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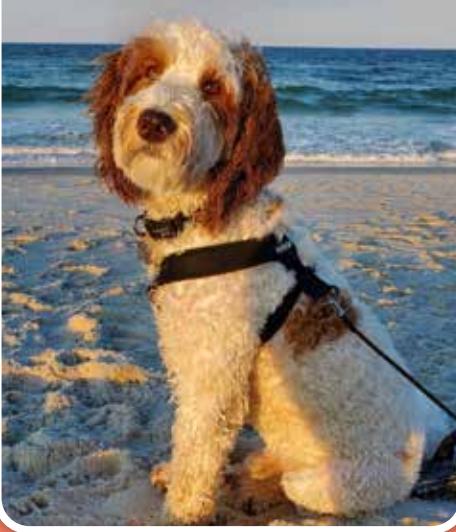
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# BFF

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**FAVORITE ACTIVITY:**

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**FAVORITE TREAT:**

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**FAVORITE FRIEND:**

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**HOW YOUR BFF GOT THEIR NAME:**

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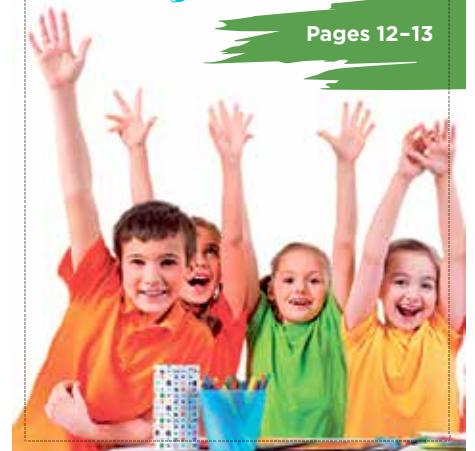
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## Summer Camp and Activities Guide

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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



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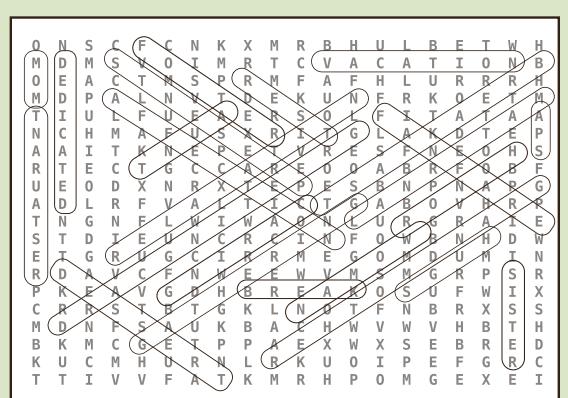
Last month's Mystery Photo was under the Palm Valley Bridge crossing the Intracoastal Waterway. Our winner was Karen Joransen. Congratulations!



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## with St. Johns County Sheriff Rob Hardwick

**Q: Since you started your career in corrections, you have stated you have a special interest in this division. Can you share some statistics about the St. Johns County Jail?**

A: We have 140 deputy sheriffs and 75 civilian staff at our facility who are responsible for the care, custody and control of individuals in our jail. We have great employees with positive attitudes. In addition, we have a separate 50-bed facility that houses our work release center. Individuals from here work on our compound, for instance in the laundry or kitchen, and we use their

work to offset tax dollars that would be needed to perform these tasks.

Last year, we averaged 410 adults, male and female, in our facility, which has a maximum capacity of 630. Last year our agency had just over 4,000 arrests that were brought to the St. Johns County Jail.

Our new director of the jail is Tara Wildes. She comes to us from Duval County with 37 years of experience in corrections and a wealth of knowledge. She's in charge of one of our larger divisions, with more than 200 personnel.

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**John**, Resident at  
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**Q: What is your goal as far as the corrections division is concerned?**

A: Our goal is to make the individual a better person than when they came to our facility. We offer many programs in this regard, including substance abuse, mental health and faith-based programs. We also offer programs to make the individuals more marketable when they get out. We have teamed with First Coast Technical College to bring certification programs in fields such as culinary arts, cosmetology, small engine repair and landscaping to our facility. We also hope to partner with local businesses so that we can help these folks get jobs when they get out.

We have recently hired Deputy Johnson and I have tasked him with being innovative and creative and coming up with a great reentry program for us. He is also a pastor and retired from the Duval County Jail, as well as currently serving in the Army Reserves. He will act as a liaison with the faith-based community so hopefully they can help people when they get out of jail. He's redesigning our faith-based programs inside our facility as well.

**Q: How has COVID-19 impacted the correctional facility?**

A: It has been a challenging time. We have our own COVID quarantine block for people when they first enter the facility. We are currently working with the county to get vaccinations available for the jail population.

**Q: What are some other improvements you see in the correctional division?**

A: At one time, everything — substance abuse, mental health/Baker Acts, and crime — came to the jail. We are trying to triage better and get people to the proper place. Individuals who are Baker Acted now go to Flagler Health+ and we rely on our not for profit partners to provide psychological and substance abuse services.

As you said, I started my career in corrections. To this day, I try to walk the jail from one end to the other one to two times per week. I think it's important to talk to my employees as well as those serving time.

**Q: What is the best way for our readers to contact you with any questions or suggestions about this article?**

A: They can email me at [sheriff@sjso.org](mailto:sheriff@sjso.org) or call me at (904) 824-8304. Also, our website, [www.sjso.org](http://www.sjso.org) has a wealth of resources, from alarm registration to Crime Stoppers to our Neighbors app.



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

**Q: Florida Commissioner of Education Richard Corcoran recently recommended that school districts dispense with mask mandates and instead make masks optional. What is the St. Johns County School District doing?**

A: I've had a lot of questions regarding our mask protocols for next year. I'd like to reassure everyone that we will be going over all protocols and reevaluating them prior to sending our reopening plan for the 2021– 22 school year to the Department of Education for approval. While we are pleased that case numbers are decreasing, I would caution folks to not let their guard down as there are still cases of Covid in our community.

**Q: What is the latest on High School III?**

A: We are in the rezoning process for this new school and a final decision will be voted on by the school board on June 8. We are still soliciting public input; go to the district website ([www.stjohns.k12.fl.us](http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us)) to see the four plans and make a comment there or at one of our May board meetings. Although not in our immediate plans, as we continue to grow it's important to note that within Nocatee there are still two additional school sites.

**Q: Do you expect leadership changes at our schools for next school year?**

A: Every year in May, before we release for the summer, we begin to evaluate school leadership for the following year. This is normal for a growing school district like ours, especially in light of two new schools opening. We will have more details on this next month. We are so fortunate to have such quality educators in our district and we appreciate them all and the job they are doing very much.

