

# Ponte Vedra NewsLine

MARCH 2021 Volume 8 Issue 3

Ponte Vedra, Palm Valley, Nocatee and South Ponte Vedra Beach

A Florida NewsLine Publication



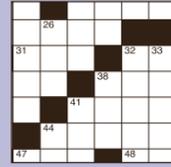
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## Tan named to International Olympic Committee Young Leadership Programme

By NewsLine Staff  
mail@floridanewsline.com

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has selected Ponte Vedra resident Lawrence (Lance) Tan, as one of the next generation of 25 IOC Young Leaders for the 2021-2024 IYL programme supported by Worldwide Olympic



Photo courtesy Augusto Bizzi  
Lance Tan

Partner Panasonic Corporation. Tan, a recruited NCAA Division 1 fencer, is a sophomore pre-med student at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn.

Leadership cont. on pg. 9

## Local group focused on animal foster and rescue goals

By Tiffany Merlo Phelps  
mail@floridanewsline.com

Monica Kohn loves to foster puppies and dogs, but sometimes she has a “foster failure” and the fosters become her pets.

Enter Sofie and Princess — two dogs that began as foster pets, but ended up with a forever home because Kohn could not let them go. They joined Murphy, Kohn’s first rescue dog from S.A.F.E. Pet Rescue in St. Augustine (Saving Animals from Euthanasia) when she first moved to Ponte Vedra Beach from Virginia in 2014.

In 2015, Kohn attended a S.A.F.E. adoption event at the Ponte Vedra Beach Pet Supermarket and began to volunteer with the group soon after. Prior to the pandemic, events were held there monthly using the S.A.F.E. mobile unit and by incorporating bake sales, the Landrum Middle School cheerleaders (Pom Poms and Paws Bake Sales) and often local Girl and Boy Scouts.

“I met some amazing people, volunteers and residents, all with different backgrounds and all pet and animal loving people willing to help in many different ways,” said Kohn.

This recently led Kohn to start the Ponte Vedra and Beaches Animal Volunteer Group via Facebook.

“This has become a place where animal lovers can join, help and share about pets, rescues and adoptions,” said Kohn, adding that there are now 400 members. “It is also amazing how generous everyone is when there is a need.”

For example, a need was posted for a certain type of leash requested by S.A.F.E. and within two days, 60 leashes were donated.

Kohn said the group



Photos courtesy Monica Kohn  
Girl Scout fundraiser for S.A.F.E. Rescue.



Alexander Kohn at an adoption event in Ponte Vedra.

began as a way to reach out to residents and volunteers and morphed into a Ponte Vedra Beach/Nocatee extension of S.A.F.E. Pet Rescue.

“We are all just people who love animals. The end. Doesn’t matter if you are young or old, what you do, what you look like or how you feel about anything else,” she said.

Kohn met with fellow dog lover Lisa Wargo at an adoption event and described Wargo as a “rockstar” who will do anything to help an animal. Wargo, a Nocatee resident, said she likes to help at fundraising events for S.A.F.E. and also coordinates community service hours for volunteers.

“I have always loved animals. I used to hide stray animals in my room when I was little because I wanted to save all of them,” she said, adding that she helps with adoption applications to ensure that all animals are matched with the most loving homes.

Today Wargo has Chance, a Shepherd mix, who was rescued from a homeless man living in his car. It was a long process, but Wargo and S.A.F.E. ultimately ended up rescuing the dog and helping the man.



Volunteer Monica Kohn.

Dave and Jean Gleason, Ponte Vedra Beach residents, have been volunteering at adoption events with Kohn and Wargo for the past five years. They also go to PetSmart in Jacksonville Beach to pick up donations of beds, leashes and collars from the store for S.A.F.E., and they pick up community donations at a bin placed at Pet Supermarket. They have remained very active with this pick-up service during COVID since adoption events were put on hold temporarily. Events are beginning to resume now, said Jean Gleason.

The Gleasons are also the owners of a once foster dog named Elliot. The now 14-year-old Chihuahua lived his life in a breeder’s cage prior to being rescued, Jean Gleason said. Elliot has an eye condition that requires drops twice a day for the rest of his life, and Jean Gleason said she fell in love with Elliot and knew that no one else would want to provide this type of care and bear the expense. However, she did.

To learn more about the Ponte Vedra and Beaches Animal Volunteer Group, go to its Facebook page by the same name. Anyone interested in earning community service hours or any other questions may call Wargo at (914) 420-5769. To visit S.A.F.E., go to www.safe-pet-rescue-fl.com. Jean Gleason also encourages the community to visit or donate to S.A.F.E.’s thrift store.

