

# PONTE VEDRA RECORDER

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**TOURNAMENT  
WEEK**

March 10, 2022  
Volume 53, No. 19  
75 cents

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PonteVedraRecorder.com



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## Appreciating Our Military



PHOTOS BY CRAIG O'NEAL



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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. 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 [news@pontevedrarecorder.com](mailto:news@pontevedrarecorder.com) or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach.**



Visit our new website at [www.pontevedrarecorder.com](http://www.pontevedrarecorder.com)

Plus, find the Recorder on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ThePVRecorder](https://www.facebook.com/ThePVRecorder)

## BRIEFS

### COVID-19 testing site to close on weekends

The St. Johns County COVID-19 testing site located at the Wind Mitigation Building is now closed on Saturdays and Sundays due to a decrease in testing demand. The testing site remains open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call the Nomi Health call center at 904-295-0562.

### Limited parking at Mickler's Landing Beachfront Park

The following two weeks are expected to be busier than usual due to THE PLAYERS and spring break. Beachgoers are advised to plan ahead, as parking remains limited at Mickler's Landing Beachfront Park.

The contractor working on the FEMA Dune Enhancement Project is currently occupying a portion of the parking lot to store heavy equipment and other materials.

The pedestrian beach access and a limited portion of the parking lot will be open from 6 a.m. on Saturday, March 5, through 8 p.m. Sunday, March 20.

For more information on the FEMA dune enhancement project, go to [www.sjcfll.us/coastalprojects/FEMADunes.aspx](http://www.sjcfll.us/coastalprojects/FEMADunes.aspx).

### St. Augustine creates parking spaces for Bike Week

The City of St. Augustine will designate parking spaces for motorcycles along Cathedral Place between Charlotte and St. George streets starting no later than Thursday, March 10, through Sunday, March 13, in anticipation of increased motorcycle traffic due to Bike Week. Note that parking in this location will not be available on the morning of Saturday, March 12, due to the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Parking fees remain in place. So, those using the designated parking area may want to take advantage of the ParkStAug mobile app, which is available from both the Apple App Store and Google Play Store, to pay for parking. Standard pay stations will be in operation to pay for parking, as well.

Areas set aside for motorcycle parking will be designated with traffic cones and signs stating that those using the space must pay to park.

### Four public libraries host pet food and bedding drive

The St. Johns County Public Library is hosting

a St. Johns CARES Inc. pet food and bedding collection drive at four branch library locations beginning through March 25. Patrons may bring pet food, towels and blankets to assist in restocking local animal shelters and food pantries.

Collection boxes will be located at the Anastasia Island, Bartram Trail, Ponte Vedra Beach and Southeast branch libraries. Donations will be collected, sorted and boxed for the nonprofit organizations by St. Johns CARES Inc. Monetary donations are accepted.

Animal shelters and food pantries are in great need, and many seeking food assistance also have pets needing food.

St. Johns CARES Inc. is a nonprofit organization established in 2007 that is committed to assisting local charities in St. Johns County. To learn more about St. Johns CARES Inc. or to make a monetary donation, go to [stjohnscares.org](http://stjohnscares.org).

### Photographer to speak at Ponte Vedra Beach Library

Freelance nature and wildlife photographer Eloy Castroverde will speak Tuesday, March 15, at the Ponte Vedra Branch Library.

A resident of Ponte Vedra, Castroverde enjoys discovering exotic sites and the challenge of creating a great photo, even when he cannot control the weather or the subject. His photography trips have taken him across the United States and to Puerto Rico, Panama, Japan, Honduras, Ecuador and many other countries.

His photos will be displayed in the library's entryway during the month of March.

The program is free and open to the public. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the program begins at 6:30 p.m.

### Job search advice topic of Zoom meeting

Savvy job hunters are invited to a Zoom meeting titled "Putting your Professional Package Together and Preparing for the Interview," to be presented by Dr.

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

G	R	I	E	G	A	S	H	C	L	A	P				
M	I	S	D	O	P	H	I	C	R	O	R	E			
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4	6	7	5	2	8	9	1	3
2	5	1	9	4	3	6	7	8
9	8	3	1	7	6	5	4	2



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## Music Among Friends

Ninth Season - Beaches Museum Chapel

**Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 3 p.m.**

Tickets available at [flchambermusic.org](http://flchambermusic.org) or on site.



Concert in Memory of Robert Jacoby

*Southern Harmony - Jennifer Higdon*  
*Punctum for String Quartet - Caroline Shaw*  
*Five Folk Songs in Counterpoint - Florence Price*  
*At the Purchaser's Option - Rhiannon Giddens*

Upcoming concert: Sunday, May 8th, 2022 at 3 p.m.

Beaches Museum Chapel: 525 Beach Blvd. Jacksonville Beach  
 Free parking is available off Pablo Ave. Doors open at 2 p.m.

## Wells Fargo branch to open in Nocatee

Regency Centers has recently announced the addition of Wells Fargo to its shopping center in Nocatee Town Center in the fall of 2022.

The Wells Fargo Nocatee branch will be located at 152 Capital Green Drive in the Nocatee Town Center, between the GNC and AT&T store. Branch construction is slated to begin this spring.

This Nocatee location will be staffed with employees to assist with financial health, account openings and servicing, as well as assistance with learning about digital options and mobile tools.

Services at the branch include a lobby assisted-service ATM, customer Wi-Fi and charging stations in a digital lounge where customers can practice using Wells Fargo's digital offerings.

"The branch opening reaffirms Wells Fargo's long-standing commitment to meet our customers' financial needs," said Damien Haitzuka, North Florida regional banking director for Wells Fargo. "This branch and the bankers will play an important role in strengthening our relationship with the community."

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## Briefs

Continued from 2

Priscilla Berry, instructor, University of North Florida.

Discussion will include information and tips on how to write a resume, LinkedIn summary and discussion on creation

of a website.

The meeting will be held from 10 a.m. to noon Friday, March 18. Sign-in begins at 9:50 a.m.

Register in advance for this meeting at [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEKcuCurT4pEtQqvo1eSPPaalmfy-B0Ey9SP](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEKcuCurT4pEtQqvo1eSPPaalmfy-B0Ey9SP).

After registering, you will receive a

confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

### Ribault Garden Club plans Garden Center Day

The Ribault Garden Club will hold its Garden Center Day on Thursday, March 17. It begins at 10 a.m. and will be held at the Ribault Garden Club, 705 Second

Ave. North, Jacksonville Beach.

The speaker will be LaToya Thomas, director of the Carver Center, Jacksonville Beach Parks & Recreation.

The event will offer information about various programs, including Adopt a tree, Adopt a bench, Urban Trails and more.

## OBITUARIES

### Roy H. Clarke

Roy H. Clarke, 91, was born in Everett, Massachusetts on November 21, 1930. He went to be with his Savior on February 17, 2022.

He was the son of Samuel H. and Ursula Nicholl Clarke. He is survived by sister, Elaine Hiscock, and her husband Philip of Jacksonville, FL; brother, Donald Clarke, and his wife Catherine of Falmouth Massachusetts; and his cherished friend, Kathryn Evans of Ponte Vedra Beach, FL.

During his life, Clarke frequently stated that God had blest him beyond measure, far more than he ever deserved. He had a number of successful careers. He was a graduate of Boston University. Clarke was a soloist and a song leader for many evangelistic crusades. He served in The United States Air Force with the air weather service and was assigned to the 49th Fighter Bomber Group during the Korean War. His business career was spent in the furniture industry where he developed a reputation for rebuilding troubled manufactures. He became an expert scholar on the life of Charles Haddon Spurgeon and had five books published by a major publishing firm. But his greatest joy was teaching the Bible. His last years were spent as a co-pastor of Sawgrass Chapel. Above all he never forgot that he was a sinner who had been saved by the grace of God.

A Memorial Service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, March 18, 2022, at Sawgrass Beach Club, 9795 Summer Place, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to:

The Chapel at Sawgrass, P.O. Box 3205, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32004-3205 or Community Hospice and Palliative Care. Please visit the online Tribute at [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com).

Arrangements by



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Phone: 904.249.1100 Fax: 904.241.7554

### Richard M. Riley



Richard M. Riley, 72, passed away peacefully on March 2, 2022, surrounded by his family. Born in Jacksonville, Richard was a life-long resident of Atlantic Beach and a graduate of Bishop Kenny High School, Class of 1968.

He joined the American Red Cross Volunteer Life Saving Corps in the winter class of 1968 and credited the Corps for starting him on the right path. He actively served the Corps for over 50 years in numerous capacities, including surfman, registrar, captain (two-time) and president of the Board of Directors.

Richard was a founding member of Physician Sales and Service (PSS), now McKesson Corp., where

he worked for over 30 years. He was known as a generous friend and mentor (as well as a merciless practical joker) by his co-workers and colleagues across the medical supply industry.

He was baptized and married at St. Paul's Catholic Church, Jacksonville Beach. He attended St. Paul's Catholic School, was an active member of the parish community throughout his life, and saw his children and grandchildren grow up to attend the same church and school.

Richard was a loving, loyal, dedicated and devoted husband, father and grandfather, beloved by his family and friends. He was quietly generous, funny and ALWAYS right. He was predeceased by his son, Jason, and parents, Richard and Helen. He is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Simonne; children Heather, Jennifer (Jason), Doug; and grandchildren Connor, Avery, Ryan, and Reagan.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 2:00 p.m., Friday, March 11th in the old St. Paul's Catholic Church, 224 North 2nd St, Jacksonville Beach 32250 with Reverend William Kelly as Celebrant. In lieu of flowers please send donations to the Volunteer Life Saving Corps in Richard's memory.

Please visit his Tribute online at [www.quinn-shalz.com](http://www.quinn-shalz.com).

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## DEATH NOTICES

### Thomas Hull

Thomas Hull, 72, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died Feb. 25, 2022. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Muriel Litt

Muriel Litt, 91, of Jacksonville, Florida, died March 2, 2022. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Iris Negron

Iris Negron, 88, of Ponte Vedra, Florida, died Feb. 25, 2022. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Dr. Dewey Newman

Dr. Dewey Newman, 88, of Ponte Vedra, Florida, died March 3, 2022. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Phoebe Rector

Phoebe Rector, 87, of Ponte Vedra, Florida, died March 1, 2022. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)

### Ronald Rosenfeld

Ronald Rosenfeld, 67, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Feb. 25, 2022. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – 904-285-1130 – [www.pontevedravalley.com](http://www.pontevedravalley.com)





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*Kevin Copeland is the vice chair of volunteer services for THE PLAYERS Championship in 2022. Over the years he has seen firsthand the hard work it takes behind the scenes to make the tournament the marquee event that it is and charitable impact THE PLAYERS has had on the local communities.*

*He is looking forward to interacting with both volunteers and fans at this year's tournament.*

## Kevin Copeland

### As told to Anthony Richards

#### Tell us a little about yourself and your background.

I have been in Jacksonville since 1996 and have seen the growth that this tournament has made in the area for the charitable organizations.

I left to go to college in Orlando at UCF and came back after to work at Merrill Lynch. I believe that I will spend the rest of my career in Jacksonville where I can continue helping it grow over time.

#### How did you get involved with THE PLAYERS?

I met Adam Campbell at the University Club and we quickly became friends eating breakfast, lunch and sometimes dinner at the same place around our rather busy work schedules. He did a wonderful job of telling of all the great things that they (THE PLAYERS) do, and I immediately looked to join the team.

#### What do you enjoy most about what the event offers and your current role as vice chair of volunteer services?

I love the fact that I get to assist with all of the hard work that has to go into getting the volunteers registered, uniformed, credentialed, onsite and volunteering.

This hands-on work lets you understand how much work truly goes into the background of getting 2,000-plus volunteers organized and supporting THE PLAYERS Championship.

#### What are some of your goals for this year's event and how does that differ from previous years?

With this being my first year as a Chairman I want to make sure that I move around the course to interact with each of my committees.

It is truly important to let every volunteer know how much we truly appreciate and need all of their hard work to make this event the best event by the PGA Tour.

#### How have you seen THE PLAYERS impact the local community over the years?

The overall impact of THE PLAYERS is truly hard to quantify. Outside of the money that comes from the grants that are given, there are hours spent out in the community meeting new charities and making sure that we understand where we can help even more.

#### What do you enjoy most about living in the North Florida area?

North Florida is in an interesting position where it is growing by leaps and bounds year over year.

I truly enjoy the melting pot of people and cultures that you find wherever you go. This mixing is only making North Florida a more attractive place to live.



Photo courtesy of Kevin Copeland

**Kevin Copeland is the 2022 vice chair of volunteer services for THE PLAYERS Championship.**

#### What do you like to do in your free time?

When I am not volunteering, I am out with my boys who keep me running in multiple directions. My youngest, Sebastian, has fallen in love with baseball and you can find me on the diamond three days out of the week.

My oldest, Aiden, has just crossed over to Boy Scouts where he wants to attain his Eagle Scout like his father. Aiden has found himself building a rather impressive Lego Technic collection over the last year as well.

Outside of these items, we enjoy boating on the weekends no matter the weather and finding new places to explore.



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All properties listed are in Ponte Vedra unless otherwise noted.



# St. Patrick Parade returns to St. Augustine on March 12

This year is the 421st anniversary of the first recorded St. Patrick parade in the world, which was conducted in 1601 in St. Augustine.

A year earlier, St. Augustine's Irish vicar, Father Ricardo Artur (Richard Arthur) led the first St. Patrick celebration in all of the Americas. The St. Augustine events pre-date, by more than 100 years, Boston's claim to the first St. Patrick's celebration in 1737 and New York City's first St. Patrick's Day parade in 1762.

The St. Patrick Parade, produced by Romanza-St. Augustine, will begin at 10 a.m. March 12, starting at Francis Field, and follows a three-mile route through the historic downtown and culminates at the Celtic Music & Heritage Festival on Francis Field, 25 W. Castillo Drive. The Celtic Festival is a two-day celebration of St. Augustine's Celtic history. For information, go to [celticstaugustine.com](http://celticstaugustine.com).

The parade will include numerous live bands, floats, marching units, dancers, horses, carriages, tour trains, trolleys and more. The parade will also feature the City of St. Augustine Pipes & Drums, Coastal Florida Police & Fire Pipes and Drums, Jacksonville Pipes & Drums and Jacksonville Fire & Rescue Dept. Pipes

and Drums.

The 2022 Parade Grand Marshal will be the Sisters of St. Joseph representing the Miguel O'Reilly House, which has been in the care and ownership of the sisters since 1866.

The unique history of the house, built in 1691, and its tradition are an important part of the history of St. Augustine. Father O'Reilly, another Irish priest, was vicar from 1785 to 1812 to the Spanish colonists in St. Augustine, which was Spain's capital in La Florida. The sisters opened The O'Reilly House, known officially known as the Father Miguel O'Reilly House Museum as a museum and fundraising site at 32 Aviles St. On Oct. 15, 1974, the house was added to the U.S. National Register of Historic Places.

The parade reviewing stand will be located at, and hosted by, Ann O'Malley's Irish Pub, 23 Orange St.

Free shuttle transportation and parking for the parade and the Celtic Festival will be available from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. March 12. For shuttle locations and parking, go to [celticstaugustine.com/directions](http://celticstaugustine.com/directions). For more information about the parade festivities and route, go to [celticstaugustine.com/parade](http://celticstaugustine.com/parade).



Contributed photos

The Jacksonville Fire & Rescue Department Pipes and Drums



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The annual St. Patrick Parade

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# Jacksonville native selected for prestigious fellowship

Katie Dykstra, currently a senior computer-science major at Princeton University, has always set her aims on learning Mandarin. When given the opportunity in the fall semester of her junior year, she immediately seized the opportunity, and was inspired to attend a Chinese politics class the next semester.

When the call came to apply to Schwarzman Scholars — a prestigious global fellowship and one-year master's program hosted in Beijing, China — she couldn't pass up the chance to fully immerse herself in this interest.

On December 6, 2021, Schwarzman Scholars announced its seventh class. Among the announced recipients of the scholarship was Dykstra, a native of

Jacksonville and Chicago.

Dykstra will join a class of 151 Schwarzman Scholars, representing 33 countries and 106 universities. In Beijing, Scholars pursue a one-year master's degree in global affairs with a core curriculum focused on three pillars: leadership, China and global affairs.

They are taught by leading international and Tsinghua faculty, with frequent guest lectures from prominent global-thought leaders. Beyond the classroom, Scholars gain exceptional exposure to China and access to important relationships through internships, mentors, high-profile speakers and world-renowned faculty members.

Dykstra hopes to combine her interest

in Chinese language and politics with a passion for machine learning and sees Schwarzman Scholars as an opportunity to forge a connection between these two increasingly important areas.

"I'm excited to learn about China firsthand," she said. "It's tough to really understand it without going there, but China will no doubt factor heavily into the future of AI and machine learning."

The program, which is hosted at Schwarzman College at Tsinghua University, conducts one of the world's most rigorous application processes to identify each class.

From an initial pool of 3,000 competitive applicants, roughly 400 candidates were invited to interview virtually in

Beijing, London, New York or Singapore. Candidates from 55 countries spoke with panels of CEOs, government officials, university presidents, journalists and nonprofit executives, among others.

Dykstra and the other 150 recipients of the fellowship were identified and selected because of their intellectual acumen, strength of character and leadership ability and potential.

While at the program, Dykstra is also looking forward to trying different Chinese cuisines, and to travelling around China outside Beijing and throughout Asia.

The class of 2023 will arrive at Schwarzman College in fall 2022.

## County offers free property fraud alerts

Don't pay for a fraud notification service when property records can be protected for free through the St. Johns County Clerk of Circuit Court and Comptroller's Office — this is the message of a campaign launched March 1 to encourage St. Johns County property owners to subscribe to the clerk's free property fraud alerts.

Clerk of Court and Comptroller Brandon J. Patty is encouraging property owners to protect themselves if someone records a fraudulent deed or lien against their property.

The campaign's goal is to sign up 10,000 residents and businesses this year.

"Property and mortgage fraud is among the nation's fastest growing white-collar crimes," Patty said. "To combat this, identity protection companies charge monthly or annual fees

to monitor your official records — for instance, your deed — but you can do it yourself for free. Simply subscribe to receive email alerts when an official record document is recorded in your name with the clerk's office."

Property fraud is when someone illegally uses your property for financial gain, such as creating a fraudulent document that will deed your home to them, and then they record that document in the county's official records.

The alert email will provide a subscriber with an official records book and page number to view the document in public records.

The service doesn't prevent the fraudulent action from occurring. It does, however, provide an early warning system for subscribers.

Go to [stjohnsclerk.com/recording-activity](http://stjohnsclerk.com/recording-activity) to sign up.



Photos courtesy of Palm Valley Academy dance team

**Palm Valley Academy's dance team members will get to wear their school colors this year instead of having a generic uniform and jacket.**

## Palm Valley Academy preparing for dance team

By Anthony Richards

Starting this year, Palm Valley Academy will have a dance team that it can call its own.

The team was made possible after the St. Johns Middle School Athletic Association approved the addition of dance team programs at each of its county schools.

According to Palm Valley head coach Nicole Pesant, it is a major step for the future and presents middle school girls in the county with another option to choose and can only help them in the transition to high school.

"You go into high school as a

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Palm Valley Academy Bobcats.



# Dance

Continued from 10

ninth grader and it is a whole new world, but if you're already trying out for dance team, it makes it easier for them to build friendships and adjust," Pesant said.

For the first year it was also decided that some schools would have their teams combined to help with certain programs that had lower numbers of participants starting out.

Palm Valley was one of those as they combined forces with Valley Ridge Academy and teamed up to compete as one.

However, the uniforms and jackets they wore were generic and did not have either schools' colors.