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

A: I have a lot of kudos this month. First, I'd like to recognize our district's School Related Employees of the Year: Julianne O'Brien (Landrum Middle School), Karen Cornelius (Nease High School), Michael Marimpietri (Ocean Palms Elementary), Wilda Limardo (Palencia Elementary), Geraldo "Jerry" Santiago (Palm Valley Academy), Daniel Burkert (Ponte Vedra High School), Christine "Crissy" Mineer (PVPV/ Rawlings) and Marijean "MJ" Lechtrecker (Valley Ridge Academy).

Congratulations to our American Youth Character Award winners. From Nease High School we have seniors Kyle Bazler, Caroline Hunt, Nicholas Zuino, Ryan Roman; juniors Kaitlyn Boggs, Isabella Rivera, Logan Ryan, Tyler Covell, Amber Horn, Jayde Dauley, J'ana Ransom, Samuel "Sam" Dec and Pursuing Victory with Honor student Olivia Peoples. From Ponte Vedra High School we have seniors Jared Reinheimer, Risa Slepikas, Annabelle Barnett and Alana Edwards; juniors Tayler Dietrich, Eugenio Abruzzini, Eden Daughtry, Sean Caracciolo, Luke Hargitai, Lauren Paton, Taylor Baggs and Joley Hill and Pursuing Victory with Honor student John Campbell Parker.

And finally, congratulations to the Nease NJROTC unit, which finished third overall in the nation recently.

**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.



## with St. Johns County Property Appraiser Eddie Creamer

### Q: Can you give us some information about Save Our Homes?

A: This is actually Amendment 5 to the Florida Constitution, passed in 1995 and it's the part of homestead exemption that is most misunderstood by homeowners. It puts a 3 percent cap on the amount that the tax assessed value can go up any given year on homesteaded property. Actually, the cap is the lesser of 3 percent or the year's cost of living index. During my term in office, the cap has been the cost of living index, since it's been significantly less than 3 percent (approximately 1 to 1.25 percent).

### Q: Why is this important?

A: Save Our Homes is particularly important in St. Johns County, where values have gone up more than 40 percent in recent years. Year to date 2021, values are up about 8.5 percent, but your tax assessed value of your homesteaded property will still only go up by the lesser of 3 percent or the cost of living index.

### Q: Can you tell us about portability?

A: The difference between the increase in the Just Market Value and the cap is the portability amount on your home. You do not pay taxes on this and it can continue to go up each year (it can also go down if values decline).

### Q: Why is portability important?

A: If you relinquish your homesteaded property for any reason, you have three years to take your portability with you to a new homesteaded property. There are a couple of caveats: first, the most portability you can take is \$500,000. Secondly, if your new homestead is equal to or greater than the value of your relinquished property, you can take 100 percent of the portability (up to the \$500,000 maximum). If the new property is less, you can take a pro-rata share of the portability with you.

### Q: What is your recommendation for homeowners?

A: Because St. Johns County today is in a very hot real estate market, with values going up dramatically and houses staying on the market for less than a week, it's important for homeowners to check our website and look at their TRIM

notices to make sure they are accurate. Don't wait until it's time to sell your home; you want to make sure you get the portability you are entitled to.

Lately, a number of businesses have sprung up to help people get their maximum portability ... for a fee. There is really no need to hire a third party business, as your property appraiser's office can do this for you at no charge. This is what we do and we are already paid for by your tax dollars. We are happy to help you.

### 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.



## with St. Johns County Clerk of Circuit Court and Comptroller Brandon Patty

### Q: Have jury trials resumed in St. Johns County?

A: Civil and criminal jury trials have started back up as of the end of March. We have a great relationship with our court partners and look forward to moving ahead. We do have a pretty significant backlog due to the suspension of trials during the pandemic. The state of Florida has approximately one million cases pending. Readers of this column should keep their eyes open for potential jury summonses arriving in the mail.

### Q: What can you tell us about the new St. Johns County Memorial Garden?

A: The center courtyard of the judicial complex will be re-landscaped and renamed the St. Johns County Memorial Garden. We envision it to be a centerpiece for visitors and guests to be able to take a moment and collect their thoughts. We will incorporate the existing Victims Garden and move it inside the courtyard to be part of the Memorial Garden. We expect it to be finished by fall, when we will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony.

### Q: What else do you have to share with northern St. Johns County citizens?

A: For the 28th consecutive year, the Clerk's Office was awarded the Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for our fiscal year 2019 annual report. This highlights the transparency and accuracy of our financial report, which is available online. People come to St. Johns County for the quality of life and management of taxpayer dollars is a big part of that.

Also, our Inspector General's office has met the initial entry requirements to become accredited by the Commission on Florida Law Enforcement. For a 24 month period, the commission will assess

our Inspector General's office to ensure the highest standards of professionalism. Successful completion of this results in accreditation. Only four Clerks of Courts' Inspector General offices in the State of Florida are accredited. The Inspector General's office investigates and audits county government entities as well as waste, fraud and abuse cases.

### Q: What is the best way for our readers to contact you or your office?

A: A lot of questions can be answered by visiting our website, www.stjohnsclerk.com, which is most commonly used to pay traffic citations or search court records. People can also call our main office at (904) 819-3600.



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**with St. Johns County Commissioner  
Jeremiah Blocker, District 4**

**Q: The parking lot at Mickler Beach can no longer accommodate all of the residents who want to go to the beach. The lot fills quickly on busy days, and families are forced to find beach parking elsewhere — sometimes having to pay for it at GTM, and even those lots overflow on busy days. How are you planning to address this problem at Mickler, the most-used beach in St. Johns County? Would the commissioners consider purchasing additional beach frontage in Ponte Vedra beach to accommodate the frequent overflow?**

A: Prior boards of county commissioners have looked at this issue as well over the years as it is a well known issue. We do have a couple of options on the table, which staff is considering — as they need review and present the options to the commissioners.

First, there is the option to purchase additional land and secondly is the possibility of a private/public partnership to address the issue. The board has not made any decision yet, but staff is working on their review.

**Q: Do you have an update on the Town Hall meeting you planned for May?**

A: The Town Hall meeting we had scheduled for May will have to be rescheduled due to availability of a couple of the participants. We hope to reschedule it relatively soon and will communicate the new date and time when it is determined.

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

A: Readers can email me at bc4jblocker@sjcfl.us or call me at (904) 679-2620.

# May Community Calendar

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

**Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR),** Ponte Vedra Chapter, will meet on May 4, from 10:45 a.m. – 1 p.m. Contact pontevedracharters-dar@aol.com for additional details.

**Newcomers Alumnae** will hold its monthly luncheon on Wednesday, May 5 from 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at Marsh Landing Country Club. The event will feature guest speaker Kevin Brown of the Beaches Sea Turtle Patrol. The cost for this luncheon is \$23 and social distancing guidelines will be followed. Reservations for lunch must be made by contacting bartshar@comcast.net. Contact brookemeister@msn.com or visit newcomersalumnae.wildapricot.org for more information.