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Tracy Kuszajski  
The Senior Advocate



**with St. Johns County Property Appraiser Eddie Creamer**

**Q: Can you give us an update on the Cyclomedia project that provides high resolution street level imagery of residences and businesses, which you introduced to readers in the December issue?**

A: This project is complete and all imagery has been published on our website. If you want to look at your property, just enter the address. When the property record card comes up, there will be an aerial photo. Click on that and then click on the blue and white “C” (for “Cyclomedia”) in the legend of the aerial view of the street that comes up. After this, you can click on the property or the street for the street level imagery. You can go up and down the street or rotate 360 degrees in this extremely high resolution photo.

It should be noted that all images were completely scrubbed for any identifying information except the address, meaning all car license plates or faces of people who might appear in the photo have been blurred.

**Q: How does this technology benefit your office?**

A: This type of technology allows us to assess and appraise properties from our desktops in the office. It is more efficient and safer for both my appraisers and for property owners. For context, when I became the County Property Appraiser five years ago, we had 55 employees to assess 125,000 land parcels. Today, we have 38 employees who assess 147,000 parcels — and the office spends 10 percent less

in hard dollars today than five years ago, even including purchasing the technology. (This translates to \$500,000 per year less.) Also, our tax roll is more accurate, per the Florida Department of Revenue’s audit.

**Q: What can your appraisers discern from these images?**

A: They can tell if a roof has been replaced or if maintenance is up to date ... all things we would use in an assessment. We use aerial photography to view the back of a house.

We also use some technology called Push Pin, which digests maps and sketches of buildings on every parcel and tells us if something changes from year to year. For instance, was an outbuilding taken down due to storm damage that would decrease a homeowner’s assessment? Or was something built on the property without a permit? It also keeps our assessments accurate for properly permitted items, so we can make an accurate assessment.

To the greatest extent possible, we are trying to use technology to stay ahead of the county’s growth without having to increase our office’s costs.

**Q: What is the best way for our readers to contact you?**

A: Our office is located at 4030 Lewis Speedway Ste. 203, (904) 827-5500. It is open Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Also, readers can email me at Eddie@sjcpa.us or call me at (904) 827-5500.



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Ponte Vedra NewsLine Community Newspaper is a free monthly publication distributed via bulk mail to all addresses in Zip Codes 32081 and 32082. Submission of articles and photographs are received by mail or email, although email to editor@FloridaNewsLine.com is preferred. The writers' opinions do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Florida NewsLine. Advertising Rates are available by request. Florida NewsLine is not responsible for advertisement content or accuracy of information provided by its advertisers. Nor does Florida NewsLine endorse any of the products or services included in this publication. Florida NewsLine reserves the right to refuse advertisement or copy from any advertiser. All rights are reserved and no portion of this publication may be copied without the express written consent of the publisher. ©2021.



# BFF Best Furry Friend of the month

**BREED:**  
Wire hair terrier mix

**FAVORITE ACTIVITY:**  
Playing ball at the beach or park, tug of war and chasing lizards

**FAVORITE TREAT:**  
Anything peanut butter

**FAVORITE FRIEND:**  
Tucker (Dog), Fergie (Cat) and Sarah Carlin (Owner)

**HOW YOUR BFF GOT THEIR NAME:**  
Named after the kind man (Lou Rose) who found and rescued LuLu.



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# ST. JOHNS Business Monthly

Are you interested in promoting your business in St. Johns Business Monthly, a feature section included in both The CreekLine and Ponte Vedra NewsLine? **Call Linda 904-607-5062**

## MYSTERY PHOTO



Can you guess where this is?  
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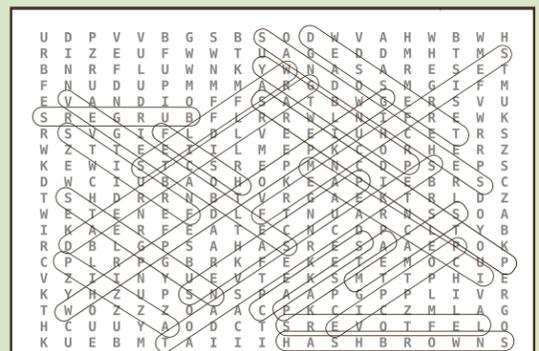
Last month's Mystery Photo was the Nocatee basketball / volleyball courts.  
Our winner was Dom Vuolo. Congratulations!



Answers to our Puzzles  
PG 10



Answers: A. freezer B. leftovers C. flash D. ice



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**with St. Johns County School Board Member, Kelly Barrera, District 4**

**Q: Do you have an update on High School III?**

A: The land has been cleared on the site and construction is moving forward on schedule. Also, towards the end of March, we will begin zoning meetings. More details and dates will be forthcoming as we know them. Visit the district website ([www.stjohns.k12.fl.us](http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us)) and check under "Attendance Zoning" for complete information.

**Q: What can you tell us about the School Improvement Plan presentations that were given to the school board in mid-February?**

A: The work the schools have been doing is simply amazing in spite of the challenges related to COVID, distance learning, and the transition to brick and mortar schools. The presentations showed a great joint effort between the principals, the staff, and the teachers, all for the benefit of our students.

