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# Recorder

February 4, 2021

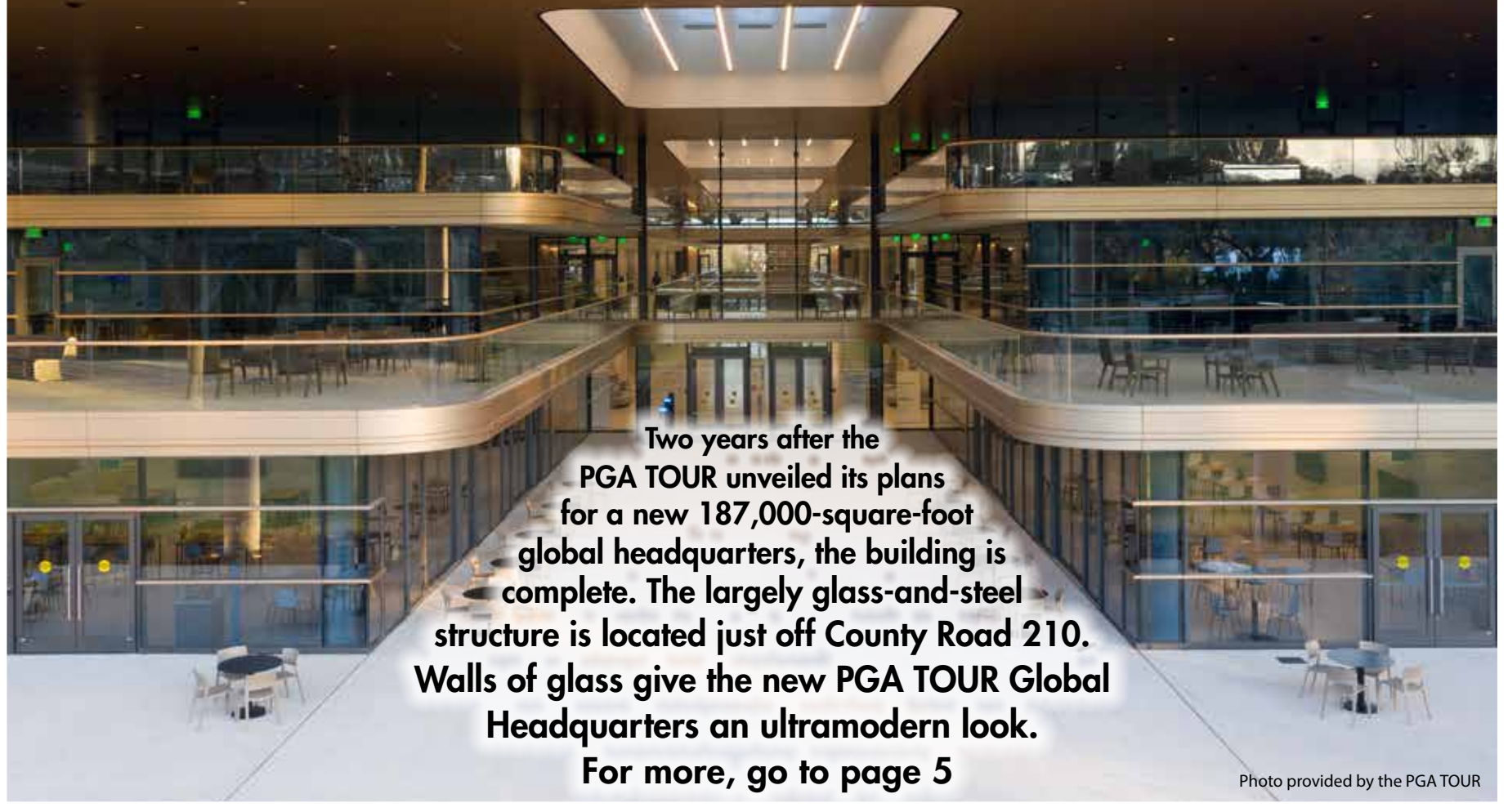
Volume 51, No. 66

75 cents

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## VAST SPACE



Two years after the PGA TOUR unveiled its plans for a new 187,000-square-foot global headquarters, the building is complete. The largely glass-and-steel structure is located just off County Road 210. Walls of glass give the new PGA TOUR Global Headquarters an ultramodern look. For more, go to page 5

Photo provided by the PGA TOUR

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**INSIDE: CHECK IT OUT!**  
The Recorder's Entertainment EXTRA featuring TV listings, streaming information, puzzles and more!



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## Send us your news

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

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Find us on Twitter @PonteVedraNews and on Instagram @pvrecorder



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

### NOTES TO READERS

**Don't miss an issue:** In case social distancing requirements get more strict, we will email you your paper. Send your email address to [pvrecorder@opcfla.com](mailto:pvrecorder@opcfla.com).

**Weekly newsletter:** The Recorder offers a weekly newsletter every Monday that outlines some of the top stories of the week, as well as providing access to our E-Edition and Entertainment EXTRA! To get the newsletter emailed for free, email [don@opcfla.com](mailto:don@opcfla.com). We'll add you to the list.

### ADOPT A PET



#### DOG OF THE WEEK

Hello, my name is Watson. and I am a 6-year-old neutered male tree-walking coonhound. I would like to talk to all of you outdoorsy humans. I LOVE to be outside! It would be so fun to go run, walk, play and go on adventures with you. Now hold on, I am not fond of cats, but that's OK, we don't need them anyways (psssst ... they're lazy, but you didn't hear that from me). So come on down and meet me. I am sure we can keep each other motivated and active, and be the best of friends. #56980

**CAT OF THE WEEK:** There are no cats at this time, but that always changes.

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

### St. Johns County Pet Center

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

### BRIEFS

#### St. Johns County COVID-19 vaccination registration opens at 9 a.m. Feb. 4

St. Johns County received an allotment of 3,900 Pfizer vaccines from the State of Florida this week. Registration will open at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 4, for vaccination appointments on Feb. 5, 8 and 10. You may schedule an appointment by going to [tinyurl.com/y52tcoaz](https://tinyurl.com/y52tcoaz) or by calling the St. Johns County COVID-19 Vaccination Hotline at (904) 295-3711 after 9 a.m.

on Thursday. You will not be able to register for an appointment through the website or hotline prior to 9 a.m. It is recommended vaccine recipients arrive no more than 15 minutes prior to their appointment. The Pfizer vaccine requires the recipient to receive a second dose in 21 days. Those who receive their first dose of the Pfizer vaccine through the county will leave with an appointment for the second dose. The limited number of COVID-19 vaccines St. Johns County receives from the state determines appoint-

BRIEFS continues on Page 3

### PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

B	E	S	T		D	U	N		P	O	I						
A	C	H	E		R	E	N	O		G	H	E	N	T			
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P	R	O							R	E	D			D	A	T	E

9	4	2	7	8	1	6	5	3
1	6	7	4	5	3	8	9	2
3	5	8	9	6	2	1	7	4
7	8	1	2	4	5	3	6	9
4	2	6	3	9	8	5	1	7
5	3	9	1	7	6	2	4	8
8	7	5	6	2	9	4	3	1
6	9	3	8	1	4	7	2	5
2	1	4	5	3	7	9	8	6

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.



## Spark Curiosity

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## Briefs

Continued from 3

ment availability or updates regarding the county's COVID-19 vaccination program, go to [www.sjcfll.us/coronavirusvaccinations](http://www.sjcfll.us/coronavirusvaccinations) or text SJCVCACCINE to 888777.

### VA offering COVID-19 vaccinations to veterans in certain professions

The North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System is now offering the COVID-19 vaccinations to veterans who receive care at the VA and are in the following professions:

- Firefighters
- Police officers
- Corrections officers

- Food and agricultural workers
- United States Postal Service workers
- Manufacturing workers
- Grocery store workers
- Public transit workers
- Educational sector (teachers, support staff and daycare workers)

Veterans may call (352) 548-6000, ext. 103755, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, or 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturdays to schedule an appointment. Appointments are limited, and veterans unable to schedule an appointment will be contacted when additional scheduling options are available. Qualifying veterans may receive the vaccination at no cost. For more information, go to [www.northflorida.va.gov/NORTHFLORIDA/services/covid-19-vaccines.asp](http://www.northflorida.va.gov/NORTHFLORIDA/services/covid-19-vaccines.asp).

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# Middleburg woman's body found off A1A

The St. Johns County Sheriff's Office is investigating the death of a Middleburg woman whose body was discovered early Sunday morning, Jan. 31, along State Road A1A North just south of the Duval County line.

According to a spokesman for the Sheriff's Office, the call came in at 5:30 a.m., though some media reports put the time about an hour earlier.

Both the Sheriff's Office and the Florida Highway Patrol responded to what was believed to be a fatal pedestrian hit-and-

run crash. The decision was made to turn the investigation over to the Sheriff's Office Major Crimes Unit to further investigate the case as an undetermined death.

Investigators identified the victim as Brianna Jane Gibson, 24, of Middleburg.

