

## **Palencia Celebrates 2021 Holiday Season**







A huge crowd gathered on Market Street on Friday, December 3rd for the community's annual kick-off to the holidays. Kids eagerly waited to welcome Santa with their Christmas lists in hand. Everyone sipped hot cocoa, ordered mobile munchies from their favorite food trucks and enjoyed horse-drawn carriage rides through Palencia. See more holiday photos on Page 11.

Palencia residents came out with holiday spirit in their hearts for the 2021 Palencia Christmas tree lighting. The merriment was as bright as the 30 ft. tree sparkling with more than a thousand lights.







The Palencia Press P. O. Box 600022 Jacksonville, FL 32260

#### **Palencia Senior Member Golf Donates To USO**

**P**roceeds from the recent Senior Member/Guest golf tournament at Palencia have been donated to the local USO Center. Palencia residents Gary Dempsey and Bob Steck, co-chairs of the event presented a check to Mike O'Brien, Executive Director of the Greater Jax USO.

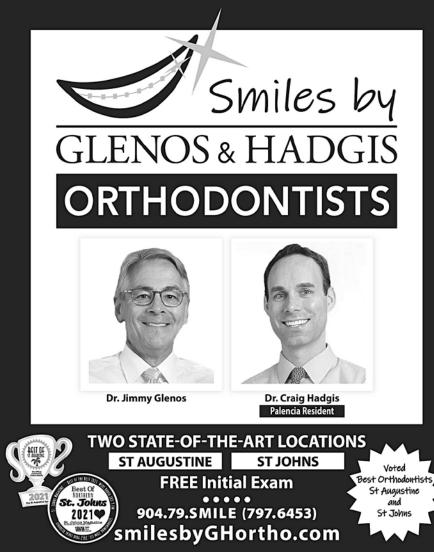
"The Palencia Senior Men's Golf Association has been supporting the active duty military and their families through the USO for more than seven years," said O'Brien. "The USO, which is 100% supported by individuals, corporations and civic groups, has three locations serving families in the greater Jacksonville area: NAS Jax, Mayport and the JIA Welcome Center at the Jacksonville airport."

The USO has served our 250,000-plus active duty military population by offering the many programs of support to improve their quality of life and create that "Home Away from Home" environment in each of the USO Centers hosting thousands of visitors each year.

At right, Bob Steck, left, and Gary Dempsey, right, present a check to Mike O'Brien with the USO.







#### Palencia Community Classified Ads

**FOR SALE** - Dining room table & 6 chairs. (dark wood); Pine queen bed + mattress, pine drawers and armoire; Sofa and love seat - brown faux leather; 54" brown marble effect coffee table, matching end tables; 49" rustic pine coffee table; Floor steamer; BBQ grill; Lamps; Contact : Lynn 904-501-6251.

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The Palencia Press P.O. Box 600022

Jacksonville, FL 32260

Views and opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not express the viewpoint of the publisher or editorial staff of the *Palencia Press*. All articles are subject to editing. **Acknowledgements:** This issue was designed using resources from Freepik.com.

**ESTATE SALE ITEMS** - Sigma DM1, Martin Guitar with case, made in Korea, \$250/obo; 2) Olympus 35mm camera with leather cover, 3-sets of lenses, and hard carry case, \$300/obo. Call Jeff 904-874-8491.

#### **Thought For The Day**

Changing a diaper is a lot like getting a present from your grandmother - you're not sure what you've got but you're pretty sure you're not going to like it. - Jeff Foxworthy

#### Words Of Wisdom

And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. - Luke 1:30



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#### **Palencia Community Classified Ads**

**Continued From Page 2** 

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support you in a joint effort of keeping

Palencia well maintained and the beauti-

ful community that you are proud to call

home. We ask you to join our efforts by

taking any necessary action to ensure that

Palencia is kept in pristine condition, as

evenings and remove from view by Mon-

Tuesday evenings and remove from view

move dirt and mildew with mild dish soap

and water. Damaged mailboxes must be

repaired or replaced with a mailbox that

conforms to requirements, which can be found online in the Palencia POA web-

site. Although some residents may feel

that a clean and attractive mailbox is of

minor importance, at curbside, it is the

first thing that pedestrians and passengers see when they come upon your lot.

4949 for mailboxes, parts and installation

dition must be maintained with respect

to cleanliness and safety. Vehicles should

not be parked in such a way as to obstruct

the sidewalk. Sidewalk structure dam-

age such as cracks or elevation changes

caused by tree roots should be reported

to MCCDD for remediation.

Mailbox Replacement and Repairs

Sundancer Sign Graphics: 904-287-

4. Sidewalks & Driveways - con-

Actions to take to avoid most com-

1. Recyclables – Out on Sunday

2. Trash Receptacles - Out on

3. Mailbox Maintenance - Re-

is expected by our residents.

monly observed violations.

by Wednesday evenings.

day evenings.

options.

#### **Friendly Reminders From The Palencia POA**

By Keitha Ford, Assistant CAM Manager, Palencia Property Owners Association

As

we

into

on



**Keitha Ford** 

of our neighborhoods. We take pride in this beautiful community and want to ensure that it is maintained to the highest standards that attracted all of us to want to live here in the first place. We know that clean, well kept, homes and maintained landscaping help protect every homeowner's property value.

The Palencia POA is governed by Covenants and Restrictions and Architectural Guidelines that set forth our community standards. Usually when we find owners are not in compliance, it's only because of a misunderstanding. Our goal is to proactively resolve compliance matters by sending regular community updates informing homeowners of the rules, specific violations, and certain times of the year that regular maintenance is recommended. When violations are observed, we are obligated to the community, to send a series of violation letters. Once a violation has escalated to a third notice without remedy, the violation may result in a fine. We are here to



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#### Nease Football Exceeds All Expectations With Committed Coaching Staff & Seniors

By Matthew Ohlson, Palencia Resident

The Nease football team had their best season since 2008, making it to the state playoffs as the #7 seed and defeating the #2 (Spruce Creek) and #3 (Niceville) teams in dramatic fashion. With the state's top receiver (Dom Henry) and the top defensive players (Ben Bogle and Zach Harmon), the Panthers exceeded all expectations and became the true "Cinderella Story" in the area with television, print and social media features.

Palencia residents starting Quarterback Marcus Stokes threw for more than 2000 yards throughout the season and backup quarterback, Gabe Ohlson even tossed a 95-yard touchdown pass in the final game against Buchholz. In addition, their special teams included the #2 ranked punter in the nation, Evan Cren-shaw, and kicker Canaan Kimball kicked the gamewinning field goal against powerhouse perennial Spruce Creek.

The Nease Panthers also gained national recognition with scholarship Tech, Cincinnati, Virginia Tech, Army, Air Force, Coastal Carolina and the Naval Academy. Finally, the leadership at the top was paramount to the team's success with Head Coach, Collin Drafts receiving the District Coach of the Year. The committed coaching staff and the 36 seniors helped to put Nease football "back on the map" with victories over Ponte Vedra and an enthusiasm not seen since the Tebow-era.



Thirteen players are shown at the start of the season.



offers from elite programs **Donovan Wilson No.11 and Dom Henry No. 1 make a** such as UCF, Georgia **midair onslaught.** 



At right, Head Coach Collin Drafts gives a post-game talk to his players.





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What my Eustomers are saying!





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We will be starting off 2022 with a fun, two-day competitive Solheim Cup team competition that will be co-chaired by Barbara Jacobi and Tricia Luciano on January 29th and 30th. A kick off event will be scheduled to select the two teams for the competition.



1st Place winners: Pat Rose, Ryan Patchen, Barbara McDougall and Betsy Larey (missing from picture).