**Q: Do you have any kudos to share for schools or students in the district?**

A: I have a number of them. I'd like to congratulate the winners of the Martin Luther King, Jr. essay and poster contest from our District 7 schools:

Isla Blais, fourth grader, Palencia Elementary, first place elementary poster; Kira Simmer, third grader, Palm Valley Academy, third place elementary poster; and from Ponte Vedra High School for the high school poster contest: Reed Mann, 11th grade, first place; Genevieve Chaon, 11th grade, second place; and William Tonsich, 11th grade, third place. The winners will each receive a Barnes and Noble gift card.

Also, our county science fair was held virtually in mid-February and I would like to congratulate the following students from District 4:

Senior Engineering and Intelligent Machines: Yash Sing, Nease, second place; Charan Jai Sriram, Nease, third place. Environmental/Plant Sciences: Kelly Yuan, Nease, first place; Team of Lauren Kurlovicz, Jerson Millan and Kelvin Shi, Ponte Vedra High School, honorable mention and Team of Skyler Demi, Alyssa Lassonde and Teresa Aguiar, Ponte Vedra High School, honorable mention. Biomedical/Cellular/Microbiology: Team of Aiden Fong, Stephen Kupcha and David VanLue, Ponte Vedra, first place; Team of William Watkins and Mason Romero, Ponte Vedra, second place; Team of Stephanie Hernandez, Abigail Kee and Samantha Strong, Ponte Vedra, third place. First place finishers will represent the district at the Virtual State Science and Engineering Fair.

The Nease High School NJROTC program, currently ranked first in its district, just won another meet, this time in Stockbridge, Ga.

Finally, we are very excited that Nease has a new athletic director, following the transfer of the previous athletic director to Pedro Menendez High School. We welcome Charles Gomes, who started on March 1. He comes to us with a background in both athletics and academics from a Division 3 university in the Northeast.

**Q: Do you have anything else to share with District 4?**

A: All of our schools are putting out their SAC Surveys at this time. These are very important because they drive how schools plan and prepare for next year. The survey only takes a few minutes to fill out and I encourage all of our parents to do so.

**Q: How can our readers contact you?**

A: They can email me at [kelly.barrera@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:kelly.barrera@stjohns.k12.fl.us) or call me at (904) 547-7510.

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**with St. Johns County Commissioner Jeremiah Blocker (District 4)**

**Q: Can you give an update on the county's COVID vaccinations?**

A: Our vaccination efforts continue. So far, we have administered approximately 35,000 shots to those 65 and older as well as first responders. I believe we have provided the best level of service and I am very proud of our county's employees. Publix and hospitals are also administering shots in St. Johns County.

**Q: Do you know if the approximately 35,000 shots have been given to county residents?**

A: Any Florida resident can get a shot at the county locations. Based on the driver's licenses of those we are vaccinating, the vast majority have been St. Johns County residents.

**Q: Are there any county testing locations?**

A: We have a testing site open at the St. Johns County Agricultural Center, 3111 Agricultural Center Drive in St. Augustine. It is open Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. for anyone, even those without insurance. For all details on COVID testing and vaccinations, visit the county's website, [www.sjcff.us/coronavirus](http://www.sjcff.us/coronavirus), which is constantly updated.

**Q: What can you tell us about the short term vacation rentals agenda item,**

**which was removed from the Board of County Commissioners' meeting agenda for Feb. 16?**

A: I requested that item be pulled because the State of Florida presently has a bill on this topic being considered, which would potentially change things. I didn't think it prudent to spend time discussing this issue if the state's bill ends up being passed. We can revisit this topic after session if the Florida Legislature doesn't take action.

**Q: Have you made plans for resuming Ponte Vedra Beach office hours?**

A: This is still on hold due to COVID. We hope to resume these local office hours as soon as it is safely possible.

We are looking at having a Town Hall meeting in the late spring/early summer that would feature myself, the sheriff, the county administrator and the fire chief. The dates and times are still to be determined, but we plan for an in person meeting with limited capacity as well as a livestream.

**Q: What is the best way for our readers to contact you?**

A: Readers can email me at [bcc4jblocker@sjcff.us](mailto:bcc4jblocker@sjcff.us) or call me at (904) 679-2620.

**As vaccines outpace COVID-19 infections, be wary of vaccine-related scams**

By NewsLine Staff  
[mail@floridanewline.com](mailto:mail@floridanewline.com)

As of mid-February, the total number of doses of COVID-19 vaccines administered in Florida is now outpacing the total number of Floridians who have been reported to have contracted the novel virus. As the state starts to turn the corner, Attorney General Ashley Moody issued a Consumer Alert to warn Floridians about COVID-19 vaccination scams. With the continuing rollout of vaccines and increasing number of Floridians seeking to secure appointments, scammers have devised multiple methods attempting to take advantage of the highly anticipated vaccination distribution.