**The Ponte Vedra Democratic Club** will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 12 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Featured speakers are Rep. Charlie Crist (FL-17) and political strategist Steve Schale. Contact Jan Kary at janetkary@gmail.com for further information and pre-registration to receive the Zoom link.

**The Ponte Vedra YMCA** will host a 90-minute LES MILLS Body Combat Fight Night on Friday, May 14 to raise funds for local military families and LiveStrong, a comprehensive and fully funded fitness program for local cancer patients. Open to members and guests. For more information, call (904) 543-9622.

**Nocatee** announces the following events, open to the public: Farmers Market on Saturday, May 15 from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Town Center Field and Food Truck Fridays on May 14 and May 28 from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. at Splash Waterpark. Visit [www.nocatee.com/events](http://www.nocatee.com/events) for more information.

**The Newcomers of North St. Johns** will host a meeting and luncheon on Tuesday, May 18 at 11 a.m. at St. Johns Golf and Country Club, 205 St. Johns Golf Drive. Doors will open at 10:30 a.m. The event will feature accomplished pianist Carl Grant, who will entertain members with a medley of soft ballads and soothing love songs. Covid guidelines are in place. The cost for the luncheon and program is \$30 for members. All reservations must be received by May 10. Contact Sue Aird at sjaird@comcast.net to register.

**First Coast Florida Lifestyles Newcomers Recreation Card Club** will host lunch/card playing at a coffee/food cafe in St. Augustine on May 22. Arrival is at 1:30 p.m and card games will be played from 2:15 p.m. – 5 p.m. Masks must be worn while playing cards and one entree must be purchased to satisfy restaurant management. 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.

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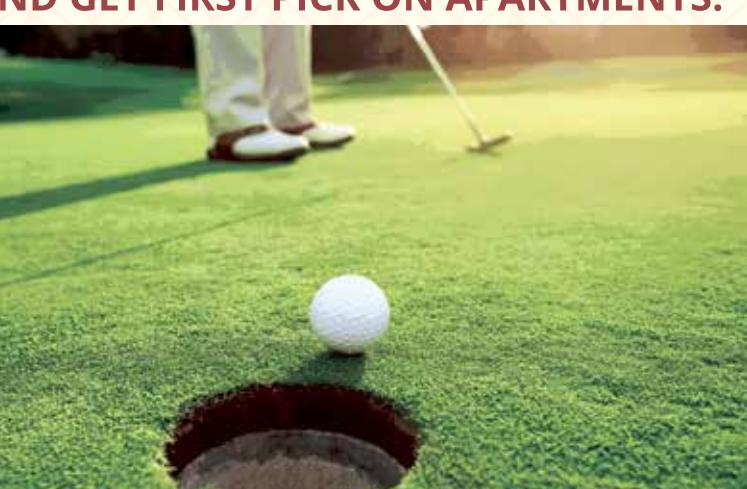
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# ST. JOHNS Business Monthly



Life is mostly froth and bubble

## The Muscular Christian

By Scott Grant  
ScottGrant@StJohnsBusinessMonthly.com

On Jan. 29, 1882 a young Seminarian from Boston, freshly graduated from Cambridge, stepped off Sandy Bob's stagecoach onto the dusty streets of his new home, Tombstone Arizona. His name was Endicott Peabody, he was 25 years old, and his mission was to build an Episcopal church in one of the most dangerous places on earth. Just three months earlier, Wyatt Earp and Doc Holiday had gunned down members of the gang of outlaws known as the Cowboys in the city's OK Corral.

Peabody quickly realized that in order to build his church he would need to appeal to the men. The woman of the city went to church; the hardscrabble miners, drawn to the area by the lure of a massive silver strike, were more reticent. Toward that goal Peabody challenged the Methodist minister, a man named Joseph "Mac" Macintyre, to a boxing match. The whole town turned out to witness the spectacle of two men of the cloth duking it out bare-knuckled under the blazing Arizona sun for the right to save the souls of the male citizenry of the town nicknamed "Helldorado." Peabody won. His next match was against the miner's champion. The burly, weathered, mining champ took a beating. Endicott founded a baseball team as well. The local paper, the "Tombstone Epitaph," called him a "Daisy" of a ballplayer.

His friends called him "Cotty" and as his reputation grew, so did his flock. Initially, he held his weekly services in the Miners Exchange building. The old church had been burnt to the ground six months earlier by a rowdy mob of drunks. He also travelled to nearby towns. One day, in nearby Charleston, he delivered a sermon on his own 11th

Commandment: "Thou Shall Not Covet Thy Neighbor's Cattle." The sermon so enraged a member of the infamous outlaw gang of cattle rustlers known as the Cowboys that he threatened to shoot Peabody if he ever returned. Endicott sent back word that if the man wanted a fight, he could have one, but proposed they meet in the boxing ring, charge admission, and donate the proceeds to the local orphanage. The matter was dropped. No one wanted to go toe to toe with the hard-punching Priest from the East.

In order to raise funds for a new church, Peabody took to haunting the gambling halls and saloons — not to drink or place bets, but to solicit donations. He would stride into the den of iniquity and announce that on the following Sunday he would be preaching on the evils of gambling. He would then stand by each poker table in turn, silent and foreboding, his outstretched arm holding his upturned hat until the players made a donation. Gambling was big business in Tombstone. Endicott soon had more than \$4,600 to build his church. St. Paul's Episcopal Church still stands today. It is the oldest Protestant church in the state of Arizona.

Endicott Peabody returned to the East after just six months. He finished seminary and founded the Groton School. He became friends with Teddy Roosevelt and educated four of his sons. Teddy's cousin, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, is the Groton School's most famous alum. Endicott Peabody was the scion of a family that included models and bishops, famous actresses and even a governor.

That family is perhaps best known locally for the exploits of his daughter-in-law, Mary Parkman Peabody. On Easter Sunday 1964, the 72-year-old Parkman

## MarketInsight

By Scott Grant  
ScottGrant@StJohnsBusinessMonthly.com

Recordkeeping  
101: Information your small business needs to maintain

By Robert Eberling  
mail@floridanewslne.com

Regardless of the type of business you own, every small business needs to keep detailed accounts of key business records. Your industry may have additional requirements, but, at a minimum, have this list of essential records up-to-date and within reach:

- Accounting records
  - Accounts Payable and receivable
  - Expense receipts
  - Payroll records
  - Tax filings
  - Vehicle mileage logs
- Bank and credit card statements
- Contracts
- Purchase orders
- Licenses and permits
- Certificates of insurance
- Employment applications
- Articles of Incorporation/Certificate of Organization
- Operating agreements
- Annual meeting minutes
- Trademark, Service Mark and Patent registrations
- Inventory logs

Recordkeeping cont. on pg. 10

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## Briefs

### Public advised to not post vaccine card on social media

With the ramp up in COVID-19 vaccinations occurring throughout the state comes an increased risk of fraud related to the inoculations. 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.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "It is encouraging to see so many Floridians receiving their COVID-19 vaccines, but be cautious when sharing the good news online. Scammers can use information from a vaccine card to hack financial accounts, commit identity theft or even create fake vaccination cards and sell them on the black market. Instead of posting your card, consider using an announcement or picture that does not reveal any personal information."