"It has made it difficult to feel connected with the school and really capture that school pride," Pesant said.

Getting the word out to both parents and students is one of the continuing challenges that Pesant faces moving forward.

"It's so important, especially as a new program," Pesant said. "Some of the schools are even still struggling to find coaches."

One of the things that she believes helps Palm Valley is the fact that the school already has a cheer program in place, which has had success and been able to develop a good support.

According to Pesant, the dance team

will follow a similar model as the cheer program, which remains active about 11 months out of the year, generally from April to March.

"School dance teams are a different style and require a different skill set than competitive dance or a private dance studio," Pesant said. "It's more about the entertainment value."

Although it will be difficult for girls to do both because of the schedules matching up, she encourages any girls that have a passion for dance or that do not make the cheer team to come tryout.

"There are probably about 400 girls at the middle school, and my goal is to at least get 10% (40) of them to come out for the team," Pesant said.

Registration for the team begins March 9 and will remain open until April 24. Parents can register their child by going to [SJMSAA.com/dance](http://SJMSAA.com/dance) and selecting the school their child attends. A \$25 registration fee is required.

Selecting the specific school is an extra step from the previous registration process when the schools were combined and did not necessarily have their own teams.

Palm Valley will hold tryouts April 28 at 5 p.m. in the school's gym. Parents and students are also invited for a meet and greet with Pesant April 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria.

For more information go to the team's Facebook page @pvadance.



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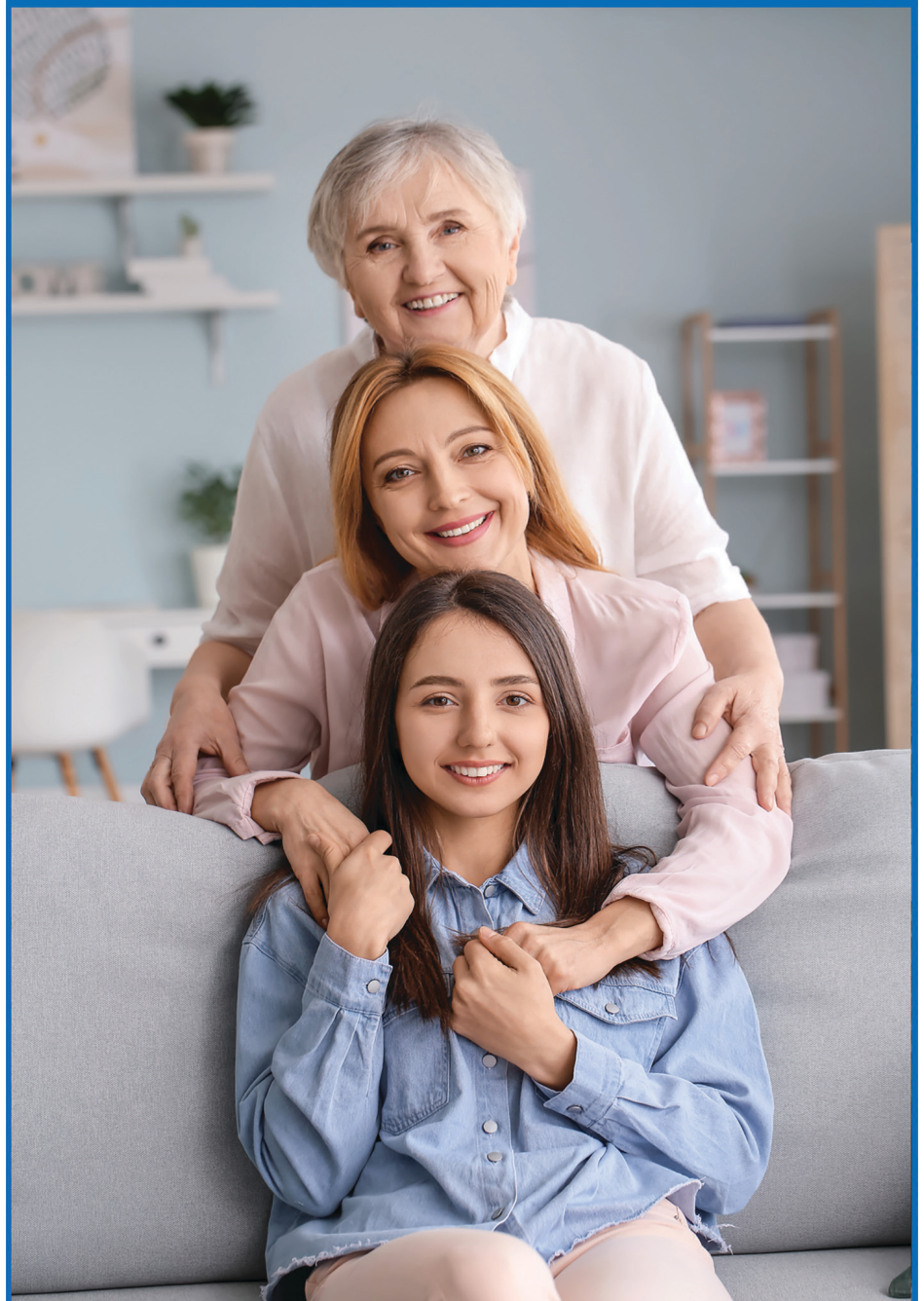
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# Enjoying Golf the Healthy Way

Throughout the world — from Scotland to South America — men, women and children of all ages and income levels are hitting the greens. Golf has long been heralded as one of the best ways to exercise the body and relax the mind. As in any sport, however, injuries can occur if you don't take the proper precautions. Golf can be especially hard on the spine, often triggering back disorders. That's why keeping one's spine up to par is so important.

## Focus on Posture

Proper posture — both on and off the course — is key to avoiding golf-related injuries and improving your game. For instance, a level backswing is dependent on proper posture. A backswing is actually two motions in one: the up/down movement of the arms and the rotation of the body — both directly dependent on spinal health. If the spine is out of alignment, the swing will be out of alignment.

## Cancel the Cart

Here's a simple way to dramatically improve your fitness level: Choose to walk the course, rather than rent a cart. Walking elevates aerobic activity, increases stamina and boosts immunity, maximizing athletic performance and

warding off injury.

## Blame the Bag

Although golfers tend to blame back-related problems on suboptimal swings, many golf-related injuries have nothing to do with the actual game. Golf bags, by themselves, have substantial bulk and weight. Add to that the maximum number of clubs allowed during course play — a mix of 14 irons and woods along with a dozen or so balls and assorted accessories. The result? Enough weight to cause serious injury. Prevent bag-related injuries by asking your doctor to outline proper lifting techniques. In addition, never carry your bag from hole to hole. Instead, invest in a portable, hand-pull cart.

## Warm Up

Warming up is essential when it comes to staying in the game. However, despite overwhelming evidence supporting the need to warm up, most golfers remain cold to the idea. Few amateur players adequately warm up before practicing or playing a round of golf. If you don't stretch prior to golfing, you are asking your body to play golf with an added handicap. Muscles that are warm and stretched properly prior to teeing off are

supple and loose, which enables your body to perform to its full potential.

## Stop for Soreness

Whoever said "no pain, no gain" was far off course. If you experience pain during an activity, whether on or off the golf course, STOP! Pain is your body's way of letting you know that there is a problem. It's like the "check engine" light on your car's dashboard. Rather than "playing through" pain, stop and seek medical advice to stave off more serious injury later on.

Golf is a game. It is also exercise. To go from a sedentary to active lifestyle takes time and patience. Even if you are already actively involved in another sport, it may make sense to consult with your health care provider to determine if you should consider making modifications to your golf game — until your body is fully up to par.

*Contributed by Dr. Erika Hamer, DC, DIBCN, DIBE, Board Certified Chiropractic Neurologist and owner of Ponte Vedra Wellness Center with offices in Ponte Vedra Beach and Nocatee Town Center.*



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# 1% surtax could come before voters

By Shaun Ryan

St. Johns County residents will vote on a proposed 1% local government infrastructure surtax if the Board of County Commissioners approves it to be placed on the Nov. 8 ballot.

The first reading of the ordinance was held at the board's March 1 meeting where the proposal drew criticism from several members of the public.

If voters approve it, the tax would be in effect for 10 years beginning Jan. 1, 2023. It would fund road improvements, alternative transportation facilities, infrastructure for law enforcement, emergency services, parks and recreation

facilities, libraries, stormwater management and erosion management projects.

The need for these improvements has arisen from the population growth the county has experienced. The improvements would meet a host of needs including fire and police services to areas with increased population and a reduction in traffic congestion.

Among the high-priority road projects needing addressed are improvements to Palm Valley Road/Mickler Road.

Commissioner Henry Dean said the county had a \$500 million infrastructure backlog that has developed over the past dozen years.

According to Jesse Dunn, director of the Office of Management and Budget,

a state-mandated property tax reduction some years ago resulted in a \$57.1 million loss of revenue which, in turn, caused the county to defer infrastructure. Other factors — such as devaluation of property during the recession, a 2018 ballot initiative that expanded the homestead exemption and a 10% cap on nonhomesteaded properties, to name a few — ultimately resulted in a \$385 million reduction in revenue for the county.

Commissioner Paul Waldron challenged Dunn's characterization of the unrealized revenue as a "loss" and voiced opposition to the new tax.

But Commissioner Jeremiah Blocker pointed out that, regardless of how the situation developed, the need for this

infrastructure — more specifically, fire stations — still existed.

"We need to manage growth better, but these are existing needs right now," he said.

Referring to the infrastructure backlog, Dean said, "I've only been able to come up with three solutions. One, increase the millage rate on your homes, which I refuse to do. Two, increase the sales tax by one cent. Or three, do nothing and see this backlog continue to get higher and higher."

The issue will come before the board for a second reading, possibly at the March 15 meeting. If approved, it will then go before the voters.

# Lions Spring Festival set for March 26-27

The annual St. Augustine Lions Spring Festival returns to downtown St. Augustine on March 26-27. Formerly called the Seafood Festival, it has been rebranded and refreshed.

This festival is the cornerstone of the local Lions Club's fundraising efforts every year. The festival was founded in 1981, and with tens of thousands expected to attend in 2022, it is the largest, oldest and most family-oriented festival in the city.

The primary draw of the festival is food and music. Other attractions include kids' rides, live entertainment, the arts and crafts village and interesting exhibitors.

The St. Augustine Lions Club has donated more than \$2 million to local nonprofit organizations, programs and individuals. Donations fund community needs such as education, health services, youth programs, disaster relief and veterans' services.

Vision care is a focus of the Lions Club, which has screened thousands of elementary school children. For the past 75 years since the St. Augustine Lions

were chartered, a diverse range of community needs have been supported and funded and service hours provided.

"The festival is one of the most anticipated events on the First Coast," said Lion Dominic Mercurio, festival chairman. "It's where you can enjoy a variety of food, live music, arts and crafts village, and fabulous family entertainment. It's fun for all ages, and we hope to break attendance records this year — so come on out and join us for some fun."

The festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. March 26 and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 27 at Francis Field, at 25 W. Castillo Drive, next to the parking garage in downtown St. Augustine. The arts and crafts village closes at sundown.

Admission is \$5 for adults. No pets are allowed except service animals.

Shuttles will pick up and drop off visitors at locations to be announced. More information on parking and shuttles will be posted on the website lionsfestival.com and Facebook @staugustinelionsfestival and facebook.com/staugustinelionsfestival.



Photos provided by the St. Augustine Lions Club

St. Augustine Lions Spring Festival will be held at Francis Field in St. Augustine



Food is a big part of the annual festival.



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# Bolles Ponte Vedra Beach Campus holds International Festival

The Bolles Lower School Ponte Vedra Beach Campus community held its first International Festival on Feb. 24, with more than 20 families giving presentations on 15 countries, cultures and international experiences.

International Festival presenters and the countries/cultures they represented included: the Prado Family, Italy; the Hines Family, Switzerland; the Hayes and Shirazi family, Iran; the Hayward family, Bosnia; the Vo family, Vietnam; the Jain and Kumbhari family, India; the Singh family, Germany; the Sabareesh family, India; the Popkin family, South Africa; the Slaughter family, Iran; the Taskan family, Turkey; the Fink family, Jamaica; the Bliss family, Vietnam; the Sur family, Ukraine; the Stomayor-Danger, Humanez, Zucconi and Espejo families, Hispanic culture.

The half-day event began with an opening ceremony in George Hall that included a welcome and poem readings in various languages by students, faculty and classes, including a poem by librarian Christina Karvounis, a poem reading

by students in grade 4, a poem in Spanish by Emma Sotomayor-Danger ('30), poem-readings by Maya Singh ('30) and Sinem Taskan ('30) and a song presentation by students in grade 3.

Following the showcase, students began rotations through campus classrooms. Spread out in learning spaces around campus were parent cultural presenters, who shared their demonstrations with students throughout the rest of the morning.

Later in the day as "part 2" of the Ponte Vedra Beach Campus International Festival: the middle school chorus, the Bolles Singers and the Bolles women's chorus shared a live performance in George Hall for their Ponte Vedra Beach Campus peers.

At one point in the performance, a Ponte Vedra Beach Campus ukulele group joined the middle school singers and accompanied them on their instruments.

"It was a great time!" said Bolles Director of Fine and Performing Arts Laura Rippel.



Contributed photos

The Bolles Lower School Ponte Vedra Beach Campus held its first International Festival on Feb. 24.



  
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# Berry marks 40 years volunteering with THE PLAYERS

By Shaun Ryan

THE PLAYERS Championship has been at the Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass for four decades, and Clare Berry has been a part of it the entire time.

For most of those 40 years, she has been the committee chair for player services and has formed lifelong friendships with many players' families.

A dedicated volunteer, Berry is also broker and owner of Berry & Co. Real Estate where she keeps very busy. Her secret for juggling both comes down to effective time management.

"I work more maybe the week before," she said. "And I don't schedule certain things the week of."

Because Berry is one of those people you can count on year in and year out, it's difficult to imagine a time when she was not there to ensure players got the attention they needed.

## FROM THE START

The origins of Berry's involvement actually predate the PGA TOUR's creation of the tournament in 1974 under then-commissioner Deane Beman. Berry's mother was a volunteer for the Greater Jacksonville Open, working in player transportation.

"I grew up with a mother who, the week of the tournament, was busy doing volunteer work," recalled Berry. "She had fun, and it was for a good cause."

Berry's turn to volunteer came one day as THE PLAYERS transitioned to the Stadium Course. A friend who was working for then-tournament director John Tucker knew of Berry's work in the newspaper industry and called to ask her to write press releases for the tournament.

Berry agreed.

"They found plenty for me to do pretty fast," she said, laughing. In addition to the press releases, she created a monthly newsletter for the volunteers. It was a lot of work in those days, with a great deal of typing, pasting and copying — everything being done by hand.

During her second year of volunteering, she had an unforgettable experience, one that arose simply because she was new.

A Jacksonville TV station was planning a live show about the tournament, and the host wanted to interview a couple of volunteers — one of them new. Berry was selected.

After the show, she and her husband stopped at 7-Eleven, where Berry wanted to buy a Heath ice-cream bar. Waiting to check out, she happened to turn around and see golf legend Ben Crenshaw standing behind her in line.

She wished him well going into the tournament and



Photos provided by Clare Berry

The 2015 TPC Chair Brian Franco and TPC Player Services Chair Clare Berry stand in the middle of the volunteer group.

then he asked her, "Didn't I just see you on TV?"

It was her turn to be the celebrity.

"He was very kind, as you would think he would be," she said. "He said, 'Thank you so much for doing what you do. We appreciate you.'"

After a couple of years on that first committee, she moved to admissions, where she was quickly named co-chair. Then, after a couple of more years, she was asked to chair the player services committee. She accepted and has been doing that for 36 years.

## READY TO HELP

Player services is the committee that works most directly with the stars of the tournament. At the heart of the committee's mission is taking care of all the details of the players' stay so that they can focus on what's happening out on the golf course.

"We just try to think creatively of things that will make them as comfortable as possible with no hassle," Berry said. "We try to make it easy for them."

That means being prepared for any request, no matter how unexpected.

If a player is running a fever, a doctor is brought in. If someone has a toothache, a dentist is found. If a gift must be purchased, volunteers stand ready to recommend places to shop.

Once, a player dropped his cell phone and shattered the screen. Berry and her team scrambled and found a

repair business in Palm Valley.

In the days when the tournament was held in May, it overlapped Mother's Day. But the players are busy running from place to place while on tour, and getting to a store to purchase a card was not necessarily on their "to do" lists.

"A friend of mine from my Rotary club worked for Hallmark Cards," said Berry. "And he was nice enough to get me some Mother's Day cards."

Every year, the committee would have a stack of cards ready for players to send to their mothers and wives.

When dinner reservations are needed, Berry and her three-person team make the arrangements. And planning ahead would prove essential to their success.

"I came up with a plan called Free 'Til Three," recalled Berry. "I would go to a number of restaurants locally and say, 'Will you hold tables until three o'clock for me every day?'"

One of the committee's most important responsibilities is making sure arriving players get properly registered for the tournament. Berry's team ensures that everyone's paperwork is in and finalized.

Players' families often accompany them on tour, and the volunteers quickly befriend the parents, wives and children.

Once, a player's mother surprised Berry with a hand-

BERRY continues on Page 16

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- Nina



## Berry

Continued from 15

knitted scarf.

“That was just super sweet,” Berry said. “She just arrived and said, ‘I made this for you. I knew your favorite color was blue.’”

### POINT OF PRIDE

Berry called the annual set-up of the tournament and all that goes with it “amazing.”

“Just to see the infrastructure emerge from nothing to boom — all the tents and chalets and the food courts and all of these things — is just amazing,” she said.

Volunteering with the tournament is important to Berry and her family. Her

son received his 10-year pin the same year she marked her 35th year.

She said she especially enjoys seeing everyone again each year and being involved in something that benefits the community. THE PLAYERS provides critical support to nonprofit organizations throughout Northeast Florida. It recently celebrated reaching the \$100 million milestone in local charitable giving.

“The TOUR has been a great support to our little Ponte Vedra Beach community, as well as the greater Jacksonville area, helping so many worthy organizations grow and prosper,” Berry said. “And in my small way, I contribute to those dollars that help those who need it.”

In addition, Berry said, “It’s pretty cool that the global HQ is in our town!”



Professional golfer Matt Kuchar and his son can be seen on the left side of this photo from 2019. Clare Berry is in the middle. The Redcoat is Adam Campbell.

# Inside the ropes

## THE PLAYERS offers ‘dream day’ to five locals

By Anthony Richards

There is nothing like being at THE PLAYERS, especially for those who love the game of golf, but being inside the ropes takes the experience to another level entirely.

Thanks to the THE PLAYERS Championship and the PGA TOUR, locals from five different non-profit organizations got the opportunity to know what that feels like during the event’s practice round March 9.

The announcement was made by THE PLAYERS 2022 tournament chairman Matt Welch during a special surprise party March 1 at the TPC Sawgrass clubhouse.

“All of us can do something good on our own, but when you get 2,000 people (volunteers at this year’s THE PLAYERS) working in the same direction, we can do some great things,” Welch said. “These are the most enjoyable days for us.”

The recipients included Amanda Bussey with Special Olympics Florida, Ava Jones with Dreams Come True, Dominic Clayton with First Tee of North Florida, Leighmar Wilson with Moore-Myers Children’s Fund and Loxley Greensmith with the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund.

“I’ve been coming out here all these years, but to be inside the ropes and not just in the stands is just so crazy,” Clayton said.

All are golf enthusiasts and enjoy being around the game, which makes their selection even more special.

Clayton is looking forward to having

the chance to be close to the players during the practice round and to meet them, especially Tony Finau, who is his favorite golfer.

