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PONTE VEDRA



# Recorder

November 11, 2021

Volume 53, No. 2

75 cents

PonteVedraRecorder.com

Not your average newspaper, not your average reader

## State bound Sharks



Photo by Anthony Richards

The Sharks celebrate after scoring the final point to beat Tallahassee Leon and advance to the Class 6A state semifinals. Ponte Vedra will host Viera at 2 p.m. Nov. 13.



### INSIDE: CHECK IT OUT!

The Recorder's Entertainment EXTRA featuring TV listings, streaming information, puzzles and more!



Sports  
PXG Golf Tournament  
Page 27

Ponte Vedra Auto Show  
Inside



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## INSIDE

One of Us

Page 6

Business Weekly

Pages 25

In the Arts

Page 26

Sports

Pages 27-29

## Send us your news

We welcome submissions of photos, stories, columns and letters to the editor. Let us know what's happening. If you have hard copies of photos you want us to feature, feel free to bring them to our office — we'll scan them and hand them right back. E-mail submissions to [pvrecorder@opcfla.com](mailto:pvrecorder@opcfla.com) or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach.**



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## ADOPT A PET

### Hopper

Hi, I'm Hopper. I'm a 1½-year-old male terrier mix. I am up for adoption and am ready to start my new life with an awesome new "forever" family. I will need a family that is very patient and is willing to train me or send me to training, as I am a very energetic boy. I will be best suited with a family that has no children. If you are interested in having a meet-and-greet with me give The Pet Center a call.



### Arya



Hi, I'm Arya! I am a four-month-old female domestic shorthair that was brought to the Pet Center with my sister, Sansa. You can see her trying to photo bomb me in the photo. Found abandoned, we were given strong female names like our namesakes in the Game of Thrones. I am brave but loving and wish only to find a "forever" home!

## St. Johns County Pet Center

Cat adoptions at the St. Johns County Pet Center are \$30 for males and \$40 for females. Dog adoptions are \$45 for males and \$60 for females. Adoption fees include microchipping, neutering/spaying, rabies vaccinations and shots. The Pet Center is located at 130 N. Stratton Road off U.S. 1 between County Road 210 and International Golf Parkway. Business hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. 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, call the **St. Johns County Pet Center at (904) 209-6190.**

## BRIEFS

### Dredging of Intracoastal Waterway Palm Valley North Reaches planned

The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has announced that dredging operations on the Intracoastal Waterway Palm Valley North Reaches will be undertaken in two shifts per day, seven days per week when they begin work sometime in the next two months.

About 640,000 cubic yards of material will be removed from the channel for deposit in an existing dredge material management area in Duval County at the north end of the project area.

Dredging will begin at the Duval-St. Johns County line and move southward to the Palm Valley Bridge.

The Corps requests boaters and residents to exercise heightened caution in the work areas. Navigators should watch for the marked floating pipeline and for the working dredge and transport barge while operations are under way.

For more information on Jacksonville District projects and operations, go to [www.saj.usace.army.mil](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil).

### YMCA seeks donations of blankets, socks

The First Coast YMCA is collecting new or "gently used" blankets and new socks at all branches in North-east Florida through Nov. 22 for distribution in the

Greater Jacksonville area on Thanksgiving Day.

As the weather begins to cool down during the fall and winter months, these donations will help to keep those in need warm across the First Coast.

Donations can be dropped off at any YMCA across the First Coast.

### Friends Speaker Series presents Chef Andrea Rosenblatt

In the spring of 2007 Chef Andrea Rosenblatt and her husband Michael unlocked the door to their new enterprise, A Chef's Cooking Studio, located on Hilden Road, off U.S. 1 in Ponte Vedra. Her passion for cooking and sharing with home cooks the tricks and tips of professional cook masters is what drove her to create the space, which is one of sharing, food and fun.

Chef Andrea is devoted getting pre-packed, preservatives and additives out of the home cook's kitchen.

She will speak at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, in the Friends of the Library Room at the Ponte Vedra Branch Library.

Her topic is "Food in Writing." She will

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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# Ponte Vedra Recorder: Looking back over 52 years

The fifth anniversary edition of The Ponte Vedra Recorder was published Nov. 8, 1974. The front page featured a few words from the paper's founders, Gretchen Carpenter and Peg Bradford. Carpenter wrote: "When we introduced the Ponte Vedra Recorder five years ago this month, we knew that many of you anticipated a shallow gossip-type sheet. We have worked diligently to bring you

instead the kind of newspaper which we feel projects the true Ponte Vedra image, locally and around the world." Bradford added: "We endeavor to give all segments of the area full and fair coverage." The optimism of the publication's first staff was evident in a quote that appears below the headline "The RECORDER Knows No Bounds":

"We do not anticipate solving the international dollar crisis, nor do we expect to influence foreign policy, but we sincerely feel the widespread circulation of the RECORDER deserves honorable mention." Over the past half century, The Recorder has grown to become an important source of local news for the area.



## Briefs

Continued from 2

share some of her favorite cookbooks from her collection of 400, and discuss food writing vs. cookbook writing while sampling some cookies perfect for the holidays. Doors open at 6 p.m. Admission is free. The presentation is part of the Friends of the Ponte Vedra Library Speaker Series.

### Congregation invites others to Christmas initiative

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is inviting organizations and congregations across St. Johns and Putnam counties to give a Christ-like focus on others during its "Light The World with Love" Christmas initiative, which runs from Nov. 30 through Dec. 25.

The congregation will launch its calendar on Monday, Nov. 15, at Lighttheworld.org. On certain dates, there will be a specific focus, most having to do with helping those in need. The congregation worships at 5490 County Road 210 West, St. Johns.

### McKenzie's Run set for Nov. 20

McKenzie's Run, created to raise awareness about The McKenzie Noelle Wilson Foundation's local and global programs, will hold its 12th annual event on Nov. 20 at The Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass. The run supports the McKenzie Wilson Boys & Girls Clubs that provide free after-school mentoring, tutoring and specialized academic programs along with summer enrichment programming to young people in the community. The fun run begins at 8:30 a.m., and the

5K begins at 9 a.m. For information or to register, go to [bit.ly/3CX2uX4](http://bit.ly/3CX2uX4).

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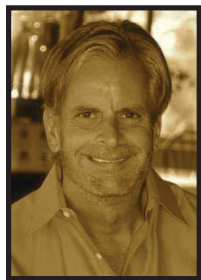




## OBITUARIES

## Kirk Lanterman

**In Loving Memory of Kirk Lanterman**  
March 31, 1962 - November 2, 2021



Kirk Lanterman

Kirk Bryan Lanterman, 59, peacefully passed away Tuesday, November 2, 2021, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Kirk was born on March 31, 1962, to the late Gloria and Howard Lanterman in Elmira, New York. In his youth, the family moved to Ponte Vedra Beach where he was raised and attended Fletcher High School, followed by service in the US Army, stationed in Germany. It was in the army that his rare technical aptitude was discovered, and the army immediately put this talent to work for our country.

The Lanterman history in Germany

highlights the carrying of lanterns through the eve to light the night. This trait remained in our beloved Kirk who was a strong, gentle, fearless leader and bright light for all who knew him. He was a selfless, strong man of few words who lived a life of integrity, hard work, and loving care of his beloved fiancé Margot. His technical gift led him from the US Army to a long, award-winning, successful career with business intelligence technology leaders – Cognos, IBM and Qlik, for which he was a highly sought-after advisor for global corporations. Kirk had a unique ability to spearhead and triage resources around the globe to resolve the most complicated technical challenges in record time. It is no surprise to those who knew him that he continued to work until shortly before he passed.

In his personal life, Kirk's priorities were his family and friends, and his passions included daily pre-dawn workouts,

basketball, Corvettes, fine food and wine, cooking, gardening, home renovation, music, the ocean, off-shore fishing, serving and mentoring others, and he adored his King Charles Spaniel, Charlie. Raised Presbyterian, Kirk's private spirituality was a core part of who he was, and his faith provided great comfort as he battled his illness.

Kirk is survived by his longtime love, Margot Finley and her sons, Matthew and Richard, his brother, Eric and sisters, Suzanne Cash, Colleen Afshari, and Christine DeVolk. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Brett and sister, Cheryl.

A memorial service is being planned for January 2022 to honor of Kirk's memory. Please visit [pontevedravalley.com](http://pontevedravalley.com) for forthcoming details.