2nd Place winners: Pam Ashburn, Rosetta Smith, Larry Massie and Peggy Lamneck.

As 2021 has come to an end, we would like to thank everyone for a great year. The ladies in the Palencia Golf Association finished up the year in style with a lot of wonderful year end events.

This year's Holiday Party, "Rock Your Ugly Sweater" with special holi-

#### Cheers To 2022 - May It Be Our Best Year Yet!

By Earline Barnes, President and Laura Mayo, Vice President Women's Golf Association of Palencia

day drinks, games and prizes definitely put everyone in the holiday spirit. Ellie Chappelear, Barbara McDougall and Jan Sheeder pulled out all of the stops in making this holiday party one to remember. The White Elephant Gift Exchange was a lot of laughs with some ladies going home with great gifts and others enjoying a laugh on the gift that they received.

The ladies also raised money for the Wildflower Healthcare Clinic. A nonprofit provider of free medical and dental services to low income, and uninsured adults in St. Johns County. Stephanie Kinsey, owner of Palencia Dental and longtime member of the WGA, donates her services and time to this non-profit. A special thanks to our committee co-chairs who made this event one to remember. We appreciate all of the ladies generous donations to help those in need of medical and dental services too.

The Divot Invitational for the Palencia Grounds Crew was one of the best year end events, thanks in part to Peggy Lamneck and the ladies in our golf group. A fun afternoon was had by all. While the weather outside was chilly, the guys and girls were wrapped up warm with their coats and gloves, rolling balls into the hole for a fun Winter Scramble. In the end, 3 teams won some hot cash. Everyone enjoyed drinks and pizza and sharing stories of the day. Thank you Peggy for helping us show our appreciation to our grounds crew for all of their hard work throughout the year.

The Holiday Scramble with another big cash kicker was a huge success, thanks in part to our play day chair, Diane Robinson bringing a lot of holiday cheer to the event. Ladies bundled up and showed their holiday spirit participating in a fun scramble, while wearing Santa hats and other holiday attire.

We would like to congratulate the two teams who have made it to the final round of our Match Play Competition. Congratulations go out to Carol Netzer and Maria Nilsson, Barbara McDougall **Continued On Page 7** 



#### Women's Golf Association of Palencia

**Continued From Page 6** 

At right, Group photo of Palencia Grounds Crew and Palencia Women's Golf Association ladies.



**3rd Place winners: Marge Stancil, Burt Saleby, Faye Perudat and Linda Carucci.** 

and Peggy Lamneck. A final round of competition to name the overall Match Play Champion will be played shortly.

We also want to congratulate the overall Coquina Classic Team Champions. The 18 hole overall champions were Maria Nilsson and her guest, Connie Aleman. The 18 hole overall Net team champions were Deidre Wray and her guest, Doris Carlin. The 9 hole overall champions were Bev Gunter and her guest Carleen Zimmerman. The 9 hole net champions were Marge Stancil and her guest, Genie McBride. It was a wonderful Member/Guest competition. Congratulations to all of the ladies who won.

Rosetta Smith scored a net 69 to become the latest lady to qualify for the Queens Court. Barbara Jacobi with a net 71 is the runner up. Congratulations on some really nice scores!

Last, we have some sad news to report. It is with a heavy heart that we had to say goodbye to a great friend and founding member of the Palencia WGA, Susan Agee. Susan was instrumental in helping get the Palencia Women's Golf group started, holding many different officer positions and running many tourna-



9 Hole Coquina players - 1st Row: Genie Mcbride & Marge Stancil (Net Winners), Nicole Murrell, Barbara Tanner. 2nd Row: Bev Gunther &Carleen Zimmerman (Overall Winners), DeeDee Bandy and Barbara Jenness.

ments. She will be long remembered for her kindness, beautiful smile and always opening her heart to new members. A real Southern and gracious woman, a memorial tournament will be planned for the Spring to honor Susan and all of her contributions to our ladies group.

If you would like to find out more information about joining our ladies group, please go to the Palencia WGA contact: PalenciaWGA@gmail.com



Susan Agee



# <section-header>



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#### **The SHARPES Have Joined** eXp Realty In St. Augustine

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tention and to promote community spirit. While all our teachers and volunteers are so critical to the overall success of PES, this month, it's time to highlight a few of our exceptional teachers and volunteers that truly stood out.

Each year a teacher is selected for both Teacher of the Year and Rookie Teacher of the Year. The winners are chosen by their colleagues. The selection criteria include excellence in education, innovative instruction, collaboration, leadership and a commitment to create a caring climate inside and outside of the classroom. In addition, a Volunteer of the Year and Sr. Volunteer of the Year are selected which is a process conducted county wide for the St. Johns County School District, annually.

During these everchanging times for

our children, our teachers and volunteers

at Palencia Elementary School (PES) are

truly at the heart of providing a stable

learning environment for development

and growth. Our teachers are there every

day to provide the emotional and academ-

ic support needed for our children so that

they can continue to learn and prosper.

Our volunteers are there each day to help

advance our school, ensure our children

and teachers receive extra support and at-

First Grade teacher, Martha Devane, is this year's Teacher of the Year. This is such a well-deserved recognition for Ms. Devane, who has worked tirelessly each year to create a loving and stable environment for her students. She was nominated by her fellow teachers, and Assistant Principal, Theresa Cooper shared that "this is my first year at Palencia Elementary and in just a short period of time I have been touched and amazed by Ms. DeVane's commitment to her school, fellow teachers, and students." When Ms. DeVane's students were asked what they loved the most about their teacher, they shared that it was how sweet, nice and kind she was as a teacher.

In addition, Ms. Devane is extremely humble, noting when nominated that "I am very honored to be a part of this fabu-



By Tiffany Trivedi, Palencia Resident **Palencia Elementary PTO** 

> lous crew and I think we are all Teachers of the Year." She truly understands how important teamwork and collaboration are to make a school successful. Ms. Devane continues to inspire children and school administration and PES is very proud to



PES Teacher of the Year, Martha DeVane receives her award from Principal Catherine Goodrich.

call her one of their own. Cooper went on to share that "Ms. Devane has the remarkable ability to make others feel important, heard and appreciated. She is an amazing teacher and colleague and Palencia Elementary School is continually blessed to have her as part of our pirate crew.

Rookie Teacher of the Year is also such a special recognition as it goes to the teacher that "knocked it out of the park" at the beginning of their career with the school. Fourth Grade teacher, Danielle Hoffman, was the 2021 recipient, joining the PES faculty at the start of the 2020/2021 school year. It is such an important award as it can be difficult to make a large impact when you first start a position.

However, not only did Ms. Hoffman provide an outstanding academic environment for her students, but she also showed such grace and compassion. Ms. Hoffman had to navigate not only the extreme difficulties of inspiring and leading students during the pandemic, but she also had to manage the painful loss of one of her beloved students. She did so with true **Continued On Page 9** 



#### **Palencia Elementary Teacher Of The Year** And Volunteer Of The Year

**Continued From Page 8** 

strength, compassion and support through a very difficult time. PES Principal, Catherine Goodrich shared, "it's no wonder that the staff at PES picked her as our Rookie Teacher of the Year. On the ballot, one of her co-workers wrote, 'Danielle creates a community where all students feel safe and are able to take the risks needed for deeper learning.' Perhaps this colleague said it best; 'Danielle is such an effective teacher and communicator! I can't believe she is a rookie!'

In addition to these amazing teachers, there are also an army of hardworking volunteers that add tremendous value at PES each and every day. These volunteers help raise money, support our teachers, enhance learning and safety, and provide a supportive community environment. The district recognized two of those volunteers this year which are Volunteer of the Year, Ghina Amun, and Sr. Volunteer of the Year, Susan Ledford.