He has had an interest in golf since an early age and is a member of the Bishop Kenny High School golf team as a freshman. He has been part of the First Tee of North Florida for many of those years.

“I saw my grandpa playing in the backyard one time, and I was only 2, but I remember it looked like fun to just hit the ball,” Clayton said. “I’ve fallen in love with it ever since.”

For Bussey, her love of golf has now come full circle because she was introduced to the game and swung a club for the first time 12 years ago at a clinic sponsored by THE PLAYERS.

She won her first gold medal in golf just one year later and the 37-year-old now has 30 medals from various competitions over the years and recently qualified to represent Florida in the 2022 Special Olympics U.S. Games.

“Anytime that a Special Olympics athlete gets to participate in something like this, just makes them feel good,” said Robin Luck, with the Duval County management team of Special Olympics Florida. “It’s all about inclusion in the community, and this type of event shows them that they are included, and they are special. It really puts a smile on their face.”

Last year 9-year-old Ava Jones dreamt of having a claw machine and Dreams Come True made that dream a reality. However, she had golf on her mind with her dream this year.

“Dreams Come True has been an



Photos by Anthony Richards

Five members of local nonprofit organizations were presented with a “Dream Day” by THE PLAYERS, which included access inside the ropes during the practice round March 9 and a new set of golf clubs.



Recipients and their families found out about the “Dream Day” experience during a surprise announcement at the TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse.

incredible blessing for our family,” said Kym Jones, Ava’s mom.

A dream connected to THE PLAYERS brings Dreams Come True back to its roots, as the first ever wish they granted was for George Lee, who was battling cystic fibrosis, to play a pro-am with Fred Couples prior to THE PLAYERS Championship in 1984.

Not only did all five recipients get

the chance to be inside the ropes as part of the “dream day,” but they each also received a new set of golf clubs to put in their bag.

“Getting a new set of clubs is perfect timing, because Ava has outgrown hers,” Jones said. “She immediately picked up the clubs and said, ‘I want to go play right now.’”



# The Power of + is coming to Durbin Park.



**Flagler Health+ is bringing a breakthrough health and wellness experience to Northeast Florida in collaboration with UF Health.** Slated to open in 2023, the 42.5-acre Flagler Health+ health and wellness campus at Durbin Park will feature a state-of-the-art hospital, an outpatient surgery center and the expertise of UF Health specialists. Other highlights include a premier YMCA, the signature Flagler Health+ Village concept, walking trails, engagement spaces and more.

Together, Flagler Health+ and UF Health are committed to delivering the highest level of clinical quality and safety available while supporting our shared vision to advance physical, social and economic health across Northeast Florida.

**Visit [FlaglerHealth.org/DurbinPark](https://www.FlaglerHealth.org/DurbinPark) for more information.**







Amy Belle Isle, chief creative officer with Operation Shower, shares a few words at the event.



Operation Shower and THE PLAYERS teamed up to give roughly 30 moms-to-be with spouses serving overseas a baby shower at TPC Sawgrass' Patriot Outpost March 6.



Several gifts were handed out to the participants during the baby shower.

Photos by Anthony Richards

## Operation Shower, THE PLAYERS offers unique experience for future moms

By Anthony Richards

Every mom deserves the opportunity to have a baby shower, even if they are not near family and their husband is out of the country serving in the military.

Thanks to THE PLAYERS partnering with Operation Shower, roughly 30 local moms-to-be took part in an event supporting them at TPC Sawgrass' Patriot Outpost March 6.

The participants were a mix of first-time moms and some that have children already, such as Natasha Bryant, who is preparing for her fourth child.

"I didn't know what to expect, but it has exceeded my expectations," Bryant said. "It's a good time and everyone is just having a lot of fun."

Her husband is active duty in the Navy and has been for 15 years, which makes it challenging when having children, but the family has been able to find the proper balance.

"We actually had all of our kids the last time he was on shore duty," Bryant said. "Our oldest was three the first time he deployed and our youngest (twins) was 14 months, which I thought would be easier, but it was not,

because they had gotten used to him being home for everything and suddenly, he was not."

Handling the current situation is something the family is having to figure out and it can sometimes be the little things that make the biggest difference.

"They don't understand, and you don't want to freak them out, so it's definitely a juggling act of how much do you tell them and how much do you not, and then there will be reincorporating him back into the family."

Operation Shower was founded in 2007 and is celebrating their 15th anniversary. They have been partnering with THE PLAYERS Championship since 2010.

"So many of these women move from town to town and base to base and their friends and family are so far away," said Amy Belle Isle, chief creative officer with Operation Shower. "This is the only baby shower that they're going to have. We take that responsibility joyfully but also very seriously."

According to Belle Isle, over the past 15 years, the organization has held showers for roughly 6,700 military moms throughout the country.

"It is an honor to not just give the gifts, but hopefully

connect them with other moms and help them find a friend and be with people who understand what they're going through," Belle Isle said. "We know that they are serving as well and we recognize that."

Ashley Fanning was nominated and took part in Operation Shower's event at THE PLAYERS in 2010 and enjoyed the experience so much that a decade later she was helping at the event as a volunteer.

"I was showered with so many things at a time when me and my husband did not really have much," Fanning said. "It always just stuck with me and in my heart I knew that I always wanted to come back and be a volunteer."

The moms were showered with several gifts throughout the day and as Fanning helped deliver them she could not help but reminisce about the time she was on the receiving end of such support.

"It definitely brought me back and made me so excited for the moms, because this was an experience that really resonated with me for the last 10 years," Fanning said. "It's fun because they really have no idea what they're in for until the very end."

## BORN A CHAMPION

# PLAYERS crowns newest champions

*Babies born during tournament to receive special bodysuit*

This week, THE PLAYERS Championship welcomes the best professional golfers in the world as they compete for the coveted title of "THE PLAYERS Champion."

On the golf course, only one PGA TOUR player will hoist the Goldman trophy, but beyond the fairways and greens, there are hundreds of new champions being crowned in Northeast Florida hospitals this week, prompting THE PLAYERS to share in this special milestone with them.

All babies born in local hospitals during THE PLAYERS (March 7-13) will receive a special bodysuit reading "Born a Champion," along with a birthday card containing the ABCs of safe sleep practices. New this year, THE PLAYERS collaborated with baby-and-children's apparel brand Carter's to design and produce the bodysuits.

"This is one of our team's favorite

community outreach traditions," said Jared Rice, executive director of THE PLAYERS. "THE PLAYERS is honored to celebrate and connect with our community's newest champions in this unique way, and we can't wait to see what these champions accomplish as they begin this new journey."

Each week, more than 500 babies are born at local hospitals, prompting THE PLAYERS to work with area hospitals to share in the celebrations.

Families at the following hospitals have received bodysuits to share with their newest champions: Ascension St. Vincent's Family Birth Place — Riverside, Southside and Clay County locations; Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville; Baptist Medical Center South; Baptist Medical Center Beaches; Baptist Medical Center Nassau; Wolfson Children's Hospital NICU — South; Wolfson Children's Hospital NICU — Downtown; Flagler Hospital/Flagler Health+; HCA Florida Memorial Hospital and HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital; UF Health Jacksonville.

### More fun

Additional youth and family experiences at THE PLAYERS Championship 2022 include:

Youth Ticket policy: Up to two youth, age 15 and younger, will be admitted free with a ticketed adult all week long.

Kids Zone presented by Nemours Children's Health: Open to all ticketholders, the Kids Zone will have interactive activities and games for kids of all ages, including a special mini-putt event at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 12, that will give kids and parents an opportunity to meet Nemours' orthopedic and sports medicine specialists.

Family Suite presented by Wolfson Children's Hospital: Open to all ticketholders, the Family Suite is an air-conditioned space with private rooms for parents to change diapers and feed babies. Diapers, wipes, hand sanitizers and other necessary products will be provided in the suite, in addition to coloring pages and interactive games.

Strollers, small diaper bags, plastic baby bottles and other essential baby supplies are permitted. The infant must be with the



Photo courtesy of HCA Florida Memorial Hospital  
All babies born in local hospitals during THE PLAYERS will receive a special bodysuit reading "Born a Champion."

carrier. Items are subject to search.

THE PLAYERS will allow fans to bring in reusable plastic or metal cups up to 32 oz. at entries as long as they are empty.

Opaque bags measuring 6-by-6-by-6 inches and smaller or clear bags 12-by-6-by-12 inches and smaller are allowed inside the course grounds.

THE PLAYERS allows fans to bring in a one-gallon clear, plastic bag of food items wrapped in clear wrap.

More information about THE PLAYERS is available at THEPLAYERS.com.



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# PLAYERS hosts job fair to aid veterans seeking opportunities

By Shaun Ryan

A veteran who worked in information technology while serving in the military can easily make the transition to a related career in civilian life. A military nurse can do the same.

But what about those veterans whose skills are so valuable to the armed forces but don't easily translate into the apparent needs of the civilian job market?

Events like the Military Job Fair, hosted Saturday, March 5, by THE PLAYERS Championship in collaboration with the Jacksonville Military Veterans Coalition, go a long way to connecting these veterans with employers. The fair, held at the Patriots' Outpost — presented by Optum, Morgan Stanley and Grant Thornton — marked the beginning of a weeklong lineup of military appreciation efforts associated with this year's tournament.

Nearly 30 employers participated, their representatives ready to answer questions from interested veterans and help guide them to desired careers. This was the 11th such job fair hosted by THE PLAYERS.

"A little over 10 years ago, we approached THE PLAYERS Championship and said we'd like to have it in conjunction with the tournament, and they said absolutely yes," said Michael P. Fleming, brigadier general (ret.).

He said veterans understand discipline, working within a team, leadership and resource management — core qualities that make an employee valuable.

"You want to have somebody you can count on, you know is going to be there and is motivated to work," Fleming said.

Job specifics can be taught if an employee possesses the requisite qualities.



Clay County Board of County Commissioners staff members presented job opportunities at the Military Job Fair hosted by THE PLAYERS Championship in collaboration with the Jacksonville Military Veterans Coalition. From left are Karen Smith, director of purchasing; Gene Price, director of facilities management; Ester Reyes, assistant director of public safety; and Jess Leighton, deputy director of human resources.

Sometimes, veterans will take whatever job they can find upon exiting the military, said Fleming. This can lead to underemployment.

"We're much more interested in them having a career," Fleming said.

That's where the job fair comes in. It's a low-pressure environment where veterans find employment opportunities, often in industries they might otherwise not have thought about.

At Saturday's event, both public and private sectors were represented. Major employers, such as Amazon, Boeing and Vystar Credit Union, were on hand, as were lesser-known companies. There were first responders, educational institutions and more. Operation New Uniform and Career Source were available to help guide veterans to a successful future.

To learn more, go to [coj.net/mavd/jobs4vets](http://coj.net/mavd/jobs4vets) or [facebook.com/COJ.JMVC](https://facebook.com/COJ.JMVC).



Photos by Shaun Ryan

Mike Mitchell, U.S. Navy (ret.), speaks to a veteran about Jacksonville University during the Military Job Fair hosted by THE PLAYERS Championship in collaboration with the Jacksonville Military Veterans Coalition.



Engineer Ervin Young of the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department speaks with a veteran during the Military Job Fair hosted by THE PLAYERS Championship in collaboration with the Jacksonville Military Veterans Coalition.



Ray Montanez, right, a recruiter with U.S. Customs and Border Protection, speaks with a veteran while Liana Fitzgibbons, center, explains career opportunities at RF-SMART during the Military Job Fair hosted by THE PLAYERS Championship in collaboration with the Jacksonville Military Veterans Coalition.

## Hospitals offer special space for families, first aid at PLAYERS

Baptist Health and Wolfson Children's Hospital will continue a decades-long collaboration with THE PLAYERS Championship by providing comfort, convenience and first aid care for those attending the tournament.

Families attending THE PLAYERS will have access to the Wolfson Children's Family Suite, conveniently located steps away from THE PLAYERS Wel-

come Experience.

Open to all ticketholders, the Family Suite is a comfortable space with amenities for parents, babies and young children. Inside the air-conditioned space are private rooms for parents to change diapers, pump milk and feed their babies.

Diapers, wipes, lip balm and a number of other necessary products will be provided inside. New in 2022, the Family

Suite will feature an interactive floor display and coloring pages to entertain toddlers and small children.

THE PLAYERS Center for Child Health at Wolfson Children's Hospital, which reaches beyond the walls of the hospital to promote safe and healthy childhoods for all children in Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia, will provide families with educational materials

on child safety and pediatric emergency care.

Baptist Health is providing medical care to attendees at the First Aid Headquarters, located near 8 green. Additional locations can be found near the No. 4 tee, No. 9 tee, Davis Love III entry (near 10 tee) and No. 15 tee. Baptist Health is also offering sunscreen at First Aid Headquarters.



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# PLAYERS Preview Party

THE PLAYERS Championship 2022 Preview Party gave the media a taste of the delicious foods served during the tournament, as well as a chance to browse the merchandise at the PGA TOUR Fan Shop and an opportunity to try out the 17th Hole Challenge presented by Optum, Morgan Stanley and Grant Thornton. Executive Director Jared Rice also spoke, providing the latest tournament updates. Here's a sampling of pictures from the event on Friday, March 4.

Photos by Susan Griffin



## PLAYERS hosts panel discussion on environment

By Shaun Ryan

When tackling the challenges of protecting the environment, education is “huge,” according to Quinton White, executive director for the Marine Science Research Institute.

And, if education begins as a conversation, a panel discussion hosted Friday, March 4, by THE PLAYERS Championship took a step toward that goal.

“Championing Change” was conducted at the TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse. Participants included representatives and advocates across diverse industries in Northeast Florida who are leading environmental sustainability, resiliency and inclusion efforts in the community.

White, a professor of biology and marine science at Jacksonville University, was joined by Jacksonville’s first chief resiliency officer, Anne Coglianese; Jeff Plotts, director of golf course operations at TPC Sawgrass and winner of the 2021 Environmental Leaders in Golf Award; Lauren Husband, in charge of public policy and community for Feeding Northeast Florida; and Neera Shetty, executive vice president of social responsibility and inclusion for the PGA TOUR.

The goal of the discussion was to

promote an exchange of information and best practices that extend beyond current standards. Members of the panel addressed environmental issues from their own professional perspectives.

Among the subjects discussed: water conservation and clarity, as well as the related impact on the community.

“In order to have a strong economy, we’ve got to have a clean environment,” White said. “Nobody wants to come to Jacksonville — nobody wants to come to Sawgrass — if the water is green, if there’s dead fish in the lake.”

Plotts described one of the strategies TPC Sawgrass uses to address that concern.

“We’re using stormwater or reclaimed water to irrigate our golf course,” he said.

He added that turf grass offers the best water filtration available and that golf courses can actually have a cooling effect on the local community.

Coglianese said Jacksonville is currently doing a vulnerability assessment to determine which areas of the city are subject to flooding and has plans for a heat study this summer to find out which areas are hot.

“The goal with the city’s upcoming resilient strategies is to identify policies,



Photo by Shaun Ryan

**Jeff Plotts, director of golf course maintenance operations at TPC Sawgrass, speaks during a panel discussion Friday, March 4, on sustainability and inclusion.**

projects and programs that can really achieve as many benefits as possible,” she said.

Shetty explained why she believes there’s been a change to the perception that protecting the environment impacts profits.

“I think it’s the reality of what people are seeing,” she said. “This is not something that’s hidden. We see it every day. We feel it every day. We recognize the

catastrophic weather events that occur.”

Husband spoke about the benefits of gardening and encouraged attendees to eat at least one vegetarian meal per week. This idea dovetailed with White’s assertion that “we can all make a difference if we think about the little things we do.”

“It takes all of us working together,” White said. “We each individually can make a difference, but collectively, we make a bigger difference.”





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# First and second round tee times



## THE PLAYERS Championship Groupings & Starting Times

Thursday & Friday, March 10 & March 11, 2022

Below are the scheduled tee times for the first and second rounds of the 2022 THE PLAYERS Championship.

The tournament gets underway Thursday, March 10 at 6:45 a.m. with Adam Schenk, Kramer Hickok and Lee Hodges on the first tee, while Brian Harman, Russell Knox and Beau Hossler will kick things off on the 10th tee.

The last two THE PLAYERS champions will be featured in the same group with Justin Thomas (2021) and Rory McIlroy (2019) playing alongside two-time major winner Collin Morikawa. The group will begin their first round at 12:56 p.m. on the first tee and 7:51 a.m. on the 10th tee for the second round.

