

# Ponte Vedra Recorder



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*Not your average newspaper, not your average reader*

PonteVedraRecorder.com



**First Coast Register**  
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**Spring Cleaning & Organizing**  
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**Market Masters: Leaders in Finance**  
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*of the Community*

Ponte Vedra Beach residents and philanthropists Gary and Nancy Chartrand display the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach's 2018 "Rock of the Community" Award. The Chartrands received the honor at the Rotary club's Mineral City Celebration on Saturday, April 7, which featured a James Bond-style theme of "Titanium Night." *Read more on page 7.*

Photo by Jon Blauvelt

With all of the uncertainty in today's markets, I think it is time to review your current Investment plan? Here is an opportunity to receive a 2<sup>nd</sup> opinion and seize your future. Call (904) 361-7047 today to schedule your **FREE** review

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## Send us your news

We welcome submissions of photos, stories, columns and letters to the editor. Let us know what's happening. Email submissions to [pvrecorder@opcfla.com](mailto:pvrecorder@opcfla.com) or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach**. Submissions may be published in the paper, on our website or on our social media platforms.

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Also, check out the **Ponte Vedra Recorder** channel on YouTube.

### WHAT'S THIS?



Do you know what this is?

Email your answer to [jonb@opcfla.com](mailto:jonb@opcfla.com) by Monday at 5 p.m. All correct entries will be entered into a random drawing to win tickets for two adults and two children to the Jacksonville Zoo. In order to allow as many families as possible to win, participants are only eligible to win a ticket prize pack once every four months.

No readers identified last week's photo. As a result, we're going to give you all another shot! Good luck!

### ADOPT A PET

#### CAT OF THE WEEK

My name is Robinson, and I am a 6-year-old male cat who was brought to the pet center by my owners. Come visit me today here at the pet center! #42328



#### DOG OF THE WEEK



My name is Gidget, and I am a 3-year-old female dog who was brought to the pet center as an owner surrender. (There may be some traits that are unknown at this time.) Come visit me today here at the pet center! #34224

Any new pet being introduced to a new home will need time to adjust to its new environment. Please reinforce house training and behavioral training, and be mindful of interacting with other pets.

### St. Johns County Pet Center

Cat adoptions at the St. Johns County Pet Center are \$30 for males and \$40 for females. Dog adoptions are \$45 for males and \$60 for females. Adoption fees include microchipping, neutering/spaying, rabies vaccinations and shots. The pet center is located at 130 N. Stratton Road off U.S. 1 between County Road 210 and International Golf Parkway. Business hours are Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The center is closed to the public on Sunday. On Monday, the office is open by appointment only to claim a lost pet. For more information, please call the **St. Johns County Pet Center** at (904) 209-6190.

### PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

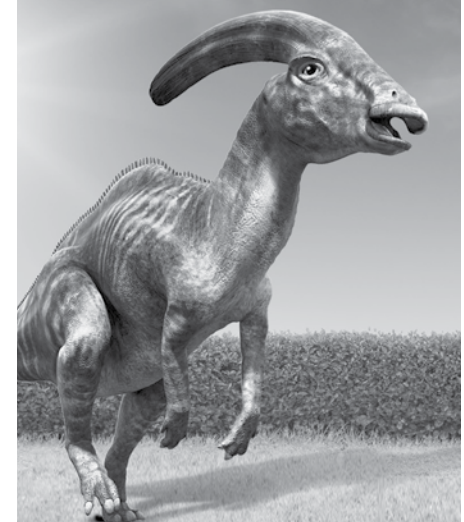
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Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.

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THEY'RE BACK



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**Exemplary Oceanfront Living on Ponte Vedra Blvd**  
 Hacienda style home nestled on 1.47 acres of pristine oceanfront. Spanning 4,527 SF this bright airy, 4bd/5ba, home offers a resort like atmosphere with large oceanfront pool/ spa and private beach walkover. **\$3,990,000**



**Sophisticated Coastal Living at its Best!**  
 This 5-bedroom, 4+ bath, home is the epitome of southern charm with over 8,400 sq. ft. that showcase spectacular ocean views. The open living areas, including large formal dining room with grand fireplace, lend themselves to entertaining everything from large celebrations or simply enjoying intimate moments near a roaring fireplace. **\$6,375,000**



**Exemplary Oceanfront Living on Ponte Vedra Blvd**  
 This oceanfront estate is built like a fortress with 2-story masonry construction. Set on 1.45 acres this home is designed with to capture expansive ocean views from almost every room. This is an exceptional opportunity for your most discerning buyer. **\$6,150,000**



**Luxurious Beach Residence on Ponte Vedra Blvd**  
 Enjoy the best of beach living in this recently updated interior, expansive 125' x 600' wooded lot with a spectacular natural environment and private beach access. Impeccably maintained home by award winning Benchmark luxury home builder with bright open plan perfect for entertaining large or intimate socials. **\$2,295,000**

# UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns County Master Gardener Program offers scholarship

A special scholarship totaling up to \$1,000 has been established with the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) Extension St. Johns County Master Gardener Program.

The scholarship will be judged on the following criteria: school leadership, scholarship, community service and interest in the course of study. Candidates must

be enrolled in a higher education program in the state of Florida in the fields of horticulture, agriculture or natural resources.

To obtain the application, email [terraf@ufl.edu](mailto:terraf@ufl.edu). Applications are also available at the St. Johns County School District Scholarship website ([wordpress.com/read/feeds/55249233/posts/1794477546](http://wordpress.com/read/feeds/55249233/posts/1794477546)).

All applications must be received by the scholarship committee by May 1.

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## COLLECTION



**SOLANO CAY**  
**\$322,800**

Walk or ride your bike to the beach, shopping or dining from this exquisite beach cottage! Features include wood-look tile flooring, an updated kitchen with SS appliances & granite countertops, brick wood-burning fireplace, updated bathrooms, & a screened-in patio overlooking a tranquil pond & nature views. MLS 927788

**Denise Miles-Tagami | 904.654.0490**  
**DTagami@WatsonRealtyCorp.com**



**INNLET BEACH**  
**\$385,000**

Located on the golf course in Ponte Vedra's premier Sawgrass Players Club & minutes from the beach, top golf courses, dining & boutique shopping! This immaculate home features hardwood floors, a great room with fireplace, sun-filled kitchen & fabulous screened porch overlooking a peaceful lagoon & lush yard. MLS 929016

**Missy DeKay | 904.613.2445**  
**MissyDeKay@WatsonRealtyCorp.com**



**SAWMILL LAKES**  
**\$464,500**

Beautiful updated home with 3,113 SqFt, 5 bedrooms & 3.5 baths in Ponte Vedra Beach's fantastic Sawmill Lakes neighborhood. Enjoy the private wooded side yard with large flagstone fire pit & built-in gas BBQ, as well as community amenities including pools, a baseball/soccer field & basketball court! MLS 928749

**Deborah Sifontes | 904.707.5831**  
**DeborahSifontes@WatsonRealtyCorp.com**



**CIMARRONE GOLF & CC**  
**\$545,000**

Live in the midst of a beautiful golf course community surrounded by peaceful landscapes & wildlife! This 2012 Providence home offers space & functionality, with a first floor master suite, spacious great room & media room with surround sound, second floor flex loft, formal dining area & beautifully appointed kitchen. MLS 928724

**Gwen Templeton | 904.652.9003**  
**GwenTempleton@WatsonRealtyCorp.com**



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# County Commission adopts new impact fee schedule

## Non-residential fees to be partially subsidized

By Samantha Logue

As St. Johns County continues to grapple with the effects of its persistent growth, the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) voted 4-1 to adopt a new impact fee schedule last Tuesday, April 3. To be rolled out in two phases, the new fee schedule will increase impact fees across the board, but will provide a significant subsidy for non-residential structures with an aim of attracting commercial development.

In St. Johns County, impact fees — which are one-time fees imposed on new developments to account for the costs of providing them with additional public services — are collected in six categories: roads, fire and rescue, law enforcement, parks and recreation, public buildings and schools. Last August, the BCC met with the St. Johns County School District to discuss a report prepared by consultant

James Nicholas regarding impact fees—a report that would ultimately be the basis for the new fee schedule.

“St. Johns County has been and is expected to continue experiencing growth,” Nicholas wrote in his report. “If St. Johns County is to remain a desirable place to work and live, the needs of growth must be attended to. Such attendance means that new roads, parks, schools, public buildings, fire stations and the host of needs that a growing community requires must be planned, designed and built. But, the prerequisite of providing such facilities is the ability to pay the cost of such improvements.”

To offset those rising costs, Nicholas made recommendations for adjustments to the county’s current impact fee schedule. In hopes of creating a smoother transition into those adjustments, the final decision of the BCC was to implement Nicholas’ recommendations gradually in two phases. The first phase will impose non-school impact fees at 75 percent of the maximum amount specified by Nicholas’ study, with an additional 15 percent

reduction for non-residential impact fees to be subsidized by the county. Phase two of the implementation process will then raise non-school impact fees to the maximum amount, though the non-residential impact fees will retain the initial 40 percent reduction, again to be subsidized by the county. School impact fees will be imposed at 100 percent throughout both phases of the process, and the subsidies for non-residential impact fees will be sourced from applicable non-ad valorem funds in the general fund.

In addition to the fee adjustments, beginning July 2, the structure according to which residential impact fees are imposed will also undergo significant changes. Currently, residential impact fees are imposed in two tiers: units up to 1,800 square feet in size and units that are more than 1,800 square feet. When the first phase of the new fee schedule takes effect, however, the county will begin categorizing residential developments according to the following seven tiers: units up to 800 square feet; units 801 to 1,250 square feet; units 1,251 to

1,800 square feet; units 1,801 to 2,500 square feet; units 2,501 to 3,750 square feet; units 3,751 to 5,000 square feet; and units more than 5,000 square feet. Including the adjustments to school impact fees, most residential developments will see an increase in impact fees, with the changes ranging from 15 to 79.7 percent. Only those developments in the “up to 800 square feet” category will see a reduction in fees by about 11.9 percent.

Moved by fears that raising impact fees too high might deter commercial developers from moving into the county, the commissioners were in general agreement regarding the need to subsidize the fees for non-residential developments. There was dissension, however, regarding the decision to phase in the new fees, given that an alternative, all-at-once approach could yield more revenue for the county.

“My recommendation would be to move forward and do it all at one time and just pass it without phasing in the

FEES continues on Page 9

## Christ Episcopal Church celebrates retirement of Rev. Richard Westbury Jr.

By Benjamin Naim

Christ Episcopal Church celebrated the retirement of Rev. Richard Westbury Jr. at a ceremony held in the chapel on Friday, April 6.

Friends and colleagues Rev. Samuel Johnson, Wayne Galloway, Rev. Bob Morris and Rev. George Dibrell Young spoke at the special service in Ponte Vedra Beach.

“You really can’t capture all that we’ve had together tonight,” Westbury said at the ceremony. “I appreciate all the nice things [other speakers] said but for me what’s most important is what we find in community with each other.”

Westbury, who served as rector’s associate in 2001 and rector since 2005, has transitioned to an advisory role, according to the Christ Episcopal Church website. In his speech, the reverend said he leaned on other members of his congregation over the years for support.

“When we come out of seminary, we’re not prepared for all the things we’re supposed to be able to do as rectors,” he said. “It was wonderful to have people who — many of you tonight — stepped up and really complimented my weaknesses with

your strengths. That idea of shared ministry, collaborating together, leaning on each other, encouraging each other, that was all born out of the fact that you were doing that for me.”

Westbury also said Christ Church members loved and encouraged his family in many ways. The reverend noted the church has developed a trusting relationship amongst the congregation, and that creating a “safe place” for people to be open and honest with each other is prudent.

