funeral today! Prices fluctuate, so don't delay. We look forward to assisting you.

All information is credited to official Dignity Memorial literature. Special thanks to Hardage-Giddens Sales Manager Donald Sharp for providing up-to-date information regarding pre-planning services.

**Restrictions Apply. Please See Associate for Details.*



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