Rd 1 1 Tee	Rd 2 10 Tee			
6:45 AM	11:50 AM	<b>Adam Schenk</b> , Vincennes, IN	<b>Kramer Hickok</b> , Dallas, TX	<b>Lee Hodges</b> , Ardmore, AL
6:56 AM	12:01 PM	<b>Charley Hoffman</b> , Rancho Santa Fe, CA	<b>Harold Varner III</b> , Gastonia, NC	<b>Will Zalatoris</b> , Dallas, TX
7:07 AM	12:12 PM	<b>Kevin Streelman</b> , Wheaton, IL	<b>Maverick McNealy</b> , Las Vegas, NV	<b>Roger Sloan</b> , Merritt, CAN
7:18 AM	12:23 PM	<b>Sungjae Im</b> , Jeju-Si, Jeju-do, KOR	<b>Martin Laird</b> , Glasgow, SCO	<b>Richy Werenski</b> , Aiken, SC
7:29 AM	12:34 PM	<b>Cameron Champ</b> , Sacramento, CA	<b>Matt Jones</b> , Sydney, AUS	<b>Francesco Molinari</b> , Torino, ITA
7:40 AM	12:45 PM	<b>Erik van Rooyen</b> , Johannesburg, RSA	<b>Garrick Higgo</b> , Stellenbosch, RSA	<b>Ryan Palmer</b> , Colleyville, TX
7:51 AM	12:56 PM	<b>K.H. Lee</b> , Seoul, KOR	<b>Adam Long</b> , St. Louis, MO	<b>Kevin Tway</b> , Edmond, OK
8:02 AM	1:07 PM	<b>Sebastián Muñoz</b> , Bogota, COL	<b>Dylan Frittelli</b> , Johannesburg, RSA	<b>Jimmy Walker</b> , Terrell Hills, TX
8:13 AM	1:18 PM	<b>Joel Dahmen</b> , Clarkston, WA	<b>Brian Gay</b> , Windermere, FL	<b>Corey Connors</b> , Listowel, ON, CAN
8:24 AM	1:29 PM	<b>Lanto Griffin</b> , Blacksburg, VA	<b>Gary Woodland</b> , Topeka, KS	<b>Keith Mitchell</b> , Sea Island, GA
8:35 AM	1:40 PM	<b>Ian Poulter</b> , Woburn, ENG	<b>Pat Perez</b> , Scottsdale, AZ	<b>Jhonattan Vegas</b> , Maturin, VEN
8:46 AM	1:51 PM	<b>Henrik Norlander</b> , Stockholm, SWE	<b>Hank Lebioda</b> , Orlando, FL	<b>Taylor Pendrith</b> , Richmond Hill, ON, CAN
Rd 1 10 Tee	Rd 2 1 Tee			
6:45 AM	11:50 AM	<b>Brian Harman</b> , St Simons Island, GA	<b>Russell Knox</b> , Inverness, SCO	<b>Beau Hossler</b> , Mission Viejo, CA
6:56 AM	12:01 PM	<b>Kyle Stanley</b> , Gig Harbor, WA	<b>Tommy Fleetwood</b> , Southport, ENG	<b>Wyndham Clark</b> , Denver, CO
7:07 AM	12:12 PM	<b>Aaron Wise</b> , Jupiter, FL	<b>Doc Redman</b> , Raleigh, NC	<b>Mito Pereira</b> , Pirque, CHI
7:18 AM	12:23 PM	<b>Tony Finau</b> , Salt Lake City, UT	<b>Patrick Reed</b> , The Woodlands, TX	<b>Webb Simpson</b> , Charlotte, NC
7:29 AM	12:34 PM	<b>Sergio Garcia</b> , Castellon, ESP	<b>Adam Scott</b> , Gold Coast, Queensland, AUS	<b>Louis Oosthuizen</b> , Albertinia, W.Cape, RSA
7:40 AM	12:45 PM	<b>Joaquin Niemann</b> , Santiago, CHI	<b>Hideki Matsuyama</b> , Sendai, JPN	<b>Cameron Smith</b> , Brisbane, AUS
7:51 AM	12:56 PM	<b>Viktor Hovland</b> , Oslo, NOR	<b>Patrick Cantlay</b> , Long Beach, CA	<b>Jon Rahm</b> , Barrika, ESP
8:02 AM	1:07 PM	<b>Sam Burns</b> , Shreveport, LA	<b>Abraham Ancer</b> , Reynosa, MEX	<b>Paul Casey</b> , Surrey, ENG
8:13 AM	1:18 PM	<b>Tom Hoge</b> , Fargo, ND	<b>Tyrrell Hatton</b> , High Wycombe, ENG	<b>Brandt Snedeker</b> , Franklin, TN
8:24 AM	1:29 PM	<b>Lucas Glover</b> , Jupiter, FL	<b>Shane Lowry</b> , County Offaly, IRL	<b>Matthew Wolff</b> , Agoura Hills, CA
8:35 AM	1:40 PM	<b>Peter Malnati</b> , Knoxville, TN	<b>Alex Noren</b> , Stockholm, SWE	<b>Anirban Lahiri</b> , Bangalore, IND
8:46 AM	1:51 PM	<b>Scott Piercy</b> , Las Vegas, NV	<b>Nick Watney</b> , Dixon, CA	<b>Hayden Buckley</b> , Tupelo, MS
Rd 1 1 Tee	Rd 2 10 Tee			
11:50 AM	6:45 AM	<b>Brian Stuard</b> , Jackson, MI	<b>Harry Higgs</b> , Dallas, TX	<b>Brandon Hagy</b> , Westlake Village, CA
12:01 PM	6:56 AM	<b>Keegan Bradley</b> , Woodstock, VT	<b>Andrew Putnam</b> , University Place, WA	<b>Cameron Young</b> , Scarborough, NY
12:12 PM	7:07 AM	<b>Russell Henley</b> , Kiawah Island, SC	<b>Mackenzie Hughes</b> , Dundas, Ontario, CAN	<b>Thomas Pieters</b> , Belgium
12:23 PM	7:18 AM	<b>Ryan Brehm</b> , Mount Pleasant, MI	<b>Kevin Kisner</b> , Aiken, SC	<b>Jason Day</b> , Brisbane, AUS
12:34 PM	7:29 AM	<b>Jordan Spieth</b> , Dallas, TX	<b>Daniel Berger</b> , Jupiter, FL	<b>Dustin Johnson</b> , Jupiter, FL
12:45 PM	7:40 AM	<b>Scottie Scheffler</b> , Dallas, TX	<b>Brooks Koepka</b> , West Palm Beach, FL	<b>Xander Schauffele</b> , San Diego, CA
12:56 PM	7:51 AM	<b>Rory McIlroy</b> , Hollywood, NIR	<b>Collin Morikawa</b> , La Cañada, CA	<b>Justin Thomas</b> , Louisville, KY
1:07 PM	8:02 AM	<b>Max Homa</b> , Valencia, CA	<b>Billy Horschel</b> , Ponte Vedra Beach, FL	<b>Justin Rose</b> , London, ENG
1:18 PM	8:13 AM	<b>Marc Leishman</b> , Melbourne, AUS	<b>J.T. Poston</b> , St. Simons Island, GA	<b>Zach Johnson</b> , Cedar Rapids, IA
1:29 PM	8:24 AM	<b>Si Woo Kim</b> , Seoul, KOR	<b>Matt Kuchar</b> , Sea Island, GA	<b>Henrik Stenson</b> , Gothenburg, SWE
1:40 PM	8:35 AM	<b>Charl Schwartzel</b> , Johannesburg, RSA	<b>Denny McCarthy</b> , Jupiter, FL	<b>Tyler McCumber</b> , Lyons, CO
1:51 PM	8:46 AM	<b>Brendan Steele</b> , Idyllwild, CA	<b>Emiliano Grillo</b> , Argentina	<b>Matthew NeSmith</b> , Aiken, SC
Rd 1 10 Tee	Rd 2 1 Tee			
11:50 AM	6:45 AM	<b>Chris Kirk</b> , Athens, GA	<b>Lee Westwood</b> , Worksop, ENG	<b>Matt Fitzpatrick</b> , Sheffield, ENG
12:01 PM	6:56 AM	<b>Cameron Tringale</b> , Laguna Niguel, CA	<b>Sam Ryder</b> , Atlantic Beach, FL	<b>Matt Wallace</b> , England
12:12 PM	7:07 AM	<b>James Hahn</b> , Alameda, CA	<b>Chesson Hadley</b> , Raleigh, NC	<b>J.J. Spaun</b> , Los Angeles, CA
12:23 PM	7:18 AM	<b>Hudson Swafford</b> , St. Simons Island, GA	<b>Talor Gooch</b> , Edmond, OK	<b>Jason Kokrak</b> , Hudson, OH
12:34 PM	7:29 AM	<b>Cam Davis</b> , Sydney, AUS	<b>Branden Grace</b> , George, RSA	<b>Carlos Ortiz</b> , Guadalajara, MEX
12:45 PM	7:40 AM	<b>Sepp Straka</b> , Vestavia Hills, AL	<b>Robert Streb</b> , Shawnee, KS	<b>Bubba Watson</b> , Bagdad, FL
12:56 PM	7:51 AM	<b>Lucas Herbert</b> , Bendigo, AUS	<b>Brendon Todd</b> , Athens, GA	<b>Chez Reavie</b> , Scottsdale, AZ
1:07 PM	8:02 AM	<b>Stewart Cink</b> , Atlanta, GA	<b>C.T. Pan</b> , Taiwan, TPE	<b>Patton Kizzire</b> , Sea Island, GA
1:18 PM	8:13 AM	<b>Luke List</b> , Augusta, GA	<b>Seamus Power</b> , Waterford, IRL	<b>Kevin Na</b> , Las Vegas, NV
1:29 PM	8:24 AM	<b>Brice Garnett</b> , Gallatin, MO	<b>Adam Hadwin</b> , Abbotsford, B.C., CAN	<b>Danny Lee</b> , Rotorua, NZL
1:40 PM	8:35 AM	<b>Troy Merritt</b> , Eagle, ID	<b>Scott Stallings</b> , Oak Ridge, TN	<b>Doug Ghim</b> , Arlington Heights, IL
1:51 PM	8:46 AM	<b>Joseph Bramlett</b> , Las Vegas, NV	<b>Stephan Jaeger</b> , Chattanooga, TN	<b>Sahith Theegala</b> , Chino Hills, CA

### Alternates

1 Taylor Moore  
2 Patrick Rodgers  
3 Aaron Rai  
4 Michael Thompson  
5 Adam Svensson

6 Christiaan Bezuidenhout  
7 Rickie Fowler  
8 Vince Whaley  
9 Kurt Kitayama  
10 Nick Taylor

Approx Starting Times for Sat/Sun: 7:45 am - 1:50 pm  
Finish Times for Sat/Sun: 6:00 pm

Tee Times: [pgatour.com](http://pgatour.com) or TOUR Links



# Bobby Weed's Golf Gig, HEAL BackYARD Bash raise \$400K for those with autism

The HEAL Foundation (“Helping Enrich Autistic Lives”) co-founded by golf course designer Bobby Weed and his wife Leslie has raised \$400,000 for those with autism from Bobby Weed’s Golf Gig and HEAL BackYARD Bash. The Weeds’ youngest daughter, Lanier, is profoundly affected by autism and is non-verbal.

“We are so appreciative of our spirited and generous friends in this community,” said Leslie Weed. “Northeast Florida’s biggest winners are those directly affected by autism.”

Held at The Yards in Ponte Vedra Beach, Bobby Weed’s Golf Gig was a team scramble comprised of 76 area play-



HAYL performs with the 7 Street Band.

ers, corporate partners and golf industry representatives.

The sold-out HEAL BackYARD Bash included festive cocktails, dinner and distinct live auction items:

- Villa Paraiso: Eight-night/12-person stay in a dramatic 12,000 square foot oceanside villa complete with a five-person staff in Manzanillo, Mexico (sold four times at \$17,000 each).
- America’s Cup Yacht: Three-night stay at Estancia La Jolla Hotel & Spa and a voyage on the infamous America’s Cup yacht, “Stars and Stripes USA 11.”
- Cabin Bluff: A captained Intracoastal Waterway boat ride on a ’35 Intrepid, lodging in well-appointed hunting cabins, sport clay shooting, a round of golf, bike rides, meals and more
- Round Diamond Solitaire Necklace: Donated by S.E. Joseph Jewelers
- Lowcountry Getaway: Golf at Harbour Town Golf Links, Long Cove Club and a two-night stay at the Sonesta Resort Hilton Head Island

Also, \$115,000 was raised for iPads and tricycles in local schools. iPads give



Contributed photos

Bobby Weed addresses attendees at the 2022 HEAL BackYARD Bash.

those who cannot speak the technology to “release their voice.” Tricycles offer students the sense of independence and joy that people feel when riding a bike.

Later in the evening, guests enjoyed a musical performance by the Weed’s oldest daughter, Haley (“HAYL”). Debuting for the first time, the singer/songwriter wrote a cinematic ballad for her sister, “You Can Say It All,” which reminds those who feel invisible that there is always someone who will listen. The song is now available on all music streaming platforms. A percentage of stream proceeds will be donated to HEAL.

HAYL is also minting an NFT (“non-fungible token”). Each token gives users

access to exclusive content, including the original conception demo for “You Can Say It All.” All proceeds will be donated to HEAL.

“Candidly, we weren’t sure what to expect after the pandemic cancelled last year’s gala,” said Chriss Spires, president of the HEAL Foundation. “This year’s incredible turnout, over-the-top energy and robust sponsor support was a true testament to the Northeast Florida community.”

Looking ahead, 350 young people will participate in 15 summer camps organized by HEAL. To learn more and support HEAL’s mission of aiding those with autism, go to [healautismnow.org](http://healautismnow.org).



**Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa is your go-to for the best in local dining, community interaction, staycations, celebrations & more! Take advantage of our award-winning 65-acre resort and experience:**

- Our full-service Sawgrass Spa
- Multiple on-property pools
- Private Cabana Beach Club
- Privileged access to the iconic TPC® Sawgrass
- Weekly activations within our restaurants including Sunday Brunch at Vernon’s First Coast Kitchen & Bar, Trivia at Alice & Pete’s, and more
- Over 60,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor event space for those special celebrations and events

SUN, SAND, GOLF





PHOTO BY CRAIG O'NEAL

## TICKETS

Tickets are mobile-only and day-specific. They can be purchased exclusively online at [www.THEPLAYERS.com](http://www.THEPLAYERS.com).

### Day-specific Stadium Pass:

- Tuesday — \$30
- Wednesday — \$30
- Thursday — \$84
- Friday — \$97
- Saturday — \$98
- Sunday — \$85

**Youth tickets:** Up to two youth, ages 15 and under, will be admitted free with a ticketed adult all week long. All youth ages 6 and older must have a ticket in order to access hospitality venues.

**Military and veteran tickets:** New in 2022, all military and veteran tickets will be digital and must be secured in advance through an online verification system. Once the redemption process is complete, tickets can be accessed instantly. Tickets are available while supplies last.

**More information:** <https://www.theplayers.com/military.html>

**Military tickets:** All active duty, retired, reserve and National Guard members verified through the new military identification system and one dependent are provided access to complimentary tickets on Tuesday, March 8, and Wednesday, March 9, as well as one competition day during Thursday, March 10, through Sunday, March 13, while supplies last. Complimentary tickets secured through this verification process will include a \$20 digital voucher that can be used at any on-site food vendor for food and nonalcoholic beverages.

**Veteran tickets:** Veterans verified through the military identification system and one dependent are provided access to discounted tickets on Tuesday, March 8, and Wednesday, March 9, as well as one competition day during Thursday, March 10, through Sunday, March 13, while supplies last. Discounted tickets secured through this verification process will include a \$20 digital voucher that can be used at any on-site food vendor for food and nonalcoholic beverages.

### To secure military and veteran tickets, follow these steps:

1. Visit [THEPLAYERS.com/tickets](http://THEPLAYERS.com/tickets) and click CLAIM TICKETS in the Military Admission section.
2. Select your chosen tournament day(s).
3. Verify your military designation using GovX by selecting the link on the checkout page.
4. Once verified, complete the transaction and access your tickets on THE PLAYERS' digital portal.
5. Add your ticket(s) to your mobile wallet prior to arrival.

**Will Call:** Located in the parking lot of Tournament Plaza, near Larry's Giant Subs. The address is 830 A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082.

## PARKING

Parking is purchased separately at [THEPLAYERS.COM/parking](http://THEPLAYERS.COM/parking). Parking passes are completely digital and cannot be purchased on-site.

General Parking Lot address: 5360 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Parking passes are required on all tournament days, Tuesday-Sunday.

All parking passes are daily passes and must be purchased in advance via [THEPLAYERS.com/parking](http://THEPLAYERS.com/parking).

Volunteers will not sell parking passes in the lot, and parking will not be sold at Will Call.

"Four or more for free" parking vouchers are not available in 2022.

Tuesday and Wednesday parking costs \$15 per day and Thursday through Sunday costs \$40 per day.

### RIDESHARE INFORMATION

Rideshares will drop off and pick up at the Couples Entry off of ATP Boulevard, which is just steps from the 15th hole. Rideshare vehicles will be staged outside the Couples Entry making this one of the easiest modes of transportation for spectators.

### Rideshare instructions:

#### Getting to THE PLAYERS Championship:

- Enter Destination: THE PLAYERS Championship
- Enter the tournament through the Couples Entry

#### Leaving THE PLAYERS Championship:

- Exit tournament grounds through the Couples Entry
- Follow the tournament signage to the designated rideshare pick up area outside the Couples Entry
- Get in available rideshare and head to your preferred destination

### OTHER

Shuttle from downtown Jax to THE PLAYERS  
Link to purchase: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-players-official-downtown-jackson-](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-players-official-downtown-jacksonville-shuttle-service-tickets-256330219587)

[ville-shuttle-service-tickets-256330219587](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-players-official-downtown-jacksonville-shuttle-service-tickets-256330219587)

Shuttles are available from several downtown Jacksonville hotels to THE PLAYERS, Thursday through Sunday of tournament week. Shuttles will be available from Hogan Street by the Jacksonville River City Downtown Hotel, Hyatt Regency Hotel and The Southbank Hotel at Jacksonville Riverwalk (which guests at the Doubletree by Hilton Jacksonville Riverfront can also use) to both hotel guests and area residents, providing a convenient and cost-effective way for fans to get to and from the tournament. Shuttle passes are \$20 plus applicable taxes and fees. Shuttles will operate Thursday through Sunday.

### Pedal to THE PLAYERS

THE PLAYERS offers complimentary bike parking during the tournament, from the time entries open until end of play. Spectators can ride their bikes to Gate B located inside the Sawgrass Gates off PGA TOUR Boulevard in the back of Lot 4 only (110 PGA TOUR Blvd.). Bike racks are available free of charge. Bike parking is not available in the general parking lot.

### Golf Cart Parking

THE PLAYERS offers complimentary golf cart parking services Tuesday through Sunday at Gate B located inside the TPC Sawgrass Gates off PGA TOUR Boulevard in the back of Lot 4 only. (110 PGA TOUR Blvd.) Golf cart parking is free of charge and is available from the time entries open until end of play. Golf cart parking is not available in the general parking lot.

### Disabled Guest Services

THE PLAYERS Disabled Guest Services program provides shuttles during the championship. Fans who have handicap parking access are still required to purchase a parking pass in advance for THE PLAYERS general parking lot (off County Road 210).

Fans with a handicap parking hang tag, as well



# Parking

Continued from 26

as a PLAYERS parking pass, will be directed to park in a specific part of the general parking lot. From there, golf carts will take them to one of the designated Disabled Guest Services locations on the golf course.

Carts will run from the time gates open until 30 minutes after play ends and will only pick up and drop off from the below designated locations. They will not stray from official route under any circumstances.

- Behind 16 Green by Couples Gate and The Bier Garden
- Behind 17 Tee adjacent to the Welcome Experience and the Food Court
- Players left of 9 Fairway by Wine & Dine on 9.
- Players left of 9 Green by Past Chairman Hospitality.
- Clubhouse area behind 3 Tee
- Players right of 16 Tee
- Players right of 15 Fairway at Taste of JAX

If disabled guests need assistance from a location without shuttle access, they should contact any tournament official with a radio.

**Spectator Information Tents are located at:** Davis Love III entry, Taste of Jax (11 green/12 tee), PGA TOUR Fan Shop at THE PLAYERS Welcome Experience, Wine & Dine on 9 presented by Meiomio Wines

## THE PLAYERS PRIDE

THE PLAYERS PRIDE stands for showing personal responsibility when enjoying the best fan experience in golf. We ask that all attendees help make this event our Gold Standard by keeping the course beautiful, clean and safe. Have fun and enjoy the ultimate experience this championship provides, but remember to show the same respect to those around you as the players show each other.

Help us keep THE PLAYERS clean and safe.

Fans can text THE PLAYERS from anywhere on course to notify a staff member of an on-site issue. Text 69050 to reach a staff member while at the tournament.

## Fan Code of Conduct

Spectators will be subject to expulsion and the loss of ticket privileges for the following breaches of etiquette:

- Making rude, vulgar or other inappropriate comments or gestures,
- Verbal or physical harassment of players, volunteers, officials or spectators,
- Distracting a player or any disruption

# POLICIES

of play,

- Behavior that is unruly, disruptive, unsafe or illegal in nature,
- Failing to follow the instruction of a championship official, volunteer or security personnel.

Fans can text THE PLAYERS from anywhere on course to notify a staff member of an on-site issue. Text 69050 to reach a staff member while at the tournament.

## Mobile Device Policy

Spectator Mobile Device Policy for PGA TOUR Tournaments (please see your ticket for complete terms):

- Devices must be on silent at all times; flash may not be used.
- Devices may be used to capture video, audio and photos (content) in all areas throughout tournament week.
- Content may be used for personal purposes (e.g., personal social media); no commercial use.
- No live streaming or real-time coverage (e.g., no shot-by-shot coverage).
- Data use (e.g., texting) is permitted in all areas throughout tournament week.
- Phone calls are allowed only in designated areas.

Please be respectful of play and do not interfere with players, caddies or media.

All posted signage and instructions from tournament staff must be observed.

Failure to comply with this policy may

result in the revocation of your ticket.

## Autograph Policy

On-course autograph seeking is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, tees, fairways, greens and practice areas during practice rounds and tournament rounds.

Autograph-seeking will be restricted to designated autograph zones: practice grounds and scoring area.

No memorabilia can be brought into the tournament, including pin flags, photos, trading cards, balls and other sports paraphernalia.

## Food Policy

THE PLAYERS allows fans to bring in their own food in a one-gallon clear, plastic bag where food items are also wrapped in clear wrap. Fans can refill their empty water bottles at the filtered water stations. THE PLAYERS will allow reusable plastic or metal cups up to 32 ounces at entries, as long as they are empty.

## Alcohol Policy

Strict adherence to alcoholic beverage consumption laws will be enforced on the course and in all hospitality areas.