Kirk will be dearly missed, but he will live on in all his family and friends that loved him. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in Kirk's name to the Esophageal Cancer Awareness Network: <https://ecan.org/give-the-gift-of-hope/> or St. Jude's Children's Hospital: <https://www.stjude.org/>.

## DEATH NOTICES

## Vilma Boero

Vilma Boero, 90, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Nov. 4, 2021. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

## Laurence P. Bowdren

Laurence P. Bowdren, 94, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Oct. 29, 2021. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

## Robert Joe Erwin, Sr.

Robert Joe Erwin, Sr., 82, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Nov. 2, 2021. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. (904) 249-1100 [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com)

## Randall Jordan

Randall Jordan, 69, of Ponte Vedra, Florida, died Nov. 2, 2021. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

## Nancy J. Krupka

Nancy J. Krupka, 61, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Oct. 30, 2021. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)



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*Ryan Clark opened two Code Ninja franchises in Northeast Florida this year. The business helps students learn the skills that will be needed in the future, and it does so in a fun environment patterned after the martial arts model.*

## Ryan Clark

### As told to Shaun Ryan

#### Tell me a little bit about Code Ninjas, its goals and how it achieves them.

We help prepare children ages 5-15 for a future with technology. Visiting our Code Ninjas center, children learn how to code in a fun, safe and social-learning environment where gaming is celebrated and STEM is cool.

Everything about Code Ninjas is built around fun, which keeps kids coming back. But the center also provides the results that parents are looking for, as their children gain coding and problem-solving skills they'll need for the jobs of the future. Code Ninjas accomplishes this with a robust, game-based curriculum made up of nine belts, just like martial arts. The curriculum is self-paced, but not self-taught; kids get immediate help and encouragement from Code Senseis and fellow students as they advance from white to black belt.

The program keeps kids motivated with little wins along the way, and "Belt-Up" celebrations where they receive color-coded wristbands to mark their graduation to the next level. By the time a child finishes the program, they will publish an app in an app store.

#### What must the students accomplish to earn the various belts?

Through our path to enlightenment, as Code Ninjas advance through our nine-belt system from white belt to black belt, they will practice, learn and build games with real programming languages to include Javascript, Lua, and C#. To progress to the next belt, Code Ninjas will learn key concepts and build out games and software that incorporate these learnings.

In addition, we have clubs, camps and other programs where we offer additional opportunities to learn other programming languages and software like Python and Sonic Pi.

#### What inspired you to open a Code Ninjas franchise?

As I transitioned from the military to the private sector, it was clear how important technology is to everything we do, whether an accountant or a developer. In order to be successful today, our understanding of technology and coding is a mandatory requirement like reading, writing and arithmetic. Looking for solutions to help prepare my children and supplement their education, I found Code Ninjas. The Code Ninjas program is amazing and provides the best methodology available to drive engagement and excitement to help children learn these amazing skills and prepare for a future with technology.

#### How long has the local franchise been open?

We have two Code Ninjas in the local area. Our first Code Ninjas in Fleming Island opened at the beginning of 2021, and Code Ninjas – Ponte Vedra has been open since April 2021.

#### What has been the response from families?

We have been told so many times, "I wish we had this when we were kids!" and we completely agree.

Our Code Ninjas families have been so excited to have a place that their child(ren) can go and turn screen time into a positive, learn technology and prepare for the future! We are incredibly grateful for the community and our families' support!



#### Tell me a little about your background and how you got to where you are today.

For 20-plus years, my career has focused on technology, starting a small business in college, electronic warfare in the military, and then over the last 10 years, I have been responsible for the development and launch of new digital products and solutions to market for large financial institutions. Specifically, I led product management, program management and innovation teams. Throughout my career, I find it exciting to solve problems and create better solutions.

#### What do you like most about living in Northeast Florida?

Northeast Florida is awesome! I love the diverse economy, the beaches and history. There is so much to do

here. People cherish their freedom and are active in their community. It's a fun place to live and we always have visitors.

#### How do you like to spend your spare time?

I stay busy. As a small business owner, there is always something going on, but I do find balance. I like to spend time with the family, and yes we play video games! The Guana River Wildlife area is a treasure and amazing place to go run. You can watch the sunrise on the beach and enjoy nature on the trails. I enjoy taking a break and reading a good nonfiction book about history or economics.



# Zoning proposals draw opposition during public meeting

By Shaun Ryan

More than 100 people attended a public meeting Wednesday, Nov. 3, at the Ponte Vedra Branch Library to hear about zoning change proposals made by local resident Steve Diebenow.

It was clear from the start that support for the proposals was virtually nonexistent. After describing his ideas and explaining his rationale for the changes, Diebenow polled the room. He went through each proposal, asking attendees to raise their hands if they supported it.

Very few hands went up.

Diebenow, an attorney who focuses on real estate, land use and zoning issues in Duval County, explained the origin of his proposals. He said he read the code for the Ponte Vedra Zoning District and found restrictions that didn't make sense to him.

Later, he said he was working for a family, though he declined to identify his clients. This led more than one person in attendance to voice suspicion that he was working for the Peyton family, who occupy key positions in the Gate Petroleum company.

Some of those in attendance had voiced



Photo by Shaun Ryan

**Steve Diebenow presents his proposals for zoning regulation amendments during a recent community meeting.**

opposition to the Gate gas station and car wash currently under construction on State Road A1A. Diebenow's having served as counsel to former Jacksonville Mayor John Peyton and having served on his staff only fed suspicions about his current client.

But Diebenow refuted those claims.

"It's a local family, and the family is not a member of the Gate family, and they're not a developer," he said.

Diebenow has proposed these amend-

ments for residential properties to the Ponte Vedra Zoning District regulations:

- Allow three-story homes in lieu of the current two-story limitation. (This proposal was also made for commercial properties.)
- Allow for porches, balconies and bay windows to extend three feet from the building.
- Allow for eight-foot gates, columns and lights where fences are restricted to four feet.
- Allow for six-foot fences between homes.

He proposed these additional amendments for commercial properties:

- Allow for flat roofs subject to review by the Ponte Vedra Architectural Review Committee.
- Remove regulations relating to reflective roof materials.

Members of the audience objected especially to the three-story idea, which Diebenow said would not increase density. Attendees were not convinced.

**NOTE: This is an abridged version of the article. To read it at full length, go to [pontevedrarecorder.com](http://pontevedrarecorder.com).**

# MSD approves off-duty option with Sheriff's Office

By Anthony Richards

The Ponte Vedra MSD Board approved a plan to begin using off-duty St. Johns County Sheriff's Office deputies to provide an extra police presence at the Nov. 8 meeting.

The option to use off-duty deputies in addition to the patrol already being provided by the Sheriff's Office as part of the county had been talked about at previous meetings and was brought up for a vote by chairman Brad Wester.

Having a plan in place to provide the MSD the extra patrol has been a hot topic ever since the Sheriff's Office chose not to renew its contract with the MSD to provide such services about a month ago.

The difference between what the MSD had before was that there were certain officers that were contractually required to patrol only in the MSD, whereas now it will be off-duty officers within the department that will have the opportunity to sign up if they choose to patrol the MSD in their off-duty hours.

MSD continues on Page 8

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# PLAYERS volunteering subject of Chamber event

By Shaun Ryan

THE PLAYERS Championship is four months away, but the effort to attract the 2,000 volunteers it requires to make it a success is in full swing.

On Oct. 27, 2021 tournament chair Matt Welch and community outreach manager Emily Tillo presented a “Volunteer 101” webinar for members of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division during the monthly Chamber at Noon event.

The presentation covered all aspects of volunteering for the PGA Tour’s flagship event.

“It obviously is one of the biggest events – if not the biggest event – in Northeast Florida just from a sporting, entertainment, social standpoint,” Tillo said.

THE PLAYERS began accepting applications for new volunteers on Nov. 3.

Seasoned volunteers were signed up prior to that date. The tournament is scheduled for March 8-13.

Volunteers work alongside the tournament team to assist in many areas, such as scoring, concessions, guest services, operations, parking, tracking ShotLink data and even sanitation.

One of the key benefits of the tournament is that the net proceeds are distributed to nonprofits throughout the five-county area.

“A couple of years ago, we flew past the \$100 million mark of donations that we had given, not just nationwide, but locally,” Welch said.

By ensuring the success of the tournament, volunteers help make these charitable donations possible.