“God can use that to do extraordinary things,” Westbury said. “And God has here at Christ Church over the years.”

Additionally, Westbury thanked his wife Carol and told a story about how he got a job as rector at St. Paul’s by-the-Sea entirely because of her.

Following Westbury’s speech, the church announced the Parish Hall would be renamed the Westbury Parish Center in honor of Rick and Carol.

Christ Church is located at 400 San Juan Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach. For more information, visit [www.christepiscopalchurch.org](http://www.christepiscopalchurch.org).



Photos by Benjamin Naim

Rev. Richard Westbury Jr. delivers a speech at his retirement ceremony at Christ Church on April 6.



Attendees and church clergy sing “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms” at the Westbury retirement ceremony at Christ Church.



Westbury (center) poses for a photo with church members at a reception event following his retirement ceremony.

# Local teacher takes home prize from One Spark festival



Photo courtesy of Lauren Wade

**Ocean Palms Elementary School teacher Lauren Wade stands in front of her Kids Can Code booth at the One Spark idea festival at EverBank Field, where she ultimately took home third place and a \$5,000 reward after competing in the Spark Tank competition.**

**By Jon Blauvelt**

When Lauren Wade called for a sub last week at Ocean Palms Elementary School (OPES), she wasn't sick or taking vacation. Instead, the teacher turned entrepreneur was competing in the One Spark idea festival, where she ultimately took home one of the top prizes.

A science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) teacher at OPES, Wade competed in the festival's Spark Tank competition at EverBank Field on Thursday, April 5, placing third out of seven contestants and receiving a \$5,000 monetary reward. The local teacher presented her Kids Can Code company — which introduces computer programming skills to kids — to a group of investors, advisors and entrepreneurs, discussing the company's business model, financial projections, market opportunity and more. The overall One Spark event allows entrepreneurs to seek feedback and interest in their business concepts.

"It was definitely nerve-racking," said Wade, who was also a finalist for the St. Johns County School District Teacher of the Year award in 2017. "[However] I have a lot of passion and confidence in what I'm doing. I believe in my product and what I'm doing for the community."

Kids Can Code, explained Wade, comprises of after-school clubs and spring and summer break camps that enable kids from around the First Coast to build computers, code robots and design video games, among other activities. In addition to receiving her reward for the initiative, Wade said she also developed relationships at

One Spark with mentors in the business community who can help her further refine her business plan.

"Even if I didn't win, the connections I made are invaluable," she said.

Wade's interest in coding took off four years ago when she learned about the Hour of Code, an annual initiative organized by nonprofit organization Code.org to encourage kids to learn about computer science. She led OPES in completing the activity, and the interest level from kids, she said, skyrocketed. From there, Wade formed an after-school coding club, and the program has blossomed so greatly that just last year, she formed an LLC.

Wade's efforts are paying off in other arenas as well. Her team of students placed fifth in last year's online Wonder League Robotics Competition. This year, six of her teams have advanced to the same competition's invitational round, out of 7,000 participants.

The Kids Can Code summer camps, which enroll about 20 kids per week, kick off June 4 at the Palm Valley Community Center. Eight weeks of camp will be offered throughout the summer, said Wade, with costs starting at \$300 and varying per camp. (Some camps are more expensive because they allow kids to keep robots or laptops that they build.) Sibling discounts are available. Visit [www.kidsancodejax.com](http://www.kidsancodejax.com) for more information.

"What I'm teaching — coding, robotics and programming — is preparing them [the kids] for jobs that aren't even invented yet," said Wade. "They need to get into coding as much as they can."

## Cook announces candidacy for St. Johns County School Board District 4 seat

Denver Cook has announced that he is seeking to represent District 4 on the St. Johns County School Board in this year's election.

Cook said he is running to ensure the school district provides a nationally competitive education, improves the district culture and stabilizes its financial base.

"Our A-rated school district is a key driver of people moving to St. Johns County, but when parents get here they sometimes realize that their children might not get what they expected," said Cook, who noted that the current school board touts a No. 1 ranking in Florida claim, but the district's own Fast Facts, he said, shows this is based on a compilation of school accountability points. "That doesn't necessarily translate to top scores at all schools nor at the high schools."

Allen D. Nease High School, said Cook, was once considered one of the best high schools in Florida and is now ranked No. 4 in St. Johns County, according to U.S. News & World Report. SchoolDigger.com, said Cook, shows that from 2016 to 2017, every single high school in St. Johns County, except Creekside, dropped in the state rankings.

Cook said he has his sights set higher



**Denver Cook**

for St. Johns County children, his own daughters among them.

"Being No. 1 in Florida is good, but when the state is ranked 40th in Pre-K-12 education, we need to strive

for better education," he said. "Micro-managing tests to drive FCAT scores will only get us so far and is not a strategy for long-term success."

Cook said he believes the trajectory of school rankings can be changed by looking for innovative solutions and building stronger partnerships between parents and the community.

"Each child needs to reach their full potential, not only in terms of academic success but also by promoting social resilience," he said. "This means challenging our most talented students with a more rigorous curriculum, providing supportive environments for our special needs children and developing innovative real-world vocational programs for those not on a college track."

Cook pointed to a program that partners



Photos courtesy of Denver Cook

**St. Johns County School Board District 4 candidate Denver Cook with his family**

high school students with architects and builders to give students an opportunity to design, plan and build a home each year.

"Partnering with a group like Habitat for Humanity and local businesses would provide tangible skills for students while helping families within our community," he said.

A U.S. Air Force veteran with seven years of service, his assignments included Central Command J2 Intelligence Staff during Desert Storm and as a founding member of the Joint Intelligence Center Pacific. After his service, Cook worked for nearly 20 years in a variety of large-scale commercial construction roles, including project manager for government contracts with NASA, the U.S. Army Corps and

Naval Facilities. He also worked as a residential general contractor.

Prior to moving to St. Johns County in 2012, Cook worked as a corrections officer in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and was a member of the Security Threat Group Intelligence Unit. Cook has been involved in a variety of initiatives in St. Johns County. He is currently chairman of the PACT Prevention Coalition, was past vice chair of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee and served on the PTO/SAC and safety committee at PVPV-Rawlings Elementary and PTO/SAC at Ocean Palms Elementary.

Cook resides in Nocatee with his wife Michelle and their two daughters who attend St. Johns County schools. For more information, visit [www.denvercook.com](http://www.denvercook.com).

*A Ponte Vedra Beach resident, Bill McClure is the president and chief operating officer of 1st Rescue Mission Critical Aerial Emergency Support Systems, a Jacksonville-based company that makes incident system software for police, fire rescue/EMS, hospitals, utilities, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Defense, pipelines and railways, universities and more.*

## Bill McClure

### Can you please tell us about your background?

I was born in Georgia with three siblings. When I was 18 years old, I started my first business by turning an old car wash into a drive through convenience store, just off the campus of the University of Florida. After college, I spent the next decade building three successful healthcare information technology companies, all with very successful exit strategies. I have been visiting Crescent Beach since 1972 and fell in love with the area. I moved to St Johns County in 2002, just after the birth of my youngest son. I have been shareholder, director, early stage investor or member of board of directors of 1st Rescue Mission Critical Emergency Support Systems, Healthcare EDI Bank, U.S. Bamboo, i360 Media, McGil Environmental, MediCompanies, Colo 5 Data Center, TPA eXchange, WLT Software, Recall Systems and MicroMed Healthcare Information Systems (NASDAQ:QSII).

I could live anywhere in the world, but I chose St. Johns County because of the schools and a wonderful neighborhood: Palencia. I have served as a public servant, as well as volunteer for a variety of local causes. I was elected to serve as St Johns County commissioner from 2012-2016. I led the initiatives to repeal more than 300 old laws; refinance the county debt, saving more than \$41 million dollars in interest payments for taxpayers; slow residential growth while increasing commercial growth; reduce unemployment from 8.5 percent to 3.2 percent; and I created the idea for the half cent sales tax to fund school growth issues. Today, I am the president of Scenic and Historic AIA, as well as the St Johns County Civilian Law Enforcement Academy. Above all, I am most proud of my two sons, Blake and Bryce.

### What differentiates 1st Rescue Mission Critical Aerial Emergency Support Systems?

We are a revolutionary software because we utilize disruptive technology. Particularly, we utilize commercial autonomous drones and real-time video 911 and telemedicine. We integrate all data (video, pictures, audio, all agencies and personnel responding, time tracking, personnel tracking, procedures used and billing system, evidence tracking and automated reporting) into our system that intelligently evolves, allowing security and emergency responders to concentrate on their respective jobs. For example, our technology can be used during a 911 call for sudden cardiac arrest. The 1st Rescue drone arrives in two minutes and delivers an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and a video chat session with a trained EMT/paramedic/doctor to begin CPR and use the AED. This is required within six minutes, otherwise the survival rate is 8 percent. Our system helps with the need for an increase in response time for medical emergencies, leading to maximum survival outcomes.

The cost is about 25 cents per taxpayer population for a municipality per month. We think that is great insurance to protect quality of life in an area.

### How would you characterize the software industry today?

The software industry today is still very young. I remember teaching people how to use Windows programs and a mouse back in 1997. It was not that long ago. Systems are being developed today to ease a process, or a system. There are still plenty of legacy systems, built prior to 2000, being used today. So, software is a good place to be.



Photo by Jon Blauvelt

### What's the future of the software/tech world?

The software of tomorrow will include automated intelligence, meaning the software will suggest better processes or systems to use. An example of that in healthcare would be integrating medical university research into a database and searching for your particular disease state or problem and the outcome and studies done in the past. This data could be mined, and the AI would recommend a best course of action, success ratios, alternative courses or even spot a specific cure for your particular disease by simply calculating and interpreting data. The problem with this scenario today is that nobody shares their medical research, but this will change.

### What do you enjoy most about living in Ponte Vedra?

I enjoy the people. Whether having a lunch at one of my PGA friend's place, Nona Blue, or eating dinner at my favorite Italian restaurant, Poppy's, everyone is involved in making the experiences the best. It doesn't matter where you came from, whether you are the server or the one being served, everyone cares and respects one another.

### What do you like to do in your free time?

I enjoy ballroom dancing with my wife Kimberly on some weekends, while racing motocross on others.

*Edited by Jon Blauvelt*

*To watch a video portion of the interview, visit [pontevedrarecorder.com](http://pontevedrarecorder.com) and click One of Us.*

# Rotary Club holds James Bond-themed Mineral City Celebration

Event honors Gary and Nancy Chartrand with 2018 'Rock of the Community' award

By Jon Blauvelt

Local Rotarians and friends flaunted their most elegant tuxedos and gowns and sipped on martinis — shaken, not stirred — last weekend at the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach's James Bond-themed Mineral City Celebration.

Held at the TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse, nearly 600 people attended "Titanium Night," which supported KIPP Jacksonville Schools and Daniel Kids, among other First Coast charities. The club's annual fundraiser on Saturday, April 7, featured several 007-themed activities, including a "Diamonds Are Forever" jewelry drawing, a "Casino Royale" silent auction and a "World Is Not Enough" raffle offering luxury trips to exotic destinations. Barbara Benevento won the raffle, giving her the opportunity to choose between trips to Australia, Hawaii, Ireland, Tuscany or Rome.

A "Live and Let Bid" live auction featured a \$800 bottle of wine, a backyard barbecue provided by Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa, a one-week stay at an Old Ponte Vedra Beach condo and a Joan Miro lithograph. Attendees at the event — which was emceed by Channel 4



Photos by Jon Blauvelt

**ABOVE:** Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach President-Elect Mark Farrell, President Elect-Elect Vickie Cavey and 2017-2018 President Billy Wagner gather at the club's James Bond-themed Mineral City Celebration, held on April 7 at the TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse.