Alcohol will not be served to anyone younger than 21; proof of age will be required for anyone younger than 35.

Only two drinks may be purchased at a

**POLICIES** continues on **Page 32**

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Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Surgeons

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Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Surgeons-SA  
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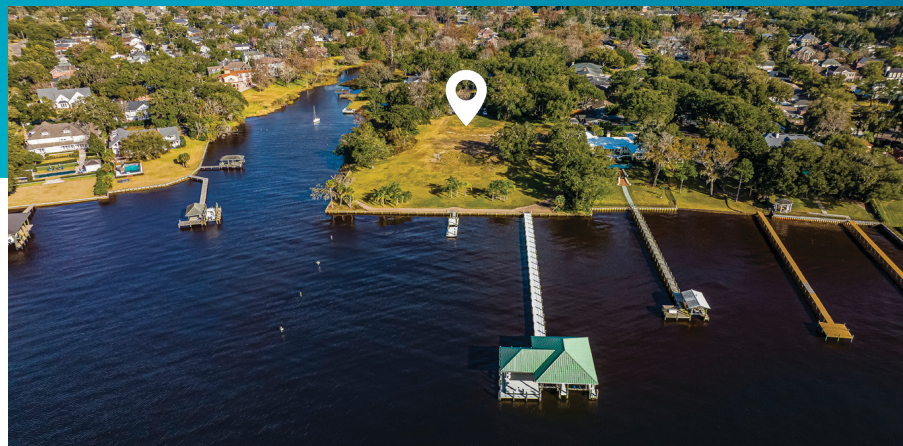
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Under Contract | 900 Brookwood Drive | Jacksonville | \$5,700,000  
Land | Approx. 2.94 Acres | **Web# 1152779**



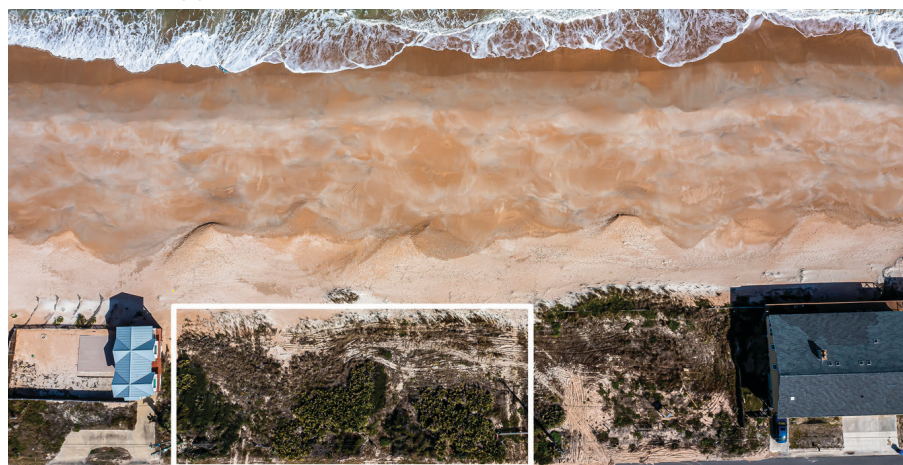
697 Ponte Vedra Boulevard | Ponte Vedra Beach | \$5,600,000 | 4 BR, 4 BA  
Approx. 120ft of oceanfront, approx. 4,129sf | **Web#s 1155755, 1145236**



2663 S Ponte Vedra Boulevard | Ponte Vedra Beach | \$2,575,000  
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105 Mayfair Lane | Ponte Vedra Beach | \$1,875,000  
4 BR, 4 BA, 2 HALF BA | Approx. 4,610sf | **Web# 1107135**



South Ponte Vedra Beach | 2667 S Ponte Vedra Boulevard | \$1,169,000  
Approx. 100ft of oceanfront | **Web# 1156976** | 2669 S Ponte Vedra Boulevard  
Approx. 100ft of oceanfront | DEP permits pending | \$1,200,000 | **Web# 1154659**  
Approx. 200ft of oceanfront, double lot offered for \$2,325,00 | **Web# 1156978**

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Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082  
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- CONCESSIONS
- FIRST AID PRESENTED BY BAPTIST HEALTH
- INFORMATION
- LOST AND FOUND
- PRACTICE GROUNDS
- RESTROOMS ADA ACCESSIBLE
- PGA TOUR FAN SHOP
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE
- FAMILY SUITE PRESENTED BY WOLFSON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

DISABLED GUESTS

- DISABLED GUEST SERVICES SHUTTLE STOP

- I THE PLAYERS WELCOME EXPERIENCE**  
Activities for the whole family
  - PGA TOUR Fan Shop
  - 17<sup>th</sup> Hole Challenge
  - Welcome Experience Presented by Optum, Morgan Stanley and Grant Thornton
  - The Grove featuring Maestro Dobel Tequila
- J MORGAN STANLEY'S EAGLES FOR IMPACT**  
Stop by to test your putting skills and pose for a virtual photo with Justin Rose
- K FOOD COURT**  
Local food and drinks for purchase
  - Bono's Pit Bar-B-Q
  - Firehouse Subs
  - Homespun Kitchen
  - The Local
  - Tropical Smoothie Café
- L THE WINE LOUNGE PRESENTED BY MEIOMI WINES**  
Public bleacher with views of 8 Green and drinks for purchase. Must be 21+
- M THE OASIS FEATURING TITO'S STILLHOUSE LOUNGE**  
Featuring the Sawgrass Splash and signature cocktails made with Tito's Handmade Vodka. Must be 21+
- N WINE & DINE ON 9 PRESENTED BY MEIOMI WINES**  
Shaded venue with open-air seating and upscale food from Bonefish Grill and drinks for purchase from the Meiom Wine Bar
  - Meiom Wines
  - Sip and Swing Golf Simulator
  - Permanent Restrooms
- O PALM VALLEY VILLAGE**  
Enjoy food and beverage available for purchase from BUBBA Burger
- P THE PATIO**  
Shaded venue featuring a Michelob ULTRA branded bar with food for purchase available from V Pizza
- Q SAWGRASS SQUARE**  
Local food and drinks for purchase
  - 4 Rivers Smokehouse
  - Daily's
  - Fan Shop Express
  - The Mini Bar
- R FAN BLEACHERS PRESENTED BY TRUGREEN**  
Public covered bleachers and deck with views of 16 and 10 with beer, wine and soda available for purchase
- S TACOS ON 12**  
TacoLu, Jacksonville's most popular Baja Mexicana, serving food and beverages. Venue includes seating and shaded areas
  - ShotLink Shootout
 Presented by CDW
- T FAN BLEACHERS PRESENTED BY DAILY'S**  
Public covered bleachers and deck with views of 12 and 13. Beer, wine and soda available for purchase
- U TASTE OF JAX BAR FEATURING TITO'S AT THE TURN**  
Open-air bar, seating, permanent restrooms and shaded area, plus local food and drinks for purchase
  - ABBQ
  - Cousins Maine Lobster
  - Mojo Kitchen
  - Silkies
- V THE BIER GARDEN PRESENTED BY HOPTINGER**  
Featuring a variety of craft beers on tap located behind 16 Green
- W COUPLES ENTRY**  
Rideshare pick-up and drop-off location
- X KIDS ZONE PRESENTED BY NEMOURS CHILDREN'S HEALTH**  
Open to the public featuring activities for kids and families
- Y TRUCKS ON 10**  
Local food and drinks for purchase
  - 904 Burgers
  - Mama's
  - Saffron
  - Tikiz
  - Twisted Okie
  - What's the Catch
- Z THE GROVE FEATURING MAESTRO DOBEL**  
In the lounge, experience Dobel's rich history and hone your tequila knowledge with the brand's tequila experts, while also learning about "Art of the Cocktail." Please drink responsibly





**PROPER CREDENTIALS REQUIRED**

- CC** CHAMPIONSHIP CLUB PRESENTED BY LEXUS
- TS** TOUR SUITE
- PP** PROUD PARTNERS
- PC** PAST CHAIRMAN'S LOUNGE
- PE** PERFORMANCE CENTER
- PO** PATRIOTS' OUTPOST
- GS** GREENSIDE SEATS PRESENTED BY COMPASS

- A** BUILDING A DYE'S PAVILION THE PLAYERS MARQUEES
- B** BUILDING B DYE'S PAVILION THE PLAYERS MARQUEES
- C** BUILDING C THE PLAYERS CLUB THE PLAYERS MARQUEES
- D** BUILDING D ISLAND SUITES THE PLAYERS MARQUEES
- E** 16 GREEN ISLAND SUITES THE PLAYERS MARQUEES
- F** 16 FAIRWAY THE PLAYERS MARQUEES

- G** **COMCAST BUSINESS PAVILION**  
A powerful connected experience where businesses can keep up with their day-to-day and make connections that keep them future ready.

- H** **THE DECK PRESENTED BY MICHELOB ULTRA**  
Premium club space with views of holes 16 and 18. Beer, wine, and soda are included; full bar and food available for purchase.

- THE PLAYERS Club**  
THE PLAYERS CLUB 17  
17 TEE VENUE

- THE LOUNGE**  
18 GREEN VENUE  
CLUBHOUSE

CR 210 PALM VALLEY RD.



**PERMITTED ITEMS**

-  **Personal bags 6" x 6" or smaller**  
(See the PGA TOUR Bag Policy for more information (<https://www.pgatour.com/company/tournaments-prohibited-items.html#bagpolicy>))
-  **Clear plastic, vinyl or other carry items not exceeding 12" x 6" x 12"**  
(See the PGA TOUR Bag Policy for more information (<https://www.pgatour.com/company/tournaments-prohibited-items.html#bagpolicy>))
-  **A one-gallon clear resealable plastic bag**  
(See the PGA TOUR Bag Policy for more information (<https://www.pgatour.com/company/tournaments-prohibited-items.html#bagpolicy>))
-  **At the tournament's discretion, food may enter the tournament in a clear, resealable plastic bag, not to exceed the size of a one (1) gallon bag**
-  **Reusable plastic or metal cups/bottles that are empty upon entry and exit, and cannot hold more than 32-ounces**
-  **Mobile phones, tablets, and PDA's - MUST be on Silent mode and adhere to TOUR's Mobile Device Policy**  
(See the PGA TOUR Mobile Device Policy for more information (<https://www.pgatour.com/company/mobile-device-policy.html>))
-  **Point and shoot, film or DSLR cameras with lens smaller than 6"; no case**  
(During Practice Rounds Only)
-  **Umbrellas without sleeve**
-  **Portable radios with headsets**
-  **Medically necessary materials, strollers, small diaper bags, plastic baby bottles, and other essential baby supplies (infant must be with carrier) - items subject to search**
-  **Collapsible chairs without chair bags**
-  **Binoculars without case**
-  **Seat cushions that do not require a carrying case or that do not have pockets or compartments**
-  **Segways®, motorized scooters or other personal transportation devices when used as a mobility aid by individuals with mobility impairment**

**Policies**

Continued from 27

time; spectators are not allowed to carry more than two drinks at any given time.

**Bags + Permitted/Prohibited Items**

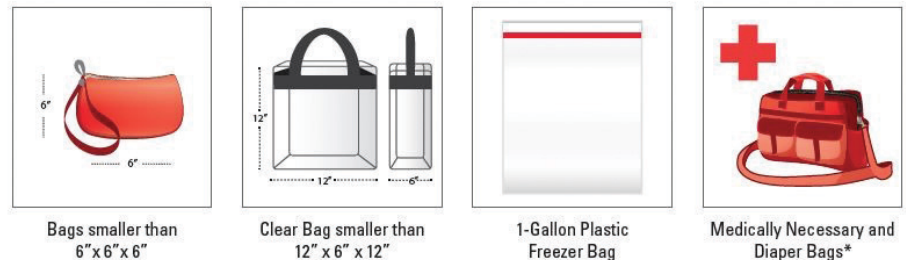
Opaque bags measuring 6-by-6-by-6 inches and smaller or clear bags 12-by-6-by-12

inches and smaller are allowed inside the course grounds.

THE PLAYERS allows fans to bring in their own food in a one-gallon clear, plastic bag where food items are also wrapped in clear wrap.

THE PLAYERS will allow reusable plastic or metal cups up to 32 ounces at entries, as long as they are empty.

**APPROVED BAGS**



*\*Infant and Medical supplies will be permitted after proper inspection.*

**FOOD & DRINK**



Photo provided by the PGA TOUR  
**Mojo BBQ at Taste of Jax is a great spot for Southern food.**

**Taste of JAX – 11 green/12 tee**

- **Cousins Maine Lobster** — serving up its 100% premium, wild-caught, sustainably harvested lobster from Maine.
- **Mojo BBQ** – a premier barbecue, Southern food, and craft cocktail destination with eight locations in North and Central Florida.
- **ABBQ** – serving up Texas style BBQ at the Beach.

**FOOD** continues on **Page 33**

*Thank you  
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# Food

Continued from 32



**Silkie's Chicken & Champagne Bar at Taste of Jax features some tasty selections from Chef Kenny Gilbert.**

- **Silkie's Chicken & Champagne Bar** – historic Springfield upscale casual restaurant featuring Chef Kenny Gilbert's signature fried chicken, biscuits and champagne cocktails.
- **Taste of Jax Bar** — featuring Tito's at the Turn

## Wine & Dine on 9 presented by Meiom Wines — 9 fairway

Enjoy food from Bonefish Grill and a glass of wine from Meiom Wines, the official wine of the PGA TOUR, in a beautiful garden setting. Take a few swings in the swing simulator while you're there, and if you need to freshen up, take advan-

tage of the permanent restrooms. Relax, unwind, and discover the unrivaled taste of Meiom Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Rosé. Cheers! (Please enjoy Meiom wines responsibly.)

## Food Court – THE PLAYERS Welcome Experience

- **Homespun Kitchen** — Healthy fast food. Whether you are vegan, gluten free or paleo, you will find tons of options at Homespun.
- **Firehouse Subs** — This sandwich shop was founded in Jacksonville.
- **Bono's Pit Bar-B-Q** — Lou Bono opened the first Bono's on Beach Boulevard in 1949. The restaurant prides itself on serving up authentic traditional Southern food, from St. Louis-style ribs to Louisiana po-boys.
- **The Local** — Jacksonville-based high quality café focusing on delicious food with unique twists on every dish, as well as craft booze and coffee.
- **Tropical Smoothie** — Bold, flavorful smoothies, wraps, sandwiches, flatbreads and salads with high-quality ingredients and fresh produce.

## Trucks on 10

This venue offers flavors from local, favorite food trucks and an open-air Michelob ULTRA Mobile bar. Twisted Okie BBQ, Mama's, 904 Burger, Saf-



**Look for delicious fare from Twisted Okie at Trucks on 10.**



**Mini Bar in Sawgrass Square is a great place to grab a doughnut.**



Photos provided by the PGA TOUR  
**Brisket and Ranchera Sauce at Tacos on 12.**



**A variety of foods can be found at Sawgrass Square.**



**Sawgrass Square is located at the Davis Love III Entry.**

**FOOD** continues on **Page 34**

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## Roof Tune Up - Only \$249!



### Inspect

Elo's technician team complete a thorough walk-through identifying potential problems



### Seal

Shingles, penetrations, nail or debris protrusions using commercial grade roofing sealants and adhesives



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Photos provided by the PGA TOUR

Meiomi Wines are the official wines of the PGA TOUR. Look for them at Wine & Dine on 9 and the Wine Lounge.

## Food

Continued from 33

from Mediterranean Kitchen, Tikiz and What's the Catch.

### Tacos on 12 – 12 green

One of the most well-trafficked food venues on the course, featuring food and drink from TacoLu, Jacksonville's most popular Baja Mexicana.

### Sawgrass Square – 10 tee

Located at the Davis Love III Entry, grab a doughnut from Mini Bar and/or some BBQ from 4 Rivers Smokehouse.

- **Mini Bar** — Jacksonville's first mini doughnut shop will be serving up a set menu of mini-sized doughnuts in more than a dozen unique flavors. Some examples include fruity pebbles, samoa, pop tart, maple bacon and coffee cake.
- **4 Rivers Smokehouse** — a sophisticated Texas-style smokehouse
- **Daily's concessions**

### The Patio — between 10 tee and 18 green/16 tee

The Patio offers a shaded fan zone that includes open-air seating and a video board to keep up with the tournament action. The Patio features a Michelob ULTRA bar as well as food from V Pizza, founded by Jacksonville natives with the goal of bringing true Neapolitan pizza to their hometown.

### Wine Lounge presented by Meiomi Wines – 8 green

As the official wine of the PGA TOUR, Meiomi is thrilled to bring their prized wine lounge to this year's PLAYERS Championship. Meiomi, one of the leading wine brands priced \$15 and above and has gained a loyal following for its world-class portfolio of California wines beloved for their flavor, balance and approachability.

In the lounge, fans can experience the world of Meiomi on-site through an immersive golf viewing venue with interactive moments including:

- Meiomi's Pinot Noir, Cabernet Sauvignon, Rosé and Chardonnay wine offerings



Enjoy the official wines of the PGA TOUR: Meiomi Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Rose.

- Interactive photo moment — Live succulent wall with putting green and clubs for interactive photo experience
- Customized golf decor
- Branded championship cups and flight trays
- Live viewing of the match on the TVs throughout the lounge area

### Bier Garden presented by Hoptinger — behind 16 green

Near the Couples (rideshare) Entry. Choose from a variety of craft beers and bar bites from Hoptinger, a locally-owned bier garden and sausage house.

### The Oasis ft. Tito's Stillhouse Lounge

Open to ticketholders who are 21 and older, The Oasis is an air-conditioned venue with signature cocktails from Tito's Handmade Vodka, as well as food and drink available for purchase.

### Palm Valley Village featuring BUBBA Burger and Comcast Business Pavilion

### The Grove featuring Maestro Dobel

Enjoy 11 generations of tequila-making legacy at The Grove with Maestro Dobel Tequila, official tequila of the PGA TOUR and PGA TOUR Champions. Sharing its commitment to mastery with golf fans, Maestro Dobel offers three signature cocktails featuring its range of smooth tequilas, including the Diamante Tee Time, available at the entrance of the course. While in the lounge, experience Dobel's rich history and hone your tequila knowledge with the brand's tequila experts, while also learning about "Art of the Cocktail." Please drink responsibly.

## MERCHANDISE



Photos provided by the PGA TOUR

The PGA TOUR Fan Shop at THE PLAYERS Welcome Experience and the walk-up PGA TOUR Fan Shop in Sawgrass Square offer fans a variety of commemorative items and apparel.

### Locations:

- PGA TOUR Fan Shop at THE PLAYERS Welcome Experience (near the main entrance)
- Walk-up PGA TOUR Fan Shop in Sawgrass Square (near 10 tee)

### What's New in 2022

- The PGA TOUR Fan Shop in the Welcome Experience has increased in size and is now 33,000 square feet.
- Expansion of iconic swinging goldman logo on the following brands: Peter Millar, Johnnie-O, Grayson, Lululemon and Lily Pulitzer.
- New T-shirt collection that celebrates THE PLAYERS' past champions.
- T-shirts embellished with the local color and culture of Ponte Vedra Beach and Northeast Florida — sun, surf, palm trees, golf and the PGA TOUR's flagship event.
- Huge selection of custom headwear for men, women and children from Travis Mathew, Puma, Nike, Pukka, Imperial and Ahead.
- Autographed copies of popular video



The PGA TOUR Fan Shop sells unique merchandise affiliated with THE PLAYERS Championship.



The PGA TOUR Fan Shop offers a huge selection of custom headwear and other items of apparel.

MERCHANDISE continues on Page 35



Shirts, hats and much more bearing THE PLAYERS logo can be found at the PGA TOUR Fan Shop.