Ms. Amun has been supporting Palencia Elementary for the last eight years as a parent and volunteer. In all those years, she has logged over 1000 hours with the school and this past year despite the challenges with covid, she has logged over 150 hours to date. Those hours do not reflect the countless hours that are also devoted to PES while she's at home. She contributes to everything from decorating class doors, sanitizing the art supplies, proctoring tests, assisting the PTO with a fundraiser, sorting paperwork, and working with children on math facts. Many that work with her have shared comments of their admiration towards her. This includes, "kindness doesn't even come close to who she is," and "she is encouraging, helpful and always joyful," as well as "she will come to your aid no matter what the request.' PES is so fortunate to have the amazing support of Ms. Amun.

Senior Volunteer, Susan Ledford, has also done a tremendous job supporting the prosperity of our school. As a former media specialist with over 20 years experience, Ms. Ledford is a dependable weekly volunteer who arrives despite weather conditions, Covid 19 surges and other commitments to assist our school media center. She provides so much valuable knowledge and expertise in this field and shares that expertise with all the PES students and staff. She even ensures she stays up to date with the latest trends, including reading the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series. Each and every



**Danielle Hoffman is PES Rookie Teach**er of the Year.



PES Volunteer of the Year is Ghina Amun



PES Sr. Volunteer of the Year is Susan Ledford.

student comes in contact with her bright smile and helpful hand. And Ms. Ledford doesn't stop her volunteer efforts there. She also spends time in multiple classrooms assisting in whatever tasks the teacher needs to feel supported and comfortable. She is truly a remarkable volunteer that PES is grateful to experience

This community is so grateful to the efforts of the entire team that helps our students learn, grow and feel loved each and every day. If you would like to learn more about getting involved with the school, please visit the website www. palenciapiratespto.com.

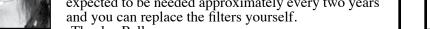
#### Water Problems? Ask Polly!

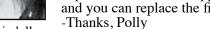


I am extremely worried about contaminants in my drinking water. What can I do to protect my family?

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#### Newcomers Of North St. Johns Announces January 18th Luncheon At Magnolia Point Club

By Michele Oliver

Newcomers of North Saint Johns (NNSJ) invites members and their guests to join the fun at our January luncheon on Tuesday, January 18, beginning at 11:15

a.m. at Magnolia Point Golf and Country Club, 3670 Clubhouse Drive; Green Cove Springs. The event features a delicious lunch and entertainment by multitalented musician De Luna.

"What a fun way to start the new year – fabulous luncheon venue and unique entertainment!" said Lyn Whitlock, co-president of NNSJ.

"We're looking forward to a wonderful 2022 with many luncheons and other opportunities to get togeth-

er with fellow members and make new friends," added Pat Lett, co-president.

Doors will open at 11:00 a.m. Cost for the luncheon and program is \$33 for members with guest price of \$37. Reservations must be received by January 7th.

Luncheon includes entrée choices of: Confetti Chicken covered by an Asiago Cream sauce with Spinach, Sun-Dried Tomatoes, Mushrooms and Bacon over Fettucine and served with Garlic Bread; Roasted Tuscan Spaghetti Squash served with Sun-Dried Tomatoes, Kalamata Olives, Basil and Goat Cheese in a Garlic Citrus Olive Oil Sauce; or Parmesan-Crusted Cod pan fried with Sun-Dried



De Luna

Garlic Mashed Potatoes and Julienne Vegetables. All entrées come with a House Salad and Rolls and Butter. Beverages include Iced Tea, Water and

Tomato Lemon Sauce accompanied by

Coffee. Dessert is Chef's Choice. A Cash Bar is also available.

De Luna will be performing magical harp and flute music for Newcomer members and their guests. "Her music is beautiful; she is attentive to detail and never fails to impress her audience," said Charlene Lim, Co-Vice-President.

De Luna performs at special events, weddings, and concerts. Her mu-

na sic has been described as "healing and transformative" and she also performs at meditation concerts.

As always, raffles for gift baskets and a fun 50/50 drawing spice up our NNSJ luncheons. And, perhaps you will win one of the beautiful centerpieces.

If you are interested in a registration form for the luncheon, NNSJ membership information or about upcoming activities, please contact Sue Aird at sjaird@comcast.net. NNSJ offers a wide variety of activities to get acquainted and have fun including smaller lunch groups, wine socials, golf, Mah Jongg, holiday parties, day trips and cultural events.



#### St. Augustine Travel Club Meetings

The Travel Club will resume on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, at 3 p.m. at the Southeast Branch Public Library with a presentation on Gardens and Parks of Europe, featuring formal and informal French, Italian, German and English Gardens accompanied by music of Beethoven, Chopin, Handel, Brahams, and others.

The club is formatted as an armchair travel presentation with a brief lecture and a video highlighting areas around the world, with focus mostly on Europe, but also other parts of the world. Also, some of our participants have hosted a presentation based on their own travel experiences. For more information, please call Peter Dytrych at (904) 797-3736. (Masks are recommended).

#### St. Augustine Travel Club Cruise

The St. Augustine Travel Club will again be sailing the seas on Saturday, March 26 – April 2, 2022 on the beautiful Norwegian Escape out of Port Canaveral to the Eastern Caribbean ports of Puerto Plata (Dominican Republic), Tortola (British Virgin Islands), St. Thomas and Norwegian's private island Great Stirrup Cay in the Bahamas for a 7-day cruise.

Cay in the Bahamas for a 7-day cruise. Prices start from \$1059.39 per person, double occupancy, for inside cabin, inclusive of all port fees and taxes. Balconies, Oceanviews and Studio Singles are also available at extra cost. Book now with a \$250 p.p. deposit and receive \$100 per stateroom On Board Credit, Should NCL have to cancel the cruise, full refund would be issued. Call Peter, St. Augustine Travel Club at (904) 797-3736.

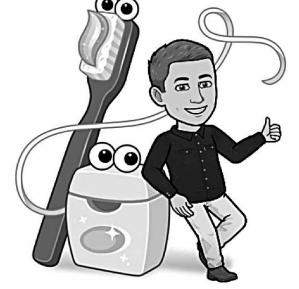


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Masters: Biomedical Sciences from Florida Atlantic University

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904-429-3446 305 Paseo Vereda Dr., Palencia www.avilesdentalcare.com I love my job! The fact that I get to know people one on one and develop trust with them over time is something I cherish and take very seriously. I love living in the area with my wife Alexis and daughter Mackenzie with more on the way!

Outdoor activities are my preference with golf and fishing occasionally.

#### **Palencia Celebrates The Holiday Season**

**Continued From Page 1** 



It's a Palencia Christmas tradition to sit on Santa's knee and tell him what's on your holiday wish list.





BOC

Jennie Morris

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**Confidential'** 

In addition to Santa, carriage rides, holiday music and local vendors, the 2021 Palencia Tree Lighting event was also filled with great food. Lots of food trucks lined Market Street to offer a huge variety of great eats to event goers who were also able to get some Christmas shopping done at the vendor booths.



Asking Santa for a stocking stuffed full of joy this year.



Santa stole the show at the Palencia Tree Lighting while families were all smiles with treats available at the numerous food trucks lining Market Street. The warmth and joy of Christmas brings us closer to each other, and this family was no exception.