Below are a few emerging COVID-19 vaccine scams reported by consum-

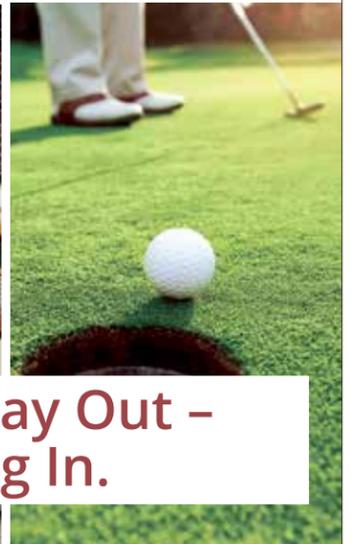
ers and the news media in Florida and nationwide:

**Paid appointments:** Scammers may post fraudulent appointment booking pages or call, text or email offering to set up a vaccine appointment or expedite access to a vaccine appointment for a fee. Know that any offer requiring payment in order to place the consumer on a waitlist, secure an appointment or expedite access to the vaccine is a scam.

**Supposed in-home vaccinations through Medicare:** Fraudsters claiming to be from Medicare may offer seniors in-home vaccination appointments and request a senior's Medicare card in order to schedule, but this too is a scam. While Medicare cards no longer use Social Se-

**Vaccine** cont. on pg. 9

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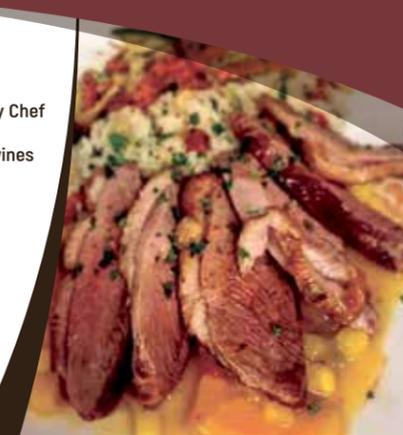
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# March

**What's Going On in Ponte Vedra?**  
A modified calendar of events

## Community Calendar

**Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)**, Ponte Vedra Chapter, will meet on March 2, from 10:45 a.m. – 1 p.m. Contact [pontevedrachapternsdar@aol.com](mailto:pontevedrachapternsdar@aol.com) for additional details.

**Newcomers Alumnae** will hold its monthly luncheon on Wednesday, March 3 from 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at Marsh Landing Country Club. Contact [brookemeister@msn.com](mailto:brookemeister@msn.com) or visit [newcomersalumnae.wildapricot.org](http://newcomersalumnae.wildapricot.org) for more information.

St. Johns County Parks and Recreation will present **Exploring the Life of Birds** as part of its 904 Naturalist Series with classes on March 10, March 17 and March 31 from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. at the Solomon Calhoun Community Center in St. Augustine. Field trips will be held on March 13, March 14 and March 26. Call Naturalist Ayolane Halusky at (904) 209-0333 for more information or to register.

**The Ponte Vedra Democratic Club** will host its next meeting by Zoom on March 10 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will feature a legal expert from Kids In Need of Defense (KIND) speaking about the current status of family reunification. Contact Jan Kary at (202) 438-6750 or [janetkary@gmail.com](mailto:janetkary@gmail.com) for more information and the Zoom meeting information.

**First Coast Florida Lifestyles Newcomers Recreation Card Club** will host card playing at a coffee shop in St. Augustine on March 14. Arrival is at 2 p.m and card games will begin at 2:15 p.m. Masks must

be worn while playing cards and there can be no food on the playing tables. Call the club organizer at (904) 829-0643 (no texts) to RSVP or for information about the club. The club is open to both men and women and is a smoke- and drug-free club.

**The Newcomers of North St. Johns** will host a meeting and luncheon on Tuesday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. at Serenata Beach Club, 3175 S. Ponte Vedra Blvd. Doors will open at 11 a.m. The event will feature entertainment by local comedian/magician Mark Alan. The cost for the luncheon and program is \$30 for members. All reservations must be received by March 8. Contact Sue Aird at [sjaird@comcast.net](mailto:sjaird@comcast.net) to register.

**Nocatee** announces the following events, open to the public: the Farmers Market on Saturday, March 20 from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Town Center Field and Food Truck Friday, March 26 from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. at Splash Waterpark.

Northeast Florida AHEC announces a free **Tools to Quit Tobacco Class**, which includes free nicotine patches, gum or lozenges on Tuesday, March 23, from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. at Wildflower Healthcare Clinic, 268 Herbert Street in St. Augustine. Call (904) 482-0189 for more information or to sign up.

**The Savvy Job Hunters Ministry Zoom Workshop**, "Getting Hired: Writing the Resume and Winning the Interview" will be held on March 25 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Email [nwhite@christepiscopal-church.org](mailto:nwhite@christepiscopal-church.org) to register.