Posting pictures of vaccination cards presents another downside besides sharing personal information that scammers covet — the posts could help scammers

create phony vaccine cards. According to the American Association of Retired Persons, fake cards are popping up for sale on social media platforms and other websites.

COVID-19 has forced millions of Floridians to work, learn and socialize more online, which scammers are taking advantage of by ramping up online scams. Consumers should be wary about what information is shared online.

Attorney General Moody offers the following tips as reminders for Floridians on how to safely share vaccination news or other information on social media:

- Instead of sharing vaccination cards, consider using a Got My Vaccine profile picture frame;
- Do not post anything that contains personal or identifying information online;
- Be wary of viral social media trends that often highlight a user's assortment of favorite things or personal information. Know that the responses to these trends are often commonly used to inspire passwords or security questions; and
- Always use strong passwords on all accounts — include numbers and special characters.

### Council on Aging announces Coastal Community Center in-person programs for seniors

In-person programming has resumed for participants at COA's Coastal Community Senior Center on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. St. Johns County seniors aged 60 and older may reserve their place for either the Tuesday or Thursday morning program, as space is limited and registration confirmation is required. The programs are being held

at COA's River House at 179 Marine St., in St. Augustine. For the health and safety of participants, masks are required and social distancing protocols are in place.

"We are really looking forward to seeing our friends, old and new," said Sue Richerson, COA Senior Centers Program Manager. "This is an important next step in our plans to gradually resume in-person programming in the safest possible way for our participants."

Lunch is available for pick up by participants after the program.

To reserve your spot, please contact Sue Richerson at (904) 209-3631.

Those who require transportation to the program may contact COA's Transportation Department Customer Service line at (904) 209-3712.

The best way to stay informed about the latest news, programs and services for seniors and caregivers is to sign up to receive COA's weekly e-newsletter; visit [www.coasjc.org/sign-up](http://www.coasjc.org/sign-up) or call (904) 209-3700.

Visit [www.coasjc.org](http://www.coasjc.org) for more information on COA's programs and services for seniors and caregivers in St. Johns County.

### Community donates \$8,000 of pet food and supplies

Approximately \$8,000 of pet food and supplies, as well as 50 large bags of towels and blankets were collected by St. Johns CARES, Inc. with assistance from 24 host donation collection sites and individuals to help animal shelters and food pantry clients with pets. Food, supplies and

linens were distributed to five animal shelters and pet food to five food pantries in St. Johns County.

The annual initiative for St. Johns CARES volunteers for May is the funding of new backpacks, supplies and gift cards for incidentals for homeless high school seniors in the county school system's ASSIST Program who enroll in higher education. The backpacks serve as recognition of the students' accomplishments despite many obstacles and encouragement as the students pursue a better future through education. Monetary donations can be made through the St. Johns CARES website ([stjohnscares.org](http://stjohnscares.org)) or by mail to St. Johns CARES, 450-106 State Road 13N, #165, St. Johns, FL 32259.

### Newcomers Alumnae announces luncheon

Newcomers Alumnae will hold its monthly luncheon on Wednesday, May 5, from 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at Marsh Landing Country Club, 25655 Marsh Landing Pkwy. The event will feature guest speaker Kevin Brown of the Beaches Sea Turtle Patrol, "an all volunteer non-profit corporation working for the preservation of endangered sea turtles in Atlantic, Neptune and Jacksonville Beaches, Duval County." They are committed to marine research and have a goal "to keep the sea turtle population from experiencing a downward trend" by, for example, planting sea oats to stabilize the sand dunes, digging up nests and counting eggs, and reporting the data to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

The cost for this luncheon and guest speaker is \$23 and social distancing guidelines will be followed. Reservations for lunch must be made by contacting [bartshar@comcast.net](mailto:bartshar@comcast.net). Newcomers Alumnae is a social group comprised of women who live in Ponte Vedra Beach, Nocatee, Jacksonville Beach, Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach, Jacksonville and St. Augustine. Contact [brookemeister@msn.com](mailto:brookemeister@msn.com) or visit [newcomersalumnae.wildapricot.org](http://newcomersalumnae.wildapricot.org) for more information.

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## Get to Know ...

### Cathlene Miner

As a child, Cathlene Miner vividly remembers riding to the emergency room with her injured grandmother who was a victim of domestic violence at the hands of Miner's grandfather. It happened far too frequently, and Miner's grandmother never left the abusive relationship. Later in life after her grandmother passed away, Miner wondered if her grandmother would have felt safe enough to leave had she known that help existed. It is this experience that drove Miner to start Hopefull Handbags, Inc., a non-profit that serves as an advocate and "bridge" organization for domestic violence victims. What began as a local effort has grown into a global organization currently operating in six states as well as in the Caribbean, Barbados, Australia, Canada, South Africa and Uganda. Hopefull Handbags, started in 2017, collects donated handbags filled with personal necessities and gives them to local domestic violence organizations. Each handbag is cleaned, filled with personal hygiene items, a scarf, a journal and a hand-written note — all geared towards getting a woman back on her feet. It is what Miner likes to refer to as a "Bridge to Hope" to so many women, providing whatever is needed in that moment. The next step is to open "Carolyn's Haven of Hope Bridge Housing," appropriately named

after Miner's grandmother. It will help survivors qualify to rent a place and start a new life once they leave the shelter — a step that Miner's grandmother never got to take.

**Q: Explain how Hopefull Handbags works.**

A: Hopefull Handbags provides invaluable resource connections to shelter, services, counseling, education, job training skills, self-perception and self-defense classes. We have a free shop where women can secure clothing for professional job interviews, and, most importantly, we are here to listen and to offer hope and help. We also have online free workshops for our survivors. For those who want to take the online courses and can afford to pay, that money goes back into Hopefull Handbags to pay a survivors' rent or car payment. This is so important because 85 percent of survivors will return to their abuser because of financial reasons.

**Q: Please explain the importance of self-perception in relation to the women you help.**

A: Many people confuse self-care with self-perception. Self-perception is what you think and feel about yourself. It dictates everything that you do. Over the years, I have worked on my self-perception through having an eating disorder in high school, becoming a young and single mom to two kids, becoming a certified trainer and by simply paying attention to the things around me. I

#### Get to Know ...

Interested in being featured? Email Martie Thompson at [editor@FloridaNewsLine.com](mailto:editor@FloridaNewsLine.com)



Photo courtesy Cathlene Miner  
Cathlene Miner

are my top priorities in addition to keeping myself physically fit so I can be the "best version" of myself. I'm an author, podcast host, Self-Perception Guru, motivational speaker, kickboxer devotee and, when time permits, aerobics instructor and concierge trainer. We also have three grandchildren.