Welch, who has volunteered with the tournament for the past 15 years, said THE PLAYERS has given millions of dollars to Nemours Children’s Health and

Wolfson Children’s Hospital.

“What we give as volunteers is nothing compared with what we receive when we see the impact on those in need,” he said. “It’s not about writing a check and hoping someone is better off. It’s about being involved and helping to change people’s lives.”

Of course, there are other benefits to volunteering.

There are discounts on food, beverages and merchandise, a volunteer party and, for those giving at least 36 hours, discounted Stadium Course and Dye’s Valley rounds.

For those in business, Welch said he knew of no better place to make professional contacts.

And then, there are the friendships that grow out of volunteering.

“I’ve met some of the best friends I’ve ever had in my life out here in the last 15 years,” Welch said.

“You don’t have to know the game in order to volunteer,” said Tillo. “There are a lot of people who may never have touched a golf club but are 35-plus-year volunteers.”

In fact, in some families, volunteering at THE PLAYERS is generational.

The Stadium Course began hosting THE PLAYERS Championship in 1982 and has done so ever since.

The tournament “attracts the strongest field in this game, just because the PGA Tour puts so many resources and time and energy behind making this the best championship possible – not just for our players, but for sponsors, fans, everyone and ultimately the community,” said Tillo.

There is a \$99 fee to volunteer, covering the cost of the official shirt and jacket. To learn more about volunteering opportunities or to register, go to [THEPLAYERSVolunteers.com](http://THEPLAYERSVolunteers.com).

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## MSD

Continued from 7

“It’s not a contract, it’s off-duty,” Sheriff’s Office Captain Tres Edenfield, who was in attendance, said.

According to Edenfield, the off-duty deputies will be paid by the MSD as an independent contractor and not through the Sheriff’s Office budget.

One of the things asked to Edenfield was whether specific problem areas could be made more attention to if needed.

According to Edenfield, any problem areas can be shared with Wester and he will in turn pass those concerns along to him so that he can share those with the off-duty deputies.

Whenever the MSD needs off-duty deputies to work, they will just add that request to the Sheriff’s Office’s off-duty sheet and the deputies will sign the sheet if they are interested or want to work that request.

“The great part about this plan is that it’s flexible,” Edenfield said.

There were some questions from the

board about whether the off-duty deputies would be familiar with the MSD or be from other parts of the county.

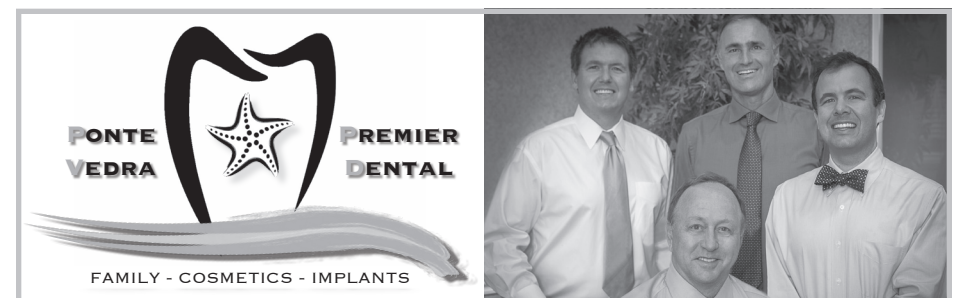
Edenfield promised that the off-duty deputies would be from the area and familiar with the MSD, but he also agreed with the scenario presented by trustee Gary Jurenovich, that having 14 different off-duty deputies over 14 shifts was a possibility.

Jurenovich voted in favor of the off-duty plan, but only as a temporary option as he stated he would rather see the MSD form its own police department consisting of a sheriff and two part-time deputies.

“It’s a bigger picture for this community and it’s not hard to do,” Jurenovich said. “Let’s start keeping MSD money here in the MSD. This is a way to begin getting back to the way it used to be.”

Trustee John Cellucci was interested in hearing more about Jurenovich’s plan at future board meetings.

“Right now, this a bridge,” Wester said. “There is a critical need right now. This does not put the talk of incorporation of any of that to bed.”



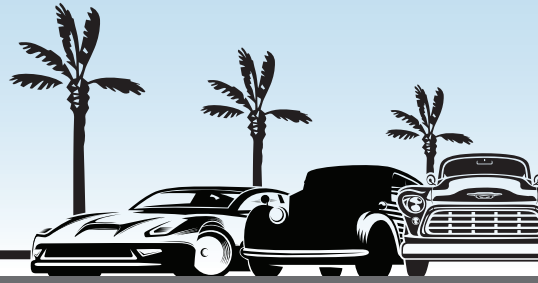
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# 2021



## PONTE VEDRA AUTO SHOW

PRESENTED BY **Art'n Motion**

### OFFICIAL PROGRAM GUIDE

Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Nocatee Event Field

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**THE 2020 Winner of BEST IN SHOW IN HONOR OF LARRY WEISMAN:  
Andre DesMarais - 1966 Ford GT40**



Special Section & Official Program published by



# Recorder

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# Welcome to the 2021 Ponte Vedra Auto Show

The 2021 Ponte Vedra Auto Show is being presented by Art 'n Motion in association with the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce and the St. Johns County Tourism Development Council from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 14, at the Nocatee Event Field.

New this year is the A1A Cruise Night, to be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 13. Food trucks will be on hand to feed hungry spectators. A poker run will stop at five participating VyStar Credit Union locations. Also, an open cruise will travel between Nocatee and Neptune Beach along State Road A1A.

The Auto Show, which is open and free to spectators, will feature up to 200 classic and collector cars, all vying for the show's awards. Parking at the event is free.

The field is located at 245 Nocatee Center Way, Ponte Vedra Beach.

# 2021



**PONTE VEDRA AUTO SHOW**  
PRESENTED BY Art 'n Motion

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### SATURDAY, NOV. 13

- 5:00 pm** Food trucks open at Nocatee Event Field
- 6:00 pm** A1A Cruise Night and poker run starts from the Nocatee Event Field
- 9:00 pm** A1A Cruise Night and poker run checkpoints at VyStar branches close

### SUNDAY, NOV. 14

- 7:30 am - 10:00 am** Check in for registered vehicles
- 10:00 am** Show field and vendors open to spectators
- 3:00 pm** Awards ceremony begins

## TROPHIES AND SPONSORS

**Best in Show  
in honor of Larry Weisman**  
Sponsor: In honor of Larry Weisman (Larger trophy)

**Best Contemporary Muscle Car**  
Sponsor: All Florida Safety Institute

**Best Classic European**  
Sponsor: Allstate Insurance

**Best American Classic**  
Sponsor: Art 'n Motion

**Best Modern Porsche**  
Sponsor: Automotive Film Pro

**Fins of the 50s**  
Sponsor: Berry & Co Real Estate

**Euro Excellence Award**  
Sponsor: Euro Spec

**Exceptional Exotic**  
Sponsor: Ferran Automotive

**Most Super Supra**  
Sponsor: Flagler Healt

**Best Contemporary Corvette**  
Sponsor: Florida Blue

**People's Choice Award**  
Sponsor: Hagerty Insurance

**Bronco Vs Jeep**  
Sponsor: Happy Trails 4x4

**Most Original "Survivor"**  
Sponsor: House of Assembly Events

**Best Contemporary Jaguar**  
Sponsor: Miracle Windows

**Outstanding Classic Jaguar**  
Sponsor: Ponte Vedra Auto Detailing

**Most Outstanding Classic Muscle Car**  
Sponsor: Ponte Vedra Recorder

**Best Pre-War Vintage**  
Sponsor: Renewal by Anderson

**Asian Excellence Award**  
Sponsor: Sensible Recycling

**Most Outstanding Viper**  
Sponsor: St Johns Chamber of Commerce

**Best Hot Rod**  
Sponsor: The Detail Pros Jax

**Most Outstanding Corvette**  
Sponsor: Tire Stacks

**Outstanding Classic Porsche**  
Sponsor: VyStar

**Best in Show Jaguar**  
Sponsor: Wheel House

**Best Custom Paint Job**  
Sponsor: Dent Out PDR

**Magnificant Resto Mod**  
Sponsor: Haymaker Coffee

## EVENT MAP



## 2021 AUTO SHOW JUDGES

### JAKE WEISMAN (Head Judge)

Jake's passion for cars started at birth and has progressed into a full-time career. Through his work as a regional territory manager for Hagerty Classic Cars, Jake works closely with other automotive enthusiasts to help protect and properly value their vehicles, all while promoting the cultural value of collecting. Hagerty

protects vehicles, boats and motorcycles worth a total of \$30 billion. As a company, Hagerty attends over 2,000 classic car events each year, with Jake managing events in the South Florida Region. A Ponte Vedra native, Jake has been attending the Ponte Vedra Auto Show for over 15 years.