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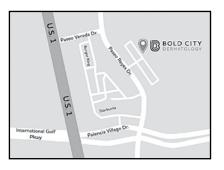
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Dr. Bishr Al Dabagh and Dr. Sarah Ferrer-Bruker

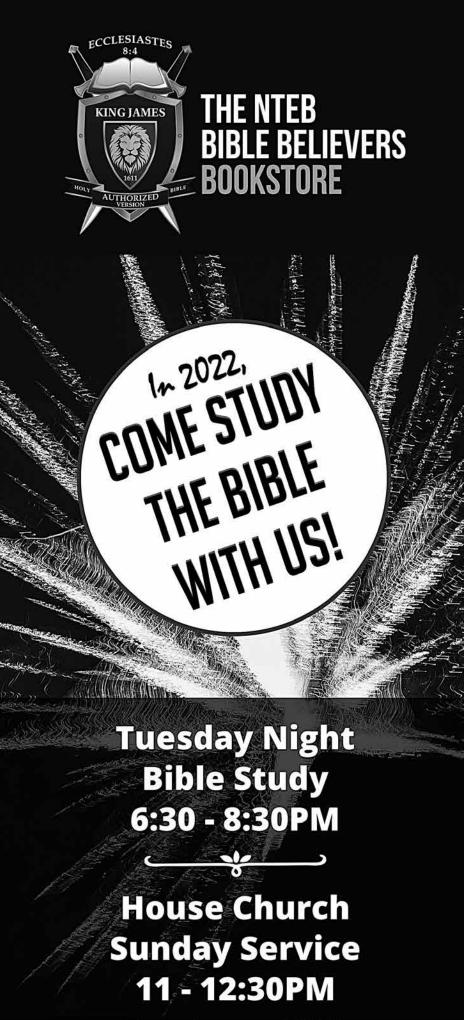




Palencia Press - January 2022



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Ecclesiastes 8:4 (KJB)

701 Market Street • Saint Augustine

#### Nease NJROTC Sweeps Three Straight Georgia Drill Championships

In the world of NJROTC drill competitions, most schools compete in 2-4 per season typically spaced a month or two apart in order to fully prepare. However, with COVID impacts affecting drill meet schedules across both Georgia and Florida, 2021 is proving an atypical year. As a result, Nease Navy JROTC's varsity drill team competed in three sanctioned drill meets in 22 days, bringing home top honors each time.



Cadet Lieutenant Emmelie Neff receives one of her three 1st place Situp medals. Neff averaged 331 situps during competition at the Sprayberry, Lee County and Martin Luther King High School hosted meets.

Similar to Union General William T. Sherman's March to the Sea campaign across Georgia, which coincidentally begin on this date in 1864, Nease's drill team captured three Georgia sanctioned drill meet championships in Marietta, Leesburg and Lithonia on October 23rd, 30th, and November 13th topping 37 schools along the way.

Of the 39 1st place trophies at the combined three competitions, Nease took home top honors in 31 categories.

"Three major drill meets in four weeks was an incredible challenge for the team," said Unarmed Basic Drill Commander Kaitlyn Boggs. "These



Cadet Lieutenant Commander Brodie Mongon leads the Armed Basic Drill team to victory at the Martin Luther King hosted drill meet in Lithonia, GA.



Cadet Ensign Ben Prohofsky accepts the 1st place team Academics trophy at the Lee County Drill Meet. Prohofsky claimed top academic honors at two of the three competitions.

championships reflect a total team effort."

In addition to the team event trophies, 24 cadets took home individual



Nease's dynamic Fab 4 senior drill commanders Brodie Mongon (Armed Basic), Daniel Mahoney (Armed Exhibition), Kaitlyn Boggs (Unarmed Basic) and Isabella Rivera (Unarmed Exhibition and Color Guard) received 1st place Drill Overall at all three competitions.



Commander Kaitlyn Boggs leads the Nease Unarmed Basic team to 1st place at the Lee County Drill Meet in Leesburg, GA.



The Armed Exhibition drill team performs during the Sprayberry Drill Meet in Marietta, GA.

Battalion Commander Isabella Rivera (top) and Command Master Chief Kaitlyn Boggs celebrate. medals for ex



medals for exceptional performance in academics or athletics including noteworthy standouts Emmelie Neff – 1st place Situps (three peat); Ben Prohofsky 1st place Academics (repeat); Caden Byas and Brodie Mongon – four medals; Kaitlyn Boggs, Danielle Camacho, Nicholas Gallego, Isabella Rivera, Neff and Prohofsky – three medals.

"We've got several areas where we need to focus and improve if we hope to win the state championship again this year," said Cadet Daniel Mahoney, commander of the Armed Exhibition team. "But our team chemistry is better right now than it's ever been."

Nease next competes at the Mandarin Drill Meet on January 8, 2022.

Nease's drill team finished 3rd at the Navy National Academic, Athletic and Drill Championships in 2021.



You open your closet to find something to wear, and you feel like it is full of clothes that don't fit, or just don't want to wear anymore. The solution is simple: get rid of them. Here are my best tips

and closet cleaning guidelines on what to keep and what to toss:

1. Easy steps first. You can donate clothes that don't fit you, although you were hoping to fit into them one day. Replace those items with clothes that make you feel comfortable and confident now.

2. Discard anything that's stained, torn, or ripped. Yes, please, that includes your un-matching socks!

3. Hand-me-downs that you never loved. Things that we inherit from family mem-

bers, that you feel obligated to keep. 4. Of course, any worn-out sneakers and uncomfortable shoes.

5. Have you worn it in the last year? If not, it goes straight to the toss/donate/ sell pile. Be honest with yourself; if you haven't worn it in a year, even with tags on, you never will. Of course, there are exceptions: formal dresses, sentimental pieces like your college jacket, etc.



6. Any uncomfortable underwear that you haven't worn and bras too!

Know What To Keep & What To

**Throw Out** 

By Maria Alejandra Rivera, Palencia Resident

www.yourorganizingstudio.com

7. Please don't wait for it to come "back in style." We all have clothes from 10 years ago, hoping they'll come back.

Well, I did that, and they are just taking up your closet space. 8. Make sure you

can style everything that you keep. Just make sure you can pair the item with other things in your closet

9. If you are not sure what to do with some pieces, start your "don't know pile." Make sure to try all those pieces on again before deciding. Don't be afraid to get rid of stuff that you once loved that no longer serves you.

10. Don't forget to toss any dry cleaner hangers and plastic bags!

I hope you picked up some useful tips on how to purge your closet and decide to tackle it soon! Organizing a closet is not a small task, but for sure, it's one of the most satisfying clean-up projects you can do today.

Need help? We are here for you! If you have questions, call me at (904) 351-8343.

#### **COA Center At Flagler Health Village At Nocatee - January Events**

The following programs will be held at COA Center at Flagler Health+ Village at Nocatee, 351 Town Plaza Avenue, Suite 205, Ponte Vedra, FL 32081. Registration is required and space is limited. Unless specified otherwise, please register by email to pbrunell@stjohnscoa.com or by calling 904-819-3234.

#### **Fitness Classes**

Chair Yoga: A gentle form of yoga that can be done sitting which can boost your mood, reduce stress, and improve flexibility and strength.

Stretch, Strengthen, Move and Grove: A fun approach to fitness that can be done sitting or standing and adapted to all fitness levels.

Tai Chi: Improve mood, increase energy, improve flexibility, balance, and muscle strength

Educational Classes (Open to Adults 18+)

Herbology: This fun, hands-on course will teach you the culinary and therapeutic properties of herbs, the history of herbal medicine, and give you an opportunity to create your own herbal products.

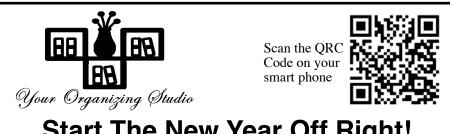
French for You: Class is for all levels, whether you are planning a vacation or just want to learn, understand, or practice French.

Learn Mah Jongg: Class is for beginners and people who have tried to play but are not comfortable with the basics.