**Q: How has the pandemic impacted victims of domestic violence?**

A: Right now, the statistics are surging as people are struggling with the loss of jobs and economic challenges because of COVID. Every time I read the statistics that nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused and that one in three women, and one in four men, have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner — it is hard to wrap my head around these facts. But this reality, combined with more than 20,000 calls to domestic violence centers for help, is why I am committed to making a difference.

[Author's Note: Hopefull Handbags drop-off spots are located in Nocatee, Ponte Vedra Beach, St. Augustine and throughout Jacksonville. The Ponte Vedra Beach drop off is located at Ponte Vedra Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, 880 US Hwy. A1A N., Unit 14. The Nocatee location is at Lululemon, 152 Capital Drive, #28. Visit [www.CathleneMiner.com](http://www.CathleneMiner.com) for more information.]



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**Teacher cont. from pg. 1**  
appreciate the Tutoring Club of St. Johns for this wonderful opportunity," said Donna Lueders, INK! executive director. "When a teacher invests in their students, they can inspire them to persevere and not give up. Those educators who are selected have demonstrated an ability to go above and beyond the call of duty."

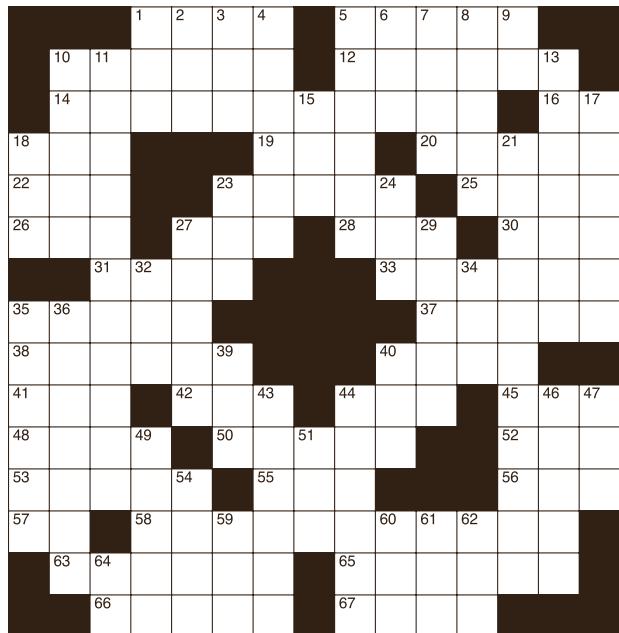
Each winner is nominated by students, parents, colleagues, friends, and community business partners. Winners receive a gift basket of prizes including a free assessment and one-month complimentary tutoring for a student of their choice. For more information, contact David "Davey" Hartzel, INK!'s Director of Fund Development at [David.Hartzel@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:David.Hartzel@stjohns.k12.fl.us) or (904) 547-7120.

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# Puzzles

Answers on page 3  
Provided by MetroCreative



ABCDEFCHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ  
**CRYPTO FUN**  
Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to Mother's Day.  
Each number corresponds to a letter.  
(Hint: 12 = E)

- A. 2 11 16 12  
Clue: Strong emotion
- B. 9 11 5 17 12 13  
Clue: Female parent
- C. 15 24 26 5 23  
Clue: Presents
- D. 23 3 12 18 24 21 2  
Clue: Beyond ordinary

## Recordkeeping cont. from pg. 7

There are several recordkeeping tools out there to help business owners get organized, including software-based solutions, cloud-based solutions, and paper-based solutions.

Software solutions: The trick with recordkeeping is to keep things simple. Basic software solutions like Microsoft Excel spreadsheets and Microsoft Word documents can be a simple, easy-to-use solution for businesses that only require a few recordkeeping basics. Quickbooks Pro for desktop is a more sophisticated software solution. Make a habit of backing up your records daily, whether it's on a secure server, external hard drive, or a cloud-based system. There are free or low-cost solutions like Google Drive and Dropbox that are great for simple file storage. Or, you can invest in a cloud-based back-up solution, like Carbonite, that takes care of automatic file back-ups for all of your critical documents with increased security.

Cloud solutions: Paperless cloud-based solutions are becoming more sophisticated and easier-to-use. If you're a small service business, a simple cloud-based accounting system like FreshBooks may be all you need to manage your books. For more complex small businesses, like those that manage inventory, Quickbooks Online is an excellent cloud-based option. Many of these tools will sync right to your business bank account and credit card to automatically log expenses. Look for options like digital receipt filings that let you scan physical receipts and turn them into digital records, eliminating the hassle of paper records.

Paper solution: If you prefer doing things the old-fashioned way, there's nothing wrong with using pen and paper to keep your business' records in order.

Keeping good records will pay dividends come tax time. At the end of

- CLUES ACROSS
- Large, flightless birds
  - Lifts and moves heavy objects
  - Hyundai sedan
  - Wear away by erosion
  - Arranged alphabetically
  - Top prosecutor
  - de-sac: Short dead-end street
  - Digital audiotape
  - Linguistics pioneer
  - Singer DiFranco
  - Arms of the sea
  - Near-reach weapon (abbr.)
  - Ballplayer's accessory
  - You get one at the beach
  - U.S. founding father
  - W. Australia indigenous people
  - Amounts of time
  - Put on the shelf
  - Russian dynasty member
  - City along the Elbe River
  - Peninsula between the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf
  - Actor Damon
  - King Cole, musician
  - Company that rings receipts
  - Scatter
  - Basics
  - Part of a door
  - Indicates silence
  - Moved quickly on foot
  - Monetary units
  - Place to crash
  - Many subconscious
  - Group of countries
  - About line of latitude
  - Female follower of Bacchus
  - Dentist can treat it
  - Dull brown fabrics
  - Int'l nonprofit
- CLUES DOWN
- Midway between northeast and east
  - Partner to cheese
  - One from Utah
  - A way to move
  - Playing cards
  - Baseball stat
  - Long river in western Asia
  - Grandmothers
  - Entertainment legend Sullivan
  - Steam bath room
  - One who kills
  - Food
  - Swiss river
  - Fleet
  - Taxi
  - Working class
  - More (Spanish)
  - High schoolers' test

- Large heavily built goat antelope
- Murdered in his bathtub
- Tease good-naturedly
- Morsel
- Cause persistent resentment
- A radioactive element
- Perform in a play
- Witty remark: Bon —
- A great place to kayak
- Conclude by reasoning
- In an unfavorable way
- Complex of nerve tissues (abbr.)
- Machine for making paper
- Feline
- Yugo's hatchback
- Check
- Press against lightly
- Wind-pollinated plants
- compoop
- Commercial

## MOTHER'S DAY WORD SEARCH

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

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

## WORDS

AFFECTION  
AUNT  
BREAK  
BREAKFAST  
CARING  
DEDICATED  
DESSERT  
FAFFARE  
FOSTER  
GATHERING  
GRANDMOTHER  
GREETING CARD  
HONOR  
HUGS  
MATERNAL  
MOM  
PRESENTS  
RELAXATION  
REST  
RESTAURANT  
SISTER  
SPA  
VACATION  
WOMAN

## Pickleball cont. from pg. 1

bored children active in the summer. Two stories exist about the origin of the game's name, according to USA Pickleball. The prevailing one is that one of the fathers got a dog a year or so after the game was invented and named it Pickles. The dog often ran off with the ball, and so, when an official game name was needed, well, "pickleball" stuck.