Judges continues on Page 11



# Judges

Continued from 10

## DANIEL SCANLAN

Dan Scanlan is a 30-plus-year resident of Jacksonville and a veteran journalist who has intensely covered every Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance and reviewed new cars for almost 30 years. The owner of a 33-year-old Alfa Romeo sedan, he's written about and driven many classic cars over the years, from an 1886 Benzwagen replica to a continuation 427 AC Cobra, and everything in between. He helps judge many area car shows, including many years with Ponte Vedra's.

## HANS-DIETER MANDT

Inaugural volunteer with Amelia Island Concour and current Board of directors member. Porsche club of America Florida Crown Region member board of directors. He has judged various concours and auto shows through the southeastern United States, owned various Porsche's through the years and in addition has owned significant classic Mercedes Benz. Mandt crewed for various Porsche Racing teams, including the 2.5-litre 911, RSR 934 and

turbocharged 935 models. Has been a former entrant and a current judge for the Ponte Vedra car show for almost 10 years

## MIKE FERRAN

Mike has been repairing, modifying and restoring vehicles professionally for 44 years. He is an advanced-level Master Technician and has owned Ferran Automotive since 1990. On any given day Mike can service a 1959 Eldorado, a 2018 Bentley or a loyal customer's daily driver. Although he currently owns a Ferrari Challenge Stradale, a Holman-Moody assembled Superformance GT40 MK2B and a Ferrari Scuderia, Mike says he loves all types of vehicles.

## CASON VOGEL

Cason is the Hagerty territory manager for North and Central Florida, Southeast Georgia and the South Carolina low country. He is a true car enthusiast who has been fortunate enough to turn a passion into a career. Growing up in Florida, he travelled to nearly every major car event with friends. He found that even though he didn't have a collector car himself, he could still be engaged with the community through photography. His camera has led him to many incredible opportunities, like join-

ing the official Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance photography team in 2018. When he is not at a car event he loves reading, going to the gym and spending time with his wife and corgi.

## AJ TASKER

Tasker is an attorney at law specializing in criminal DUI. Tasker owns a 5.0 Mustang, the 11th Mustang that he has owned. Tasker is a member of the First Coast Modified Mustang Club and has been judging with the Ponte Vedra Auto Show for over five years.

## JIMMY BRITTS

Supporting the Navy at NAS JAX is what Britts does when he is not "playing with cars." Britts is a past ARCA race car driver, chassis builder and painter. Britts is the main race car mover at the Amelia Island Concours, and he has been judging with the Ponte Vedra Auto Show for five years.

## JONATHAN CHADWICK

Since he was young, Jonathan has always been a car enthusiast and interested in anything that drives or flies. When he isn't managing his team of project analysts at Bank of America, Jonathan enjoys flying airplanes and tinkering on the cars in the garage in his spare time.

As a Ponte Vedra Beach native, he has been attending the Ponte Vedra Auto Show since the beginning and looks forward to participating this year again as a Judge.

## TOM BUNGAY

Tom has been involved with the Jacksonville car community for over 15 years. He owns Legacy Motorcars LLC, as well as a vintage car appraisal business, Bungay Auto Appraisals. In addition, he is active with the Amelia Island Concours working in the judges' tent and with Historic Sports car Racing (HSR) as an active competitor. Before moving to Jacksonville, Tom was a judge in Monterey and the Santa Barbara Concours.

## DR. ANDREW F. CANNESTRA

Dr Cannestra is a Jacksonville physician with a 30-year history of collecting antique classic and exotic cars (and motorcycles). He is a prior Ponte Vedra Auto Show judge and currently owns and shows several award-winning cars. His vehicles have shown at Amelia Island, Festival of Speed, Bahamas Speed Week Revivals, Ponte Vedra Auto Shows and the Celebration exotic car shows.



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# A1A Cruise Night scheduled for Nov. 13

**By Anthony Richards**

A new twist at this year's Ponte Vedra Auto Show will include the inaugural A1A Cruise Night presented by Vystar Credit Union at 6 p.m. Nov. 13.

An open cruise will take place the night before the 2021 Ponte Vedra Auto Show and will be held between Nocatee and Neptune Beach on State Road A1A.

The night will include a drive-in dinner experience from 6 to 9 p.m. with 14 food vendors specializing in an array of various cuisines from Mexican to Italian, and many more.

"It's good promotion for the show, because it's the very next day," show promoter Justin Felker said. "We decided last year that we definitely wanted to expand and do a little more heading into the show. Something still manageable, but that makes it a two-day event."

Also, during that three-hour window will be a poker run for those involved in cruise.

It will include making stops along the way at five participating Vystar Credit Union locations along the designated route.

The person with the high hand receives a trophy and other prizes will also be awarded the next day during the Ponte Vedra Auto Show.

"It's an activity for people to do to make it even more fun and engaging," Felker said. "We have other ideas, but this is just the first one being implemented."

Although the poker run and the drive-in dinner experience is scheduled from 6 to 9 p.m., there is no set ending for the open cruise, which exemplifies the laid-back nature that the open cruise is intended to be.

Those driving in the open cruise but not participating in the poker run can still stop at the Vystar locations along the route to gather and relax with others doing the same.

All types of vehicles are welcome to join the cruise with both old and new expected to be present.

The participating Vystar Credit Unions are located at 245 Nocatee Center Way; 100 Village Lake Drive; 212 Ponte Vedra Drive; 100 Third Street North, Jacksonville Beach; and 1307 Atlantic Boulevard, Neptune Beach.

The cruise is free to take part in and will begin at Nocatee Station Field. The exact car count is unpredictable according to event director Justin Felker with Art 'n Motion in St. Augustine, but he hopes that the community embraces it and shares in his passion for cars.



**An open car cruise will take place from 6 to 9 p.m. Nov. 13 between Nocatee and Neptune Beach on State Road A1A.**

This year's Auto Show is scheduled to be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 14 at Nocatee Station Field. The show will feature up to 200 classic and collector cars.

Felker wants to continue to feed off the passion for cars throughout the commu-

nity by continuing to grow the event in the years to come.

"There's all types of cars in this area," Felker said. "Everything from supercars to someone bringing a 115-year-old Cadillac."



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# Last year's overall winner still resonates



File photo

Andre DesMarais' 1966 Ford GT40 was the overall winner at last year's Ponte Vedra Auto Show.

## By Anthony Richards

When Andre DesMarais drove up in his 1966 Ford GT40 at last year's Ponte Vedra Auto Show, promoter Justin Felker could not believe what he was seeing.

At first, he thought it was a replica, but then as he walked up to it, he quickly realized it was the real deal.

According to the car's owner, Andre DesMarais, there were only roughly 105 ever made by Ford, and only 31 road versions.

One of the neat things that captured people's attention is the fact that DesMarais drove the car to the show rather than hauling it on a trailer.

"A lot of times they end up just sitting in someone's garage somewhere," DesMarais said. "We drive it, because no use is the best abuse for a car like that."

The unique nature and history of the car led to it being named last year's overall winner of the auto show.

DesMarais bought the car 10 years ago following the death of his father, who was the one that developed his passion for cars and racing.

"It's sentimental and it is just a part of the family at this point," DesMarais said.

What makes the 1966 GT40 so special is not just its physical features, but also

the history that coincides with it.

The model won the 1966 24 Hours of Le Mans and was the first overall victory for an American manufacturer at the prestigious endurance race.

"When you talk about cars in the 60s, it's a big part of American culture," DesMarais said. "It's almost like rolling art."

The car was made with the sole purpose of winning at Le Mans, but 31 road cars were made so that Ford could meet the homologation standards required of each manufacturer to race.

"There's not much difference between the road car and the race car," DesMarais said. "It's pretty much the addition of an ashtray and couple of little things, but it's pretty much the same."

DesMarais grew up in Wisconsin and attended races at Road America, which is a historic road course that hosts several professional racing series each year.

The decision to enter the car at last year's show did not come until late in the process after his wife had heard about it and mentioned it to him.