According to a report from the Sheriff's Office, detectives learned that Gibson and her boyfriend — who has not been identified — left the victim's family home Saturday evening. Neither Gibson, her vehicle or her boyfriend were seen afterward that night, the report said.

Investigators performed an aerial search and located Gibson's vehicle abandoned at an apartment complex. It was seized and taken to the Sheriff's Office Forensics Unit for processing.

Detectives began to search for the boyfriend and, a short time later, members of the boyfriend's family contacted the Clay County Sheriff's Office and said he wanted to turn himself in regarding an outstanding and unrelated warrant.

Investigators met with the boyfriend and reported that he was cooperating and

had provided an account of the night's events.

The investigation is ongoing, and detectives are seeking information regarding the whereabouts of Gibson and her vehicle between 10 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30, and early Sunday morning, Jan. 31.

The vehicle is known to have been in Duval, St. Johns and Clay counties during that period of time.

Readers are asked to call the Major Crimes Unit at 824-8304 if they have any information regarding the investigation.

## Nease NJROTC cadets in championship form as drill team captures title in 1st competition

After a long hiatus due to COVID-19, the Nease NJROTC Academic, Athletic and Drill team competed at the Terry Parker High School Drill Meet on Jan. 23, in Jacksonville.

Whatever rust there may have been was not apparent as the team continued its winning ways, capturing first place in nine of the 12 events en route to the overall meet championship.

Nease's last appearance before the Terry Parker Drill was a win in the 2019-2020 Navy Area-12 (state) Championship in Coffee County, Georgia. COVID-19 derailed the team's hopes to compete for a national championship, and since then, competitions have been canceled or rescheduled until Jan. 23.

With the Terry Parker Drill victory, the team qualifies for the Area-12 Drill Championships in Georgia in March where it competes against the best programs in Georgia and northern Florida.

"This competition has been a long time coming," said Cadet Battalion Cmdr. Dylan Dosio. "To say the team was ready to bust out is the understatement of the year."

Drill is much more than a marching competition. Drill championships include a series of events, including unarmed and armed marching, color guard, personnel inspection, academics, pushups, situps and running relays. Points awarded in each event are combined to determine the day's overall winner.

This year Nease won first place in personnel inspection, athletics overall, situps, pushups, 16x100 relays, overall drill, color guard, armed basic and armed exhibition drill.

Of the 25 individual medal awards for academics, pushups and situps, Nease cadets garnered 16. Lauren Villareal was first in female pushups (90), Anthony Tucker was first in male situps (309) and Emmelie Neff placed first in female situps (325).

"Few things have seemed normal this year," said senior Cadet Michael Winc-



Photos provided by Nease NJROTC

**Nease NJROTC senior cadets Brandon Donovan (from left), Dylan Dosio, Juan Castillo and Michael Winczner pose with the overall championship trophy at the Terry Parker Drill Meet.**



**ABOVE: Nease NJROTC's Color Guard team Dylan Dosio (from left), Kaitlyn Boggs, Isabella Rivera and Brandon Donovan perform their winning routine at the Terry Parker Drill Meet.**

**RIGHT: Nease NJROTC Armed Basic team members Colby Hemingway and Brandon Donovan perform precision drill maneuvers during the team's winning performance.**

zner, anchor of the 16x100 relay. "But today felt like old days."

Nease is currently the No. 1-ranked NJROTC drill team in Area-12 (59 programs covering northern Florida and the state of Georgia), having won the Area-12 Drill Championship each of the



past six years.

"Despite all the trophies, we've got a lot to work on before our next competition," said Color Guard Cmdr. Isabella Rivera. "Everyone wants to beat Nease and they give us their best shot every time."

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Fundraiser at Palm Valley Outdoors Bar & Grill to support fight against cancer

Dine at Palm Valley Outdoors Bar & Grill for lunch Saturday, Jan. 6, and 10% of all food and beverage sales will directly benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Enjoy a great day of fun, delicious food, drink specials and live music overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway. The fundraiser is 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and reservations are suggested. Call (904) 834-7183 for more information or to make a reservation.

#### Players by the Sea 'Once on This Island' performance to stream live Feb. 13

You won't want to miss the Players by the Sea's first streamed production, "Once on This Island," at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13. Tickets can be purchased to access the online streamed event. Viewers can experience the story from the comfort of their own home. To purchase and ticket and receive a link, go to [www.playersbythesea.org](http://www.playersbythesea.org), click on "Learn More" on the "Once on this Island" banner on the homepage, then click "Buy Tickets" and follow the prompts. A link will be sent via email. Then log in at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 13, and enjoy the show. This event is one night only. For questions, call PBTs box office at (904) 249-0289 or email [ramona@playersbythesea.org](mailto:ramona@playersbythesea.org).

#### Pom Poms & Paws fundraiser Feb. 13

Landrum Cheer is holding a Valentine's fundraiser to help support SAFE Pet Rescue. The event will be from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13 at the Pet Supermarket, 880 A1A N., in Ponte Vedra Beach. There will be a bake sale, pet adoptions and visitors can bring their pets to have a photo taken with a Landrum cheerleader. CDC guidelines regarding masks and social distancing will be followed.

#### TrailMark to hold 5K to benefit Fur Sisters rescue Feb. 27

Join TrailMark for Conquer the Trails 5K on Saturday, Feb. 27, at 805 TrailMark Drive, St. Augustine. All proceeds will be donated to Fur Sisters - Furever Urs Rescue. The 5K will start and finish near the TrailMark Welcome Center. The family-friendly event is open to the public. Furever Urs Rescue is a nonprofit organization that saves dogs from overcrowded shelters and other urgent situations. Entry fees are \$25 for the first 50 to register, \$30 for adults, \$20 for children 12 and under and \$35 on race day. Race packets may be picked up at the TrailMark Welcome Center beginning at 8 a.m. on race day. To register for the event, go to [conquerthetrails.org](http://conquerthetrails.org).

# PGA TOUR global headquarters ready for employees

By Shaun Ryan

Two years after the PGA TOUR unveiled its plans for a new 187,000-square-foot global headquarters, the building is complete and will begin housing employees this month.

The largely glass-and-steel structure, designed by Foster + Partners, is located just off County Road 210, situated between the Couples and the Nicklaus gates. It replaces 17 other facilities scattered throughout the area.

Surrounded by water, the building was inspired by the iconic 17th hole at TPC Sawgrass. It is actually two three-story buildings connected by bridges and a 44-foot-tall atrium, a feature that would allow all employees to gather in a single place.

“We could have an entire company meeting in this room,” said Kirsten Sabia, vice president of integrated communications.

The extensive use of glass and five 1,400-square-foot skylights made from a weather-resistant material illuminate the entire structure with natural light.

“Our architect, prior to designing and building the space, interviewed hundreds of employees, and light and meeting space were the two top answers of what people desired in the new building,” said Sabia.

There are about 100 conference rooms in the new structure, up from the current 12.

The work environment is rich in amenities, including a den with golf swing simulator; a genius bar where employees can get help with technical issues; a fitness center with treadmills, cycles, yoga studios and more; and a coffee bar.

The large café, under the direction of Chef Eric Butcher, prides itself on the high quality of its products and partnership with local vendors. It offers vegan, keto and gluten-free options, as well as more mainstream fare.

“We’re always so aware of wellness and wellbeing, and we have amazing benefits here at the TOUR,” said Sabia. “But what the chef and his team are able to provide from a healthy perspective is just really incredible.”



The new 187,000-square-foot PGA TOUR Global Headquarters is surrounded by water in a nod to the iconic 17th hole at TPC Sawgrass.



Photos provided by the PGA TOUR

The new PGA TOUR Global Headquarters is seen from the entrance to the property.

The amenities will prove attractive to prospective employees as the organization grows.

“We want the smartest accountants, the brightest lawyers,” said Sabia. “To be able to provide them this office space that’s an

amenity unto itself, we’re very fortunate.”

The interior of the building also features a variety of local artists commissioned to depict the PGA TOUR brand personality and the heritage of the First Coast.

Sisters Holly Blanton and Heather Blan-

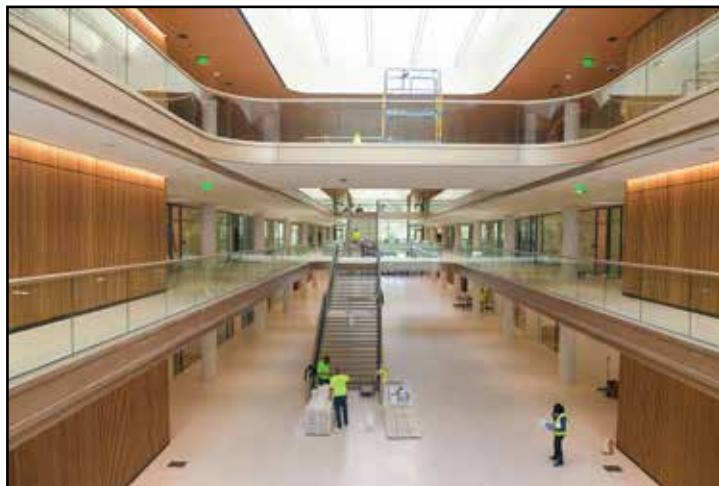
ton supplied canvas paintings of significant moments in PGA TOUR history. Four Jacksonville artists — Dustin Haywood, Ansley Randall, John Votel and Shawn Thurston — painted murals in the building’s stairwells.