The growing popularity of pickleball did not go unnoticed by Austin Taylor and Mike Miles, The Yards' finance and operations director and general manager, respectively. They took over the Oak Bridge Club after it failed as a golf course and country club, said Miles. Construction of 12 pickleball courts, slated to open in October, is currently underway at this Ponte Vedra Beach sports and social venue, located at the Oak Bridge Club in Sawgrass. It also includes a renovated 12-hole golf course.

"After a great deal of research, we landed on pickleball, and our whole business model is for profit," said Miles. "This is pay to play, and we may or may not have memberships. There will be no fighting for court space as you will get your own court, and you will be treated as a member during that time."

Miles said "Pickle Garden at The Yards" will include LED lighting, covered social areas, a cabana available to rent and a pro shop with equipment rentals. Taylor added that this is a venue where clinics, tournaments and programs will be held while still meeting the needs of all types of players by offering a reasonable hourly rate — all open to the public.

To find public courts and play times, Gainer suggests checking out places2play.org.

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# Summer Camp and Activities Guide



Summer fun activities and camp guide

## Ocean Palms applauds those who give their time



Dr. Lucy Miller was named Adult Volunteer of the Year at Ocean Palms.

By Lisa Farese  
mail@floridanewsline.com

When a gift comes in the form of time, energy and enthusiasm, only one word comes to mind — volunteers. In recognition of this, Ocean Palms Elementary School awarded three individuals Volunteer of the Year awards. These individuals included Ysabel Jack (Outstanding Youth Volunteer of the Year), Dr. Lucy Miller (Adult Volunteer of the Year), and Mark Tolton (Outstanding Senior Volunteer of the Year).

Jack, formerly a student ambassador at Ocean Palms, has continued to support



Photos courtesy Lisa Farese

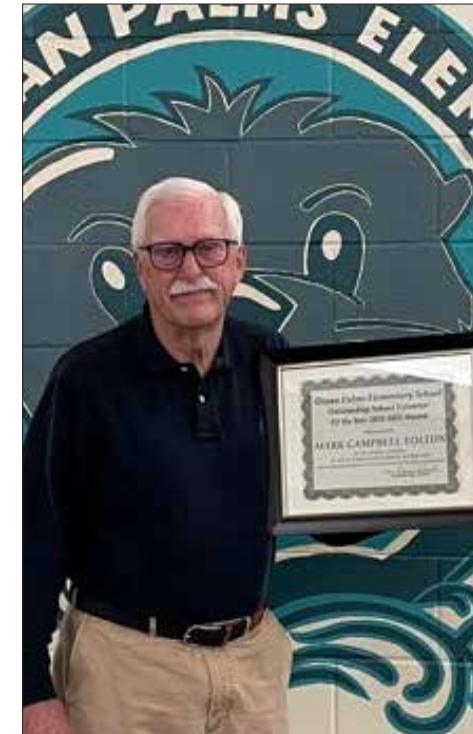
Ysabel Jack was named Outstanding Youth Volunteer of the Year at Ocean Palms.

the program at the school by helping the current student ambassadors with projects. Additionally, she hosted a Junior British Tea Party event as a PTO fundraiser and worked as a mentor to students at the school with higher social needs.

Miller is also no stranger as a volunteer, serving on the SAC committee, as a PTO event co-chair, and pretty much everywhere else help is needed. However, she is best known for her co-creation of the school's science lab. From raising funds, to hands-on lessons, to bringing her love of STEM to the school, she

achieved all of this and more with the school's unique science lab.

Tolton, yet another special volunteer, has been described as "magical" and



Mark Tolton was named Outstanding Senior Volunteer of the Year at Ocean Palms.

lends a caring hand to the pre-kindergarten students at the school. He helps provide individualized tutoring to the students, which enhances their learning and builds their confidence.



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# Places to go and things to do

By NewsLine Staff  
mail@floridanewslne.com

Summer in Northeast Florida is a great time to do a little exploring. The days are longer and the weather is beautiful (although a bit hot!) and there are so many interesting places to visit that are only a brief car trip away. Here are a few ideas to keep kids and adults busy during the lazy days of summer. (Be sure to check the websites for complete information, including addresses, online ticketing, and potential COVID protocols, before you go):

St. Augustine and area to the south:

**Castillo de San Marcos:** ([www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)) Built by the Spanish more than

333 years ago, the Castillo is the oldest masonry fortress in the United States. Open Wednesday – Sunday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. with limited capacity. \$15.

**Fort Mose Historic State Park:** ([www.floridastateparks.org](http://www.floridastateparks.org)) A 40-acre waterfront park with an observation and birding boardwalk as well as an interactive museum that tells the story of the first legally sanctioned free African settlement in the United States. Open Thursday – Monday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Free.

**Ormond Scenic Loop and Trail:** ([www.ormondscenicloopandtrail.com](http://www.ormondscenicloopandtrail.com)) A 30-mile trail that traverses A1A in Ormond-by-the-Sea as well as rivers,

creeks and marshes on the mainland, this scenic trail showcases the diverse natural scenery in Florida.

**Palatka-to-St. Augustine State Trail:** ([www.traillink.com](http://www.traillink.com)) Runs through the rural communities of Armstrong and Elkton with plans to connect to the Palatka-to-Lake Butler State Trail as part of a developing 260-mile regional network known as the St. Johns River-to-Sea Loop.

**Marineland:** ([www.marineland.net](http://www.marineland.net)) This world's first oceanarium features interactive opportunities with trained dolphins including swimming. 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. \$15 adult/\$8 child general admission; additional varied prices for dolphin encounters.

**IMAX Theater at World Golf Village:** ([www.imax.com](http://www.imax.com)) Giant screen movie theater featuring 3D films and current blockbusters. See website for times and prices.

**World Golf Village Hall of Fame:** ([www.worldgolfhalloffame.org](http://www.worldgolfhalloffame.org)) Designed to honor both men and women in golf, the museum has a permanent exhibition and a rolling program of temporary exhibits. 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. \$21; discount available for St. Johns County residents.