"It's a great thing for the community to have," DesMarais said. "It's important that people remain aware of these vehicles and the history behind them."

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Photo provided by Craig Kerins

Jaguar Club of North Florida President Craig Kerins is shown with two of his automobiles. The one in front is a 1957 XK150S. The car in back is a 2013 XKR.

# Jaguars to be featured at Ponte Vedra Auto Show

By Shaun Ryan

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the Jaguar E-Type, which debuted at the 1961 Geneva International Motor Show.

By chance, 2021 also marks the debut of the Jaguar Club of North Florida's official participation in the Ponte Vedra Auto Show.

The club, which has been in existence for a couple of decades, has 88 members, most of whom reside in the region that stretches from Fernandina Beach to St. Augustine.

Up to 25 Jaguars are expected to be on site in a roped-off, show-within-a-show area.

"We're going to park them all together, and we're going to have a special award," said club president and chief judge Craig Kerins.

The club's participation stems from last year's show, which three members attended. They approached Justin Felker

of Art 'n Motion, which last year took the reins of the show, and he was supportive of the idea to feature the British automobile.

"We kind of talked it up within the club, and we've got a pretty good little show," Kerins said.

In some ways, the show will be a kind of trial balloon to gauge club members' interest in reviving its annual concours, last held in 2013.

The Ponte Vedra Auto Show is the perfect place to test that idea, because most of the heavy lifting has been done. Everything has already been worked out, including the presence of restrooms, food trucks and more.

The local Jaguar enthusiasts belong to one of the Jaguar Club of North America's 60 member clubs. They meet monthly, though they had to conduct outdoor "picnics" during the surge of COVID-19 to better ensure member safety.

Jaguars continues on Page 17

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# Ford vs. Jeep

Manufacturers square off in new category

By Anthony Richards

One thing 2021 Ponte Vedra Auto Show promoter Justin Felker hopes is that people attending realize that car lovers are not all the same.

There are many cases where certain people enjoy one type of vehicle more than another, and he wants the auto show to reflect that variety that exists.

To help accomplish that he has added a new Bronco vs. Jeep category that will be judged at this year's event.

The category will showcase Ford Broncos and various Jeeps, in a move to create interest for those who are passionate about off-road and sport utility vehicles.

"Off-roading in general is becoming a big thing, so we thought it would be pretty exciting," Felker said. "People are pulling them out of barns and restoring



File photo

A new Bronco vs. Jeep category will be introduced at the 2021 Ponte Vedra Auto Show Nov. 13.

them. Everything from the World War II versions to the 80s."

It also highlights the decades-old rivalry that the two manufacturers have had when it comes to that class of vehicle.

"There are some really neat Jeeps and Broncos that are going to be coming," Felker said.

Creating new categories is something Felker likes to do because it keeps the event fresh and gives attendees something new to focus on each year.

It also helps that passion for the Bronco has been rekindled with Ford re-introducing the brand with its 2021 model, which ended a 25-year hiatus.

"The Bronco and the Bronco Sport are big sellers, and the Jeep has always been a big seller," Felker said. "They are really competing with each other for sales, and they are both at the top of their game right now."

According to Felker, the region of Northeast Florida has a huge car culture.

"There's all types of cars in this area, so we definitely don't want to get stuck on one class of cars," Felker said. "What makes it fun is to feature something totally different each year."

His hope for the show is that every person there can find a vehicle they can connect with.

That means spanning the generations, so that a grandfather and grandson can both see and get up close to their dream cars.

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# Jaguars

Continued from 15

While Jaguar ownership has brought the group together, each member has separate interests, which they can share with other club members. So, making new friends is easy.

“The thing that’s kind of nifty about car clubs is it truly is as much about the people as it is about the cars,” Kerins said.

Club members recently took part in the International Jaguar Festival in Fort Myers, and some people at that show have indicated that they would like to attend the Ponte Vedra Auto Show.

Jaguar ownership among club members spans a variety of eras and models. The oldest is probably a 1953 XK120, which has an iconic style prized by Jaguar enthusiasts.

Kerins himself owns four Jaguars: a 1957 XK150S, produced in the inaugural year of that model; a 2006 XK8; a supercharged V8-powered, 510-horsepower 2013 XKR; and a Jaguar SUV.

He said the automobile, famous for winning the 24 Hours of Le Mans seven times, has a lot of appeal for aficionados.

“Probably the most noteworthy thing is they’re just plain beautiful,” he said. “They’re beautifully designed cars, and that has spanned the entire life of the Jaguar company. And they combine that beauty with outstanding power.”

# VyStar is this year’s named sponsor for the Ponte Vedra Auto Show

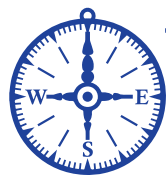
By Shaun Ryan

The 2021 Ponte Vedra Auto Show and the inaugural A1A Car Cruise will be presented by VyStar Credit Union.

VyStar branches are ubiquitous throughout North and Central Florida and South Georgia. The not-for-profit, member-owned credit union maintains 62 full-service branches and 18 high school branches. It has more than 235 ATMs throughout the region and a network of more than 20,000 surcharge-free ATMs across the country.

VyStar, which is headquartered in Jacksonville, is known for its support of local nonprofits. In 2020 alone, it invested more than \$3 million in more than 200 nonprofit organizations. It has contributed toward the revitalization of urban neighborhoods and demonstrated support for members of the U.S. military.

The financial cooperative’s roots go back to 1952 when a dozen founding members came up with the idea to create a safe place for military and civil



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In those days, it was called the Jax Navy Federal Credit Union, and it was headquartered at Naval Air Station Jacksonville. Since then it has adapted to changes in the banking industry, adopting its first computerized accounting system in 1966 and opening its first ATM in 1982. In 2002, the name was changed to VyStar Credit Union.

Today, VyStar has more than \$12 billion in assets, 775,000 members and 1,900 employees. It is the second-largest credit union headquartered in the Sunshine State and the 14th-largest nationwide.

It offers a full range of banking and loan services to private individuals and businesses. Its services include financial counseling, insurance, investments

and retirement planning. It also offers online and mobile banking, with accounts accessible via computer, tablet and cell phone.

VyStar will be prominently featured during the A1A Car Cruise, which begins at 6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 13.

The open cruise and poker run, to be held the night prior to the auto show, will follow a route along State Road A1A between Nocatee and Neptune Beach.

Participating vehicles will make stops along the way at five participating VyStar Credit Union branches. Those locations are: 245 Nocatee Center Way; 100 Village Lake Drive; 212 Ponte Vedra Drive; 100 Third St. North, Jacksonville Beach; and 1307 Atlantic Blvd., Neptune Beach.

Automobile enthusiasts may want to station themselves at one of these addresses to get a good look at participating vehicles.



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Lots of favorite foods are on the menu of today's food trucks.

Photos provided by Dawn Watkins



The cuisine served at today's food trucks is high quality and very much in demand.

# Food trucks to feed hungry auto show visitors

By Shaun Ryan

One of the highlights of this year's Ponte Vedra Auto Show will be the participation of food trucks.

The St. Johns County Food Truck Co-op plans to have a dozen mobile eateries on site Saturday, Nov. 13, for the AIA Cruise Night and six trucks on Sunday, Nov. 14, for the show itself.

According to cooperative founding member Dawn Watkins, who with husband Jason owns the YAMO Italian Street Food truck, attendance at last year's show was so great that vendors actually ran out of food.

"This year, that's not going to happen," she said. "We're going to make sure they've got lots of food."

The trucks will be ready to serve a hungry public Saturday starting at 5 p.m. On Sunday, they'll have doughnuts and

coffee as early as 7 a.m. – even though the main show doesn't really get into gear until three hours later.

"Car guys get up early," Watkins said. "They love their coffee and doughnuts."

In recent years, food trucks have proven very popular. In part, that's because the food trucks of today are not the food trucks of the past.

Master chefs are running food trucks now. There are gourmet trucks, and the quality of the food is high.

In fact, Watkins said, "We call it mobile cuisine rather than mobile food."

The Watkinses know what they're doing. They owned a regular "brick and mortar" Italian restaurant for a long time.