**LEFT:** Performers from Bittersweet Studios entertain the event attendees at the James Bond-themed Mineral City Celebration on April 7.

news anchor Kent Justice — also enjoyed dinner, music, dancing and entertainment from Bittersweet Studios. Sight & Sound Productions produced the event's decorations, audio/visual and more.

Each year at the Mineral City Celebration, the local Rotary club presents the "Rock of the Community" award to someone who has made a valuable contribution to the community. This year's dual hon-

orees were Ponte Vedra Beach residents and First Coast philanthropists Gary and Nancy Chartrand, who have made significant contributions to education.

In 2007, Gary Chartrand led a community effort to bring Teach For America to Jacksonville, and in 2009, he and Nancy made a pledge gift to KIPP Schools of Jacksonville to help bring the first KIPP school to Florida. Over the past 15 years,

the Chartrands, along with their Chartrand Foundation, have awarded over \$50 million in gifts and grants for the advancement of the community. In addition to the award, the Rotary Club bestowed cufflinks and a necklace from Miriam's Jewelry to the local couple.

"We are truly humbled to be honored

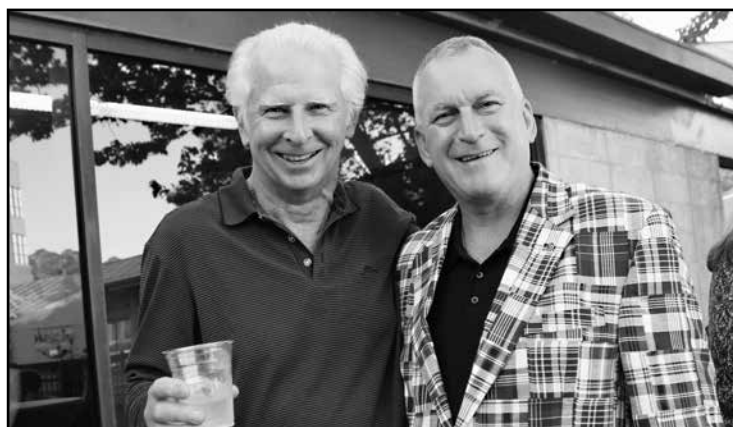
ROTARY continues on Page 9



**ABOVE:** Janeene Hart, Danny Johnson, Paul Jensen and Wayne Banyas gather at last year's Comedy for a Cause fundraising event. This year's event is taking place Saturday, April 21, at University of North Florida's Robinson Theater.

**RIGHT:** Chris Tchorznicki and John Rutkowski at last year's Comedy for a Cause

Photos by Susan Griffin



## Sunset Rotary Club to hold second annual comedy fundraiser April 21

The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset is holding its second annual comedy fundraiser, Comedy for a Cause, on Saturday, April 21, at University of North Florida's Robinson Theater.

The festivities start at 6:30 p.m. with complimentary hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, 50/50 raffle and silent auction featuring more than 50 items, including restaurant gift certificates, golf packages, unique artisan items and more. Danny Johnson, a Northeast Florida award-winning comedian, is back for the second straight year. This year, he is bringing along two of his friends to entertain the crowd. Johnson has starred on Comedy Central's Laugh Riots and shared the stage with a host of comedic celebrities, such as Chris Rock, Bob Saget, Billy Gardell, Richard Lewis and many others. The event will support several Northeast Florida charities.

"The Sunset Rotary Comedy event was a fun night of fellowship and laughs," said Shelley Morgan about last year's event. "This great group of Rotary friends went all out with good comedians, prizes and silent auction items. I look forward to attending again. Sunset can really put on a party."

Dan Cavey echoed Morgan's sentiments.

"I attended the comedy fundraiser a little reluctantly, thinking it would either not be funny, or be too crude," he said. "Wow, was I wrong. The first comedian was very funny and had me laughing from the first few minutes. By the time the second comedian was half way through, I was laughing so hard I was crying. It was great fun, clean humor and an overall awesome event."

Tickets for the event are \$35 and can be purchased online at [www.comedy4acause.org](http://www.comedy4acause.org).

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# 'SUDDENLY SINGLE' PROGRAM HELD AT RECORDER OFFICE



Kendal Fordham of Raymond James stands with Trudy Toche, the creator of "Suddenly Single," a program for men and women designed to provide support to those going through separation or divorce. Fordham served as the speaker of the "Suddenly Single" program held April 2 at the Ponte Vedra Recorder office, where she discussed the common financial mistakes made before, during and after a divorce. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 14. Contact Toche at (973) 819-6581 for more information.

Photo by Susan Griffin

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# Fees

Continued from 4

process, because I don't think it's fair to the residents that live in St. Johns County that we're going to lose close to \$4 million in impact fees that we won't be able to make up," said Commissioner Paul Waldron, the lone dissenting vote.

Members of the community also voiced concerns from both sides of the issue, with some contending that the fees weren't high enough, and others maintaining the opposite—that the increase would deter families from moving into the county.

"This is going to hurt families in St. Johns County," said Jessie Spradley, governmental affairs director for the Northeast Florida Builders Association. "As we move forward, this is not a happy day. This is going to be painful for those folks who are going to now see their house increase between \$2,000 and \$10,000, and that's not counting the interest that's going to be applied to this tax they're going to be paying. As we move forward from this moment, please help us identify ways to back off that amount through reduced regulations, reduced bureaucracy."

The first phase of the implementation process for the newly adopted impact fee schedule will take effect July 2, with the changes of the second phase scheduled to go into full effect Jan. 1, 2019.

# Rotary

Continued from 7

tonight," said Nancy Chartrand. "We can make a difference wherever possible, even if it is one act of kindness at a time."

Gary Chartrand spoke extensively about KIPP Schools of Jacksonville, which prepares students from the city's educationally underserved communities with necessary tools for success in

college and life, at its two elementary schools and one middle school. The free, open-enrollment public charter schools serve 1,100 students in Jacksonville, with 1,200 students on the waiting list.

"I would tell you that this work is both difficult and sometimes heart-breaking, and on the other hand so very rewarding," said Gary Chartrand, who is the executive chairman of Acosta. "We are making the difference in the lives of so many beautiful children."

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# Ponte Vedra High alumna crowned Miss Tallahassee

By Samantha Logue

Ponte Vedra Beach native Leila Sabet was recently crowned Miss Tallahassee 2018 at the Miss America Organization's annual Miss Tallahassee Scholarship Pageant, held March 24 at Florida A&M University's Lee Hall Auditorium.

One of seven total contestants, Sabet won the private interview and swimsuit segments of the competition, and also received awards for having the highest ticket and program book advertisement sales. A graduate of Ponte Vedra High School, Sabet attributes her love and appreciation for pageantry to her time as a Shark.

"My first pageant ever was actually the Miss Ponte Vedra High School pageant, and that pageant kind of opened my eyes to what pageantry actually is," the 22-year-old said. "I had this misconception where I honestly thought that I couldn't be the kind of person that would compete in pageants. I didn't know much about it. ... But after competing in that pageant, I won, and I really got the 'pageant bug.'"



Photo courtesy of Leila Sabet

**Ponte Vedra Beach native Leila Sabet is crowned Miss Tallahassee 2018 by the Miss America Organization.**

Following her first foray into the pageant world, Sabet said she learned pageantry could be much more than just a crown and a sash, and ultimately decided to get involved with the Miss

America Organization. "What I love about the Miss America Organization is it's the No. 1 provider of scholarships for education for women in the world, and I've gained a lot of

scholarship money from being a part of the Miss America Organization," Sabet said. "I paid for my school myself, and because of the Miss America Organization, I've been able to continue

my education and enhance my academic skills."

Indeed, with her recent win, Sabet earned not only the title of Miss Tallahassee, but also a \$1,000 scholarship. Currently a senior at Florida State University, she is studying psychology and advanced leadership studies, with hopes of pursuing a career in people operations and management.

"With psychology, my focus is industrial and organizational psychology," Sabet said. "So, it's more the people side of things, understanding behaviors, strengths and skills, and assessing those and placing employees in the proper areas of a company."

In the meantime, while she completes her undergraduate education, Sabet has chosen to utilize her new title to help "create a future free from heart disease." Inspired by her father's struggles with the illness, Sabet founded START4URHeart, a program that aims to raise awareness about heart disease and the importance of forming healthy habits early on in life.

**Sabet continues on Page 11**

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## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

# 10 years of the First Coast Register



**Jon Blauvelt**  
Editor

**By Jon Blauvelt**

Here at the Ponte Vedra Recorder, we're extremely proud to have been your source for community news since 1969. As we near 50 years of printing the paper, however, we're also celebrating another milestone:

10 years of printing the First Coast Register.

First printed as a glossy publication in 2008, the First Coast Register is our bimonthly, general interest, luxury and lifestyle magazine. As seen in this week's Recorder, the Register is inserted within the newspaper every other month, as well as distributed to over 250 locations on the First Coast. From Amelia Island to St. Augustine and from Ponte Vedra to Julington Creek, the Register can be found in exclusive condos and developments; golf, country and social clubs; fine restaurants and upscale shops; and area institutions such as the Cummer Museum and Mayo Clinic, among other locations. The magazine is also found on our website ([pontevedrarecorder.com](http://pontevedrarecorder.com)).

Included within the Register are social pieces on some of the First Coast's most swanky galas and events, as well as features on some of the community's most interesting people and businesses. Each



magazine focuses on a different theme, with several stories within the publication tying to that topic. For instance, our April/May edition features a "Spring Home & Garden" theme, and included within the magazine are stories on a new business coming to Ponte Vedra Beach that will offer home accessories and furnishings, as well as a feature on Jacksonville Beach's Sidney Cardel's, among others.

As you flip through this edition of the Register, we encourage you to keep us in mind for future stories and events that you think would make a good fit for the publication. We are always seeking suggestions for content and ways in which we can continue to deliver a lifestyle magazine that you enjoy.

As always, thank you for reading and for your continued support. We really do appreciate it!

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# Sabet

Continued from 10

“The title and the crown give you a voice and a platform for people to listen to you, and to pay attention and hear what you have to say,” she explained. “With this title, I have been able to speak to a lot of different people through



Leila Sabet

schools, different organizations and especially on campus in different clubs, and I’m able to spread awareness about the prevalence of heart disease—it’s the No. 1 killer in the nation

over all cancers combined. So, that’s an issue that’s really important to me because it directly affects my family, and through this organization, I can make a difference in the communities that I am in.”

June 27-30, Sabet will compete for the title of Miss Florida in Lakeland. For the talent portion of the competition, she will be dancing to the same song she danced to in her very first pageant: “What’s a Girl Gotta Do?” by Basement Jaxx.

“I wanted to go back to my roots and

where it all started, so it’s just kind of nostalgic for me,” she said. “I took three years off from competing in pageants, and now that I’m back, I really want to be completely, authentically and genuinely myself, so I’m doing the same talent song and I’m really excited.”

As she begins to prepare for the next level of the competition, Sabet said she has been overwhelmed by the support and encouragement she continues to receive from folks back home.

“I feel so much support and love from the Ponte Vedra and Jacksonville com-

munity, and it means so much to me,” she said. “It motivates me and keeps me going, so I just want them to know how grateful and thankful I am. Especially because it’s my hometown, it’s very fulfilling, my heart is warmed, and I feel so loved.”