Currently, the PGA TOUR has about 750 employees locally. Though most are working from home during the pandemic, they will have the option of moving into the new space as of Feb. 17. The building’s total capacity is 1,100 employees.

The general contractor for the project was Clark Construction Group of Tampa. Clark also delivered the clubhouse at TPC Sawgrass in 2007.

The PGA TOUR moved to Ponte Vedra Beach from Washington, D.C., in the late 1970s and started off with three employees in a single house in the Players Club development in Sawgrass.

“We’ve been here for over 40 years, and we’re excited for another 40-plus to come,” said Sabia.



Workers finish up construction of the grand staircase in the three-story atrium of the new PGA TOUR Global Headquarters.

## BY THE NUMBERS

- 16,659 square feet of solar panels on the roof
- 10,000 cubic yards of concrete used
- 4,250 gallons of paint used
- More than 800 trees planted
- 150 display screens
- 150 collaborative and outdoor seating workspaces
- More than 900 parking spaces
- 13 automobile charging stations
- Roof is 120,000 square feet (By comparison, a football field’s playing area is 48,000 square feet)



Natural light from large windows brightens workstations at the new PGA TOUR Global Headquarters.

*Hillary Whitaker has been in the art gallery business for 20 years, having grown up with a passion for art and design. She is the owner of Hillary Whitaker Gallery (formerly Stellers Gallery), located at 240 A1A N., #13 in Ponte Vedra Beach.*

## Hillary Whitaker

*As told to Holly Tishfield*

### **Can you please briefly tell us about your artistic background?**

I grew up in a home with two “creatives” as parents, a musician/Hollywood-aspiring dad and an interior designer/artist mom. From an early age, I was surrounded, and exposed to, a world of art and design. Just out of college, I managed Stellers gallery in Ponte Vedra, fell in love and acquired the gallery at age 22 in 2002. For 19 years I have grown “up and into” the art gallery business that I so love — recently changing the name to Hillary Whitaker Gallery.

### **What do you enjoy the most about what you do?**

Realizing the joy and comfort that artwork can bring to someone is the most fulfilling aspect of what I do. We have had 20 years of walking beside families from collecting their first piece of art, to redesigning their space, to finding art for their forever home, to now, working with their grown children on beginning their collection. These interactions are paramount to our purpose. ... We are overwhelmingly blessed and rewarded to have the opportunity to place artwork in many healthcare facilities in the region. In this setting, art is curated to uplift, calm, serve as a distraction or respite for patients and families facing various situations.

### **What are some of the challenges that the art industry is facing?**

Right now, I think all industries could be facing challenges that have yet to be seen. Fortunately, throughout history, wars, famines, etc., art has always had an important role in our society and in our individual lives. Artists will always create. I hope and believe that people will continue to have the need to interact and be moved by artwork. Although traditional means of acquiring artwork may change, we will work alongside the times and standards to continue to bring life-giving art to all.

### **What do you enjoy the most about Ponte Vedra area? How does it have a positive impact on your work?**

We have had two decades of getting to know so many families and individuals in our community. Ponte Vedra consists of so many beautiful stories, old and new generations, so many wonderful people who have all been a great support and friend to us over the years.



Photo provided by Hillary Whitaker

### **How do you set out creating new work/finding inspiration?**

We are constantly researching, scouting and following artists and designers from around the U.S. for inspiration and ideas. Although our walls are filled to the brim, we keep a file of promising artists that we hope to be able to work with on future endeavors.

### **What sets your work apart from others?**

I cannot speak from a comparative stance, but we do take pride in the development and nurturing of strong relationships with clients and artists rooted in integrity. We feel strongly in providing an environment where customers can trust both our business ethics as well as sound,

professional guidance in their collection of work. With the utmost integrity, stylized creativity, the strength of collaborative resources and the desire to be a part of the important effect art has on individuals, we take pride in having the opportunity to help curate and “bring to life” the story/culture of our client’s projects.

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**Pending**

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**Presented by Bruno Couturier**

**Pending**

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**770 REDFIN DRIVE**  
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**0 ATLANTIC BLVD, A14**  
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**4320 COASTAL HWY.**  
\$1,400,000 - St. Augustine

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**328 CLEARWATER DR.**  
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**SOLD**

**3770 CROSSVIEW DR.**  
\$577,000 - Pablo Bay/Jacksonville

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**SOLD**

**3787 VALVERDE CIRCLE**  
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All properties listed are in Ponte Vedra unless otherwise noted.

# Girl Scouts Troop 2099 benefits local nonprofit in delicious way

By Holly Tishfield

As the winter weather begins to fade, and we see the first few blooms of new life, most people can collectively agree that the best season is upon us. No, not spring, but Girl Scout cookie season.

Troop 2099, consisting of Juniors (fourth graders) and Brownies (third graders) from Palm Valley Academy, recently launched the start of their cookie sales to the Ponte Vedra and Nocatee communities.

This year they chose to advocate for local nonprofit Fostering Connections St. Johns, an organization that provides support for foster parents and children in foster care through fundraising and volunteerism. The organization is currently offering assistance to more than 50 children between the ages 5 and 12 and more than 40 children between the ages of 13 and 17.

Jessica Carbee, leader of Troop 2099, said this is not the first time they have worked with Fostering Connections. In a previous fundraising effort, Troop 2099 helped donate backpacks full of school supplies for children in the organization. With this year's sales of cookies, Troop 2099 will be able to assemble art and cookie kits for both the younger and older children at Fostering Connections.

Last weekend, Carbee and some



Some of the Girl Scouts of Troop 2099 kick off cookie-selling season. From left: Sawyer, Skyler, Clara G., Clara T., Lizzy and Stella

members of Troop 2099 rode around the Nocatee community on golf carts as part of their "mega-drop" of the cookie season.

"It gives the girls a chance to engage with the community and sell cookies," said Laura Gainor, a Ponte Vedra resident and Girl Scout mom. "Girl Scouts provides the opportunity for our children to teach others how to give back and feel rewarded for the experience of helping those in need in our community."



Jessica Carbee is troop leader of Troop 2099.



Clara T. (left) and Clara G. work as a team to sell cookies on their golf cart around Nocatee.

The money raised from cookie sales not only goes towards supporting Fostering Connections, but also goes towards supporting the girls' community charity efforts, such as the installation of a Little Library or the purchase or travel costs for the troop.

Troop 2099 will be set up at Pelican's SnoBalls on Valentine's Day selling cookies until 2 p.m. To support Troop 2099, go to <http://bit.ly/Troop2099>.

Photos provided by Laura Gainor

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- [PV Rawlings Elementary](#) 2-3:30pm Wednesdays
- [Ocean Palms Elementary](#) 3-4:30pm Thursdays
- [Palm Valley Academy](#) 3-4:30pm Fridays

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The Recorder's garden columnist Kathy Esfahani, of Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery, shares her tips for growing gorgeous gardens in Northeast Florida.

## KATHY'S GARDENING GUIDE

"He who plants a garden plants happiness."

### ANNUALS VS. PERENNIALS

A great way to add color and variety to your landscaping is a combination of annuals and perennials. If you ask me, both are needed in your garden!



**Kathy Esfahani**  
Columnist

#### ANNUALS

- Annuals are temporary season-to-season.

- They exert their energy unconditionally with consistent vibrant colors until their season ends and will not grow back.

- Choose two-to-three places in your garden you would like to enjoy the beautiful array of constant color, and that can be changed out with each passing season.

- Most popular areas for planting — front door, near street or mailbox, and back patio areas where you relax.

- Creating "special" annual beds with good, soft #3 mix topsoil aids in manageable replacement once their season is over. (Annuals last 3-6 months, changing seasonally 2-3 times per year)

- Annuals are most often used in planters as well.

- Annuals recommended to plant now: petunia, dusty miller, pansy and snapdragon.

Flower  
of the Week  
Geranium



#### PERENNIALS

- Perennials last indefinitely. Most of them bloom in and out of color but do not give the constant vibrant color of annuals.

- Many perennials die down in the winter and tend to look dead, but they are not! Wait until spring and they will just need pruning. Prune off dead stems and wait for them to re-appear.

- Perennials should be about 90-95% of your landscaping as they grow back and bloom. However, this is why you need to incorporate both in landscaping to give extra color in those die down months. Annuals should only be about 5-10% of your landscaping due to time, effort and repeat expense.

- Perennials recommended to plant now: blue daze, foxtail fern, geranium and drift roses.