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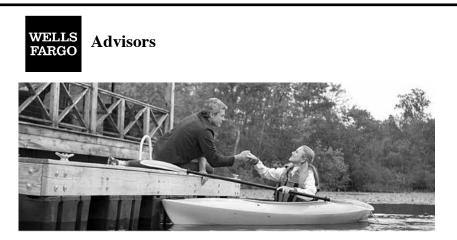


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Alejandra Rivera Professional Organizer - Palencia Resident Inspired+Organizer HSR Certified





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Many of us think of citrus trees as natural landscape plants. After all, Florida is the orange capital and citrus images abound everywhere, from our "sunshine state" license plates to every kind of ad touting the rewards of this healthy fruit. Because this is the time of year we pick our carefully cultivated citrus varieties, it is a suitable moment to explore some of the historical developments as well as the challenges faced by the Florida citrus industry.

Spanish explorers introduced oranges to Florida in the early 1500s, initially in St. Augustine. Oranges emanated from the Mediterranean Spanish climate, similar to California's, to Florida's sunny subtropical climate, with one major difference -Florida humidity.

The first grove, grapefruit, was planted in Tampa and for the next three centuries, orange trees were planted haphazardly around

the state. Commercial citrus production began in the late 1700s, but was not a significant economic force until 1875 when a 20-year "boom" period began. During this time, the industry expanded, and citrus fruit became one of the state's

and citrus fruit became one of the state's most valuable crops. Commercial citrus acreage was concentrated in the northern part of the state, due to more accommodating soils.

While it may be hard to believe the facts you will read below, this is a very brief account of the major new developments and the seemingly insurmountable challenges faced by citrus growers after the 1920s.

• 1930: Micronutrients of zinc, manganese and magnesium were found to improve citrus yields and soil amendments became routine. The Florida Citrus Commission was created in 1935 to provide marketing, research, and regulatory support, the goal of which was to raise demand for Florida citrus nationwide. Fungal diseases that arose during this time period were citrus melanose, stem-end rot and scab necessitating immediate control measures.

In 1939, the citrus became an iconic symbol of Florida, and a widely distributed travel guide, "Florida: A Guide to the Southernmost State," was produced in Washington, D.C. and emphasized citrus fruit as the embodiment of vitality

Ask A Certified Master Gardener A Little History Of Florida Citrus

> By Norie Flowers, Palencia Resident norie.flowers@outlook.com

> > and outdoor fun.

• 1940s: In early 1942, the U.S. government pursued a vitamin C supplement for military personnel fighting World War II and canned orange and grapefruit juices met the need. The Feds purchased 20% of all U.S. citrus. The virus during this time period was citrus tristeza virus (CTV) and attempts were made to determine the cause of this baffling and at times fatal condi-

tion that still exists today.

Florida-based scientists now sought a method for producing frozen concentrated orange juice. Work took place in Winter Haven at USDA labs and the Florida Citrus Commission. In 1948, the process was perfected, patented, and when frozen concentrate reached supermarkets, it was an immediate hit, a major shift in the industry focus that better suited Florida or-

#### anges. • 1950s:

New hardier cultivars were developed, and, for the first

time, growers addressed environmental concerns of citrus wastewater and pesticide exposure on worker health. A remedy for the serious plant pathogen Yellow Spot was discovered, along with biological controls to eradicate another problem - the purple scale insect.

• 1960s: Hurricane Donna hit Florida in 1960 destroying half of Florida's grapefruit crops and 10 percent of orange and tangerine crops. In 1962 the Mediterranean fruit fly became a serious problem, along with the invasion of a citrus root weevil. Horticultural oils were first developed and found to control Greasy spot fungus.

• 1970s: An Alternaria brown spot fungus outbreak led to the development of scientist recommendations that appeared to slow the disease.

• 1980s: Six severe freezes devastated the citrus industry. Bacterial Citrus canker, discovered in 1912, rose again in 1986 when it was found in a homeowner's landscape in Tampa. From one single yard, it spread to a commercial grove and by 1990 was well established and would not be Continued On Page 17

#### Dr. Stephanie Kinsey And Palencia Dental Commemorate 10 years In Local Practice Recent Milestones Include IV Sedation For Patients

Palencia resident Stephanie Kinsey, DDS, owner and founder of Palencia Dental has 10 years in local medicine as a highly-specialized dentist in neuromuscular, sleep apnea, temporomandibular joint and temporomandibular joint disorder (TMJ/TMD), and migraine pain dentistry treatments, oral surgery, along with implants, cosmetic dentistry and facial aesthetics.

"Throughout our decade in business here, we have experienced positive changes with tremendous population growth," said Dr. Kinsey. "St. Johns County has skyrocketed since I began my practice with exponential development in all types of dental offices. We continue our pursuit of excellence with advanced training."

The practice is also newly certified with the Florida Board of Dentistry to administer intravenous (IV) conscious sedation for patients who require the procedure during oral, tooth, gums, and jaw surgeries, among others. According to Dr. Kinsey, IV sedation will help calm the fears and inabilities of patients to access care by the debilitating factor of not wanting to go to the dentist. "Not everyone is a candidate for IV sedation. We work closely with the patient's medical physician to determine which type of sedation is best for them and the treatments they have been prescribed," she said.

Dr. Kinsey has been practicing dentistry for more than 20 years in St. Augustine and in the state of Colorado. She is an American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine (AADSM) Qualified Dentist.



#### Stephanie Kinsey, DDS

Also, this year, Dr. Kinsey was named Dental Director on the Board of Directors for Wildflower Healthcare, a nonprofit in St. Augustine established in 1995. Good Samaritan Health Centers, Inc. (GSHC), the 501(c) 3 parent organization of Wildflower Healthcare, has continuously responded to the changing healthcare needs of St. Johns County adults and children with no cost medical and dental services for low-income community members.

Palencia Dental is located at 159 Palencia Village Dr. Suites 107-109 in Palencia. For more information, call 904.826.4343. Visit the website at www. palenciadental.com.

## TIGHTEN, TONE and Transform... NEED A LIFT? THE EYES HAVE IT!

The benefits of face/neck lift surgery go far beyond the tightening of sagging skin & fat. This procedure often helps individuals regain their lost self esteem when the face they see in the mirror no longer matches the youthful feeling within. Normally performed as an outpatient procedure with recovery time of 1-2 weeks, today's face/neck lift procedures not only address the sagging face and neck skin, but also rids the face of unwanted fat and tightens its muscular

#### foundation for longer lasting results. LUNCHTIME LIPOSUCTION



Busy patients want a liposuction procedure that allows them to get back in the mix as fast as possible. Small Cannula Liposuction is performed under minimal oral sedation, using local anesthesia and the entire procedure can be done in the time frame of a long lunch break. Fit individuals with problem areas such as hips/flanks, saddlebags and lower abdomen pooch are ideal for this procedure. As a side benefit, the harvested fat may be used in some individuals to restore facial fat for a more youthful appearance.

The eyes are the central point of facial expression. When they appear aged due to laxity of the skin or puffy due to herniation of excess fat, we may project an image of worry or fatigue. Blepharoplasty or Cosmetic Eyelid Surgery is a minor outpatient surgical procedure which can remove many signs of aging around the eye area. The procedure usually causes only minor discomfort and bruising which

causes only minor discomfort and bruising which resolve within seven to ten days. The final result is flattering eyes that appear more rested and youthful.

R. Gregory Smith, MD is the director of Ponte Vedra and Palencia Cosmetic Surgery and has been performing Cosmetic Surgical procedures in the Ponte Vedra area since 1991.
Pr. Smith received his Cosmetic Plastic Surgery training in Paris from

 Smith received his Cosmetic Plastic Surgery training in Paris from e world renowned Plastic Surgeon Dr. Paul Tessler. Recently, Dr. Smith



621 Market Street, St. Augustine, FL 32095 pvcosmeticsurgery.com



#### A Little History Of Florida Citrus Continued From Page 16

#### eradicated.

• **1990s:** Sustainable fertilization practices and food safety measures were begun.