Photo provided by the PGA TOUR

Cups, mugs and more bearing THE PLAYERS logo can be found at the PGA TOUR Fan Shop.

## Merchandise

Continued from 34

game 2K21 featuring cover athlete and defending PLAYERS Champion Justin Thomas will be available for purchase at the PGA TOUR Fan Shop. All proceeds from the sales will support the Justin Thomas Foundation.

- Expanded custom pet products.
- Yeti tumblers, koozies, golf towels and headcovers embellished with custom PLAYERS graphics.
- Custom barware.



Photo by Susan Griffin

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP WEEK

#### Thursday, March 10

Entries open at 6:45 a.m.  
**Will Call Hours:** 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
 First round of competition begins at approximately 6:45 a.m. (threesomes off No. 1 and No. 10)  
**Charity of the Day:** Ascension St. Vincent's Foundation

#### Friday, March 11

Entries open at 6:45 a.m.  
**Will Call Hours:** 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
 Second round of competition begins at approximately 6:45 a.m. (threesomes off No. 1 and No. 10)  
**Charity of the Day:** First Tee

#### Saturday, March 12

Entries open at 7:30 a.m.  
**Will Call Hours:** 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
 Third round of competition begins at approximately 7:45 a.m., depending on the size of the cut (twosomes off No. 1)  
**Charity of the Day:** WeaveTales

#### Championship Sunday, March 13

Entries open at 7:30 a.m.  
**Will Call Hours:** 7 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
 Final round of competition begins at approximately 7:45 a.m., depending on size of the cut (twosomes off No. 1)  
**Charity of the Day:** Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida

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- Wine & Dine on 9 (near No. 5 green/No. 9 fairway)
- Behind 16 green (near The Grove)
- Taste of JAX (behind 11 green and 12 tee)

Remember: THE PLAYERS will allow reusable plastic or metal cups up to 32 ounces at entries, as long as they are empty.




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# Feeding Northeast Florida receives \$325K through Bank of America initiative

Bank of America has announced a \$325,000 donation to Feeding Northeast Florida, to address food insecurity in the Northeast Florida region.

In Duval County, 19% of residents are food insecure, higher than the state and national averages, according to Feeding Northeast Florida. As the pandemic continues, hunger relief organizations in Jacksonville and across the country are facing ongoing challenges, including increased demand for their services and rising food prices.

Earlier this year, Bank of America announced it would make a \$100 donation to local hunger relief organizations and food banks for each employee in Jacksonville who received a COVID-19 booster shot or vaccine and notified the bank before the end of January.

The company made an additional contribution to address the increased need experienced by hunger relief organizations across the country. Since the onset

of the pandemic, Bank of America has provided \$688,855 in funding to Feeding Northeast Florida in support of local hunger relief efforts.

Feeding Northeast Florida has provided more than 26 million meals in 2021, doubling pre-pandemic levels. One in seven people in the food bank's eight-county service area, including one in five children, face some level of food insecurity. The food bank has worked tirelessly to secure food through local retailers, farmers, government programs and donations.

Due to supply chain disruptions and other complications, the food bank has also purchased more food than ever before in order to help meet the increased needs in the communities they serve. Every \$1 donated helps the organization provide six meals to the community.

With help from the bank's donation, Feeding Northeast Florida is providing more than 73,000 meals per day to individuals and families throughout the



greater Jacksonville area.

"We work to combat hunger every day, and we couldn't do what we do without the help of wonderful partners like Bank of America," said Susan King, president and CEO of Feeding Northeast Florida. "With the effects of the pandemic still reverberating through our economy and the need for support still elevated, we are so grateful for corporations that see the benefit in helping us fill the gap for our neighbors in need. People shouldn't have to choose between feeding their families and meeting other basic needs, and with donations like these, we can continue to make a real difference for those in our eight-county service area."

Nationally, the bank has committed \$10.6 million dollars to food banks and

hunger relief organizations through this effort. Since 2015, Bank of America has donated nearly \$150 million toward hunger relief efforts.

"As the pandemic continues to impact Jacksonville, food banks and hunger-relief organizations are experiencing increased demand and higher costs to meet the needs of individuals and families," said Mark Bennett, president, Bank of America Jacksonville. "Our commitment to help strengthen the communities we live in and serve is unwavering, which is why we are investing in the health, safety and wellbeing of our teammates while also providing funds to help local organizations support our neighbors and fight food insecurity."



Contributed photos

## Awards given at Scouts' Blue and Gold Banquet

Cub Scout Pack 277, sponsored by Christ Episcopal Church in Ponte Vedra Beach, held its annual Blue and Gold Banquet on Feb. 11. The Blue and Gold banquet celebrates the birthday of Scouting and recognizes Scouts for their accomplishments.

More than 40 Scouts were recognized

for their achievements.

The Cub Scout pack recognized 13 fifth-grade Scouts who earned their Arrow of Light — the highest award in Cub Scouts. These Scouts crossed over to the Boy Scouts to continue their fun, adventure and learning.

The Blue and Gold banquet was a pizza

party enjoyed by the Scouts and their families. They also celebrated with cake and cookies.

For more information about Cub Scouts, go to [BeAScout.org](http://BeAScout.org) or email [join.cubpack277@gmail.com](mailto:join.cubpack277@gmail.com).

Arrow of Light Scouts are, from left, front row: Matthew Rattigan, Paul Stinn-

eford, Sam Albus, Charlotte Chowske, Ben Yoder, Odai Issa; second row: Matthew Pavlik, Owen Weinberg, Xavier Carson, Frank Solis, Zach Chigounis, Jimmy Streit, Andrew Pak; third row: Cubmaster James Streit, den leader David Yoder, den leader Greg Solis.





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# Retirement Gathering

A retirement celebration was held Feb. 12 for Rabbi Michael Matuson of Beth El, the Beaches Synagogue after a 38-year career, 13 years of which he served the local synagogue. The gathering was held at Sawgrass Country Club.



Terry Schare, Dr. Howard Schare and Rita Baumgarten



Neal Goldman, Rabbi Michael Matuson and M.G. Orender

Contributed photos



The committee members were: Laurie Berger, Lori Shapiro, Abby Steele, Vickie Kennedy, Joy Shultz, Rachel Marcus-Mitchell, Lisa Ullmann, Nancy Eber, Karem Freedman, Tammy Shumer and, not pictured, Stephanie Cills and Paula Klausner.

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# Ocean Palms teacher receives Presidential Award



Lori Price

Lori Price, a first-grade teacher at Ocean Palms Elementary School, has been named as one of two recipients of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) from the State of Florida.

She was named as the INK! (Investing in Kids) and St. Johns County School

District Teacher of the Year in 2020 when she taught at The Webster School in St. Augustine.

The PAEMST is the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. government specifically for instruction in K-12 mathematics and science, including computer science. The award recognizes teachers who develop and implement a high-quality instructional program that is informed by content knowledge and enhances student learning.

Since 1983, more than 5,200 teachers have been recognized. The National Science Foundation administers PAEMST on behalf of The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy Educational Impact.

According to Donna Lueders, INK! executive director, Price is being recognized and rewarded for her hard work and accomplishments.

“Lori Price is an exceptional role model for all teachers who boost motivation and encourage teachers to do well, have a positive impact on educational performance and increase student achievement,” Lueders said. “Lori supports the district’s core value that high

expectations lead to higher performance, which in turn empowers the individual and strengthens society. We are very proud of Lori as an outstanding teacher who greatly benefits her students in St. Johns County.”

Each Presidential Awardee receives a certificate signed by the president of the United States, a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation and an award ceremony at the White House. Awardees also join a national cohort of educators that provide impactful teaching on a national scale.

Price has been an educator for more than 30 years. She has taught at Ocean Palms Elementary School, The Webster School and Mill Creek Elementary School. Before teaching in Florida, Price taught for 19 years in Ohio.

“I am extremely honored to receive the Presidential Award,” Price said. “I am grateful to my family, colleagues and mentors who have supported me throughout this journey and my students from whom I have learned so much. This award reaffirms the importance of building a student-centered community where risk-taking is encouraged and mistakes

are seen as important learning opportunities. Receiving this award provides an opportunity to join other educators to inspire the next generation of mathematicians.”

Price said she is passionate about developing first-grade mathematicians and developing lessons which allow students to learn with and from each other.

“Students engage in tasks designed to develop conceptual understanding and then use that understanding to derive strategies for solving problems,” she said. “I strive to inspire all students to see themselves as capable learners with important ideas.”

Price earned a bachelor of science degree in education from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. She is certified in elementary education and exceptional student education and holds certifications in English language learners and reading. Price is the president of the St. Johns County Elementary Math Council and active in the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

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# K9s For Warriors hosts graduation ceremony for San Antonio Dog Trainer Apprentice Program

K9s For Warriors, the nation's largest provider of trained service dogs to military veterans, recently celebrated the first San Antonio-based class to graduate from its Dog Trainer Apprentice Program.

The six graduates will join the organization as full-time trainers to rescue shelter dogs across Texas and train them as service dogs to be paired with veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injuries (TBI) and/or military sexual trauma (MST).

These new trainers will play a key role in the K9s For Warriors mission to end veteran suicide, a public health crisis taking the lives of 18 veterans a day on average, by reducing the years-long waitlist that currently exists for veterans seeking a service dog to mitigate their symptoms of mental trauma.

The program took place over the last five months in San Antonio with participants from across the country, including: Hannah Barrera of San Antonio; Tyler

Jones of Montrose, Colorado; Victoria Kinzer of Delphi, Indiana; Cameron Faulkner of Wilmington, Delaware; Alyssa Anderson of Livermore, California; and Natalie Stepniewski of Showana, Wisconsin.

K9s For Warriors also thanked the Kowalski Family for its unwavering support during the graduation ceremony. The organization's training pavilion was named after the Kowalski Family in honor of its contributions to the program.

"We are honored by this recognition," said Greg Kowalski, President and CEO of The RK Group. "The RK Group has a long-standing tradition of helping our military and veterans here in San Antonio, and we are thankful to partner with nonprofits like K9s For Warriors who do amazing work for our veterans."

"We started this program to provide individuals interested in service dog training with the knowledge and first-hand experience to be effective, full-time professionals as they set out to rescue and

train service dogs," said Rob Gunsel, San Antonio K9 training manager at K9s For Warriors. "These trainers will now work to effectively save two lives. They're rescuing dogs from high-kill shelters and training them to improve the lives of our nation's military heroes."

The Dog Trainer Apprentice Program is a fully immersive, five-month experience where prospective K9 trainers learn from a top-tier curriculum that combines theoretical understanding with hands-on experience. In addition to training practices focused on positive reinforcement, participants learn about behavior modification, socialization and public access laws so they can be effective advocates for both canine and veteran rights.

"The K9s For Warriors Apprenticeship graduation is a huge benchmark in our efforts to build our footprint in Texas at our Petco Love K9 Center in San Antonio," said Rory Diamond, CEO at K9s For Warriors. "With each apprentice staying on after graduation, we now have

six additional K9 trainers in San Antonio to help us complete our mission of saving dogs from Texas shelters. Additionally, this occasion brings us closer to welcoming our first Texas warriors to our San Antonio campus to pair with K9s For Warriors highly-trained service dogs."

"I joined this program to save lives. I've always wanted to help people and animals, so this was the perfect fit," said graduate Alyssa Anderson. "I've enjoyed this program so much. I love my coworkers. I love the dogs. I love everything about this work. I'm looking forward to saving warriors and saving more dogs from the streets."

Founded in 2011, K9s For Warriors has rescued approximately 1,500 dogs across the country and paired more than 700 veterans with trained service dogs to mitigate symptoms of post-traumatic stress, traumatic brain injuries and military sexual trauma. To learn more and support the nonprofit's programs, go to [k9sforwarriors.org](http://k9sforwarriors.org).

## Proud Supporter event benefits K9s For Warriors

A Proud Supporter event on behalf of Ponte Vedra's K9s for Warriors was held on Saturday, March 5, by Coldwell Banker Vanguard Realty CBV Cares program to benefit "the nation's largest provider of service dogs for veterans."

The event was held at their local campus at 114 Camp Road, Ponte Vedra.

More than 35 individuals were in attendance to learn from K9s For Warriors Development Manager Elizabeth Reeger

about the logistics and operation of the K9s for Warriors nonprofit organization. Warrior John Tappen's personal story and introduction to his dog Henry followed with tours of the campus. More than \$500 was raised at the event itself.

For more information on K9s For Warriors and their dedication to saving the lives of both veterans and rescue dogs, go to [k9sforwarriors.org](http://k9sforwarriors.org).



The Proud Supporter event generated \$500 in donations.



K9s For Warriors Development Manager Elizabeth Reeger and warrior John Tappen with K9 Henry.

Contributed photos



# Next Generation applications available

Leadership Jacksonville has announced that Next Generation 2022 applications are open through March 30. Next Generation is for young professionals, interns, undergraduate and graduate students in Northeast Florida who are 18-30 years old. More than 500 adult leaders have participated in Next Generation since it began in 2005.

Leadership Jacksonville Next Generation 2022 will begin on June 2 and end July 30. The program includes an opening reception, four weekday and two Saturday sessions. Specific dates are listed on the Leadership Jacksonville website.

The Next Generation program fee is \$500. Need-based assistance may

be available to those accepted into the program. Applications are accepted at [leadershipjax.org](http://leadershipjax.org).

All applicants will be scheduled for a 20-minute Zoom interview.

“Leadership Jacksonville recognizes that preparing the next generation of leaders yields a great return for Northeast Florida’s workforce and the community,” said Leadership Jacksonville Chief Executive Officer Jill Langford Dame. “We educate, connect and inspire program participants to become more engaged in our community.”

To learn more about Leadership Jacksonville and its programs, contact Meg Folds at [meg@leadershipjax.org](mailto:meg@leadershipjax.org).



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# Free event on March 30 to feature music, entertainment and mental health speakers

## *BRAVE Summit opens dialogue with teens about mental health*

The second annual BRAVE Summit, which addresses teen mental wellness, will be held March 30 at the St. Augustine Amphitheater.

The event is free and accessible to all high school students in Putnam, Clay, Flagler, St. Johns and Nassau counties. There will be free food, entertainment, music and speakers, including some of

TikTok's most popular mental health advocates, including keynote speaker Johnny Crowder, a leading mental health advocate and national public speaker.

Be Resilient and Voice Emotions (BRAVE), founded in 2019, is a program that encourages area youth to get in touch with their mental health and be open to receiving help and supports access to behavioral health services via care navigation and technology.

As part of Care Connect+, the program works with the whole family to address social determinants of health to ensure delivery of the right care, at the right time, in the right place.

The aim of the BRAVE Summit is to open a dialogue with teens to address

the stigma associated with mental health and encourage teens to learn about how to foster mental wellness for themselves and their peers. The mission is to provide pathways to support systems for those young people who are struggling or know someone who is struggling so that they feel equipped to ask for and provide the support that is needed.

"The BRAVE Summit is an important initiative for the mental well-being of the youth of our community," said Jason Barrett, president and CEO of Flagler Health+. "The tools provided through the BRAVE Summit will help us achieve the goal of eliminating the stigma attached to mental health and increasing much-needed access to care."

Initially launched by Care Connect+ in partnership with the St. Johns County School District and with support from THE PLAYERS, the program has already made significant progress.

Prior to BRAVE's implementation in St. Johns County Schools, only 35% of students who were referred to mental health provider were actually seen by a medical professional. With the BRAVE program, that rate has increased to 95%.

To register, or to learn more about this year's BRAVE Summit, go to [bit.ly/BRAVE2022](https://bit.ly/BRAVE2022). For information about sponsorship opportunities, go to [bit.ly/BRAVEgive](https://bit.ly/BRAVEgive).



Ride the Wave Therapy Services introduces its new Core Boxing Program with St. Augustine Boxing's Mike Sharman.



Brittany Bodenbender and Jana Sanford-Heller of Ride the Wave Therapy Services.

Photos by Justin Snavely

## New program offers advanced therapy through skilled boxing

After a decade working in the field of occupational therapy with a focus in pediatrics, Jana Sanford-Heller noticed an increase in the need for teen and young adult programs in therapeutic settings. As the founder of Ride the Wave Therapy Services, a small, locally-owned therapy clinic in St. Augustine, Sanford-Heller teamed up with Mike Sharman, the owner of St. Augustine Boxing, to offer Core Boxing Program, a client-centered, therapeutic approach to boxing aimed at building key life skills.

"Our focus has been on building social-emotional skills, self-regulation, strength and coordination for our clients in group homes, rehab centers and afterschool programs," Sanford-Heller said. "While we have

been working predominantly with at-risk youth in the area, people from all walks of life can benefit from a program like Core Boxing, where every group has a professional boxing coach and an occupational therapy practitioner on site."

After a brain and spinal cord injury left her husband with a lengthy recovery, Sanford-Heller found herself caring for him, two young children, working and keeping daily life running. She turned to boxing as an outlet for everything she was dealing with at the time.

Fast-forward four years, and Sanford-Heller is the proud owner of Ride the Wave Therapy Services in St. Augustine, offering services to children with autism, Down syndrome, ODD, ADHD, PTSD,

sensory processing disorder, developmental delays and other diagnoses.

"The primary focus of our therapy clinic is skilled occupational therapy and behavioral therapy services for the pediatric population, both on-site and at local schools," she said. "Clinic services use a combination of sensory integration, play therapy and community integration to build life skills. Core Boxing Program focuses on teens and young adults who suffer from depressive/anxiety disorders, trauma, sensory processing disorders and more, teaching social skills and life skills that will hopefully stay with them forever. It's exciting to offer a program to the community that helped me overcome a very difficult time in my life."



At Ride the Wave Therapy Services, Brittany Bodenbender works with children on a variety of therapy services.



# Beaches nonprofit gets new van

## *Delivery slowed by chassis shortage*

Beaches Council on Aging recently held a ribbon cutting for the new 2020 Ford 12 passenger/2 wheelchair van it acquired through a grant from the state Department of Transportation. This is the fourth vehicle for council's transportation program Dial A Ride, which takes Beaches homebound seniors and disabled adults to various locations throughout the area for free.

The grant was submitted to FDOT in May 2019, and the council waited more than two years for the new van. The approval came in October 2020 and orders were given to the Ford Company in Dearborn, Michigan, for the custom built "mini-bus."

"It is a long and involved process of approvals and checks and balances with the FDOT," said Lori Anderson, executive director of the Beaches Council on Aging. "They have been outstanding in assisting us through our first grant."

Supply-chain issues that are affecting all sectors of the economy are also affecting this small nonprofit. Although the van was planned for the second quarter of 2021, it did not arrive until the end of November 2021 because there is a shortage of chassis.

The council has been approved for a second vehicle from FDOT, planned for 2023. However, all FDOT purchasing contracts have been paused due to vendors being unable to accept orders at this time. In addition, price increases have halted grant approvals and negotiations for fair pricing is ongoing.

Beaches Council on Aging has been operating for 47 years in the Jacksonville Beaches area. The Dial A Ride program is available for any homebound senior age 62 and older living in the area from Mayport south through all of Ponte Vedra Beach on the east side of the Intracoastal Waterway.

To make a reservation, call 904-246-1477 three days before a ride is needed. Riders will be taken anywhere within the Beaches area with a roundtrip donation of \$5.



Photo provided by Beaches Council on Aging

Beaches Council on Aging staff and board, including President Vicki Wyckoff and Executive Director Lori Anderson, with the scissors, are seen next to Neptune Beach Mayor Elaine Brown.

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The Dog Rose Brewing Co. will participate once again this year in the St. Augustine Brewers' Festival.



Attendees arrive at the 2021 St. Augustine Brewers' Festival.