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Bringing New Life to Senior Living®

Thursday, April 12	Friday, April 13	Saturday, April 14	Sunday, April 15
<p><b>Art of Cooking series: Homegrown</b> Saturiwa Trading Company and Chef Jamey Evoniuk with the Cummer Café, the Chef's Garden Catering &amp; Events and the Candy Apple Café &amp; Cocktails, will team up to share recipes, small bites and preparation techniques that showcase the freshness of locally-sourced produce. The event will also feature cocktails and an explanation into the methods of production by Jacksonville-based Manifest Distillery founder David Cohen. For more information or to register, call (904) 899-6023.</p> <p><b>Story time at Trout Creek</b> Guests are invited to bring their preschoolers to an interactive story time with the Library at Trout Creek Community Center, located at 6795 Collier Road in St. Augustine. The event will take place April 12 from 11 a.m. to noon. Contact Josh Bratovich at <a href="mailto:jjbratovich@sjcfl.us">jjbratovich@sjcfl.us</a> or (904) 209-0320 for more information.</p> <p><b>Yoga for Survivors</b> The Y Healthy Living Center at the Ponte Vedra YMCA will host a Yoga for Survivors class April 12 at 11:30 a.m. Cancer patients, survivors, caregivers and others with range of motion and pain limitations are invited to join in this gentle and safe yoga practice, which is free and open to the public. Call (904) 202-5376 or visit <a href="http://www.baptistjax.com/ymca">www.baptistjax.com/ymca</a> to reserve a spot. The Ponte Vedra YMCA is located at 170 Landrum Lane.</p> <p><b>Meditation session in the Zen Room</b> Visit House of Leaf &amp; Bean's Zen Room April 12 at 7 p.m. for a guided meditation session to calm the mind and center the soul. House of Leaf &amp; Bean is located at 14474 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.houseofleafnbean.com/calendar">www.houseofleafnbean.com/calendar</a>.</p> <p><b>'My Big Fat Greek Wedding' at Corazon Cinema and Cafe</b> A young Greek woman falls in love with a non-Greek and struggles to get her family to accept him while she comes to terms with her heritage and cultural identity. This film is showing at the Corazon Cinema and Cafe at noon. Visit <a href="http://www.corazoncinemaandcafe.com">www.corazoncinemaandcafe.com</a> for more information.</p>	<p><b>Cosmic yoga for kids</b> Learn to relax the mind and body with simple, kid-friendly stretches, exercises and activities at Frank B. Butler Park East, located at 5860 A1A S. in St. Augustine, from 4 to 4:45 p.m. April 13 and 20. Contact Kelly Ussia at <a href="mailto:kussia@sjcfl.us">kussia@sjcfl.us</a> or (904) 209-0335 for more information.</p> <p><b>River House Chorus</b> Enjoy the mental, physical and spiritual benefits of group singing with the River House Chorus. This Council on Aging event will take place Fridays from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at 179 Marine St. in St. Augustine. Instructor Diane Milesko will be on hand to inspire singing and a passion for music. For more information, call (904) 209-3655 email <a href="mailto:tabo@stjohnscoa.com">tabo@stjohnscoa.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Florida-Friendly Landscaping: Lawn care</b> THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center will host a lecture on Florida-Friendly Landscaping April 13 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. FFL is the utilization of low-maintenance plants and environmentally sustainable practices. This free program will focus on how to irrigate, fertilize, and maintain your lawn using Florida-Friendly principles. For more information, contact Kelly Ussia at (904) 209-0335 or <a href="mailto:kussia@sjcfl.us">kussia@sjcfl.us</a>. THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center is located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra.</p> <p><b>Party of the Decades</b> Join The Buzz Media Group and Junior League of Jacksonville at the Anheuser-Busch Brewery April 13 for a progressive party. The festivities will begin with the Swingin' 50s at 6:30 p.m., with live entertainment from Swingin' 50s artist Billy Buchanan and his Rock N' Soul Revue. The Funky 70s party kickstarts at 7:30 p.m. featuring hits from the disco era. Finally, the Slammin' 90s party, starting at 8:30 p.m., will feature DJ EL. The Anheuser-Busch bBewery is located at 1100 Ellis Road N. in Jacksonville. Visit <a href="http://www.PartyOfTheDecades.com">www.PartyOfTheDecades.com</a> for more information and to purchase tickets.</p>	<p><b>Author discussion at Anastasia Island Library</b> Four local authors will come together April 14 to discuss their books, the publishing process and more from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Anastasia Island Branch Library. The authors include Diane Quick-Machaby, Dr. Edward Mickolus, Sally Constain and Mary Greenwood. The Anastasia Island Branch Library is located at 124 Grove Main St. in St. Augustine Beach. There is no charge to attend this event.</p> <p><b>Palms Preschool &amp; Childcare Center spring carnival</b> Palms Preschool &amp; Childcare Center will host its annual spring carnival April 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event, which is open to the community, will feature bounce houses, train rides, food, raffles, games, face painting, prizes, treats and more. Tickets are available at the door. For more information, call (904) 247-0983 or visit <a href="http://www.palmschurch.org">www.palmschurch.org</a>. Palms Preschool &amp; Childcare Center is located at 3410 3rd St S. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p><b>National Library Week</b> The St. Johns County Public Library System invites residents and visitors to celebrate National Library Week April 8-14. Every year, libraries across the nation set aside one week to honor the importance of libraries and how they enrich communities. For more information on events and programs, visit <a href="http://www.sjcpls.org">www.sjcpls.org</a>.</p> <p><b>Bartram Bash at Alpine Groves Park</b> Celebrate William Bartram at the 14th Annual Bartram Bash April 14 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Alpine Groves Park, located at 2060 State Road 13 in Switzerland, Florida. This family-friendly event, which is free and open to the public, will feature "Skin &amp; Bones" performing live, music by Tommy Bledsoe, educational booths, kids games, activities, yoga in the park, Stetson Kennedy Award presentations, a William Bartram reenactor, an 8 a.m. bird walk with St. Johns County Audubon President Jean Rolke and more.</p>	<p><b>Sandals, shorts and steel drum service</b> Every Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to noon, St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church invites guests to put on sandals and shorts for a more casual worship service featuring the tropical sound of steel drum music. The church is located at 465 11th Ave. N. in Jacksonville Beach.</p> <p><b>Healthy Kids Day</b> The YMCA of Florida's First Coast will host a Healthy Kids Day on April 15. The event, celebrated at over 1,500 Ys across the country by over 1.2 million participants, works to get more kids moving and learning. The day-long event features activities such as Family Yoga and Family Body Attack, YMCA Camp Corner, Interactive Science Show, Wild Wonders Animal Show, Dry Swim Lessons, giveaways and more to motivate and teach families how to develop and maintain healthy routines at home. For more information, contact YMCA of Florida's First Coast at (904) 265-1809 or visit <a href="http://FirstCoastYMCA.org">FirstCoastYMCA.org</a>.</p> <p><b>Southern Garden History Society annual meeting</b> The Ximenez-Fatio House Museum will host a scheduled event and tour during the Southern Garden History Society's annual meeting in Northeast Florida April 15 from 1 to 3 p.m. The Ximenez-Fatio House, located at 20 Aviles St. in St. Augustine, is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the Historic American Buildings Survey. It is a Florida Heritage Landmark and is also recognized as an integral part of the St. Augustine Town Plan National Historic Landmark District.</p> <p><b>Just Tri It! kids triathlon</b> The Just Tri It! kids triathlon on April 15 will offer youth ages 5 to 14 an opportunity to participate in a non-competitive triathlon event at the Solomon Calhoun Center. Check-in and bike drop-off will take place at 7 a.m. and the event starts at 8 a.m. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.sjcfl.us/Recreation/Youth/JustTriIt.aspx">http://www.sjcfl.us/Recreation/Youth/JustTriIt.aspx</a>. The Solomon Calhoun Center is located at 1300 Duval St. in St. Augustine.</p>

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Monday, April 16	Tuesday, April 17	Wednesday, April 18	Thursday, April 19
<p><b>Caregiver support meetings</b> The St. Johns County Council on Aging will host caregiver support meetings Mondays (except holidays) from noon to 1 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Memory Care Center at 1048 A1A N. For more information, call Paulette Kozlowski at (904) 209-3674 or email pkozlowski@stjohnscoa.com. The meetings will provide a supportive environment for people who are experiencing similar challenges in which they can share problems, ideas and solutions.</p> <p><b>MOSH Mondays</b> The Museum of Science and History's MOSH Mondays feature discounts including buy-one-get-one-half-off admission for adults, 10 percent off MOSH-branded items in the museum shop, 10 percent off memberships when signing up in-person and 10 percent off birthday packages when signing up in-person. MOSH Mondays also feature rotating weekly programs. MOSH is located at 1025 Museum Circle in Jacksonville. Visit <a href="http://www.themosh.org">www.themosh.org</a> for more information.</p> <p><b>Author Jeff Klinkenberg discussion at Ponte Vedra Library</b> Former Tampa Bay Times columnist Jeff Klinkenberg will discuss his new book, "Son of Real Florida: Stories from My Life," in the April 16 edition of Book Talk Cafe. Klinkenberg wrote Florida culture for the Tampa Bay Times for nearly four decades. In 2013, he won a "Green Eyeshade Award" for work that was judged the best feature writing in any Southern newspaper. This event will take place at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library at 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>The Lone Bellow at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall</b> The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall will host Americana trio "The Lone Bellow" April 16; doors open at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m. The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is located at 1050 A1A N. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <a href="http://www.pvconcerthall.com">www.pvconcerthall.com</a> or call the box office at (904) 209-0399.</p>	<p><b>Volunteers needed</b> Volunteers are needed at THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the kitchen. The center is looking for upbeat volunteers to help with new spring and summer programs. Contact Amy Leach at (904) 209-3686 or email <a href="mailto:aleach@stjohnscoa.com">aleach@stjohnscoa.com</a> for more information. The PLAYERS Community Senior Center is located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra.</p> <p><b>Jeffery Deaver at Bookmark</b> Internationally best-selling author Jeffery Deaver will appear at BookMark April 17 at 7 p.m. to talk about and sign copies of his 14th Lincoln Rhyme novel "The Cutting Edge." The book chronicles Lincoln Rhyme and Amelia Sachs' return to New York City to confront a killer terrorizing couples at their happiest-and most vulnerable. The Bookmark is located at 220 1st St. in Neptune Beach. Call (904) 241-9026 for more information.</p> <p><b>Florida Blue free Tuesday</b> Every Tuesday, enjoy free admission to the Cummer Museum thanks to the support of Florida Blue. Cummer Museum of Art &amp; Gardens is located at 829 Riverside Ave. in Jacksonville. The Cummer Museum's Tuesday hours are 4 to 9 p.m. No registration is required. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.cummermuseum.org">www.cummermuseum.org</a> or call (904) 356-6857.</p> <p><b>Abigale Stone lecture at UNF</b> Abigale Stone, stranding coordinator at Clearwater Marine Aquarium, will discuss "Rescuing Winter, Hope and More: The True Story Behind 'Dolphin Tale'" April 17 at 7 p.m. in the Andrew A. Robinson Jr. Theater, Building 14A on the University of North Florida campus. Doors open at 6 p.m. Local dolphin research displays and the Fish and Wildlife Commission will also be available between 6 and 7 p.m. For more information on tickets, contact Michelle Davis at (904) 620-2830 or via email at <a href="mailto:michelle.davis@unf.edu">michelle.davis@unf.edu</a>. This event will take place at 1 UNF Drive in Jacksonville.</p>	<p><b>Toastmasters Club</b> Toastmasters Club #5199 of Ponte Vedra Beach meets every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. at THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center. These meetings help attendees improve public speaking and gain leadership skills. The senior center is located at 175 Landrum Lane in Ponte Vedra Beach. Email Lucy Reep at <a href="mailto:lucyreep@gmail.com">lucyreep@gmail.com</a> for additional information.</p> <p><b>Life Enrichment Day Retreat</b> The Life Enrichment Day Retreat is designed for those with memory changes who want to remain mentally, physically and socially active, while giving caregivers and loved ones some free time for themselves. This program is offered daily at Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra. For more information call (904) 417-7354 or email <a href="mailto:life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com">life_enrichmentgroup@yahoo.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Alzheimer's/Dementia Support Group</b> Cypress Village's Alzheimer's/Dementia Support Group will be held April 18 at 3 p.m. This group is designed for caregivers of those with Alzheimer's/Dementia. Refreshments will be provided. RSVP by contacting Robin Kaleel at (904) 807-6222. Cypress Village is located at 4600 Middleton Park Circle E. in Jacksonville.</p> <p><b>2018 Birding &amp; Photo Fest</b> Florida's Historic Coast will present another year of birding and outdoor photography at the 2018 Birding &amp; Photo Fest, featuring the return of festival favorites, world-class photographers, new professionals and instructors offering technical training opportunities. This event will take place April 18-22 at the GTM Research Reserve Environmental Education Center, located at 505 Guana River Road. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <a href="http://www.floridasbirdingandphotofest.com">www.floridasbirdingandphotofest.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Flagler College Spring Senior Conservatory</b> Flagler College art students will showcase their talents at this Spring Senior Conservatory, taking place April 18-19. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.flagler.edu">www.flagler.edu</a> or call the box office at (904) 826-8600.</p>	<p><b>Art for Tots: Spring in Garden</b> This Art for Tots class, scheduled for April 19 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., will explore the gardens and study the different shapes and colors in the natural world. In the studio, children will use flowers to create a painting with unique textures. Art for Tots is funded through the Chartrand Family Foundation. Interested participants can enter through Art Connections. Class size is limited. For more information, email <a href="mailto:education@cummuseum.org">education@cummuseum.org</a> or call (904) 355-0630.</p> <p><b>Jacksonville Historical Society April lecture series</b> April's Lecture Series event at the Jacksonville Historical Society will feature George R. Burns, vice president of the Cowford Archaeological Research Society (CARS), who will speak on the Jacksonville Wall Project. CARS has been working on locating and identifying evidence of the security wall built by the U.S. Army around Jacksonville during the U.S. Civil War. This event will take place April 19 at 317 A Philip Randolph Blvd. in Jacksonville from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>'Rampage' at IMAX Theater at World Golf Hall of Fame</b> "Rampage" is based on the classic 1980s video game featuring apes and monsters destroying cities. The film is showing at the IMAX Theater at World Golf Hall of Fame April 19 at 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <a href="http://www.worldgolfimax.com">www.worldgolfimax.com</a>. The World Golf Hall of Fame IMAX Theater is located at 1 World Golf Place in St. Augustine.</p> <p><small>Free calendar listings for community groups and nonprofit organizations are published at our discretion on a space-available basis. Send your event at least 10 days before publication. Submit events to <a href="mailto:ben@opcfla.com">ben@opcfla.com</a>, post online at <a href="http://www.pontevedrarecorder.com">www.pontevedrarecorder.com</a> using the automated form or call (904) 686-3939.</small></p>