**Email Kathy at [kathys.creative.gardens@gmail.com](mailto:kathys.creative.gardens@gmail.com) for any questions or gardening tips you would like to see in the future.**

**Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery is located at 196 N. Roscoe Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach. (904) 655-7373**

## NOCATEE HAPPENINGS



Photo provided by Nocatee Community

### Food Truck Friday set for Feb. 12

Come out to Nocatee Station Field from 6 -9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 12, for dinner and snacks from more than 15 food trucks.

Plus, residents and guests can enjoy live music by Kody Paul, and drinks will be available for purchase at the bar, including select craft beers and wines.

This event is open to the public and is weather permitting.

Residents are encouraged to bring chairs, blankets and bug spray. There will also be an area for ages 21 and over at this event.

Brain Balance Center is the primary sponsor of the event.

Residents and guests participating in the event are asked to take measures to protect from COVID-19. Wearing masks is strongly recommended, as well as social distancing.



### Pristine Craftsmanship on Ponte Vedra Blvd.

Thoughtfully designed and showcasing exquisite craftsmanship, this custom coastal home features rich wood floors, a neutral palette, and stunning wood details. Offering master suites on both floors, along with an office, loft area, ample storage & a flex space ideal for a 5th bedroom. Plus an expansive backyard overlooking the Guana Preserve.

**4 bedrooms, 5.5 baths \$2,150,000**



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# Palm Valley mourns loss of 2 prominent residents

By Shaun Ryan

In the last week of January, Palm Valley lost two of its most prominent and well-respected residents. Sid Mickler, a member of the famed local family, died on Jan. 27. Jerry McCoy, a longtime business owner, died four days later.

The men were neighbors and friends, and both were well-liked by the community.

Mickler's roots run deep in this area. In 1825, just four years after Florida became a territory of the United States, his great-great-grandfather settled in the area now known as Palm Valley.

Born in 1926, Mickler one of 10 children. He attended a school started by his parents on their property, growing up at a time when Palm Valley had dirt roads and there was no electricity.

As a young boy, he helped his father build the pier at Mickler's Beach.



Jerry McCoy



Sid Mickler

He attended Fletcher High School in Duval County, but quit to join the U.S. Navy and fight in World War II. Upon his return to the States, he worked alongside his father on their shrimp boat. After that, he went on to become an electrician, retiring from the City of Jacksonville Beach after 25 years.

He and wife Jo had five children, and the family would travel all over the country during summers, with the electricians' union finding Mickler short-term jobs along the way.

Daughter Julie Mickler Bhatia said her father was well-loved by the community, but not for his familiar name or being a part of one of Palm Valley's founding families.

"This man, Sid Mickler, was well-loved because he was a good, decent human being," she said.

Mickler was not one to judge, criticize or complain about others. And he valued opportunities to speak to others about forgiveness.

"He really, honestly got up every morning and made a conscious decision that he was going to be a decent human being," Bhatia recalled.

A devout Catholic, "he was very, very dedicated to making sure that people knew how much Jesus meant to him," she added.

McCoy was born in 1942 and grew up in Indiana. He joined the U.S. Navy and served for 22 years, retiring as a master

chief electrician's mate in 1983.

Three years later, he and fishing buddy Jerry Gray opened Double J's Repair Shop in what he called "downtown Palm Valley." Over the next 32 years, the small engine and landscape supply business grew to become a keystone of the community. McCoy retired in 2018.

"He was very energetic, hard-working," said Ronda McCoy, his wife of 45 years. "He had such common sense about so many things. He didn't have the higher education, but he knew so much about so many things and how to fix things and how to figure things out."

She said her husband was well-respected by all who worked for him. Former employees have told her that they felt she and her husband treated them like family.

"That's so special to us," she said.

**READER'S NOTE: This is an abridged version of the article. To read the full text, go to [pontevedrarecorder.com](http://pontevedrarecorder.com).**

## OBITUARIES

### Jerry McCoy

Jerry McCoy, longtime resident of Ponte Vedra Beach, passed away on Sunday, January 31, 2021. He was born November 2, 1942, in Paoli, IN, to Robert Stanley McCoy and Ida Mae Radcliffe McCoy.



Jerry McCoy

Jerry grew up in rural Indiana and at the age of 18 joined the United States Navy where he proudly and honorably served for 22 years. He retired as Master Chief Electrician's Mate in 1983.

In 1986, he and his fishing buddy, Jerry Gray, opened Double J's Repair Shop in what he always called "Downtown Palm Valley." He and Ronda, and so many faithful employees helped establish a thriving small engine and landscape supply business for 32 years. He finally retired in 2018.

Jerry is survived by Ronda, his loving wife of 45 years; two sons, Barry (Dana) McCoy, and Jerry Wayne McCoy; sister, Nancy Smith of Indiana; grandchildren, Matthew, Sarah, Nathan, Jason, and Patrick; and six great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Bud and Bob McCoy; sisters, Judy Riley and Ann Leach; daughter, Robin Lynn Pugh; granddaughters, Heather and Linde; and daughter-in-law, Susan McCoy.

A Visitation will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2021, from 9:00 am to 10:30 am at Palm Valley Baptist Church, 4890 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL. A Funeral Service will follow at 11:00 am, with Pastor George Powers officiating. Interment will follow at Ponte Vedra Valley Cemetery with full Military Honors.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made to Palm Valley Baptist Church, 4890 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082.

Please sign the online guestbook at [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com).



### Philip Kelsey Porter II

Philip Kelsey Porter II, 61, passed away on January 25, 2021. Phil was born July 20, 1959, at St. Vincent's Hospital in Jacksonville, FL. He grew up in Brookline, MA, and spent his entire adult life in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL.

Phil was a member of the Class of 1978



Philip Kelsey Porter II

at Brooks School in North Andover, MA. He then went on to Ithaca College in New York State, where he graduated in 1982 with a Bachelor of Science in Business. After graduating college,

Phil moved to Jacksonville, his mother's hometown. Phil worked as a Purchasing Agent at Florida Rock Industries, where he proudly worked for 25 years. Phil spent his retirement playing golf with his beloved Dew sweepers, traveling with his family, enjoying Happy Hour at Pussers, and swimming laps every day at the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club.

Phil was a die-hard fan of the Boston Red Sox, Florida Gators, and an original Season Ticket holder for the Jacksonville Jaguars.

Phil is survived by sons, Philip and

Matthew, ex-wife and devoted caregiver for the last years of his life Eileen Porter, siblings Cynthia (Tom) Ogden and Brooks (Katie) Porter, nieces, and nephews: Jack, Kate, Emily (Zickhur), George, Sarah (Ogden), Anna, Toby, and Louisa (Porter) as well as close family members Molly and Monty Zickhur and Patricia Strain. Phil is predeceased by his parents Dr. Philip J. & Mrs. Sarah Baker Porter.

The family would like to thank the Palms at Ponte Vedra and his caregiver Elizabeth Rollox for their care and support.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, services will be held at a later date.

Donations in Phil's memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

Please Visit the online Tribute at [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com). Arrangements by Quinn Shalz Family Funeral Home.



### Virginia Cirelli

Virginia Cirelli, 88, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died January 31, 2021. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. (904) 249-1100 [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com)

### Rapo Dolorezi

Rapo Dolorezi, 73, of Ponte Vedra, Florida, died Jan. 24, 2021. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery - (904) 285-1130 - [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Michael Galeese Knollmann

Michael Galeese Knollmann, 67, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Jan. 26, 2021. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre, (904) 249-1100.

### Ruth Irene Macmillan

Ruth Irene Macmillan, 92, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Jan. 27, 2021. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre (904) 249-1100, [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com).

### Sidney Julian Mickler

Sidney Julian Mickler, 94, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Jan. 27, 2021. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre, (904) 249-1100.

### Cheng Tan

Cheng Tan, 83, of Saint Johns, Florida, died Jan. 25, 2021. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery - (904) 285-1130 - [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Millicent White

Millicent White, 85, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Jan. 29, 2021. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery - (904) 285-1130 - [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Barbara Ann Weinburger

Barbara Ann Weinburger, 86, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Jan. 24, 2021. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. (904) 249-1100 [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com)

### Kent Woloson

Kent Woloson, 83, of Ponte Vedra, Florida, died Jan. 23, 2021. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery - (904) 285-1130 - [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Kenneth I. Zamm

Kenneth I. Zamm, 62, of Atlantic Beach, Florida, died Jan. 29, 2021. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home. (904) 249-1100 [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com)

# Episcopal students win more than 75 Scholastic Art Awards

Episcopal Fine Art students competed in the 2021 Northeast Florida Scholastic Art Awards on Saturday, Jan. 9. During this adjudication, judges from around Northeast Florida reviewed more than 2,900 entries ranging from 16 visual art categories. Episcopal students earned more than 75 awards, including 17 Gold Keys, 20 Silver Keys and 39 Honor recognitions.