Contributed photos

# St. Augustine Brewer's Fest set for May 7

The third annual St. Augustine Brewers' Festival will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. May 7 at the Fountain of Youth Archeological Park, 11 Magnolia Ave., St. Augustine.

The festival will include free tastings from several regional breweries, local food trucks, face painting and live music. Tickets are available now at [stabrewersfest.com](http://stabrewersfest.com).

"This is a great opportunity to try small batch beers right in your backyard," said organizers. "Each attending brewery is encouraged to not only bring a unique offering but also a true brewery representative to share insights of their creations and answer all of your questions."

The festival organizers are establishing a nonprofit called Brewing a Community. Through Brewing a Community, all proceeds will go to various organizations in need throughout the St. Augustine and St. Johns County community. In addition, a portion of proceeds will go to the St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum. In the past two years, more than \$20,000 has been donated to these nonprofits.

In addition to the regional brewers, four of St. Augustine's breweries will be part of the event: Bog Brewing Co., Dog Rose Brewing Co., Ancient City Brewing Co. and Old Coast Ales.

Unlimited beer tastings from the craft breweries will be the highlight of the third annual St. Augustine Brewers' Fest. Each ticket holder will receive a commemorative 6-ounce tasting glass.

Food will be available from favorite local food trucks: Funkadelic Food Truck, County Road Provisions, I Love Pierogi and The Hyppo. Being true to a community event, family-friendly activities include face painting and plenty of space for kids to run around.

Merchandise for sale during the event will include T-shirts, koozies and hats, all created by Skinny Lizard T-shirt Printers.

General admission is \$40 in advance and \$45 the day of the event.

A limited number of VIP tickets at \$100 each will be available in advance. VIP tickets include guaranteed on-site parking, access to the climate-controlled pavilion, private restrooms, a catered buffet, a festival tasting glass and full festival access an hour early.

Designated drivers can attend at no charge with a ticketed attendee. Designated driver bracelets will be given upon arrival at the event. Tickets are available starting March 1 at [stabrewersfest.com](http://stabrewersfest.com).



The St. Augustine Brewers' Festival will be held May 7 at the Fountain of Youth Archeological Park.



The St. Augustine Brewers' Festival 2022 logo.

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# Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida name 2022 Youth of the Year

Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida named Laniya F., a senior at Edward H. White High School, as the organization's 2022 Youth of the Year, which is the highest honor any club member can receive. The organization also named Discover R. as the Middle School Youth of the Year and Lauren M. and Kennadi N. as the Elementary Youths of the Year.

Each year, all 38 clubs that make up Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida nominate up to three Youth of the Year candidates for the elementary, middle and high school categories. These nominees represent their clubs in this competition, celebrating members' academic achievements, leadership abilities and communication skills.

The selection process includes public speaking, personal essays and panel interviews with judges who select the most qualified finalist to serve as a role model, ambassador and spokesperson for Boys & Girls Clubs and their members.

This year's nominees have worked tirelessly over the past few months and represent the positive voice and spirit of hope for Northeast Florida.

"Boys and Girls Clubs have always done a great job of helping students blossom into their full potential," said Laniya F. "The staff, students and visitors helped me better develop my inner leader, my

inner guide, my inner mentor and my confidence."

"Once I started going to the Boys & Girls Club a lot has changed," said Discover R. "I was less angry at times and was easily able to diffuse my anger. I am more mindful about what I say or do to my peers. At the Boys & Girls Club we are taught right from wrong and how to treat one another. I learned to let go of grudges and to forgive people."

"During my five years at the Boys & Girls Club, I've realized the program keeps me safe, they feed me and I have a lot of fun every day," said Lauren M. "I make good grades in school because they help me with my homework by giving me the additional help I need."

"Imagine a program that allows kids to be the best version of themselves," said Kennadi N. "The Boys and Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida is that program. This program means so much to me because I get extra support, it allows me to have fun and it helps me to make new friends. This program gave me the extra support that I needed to be the best student I can be academically."

The 2022 Youth of the Year program is made possible through the support of the following sponsors: VyStar Credit Union, Care Connect+, Flagler Health+, Coca-Cola Beverages Florida and Whataburger.



Contributed photos

**Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida named Laniya F., a senior at Edward H. White High School, as the 2022 Youth of the Year.**



**Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida's Youth of the Year winners are, from left, Lauren M., Laniya F., Discover R. and Kennadi N.**

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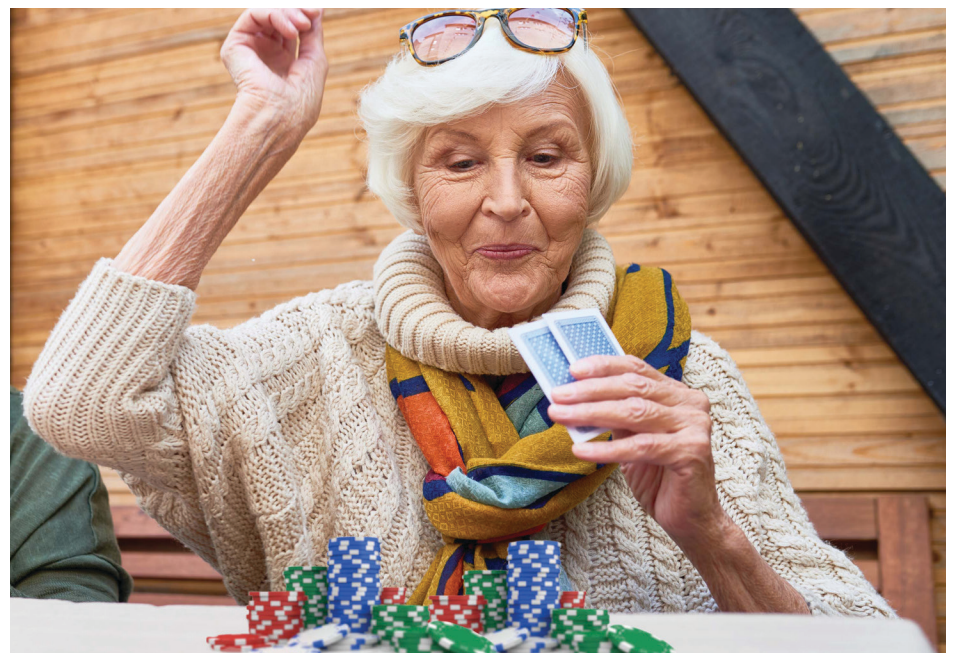


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# Foundation to support Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center

The Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center has begun 2022 with generous commitments from leaders in the philanthropic community, Michael Ward and Jennifer Glock.

The Michael Ward and Jennifer Glock Foundation will support the work of the Policy Center with a \$50,000 annual gift for four years.

“We were thrilled to recently introduce Michael and Jennifer to the work of the Policy Center and are truly grateful for their belief in what we do, but most importantly, their belief in the girls we serve,” said Vicky Basra, Policy Center president and CEO.

“These funds will help us further our work to research the pressing challenges that push girls deeper into the justice system, advocate for policy and practice reforms, train professionals who serve girls and help girls and their families experience greater safety and equitable treatment through our model programs. We are honored to have Michael and Jennifer join those in our community committed to see girls for their true potential, not their present circumstances.”

Michael Ward served as the chairman and chief executive officer of CSX Corp. for 14 years. CSX is one of the nation’s premier transportation and

logistics companies. Ward’s commitment to personal philanthropy and corporate citizenship has been recognized with City Year’s prestigious Lifetime of Idealism Award.

Jennifer Glock earned an undergraduate degree in speech pathology and audiology and a master’s degree in clinical psychology. She was a licensed marriage and family therapist in Jacksonville for more than 47 years.

The Michael Ward and Jennifer Glock Foundation donates to various charities. The focus of the giving has been increasing educational opportunities and results in elementary schools, middle schools, high schools and college, as well as promoting healthy relationships, preventing domestic violence, support of the military and the arts.

The Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center engages communities, organizations and individuals to advance the rights of girls, young women and female-identifying youth. Founded in 2013, the Policy Center works to prevent girls’ initial or deeper justice system involvement through an innovative combination of research, advocacy, direct services and training designed to address the root causes of justice system involvement.

# African-American cultural and historical grants awarded

The Florida Department of State released the ranked list of applications and scores for its African American Cultural and Historical Grants on Feb. 28, following three days of panel hearings and review. Four St. Augustine projects ranked in the top third of more than 150 applicants and will be awarded \$2,933,500 in grants.

The purpose of the grant program is to provide funding for construction projects at facilities in Florida that highlight the contributions, culture or history of African-Americans.

Priority was given to projects that encourage the design or construction of a new facility or the renovation of an existing facility in an area with great cultural significance where no facility exists, enhance the beauty or aesthetic value of facilities named for significant African-Americans or restore facilities on the National Register of Historic Places.

The St. Augustine-based projects awarded funding include Friends of Lincolnville Inc. with \$1,000,000 for restoration of the historic Excelsior High School, home of the Lincolnville Museum and Cultural Center; the Florida State Parks Foundation with \$933,500 for construction of a representation of the historic circa 1738 Fort Mose at Fort Mose Historic State Park; Zion Missionary Baptist Church with \$500,000 for restoration of Zion Baptist Church in West St. Augustine; and the St. Johns Cultural Council with \$500,000 for the St. Augustine Beach Hotel and Beachfront, recently listed on the National

Register of Historic Places at a level of national significance for the civil rights movement in connection with the 1964 wade-ins to protest segregation.

“St. Augustine is home to more than 450 years of African-American history,” said Christina Parrish Stone, executive director of the St. Johns Cultural Council. “The Friends of Lincolnville and the Fort Mose Historical Society have worked tirelessly for decades to share that history, often in spite of limited resources. These grants will allow the organizations to continue their important work, and share that work in a way that’s more accessible to the public. The Cultural Council is honored to also receive funding that will help us recognize and celebrate the brave civil rights activists who fought segregation at St. Augustine Beach.”

The St. Johns Cultural Council is committed to working with Fort Mose and the Lincolnville Museum, along with other organizations, including the SEA Community and the ACCORD Civil Rights Museum and Freedom Trail.

“We are dedicated to broadly promoting the African-American culture and history of St. Johns County so that our residents, tourists and prospective visitors will be aware of its tremendous local and national significance,” said Parrish Stone.

The St. Johns Cultural Council is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and the designated local arts agency for St. Johns County. For more information about the Cultural Council, call 904-434-0959 or go to [stjohnsculture.com](http://stjohnsculture.com).

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# Ace Mentor Program hosts inaugural Trades Day

ACE Mentor Program of Northeast Florida held its inaugural Trades Day on Feb. 24, to introduce high school students to a variety of construction trades through demonstrations and hands-on activities with local firms.

The event held at American Electrical Contracting was designed to educate students about the immediate trade job opportunities within the industry in Northeast Florida.

Although contractors are increasingly busy and are eager to hire more workers, low rate of unemployment and record job openings in construction show how difficult it is bringing enough workers on board.

The event included demonstrations from 20 construction organizations that support ACE Mentor Program of Northeast Florida, including carpentry contractor B3 Millwork; electrical contractor American Electrical; plumbing and mechanical contractors Campbell Plumbing & Mechanical, MetroPower Plumbing and W.W. Gay; sprinkler contracting firm Cox Fire Protection; design-build contractor Haskell; general contractor Auld and White; framing and drywall firm JE Abercombie; and roofing firm Reliant Roofing.

Apprenticeship programs represented included Electrical Training Alliance, Northeast Florida Builders Association, First Coast Technical College, Tulsa Welding School, American Electrical Academy and Plumbing, Pipefitters and HVAC Association UA Local 234.

Other organizations and supporters included masonry organizations Florida Concrete Products Association, Florida Masonry Apprenticeship Education Foundation and Masonry Association of

Florida, workforce development non-profit iBuild, National Black Women in Construction and FastSigns.

“Skilled tradespeople are the backbone of the construction industry, and many of our students simply aren’t aware of the vast job opportunities, which pay well and offer long-term career growth,” said Nicole Eubanks, affiliate director of ACE Mentor Program of Northeast Florida. “With rising construction activity in Florida and tight labor market conditions, it’s vital that we take additional steps to recruit and train tomorrow’s workers.”

Founded in 2007, the ACE Mentor Program of Northeast Florida is an after-school program for high school students interested in exploring careers in architecture, construction and engineering.

The program serves more than 200 students from Clay, Duval and St. Johns counties at the following locations: Middleburg High School, Orange Park High School, Atlantic Coast High School, Bishop Kenny High School, Home School Team, Riverside High School, Bartram Trail High School, Creekside High School, Nease High School and Pedro Menendez High School.

Through office tours, college visits, hands-on activities and site visits, the program introduces students to the industry’s various disciplines. Under the mentorship of more than 80 local industry professionals, students work in teams on projects that simulate real-life situations.

ACE Mentor Program of Northeast Florida also provides scholarships to participating students to continue their education within the industry.

To learn more about joining ACE Mentoring Program of Northeast Florida, go to [acementor.org/northeast-fl](http://acementor.org/northeast-fl).



Contributed photos

MetroPower Plumbing met with students from Nease High School.



American Electrical visited students at Middleburg High School.



ACE Mentor Program of Northeast Florida held its inaugural Trades Day on Feb. 24.

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# Spring Shuttle returns for festival season

The City of St. Augustine's popular weekend festival season returns with free park and ride shuttle service every Saturday through April 16.

Romanza's Celtic Festival will take place March 11-13, with the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 12, followed by the Lions Spring Festival, March 25-27. In addition to these festivals, downtown St. Augustine will prove to be a popular destination with the Easter parade on April 16.

This year's free park-and-ride shuttle service will operate from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. every Saturday with two exceptions March 12 and April 16. The shuttles will

begin operations at 8 a.m. those days to allow for easier parking and access to the St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Easter Parade.

The Lions Spring Festival will provide an additional day of shuttle service on Sunday, March 27, operating from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

All shuttle services are available from three parking locations outside of the downtown area:

- 198 and 212 W. King St., located at the intersection of U.S. 1 and King Street
- St. Johns County Health Department, 200 San Sebastian View
- San Marco Lot, 301 San Marco Ave.

The drop-off/pick-up location is the Visitor Information Center at 10 S. Castillo Drive. The center offers full visitor amenities and is just steps from Francis Field, the city's primary festival location.

Event inquiries should be directed to the individual event coordinators. Contact information for each event is available on the Public Events calendar on the city's website at [citystaug.com/calendar.aspx?CID=24](http://citystaug.com/calendar.aspx?CID=24).

Questions regarding the parking and shuttle service may be directed to the mobility office at 904-209-4211 or via email at [Mobility@citystaug.com](mailto:Mobility@citystaug.com).

## Complete times for the park and ride shuttle service are as follows:

- **March 5:** 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- **March 12:** 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., Celtic Festival/Parade
- **March 19:** 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- **March 26:** 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., Lions Spring Festival
- **March 27:** 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Lions Spring Festival
- **April 2:** 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- **April 9:** 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- **April 16:** 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., Easter Parade

# Registration opens for Riverside Kids Duathlon & Fun Run

Registration is now open for the Riverside Kids Duathlon & Fun Run presented by Daily's, which takes place March 26 at 830 Oak St., the Riverside Presbyterian Day School campus, in Jacksonville's Riverside/Five Points District.

The annual health and wellness event offers races for individuals of all ages and promotes family fun and fitness across the community.

The duathlon features a run-bike-run format and is divided into junior and senior divisions for kids ages 5-15. The

one-mile fun run is open to kids and adults of all ages. All registrants are automatically entered into a drawing for a \$500 gas card to any Daily's location.

The events conclude with a celebratory health and wellness fair and family festival, which will provide a fun, educational and experiential promotion of available community wellness resources that support physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing.

Proceeds from the event will benefit Sanctuary on 8th Street, a local nonprofit

focused on empowering Jacksonville youth and families in need through education, social services, recreation and the arts, as well as Riverside Presbyterian Day School, a private school in Jacksonville's Riverside neighborhood, and its health and wellness community initiatives.

"Hosting this event in-person for the first time since 2019 makes for a great opportunity for families across the entire First Coast to get outside and be active with others while supporting meaningful

local causes," said Ben Ketchum, head of school at Riverside Presbyterian Day School. "We're thankful to Daily's and all those involved in helping make this event a success and promoting the importance of health and wellness throughout our communities."

The registration fee for the duathlon is \$40 per participant and the fun run is \$20 per participant. For more information and to register for the event, go to [1stplacesports.com/races/rpdsduathlon](http://1stplacesports.com/races/rpdsduathlon).

# Fun ways for children to participate in St. Patrick's Day celebrations

St. Patrick's Day commemorates its namesake, the patron saint of Ireland who helped spread Christianity across this island nation. While it may have begun as a religious holiday, eventually the fanfare expanded to transform St. Patrick's Day into a secular celebration spanning the world - reaching Irish diaspora in various countries. In fact, some of the largest St. Patrick's Day events occur outside of Ireland.

In addition to paying homage to St. Patrick, the holiday is largely known for being one big party catering to the over-21 crowd. It's common to find people raising pints throughout the day on St. Patrick's Day. However, for those who want children to be a part of the festivities,

there are plenty of entertaining ways to incorporate them into any celebration.

## Serve child-friendly beverages

For those hosting St. Patrick's Day at home, be sure to have a variety of foods and beverages on hand, particularly ones that children can enjoy. Whip up your own concoction like a Leprechaun Punch that features lemon-lime soda, green food coloring and lime sherbet.

## Collect clovers

St. Patrick used a three-leaf clover, or shamrock, to explain the basic tenets of Christianity. The three-leaf clover represented the Holy Trinity. If St. Patrick's Day falls on a

nice day, everyone can venture outside to collect shamrocks and hunt for the elusive four-leaf clover, which may bring good luck.

## Get dressed up

Children can have fun dressing up in all sorts of apparel. While green shirts are par for the course, kids also can don rugby or soccer shirts from their favorite Irish teams. Authentic Irish Aran wool sweaters and cardigans, or other traditional clothing, also can be worn. Kids may have fun making masks or hats they can wear as well.

St. Patrick's Day is a fun time for people of all ages. The holiday can be made kid-friendly in a variety of ways.




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# Bolles PVB Grade 2 Wax Museum a grand display

Second graders on the Bolles Lower School Ponte Vedra Beach Campus showcased their oratory competencies March 3 during the school's annual Grade 2 Wax Museum.

Held onstage in George Hall in a museum setting, the event demonstrated students' grasp of research material and their ability to present it.

Preparation for the annual Grade 2 Wax Museum event requires significant research and presentation skills of students, who spend weeks beforehand studying historic luminaries and reading accurate portrayals.

After selecting their historical figures, students began learning key facts about their characters — from their childhood interests to their biggest achievements in life.

In art class, they painted portraits of their

subjects. In the final weeks, students considered how they might portray their characters onstage — writing scripts and developing costumes and props that would best tell their story in a performance setting.

The final result was a colorful Live Wax Museum show, directed by music teacher Stacey Posick. Students rotated through three large frames onstage, freezing in various poses then sharing their presentations.

Some of this year's characters included Harriet Tubman, Marie Curie, Frida Kahlo, Martin Luther King Jr. and Usain Bolt, among many others. About 25 grade two students practiced the art of public speaking by sharing their historical findings with stage confidence and presence.



Photos provided by Bolles Lower School Ponte Vedra Beach

Second-grade students from the Bolles Lower School Ponte Vedra Beach campus presented their Grade 2 Wax Museum on March 3.



The students selected historic figures and then represented them in the Live Wax Museum show.



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## Evening social features investment advice

Standfast Asset Management's February social welcomed more than 35 friends to Sea Haven, where the gathering was hosted by Randy and Karina Coryell of Azul Vacation Rentals.