Along with Hurricane Andrew in south Florida, citrus blight, brown citrus aphid, and Asian citrus psyllid the cause of citrus greening – sprang forward.

• 2000s: Citrus canker was the most critical problem of the decade and resulted in the destruction of thousands of citrus trees. In 2005 more citrus greening was revealed and it continues to be ongoing throughout the state.

It is clear that in every decade, at every juncture, there were numerous and complex issues to be dealt with. While many problems have been solved, there remain two serious diseases, namely, citrus canker, and citrus greening, both of which are contagious. The first one produces obvious raised blister-like lesions on both sides of the leaves and eventually on the fruit. Citrus greening produces vein, leaf and shoot yellowing and an asymmetrical chlorosis referred to as "blotchy mottle." The blotchy mottle appearance is the most diagnostic symptom of the disease and fruit also grows lopsided, another indication.

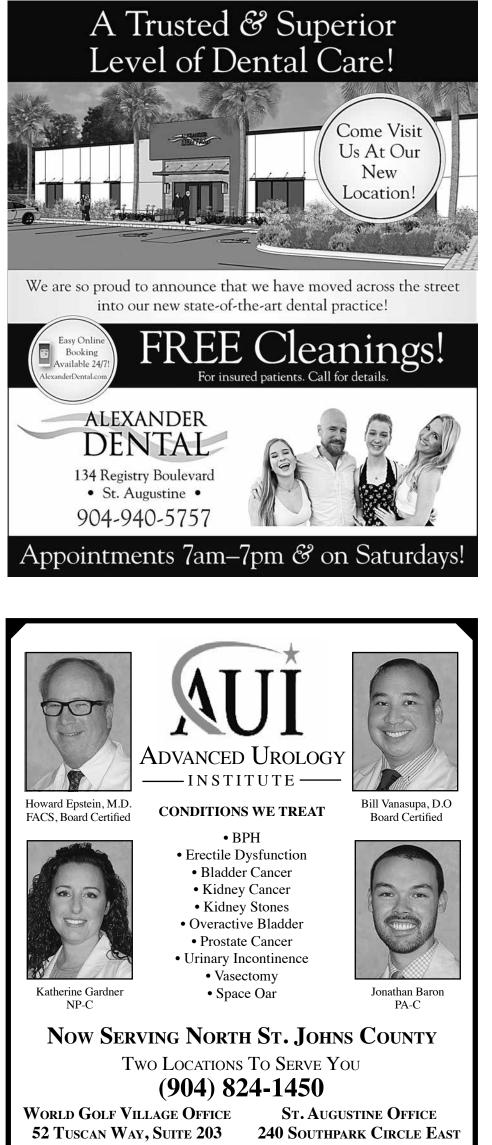
If you suspect either of these prob-

lems, it is best to seek professional advice so that you don't contaminate other trees in the neighborhood.

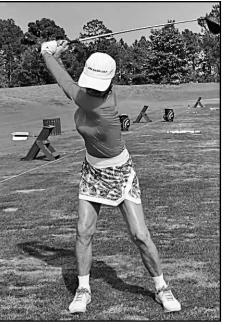
Lastly, the good news is that most disease and pest issues can be resolved and/or managed by repeated applications of horticultural oils and, in some cases, insecticidal soaps. Applying horticultural oil as a preventive measure when your tree is healthy is the best defense against oncoming issues.

The best advice when you decide to purchase any kind of citrus is to ensure that you are dealing with a certified, licensed nursery. You should always feel free to ask to see their license. While our citrus trees may involve a little more work – it is well worth the investment when you see the results. I hope you enjoyed a little bit of our citrus history.

Do you have landscape and/or gardening questions on which you would like help? I live in Palencia, so please email me at norie.flowers@ outlook.com and I will answer you immediately. If you would like an indepth article written on a topic you feel would be of interest to all Palencia residents, please let me know. The advice in this article is based on research from the University of Florida Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS).







#### Make A Resolution To **Improve Your Golf Game**

**Tips from Laura Baugh Certified PGA Teaching Professional** The Palencia Golf Club laura@laurabaughgolf.com.

Hello Fellow Golfers,

Start with the fundamentals -What are they and why do fundamentals? To make you repetitive and give you the best chance to develop power and accuracy!

Only five and here they are: 1) Grip (your only connection to the club)

2) Stance and posture

3) Position at the completion of backswing (loading power)

4) Position at impact

5) Your follow-through (transferring all your power)

When you combine fundamentals with timing and sequencing you have developed a fabulous golf game!

Cheers to 2022 and your golf game. Contact me to help you with your journey to your new golf game of 2022 at Laura@laurabaughgolf.com







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#### Things That Go "Boom" In The Night

By Wrigley Steck A Dog About Town In Palencia's Village

Ain't my favorite night of the year, New Year's Eve. Should be called the "Doggone Day of Detonation"! I can't figure out what the bag people are doing, trying to set the whole neighborhood on fire with flaming, exploding rockets. Sizzler sticks, whistlers, cannon shots and boom makers so big and powerful, they shake the bed I hide under.

On the morning walk-around, that day, all my friends walk by, heads-down, tails between their legs, in terrible fear of the gala eve to come. Even the birds are nestled low and away, hopefully far enough to escape the terrible flying debris caused by the explosions in the air.

What is this all about? Even the picture box in the house shows crazy bag people hugging and screaming and wearing goofy human headwear watching a big lighted ball fall to the floor. People cavorting to even louder music using words I know not nor understand. And they all seem to be out of kilter?

Then, except for a few that probably can't accept or realize that the ball has broken, everything stops. Guess



they all get in their four wheelers and drive home. And finally, after the last of the naysayers lose their lights, it returns to Palencia peacefulness. And we can welcome the New Year in quiet reflection that 2022 has got to be better. Even for the animals!

#### Dr. Sarah Frantz Joins Palencia Pet Clinic

The Palencia Pet Clinic family welcomes Dr. Sarah Franz, Veterinarian to the growing practice of pet wellness.

Dr. Franz graduated from the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine in 2013. Since graduation, she has worked in progressive small animal practices and specialty emergency hospitals. She has extensive experience in surgery (routine and emergency), urgent and critical care medicine, ultrasound and preventative medicine.

She also obtained her Master's in Public Health from the University of Florida with a focus in Epidemiology. She has authored many peer-reviewed research articles in a variety of journals. Upon graduation from Veterinary School, she received the Charlie Bild Clinical Proficiency Award which was in recognition for outstanding clinical proficiency.

Dr. Franz is married to fellow associate Dr. Matthew Young. They met at the University of Florida and have practiced at the same hospital throughout much of their careers. They thoroughly enjoy collaborating together and discussing cases even when it continues after hours at home over dinner! She has been practicing in the St. Augustine/Jacksonville area for the last five



Dr. Sarah Franz, Veterinariun

years and is excited to join the Palencia Pet Clinic team.

She lives here in St. Augustine with Dr. Young, her son Everett and their two dogs Beretta and Charlie. She enjoys being active outside, boating, fishing and traveling.

The Palencia Press offers free community classified ads to all Palencia residents. Ads may not promote a business or service. Email your ad to thepaper@comcast.net.