**St. Augustine Aquarium:** ([www.saaquarium.com](http://www.saaquarium.com)) The St. Augustine Aquarium consists of an 80,000-gallon Snorkel Adventure, interactive Shark and Stingray Cove, Seahorse and hands-on exhibits. Seven days a week, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. \$12 adults/\$7 children.

**St. Augustine Wild Reserve:** ([www.sawildreserve.org](http://www.sawildreserve.org)) The reserve provides a home for unwanted and abused exotic animals, including big cats, wolves, and a black bear. Tours are booked online and by appointment only.

**Waldo Farmers and Flea Market:** ([www.waldofleamarket.com](http://www.waldofleamarket.com)) After more than 40 years, this landmark flea market is still owned and operated by the Blakewood family. They boast more than 900 dealers and 20,000 customers each weekend. Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Log Cabin Winery:** ([www.logcabinfarmwinery.com](http://www.logcabinfarmwinery.com)) A 75 year-old family-owned farm, vineyard and winery in Satsuma that is pet and family friendly.

Jacksonville and areas to the north and west:

**Jacksonville-Baldwin Rail Trail:** ([www.traillink.com](http://www.traillink.com)) One of Florida's oldest rail-trails, it traverses a rural setting of hardwood uplands, wetlands and pine flatwoods. Keep an eye out for wildlife, too.

**Ichetucknee Springs State Park:** ([www.floridastateparks.org](http://www.floridastateparks.org)) Cool off by tubing, swimming or snorkeling in the crystalline Ichetucknee River, spring-fed to a constant 72 degrees which flows through shaded hammocks and wetlands until it joins the Santa Fe River. 8 a.m. – sunset. \$6 per car containing eight or fewer occupants.

**Little Talbot Island:** ([www.floridastateparks.org](http://www.floridastateparks.org)) Little Talbot Island has more than five miles of white sandy beaches and is one of the few remaining undeveloped barrier islands in Northeast Florida. 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. \$5 per car containing eight or fewer occupants.

**Big Talbot Island:** ([www.floridastateparks.org](http://www.floridastateparks.org)) Big Talbot Island is a natural preserve perfect for birdwatching and photography. 8 a.m. – sundown. \$3 per vehicle to access picnic area and trailhead. \$2 per person to access fishing pier.

**Kingsley Plantation and Fort Caroline National Memorial:** ([www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)) Learn about the 6,000 year history of the Timucuan Preserve and freedom and enslavement at Kingsley Plantation. Open Wednesday – Sunday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Museum of Science and History (MOSH):** ([www.themosh.org](http://www.themosh.org)) Situated on the Southbank Riverwalk, this museum specializes in science and local history exhibits. Be sure to see a program in the Bryan-Gooding Planetarium, one of the largest single-lens planetariums in the United States. Thursday – Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. \$15.

**Cummer Museum:** ([www.cummer-museum.org](http://www.cummer-museum.org)) Holding one of the finest art collections in the Southeast, the museum has nearly 5,000 objects in its permanent collection. Be sure to also view the extensive riverfront gardens. Tuesday – Sunday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. \$10.

**Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens:** ([www.jacksonvillezoo.org](http://www.jacksonvillezoo.org)) Situated at the mouth of the Trout River, the zoo has more than 2,000 animals and 1,000 plants in its collection. 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. \$25 adult/\$20 children.

**Fort Clinch State Park:** ([www.floridastateparks.org](http://www.floridastateparks.org)) This historic park located on Amelia Island and dating to the Civil War provides recreational activities immersed among beautiful natural communities. 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. \$6 per vehicle up to eight people; \$2.50 per person entrance fee to the fort.

**Sweet Pete's:** ([www.sweetpetescandy.com](http://www.sweetpetescandy.com)) This candy shop boasts a fully functioning factory with an interactive gallery, two large retail areas, a full restaurant and bar, rooftop patio and dessert bar. Tuesday – Sunday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

**Catty Shack Ranch Wildlife Sanctuary:** ([www.cattysack.org](http://www.cattysack.org)) This sanctuary provides a loving home for tigers, leopards, lions, and other big cats. Purchase tour tickets online; \$12.

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## PVHS Happenings

# Students come up with creative solution to cancelled competition

By Sade Goodridge  
mail@floridanewslines.com

All over the world, people have had to get creative in deciding how to interact with each other and carry out various activities in response to the coronavirus pandemic. The National Chinese Honor Society at Ponte Vedra High School (PVHS) recently decided to carry on a beloved tradition in a similarly creative fashion.

The Florida Statewide Chinese Competition (FSCC) is an annual event organized by the Florida Chinese Teachers Association and co-hosted with a school in the state of Florida. Schools compete

in a weekend-long event showcasing their Chinese skills through writing, talking, and participating in a highly competitive and popular Jeopardy game.

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, the Florida Chinese Teachers Association decided not to host the yearly event, leaving the PVHS National Chinese Honor Society leaders in a conundrum. Eventually, the team decided to host its own version of the competition, specifically the highly popular Jeopardy game.

Different from the FSCC, the club leaders welcomed students regardless



Photos courtesy Evan Fleischer

Ajay Armarchand, Alex Vorobjov, Jason Leiran and Yan Li, Ponte Vedra High School Chinese teacher and event sponsor.

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of whether they were in Chinese class or knew any Chinese at all. This is because the competition focused on Chinese culture, history and festivals, so anyone with a love of knowledge or a desire to learn more was welcome. As a bonus, club president, Hope Daughtry, and club secretary, Maggie Dykstra, offered service hours to anyone who came and attended the practice meetings on Thursdays.

A sophomore in the Chinese 3 class, Charlotte King, said she chose to take part because she wanted to strengthen her knowledge of Chinese history. Junior Jason Leiran, also in Chinese 3, was interested in Chinese history and wanted to expand his knowledge of Chinese. Senior Ajay Armarchand took part because as a distance learner this school year, he saw an opportunity to connect with those at school.

After six weeks of nonstop practice each Thursday afternoon, the Ponte Vedra High School Chinese Competition culminated on March 26 — three teams of four, two teams of three, and one team of five competed to win the grand prize.