“These awards are a remarkable achievement for our ESJ Artists. They have been recognized as most outstanding regionally,” said art instructor Becca Hoadley. “Gold Level student art will be on display in the Jacksonville Main Library, and moving on digitally to a National Level Jurisdiction in New York. National winners will be announced March 17.”



Photo provided by Episcopal School of Jacksonville

## HONORS

1. Kate Adams – Drawing
2. Annie Afflic – Photography
3. Lauren Avery – Photography
4. Jace Bankston – Drawing
5. Sally Barksdale (2) Drawing
6. Abby Beaver (2) Photography
7. Audrey Franken – Printmaking
8. William Chase (2) – Photography
9. Gabriela Diaz-Vendrell – Ceramics
10. Miranda Doro (2) – Oil Painting
11. Julia Fannin – Charcoal
12. Makenzie Flakus (2) Ceramics
13. Sydney Freed – Photography
14. Parklyn Gardner – Photography
15. Declan Hammerling (2) Graphite
16. Nadya Hicks – Oil Pastel
17. Abi House – Graphite
18. Harrison Hutto (3) Ceramics
19. Mimi Kurlas – Ceramics
20. Madison Linn – Acrylic and Colored Pencil
21. Myles Long – Ceramics
22. Jon Maggiore – Graphite
23. Alston Rachels – Acrylic Painting
24. Lucy Rachels – Acrylic Painting
25. Harper Mcevoy – Photography
26. James Mickler – Block Print
27. Maddie Morris – Photography
28. Annie Miller – Photography
29. Jake Murphy (7) Ceramics
30. Ellie Reed – Charcoal
31. Kate Reinhardt – Photography
32. Elizabeth Roy – Ceramics and Glass
33. Emily Spinning – Photography
34. Daniela Suarez – Ceramics
35. Paul Vitulli – Ceramics
36. Joelle Wadei – Acrylic Painting
37. Kathy Waryold (2) Photography
38. Taylor Wells – Ceramics
39. Emily Ziomek (2) Photography

## THE EXHIBITION OF REGIONAL GOLD KEY ARTWORKS

Jacksonville Main Library  
Feb. 13-March 13

10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday,

## ESJ GOLD KEY WINNERS

1. Alaina Case – Photography
2. William Chase – Photography
3. Miranda Doro – Painting
4. Emily Drake – Oil Pastel
5. Chloe Simpson – Graphite Drawing
6. Kaitlyn Sweder (2) – Ink and Graphite
7. Lucy Williams – Charcoal

8. Alston Rachels – Oil Painting

9. Ellie Reed – Charcoal

10. Audrey Gunnlaugsson – Charcoal

11. Chester Holland – Block Printing

12. Katherine Kavanaugh (4) Oil Painting

13. Madison Linn (4) – Acrylic Painting

14. Julia D'Arienzo – Photography

15. Paul Lampley-Sims – Photography

16. Isabella Romanello – Photography

17. Elizabeth Roy – Ceramics and Glass

## SILVER KEY WINNERS

1. William Chase – Photography

2. Sophia Chokshi – Photography

3. Joseph Cuchiara – Graphite

4. Elizabeth Curran – Photography

5. Cecilia Fannin – Charcoal

6. Mackenzie Flakus – Ceramics

7. Declan Hammerling – Graphite

8. Izzy Joy – Photography

9. Kate Kavanaugh – Charcoal

10. Mimmi Kurlas – Ceramics

11. Emily Leeper – Oil Pastel

12. Annie Miller – Photography

13. Jake Murphy – Ceramics

14. Tommaso Pozzoni – Acrylic Painting

15. Alston Rachels – Acrylic Painting

16. Ellie Reed – Charcoal

17. Kaitlyn Sweder – Drawing

18. Mary Woodward – Oil Pastel

19. Lyla Wright -Graphite

20. Emily Ziomek – Photography

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# Celebrate Your Love

After a difficult year filled with twists and turns, Valentine's Day is just around the corner again. Now more than ever, it is important to show the special people in your life that you love them. Whether that is through a romantic, candlelit dinner for two at the beach or a new, sparkling diamond ring is up to you, but we have compiled a list of local stores and options to get your creative gift ideas flowing.



## Valentine's Day Gift Guide

Compiled by Holly Tishfield

### AMELIA TOFFEE COMPANY

Satisfy that sweet tooth with a box of artisan toffee straight from Fernandina Beach from Amelia Toffee Company. For a special Valentine's Day treat, this toffee company is offering three new toffee boxes. Select from either two eight-ounce boxes of their best-selling sea salt toffee, one box of sea salt and one box of limited-edition cherry, or one box of sea salt toffee and one box of their newest custom creation, Amour (white chocolate toffee with strawberries). In partnership with the Home Shopping Network, you can find these delicious creations at [www.hsn.com](http://www.hsn.com).



### ESPLING JEWELERS

Find the perfect piece of jewelry or choose from a selection of dazzling watches at Espling Jewelers, with locations in Ponte Vedra Beach and Mandarin. The mechanical expertise and experience of their jewelers alongside their trained staff makes Espling Jewelers one of the most well-known and respected jewelers in the area. See more about their services and specials at [www.esplingjewelers.com](http://www.esplingjewelers.com).



### BOARDED BY CHEF VINCE

Surprise your loved one with a luxury charcuterie board stuffed to the brim with goodies. This family-operated charcuterie business offers a wide variety of charcuterie boxes, boards and grazing tables. The plates are filled with seasonal fruits, cheeses, meats and more hand-selected by Chef Vince Pollaci himself. Pick "The Mini" for a small arrangement of picking foods, or upgrade to "The Duo" for even more variation. To learn more, go to [www.boardedbychefvince.square.site](http://www.boardedbychefvince.square.site).



### RESTAURANT MEDURE

Reserve that candlelit dinner at Restaurant Medure, a globally inspired but locally influenced fine-dining experience with meals cultivated by executive chef and co-owner David Medure. Their menu changes seasonally and has a variation of everything from fresh ricotta gnocchi with braised short rib, wild mushroom cream sauce and crisp basil to duck ham prosciutto cured and made in-house to old French-style foie gras torchon. To view their menu and learn more about a reservation, go to [www.restaurantmedure.com](http://www.restaurantmedure.com).



### COASTAL WINE MARKET

Bring home a bottle from their favorite vineyard, or surprise them with a new one, from the variety of wines at Coastal Wine Market. Or gift them a Wine Club membership, so that the sampling of new wines can be endless. Go to [www.coastalwinemarket.com](http://www.coastalwinemarket.com) for more information.



### PENELOPE T BOUTIQUE

Grab your lovely lady a new dress or pair of stylish boots at this women's clothing and accessory boutique. Located in Jax Beach, this store has a curated selection of merchandise from both big and small contemporary designers. Penelope's believes a good outfit can change a woman's mindset, and with its wide array of clothing and accessory options, that just might be possible. Learn more at [www.penelopetboutique.com](http://www.penelopetboutique.com).



### FLORIADE FLORIST

For a custom designed and breathtaking bouquet of Valentine's flowers, visit Floriade Florist in Jax Beach. The company is owned and operated by Tiffany Turner, who has spent 30-plus years creating beautiful bouquets for everything from Valentine's Day to wedding receptions. Visit their Facebook page for details.



### PETERBROOKE CHOCOLATIER

Melt your loved one's heart — and satisfy their sweet tooth — with this large chocolate heart, filled with chocolate-dipped popcorn, a longtime favorite at Peterbrooke Chocolatier. The Valentine's treat can be purchased for \$50 at the local Peterbrooke store located at Sawgrass Village Shopping Center, 333 Village Main St., No. 650 in Ponte Vedra Beach.



# Valentine's

Continued from 12



## ROSENBLUM'S

Have the gentleman in your life looking and feeling sharp with a new wardrobe piece from Rosenblum's. This family-owned-and-operated business first opened in Jacksonville in 1898 and continues to offer the Jacksonville and Beaches communities the finest selections in business, evening, and casual wear for men. Details on their made-to-measure services and clothing options can be found at [www.rosenblumsonline.com](http://www.rosenblumsonline.com).



## TPC SAWGRASS "LINKS OF LOVE"

For an escape filled with manicured fairways and majestic moss-draped oaks, golf enthusiasts and romantics alike can gift their loved ones an unforgettable weekend at TPC Sawgrass filled with dreamy sunset sailboat rides and five-course dinners with wine pairings overlooking the 18th green. This package includes a three-night luxury accommodation at the Sawgrass Marriott Resort & Spa's Villas at Sawgrass along with a list of other accommodations, such as massages, rounds of golf at THE PLAYERS Stadium Course and Dye's Valley Course, complimentary TPC robes, breakfast, lunch and more. The Links of Love package can be redeemed from the end of February through the end of December 2021, making it a perfect getaway for any time of the year. To learn more about this exclusive TPC Sawgrass package, go to [www.tpc.com/sawgrass](http://www.tpc.com/sawgrass).