"We try to stick close to traditional sauces – all of our sauces are prepared fresh – and homemade recipes," Dawn Watkins said. "We try to do as much from

Food continues on Page 21

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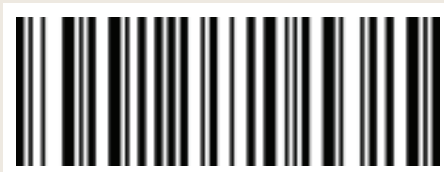
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# WINNERS ROUNDUP

Here's a look at some of the Best in Show winners in recent years.



Ed Schenk with his 1954 Cadillac El Dorado



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# Food

Continued from 18

scratch as we possibly can.”

Auto show visitors will see not only the YAMO truck, but a variety of trucks featuring selections from different cultures – Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Cajun and more. And, of course, there will be those always popular dessert trucks.

Nocatee Station Field is a familiar venue for both the public and the food truck operators. As many as 22 food trucks have set up shop there during Nocatee Food Truck Fridays.

The co-op, itself, is a clever and efficacious way to do business. The goal of member trucks is to help one another and work to bring down costs by sharing resources and information.

“We also want to make sure than new trucks who come into our county and into our neighborhoods have the best information they can possibly have and as much help as they can possibly get,” said Watkins. “The last thing we want to see is a food truck – you know, super-excited, great food, wonderful family – and they’re not successful.”

In fact, co-op members work on each others’ trucks all the time.

“We all share our employees,” Watkins said. “We help each other out. I think we’ve worked on almost every single one of the food trucks in the co-op, my husband and I.”

Also, truck operators have found an advantage in ordering products in bulk to bring down costs. That’s even more important at a time when the supply chain has been disrupted.

This sharing extends to information. Because there are 18 food trucks in the co-op, there are 18 sources of information.

“Someone knows a guy,” Watkins said. “Someone knows someone who knows someone. Everyone knows a guy. So, we share all of that information and then find out where we can get things.”

The co-op maintains a shared Google calendar, and there have been months when Watkins has posted more than 120 jobs there.

“Every time someone comes up to me and says, ‘I need food trucks for this

event,’ I put it on the calendar, and I say, ‘Hey, who’s interested?’” Watkins said.

Operators can then accept whichever jobs suit them.

An advantage for the venues is that the co-op doesn’t charge for the bookings.

In an unexpected turn of events over the past year and a half, food trucks have actually done well during the pandemic. That’s because they could go into places

where people could not go out to traditional restaurants.

“We would come to their neighborhood and provide carry-out service for them,” Watkins said. “They’d order ahead of time. They’d come pick up their food from the food truck. They’d never have to go inside. They could be as far away from other people as they like.”

Local food trucks have also contributed

to the community by participating in fundraisers and other charitable events.

For instance, they have worked with We Feed St. Augustine to provide free meals.

“Food trucks are a lot of work, but they’re very rewarding,” Watkins said. “And the sense of community is just overwhelming. We’re really grateful for it.”

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Photo provided by Dawn Watkins

**Rad Ringo's Mini Donuts is a source of tasty desserts.**



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**IN THE REARVIEW**

**Adversity has Auto Show 'ready for anything'**

By Anthony Richards

Last year was Justin Felker's first since taking over the Ponte Vedra Auto Show from the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce.

"It was something that was in our business plan to start doing, and by coincidence the Chamber came to us and said, 'We have this show and we're ready to pass it on to somebody,'" Felker said.

It was a crazy first year with many obstacles and situations that no one could have predicted.

The operation and logistics of the auto show is complex, and it was something that Felker learned about on the fly during his first year in charge.

"They already had a good plan in place, because they had done it for years, but now you have to learn how to do all of it yourself," Felker said.

One of the biggest changes was that the show moved from September to November due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We had been asking for it to move anyways, so it just seemed like there were some good reasons to do so," Felker said.

"As we got closer to it, people's mentality about COVID hadn't really changed and we were actually on the verge of cancelling it, but we all just sat down and I said, 'We're going to do it,'" Felker said.

With masks, hand sanitizer and CO-

VID-19 procedures in place the show went on.

"It turned out great and people wanted to come," Felker said. "It turned out to be the largest attendance the show has ever had. I think people were looking for something to do."

It proved to be a change that worked, and the show finds itself back in November this year.

According to Felker, what made the date work so well is that the weather was not as scorching hot as it had been in September, which proved to be key for an event that is held outside in a field where the elements can come into play.

Although the weather was cooler, one thing that no one could have planned for was that a hurricane had formed and it was a waiting game to see if it would have an impact on the local area and the show.

"We went through almost cancelling it again three or four days before the show," Felker said.

He has already seen the buildup to the second year go much smoother and he believes the circumstances he encountered last year has made him prepared for any scenario that may come to the forefront.

"We went through all those scenarios that no one has probably even had to go through before," Felker said. "We're ready for anything now."

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**IN THE REARVIEW**

# Taking a look back

The following photos are from the 2020 Ponte Vedra Auto Show. A record crowd came out to the show, which was held despite being on the verge of being cancelled on two different occasions due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the threat of a hurricane. An array of modern to classic vehicles were showcased. This year's event is scheduled for Nov. 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

File photos



A record crowd was on hand.



The auto show was fun for all ages.



All red interior.



Cars lined Nocatee Station Field.



Trophies were handed out to each class winner.



## A Leader in Healthcare

Bobbie Jo Mentz, wife, mother of two, UNF graduate and Florida native, was promoted to Chief Operating Officer in March 2021. She had previously served for eight years at River Garden as the Program Director of Rehabilitation Therapy and Associate Administrator.

“Bobbie Jo brings a wealth of knowledge and experience, and is an absolute pleasure to work with,” says Mauri Mizrahi, Chief Executive Officer.



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PAGE 25 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2021

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## Entrepreneurs of all ages, experience levels to gather at local summit

By Shaun Ryan

A three-day entrepreneurial summit, planned for Nov. 17-19 at the link in Nocatee, is expected to help experienced, novice and future entrepreneurs achieve their professional dreams.

ENTERCIRCLE 2021 is a multifaceted event designed to give participants the tools they need to succeed.

There will be a Youth Symposium on Wednesday, Nov. 17, for high school and college students ages 16-25. Topics will include financial literacy and entrepreneurship for 2022 and beyond.

The focus on Thursday, Nov. 18, will be start-ups and small businesses. This will include tips for success and tax and estate planning considerations for 2022 and beyond.

This will also be Pitch Day. Participants in the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce's Pitch Factory program will present their entrepreneurial ideas in an in-person competition. In addition, students and start-ups will have an opportunity to submit five-minute investor's pitch presentations.

Friday, Nov. 19, will be Women's Entrepreneurship Day. Highlights include: resources for women entrepreneurs, as well as a presentation on women in politics and another one on mental health.

All three days will include inspirational TED-style talks.

The summit is being organized by the nonprofit Sapna Foundation, and sponsors have made it possible for attendance to be free of charge.

An award ceremony will be held at the summit's conclusion. Awards will be given for top innovative startups, top innovative ideas, top impactful ideas and top women-led nonprofits in Northeast Florida.

"The goal of the whole event is to see how we can help drive inspiration and help people nurture their ideas," said link founder Raghu Misra in announcing the summit.

The need for this sharing of ideas borne out by statistics.

Isabel Renault, Chamber president and CEO, said 20% of small businesses fail within their first year. But, she said, "During the quarantine, Americas have

filed new business applications at the fastest rate since 2007."

She said the goal of the Chamber is to help ensure that entrepreneurs continue to thrive in St. Johns County. Toward that end, the Chamber will conduct its ongoing Pitch Factory training at the link. The Chamber members will also participate in panel discussions during Women's Entrepreneurship Day.

Tera Meeks, St. Johns County Tourist Development Council executive director, represented the county at the announcement.

She explained the connection between entrepreneurship and the county's top industry, tourism.

"We have a ton of unique local businesses here within St. Johns County, and most of those are entrepreneurial businesses," she said. "The more individuals that we have successfully going into business — that helps to build our economy, helps to build our culture, helps to build our offerings, and it certainly helps to bring more people here."

One need only to look at all the small businesses, restaurants, tourism venues

and attractions to see how critical entrepreneurs are to the local economy.

To learn more about the summit, go to [entercircle.zone](http://entercircle.zone).



Photo by Shaun Ryan

Link founder Raghu Misra, Tourist Development Council executive director Tera Meeks and Chamber president and CEO Isabel Renault, from left, discuss the upcoming ENTERCIRCLE 2021 Summit.