## Water Problems?





#### The Importance Of Repair In Relationships

By Michael Brown, MSC, LMFT 904-289-2954 www.happycoupleshealthycommunities.com

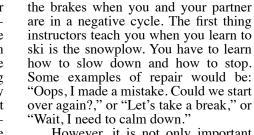
Relationships are fertile grounds for misunderstandings. The chances that either person in a relationship is attentive and emotionally available at any given time are statistically about the same as those of flipping a coin and getting heads: 0.5 or 50%. Now multiply that by two (0.5 X 0.5) and the chances are that both of you are attentive and emotionally available at any given moment are only 0.25 or 25%. In other words, there is a 75% chance for a misunderstanding in any given encounter. In fact, research by development psychologist T.B. Brazelton and the modification of his hypothesis by Ed Tronick showed that

70% of motherchild interactions are miscoordinated. If that happens in mother-child interactions, in the most intimate of relationships, chances are greater even for miscoordination between two adults who

are not biologically related or dependent upon each other. What matters then is repair.

Repair is any statement or action that attempts to prevent negativity from escalating out of control. All couples naturally make many attempts to repair their interaction when it goes negative. In happier relationships, this repair work is done before the interaction becomes negative as a way of keeping things on track emotionally. Dr. John Gottman's research discovered that men in marriages that wound up stable and very happy were de-escalating low-level negativity. This means that their responses to their wives' being hurt, angry, disappointed, or generally upset with them was to be neutral for at least five seconds. The major effect of this de-escalation was that the husband's heart rate dropped significantly. Its calming effect on the husband predicted good things for the relationship. Taking responsibility for part of the problem is a powerful repair.

In relationship interaction, making repair attempts is a great skill. One aspect of repair is learning how to put on



However, it is not only important that repair attempts be made, but that they be received, that they be effective. According to Dr. John Gottman, "The success or failure of a couple's repair attempts is one of the primary factors in whether their marriage is likely to flour-



ish or flounder" (Gottman & Silver, 2015, p. 27). What d e t e r m i n e s the success of a couple's repair attempts is their marital friendship. When a couple have a strong f r i e n d s h i p, they naturally become experts

at sending each other repair attempts and at correctly reading those sent their way. But when couples are caught in negative sentiment override (an overwhelmingly negative view of their partner and their relationship), even a repair attempt as blunt as "Hey, I'm sorry" may have a low success rate. Therefore, if you are having difficulty making effective repair, don't just practice the words, but work on your friendship.

Reference: Gottman, J.M., & Silver, N. (1999, 2015). The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work. New York: Harmony Books.

Michael Brown is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, Certified Gottman Therapist, Couples Workshop Leader, and Clinical Trainer in private practice in Bartram Park. He is currently offering both in-office and secure video appointments. If you would like to learn more about repair or for couples or family therapy or to attend a couples workshop, contact Michael at 904-289-2954 or visit www.happycoupleshealthycommunities.com.





Webster defines becoming a master as "a person with exceptional skill at a certain thing." Therefore, mastering is "becoming proficient in the use of something." I've said for years that we are all masters of compensation - meaning we all have great proficiency in making small, subtle changes in our movements, which enables us to master any and all tasks at hand.

Sometimes compensating or adapting movement is a good thing. All top athletes rely on this to help them defeat their opponent. By making small changes in their movements they may hit an outside pitch, a golf ball from the rough or snag a lob that drops just past the net. But all too often, compensations are non-productive and can even have negative, dysfunctional side effects. Multiple compensations are capable of producing accumulated dysfunction.

Why do we compensate and how do we do it?

We compensate because we are living and ever changing beings. We have adapt-ing musculoskeletal and nervous systems. Through the developmental years, we learn how to move and when we can't move properly we move improperly.

We learn compensations early. I often say, tongue and cheek, we learned many compensations in Kindergarten. "Sit here and be still," we're told. But we're not made to be still. We are made to move. Yet we continue to sit well into our 40's, 50's, 60's and beyond. We sit at computers, in front of TV's, at events, in cars and the list goes on. Our pelvis contacts the chair and gravity pushes the trunk and head forward into varying degrees of a slump. Compensation occurs when we have to stand back up and can't do so fully. Because we have sat for prolonged periods, we are now slightly more curved. To return to our previous position, instead of allowing our head to turn down, we extend the upper most part of our neck in an effort to bring the eyes up toward the horizon causing increased compression of the spine and shortening of the muscles. This is just one example.

There are all types of compensatory masters. Are you one any of the following?

The Limp Master: The individual who lacks full range of motion in the lower extremities following trauma or surgery. The results may be an altered gait pattern, hip knee or back pain.

The Mother Master: The mother who has difficulty restoring full motion back in the spine following pregnancy or tends to stand leaning to one side with a child resting on the hip. Both problems may hinder regaining the much needed core stabilization and result in sacro-iliac dysfunction or low back pain.

The Robot Master: This is the person who lacks neck or shoulder mobility following a whiplash injury or other types of neck trauma. Movements tend to look robotic as the head is held still. But in order to look right/left and up the compensation manifests in low back rotation or extension.

The Sitting Master: This person sits in the office all day developing tight anterior hips, which makes straightening the hips difficult. The compensation is often made in the lumbar spine.



By Rob Stanborough PT, DPT, MHSc, MTC, CMTPT, FAAOMPT **First Coast Rehabilitation** (904) 829-3411

> We are all masters and therefore guilty of simply transitioning with such adaptations year after year. To minimize compensations, first seek analysis or assistance early; second, move but learn to move properly and move regularly. Improper movements can simply lead to more compensation and further dysfunction.

> Becoming a master at most things takes years of practice and dedication. Becoming a master of compensation is



of master you've become. And being a master of faulty compensations is a direct path to earning your doctorate of dysfunction.

Rob Stanborough is a physical therapists, president and co-owner of First Coast Rehabilitation. He is co-author of

plication, 3rd ed by Proed Inc. He has been in practice for over 13 years, is a Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Therapists and trained/certified in a number of soft tissue techniques. Read previous columns posted on www.firstcoastrehab.com.

Flagler Hospital



U. S. Highway 1 Sout

St. Augustine Shore



21



1. Exercise Your Pets Daily

Add a healthy routine to your day that can benefit both you and your dog! This is the perfect antidote to the holiday pounds that our two and four legged friends are prone to finding, and exercising is always more fun with a friend!

2. Spend Quality More **Time with Pets** 

Plan on making more time for your pets to cuddle, play and simply bond, perhaps by binge-watching a favorite TV show on the couch together (after taking that long walk).

Studies show a little extra TLC goes a long way toward health and happiness.

3. Brush Your Pet's Teeth Daily

A daily brushing helps eliminate tartar, prevent dental disease and protect your pet's overall health. This will limit the need for professional dental cleanings over the course of their lives.

4. Attend Training or Obedience Classes

Your dog doesn't have to be rowdy to attend training or obedience classes. Many dogs enjoy the challenge and the bonding time gained from attending these classes with their owners. A refresher course every couple of years is also recommended by training experts.

ensuring that you are able to provide the

**New Years Resolutions For Pet Owners** 

By Dr. Jacob Vencil, Veterinarian

**Palencia Pet Clinic** 904-824-1622

5. Enroll Pets in Pet Insurance

to budget for the coming year by sav-

ing money on veterinary expenses and

Start your research now and select a plan to cover your pets before they have a major illness. What better way

best healthcare

graphs With/Of

photos you take,

the better! Pets

have a much

faster aging process, so making

sure to document

as many special

moments as pos-

Take

more

Photo-

for your pet?

6.

Your Pets

The

More

sible will make sure that you don't get busy and miss a stage. You'll treasure their photos for a lifetime. 7. Feed Healthier Diet and Treats

to Pets Although its always hard to say

"no" its always better to stick to a quality pet food that is designed and tested to be nutritionally complete for your pets. It will also decrease the chances of stomach upset. Its great to offer treats to your pets to strengthen your bond with them, so healthier snack options, such as commercially prepared treats are much better than table scraps, or you can use (in moderation) carrots, apples or homemade pet treats.