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# Spahhh Time

PAGES 14-15

## Getting fresh and vibrant skin: How to navigate spa treatments

The desire for healthy, clean-looking skin drives the multibillion dollar cosmetics and skincare industry. According to data from the semi-annual Consumer Insight Snapshot from DermStore, a leading skin care e-commerce website, 67% of consumers surveyed are very or extremely interested in trying products for their specific skin concerns.

The top five skin concerns across the United States include aging, uneven skin tone, sensitive skin, dark circles and sun damage. To address concerns about their skin, consumers are increasingly turning to in-spa services, such as facials, peels and fillers.

A facial or body skin treatment can be a coveted gift. However, navigating spa jargon can be tricky. Here are some popular services and what they entail.

### TRADITIONAL FACIAL

A traditional facial typically begins with a cleansing of the face using steam to open up pores. This lets impurities clear out. Depending on an individual's skin type or concerns, a mild scrub may be used to exfoliate dead skin cells, dirt and oils. A hydrating mask or lotion will be applied to soothe skin after treatment.

### CHEMICAL OR FRUIT ACID PEEL

Chemical and fruit acid peels rely on various acids to exfoliate and peel off the outer layer of skin. The skin beneath is usually more smooth and less wrinkled. Some deep peels target the middle layer of skin to remove damaged skin cells. The American Society for Dermatologic Surgery says that peels can be used to treat anything from acne to aging skin to scars. Alpha-hydroxy acid and lactic acid may be used in mild peels. Trichloroacetic acid, or phenol, is used for more potent chemical peels. Peels are best left to an aesthetician or dermatologist.

### FACIAL MASKS

Masks may contain many different ingredients designed to treat various skin problems. A paraffin mask, for example, involves the process of applying molten warm wax over a thin mask. The wax will open pores and moisturize the skin. Masks are applied, and then there is a waiting period, during which the mask dries or penetrates. Then the treatment will be removed.

**TREATMENTS** continues on **Page 15**

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# Treat yourself — or someone else — to a day of relaxation and pampering at these local spas



## SPAVIA DAY SPA

This relaxation and renewal center in Ponte Vedra, founded by Allison and Marty Langenderfer, has been wowing guests around the country since 2005. Their location in Northeast Florida offers excited customers an opportunity to experience their own unique Spavia journey, or as Spavia experts like to say, their own “journey to wellness.” For a Valentine’s Day surprise, consider a couple’s massage, with deep tissue or salt stone treatments. Or chose from over a dozen different spa options such as sports massage, skin renewal peels or anti-aging wraps. First-time guests can also receive a discount on a signature massage or facial. To book an appointment visit [www.spaviadayspa.com](http://www.spaviadayspa.com).



## SAWGRASS MARRIOTT GOLF RESORT & SPA

Leave your troubles behind as you enter a world of wellness and serenity at the Sawgrass Marriott Resort & Spa. They offer an array of treatments and amenities in their 18 different treatment rooms within the resort, including a private spa pool, a nail salon, and a fitness center. The spa’s award winning massage options, such as their couple’s massage, is the perfect way to unwind and relax after a stressful day. Other services include paraffin hand treatments, facials, eye treatments and even a steam room. Discover more options at [www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/jaxsw-sawgrass-marriott-golf-resort-and-spa](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/jaxsw-sawgrass-marriott-golf-resort-and-spa).



## THE SPA AT PONTE VEDRA INN AND CLUB

To rejuvenate and treat yourself, or celebrate Valentine’s Day, visit The Spa at Ponte Vedra Inn and Club. Here you can achieve peace of mind and body while enjoying one of their many unique spa experiences. Located on the beautiful Ponte Vedra Beach, you can take in the surroundings as you receive a world-class specialty treatment. The Couples Suite service includes an array of treatments designed specifically for couples, with steams, soaks and massages in a private room for two. With over 100 different services and 22 treatment rooms, finding the time to get away at this luxurious spa is always a treat. Learn more at [www.pvspa.com](http://www.pvspa.com).

## Treatments

Continued from 14

### MICRODERMABRASION

In microdermabrasion, layers of dead skin are buffed. This dead skin may have accumulated due to age and sun exposure. Many spas employ a device that scours the skin using micronized aluminum oxide crystals. Similar at-home products use motorized spinning brushes that employ bristles to slough off skin cells.

### LYMPHATIC MASSAGE

Many facial treatments also include some massage. With lymphatic massage, particular pressure points are targeted to release strain from tension headaches and may even reduce skin puffiness. Massaging the skin can promote blood flow and lead to a rosier, more youthful glow.

### COSMETIC FILLERS

Injectable dermal fillers can soften facial creases, remove wrinkles and improve the appearance of scars, says the American Society of Plastic Surgeons. These procedures are best left to professionals.

Skincare treatments can be an ideal gift for someone special.



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*Available through February 28, 2021*

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# Business Weekly

PAGE 16 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2021

Berkshire-Hathaway HomeServices FNR celebrates record sales

Page 18

www.PonteVedraRecorder.com



Photos provided by Clockwork Marketing

**ABOVE: The heart and pride of the Beacon Lake community is the Lake House Amenity and Fitness Center.**

**RIGHT: Toll Brothers has opened a new designer-decorated model home at Beacon Lake.**



## Toll Brothers model home grand opening planned at Beacon Lake

The lakefront lifestyle community of Beacon Lake is celebrating the model grand opening of Beacon Lake's newest builder, Toll Brothers.

The grand opening event is Feb. 13-14 and highlights Toll Brothers' new two-story, 3,152-square-foot, designer-decorated model home, Roseberry Elite.

During the event, visitors will also have an opportunity to tour Dream Finders Homes' three single-family models and three townhome models. They may also take an exclusive tour of Lake House, Beacon Lake's amenity and fitness center.

"Toll Brothers' award-winning luxury homes are a wonderful addition to our offerings at Beacon Lake," said Bruce J. Parker, managing director for BBX Capital Real Estate, Beacon Lake's master developer. "I encourage everyone to visit our community, see our variety of home designs for every lifestyle, tour our recreational amenities and discover why hundreds of families love calling Beacon Lake home."

The event is free and open to the public. Face masks are required for entry, and social distancing guidelines will be enforced. Visi-

tors are asked to register in advance on Eventbrite for the Beacon Lake Model Grand Opening Weekend event.

At Beacon Lake, Toll Brothers is offering spacious single-family homes showcasing craftsman, farmhouse, island-inspired and Tuscan home designs to complement the community's coastal-inspired architectural style and lakefront setting.

The Landing at Beacon Lake, a gated neighborhood with views of Beacon Lake and Lake House,

**GRAND OPENING** continues on **Page 17**

## St. Augustine Distillery joins DISCUS Craft Advisory Council; CEO selected to chair

St. Augustine Distillery announced its appointment to the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States' (DISCUS) Craft Advisory Council. CEO and co-founder Philip McDaniel has been selected by industry peers to serve as chair for the term 2021-2022.

The Distilled Spirits Council of the United States is the leading voice and advocate for distilled spirits in the U.S., advocating on legislative, regulatory and public affairs issues impacting the distilled spirits' sector. DISCUS members are committed to responsibility and encourage adults who drink to do so in moderation.

The DISCUS Craft Advisory Council was created as a leadership council to represent craft distillers' positions on key policy issues at the federal, state and local level,



Philip McDaniel

as well as to help guide DISCUS' craft distiller-focused programming and benefits. Craft Advisory Council members are elected by their peer DISCUS Craft members, and the chair represents craft distillers on the DISCUS board of directors.

McDaniel welcomed the opportunity to join the Craft Advisory Council.

"St. Augustine Distillery is proud to be locally-owned and community-founded," he said. "We are committed to innovation and making where we live better for future generations. We are honoured to share what we've learned with the Craft Advisory Council and the broader DISCUS membership as we work together to shape the future of American distilling."

**DISTILLERY** continues on **Page 18**

## How tax brackets work: A potential snore



Harry Pappas  
Columnist

I came close. So close. Like ... this close to not writing this subject column, at the risk of it being a yawn, yawn and Yaaaaaawwwwwwn ... for far too many people. So, don't feel bad if you don't find this narrative as thrilling as I do! In fact, I won't be offended if you just take a deep breath and turn the page to perhaps something more to your liking.

OK, enough of the chit chat ... away we go. We (United States) have what is referred to as a progressive tax system, which means folks with higher taxable incomes pay higher federal income tax rates. However, being "in" a tax bracket does not mean one pays federal income at that rate on all of their taxable income.

I like the way that the informative website, www.nerdwallet.com, explains it; "The government decides how much tax you owe by dividing your taxable income into chunks — also known as tax brackets — and each chunk gets taxed at the corresponding tax rate. The beauty of this is that no matter which bracket you're in, you won't pay that tax rate on your entire income."

You got it? In other words, one could be "in" say a 24% tax bracket but his or her "effective" tax rate will always be lower. I will give you an example that should add clarity to the issue in question, but first take a moment to review the 2021 marginal tax brackets below for an unmarried individual and married individuals filing a joint return.