This version of Jeopardy had two rounds of three teams trying to gain the most points to move on to Final Jeopardy. The first round was tense as the teams raced

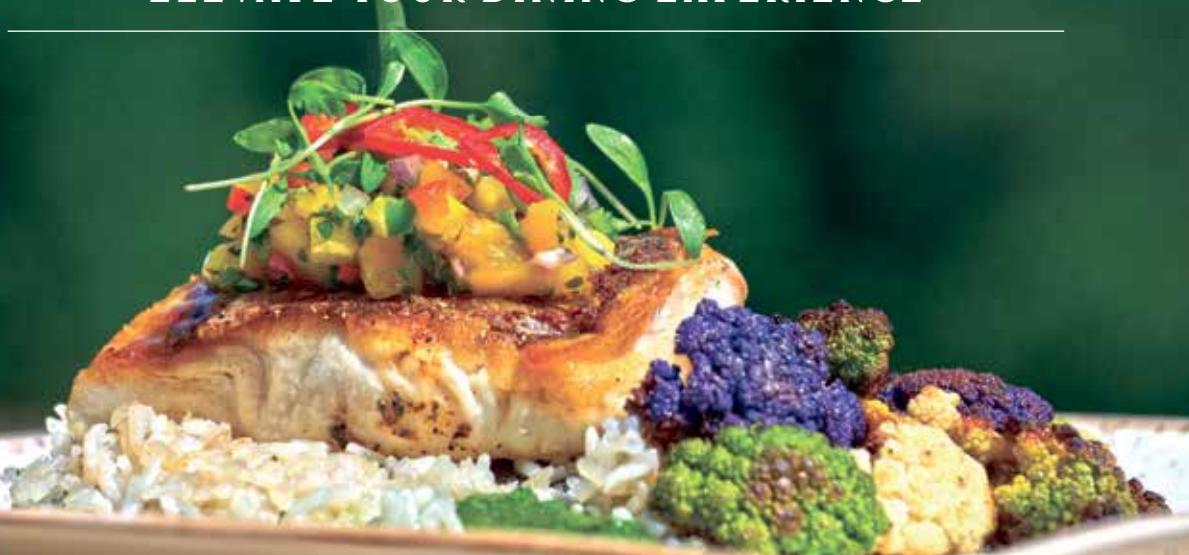
to press the buzzer first and correctly answer the questions. Eventually, after about 20 minutes of competing, a winner was clear; they moved on to Final Jeopardy.

The second round began after two short performances of dancing by Ajay Amarchand and Jason Leiran and singing by a fellow member in the Chinese program. Like round one, the teams fiercely battled one another to win. In the end, the team featuring Amarchand and Leiran won the round and also moved on to Final Jeopardy.

For Final Jeopardy, each person who was formerly on a team now played individually. Seven people played in this last round. The biggest competition was between former members of the same team: Amarchand, Leiran, and Alex Vorobjov. In the end, Vorobjov prevailed.

Placing second and third did not come easy; Amarchand and Leiran exhausted the supply of Final Jeopardy questions, each correctly answering them. So the event organizers, National Chinese Honor Society president, Hope Daughtry, and secretary, Maggie Dykstra, came up with a way to break the tie — a dance competition. Amarchand was judged the best dancer and won second place while Leiran won third.

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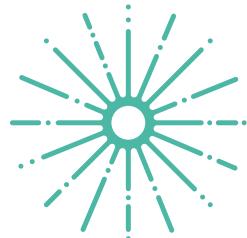
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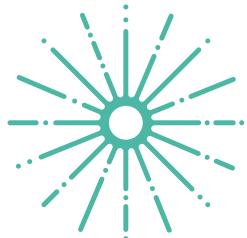


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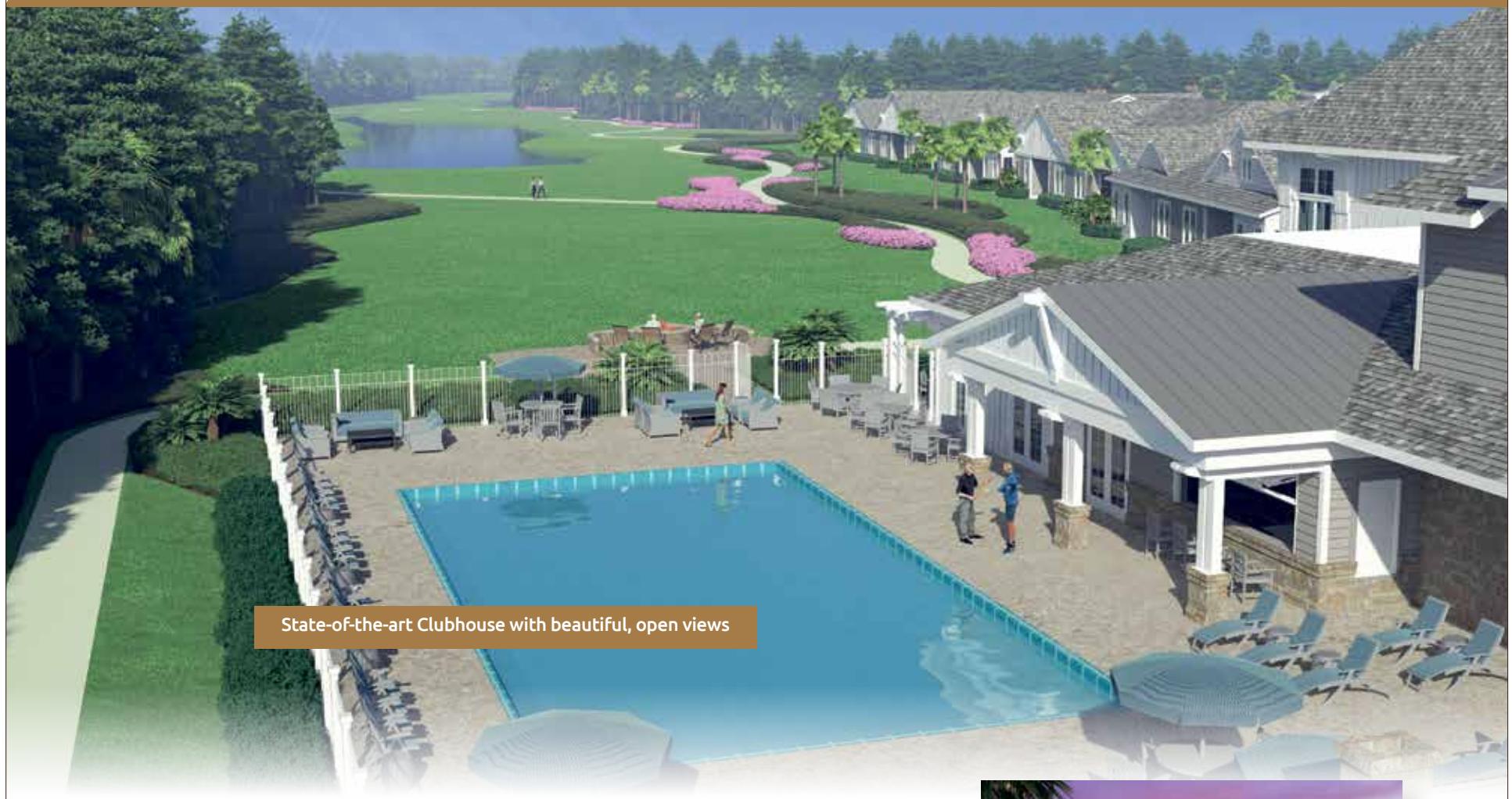


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