## Baptist Beaches named 'High Performing Hospital'

Baptist Medical Center Beaches has been recognized as a "High Performing Hospital for 2021-22" by U.S. News & World Report for treating a variety of procedures and conditions.

Baptist Beaches earned "High Performing" ratings in these areas: congestive heart failure, colon cancer surgery, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, diabetes and heart attack.

The "High Performing" rating is in recognition of care that was significantly better than the national average, as measured by factors such as patient outcomes. "High Performing" is the highest rating U.S. News awards for these types of care.

"We are honored to be recognized by U.S. News & World Report for our performance in providing excellent outcomes for our patients with these conditions," said hospital President Joe Mitrick.

"Our physicians and team members are dedicated to providing the highest quality care possible and this honor shows we are delivering on that promise in the Beaches



Contributed Photo

**Baptist Medical Center Beaches**

community."

The annual ratings, now in their seventh year, are designed to assist patients and their doctors in making informed decisions about where to receive care for common conditions and elective procedures.

For the 2021-22 ratings, U.S. News evaluated more than 4,750 medical centers nationwide in 17 procedures

and conditions. Fewer than a third of all hospitals received any high-performing rating, and only 11 earned this rating in all procedures and conditions.

The U.S. News Procedures & Conditions methodology is based entirely on objective quality measures such as risk-adjusted outcome rates, volume, quality of nursing and other care-related indicators.

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The NIGHTS OF LIGHTS and the park and ride shuttle are produced by the City of St. Augustine with funding assistance from the St. Johns County Tourist Development Council, but the success of the NIGHTS OF LIGHTS would not be possible without the wide participation of the St. Augustine Community.

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# In the Arts



Send your arts news to [pvrecorder@opcfla.com](mailto:pvrecorder@opcfla.com)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2021 • PAGE 26 [www.PonteVedraRecorder.com](http://www.PonteVedraRecorder.com)

## Ponte Vedra Concert Hall to present 'The Music of Cream'

"The Music of Cream" will be presented live April 9 at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall. The show will celebrate the legendary group with musical tributes and never-before-seen footage and photographs.

"The Music of Cream," featuring family members Kofi Baker (Ginger Baker's son) and Will Johns (Eric Clapton's nephew and son of Zeppelin/Stones engineer Andy Johns) announced the new show, honoring the original band's landmark album "Disraeli Gears."

This unique project began in 2017 with a handful of concerts celebrating the 50th anniversary of The Cream in Australia and New Zealand. Such was the response, the show was thereafter seen hundreds of times by tens of thousands of fans across North America and the U.K, many shows selling out.

For 2022 and beyond, "The Music of Cream" hit the road with its new show. Concerts will feature the album performed in its entirety during the first set, followed

by a second with hits and rarities from Eric Clapton, Blind Faith and Cream.

"The Music of Cream" continues to feature family members Kofi Baker on drums and Will Johns on guitar and vocals. Along with the legendary music, the show features storytelling, photographs and integrated videos, many of which have not been seen before, so that even the most die-hard fans are guaranteed a night to remember.

Tickets for "The Music of Cream" are available at Ticketmaster.com and in person at The St. Augustine Amphitheatre box office. The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall box office remains closed at this time.

Ticket prices range from \$34.50 to \$54.50.

Attendees can avoid ticket fees by purchasing tickets in person. Box office hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays and 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays. The box office accepts only credit and debit cards for payment.

## Fort Mose plans major jazz and blues series

By Shaun Ryan

Some of the biggest names in jazz and blues will perform on the grounds of Fort Mose over a three-week period in February in an event that will honor the site's history and celebrate its cultural significance.

It will also help local preservationists reach their fundraising goal for the construction of a representational fort at the historic state park.

The inaugural Fort Mose Jazz & Blues Series will be held Feb. 11-25. The lineup includes two-time Grammy Award-winning jazz artist Gregory Porter, two-time Grammy Award-winning blues musician Taj Mahal, seven-time Grammy Award-winning jazz bassist Christian McBride, the legendary 18-time Grammy Award-winning Count Basie Orchestra, breakout Americana and roots singer-songwriter Amythyst Kiah and New Orleans' deep-groove R&B and jazz group Tank and the Bangas.

One of the organizers for the event, St.

Johns County Cultural Events Division General Manager Gabriel Pellicer, said he was surprised when he learned that a lot of the artists already knew about Fort Mose.

He quoted Scotty Barnhart, the famous jazz trumpeter with the Count Basie Orchestra:

"Fort Mose is one of the most important places in American history, and especially African-American history. It represents the ideals of freedom, democracy and the aspirations of people to live their lives fully and to participate in a society with all rights and privileges afforded to them as equal human beings."

Tickets for the series are available now at The St. Augustine Amphitheater box office and online at Ticketmaster.com and discoverfortmose.com.

For the latest developments on the series and its lineup, go to discoverfortmose.com.

**NOTE: This is an abridged version of the article. To read the entire story, go to [pontevedrarecorder.com](http://pontevedrarecorder.com).**

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# Sports



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2021 • PAGE 27

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## Porvasnik wins memorable match play event

By Anthony Richards

The PXG Women's Match Play Championship turned into the Jessica Porvasnik show, as she won both the stroke play and match play tournaments over the two-week showcase.

"I'm just trying to keep building on the momentum," Porvasnik said.

She had to fight through adversity to win the match play final Nov. 4 but wound up eventually defeating Julianne Alvarez after two playoff holes.

It was a torrid start for Alvarez at the Slammer and Squire Golf Course at the World Golf Village, as she started the championship match on fire and hitting one pinpoint shot after another.

"I just started pretty hot," Alvarez said. "I felt really comfortable out there. I'm known for my ball striking."

That comfortability was on display when she drained a 60-foot putt on the second hole.

"You can be a lot more aggressive in match play," Alvarez said. "It really allows you to be creative with your shots."

Meanwhile, Porvasnik struggled with errant tee shots in the early part of the round en route to Alvarez was up four shots through five holes of play.

However, Porvasnik continued to chip away and just focus on hitting one shot at a time.

That philosophy worked as she was able to mount a furious comeback and close the gap and the two were tied for

much of the back nine.

"I knew if I continued giving myself some opportunities, putts would fall," Porvasnik said.

Alvarez sank a huge putt on the 17th hole and followed it up with a double fist pump as it put her up by one stroke with only one hole left to play.

But her putt would not fall on the 18th hole and instead rimmed out and the competition went to a playoff.

As the sun went down and the temperature dropped, Porvasnik clinched the victory with a nice approach shot on the 13th green and took advantage of it with a beautifully paced putt that cozied up right next to the hole for an easy tap-in.

Alvarez had a chance to force another hole on a putt prior to Porvasnik's attempt, but it once again just missed the cup.

Porvasnik celebrated the win by hugging her father on the 13th green and then sharing an embrace with Alvarez, who she had just shared the golf course with for 20 holes.

On the bag for Alvarez during the



Photos by Anthony Richards

LEFT: Jessica Porvasnik earned \$13,000 after winning the stroke play and match play tournaments during the two-week championship event. RIGHT: Julianne Alvarez and Jessica Porvasnik competed in the final of the Inaugural PXG Women's Match Play Championship Nov. 4.

championship round was Sarah Rhee, who had competed during the two-week event and the two were teammates at the University of Washington.

According to tournament promoter Mark Berman, the 20 holes they played meant that the two had played 188 holes of golf in a two-week span between the match play and stroke events.

"I've never played in a tournament like this before," Alvarez said. "I'm not going to lie, I'm pretty tired right now."

The meaning behind the championship

was to promote women's golf and part of that included offering a purse that was reflective of that.

Porvasnik earned \$8,000 with the match play victory and a combined \$13,000 during the two weeks, while Alvarez brought home \$5,000 for placing second.

After playing so much golf of late, Porvasnik is looking forward to the opportunity to take a break from competitions.

She encourages girls interested in playing the game to be patient because it is not going to always be easy, but the memories it creates is worth it.

"It's a tough game, but it just makes it even sweeter when you finally reach the top and win a big event like this," Porvasnik said.

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Photos by Anthony Richards

The Ponte Vedra girls volleyball team advanced to the Class 6A semifinals with a five-set regional final victory over Tallahassee Leon Nov. 6.

# State bound Sharks

## *Ponte Vedra volleyball advances to final four*

By Anthony Richards

The Ponte Vedra Sharks girls volleyball team is just two wins away from a third straight state title after outlasting visiting Tallahassee Leon to win a marathon con-

test, 23-25, 33-31, 20-25, 25-22, 15-7.