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# Spring Cleaning & Organizing

## Ending the school year on an organized note

by **Barbara Trapp**

Special to the Recorder

The 2017-2018 school year is coming to a close. That ultra-organized first day of school house has been replaced by rooms of outgrown toys, worn-out clothes, piles of school papers and dirty backpacks amid Legos and hair ties. Here are some tips to get you back on the organized track.

### Start early

The day after my daughter's last day of second grade, a clean-up and reorganization of her room turned up missing school text books, gym clothes and library books. Off I went to her school, sheepishly returning those items we'd missed. The organization process needed to start sooner!

### Let children downsize

So, where to start? Should you shuttle your child off to a sleepover, so you can gut their room solo? Do you give them a large trash bag, an ultimatum and leave them to it?

Organizing is a life skill and life skills can be taught. One mother I helped wanted



Photo courtesy of Barbara Trapp

to clean out her 5-year-old's room. I suggested we involve her daughter - I'll call her Sara - in some of the decisions. We played a game of "Keep or Give," and after an initial flurry of "keeps," Sara's "gives" soon filled two large bags with "stuffies" and toys to pass on to other chil-

dren. We took a photo of a beaming Sara standing proudly next to her donations.

In another case, a 9-year-old boy with a mop of red hair stood guardedly at the door to his room. The floor was covered with motorized toy cars, "stuffedies" and action figures.

"Don't judge me," he admonished.

I assured him I wouldn't, and the purging began. He soon filled several boxes of toys he'd outgrown, much to his mother's surprise (and a little wistfulness).

Even young children can help weed out at least some of their belongings. Your child might surprise you with the things they are ready to part with.

### Curate like the Louvre

According to The Oxford Dictionary, the definition of curate is to select, organize, and look after the items in a collec-

tion or exhibition.

Museums select and preserve art that best represents an artist. Likewise, you should selectively cull your child's accumulated paper and artwork. Don't saddle them (or yourself) with stacks of boxes to sift through decades from now. They will most likely sit in another dusty attic for years.

Why not select your child's top five masterpieces from first grade? Save the one perfect watercolor handprint and discard all the practice runs with missing fingers. Keep meaningful and significant awards certificates. You may wish to store report cards in a separate "school records" folder.

### Guilt, guilt, guilt

Discarding your child's creations can be painful if there is an emotional attachment. Having trouble letting go? Ask yourself these questions out loud:

- Does this represent my child well?
- Does this have happy memories?
- Is this a one-of-a-kind creative work, or one of many?
- Is my child attached to it?
- Why am I saving this?

Hearing your own thought processes can help speed up decision-making.

### Containerize

Once you've whittled down to the very best, select the smallest storage container needed. Make a file for each grade and store these in a file box, one per child. Attach a school photo to the outside for a special touch! Hanging pocket folders (enclosed on the sides) will ensure nothing

TRAPP continues on Page 15



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Photo courtesy of Barbara Trapp

## Trapp

Continued from 14

small falls out. Here are other storage ideas:

- 10-inch by 13-inch envelopes labeled with your child's name and school year
- Binders with closed-top sheet protectors
- Digital scrapbooks
- Artist portfolios
- Pizza boxes (unused, of course!)

### End of school countdown!

Don't let your child's performance fizzle out as the semester draws to a

close. Discuss and clarify any remaining assignments so there are no nasty surprises. Gather books that need to be returned to school. Check lost and found for any missing items.

When that last day finally rolls around, find a way to celebrate! I know a mother and daughter who share a tradition of a homework bonfire, eliminating practically all of the year's paper! However you downsize the school year, you will have to save one thing: the infamous summer reading list!

**Barbara Trapp is a professional organizer serving Northeast Florida. For more information, visit [zenyourden.com](http://zenyourden.com) or contact her via [info@zenyourden.com](mailto:info@zenyourden.com) or (904) 500-7678.**

# Spring cleaning projects you don't want to forget

Spring cleaning is an annual tradition in many households. Donating old clothes and cleaning out the garage are popular spring cleaning projects, but there are a host of additional tasks homeowners can tackle to freshen up their homes this spring.

### Floors

Dust has a way of settling into a home over the course of a typical winter, and it's easy for a home's inhabitants to track dirt and debris inside as well. After vacuuming or sweeping floors, go over them with a mop. Doing so can remove any lingering dust, dirt, debris and allergens the vacuum or broom failed to pick up. Apply wood cleaner and polish to wood floors to make them look even cleaner.

### Curtains

Curtains also may have absorbed substantial amounts of dust, dirt and debris. This might be more visible near the end of winter when more sunlight begins to shine through. Clean the curtains in adherence to the manufacturer instructions before you open windows for the season so any wind that blows in does not spread debris onto nearby furniture. Once the curtains have

been washed, opening windows may help them dry more quickly.

### Baseboards

Though baseboards might not seem all that dirty, upon closer inspection homeowners might notice substantial accumulations of dirt and dust. Such dirt and dust may not be removed so easily, so homeowners might need to use hot water and a sponge to remove any debris.

### Bathrooms

Inspect ceilings, tubs, shower stalls, and floors for any signs of mold growth or grime. Mold growth in a home can lead to respiratory problems, so it's best to inspect bathrooms for any signs of mold growth throughout winter.

### Furniture

It's easy to overlook furniture when tackling spring cleaning, but dust and dirt can quickly accumulate on couches and chairs. When possible, vacuum furniture to remove any debris that might have accumulated while windows and doors were kept shut, and shampoo any cushions or seat covers that don't pass the smell test.

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# Fidelity increases target date risk



**Ric Schilling**  
 Columnist

**By Ric Schilling**  
 Special to the Recorder


I came across an article (see link on page 17) not long ago and it really caught my attention. It seems that Fidelity, the mutual fund firm that oversees some \$4 trillion in investments, has adopted a more aggressive investment approach in many of its target date retirement funds in order to improve returns. Is that being smart or exposing people to more risk than is appropriate for their age and circumstances?

First, remember the basic principle of a target date retirement fund. It estimates the year in which one intends or hopes




to retire and invests their 401(k) account in the corresponding fund managed by Fidelity (or any other of the 50-60 firms who offer such funds). In the early years long before retirement, the fund is more heavily invested in stocks (80 percent or so) and less in fixed income and then changes that allocation gradually to a less stock/more fixed income mix as the retirement year approaches. This is quite common practice for most retirement plans.

According to the authors of this article (again, type into your browser to read for yourself), it seems that Fidelity has seen quite an outflow of money from their retirement funds going to funds of their competitors in this space. So, they decided to slow the reallocation process

**SCHILLING** continues on **Page 17**



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# Schilling

Continued from 16

between stock and bonds, hoping to present customers with better returns given recent stock market versus bond market performance.

That isn't necessarily bad if you are in your 40s or 50s and retirement is years away, but as you near or enter your 60s, the impact of a significant market downturn that takes years to recover from could be disastrous to your retirement dreams. When the market plunged in 2008/2009, it took until mid-2013 just to get back to even, let alone make up the five years of gains that might have happened had the downturn not occurred.

As I've said many times, the first person responsible for your retirement security is you; you can enlist the help of

others, including Fidelity, but don't just rely on them for your future. After all, if the market drops and you lose half your savings, they won't be out of business, but you might be impacted for life. An easy way to avoid this situation is to select different funds in your 401(k), avoiding the target date funds if at all possible. That way, you choose how much to allocate to equities versus fixed income, a mix that you will change as you age.

Find a licensed independent financial fiduciary in your area, which by securities law must always put your best interest first.

It's your future – don't let others take the risk and you suffer the consequences.

**Link to article referenced in column:**

[www.msn.com/en-us/money/retirement/special-report-fidelity-puts-6-million-savers-on-risky-path-to-retirement/ar-BBJSUgr](http://www.msn.com/en-us/money/retirement/special-report-fidelity-puts-6-million-savers-on-risky-path-to-retirement/ar-BBJSUgr)

**Frederic "Ric" Schilling is a Florida native, born in Jacksonville, FL. Ric is President of Senior Guardians of America, a local North Florida firm specializing in tax reduction, long term illness planning, asset protection, probate avoidance and life income planning. Ric is a National Speaker and Advocate on Senior Issues and has been featured by the Florida Times Union and WJXT, TV-4 in Jacksonville as an authority on Estate Planning and Retirement Issues. Senior Guardians has an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau and is a member in excellent standing with the National Ethics**

**Association. Contact Frederic: 904-371-3302 or 888-891-338. Please visit: [www.seniorguardian.com](http://www.seniorguardian.com)**

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**MORE MARKET MASTERS: LEADERS IN FINANCE**  
 What should you look for in a personal financial advisor?  
**Page 19**



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## Nocatee Happenings

### SJSO HOSTS WOMEN'S PERSONAL SAFETY CLASS



Photo by Benjamin Naim

The St. Johns County Sheriff's Office (SJSO) held a women's personal safety class on Monday, April 9 at Nocatee's Crosswater Hall. The session, designated for girls ages 12 to 18, focused on situational awareness, facts about criminals, avoiding dangerous situations, crime statistics, being vigilant and general safety and security tips. An additional session on April 16 will focus on self-defense techniques such as strikes, kicks and escapes.