## New Ocean Palms playground dedicated to play



Photo courtesy Lisa Faresse

Ocean Palms Elementary School officially unveiled its new, community-funded playground on Feb. 8 at a small ribbon-cutting ceremony where sponsors, PTO members, administration and the Chamber of Commerce applauded the project's success.

This was an endeavor that began in the fall of 2019. The playground was installed before the start of the 2020 school year, in time for students at the school to enjoy the many slides, ladders and other activities the play structure has to offer, but the official opening ceremony was delayed due to COVID precautions. Landon Hunter, a third-grade student at Ocean Palms who encouraged his family to donate to the project through their family foundation, led the ribbon cutting.



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# ST. JOHNS Business Monthly

## MarketInsight



### Life is mostly froth and bubble

By Scott Grant  
ScottGrant@StJohnsBusinessMonthly.com

There is this story, and it is probably made up, but it is a good story. The story goes that JP Morgan got his shoes shined every Wednesday at the same stand. One day, Morgan overheard the shoeshine boy, who had been polishing Morgan's expensive shoes for years, giving stock tips to a fishmonger. Morgan ran back to his office and sold every stock that he owned, reasoning that "If the shoeshine boys are buying stocks, who else is left?"

The following Monday, the stock market crashed, beginning a multi-year decline that would wipe out fortunes and lead to the Great Depression. Whether or not the Morgan story is true, it is true that it is a story, and one that has been oft repeated to illustrate a belief that small investors enter the market late in the game. One of the reasons the Morgan story seems unlikely is that as the crash began, Morgan and four other major bankers bought stock in an effort to prop things up. Morgan's father had done the same thing during the October Panic of 1907.

The JP Morgan in the story is the son of the JP Morgan who became famous for creating trusts like General Electric, AT&T, and US Steel. Morgan realized that by creating a monopoly, you could charge whatever you liked and make more profits. Morgan created a lot of trusts. The public noticed and so did Teddy Roosevelt, who would go down in history as the "Trust Buster." Roosevelt activated a long dormant law called the Sherman Antitrust Act. Passed in 1890, the Sherman Act was named for its sponsor, Senator John Sherman, brother of William Tecumseh Sherman, who ravaged Georgia during the Civil War.

The first suit brought by Roosevelt as a "Trust Buster" was launched against a Morgan-owned railroad monopoly. JP went to visit the president and said, "If we have done anything wrong, send your man to my man and they can fix it up." The President did not want to fix it up. Roosevelt sued his fellow socialite; the government won. The case went to the Supreme Court and is remembered today for an Oliver Wendell Holmes dissent that "great cases...make bad law."

The stock market crash of 1929 was precipitated by massive speculation in stocks. The Panic of 1907 by manipulation of the copper market. Today, we see many of the same signs. From crypto currencies to silver to GameStop, speculation is again rampant. Daily, friends on social media dispense market advice to each other.

This is what a bubble feels like. The sad part is that knowing we are in a bubble may be information that is difficult to use. Bubbles have a tendency of lasting longer than anyone imagines. During the dot.com bubble of the late '90s, professional investors began to warn the market was bubbling as early as 1997. That bubble did not finally burst until the year 2000, precipitating a devastating three-year market decline. So, when will this bubble burst? When we least expect it.

*Scott A. Grant is a local author, historian, columnist, and speaker. He is president of Standfast Asset Management in Ponte Vedra Beach. He welcomes your comments or questions at [scottg@standfastic.com](mailto:scottg@standfastic.com).*

## SCORE

### Jacksonville to host webinars for business owners

By NewsLine Staff  
mail@floridanewslines.com

SCORE is a national service organization that supports small businesses nationwide. The organization is supported by the US Small Business Administration (SBA).

Here are some upcoming SCORE Jacksonville webinars during March:

March 16, 5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.:  
"How to Set a Price for Your Product or Service." Fee: \$15. Registration link: <https://score.tfaforms.net/17?EventID=a105a000006dF9c>

March 18, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.:  
"How Do I Develop a Product or Service to Sell?" Fee: \$15. Registration link: <https://score.tfaforms.net/17?EventID=a105a000006dF1x>

March 27, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.:  
"How Do I Start a Home Based Business in Jacksonville?" Fee: \$15. Register before March 13 for a \$5 discount. Registration link: <https://score.tfaforms.net/17?EventID=a105a000006dF9Y>

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## First female Eagle Scout named in St. Johns County



Photo courtesy Dick Basye

Marina Mitchell completed her Board of Review for the rank of Eagle and became the first female in a St. Johns District (St. Johns County) troop to attain the highest rank in the Scouts BSA program. What used to be the Boy Scouts program was renamed Scouts BSA in 2019. Mitchell was one of the 11 founding girls that started Troop 291 at Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church on Feb. 1, 2019, the first date females could join the program. Mitchell led a service project where she and other scouts

built picnic tables and benches for the Duval Audubon Society, Crosby Sanctuary. She completed 22 merit badges including the 13 Eagle required. She attended the World Jamboree in 2019 and a week of summer camp in 2019 and 2020. She has always held a leadership position in the troop, including serving as the Senior Patrol Leader.