"It's just continuing the legacy," Ponte Vedra junior Zeta Washington said.

The regional final victory punches the Sharks' (28-1) ticket to the Class 6A state

semifinals where they will host Viera High (17-9) at 2 p.m. Nov. 13.

There was a ton of anticipation heading into the regional final matchup, which pitted the top two teams in the Class 6A rankings according to MaxPreps.

It wound up living up to the hype and became an instant classic that those in attendance will remember for some time.

"We knew moving to the 6A division that the competition was going to be even harder," Washington said. "It was a really fun game to play, and the energy on the court was just incredible."

The Lions (25-5) grabbed the early advantage with a 25-23 first set victory despite the Sharks leading 10-5 early in the set.

However, the Sharks came back and demonstrated their championship grit by winning a 33-31 second set that seemed like it would go on forever before Chelsea Sutton had a kill and Jackie Jewett followed it up with a block to seal the deal.

"There is definitely some fatigue that sets in, but that's also when the adrenaline of just being in that moment sets in the most," Ponte Vedra senior Ava Witt said.

After the Lions won the third set, the Sharks once again responded in the face of adversity to win the fourth set, 25-22, to force a fifth set.

"It was all about just playing our game," Witt said. "Pass, set and hit and just do it one play at a time. Leon is a great team, and we knew we had to stay at that level and just give it our all."

Jessica Shattles came up big for the Sharks in the fourth set win, especially when she had back-to-back digs on the same possession, where Ponte Vedra wound up getting a point to go up 13-10.



Rachel Johnson had 18 kills in the game.

According to Shattles, she credited her digs to being able to make the right adjustments depending on the hitter and their tendencies.

Although they were only up by three, Shattles' digs sent a message that the Sharks were not ready to have their season come to an end.

"I feel like we really stepped up in the fourth game and were really playing clean consistently," Shattles said. "I know it's not going to be easy (moving forward), but I feel like we pushed so hard tonight, that we can just keep pushing all the way through."

The Sharks were able to carry maintain the momentum heading into the final set and went up 12-5 after a Kendall Mignerey block. She also wound up getting the game-clinching ace to secure the Sharks victory.

Mignerey and Rachel Johnson had huge offensive performances with 21 and 18 kills respectively, while Zeta Washington and Sutton also added 11 each.

Shattles led the team with 53 assists and five aces.

The Sharks' semifinal opponent Viera defeated New Smyrna Beach, 25-21, 26-24, 18-25, 22-25, 15-7, to advance. They are ranked No. 16 in Class 6A according to MaxPreps.



# Football Playoff Preview

## Nease faces Spruce Creek in first round

By Anthony Richards

The Nease Panthers look to extend what has been a memorable season to this point when they travel to take on Spruce Creek in the first round of the Class 7A playoffs.

The Panthers enter the contest as the No. 7 seed in region 1, while Spruce Creek (9-1) is the No. 2 seed.

It appears that the Panthers (7-3) have found their mojo once again as they have scored 35 and 39 points the past two weeks and only allowed a total of 14 points, including coming off a shutout against Westside to end the regular season.

Offensively, the Panthers like to throw it around the field and test an opposing defense's secondary. They average 28 points per game.

Wanting to challenge a defense is one thing but the Panthers actually have the playmakers to have success doing that on a consistent basis.

One of the focal points of the offense is Dom Henry, who has the speed and agility to not only create space from defenders on deep balls, but also make tacklers miss in the open field to gain the extra yards needed for first downs.

Henry has 1,114 receiving yards and nine touchdowns on the season.

Donavan Wilson has hauled in 403 yards and five touchdowns and gives quar-

terback Marcus Stokes another reliable target when surveying the field.

It is expected that Stokes will surpass 2,000 passing yards during the contest. He currently has 1,938 yards and 18 touchdowns through the air.

The Nease offensive line has done an excellent job all season, and although they spend a lot of time in pass protection, they have also opened some nice holes in the rushing game.

Spruce Creek's defense presents a stiff test, having shutout four opponents during the season.

Defense has been a rock for the Panthers all season having only surrendered more than 30 points on one occasion.

The Hawks average 29 points per game.

As a result, these teams are very similar in the amount of points they score and give up and have produced their share of blowouts.

Something must give between the two teams, and an x-factor in the game could be Panthers' duo of senior linebackers Zach Harmon and Ben Bogle, who have come up with timely big plays throughout the season.

Fellow seniors Creed McClafferty, Keveon Hodges and Kenneth Ponzetti have shown the ability to be ballhawks in the secondary as well.

# Young PVHS girls golf team beginning to discover potential

By Anthony Richards

The Ponte Vedra golf program will have both the boys and girls teams represented at the state tournament, while Nease's Jackson Klauk has earned the No. 2 seed in the Class 3A individual competition.

The tournament will be Nov. 16-17 at Mission Inn Resort & Club in Howey-in-the-Hills.

For the Ponte Vedra girls, who enter as the last seeded team in the 16-school team format, their appearance in the tournament is a major step in not only the group's development, but also in their performance as individuals.

"The postseason is always as exciting as it gets," Ponte Vedra girls coach Adrienne Siewert said.

The team qualified for state after beating Bartram Trail in a playoff and finishing third in the regional tournament.

Siewert seems the potential her team has, especially with so many young players who are just appearing to find out who they are and what they do well as golfers.

The Sharks made a 10-stroke improvement at regionals from the 340 total score they compiled in the district tournament.

"Their scores have just continued to get better and better," Siewert said. "They

want it so bad, that they will fix something before I even get to it. They are all very proactive."

If that growth continues the Sharks could make some noise at state.

Siewert has 11 girls in this year's program, but had to narrow it down to six, five starters and one alternate.

The group going to state consists of sophomores Tory Barned, Nancy Cox and Brigette Wells and freshman Nyla Mayers, while the veteran presence is provided by juniors Megan Grant and Kathy Miller.

Wells will serve as the Sharks' alternate heading into the competition.

"Nancy (Cox) is the only one that went last year as a freshman," Siewert said. "That experience last year will be helpful."

According to Siewert, Miller has really taken the initiative to be a leader on the team in her third year.

"She came to me over the summer and said that she wanted to be more involved," Siewert said. "She has done just that. Kathy is always ready to go."

The Ponte Vedra boys will look to make a charge at the 3A state title as the No. 1 seed in the team tournament.

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- \*"Kiss the Cook" garment
- Homer's "The Odyssey", e.g.
- \*Grandpa or Grandma, often
- Moolah or dough
- \*Pilgrim's colony
- Allah's cleric
- Arranges into categories
- Chance's genre
- \*"Plains, Trains and Automobiles" star
- Woven containers
- Kimono sash
- Aristotle's school
- Part of ideal
- Hurricane feature, pl.
- Comedian Schumer
- Teen worry
- Side of a ruler
- Left over
- \*"When will the guests be here?, acr.
- Rejuvenate
- Expression of agreement (2 words)
- \*"What Turkey Trot participants did
- Outdoor entertainment area
- Messy substances
- \*It makes Thanksgiving wishes come true?
- Half of diameter, pl.
- Flu symptom
- Accompanies relief
- Leaves out
- More than a talker?
- Isaac's firstborn
- Skin cyst
- \*"\_\_\_ my party, and I'll cry if I want too..."
- Confederate or Union, e.g.

**DOWN**

- Compass dir.
- Arctic native
- Go yachting
- Become enclosed in a cyst
- Freshwater fish
- Hop-drying kilns
- \*Pumpkin pie at the first Thanksgiving, e.g.
- Sea World's performer
- "Cheers" regular
- Top seed
- Like a rosebush
- Spy name
- \*Kind of squash
- Toils
- Truck brand motto: "Guts. Glory. \_\_\_"
- Lawn trimmer
- Toe the line
- Designs on lemur's tail
- Purchases
- #39 Across, pl.
- T in Ferrari TR
- Thai restaurant chicken staple
- Elder's support
- Flightless bird
- \*Thanksgiving football game host city since 1934
- Impromptu
- Big coffee holder
- Choice word
- Desert mirage
- Makes less tight
- Lace loop
- "Angela's \_\_\_," memoir
- \*Raiders vs. Cowboys, e.g.
- Scandinavian war god
- Dry riverbed
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- Exclamation of surprise, archaic
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