### COASTAL WINE MARKET'S 'MEET THE WINEMAKER' EVENT SET FOR APRIL 17

Coastal Wine Market & Tasting Room will host the next installment of its "Meet The Winemaker" series on Tuesday, April 17, with Alex Sokol Blosser of Sokol Blosser Vineyards in Oregon. The tasting is \$20 and will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. Tickets at the door will be \$25. The tasting is free with the purchase of \$100 or more. Search for the event on [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) to purchase tickets.

Photo courtesy of Coastal Wine Market & Tasting Room

## St. Johns County Parks and Recreation seeks support to receive \$20K grant during Earth Month

St. Johns County Parks and Recreation is asking for the community's support to help the department receive a grant to fund improvements in the county.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) is collaborating with The Walt Disney Company for the fourth consecutive year to help fund local park improvement projects nationwide. The city or county that receives the most nominations through the "Meet Me at the Park" Earth Month campaign will receive a \$20,000 grant.

St. Johns County residents can help their local park system receive the grant through April 30 to fund City to Sea, a new educational program aimed at creating opportunities for underserved youth to take day trips to the beach and learn about water safety. Those who nominate City to Sea will be entered into a drawing for a GoPro Prize Pack.

"With a growing population, a thriving park system in our county is as important as ever," said Billy Zeits, assistant director of the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department. "The natural beauty and diverse ecosystems that we all get to enjoy increase our quality of life and bring numerous benefits to our residents. We're asking everyone to take a few minutes to nominate St. Johns County for the 'Meet Me at the Park'



Photo courtesy of St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department

Earth Month campaign."

For more information and to nominate St. Johns County, visit [NRPA.org/DisneyMeetMeAtThePark](http://NRPA.org/DisneyMeetMeAtThePark).

Voting is open and concludes at 11:59 p.m. eastern on April 30. No purchase is necessary to participate. The NRPA Meet Me at the Park Promotion and Voter's Sweepstakes (collectively, "promotions") are open to legal residents 18 years of age or older. For complete details and official rules, visit [www.meetmeatthepark.org](http://www.meetmeatthepark.org).

## OBITUARIES

### Zosimo Carlos

Zosimo A. Carlos, 69, of Jacksonville, died April 4, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

### Gertrude Fields

Gertrude R. Fields, 84, of Jacksonville Beach, died April 5, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

### Ralph Guariglia

Ralph L. Guariglia, 92, of Neptune Beach, died March 24, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

### Loretta Henry

Loretta Arth Henry, 89, died March 28, 2018. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalle.com](http://www.pontevedravalle.com).

### Lourdes Maisonave

Lourdes Maisonave, 93, died April 1, 2018. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalle.com](http://www.pontevedravalle.com).

### Ross Mobilia

Ross Mobilia, 82, died March 31, 2018. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalle.com](http://www.pontevedravalle.com).

### Josephine Murphy

Josephine Carol Murphy, 82, of Atlantic Beach, died March 25, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

### Ronald Rhodes

Ronald Joseph Rhodes, 63, of Jacksonville, died March 28, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

### Vera Schumacher

Vera F. Schumacher, 85, of Jacksonville, died April 4, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

### Leo Sheckells

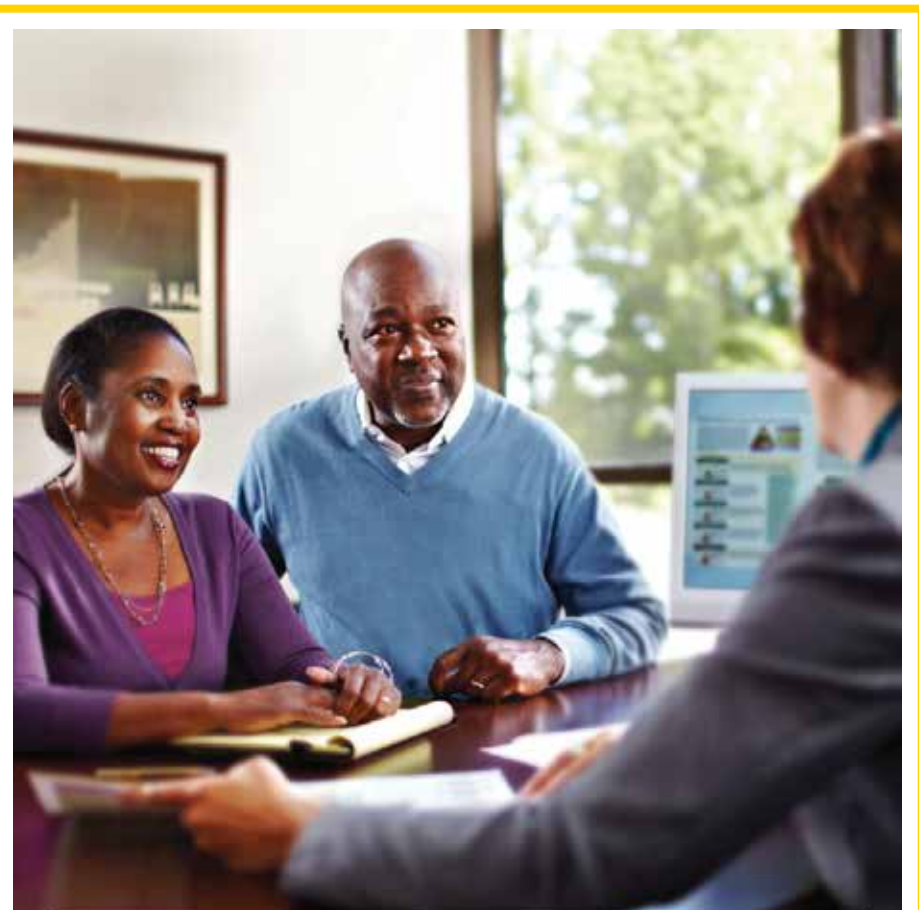
Leo B. Sheckells Jr., 78, of Neptune Beach, died April 4, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

### Ethel Stanton

Ethel Meyers Stanton, 88, of Jacksonville Beach, died April 2, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.

### Kathleen Taaffe

Kathleen Ann Taaffe, 74, of Jacksonville, died April 7, 2018. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz, A Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre.



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# Market Masters: Leaders in Finance

## Make sure you choose the right financial professional



**By Karsten Jacobson, CFP®**  
Special to the Recorder

What kind of lifestyle do you hope to have in retirement? Do you have a strategy to get there? If you don't have confidence in your plan, it may be time to engage a financial professional. But how do you choose the one who's right for you?

These days, you have more options than ever – including so-called robo-advisors. Robo-advisors typically use algorithms to assemble investment portfolios, with little to no human supervision, after customers answer questions online. Generally, robo-advisors are fairly cheap, and their recommendations are usually based on sound investment principles such as diversification.

However, when considering a robo-advisor, you should determine if an algorithm can address your needs as well as a human being – someone who actually becomes familiar with your life and all aspects of your financial situation. Furthermore, a robo-advisor can't really handle the new wrinkles that will inevitably pop up, such as when you change jobs, and you'd like to know what to do with your 401(k) from your previous employer – leave the money

in that employer's plan, transfer the account to the new employer's plan or roll it over to an IRA. You probably couldn't receive a personalized evaluation of your options, based on your individual goals and circumstances, from a robo-advisor.

So, if you decide to work with an individual financial professional, what should you look for from this person? Here are a few questions you might want to ask.

- Who is your typical client? By asking this question, you may get a sense of whether a particular financial advisor has experience working with people in your financial situation and with goals similar to yours.
- What's important to you? The quality of your relationship with your financial advisor is important – after all, you may be working with this person for decades – and he or she likely will be involved with many of your most personal decisions. Consequently, you'll want to work with someone you connect with on an individual level, as well as a professional one. So, if an advisor seems to share your values and appears to have good rapport with you, it could be a positive sign for the future.
- How will we communicate – and how often? If you're interviewing candidates, ask them how often they will meet with you in person. At a minimum, an advisor should see you once a year to review your progress and suggest changes. Will they also call or e-mail you with suggestions throughout the year? Are you free to contact them whenever you like? Will you get a real, live person every time you call? Will they send out newsletters or other communications to update you on changes in the investment world? If so, can you see some samples of the communication vehicles they send to clients?
- How do you get compensated? Some financial advisors work on a fee basis, some on commissions, and some use a combination of both. Find out how your advisor will be compensated, when you'll need to make payments and how much you'll be expected to pay. By asking the right questions, you should get a good sense of whether a particular advisor is right for you. And since this likely will be one of the most important professional relationships you have, you'll want a good feeling about it, right from the beginning.

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**This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones financial advisor. Karsten L. Jacobson, CFP®, is a financial advisor for Edward Jones at 2208 Sawgrass Village Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach.**

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# Business Weekly

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Taking a look at new changes to Florida's gun laws

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## Amazon hosts community leaders for grand opening of new Jacksonville fulfillment center

By Benjamin Naim

Amazon's new fulfillment center on Jacksonville's Northside opened its doors to elected officials and community leaders — including U.S. Rep. John Rutherford and Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry — on Friday, April 6, as part of the facility's special grand opening event.

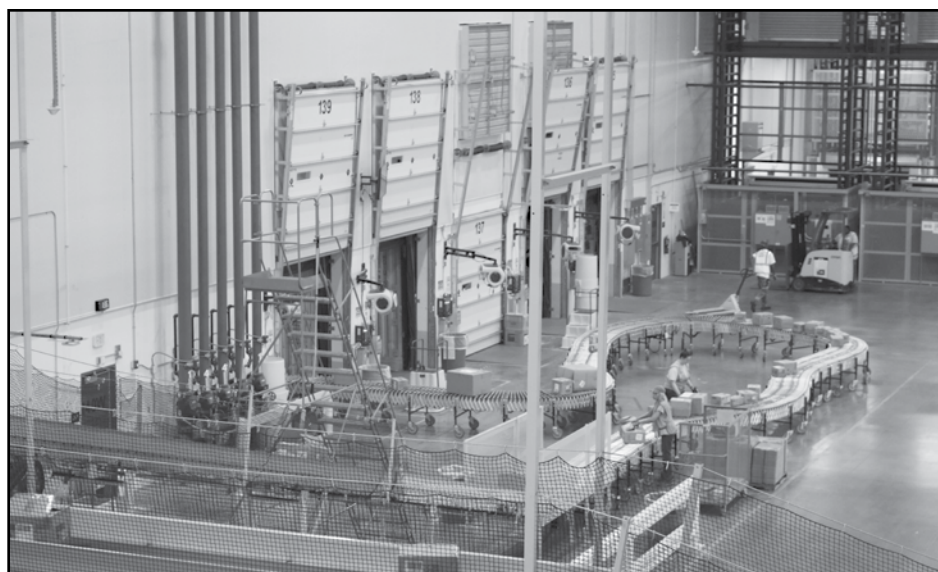
The Pecan Park Road fulfillment center started operating last year and utilizes robotics and other state-of-the-art technologies to serve customers and decrease shipping times. General Manager Bernard Schmidt said the most innovative aspect of the facility is its use of automation.