Rate	For Unmarried Individuals	For Married Individuals Filing Joint Returns
10%	Up to \$9,950	Up to \$19,900
12%	\$9,951 to \$40,525	\$19,901 to \$81,050
22%	\$40,526 to \$86,375	\$81,051 to \$172,750
24%	\$86,376 to \$164,925	\$172,751 to \$329,850
32%	\$164,926 to \$209,425	\$329,851 to \$418,850
35%	\$209,426 to \$523,600	\$418,851 to \$628,300
37%	Over \$523,600	Over \$628,300

**Example:** Let's say you are a single-filer with \$32,000 in taxable income. Please keep in mind that the \$32,000 is the "taxable" income, which is your income after you apply your standard deduction (see below) or if you itemize, after your itemized deductions.

### 2021 STANDARD DEDUCTION

Filing Status	Deduction Amount
Single	\$12,550
Married Filing Jointly	\$25,100
Head of Household	\$18,800

Source: nerdwallet.com, IRS

OK, back to the example ... the \$32,000 puts you in the 12% tax bracket (see above brackets). To see if you are paying attention allow me to ask you a question ...

**PAPPAS** continues on **Page 18**



# Local real estate team donates to SAFE for pet adoption campaign

The team at Marsh Creek Home Sales recently donated funds to SAFE Pet Rescue Inc. for a three-month supply of flea control or a six-month supply of heartworm prevention medicine for dogs or cats for an upcoming adoption campaign.

Marsh Creek Home Sales is a specialty sales team launched recently by local real estate broker associate Peggy Gachet. It is a part of Watson Realty Corp.

The medication donation and pet adoption campaign will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 14 at 6101 A1A South in St. Augustine and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 15 at 1250 County Road A1A in St. Augustine.

All adoptable pets are spayed, neu-

tered and vaccinated. Cats are negative for feline leukemia virus and dogs are heartworm-tested.

Gachet and her team of real estate professionals specialize in working with buyers and sellers in a wide variety of residential properties at Marsh Creek Country Club.

Gachet has fostered and adopted pets from SAFE for many years and is working with the nonprofit to encourage responsible pet ownership.

SAFE was founded by Robin Kantner Nordan in 2008 to save adoptable dogs and cats from euthanasia in Northeast Florida. For more information, go to [www.safe-pet-rescue-fl.com](http://www.safe-pet-rescue-fl.com).

# Grand Opening

Continued from 16

offers five innovative home designs on 73-foot home sites. Priced from the mid-\$400,000s, floorplans will range in size from 2,600 square feet to 3,680 square feet.

Anchored by a 43-acre paddle-friendly lake and nestled within 358 acres of nature preserve, the 8,200-square-foot Lake House features a junior Olympic swim-

ming pool, fun pool and splash park, plus a crew house for kayak rentals and a demonstration kitchen.

The community features a lakeside sand beach, pirate-themed playground and sports fields for outdoor activities, as well as miles of multipurpose paths for walking, running or biking.

Beacon Lake is located on the south side of County Road 210 between U.S. Route 1 and Interstate 95. For more information, go to [www.BeaconLake.com](http://www.BeaconLake.com)



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# Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices FNR achieves record sales volume in 2020

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty recently announced the company achieved \$1.44 billion sales volume in 2020, exceeding all previous sales records.

The company is the real estate leader in luxury properties throughout Northeast Florida. Among properties priced \$750,000 and above in Duval, Clay and St. Johns counties, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty ranked No. 1 in closed sales with a 13.2% market share, No. 1 in new listings with a 13.5% market share, No. 1 in pending sales with a 13% market share and No. 1 in active listings with a 10.3% market share.

“Our amazing and dedicated Realtors, managers and support team faced the challenges of 2020 with resilience and innovation to meet and exceed the needs of our company and our clients,” said Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices FNR President and CEO Christy Budnick. “I’m incredibly proud and grateful to lead the very best Realtors and team in the business.”

In 2020, the company proactively made a smooth transition into a virtual workplace. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty was prepared, adjusting to market challenges and client needs by having all of the systems in place



**Elizabeth Hudgins of the Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office led the company as Top Producer in closed sales.**



**Stefanie Bernstein of the St. Augustine/Murabella office received four awards, including Top Sales Agent.**



**The Rigdon and Combs Team of Dylan Rigdon (left) and Keith Combs (right) of the St. Augustine/Murabella at World Golf Village office was recognized as the Top Producing Team.**



**Marilyn Gilman of the Avondale/Ortega office was named Rookie of the Year.**



**The Beaches/Intra-coastal West/Southside Office, under leadership of Don Cline (above), received the Top Office/Chairman's Cup award.**

Photos provided by Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices FNR

to use technology to list, promote, show and sell homes virtually, serving buyers and sellers alike.

The company's focus on doing business virtually included the 2020 Annual Awards. Celebrating success is a vital part of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty's culture, and the event bought hundreds of real estate professionals together virtually to honor the company's top producers. The top company award winners include:

■ Elizabeth Hudgins of the Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office led the company as the Top Producer with \$47.6 million in closed sales.

■ Stefanie Bernstein of the St. Augustine/Murabella at World Golf Village office received three key awards. Bernstein was named Top Listing Agent with 48 listings, Top Transaction Agent with 187.10

transactions and Top Sales Agent with 82.05 sales.

■ The Rigdon and Combs Team of the St. Augustine/Murabella at World Golf Village office was recognized as the Top Producing Team with \$27 million in closed sales.

■ Marilyn Gilman of the Avondale/Ortega office was named Rookie of the Year with 16.75 closed units and \$5 million in closed volume.

■ The Beaches/Intra-coastal West/Southside Office, under the leadership of Managing Broker Don Cline, received the Top Office/Chairman's Cup award, which recognizes success in a number of categories including client feedback, recruiting, listing sides, closed sides, per person productivity, closed volume and profitability.

The top award winners were presented with flowers and a Ponte Vedra Inn and Spa gift certificate. Bernstein also received a donation to National Mill Dog Rescue in recognition of her multiple awards. Every Realtor who achieved \$5 million or more in closed production received John Maxwell's 15 Invaluable Laws of Growth Coaching Program, a gift card to a local restaurant in their market area, a bottle of Prosecco and two BruMate Cabernet wine tumblers packaged in a beautiful gift box.

During the event, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty highlighted its +1 initiative, inspiring team members to soar to new heights in 2021.

For more information, go to FloridaNetworkRealty.com.

## Pappas

Continued from 16

would you pay 12% on all of your \$32,000? If you said, nope, and it was not a guess, kudos to you student! You are correct if you are thinking that you would pay 10% on your first \$9,995 (see above brackets) and then you would pay 12% on the rest. Therefore, you might be “in” the 12% marginal tax bracket, but your “average” or “effective” tax rate is 11.36%. Confused? Don't be, as it is rather simple math to get to the 11.36% rate.

Here is how the math works ... 10% of \$9,995 = \$995 + 12% of 22,005 (which is the additional amount to get to \$32,000) = \$2,640. So, your tax amount due is \$995 + \$2,640 or \$3,635. To determine what the average rate is, you would simply divide your tax amount, which is \$3,636 by \$32,000, which is your taxable income (your taxable income). That my friends is how you get to 11.36% effective tax rate on \$32,000 of taxable income. Once again, you're in the 12% marginal tax bracket but your effective tax rate is lower at 11.36%.

If you need time to unpretzel your brain, now would be great, as the teacher is going home!

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## Distillery

Continued from 16

DISCUS President and CEO Chris Swonger welcomed St. Augustine Distillery to the Craft Advisory Council.

“The Distilled Spirits Council is proud to represent a growing membership of spirits producers, including America's fast-growing craft distillers. More than 2,000 craft distillers across the United States provide important contributions to their local economies, tourism and job market, and we are delighted that St. Augustine Distillery will bring its expertise and leadership to the Craft Advisory Council.”

# Butterfield Gallery's February featured artist focuses on visual storytelling

Emma Greenhill is the February featured artist in the gallery for the Butterfield Garage Gallery in St. Augustine.

Greenhill's paintings are a form of visual storytelling, each one full of nature and symbolism, left for the viewer to interpret. She creates these figurative artworks from her imagination. With a rich color palette, she sees the canvas as a window to the soul, capturing the strength and vulnerability of women overcoming adversity.

Knitted into her work are glimpses of nature, often representing new life, rebirth and spiritual awakening.

"Painting is a form of therapy for me; I use it to transfer my feelings and release energy," Greenhill said.

Mostly self-taught, Greenhill finds painting to be a continual learning experience, persevering to find techniques that transfer what is in her head to what is on the canvas.

The painting "Boca" was inspired by a dog her husband had a very special relationship with and still talks about the special place the dog holds in his heart. Greenhill's painting speaks



Photo provided by Butterfield Garage Gallery

**Emma Greenhill's painting "Boca" was inspired by her husband's beloved dog and the relationship humans develop with their pets.**

to the bonds we develop with our pets, and the immense comfort and joy they bring us.