Mitchell is an honor student at Ponte Vedra High School where she is a member of the Color Guard.

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# Life

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## Get to Know ...

By Tiffany Merlo Phelps  
mail@floridanewline.com

### Luke and Jessica Spencer-Gardner

Basketball brought Luke and Jessica Spencer-Gardner to Oral Roberts University from two very different places, yet the sport inspired them both in much the same way. In fact, it is at the core of who they are today. Luke traveled from Australia and Jessica from Kansas City only to meet outside the practice gym and become best friends. They graduated in 2005 and then got married. From there, medical school for Luke, a public relations career for Jessica, four children and many moves would follow. The Spencer-Gardners recently settled in Ponte Vedra Beach from Texas for Luke's job as a Mayo Clinic orthopedic surgeon. Jessica, whose passion is Les Mills' Body Combat and Grit, recently started teaching at the Ponte Vedra Beach and Nocatee YMCAs, excited to share her 10 years of fitness experience. Not surprisingly, all four of their children — aged five to 12 — play basketball.

**Q: Did you always love basketball?**

A: Luke: I started playing when I was eight years old. As the years went by, basketball became something that I was good at and enjoyed. I played on our state teams and then on a national team traveling the world (playing in the World Championships in Portugal). After I graduated from high school, I had no plans for college, and then I got this scholarship opportunity while I was working in a furniture warehouse. I had three weeks to prepare to get my Student Visa and move.

Jessica: Around middle school, I fell in love with the game of basketball. I had a dream early on in high school to play Division 1, so that was my goal. I worked really hard to get there. Right away I noticed the big jump up in the level of competition, the speed, the power and the strength of the college girls. It was a great network to instantly have in place.

**Q: What life lessons did basketball teach you?**

A: Luke: I really enjoyed having something to work on and something to work towards. Having a craft that you are trying to perfect translated very easily to my career. Working within a team towards a goal is something that certainly translates into everyday life.

Jessica: Perseverance is one. It is not easy, physically, mentally and emotionally, to balance it all — especially at the collegiate level. It gave me that "never give up" mentality and built confidence. That absolutely translates to life. I love to bring that into group fitness classes, and I love seeing how hard work produces results.

**Q: Who influenced you the most?**

A: Luke: My mum was the most impactful person in my life, especially through my teenage years. She stood by me in a way that provided stability.

Jessica: My parents really gave me a wonderful standard for creating a stable, loving home. They gave me every opportunity to pursue my goals. I am so grateful for that gift.

**Q: What do you like about Ponte Vedra Beach?**

A: Luke: I really love being by the beach again. Some of my best childhood memories are by the beach because Melbourne is by the bay.



Photo courtesy Jessica Spencer-Gardner

Jessica: I love all the nature and having the beach a few minutes away. It is hard to beat. I don't mind the warm winters either, after living mostly in the central and upper Midwest.

**Q: Describe the passion you have for your respective careers.**

A: Luke: I love the clinical side of my practice, and that I am able to have a very narrow focus with hip surgery. I also have the opportunity to teach residents and conduct research. That is the beauty of the Mayo Clinic's three shields: clinical practice, education and research. My interest in orthopedic surgery came from a knee injury that I sustained my senior year in college.

Jessica: My faith directly affects how and why I teach group fitness classes. Each person in class matters. I want each person who comes to my class to not just get a phenomenal workout and realize what their bodies are capable of, but to feel valued, lifted up, empowered and inspired. God is the source of my strength and joy each day. And before every class, I pray that God would use me. I want to deliver the best class every time — and make it fun!

**Leadership** cont. from pg. 1

The 25 young leaders will leverage the power of sport to make a positive difference in their communities. The programme aims to empower the new pool of talents to develop their own social business as a localised sport-based solution to a pressing challenge in their respective communities. As ambassadors of Olympism, the IOC Young Leaders will also play active roles in advising the committee and the wider Olympic movement on specific topics, while promoting the Games and Olympic values worldwide. The final 25 candidates, all with a background in or a clear passion for sport, consist of 13 female and 12 male candidates, from 25 countries across 5 continents, and includes countries that have not yet been represented in the programme, including the Philippines.

Tan, a dual national (United States and Philippines) said, "I am honored to have been selected from a group of so many worthy candidates. I competed in the 2018 Buenos Aires Youth Olympics, where I learned about the IOC Young Leaders programme. Especially during this pandemic, we are all even more aware of the power that sports have to bring people together to do good things. My social development goal is equal access to education. I want to work towards making post-secondary educational opportunities more available to underprivileged athletes in the Philippines."

**Vaccine** cont. from pg. 5

curity numbers, the card number is still private data that could be used to commit Medicare fraud and should be protected. Additionally, know that Medicare representatives will never visit seniors at home nor call to sell something.