"Our Amazon robotics gives us the ability to have more capacity and take on more inventory," Schmidt said in an interview with the Recorder. "What that means is we're able to fulfill more customers."

Schmidt noted the Amazon fulfillment center has a "culture of continuous improvement" that allows the e-commerce and computing company to efficiently manage and run day-to-day operations. The general manager added that keeping things organized and labeled helps manage customer demand and the volume of packages passing through the facility.

"The bar continues to get higher and higher," he said. "Years ago, you'd probably wait 10 days to get something. Now, two- to four-day delivery is the norm ... same-day is the norm. We really believe in fulfilling that customer demand."

To fulfill demand, Schmidt said it's im-



**ABOVE: Conveyor belts move packages to a shipping area at the new Amazon facility. Amazon opened the doors of its new fulfillment center on Jacksonville's Northside to elected officials and community leaders on April 6 as part of a special grand opening event. The new facility began operating last year.**

**LEFT: General Manager Bernard Schmidt explains how the facility utilizes robotic drive units to reduce processing times.**

Photos by Benjamin Naim

portant to leverage Amazon's robotic drive units to make sure products are shipped out efficiently. The general manager stated

at a pre-tour press conference that Amazon robotics have reduced processing times from hours to mere minutes, which en-

ables faster shipping times to the customer.

During the tour, attendees observed staff members stocking inventory on shelves and "picking" items to be shipped. Instead of walking back and forth to different areas of the facility, employees simply scan items in one place and lay them on automated driving units that can carry shelves in any direction. When staff members need certain items from inventory, the robots retrieve and carry them to Amazon staff members before they are prepared for shipment.

The Jacksonville facility is geared toward small items, such as DVDs, books and smaller electronics. The facility operates 24 hours per day, seven days a week (barring major holidays or significant weather events).

Before the tour, Rutherford asserted the facility will create thousands of new jobs and subsequently lower crime.

"I can tell you as the former sheriff of Duval County, nothing fights crime like a good-paying job," he said. "That's why in Congress I was very proud to vote for the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which is helping corporations all across America grow... I'm very proud of Amazon's footprint.

Thank you all very much for what you're doing to help improve the lifestyle here."

Curry, who also spoke prior to the tour, said that Amazon's speedy delivery times have changed his life. Furthermore, the Jacksonville mayor commended the

**AMAZON** continues on Page 24

**SJC Chamber of Commerce PVBD Director Toni Boudreaux, Dr. Casey Means, Marissa Daniels, Ponte Vedra Wellness Center Owner Dr. Erika Hamer, Jackie Payne, Daniel Brauch and Vickie Meads gather at the Chamber "Before Hours" on Wednesday, April 4.**

Photo by Susan Griffin



## Ponte Vedra Wellness Center hosts Chamber 'Before Hours'

Ponte Vedra Wellness Center hosted a "Before Hours" event for the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, April 4.

The event served as an opportunity for attendees to network, enjoy cof-

fee and a healthy breakfast and get a relaxing chair massage before heading to work.

Visit [pontevedrawellnesscenter.com](http://pontevedrawellnesscenter.com) for more information on Ponte Vedra Wellness Center. Visit [sjchamber.com](http://sjchamber.com) for more information on the Chamber.

# Arthur Rutenberg Homes by Mark Refosco breaks ground on new showcase home at EvenTide



**ABOVE: The Tidewater by Arthur Rutenberg Homes by Mark Refosco at EvenTide**

Arthur Rutenberg Homes by Mark Refosco has begun construction on a new showcase home at EvenTide in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Known as the Tidewater home, the showcase will feature more than 4,800 square feet of living space with another 2,000 square feet of outdoor space overlooking the pool. The home will also feature sliding glass doors at the great room and kitchen on the first floor, as well as a second-story covered balcony.

“EvenTide is a prestigious community offering buyers an exceptional opportunity in Ponte Vedra Beach,” said Arthur Rutenberg Homes franchise owner Mark Refosco. “As our new showcase home will demonstrate, EvenTide’s homes are expertly crafted and innovatively designed to meet the needs of today’s lifestyle. Our homes will include energy efficient and luxurious features, and will please even the most discriminating homebuyer.”

GreenPointe Communities and EvenTide’s preferred custom homebuilder team, Arthur Rutenberg homes by Mark Refosco and

Glenn Layton Homes, have created a portfolio of home designs and options for every lifestyle.

“We have established guidelines to reflect the community’s architectural vision and to ensure the highest construction standards are incorporated in the design of each home,” said GreenPointe Communities North Florida Division Manager Mike Taylor. “Our community’s distinctive homes will showcase a signature coastal-eclectic architectural style and boast a connection between the architecture and the environment at EvenTide.”

Homebuyers can also engage with their own builder to bring their home to fruition. EvenTide is exclusively marketed by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty. The community’s 23 estate-sized homesites range in size from approximately a third acre to more than one acre with prices starting at \$1.3 million.

For more information on EvenTide, call Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty Realtors Elizabeth Hudgins or Lee Elmore at (904) 285-5499 or visit [www.EvenTideLiving.com](http://www.EvenTideLiving.com).



**RIGHT: Sunset Park at EvenTide**

Photos courtesy of Clockwork Marketing

## Freedom Boat Club location coming to Jacksonville Beach

A new Freedom Boat Club Jacksonville location is opening at 2315 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville Beach, according to Lisa Almeida and Kevin Seelig, co-owners of the four Northeast Florida franchises.

“Kevin and I have been working to bring a Freedom Boat Club location to the Jacksonville Beach area for a number of years,” said Almeida. “Our members have been asking for it and we are so very excited that we have finally worked out a deal to give our members another beautiful marina where they can get on a boat and get out on the water.”

The Beach Marine location of Freedom Boat Club is the fourth location in Northeast Florida. Almeida and Seelig opened the third location at Palm Valley Outdoors last year. They also have locations at Julenton Creek Marina in Jacksonville and Camachee Cove Marina in St. Augustine.

Freedom Boat Club at Beach Marine will have 15 boats available for members and will open to current members on April 12. Those interested in learning more about the newest location can visit [www.freedomboatclub.com](http://www.freedomboatclub.com) or contact Lisa Almeida at [l.almeida@freedomboatclub.com](mailto:l.almeida@freedomboatclub.com) or at (904) 588-2417.

Freedom Boat Club, founded in

Veince, Florida, in 1987, is the nation’s oldest and largest boating club with more than 150 locations, more than 1,600 boats and more than 16,000 members. Members have access to boating at any of the Freedom Boat Club locations with unlimited use of a variety of late-model boats without cleaning, making repairs, storing or maintenance.

## CAR WASH AND DETAILING BUSINESS OPENS LOCATION IN MARSH LANDING



A Touch of Perfection Mobile Wash & Detail held a grand opening event this past weekend for its new location at Marsh Landing Country Club. The new location will only service residents of Marsh Landing, offering basic car wash services and highline detailing. For more information, call (904) 625-0328 or email [ATPMobileDetail@aol.com](mailto:ATPMobileDetail@aol.com).

Photo courtesy of A Touch of Perfection

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# Analyzing Florida gun laws post-Parkland



**Janet Johnson**  
Guest Columnist

**By Janet Johnson**  
Special to the Recorder

Florida gun laws are, once again, in the national spotlight. Our state, famous for Stand Your Ground, and nicknamed the “Gunshine State,” recently defied its image and the NRA by passing Senate Bill

7026, after the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. Here’s what is in it, and what is not.

The bill, signed by Gov. Scott March 9, raises the minimum age for gun purchases. The law currently allows 18-year-olds to make gun purchases, which made it legal for Nikolas Cruz, the 19-year-old Parkland shooter, to buy the guns used in the February school shooting. Under the new law, raising the minimum age to 21, Cruz could not have legally bought the guns used.

This provision actually makes Florida more strict on purchases than federal law, which allows 18-year-olds to buy shotguns and rifles.

Bump stocks are banned under the law. These have been discussed by the president, who has endorsed making them illegal. Florida has now done what Congress failed to do after the Las Vegas shooting. Even the NRA has previously said it would support a ban on bump stocks.

A three-day waiting period was created by Senate Bill 7026. And it may even be extended, if a background check takes longer than three days. Licensed hunters, concealed carry permits, police officers and members of the military are exempted from this provision.

Police can confiscate guns from anyone subject to involuntary psychiatric commitment under the Baker Act. Also, anyone who is committed to a mental institution or deemed incompetent by a judge, can be barred from owning guns for up to a year.

The law allows certain school employees to be armed, provided they complete over 100 hours of training with the local sheriff’s department, mental health evaluations, active shooter drills and other

requirements. This is the most controversial part of the law, and it is something the NRA has long supported. The Parkland survivors have mostly spoken out against arming teachers, as have many teachers. Teachers would have a choice as to whether they want to be armed, and there are bills being proposed regarding what training would be required. If Parkland is any evidence, this may do little to prevent another school shooting: there was an armed security guard at Marjory Stoneman Douglas, who is alleged to have stayed outside of the building during the incident.

These are the highlights of what the new law does. One reason the law hasn’t been more controversial is because there is something the law does not do. It does not ban assault weapons, or high capacity magazines, nor does it strengthen background checks, beyond the mental health provisions. Other than those limitations on some potential gun owners with severe mental health issues, raising the age of purchases to 21, and the waiting period, there is little that is groundbreaking here. Maybe that’s why it passed? With that

**JOHNSON** continues on **Page 24**

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Attorney, Board Certified Tax Law



Kristine M. Scott  
Attorney, LL.M.

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## Quick named an ‘Enterprising Woman of the Year’ for 2018

Heather Quick, founder of Florida Women’s Law Group, was recognized last month as one of Enterprising Women Magazine’s 2018 Enterprising Women of the Year at a celebratory conference held March 4-6 in Miami.

Now in its 16th year, the Enterprising Women of the Year Awards is an annual tribute to the world’s top female entrepreneurs. Nominees for the award must demonstrate that they have a fast-growing business, mentor and actively support women and girls involved in entrepre-



**Heather Quick**

neurship and stand out as leaders in their communities.

This year’s 106 honorees were recognized in categories according to their annual sales revenues. Quick, who was also recently featured at

an event hosted by the Women Business Owners of North Florida, was recognized in the “over \$2 million and up to \$5 million in annual revenues” category.

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Photo by Susan Griffin

Longtime Flagler Hospital executive Joe Gordy, standing with St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce CEO and President Isabelle Rodriguez Renault, displays a gift he received at his retirement celebration on March 29 at the Flagler College Solarium.

# Community celebrates retirement of Joe Gordy

Various community leaders gathered at the Flagler College Solarium in Downtown St. Augustine on Thursday, March 29, to celebrate the retirement of longtime Flagler Hospital executive Joe Gordy.

Organized by the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, Community Hospice & Palliative Care, Flagler College and the St. Augustine Record, the event honored Gordy's long career at Flagler Hospital, which began in 1981 as vice president. He was named president and chief executive officer in 2003.

Under Gordy's leadership, Flagler Hospital was named one of America's best 50 hospitals in 2011 and one of America's 100 best in 2018. According to the Chamber, Gordy led the hospital through what many consider to be the most transformative years in the health-care industry, characterized by the

introduction of healthcare reform, the transition to electronic medical records and the shift to value-based care.

Outside of the hospital, Gordy led the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce as chairman of the board, and he chaired the Chamber's Economic Development Council. He was also the founding president of the St. Johns County Education Foundation and served as a St. Johns County School District School Board member for four-and-a-half years, including a term as chairman. In recognition of Gordy's commitment to education, the St. Johns County Education Foundation presents the Gordy Award each year to an individual or business that has enhanced educational programs in the county.