The view from a three-story mansion was the perfect backdrop to an evening of wine and elegant snacks from Savour Sensations and Roseanne Gioia.

Scott Grant of Standfast Asset Management spoke briefly, introducing his long-time mentor, Dr. Raymond Daly and his wife. He then spoke about the history and importance of dividends for long-term investors.

The evening ended with a moon rise over the ocean that drew everyone out onto the deck.



Scott A Grant, Trudy Toche and Paul Frase of the Joshua Frase Foundation

Photo by Jennifer Price



Scott A Grant and Karina Coryell

Photo by Susan Griffin

## Florida's largest poker room celebrates 10-year anniversary

bestbet Jacksonville, the largest poker room in the State of Florida, will celebrate its 10th anniversary from Friday, March 18, to Sunday, March 20.

To celebrate, bestbet Jacksonville will debut \$10 commemorative cash chips and pay out more than \$100,000 in cash giveaways with special promotional items throughout the weekend.

The anniversary weekend kicks off March 18 with a \$10,000 table game promotion from 2 p.m. to midnight with drawings every 60 minutes paying out two winners \$500 each.

On March 19, a \$140 No Limit Hold'em Tournament with a \$10,000 bonus added starts at noon, followed by a \$2,000 high hand promotion running every 30 minutes from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.

The weekend celebration will conclude March 20 with a \$1,000 high hand promotion running every 30 minutes from 10 a.m. to midnight.

Opening in 2012, bestbet Jacksonville renovated an existing facility located at 201 Monument Road and outfitted it with a spacious poker room, a VIP poker room, a full-service bar and kitchen, and a simulcast area boasting 120-inch flat screen televisions with Vegas-style carrel seating.

"We are very excited to welcome all of our loyal and outstanding patrons to celebrate our 10 years in the Arlington area," said Jamie Shelton, bestbet president. "Our success is only as good as our patrons' experience while in our facility, and for that success, I thank all of our 700-plus employees for their outstanding efforts and work ethic."

bestbet Jacksonville quickly attracted players from all over the world through premier poker tournament partnerships with the World Poker Tour and the Card Player Poker Tour.

bestbet's popularity continued to grow with the introduction of new card games in 2015. In 2021, bestbet saw its first two post COVID-19 poker tournament series attract more than 4,600 entries with \$3.3 million in prize money awarded across a total of 22 events.

"We are very appreciative of all of our partnerships over the years that have added to the excitement and positive player experience," said Shelton. "As for our success in 2021 with the return of our bestbet Poker Series, it was just great to see all of our friends and patrons having as much fun returning to tournament play as we did hosting them."

bestbet Jacksonville features two loca-



Contributed photo

**bestbet Jacksonville is Florida's largest poker room.**

tions in North Florida and is the state's top poker, simulcast and gaming venue.

The Jacksonville poker room, the largest in Florida, features more than 80 tables at all limits, an expansive simulcast wagering facility and an array of food-and-beverage service that includes sushi.

The Orange Park location offers more than 30 tables, simulcast wagering and food-and-beverage service.

The poker rooms are open 24 hours Saturday and Sunday, and from 10 a.m. to 4 a.m. Monday through Friday. In the summer of 2022, bestbet will open a new cardroom and sports bar in St. Augustine.

bestbet Jacksonville is located at 201 Monument Road, Jacksonville.

For more information, go to [bestbetjax.com](http://bestbetjax.com).



# Flagler Health+ opens new primary care practices

Flagler Health+ has expanded its capabilities to provide care within the community with the opening of two new primary care facilities at Julington Creek, off Racetrack Road, and Greenbriar, off County Road 210.

“The announcement of the opening of these two state-of-the-art facilities in the northern part of St. Johns County continues our commitment to providing lifelong care to our community,” said Jason Barrett, CEO and president of Flagler Health+. “This expansion will help ensure that we can continue to best serve the physical, social and economic needs of our friends and neighbors.”

Flagler Health+ Primary Care at Greenbriar opened Feb. 14, and is located at 304 Ashourian Ave., Suite 105 in the northern part of St. Johns County just off of County Road 210. Flagler Health+ Primary Care at Julington Creek opened

the following week on Feb. 22 and is in the Julington Creek area of the county, located at 2570 Race Track Road.

Flagler Health+’s board-certified physicians provide complete care that treats the whole family from birth through geriatrics.

Additionally, the two new practices will feature a pair of primary care physicians who have recently joined the Flagler Health+ team. Dr. Mark Michaels will practice at Flagler Health+ Primary Care at Greenbriar, while Dr. Tristan Imhof will practice at the Julington Creek location.

Michaels cares for patients, newborn and up, with an emphasis on disease prevention. His style of medicine involves including patients in the medical decision-making process to ensure the patient is informed and engaged in their health journey.

He is an American Board of Family Medicine certified physician who obtained his medical degree from St. George’s University after completing his bachelor of science degree in brain, behavior and cognitive science at the University of Michigan Ann Arbor. He completed his residency training in Michigan where he joined the residency as a faculty member and eventually became program director before deciding to relocate his family to Florida.

Imhof cares for patients from birth through geriatrics, encouraging a healthy lifestyle to prevent the underlying variables that cause chronic disease in hopes of saving lives and creating a much healthier general population.

He is a board-certified family medicine physician who joined the Flagler Health+ physician enterprise from Baptist Primary Care. He completed his residency St.



Photo provided by Flagler Health+  
A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held recently at the new primary care facility at Greenbriar.

Luke’s University Health Network after receiving his medical degree from University of Medicine and Health Services in New York City and his undergraduate degree from Isenberg School of Management at the University of Massachusetts.

# GreenPointe Developers honored at Laurel Awards

The Northeast Florida Builder Association’s Sales and Marketing Council has recognized GreenPointe Developers with five Laurel Awards honoring three Northeast Florida communities.

The awards recognized TrailMark, a nature-first community in St. Johns County; Tributary, a master-planned community set amidst natural waterways and evergreen forests in Nassau County; and Granary Park, a new recreation-rich, single-family home community in Clay County.

“We are thrilled to receive these honors for successfully communicating the exceptional lifestyle and competitive differences at our communities of TrailMark, Tributary and Granary Park,” said GreenPointe Developers Marketing Director Gaynelle James. “We appreciate the accolades from our industry peers and we hope it will encourage everyone to learn more about our unique communities.”

TrailMark’s outdoor family-friendly Touch-A-Truck event received a gold award for best customer promotional event. The community welcomed more than 3,500 visitors who enjoyed climbing aboard and exploring vehicles of all shapes and sizes, and there was a family fun zone with activities, food trucks and more.

TrailMark also received a gold award for its signage program.

“GreenPointe is fortunate to work with brilliant creative partners, Ruckus Agency and Cotton & Company, who are an irreplaceable asset to our team,” James said. “I am impressed by their remarkable talents, and I thank them for their support in our efforts to succeed.”



Contributed photo  
Pictured from left are Susan Taylor, Mike Taylor, Gaynelle James, Carolina Aristimuno, Terry James and Suzanne Cash.

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# In the Arts

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THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022 · PAGE 52

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## Lightner Museum announces spring exhibitions, community open house

The Lightner Museum will welcome visitors this spring with two new exhibitions that open on April 1. Museum members and St. Augustine residents will be able to preview the exhibitions at a free community open house from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. April 1.

### Bouke de Vries: 'War & Pieces'

April 1-Dec. 31

London-based Dutch artist Bouke De Vries' "War & Pieces" has been described as a "masterwork" by art critics.

The monumental artwork, crafted from thousands of fragments of porcelain, reimagines the decorative centerpieces that adorned 17th- and 18th-century banquet tables. A former conservator of ceramics, Bouke de Vries uses broken ceramics as the primary medium for his artwork, celebrating the "beauty of destruction" through his fragmentary sculptures.

The exhibition is supported by the St. Johns County Tourism Development Council.

### Dana Hargrove: Iceland Series

April 1-Dec. 31

The first Lightner Local exhibition of 2022 presents "Dana Hargrove: Iceland Series."

Hargrove's intimately scaled paintings offer synthesized versions of the natural landscape, where organic forms are tamed and organized to highlight mankind's ongoing subordination of nature.

Created to showcase the extraordinary talents of artists who live in the Northeast and Central Florida regions, Lightner Local is supported by the Benjamin and Jean Troemel Arts Foundation.

### Community Open House

April 1, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Free to museum members and residents of St. Augustine.

Explore the museum's new exhibitions, enjoy live music by Raisin Cake Orchestra, shop the updated and expanded museum store, and spend time in the Radzinski Family Garden at this free community open house.

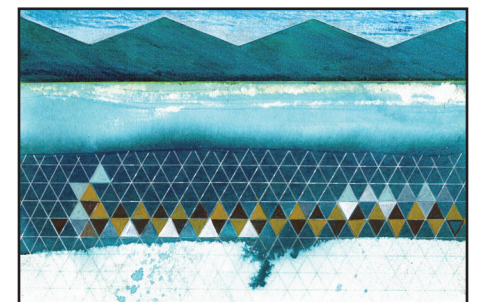
The Lightner Museum is dedicated to enriching the lives of visitors through our extraordinary collection, historic building and dynamic exhibitions and programs. Founded in 1948 by Chicago publisher, collector and professional hobbyist Otto C. Lightner, the museum offers an immersive experience of art, architecture, history and design.

At the heart of the museum's offerings are its compelling collections. From lamps by Tiffany and exquisite shells and geological samples from around the



Photos provided by The Lightner Museum

Bouke de Vries, 'War & Pieces'



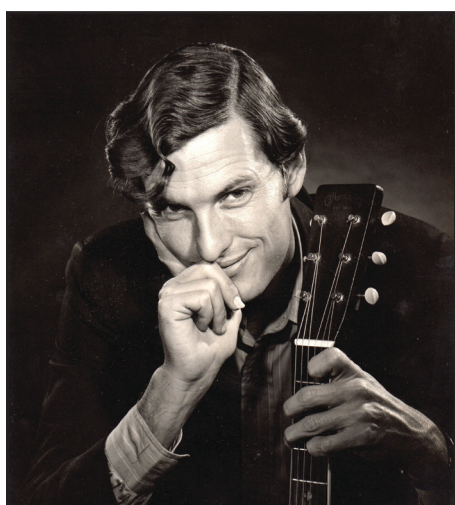
'Dana Hargrove, Iceland'

world, to porcelain produced at Sèvres and Victorian mechanical musical instruments, the Lightner Museum's collections are rich, eclectic and always engaging.

The Lightner Museum is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week at 75 King St., St. Augustine.

For further information, go to lightner-museum.org or call 904-824-2874.

## Gamble Rogers Music Festival lineup announced



Recording artist, the late Gamble Rogers



Contributed photos

The annual Gamble Rogers Music Festival continues the legacy of the local recording artist.

The Gamble Rogers Music Festival will take place May 6-8 at the Colonial Oak Music Park in downtown St. Augustine.

The festival celebrates recording artist Gamble Rogers who died trying to save a drowning swimmer in 1991. His passion for balladry and storytelling shaped American folk music. The festival has honored that tradition since 1995 by bringing to the stage international and national artists, as well as local and regional performers.

The 2022 event will include more than 30 musical acts, with headliners The Steel Wheels, an Americana band from the Virginia mountains.

Along with three full days of great music, the Gamble Rogers Music Festival will offer plenty of food and drink available at the Colonial Quarter's restaurants and beverage sales areas, a jam area, merchandise and more.

New this year, the Riberia Gardens stage, located across the street from Colonial Oak Music Park, will feature youth-friendly performances and activities, including a ukulele workshop, storytelling, hands-on music making and

family-friendly music.

Tickets are \$60 for the three-day event; \$20 for Friday, May 6; \$30 for all-day Saturday, May 7; and \$20 for Sunday, May 8. Purchase tickets at gamblerogers-fest.org

Event hours are: 5 to 10:30 p.m. May 6, 10 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. May 7 and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. May 8.

The lineup includes: The Steel Wheels, The Florida Troubadours, Passerine, Pierce Pettis, The Driftwoods, Victoria Jackson, Remedy Tree, The Carpetbaggers Band, Brian Smalley, Wild Shiners, Sam Pacetti, Dewey Via Band, Michael Jordan, Bad Dog Mama, Madi Carr, Red and Chris Henry's All Star Band, Grant Peeples, Davis Loose and the Loose Can-ns, Bear and Robert, Fiona Maura, John Dickie and Collapsible B, The Skinny, Lonesome Bert's Thick and Thin String Band, Joe Mark, Colton McKenna, The Dunehoppers, Ron and Bari, Lee Hunter, Jerry Mincey, The Ashley Gang, Jamie DeFrates, Amy Hendrickson, The Morrow Family Band, Hart Line, Paul Linser, Better Half, Free Rangers and Marianne Lerbs.

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Anna Miller  
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scan for adult programs





# Sports



THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022 · PAGE 53

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Photos courtesy of Stacy Bunkosky

Ponte Vedra's consistent starting five throughout the season included Luke Pirris, J.T. Kelly, Ross Candelino, Gus Jordheim and Nate Bunkosky.



The Ponte Vedra boys basketball team will always be remembered as the first Sharks' squad to play in the final four and for a state championship.

## One for the record books

*Historic season sets tone for program moving forward*

By Anthony Richards

What a season it was for the Ponte Vedra boys basketball program, which came up one win away from a state title following a 53-49 loss to Stuart Martin County in the Class 6A state championship March 5 in Lakeland.

Although ending with a loss is never easy, the Sharks proved countless times that they have the heart of a champion, including fighting back in the title game to make it a one possession contest after being down 10 points to start the fourth quarter.

The Sharks continued pushing toward their goal of a state title and never gave up all the way until the final whistle blew.

What made their run to the state championship so special is that they were the first in school history to do so.

As a result, they have now set the tone and raised the expectations of the program moving forward in one fell swoop.

Every team enters a new season with dreams of going to the final four and winning a state championship, but for the Sharks to break down that barrier and accomplish the feat will suddenly turn that dream into a reality for both the returning players on the team and the fans in the stands.

A major difference for the Sharks in the title from the semifinal performance was their three-point shooting.

In the state semifinal the Sharks shot 50% from beyond the arc by making

eight of 16 attempts. It was a much different story in the championship as the Sharks only made two of 16 attempts from long range.

One of those made three-pointers came from Ross Candelino and cut the deficit to three, 50-47 with less than a minute to play in the game.

However, that was as close as the Sharks got to completing their comeback bid down the stretch, despite outscoring the Tigers 19-13 in the final quarter.

The Sharks made up for the lack of three-point production by attacking the basket and getting to the free throw line.

When they got to the line, they were able to consistently convert and not leave points on the table.

Candelino hit seven of eight free throw attempts, while six of Nate Bunkosky's 10 points came from the line.

Candelino led the team with 16 points, while Luke Pirris posted 13 and J.T. Kelly finished with eight.

Defense was the Sharks' calling card all season, and on a night when the shots weren't falling as often as usual, the defense continued to be that steady presence.

Kelly, Candelino and Sam Ritchie each had four steals and Pirris had two of his own to go with a block and drawing an offensive charge.

The teams were tied at 12 at the end of the first quarter but the Sharks trailed 26-19 at halftime.

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- ACROSS**
1. "In the Hall of the Mountain King" composer Edvard \_\_\_\_
  6. Marlboro debris
  9. \*Academy Award ceremony audience sound
  13. Botch
  14. Sigma \_\_\_\_ fraternity
  15. Ten million, in India
  16. Embryo sacs
  17. Literary "even"
  18. Tax evader's fear
  19. \*Most nominated streamer in this year's Oscars
  21. \*Most-nominated Black actor in Oscar history
  23. Opposite of yang
  24. Lard cousin
  25. \*Milk \_\_\_\_ movie snack
  28. Poetic source of Norse mythology
  30. 2020 demographic event
  35. Arrival times, acronym
  37. Baseball points
  39. Camelot to King Arthur
  40. Actress Campbell
  41. \*Where Oscar-winner "Slumdog Millionaire" was set
  43. Not in favor
  44. \*What Halle Berry did when she won an Oscar in 2002
  46. Jet black
  47. Lively
  48. Paid killers (2 words)
  50. Upon
  52. Rally repeater
  53. Sweet-talk
  55. Not outs
  57. \*Total Oscar nominations for "The Power of the Dog"
  60. \*One of this year's Oscar hosts
  64. Exotic juice flavor
  65. \*Jamie Foxx won an Oscar in 2005 for this flick
  67. Bizet's "Carmen," e.g.
  68. Off kilter
  69. \*1942's "Holiday \_\_\_\_," Oscar winner
  70. Admit (2 words)
  71. Afterward
  72. And so on acronym

73. Took the Kool-Aid
- DOWN**
1. J. Edgar Hoover's man
  2. Ice on a window
  3. Antonym of "is"
  4. Enlighten
  5. Puck stopper
  6. Kilimanjaro top, e.g.
  7. Pronoun
  8. Hinduism follower
  9. \*"Parallel Mothers" nominee Penelope
  10. Prospector's mother
  11. Seed coat
  12. Lassie, e.g.
  15. Type of horse gait
  20. Lemur from Madagascar
  22. European Economic Community
  24. Playground attraction
  25. \*"Belfast" nominee, "Shakespeare in Love" winner
  26. First cradles
  27. Lifeboat support
  29. \*Denis Villeneuve's sci-fi nominee
  31. Type of tide
  32. Not so crazy
  33. Extremist
  34. \*"King Richard" nominee, once a fresh prince
  36. Give an impression
  38. Land of Israel
  42. Shenanigan
  45. Remove claws
  49. Presidential election mo.
  51. Waiting on the phone (2 words)
  54. Eagle's nest
  56. Like the Incredibles
  57. Backside
  58. Boat track
  59. Not odd
  60. Update, as in a FitBit
  61. Formerly Facebook
  62. \*Julia Robert's 2001 Oscar-winning role
  63. Colonel or captain
  64. Gangster's gun
  66. \_\_\_\_ eater or \_\_\_\_ hill

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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.**



Photo courtesy of Karen Keller-Hughes

**Five Ponte Vedra High girls weightlifters became the first in school history to compete in the state meet.**

# Sharks make most of first time with five lifters at state meet

**By Anthony Richards**

It has been a busy end to the winter sports season for Ponte Vedra High's athletic programs with several teams competing for state titles, including girls weightlifting for the first time in school history.

However, the Sharks did not just test the waters of the state competition with one first time qualifier, but instead dove straight into the deep end and made their presence known by sending five lifters to state.

Going from none to five in just one year is something head coach Karen Keller-Hughes is proud of, especially because this group is very young which means even more exciting things could be in store for the future.

"We have a young and eager team excited to work hard and finish even stronger next year," Keller-Hughes said.

The highest finishers at state for the Sharks was Caroline Hughes and Ravina Patel, who each finished fifth in their respective weight classes.

Hughes tallied a 335 total with her clean and jerk and bench in the 154-pound class. She also finished fourth with a 130-pound snatch.

It was another close call, but the third time this postseason that Hughes came up just short of a title after runner-up outings in both districts and regionals.

Patel's impressive performance in the 101-pound class included a 240-pound traditional total that entailed lifting 120 in both the clean and jerk and bench portions.

Her success in the traditional format was not much of a surprise, after having won both districts and regionals with her clean and jerk and bench numbers.

She was just 15 pounds shy of third place and 55 pounds short of the top spot in the standings. She finished 16th with a total of 80 pounds in the snatch category.

One of the leaders on the team is Morgan Pratt, who posted a 280 total for 19th in traditional and 105 pounds for 14th in snatch.

Emily Glod and Madison O'Reilly each competed solely in the snatch portion of competition. Glod finished 16th in the 154-pound class and O'Reilly was 19th in the 139-pound class.

The Sharks finished 18th out of 53 schools in the traditional team competition and 14th in snatch as a group.



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