Scam appointment calls: Scammers may also call would-be victims posing as county health officials or a vaccination site representative setting up an appointment. Rather than requesting payment, these callers are seeking private information to be used to commit identity theft or fraud. These scam artists may even tell victims to arrive at a known local vaccination site at a specific date and time to bolster the ruse. Be wary of anyone soliciting personal information — such as a Social Security number, Medicare card number or credit or banking information — in order to secure an appointment.

Identity theft using vaccination cards: Do not share vaccination cards online. Vaccination cards issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention include the recipient's full name, birthdate and vaccine location — information scammers can use to hack online accounts or commit identity fraud. Additionally, these cards may be used to create convincing-looking fake vaccine documentation.

Anyone who suspects a COVID-19 vaccine-related scam should report it to the Attorney General's Office by calling 1(866) 9NO-SCAM or visiting My-FloridaLegal.com.

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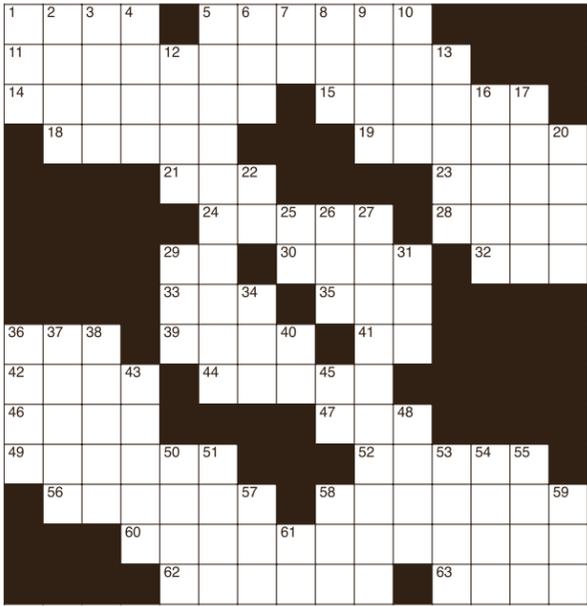
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# Puzzles

Answers on page 3  
Provided by MetroCreative



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. One of Noah's sons
- 5. Openings
- 11. Rising from the dead
- 14. Expressions for humorous effect
- 15. North American country
- 18. Flowed over
- 19. Tags
- 21. Long-lasting light bulb
- 23. Off-Broadway theater award
- 24. Khoikhoi peoples
- 28. Beloved movie pig
- 29. South Dakota
- 30. Tai language
- 32. Get free of
- 33. Afflict
- 35. Transmits genetic information from DNA
- 36. Commercials
- 39. Digits

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. A title of respect in India
- 2. His and \_\_
- 3. Employee stock ownership plan
- 4. A type of bond (abbr.)
- 5. Acting as if you are
- 6. Affirmative
- 7. Not caps
- 8. Type of medication
- 9. Monetary unit
- 10. Private school in New York
- 12. Small stream
- 13. A person of wealth
- 16. Exclude
- 17. Someone who vouches for you
- 20. Vegetable part
- 22. Gov't lawyer
- 25. Term to address a woman
- 26. Swiss river
- 27. About senator
- 29. \_\_ Paulo, city
- 31. Native American tribe
- 34. "Titanic" actor
- 36. Campaign for students' rights (abbr.)
- 37. Capital of Senegal
- 38. Slang for military leader

- 40. Football's big game
- 43. Women who threw themselves on funeral pyres
- 45. Equally
- 48. Forest animal
- 50. Heavy stoves
- 51. Releasing hormone (abbr.)
- 53. Song
- 54. Type of pickle
- 55. Offer in return for money
- 57. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 58. Burns wood (abbr.)
- 59. Beloved singer Charles
- 61. Three-toed sloth



Solve the code to discover words related to frozen foods. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 22 = E)

**A. 21 16 22 22 3 22 16**  
Clue: Cold storage

**B. 15 22 21 8 9 1 22 16 7**  
Clue: Extra portions

**C. 21 15 5 7 2**  
Clue: Done quickly; in a \_\_\_\_

**D. 20 12 22**  
Clue: Frozen water

## FROZEN FOODS WORD SEARCH

U D P V V B G S B S O D W V A H W B W H  
 R I Z E U F W W T U A G E D D M H T M S  
 B N R F L U W N K Y W N A S A R E S E T  
 F N U D U P M M A R G D O S M G I F M  
 E V A N D I O F F S A T B W G E R S V U  
 S R E G R U B F L R R W L N I F R E W K  
 R S V G I F L D L V E E I U H C E T R S  
 W Z T T E E I I L M E P K C O R H E R Z  
 K E W I S T C S R E P M N C D P S E P S  
 D W C I U B A O H O K E A P I E B R S C  
 T S H D R R N B T V R G A E K T R L D Z  
 W E T E N E F D L F T N U A R N S S O A  
 I K A E R F E A T E C N C D P C L T Y B  
 R D B L G P S A H A S R E S A A E P O K  
 C P L R P G B R K F E K E T E M O C U P  
 V Z I I N Y U E V T E K S M T T P H I E  
 K Y H Z U P S N S P A A P G P P L I V R  
 T W O Z Z Z O A A C P K C E I C Z M L A G  
 H C U U Y A O D C T S R E V O T F E L O  
 K U E B M T A I I I H A S H B R O W N S