#### **Reminder About Speed Limits**

As the Palencia community continues to mature, we want to remind vehicle drivers about the importance of obeying the posted speed limits throughout our beautiful community. The St. Johns County Sheriff's Office will moni-The St. Johns tor speeds and issue citations for excessive speeding. Thank you for doing your part to make Palencia a safer place to live.





#### What are the risks of underinflating or overinflating my tires?

The psi, or **p**ounds per square inch, number on your tire label represents the pressure you should fill your vehicle's tires with to ensure tire safety and the life of the tire. Overinflating tires can adversely affect vehicle maneuverability, make the ride harsher, and sometimes lead to loss of control. Underinflating tires -a potentially more serious problem- can result in tire stress due to overheating, and sometimes loss of driver control and crashes. So obviously you'll want to know the correct psi for your vehicle, check your tire pressure at least once a month with a tire gauge, and adjust tire pressure accordingly.

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**January 2nd** 

By Rev. Alan J. Liphart, M.Div The Village Church 4229 Pacetti Rd., World Golf Village

threat of economic stagnation.

January 2nd is probably everyone's

most dreaded day of the oh-so-new year. From the fourth Thursday in November

through the first day of January, everyone in America parties. We stuff ourselves with

turkey and dressing, homemade cookies

and cakes, fresh bread and pumpkin pie. We

stay up late, party constantly, spend lots of

money, act nicer, and what do we get for it?

with the house a mess, we wake up the day after and find ... its January 2nd. After all

those football games and all those Frito-

Lays, we realize it's now time to go on a diet,

get on a budget, go back to work or school

and pack up all those ornaments. (Please tell me why all the Christmas decorations that

looked so lovely in the middle of December

year's -- and every year's -- January 2nd, we

from the Roman god Janus -- a two-faced

being, with each face in the opposite direc-

tion. Janus/January is a hinge time -- a van-

tage point from which we can still see back

into the past year and yet can also face for-

ward and look expectantly at the year that

"how far" we've got to go to lose that weight

or pay those bills or see the spring flowers

again. January 2nd is also a vantage point

from which we can plot the course of the

New Year. Janus does look backward to the

past, but he also looks forward to the future.

January 2nd must become the start of the hope month, not just the end of the party.

uary 2nd is that we are still carrying baggage

saved from last year's January 2nd. Without

any definite idea about "where to," we tend

to repeat each year in much the same way. With no sense of ownership about the future,

about this coming year, we have been spend-

During the party everyone was happy. But come January 2nd, there was no more fun,

well -- ways even more frightening than the

It's as if we borrowed up to our eyeballs for the greatest New Year's Eve party ever.

We've overcharged in other ways as

thrift and irresponsible.

and only bills to pay.

Part of the problem with this year's Jan-

January 2nd isn't just a day to sigh over

need to get a new perspective on this day.

If we are going to make it through this

The month of January takes its name

suddenly look so tacky on January 2nd?).

Overweight, exhausted, in debt and

January 2nd.

lies ahead

Is it January 2nd in the life of your family?

Traditionally, we think of January 2 as the day we get back into the grind after the long holiday season. But for a moment, use the backward-looking face of Janus and see if you ever really got out of the grind. Were you faxing memos to clients or coworkers while heading "over the river and through the woods?" How about a quick quiz?

What color did your daughter wear at Christmas dinner?

Which was your mother's favorite Christmas decoration?

Did your dad stay awake through midnight on New Year's Eve?

Who ate the last piece of fudge?

If we don't know the answer to any of those questions, maybe we need to take another look at our family.

Is it January 2nd in the life of your faith? Some use January 2nd to look back on the past year and compose an annual list of disappointments and failures: Didn't get the big promotion. I didn't win the lottery. I didn't learn to control the temper. I didn't make five new friends.

The writer of Ephesians takes a more hopeful, January 2nd forward-look at God's intentions for humanity and finds a remarkable vision, one which can usher us into this New Year. We may be assured that God has "a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth" (Ephesians 1:10).

If past January 2nds have seemed spiritually draining, we need to look with a spirit of hope at the "where to" of this year's January 2nd. Again, the author of Ephesians provides a positive image by proclaiming, "We who first hoped in Christ have been destined and appointed to live for the praise of his glory" (Ephesians 1:12).

glory<sup>†</sup> (Ephesians 1:12). It is January 2nd. The wasteful party is over. But the coming year promises more than just dieting and dues-paying. Let us use this January 2 to begin creating a future built on hope. It is the first day of living a faith that looks back to see the evidences of God's great gift to us in Jesus Christ and forward to the day when God's plan "to gather up all things in him" will become a reality.

We have been given another New Year. Let us use it wisely, to the glory of God.





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Holy days and Holidays - See website

904-824-8688 Father Guy Noonan Pastor

#### **Three Main Misconceptions People Have About Life Insurance**

By Craig Dewhurst

Why purchase life insurance? We break down why you may need it and talk about common misconceptions.

Most people know life insurance helps provide financial security to loved ones after they pass away. But life insurance has many other benefits, including helping beneficiaries cover joint debt, replacing lost income, paying college tuition for children, protecting your business and helping you leave a legacy. A lot of people put off buying life insurance because of misconceptions they have about it. Here are three of the biggest:

#### Misconception 1: It's too expensive

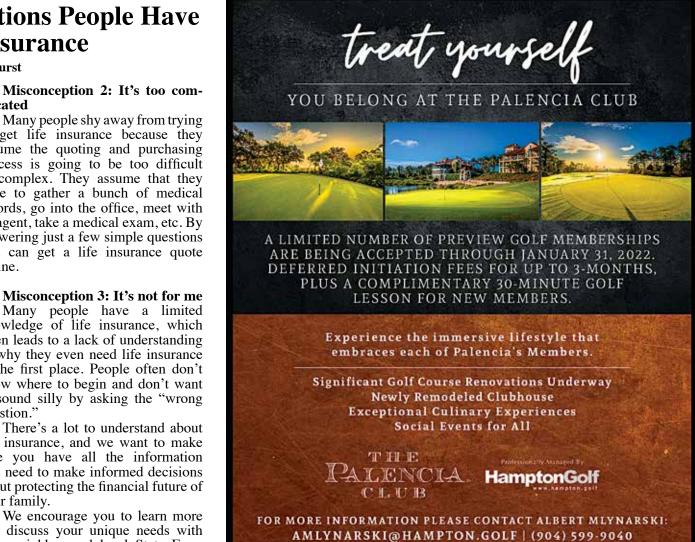
Many consumers don't even think about trying to get life insurance because they assume the cost factor for life insurance is going to be too high and therefore too expensive for them to afford. There are several life insurance risk factors that affect life insurance premiums, including the type of policy, age, gender and personal health history. However, it's actually more affordable than many people think. In general, over half the population thinks term life insurance is over three times more expensive than it actually is.

plicated Many people shy away from trying to get life insurance because they assume the quoting and purchasing process is going to be too difficult or complex. They assume that they have to gather a bunch of medical records, go into the office, meet with an agent, take a medical exam, etc. By answering just a few simple questions you can get a life insurance quote online.

#### Misconception 3: It's not for me Many people have a limited knowledge of life insurance, which often leads to a lack of understanding of why they even need life insurance in the first place. People often don't know where to begin and don't want to sound silly by asking the "wrong question.'

There's a lot to understand about life insurance, and we want to make sure you have all the information you need to make informed decisions about protecting the financial future of your family.

We encourage you to learn more and discuss your unique needs with your neighbor and local State Farm agent, Craig Dewhurst.



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