Greenhill paints from her home near Jacksonville and participates in art shows across the state while being represented by the Butterfield Gallery. She has won several awards for her work, including Best of Show 2019 at the Old Florida Celebration of the Arts in Cedar Key.

Butterfield Garage Gallery is located at 137 King St. in St. Augustine.

# Apex Theatre Studio to present 'Our Town'

Apex Theatre Studio will present a performance of Thornton Wilder's great American stage classic, "Our Town," on Tuesday, Feb. 16 at the Backyard Stage of the St. Augustine Amphitheatre.

Hailed as "probably the finest play ever written by an American," "Our Town" casts its gaze on the citizens of Grover's Corners. As the show's narrator takes the audience through several decades in the life of this community, the everyday moments which compromise the human experience are portrayed with a mixture of laughter, terror and wonder.

The show features a cast of young artists from the St. Johns County area as well as teaching artists on staff at Apex Theatre Studio.

"This play speaks directly to those things which all of us have in common as human beings," director Ian Mairs said. "We feel it is important at this moment of time to explore such a work, which promotes universal empathy and understanding."

This production of "Our Town" is supported in part by a State of the Arts grant from the St. Johns Cultural Council.

Apex Theatre Studio is a nonprofit performing arts training center celebrating its fourth year in operation. Apex fosters young artists with a passion and curiosity for acting, singing, dancing and stagecraft through a series of master classes, intensives, readings and theatrical presentation. Apex will offer a full range of summer classes at its studio located at 5150 Palm Valley Road, Unit 205, in Ponte Vedra Beach to support young actors in the Northeast Florida area. Summer classes, intensives and workshop schedules are available at [www.apextheatrejax.com](http://www.apextheatrejax.com).

Tickets for Apex Theatre Studio's "Our Town" are available for purchase at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre box office on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Tickets can also be purchased at [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com).

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- Editorial changes
- Crematorium jar
- #56 Down, alt. sp.
- \*One of six Presidents named James
- \*First President previously divorced
- Civil War's Johnny
- Manage without help
- Military procedures
- Cone-shaped quarters
- MLB bench
- Cowboy's necktie
- A whole lot
- \*Whig, e.g.
- Resembling wings
- Nightly necessity
- Experience emotion
- Large ray
- Glacier's deposit
- "Watch out!" on a golf course
- Traditional sock pattern
- Reduced Instruction Set Computer
- Knight's title
- Bypass
- Foot digit
- \*President Chester

**DOWN**

- Any thing
- \*Trump had button on desk to order his favorite one
- Desertlike
- Up and about
- Coddle
- Half-man, half-goat
- Legendary NHLer
- Tragedy, or comedy, or satire
- Cheap form of payment?
- Before Scotia
- Clickable picture
- Olden day "your"
- Be in charge, two words
- Newspaper notices
- What all of #70
- Across do
- Painting or poetry
- \*He beat McCain and Romney
- \*He signed legislation to create Medicare
- Fauna, Merryweather and \_\_\_\_\_, fairy godmothers
- Expert
- Convex molding
- Bumpkins
- Café alternative
- Car ways
- Trans-Siberian Railroad city
- Piercing part
- Slightly drunk

**SUDOKU**

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

8			7	5				4
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	9			6		8		5
1						5		
	2	3				1	8	
		8						7
9		1		2				5
		6			3			
5				1	9			3

26. Kind of cap  
27. Colloquialisms  
29. \*First "dark horse"  
31. Gamecock's spur  
32. Dessert sandwiches  
33. Wombs  
34. \*#29 Down predecessor  
36. Creative  
38. 18-wheeler  
42. Green pasta sauce  
45. Big Island greetings  
49. Australian flightless bird  
51. Group of people, often in research

54. Extremely angry  
56. Concluding stanza in poetry  
57. \*G. W. Bush to Yale, e.g.  
58. Schneider and Lowe, e.g.  
59. Major bike maker  
60. Audience's rejection  
61. Sold in bars  
62. Auto pioneer  
63. Like a busybody  
64. Back, to a pendulum  
66. Latin dance three-step move, once

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# Sports



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2021 • PAGE 20

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www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PLAYERS RECEIVES JAGA COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Last week at PLAYERS Championship Media Day, THE PLAYERS Executive Director Jared Rice (left) accepted the 2020 JAGA Community Service Award. He was joined at the presentation by Redcoats Troy Smith and Andy Carroll and JAGA President Jeff Adams. Rice was recognized for his outreach and impact in the community on behalf of the PGA TOUR's showcase championship.

Photo provided by JAGA



## ProWatercross returning to Vilano Beach

ProWatercross, the premiere national jet ski racing tour, will have two events during the 2021 season features destinations in Florida.

The tour will open its 2021 season at the home to one of the world's most iconic races with its debut race in Sebring on Lake Jackson on April 10-11. The second race will be a return visit to Vilano Beach in St. Augustine on May 1-2.

Entering its 26th year, ProWatercross has grown from being a startup to the national governing body on jet ski racing. The two-day event features multiple divisions and categories based on the make, model and engine size of the skis as well as the age and skill level of the competitors.

After COVID paused the season, ProWatercross was able to end its 2020 season in style with its first trip to St. Augustine with two days of competition for the national championship at Vilano Beach.

"We are proud to welcome our friends with ProWatercross back for two days of exciting races this year," said Richard Goldman, president and CEO of Florida's Historic Coast. "A special thanks to our partners at Airstream Ventures for bringing this tremendous event to our area and the ability to market Florida's Historic Coast to the world."

The races are expected to draw 250 racers from around the country for the three days, with an expected economic impact of more than \$500,000. The races will also be broadcast live through Facebook and YouTube, with a 30-minute recap show airing on CBS Sports Network.

## Ladies Amateur Golf Association North Florida initiates charter membership drive

The Ladies Amateur Golf Association North Florida has announced its formation by Melissa Gotfredson and Carolyn Creekmore.

The organization has been established for competitive women golfers with a GHIN index of 10.4 or lower who reside in the Jacksonville, Gainesville, Tallahassee and Orlando communities and across the Northern Florida region.

"LAGANF was created after the

model Carolyn and I built in the Dallas/Ft. Worth Metroplex 31 years ago," said Gotfredson. "It is designed to advance fair, competitive golf, foster camaraderie and friendships and spotlight the skills and talent of women golfers in Northern Florida."

"We are committed to bringing players together for weekly competition in order to experience the true interest, value and spirit of the game of golf," she added. "It

is where members can improve their golf skills, mental management of the game and become more knowledgeable of the rules of golf."

Members will compete in playdays to be held at premier golf clubs and courses in the area.

The co-founders have the support and the cooperation of the Northern Florida

LAGANF continues on Page 21



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THE Recorder entertainment **EXTRA!**

Every Thursday in Recorder

# LAGANF

Continued from 20

section of the PGA as well as the Jacksonville Area Golf Association and with the assistance of each participating club's PGA professional.

"We are thrilled that our inaugural playday [was held] on Jan. 28 at TPC Sawgrass at the renowned Dye Valley Course," said Creekmore. "It is a great test of golf for any level of player and is

always in superb condition. Our membership is anxious to play one of the area's iconic courses as LAGANF launches its first season."

Membership is open to any amateur woman golfer with the stipulated handicap index in the Northern Florida region.

Members receive invitations to playdays as well as yearly subsidized golf clinics from top instructors, among other benefits.

To learn more and inquire for membership, go to [laganf.com/](http://laganf.com/). For more information, email [melissa@laganf.com](mailto:melissa@laganf.com).

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Source: Real Value of Joining a Local Chamber of Commerce  
Shapiro Group, 2012.

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<p><b>Private Party Line Rates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$14.00 1 week • \$23.00 2 weeks</li> <li>• \$31.00 3 weeks • \$37.50 4 weeks</li> </ul> <p><i>Add lines \$2.15 each</i></p> <p>(Couches, TV's, Beds, Household Items, Etc.)</p>	<p><b>Commercial Line Rates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$22.50 1 week • \$39.00 2 weeks</li> <li>• \$55.50 3 weeks • \$70.00 4 weeks</li> </ul> <p><i>Add lines \$2.15 each</i></p> <p>(Animals, Cars, Renting or Selling a Home or to Advertise Your Business or Services)</p>	<p><b>Employment Spotlight/Real Estate</b></p> <p>1x2 (2"x2") \$40.50/1 wk • \$70.00/2 wks. • \$100/3 wks. 1x3 (2"x3") \$61.50/1 wk. • \$112.00/2 wks. • \$150.00/3 wks. 2x2 (4"x2") \$82.00/1 wk. • \$153.00/2 wks. • \$200.00/3 wks. 2x3 (4"x3") \$123.00/1 wk. • \$225/2 wks. • \$300/3 wks.</p>	<p><b>Business &amp; Worship Directory</b></p> <p>1.5 x 2 \$55.00/month 1.5 x 4 \$96.52/month 1.5 x 6 \$149.52/month</p> <p><i>Rate Guide for: The Recorder</i></p>
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*Criminal Defense Attorney*

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

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