**WORDS**

- BURGERS
- CAKES
- DESSERT
- FISH
- FRENCH FRIES
- GARLIC BREAD
- HASH BROWNS
- ICE CREAM
- LEFTOVERS
- MEALS
- NUGGETS
- PANCAKES
- PASTA
- PIZZA
- POT PIE
- POTSTICKERS
- POULTRY
- SANDWICHES
- TOASTER CAKES
- VEGETABLES
- WAFFLES
- WHIPPED TOPPING

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

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Carolina Wren

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Pine Island Academy is pleased to announce our students have selected Dolphins as our mascot. The community's active participation and input in the naming and selection process has been amazing! We look forward to the continued partnership with our families and community as we build a culture of excellence at Pine Island Academy.

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**Briefs**

**Tax Aide free service returns**

AARP Tax Aide has announced that it will again provide free tax preparation service. This year the tax service will be offered at five locations, all by appointment only. The service will be available starting the week of Feb. 15 and masks will be required.

The AARP Tax Aide service is free and is available to taxpayers of all ages for personal tax returns. AARP membership is not required.

The locations and phone numbers to make an appointment are:

Main Library: (904) 827-6940

Southeast Library: (904) 827-6900

Hastings Library: (904) 827-6970

Anastasia Baptist Church: (904) 687-7351

Dates and times at all locations will be limited.

**Rotary "Service Above Self" Scholarship now accepting applications**

The Rotary Club of Palm Valley (formerly Ponte Vedra Beach Sunset) is now accepting applications for its annual Jeff Hart Memorial "Service Above Self" Scholarship (SASS). This year the club will award one \$2,000 scholarship to the top applicant from either Allen D. Nease or Ponte Vedra High Schools. The SASS is open to juniors and

seniors enrolled at either school (including those enrolled in virtual classes due to Covid-19) who have demonstrated their commitment to serving others in our community.

The scholarship was initiated in 2011 and chaired by charter member and club past president Hart until his passing in 2019. It is now named in his honor to celebrate his life of service to his community and to provide recognition to students for their exceptional commitment to service. While the program has evolved over the years, this year's Covid-19 pandemic required a number of important changes to the application and scoring process. The pandemic has reduced traditional volunteer opportunities for teens and the pandemic has resulted in more teens enrolling in virtual classes which limits their direct access to school teachers and staff. The SASS Committee adapted the 2021 application to address these concerns in an effort to ensure all student applicants receive equal and fair consideration.

Interested students need to complete an online application using the following link: <https://forms.gle/e6qC98y3twcEVjJ7>. All applications will be received no later than April 3, 2021.

**Newcomers of North St. Johns announce March luncheon**

Newcomers of North Saint Johns will hold its next member luncheon on Tuesday, March

16, at Serenata Beach Club, 3175 S. Ponte Vedra Blvd., with doors opening at 11 a.m. The event features entertainment by local Comedian/Magician Mark Alan.

Cost for the luncheon and program is \$30 for members. The meeting begins at 11 a.m. with luncheon service beginning at 11:45 a.m. All reservations must be received by March 8, 2021 and, because of space limitations, an early reservation response is recommended. Covid guidelines are in place.

Contact Sue Aird at [sjaird@comcast.net](mailto:sjaird@comcast.net) for more information about the group or to register for the luncheon.

**ElderSource and AARP present live Facebook program for seniors and caregivers**

ElderSource, the Area Agency on Aging and Aging and Disability Resource Center for Northeast Florida, and AARP Florida have collaborated to present a live, monthly 30-minute program on Facebook that features a myriad of entertaining and educational topics for seniors and caregivers.

The next program is scheduled for Thursday, March 18 at 12:30 p.m. and will focus on how caregivers can incorporate self-love and self-care into their health routines.

Launched in August 2020, "Let's Do Lunch" airs on Facebook the third Thursday of each month at 12:30 p.m. and is hosted by ElderSource CEO Linda Levin

and Justine Conley, AARP Florida Associate State Director. Topics presented have included the 2020 Census and voting in the fall election, yoga to reduce stress, creating art to experience joy, cooking with an Italian twist and facts and myths about the COVID-19 vaccines.

Visit the ElderSource or AARP Florida Facebook page on Feb. 18 to view the program; past programs can also be accessed on each organization's YouTube Channel. Call ElderSource at (888) 242-4464 for more information.

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