A St. Augustine resident, Gordy and his wife Maggie raised both of their children in the Ancient City.

## THEME: ENGLISH ROYALTY

### ACROSS

- 1. Piggy's glasses ("Lord of the Flies")
- 6. Strike caller
- 9. Not a hit
- 13. Earth in Latin
- 14. Fa follower
- 15. Half of diameters
- 16. Architectural projection
- 17. Down Under bird
- 18. Mountaineer's tool
- 19. \*Royal family since 1917
- 21. \*2018 royal bride
- 23. Stumblebum
- 24. Ship wrecker
- 25. \*A national color
- 28. Ditto
- 30. Poster heading
- 35. "It aint over till it's \_\_\_\_\_"
- 37. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
- 39. Hindu sage
- 40. Not all
- 41. World Series mistake
- 43. Not Sunni
- 44. Augmenting
- 46. Hatha or bikram, e.g.
- 47. Teller's partner
- 48. Take the first steps
- 50. Bar bill, pl.
- 52. \*The British Royal Navy secures it
- 53. Strip of wood
- 55. Bebop, for short
- 57. \*Cause of 1936 abdication

- 60. \*#29 Down's co-ruler
- 64. Dam
- 65. Fuss, to Shake-speare
- 67. Dhaka, formerly
- 68. Black tie \_\_\_\_\_
- 69. Biochemistry abbr.
- 70. Foe
- 71. Between bleu and jaune
- 72. Seasonal blues
- 73. \_\_\_\_\_ sociales or social networks

### DOWN

- 1. Put in the hold
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_meter or \_\_\_\_\_scope
- 3. Sportscaster Andrews
- 4. Words to live by
- 5. Pico de gallo and such
- 6. Drug addict
- 7. \*Catherine of Aragon to Bloody Mary
- 8. Musketeer's hat accessory
- 9. Speed of object divided by speed of sound
- 10. Brainchild
- 11. a.k.a. Xi'an, ancient capital of China
- 12. \*How many wives did Henry VIII have?
- 15. Ships' masts and sails attendant
- 20. "Coming \_\_\_\_\_"
- 22. Get it wrong
- 24. \*Get engaged

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		3				
	7		2			9
1 4					2	
6		8	5			4

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

- 25. \*Symbols for Houses of Lancaster and York
- 26. Call forth
- 27. Call it quits
- 29. \*#60 Across' co-ruler
- 31. Bit of smoke
- 32. "\_\_\_\_\_ we all fall down"
- 33. German wine valley
- 34. \*Present Prince of Wales' first wife
- 36. First woman Attorney General
- 38. Frat house party garb

- 42. Torah teacher
- 45. Esophagus
- 49. \_\_\_\_\_ chi
- 51. Fuse together
- 54. Former Russian leaders
- 56. Heathrow craft
- 57. We have
- 58. Affirm
- 59. Pre-easter period
- 60. Blue dyestuff
- 61. Latte choice
- 62. "The Road Runner" corporation
- 63. The Say Hey Kid
- 64. Leo in Russian
- 66. "23andMe" type of test

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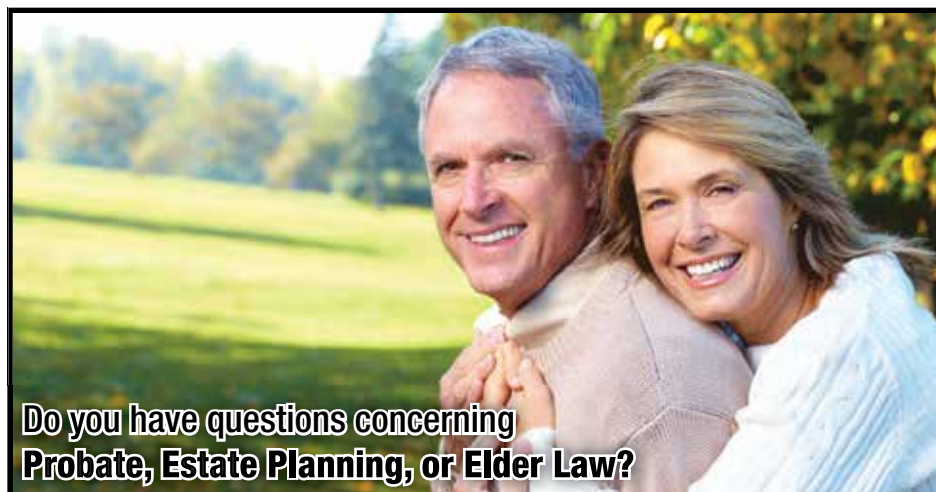
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Photo by Benjamin Naim

Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry packs and readies a box for shipment at Amazon's Pecan Park Road fulfillment center in Jacksonville.

## Amazon

Continued from 20

private sector for working hard throughout history to improve people's lives.

"I fully and deeply believe that the free

markets and the private sector have done so much throughout human history to better people's lives," he said. "A job is not only how to take care of your family – pay the bills – it's dignity and it's purpose and Amazon is giving thousands of people opportunity here in Jacksonville, Florida."

## Johnson

Continued from 22

said, perhaps any gun legislation passing anywhere in America, particularly in Florida, is newsworthy. Whether it prevents another Pulse shooting, or Parkland, remains to be seen.

*Janet Johnson is a criminal defense attorney in Jacksonville who practices in state and federal courts. White collar crimes, including fraud, embezzlement and tax evasion, are among her areas of expertise. She is rated AV Preeminent on attorney rating website Martindale-Hubbell and has been named to the American Institute of Criminal Law Attorneys' Top 10 Best Attorneys list. Johnson is also a legal analyst for CNN and HLN.*

## Janet E. Johnson, P.A.

## Criminal Defense Attorney



**J**anet Johnson is committed to aggressively defending people accused in all criminal matters in state and federal court. In practice since 1994, she is a member of the Florida Bar, The Federal Bar, Colorado Bar, as well as the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. She has been on the faculty of FACDL "Blood, Breath & Tears" annual DUI seminar. Ms. Johnson appears as a legal commentator on CNN, HLN, GMA, and Fox News. She has been awarded the very highest possible rating, the AV preeminent rating™, from Martindale-Hubbell® and was named a fellow to the prestigious Litigation Counsel of America™, as well as one of the ten best criminal defense attorneys nationally for client satisfaction by the American Institute of Criminal Law Attorneys.

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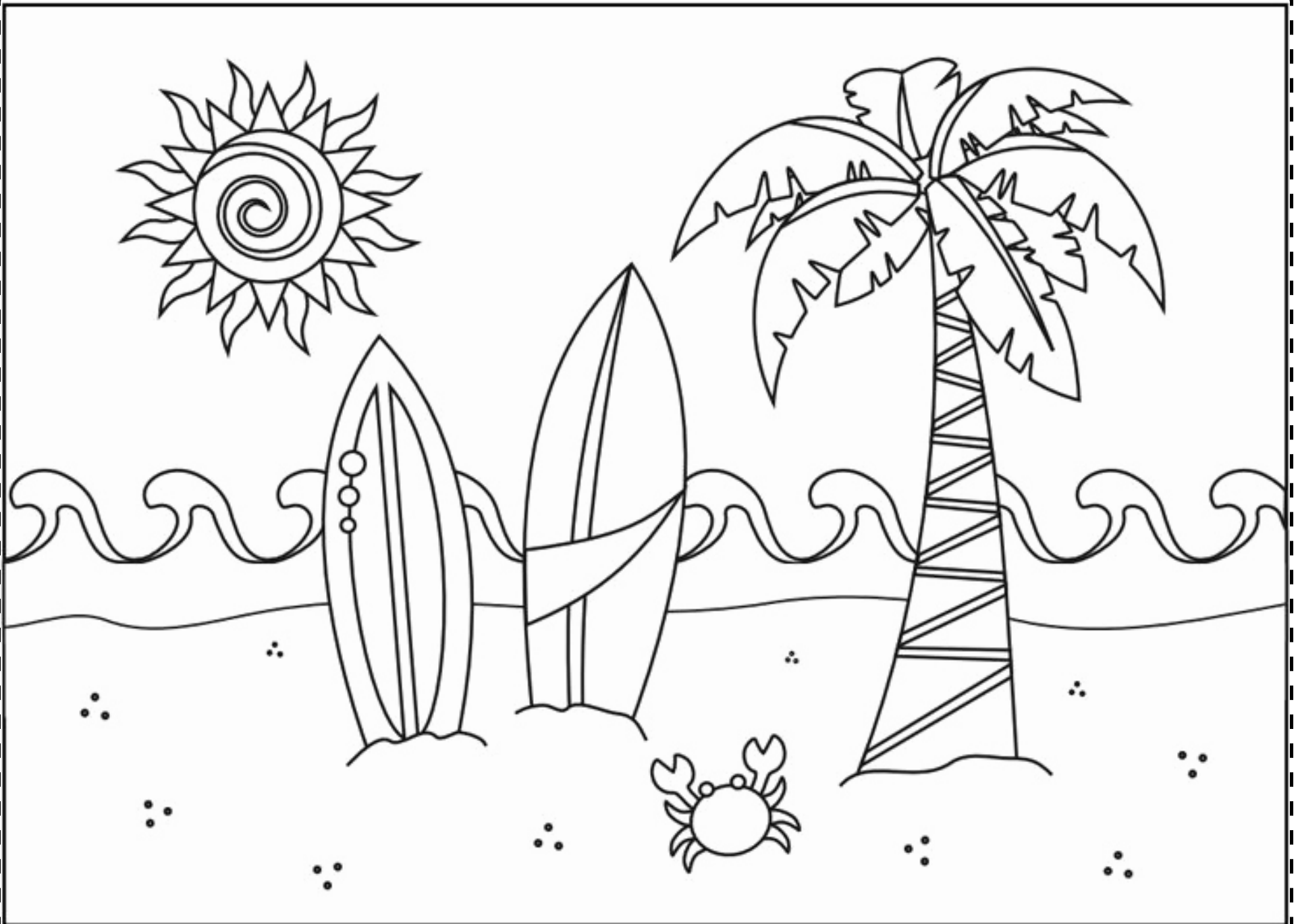
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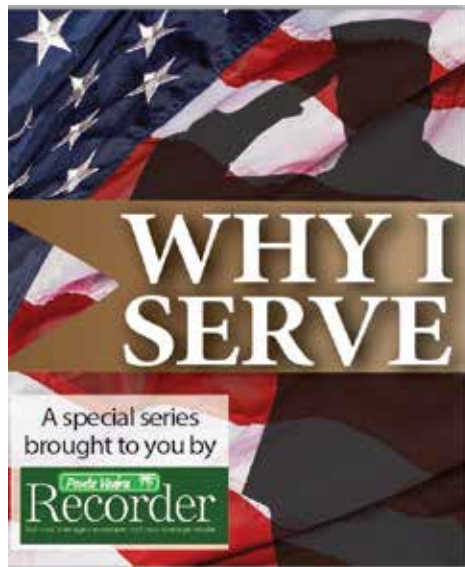
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## PONTE VEDRA FALLS JUST SHORT OF GONZAGA



Photo by Jerry and Chris Norton

Ponte Vedra's Walker Azzaro beats the Gonzaga goaltender for a Sharks goal last Friday, April 6. Ponte Vedra ultimately lost to the Washington, D.C.-based school 9-6.

## SHARKS LOSE TO RIDGEVIEW



Photo by Jerry and Chris Norton

Ponte Vedra's Kevin Faulkner delivers a pitch to a Ridgeview batter during the Sharks' 5-0 loss to Ridgeview last Thursday, April 5.

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