THE RECORDER

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> November 10, 2022 Volume 54, No. 2 75 cents

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Serving Ponte Vedra, St. Augustine, The Beaches and Greater St. Johns County



Ponte Vedra Auto Show Guide

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Match Play Championship results

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INSIDE: CHECK IT OUT!

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



Photo by Annie Wohlgemuth

Ponte Vedra's Annie Wohlgemuth takes a selfie with her swimming teammates on the top step of the podium after repeating as Class 3A girls state champions. The area was well represented as Nease also took home the 3A boys state title. Read the story and see photos recapping a victorious state meet on page 35.



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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 or bring them by our office at 1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach.



Visit our new website at **www.pontevedrarecorder.com**

Plus, find the Recorder on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ThePVRecorder

BRIEFS

Lawson Ensemble to perform

The Friends of the Ponte Vedra Beach Library will present the Lawson Ensemble at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, at the library. Doors open at 6 p.m. The Lawson Ensemble was formed in 2015 as a result of the group members' desire to consistently perform chamber music at a level of excellence and commitment to share with the community. Founding members are violinist Aurica Duca, violinist/violist Clinton Dewing and cellist Nick Curry. Duca and Dewing are husband and wife and are both fulltime members of the Jacksonville Symphony. Curry is the associate professor of cello studies at UNF, where he teaches.

Palm Valley Market every Tuesday

The Palm Valley Market is held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Tuesday inside the Palm Valley Community Center, 148 Canal Road. The market offers fresh produce, baked goods, local honey, tea, seasonal treats, soap, jewelry, plants and more.

Author to appear at Neptune Beach shop

Virginia Hartman, author of "The Marsh Queen" (Gallery Books), will appear at The BookMark in Neptune Beach at 6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12.

A native of Florida, Hartman now lives just outside Washington, D.C. A behind-the-scenes tour of the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History helped her capture the characters and creatures readers meet in the book's pages.

The novel follows artist Loni Mae Murrow, who finds a cryptic note among her mother's things that raises questions about her father's death.

For more information, go to bookmark-beach.com/events/20126.

Thinking of Advertising in the Recorder?

For more information call (904) 285-8831 to speak with a Sales Rep. today!

Essential tremor meetings announced

Do you or a loved one have essential tremors (a tremor of the hands, legs, or face — not to be confused with Parkinson's Disease)? Approximately 10 million Americans suffer from "ET." The First Coast Essential Tremor: Meet Greet & Educate Support Group is now meeting in Nocatee and at Mayo Clinic.

The next meetings are:

- Thursday, Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. Mayo Clinic's Mangurian Building, Room 1600, 4500 Mellish Drive, Jacksonville. Speaker will be Dr. Philip Tipton, Mayo Clinic Neurology, discussing ET.
- Tuesday, Dec. 6 at 10:30 a.m. Council on Aging, Flagler Health+ Village in Nocatee, 351 Town Plaza Ave., No. 205, Ponte Vedra. Speaker will be Lew Whiting, Coastal Clinical Research, discussing clinical trials.

In-person attendance is encouraged, but virtual options by Zoom are available.

For more information, contact Jan Kary at janetkary@gmail.com.

Organization that serves young cancer patients and survivors plans gala

Live For Today Foundation is planning its Fight For Tomorrow 10th anniversary gala, set for 6-10 p.m. Dec. 3 at 100 Beachwalk Club Drive, St. Johns. There will be dinner, dessert, a silent auction, wine pull and dancing to the music of the Briteside Band.

The local organization serves young adults in Northeast Florida who are survivors of cancer. Many members are survivors of child-hood cancer as well as young adults currently fighting cancer who struggle daily with the physical, social and mental effects of living in the shadow of cancer.

Live For Today has spent 10 years encouraging community, healthy living and adventure for more than 175 people it has touched.

For information on tickets and sponsorships, go to: zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/2315cd73-c5a6-4871-88c3-4923fd4f6be7.

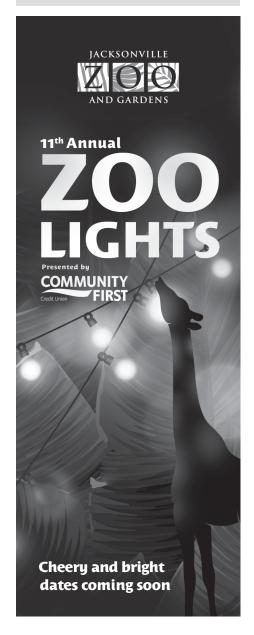
For information on the organization, go to live-for-today.org.

— Compiled by Shaun Ryan

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



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





Contributed photo

Jacksonville Historical Society CEO Dr. Alan Bliss speaks during a recent Coastal Friends luncheon.

Transformation of Jacksonville building topic for Coastal Friends

Jacksonville Historical Society CEO Dr. Alan Bliss spoke Oct. 5 to a crowd of more than 60 during the Coastal Friends' monthly luncheon at Marsh Landing Country Club. He spoke about Jacksonville's bicentennial, as well as the historical society's project to renovate and activate the 102-year-old factory building, formerly the Florida Casket Company.

Plans include transforming the first floor

into a museum and exhibition space devoted principally to Jacksonville's musical history. The second floor will be archival processing and preservation of the society's huge collections, and the third floor will be an event venue and meeting space.

For details on how to join Coastal Friends, contact brookemeister@msn.com or go to coastalfriends.wildapricot.org.

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Exceptional Views in Sawgrass Country Club (BH) Amazing Vistas in Deercreek Country Club

This beautifully updated home is located in Sandpiper Cove in Sawgrass CC. Located at the end of a cul-de-sac on an exceptional lot, the home features spectacular water to golf views with SE exposure. Built for year-round outdoor living with both a winter lanai with fireplace off the living room and a summer lanai off the family room with pool, spa and summer kitchen. Easy flow floorplan with large living room, spacious cook's kitchen, and den with built-in bookshelves and wet bar. Owner's suite and guest room on 1st floor and 3rd bedroom on 2nd floor with full bath.

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4 COMMUNITY NEWS



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OBITUARIES

Peter Sanford Davison

June 6, 1947 — October 28, 2022 Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida



Peter Sanford Davison, 75, passed away peacefully, with his family by his side, on October 28 after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Pete, born on June 6, 1947, to Vincent Mercer

Davison and Lylette "Lette" Dunn Davison Smith, grew up in Augusta, Georgia where he met his wife of 53 years, Jayne Brooks Cudd Davison. He was a graduate of Richmond Academy and the University of Georgia, where he was an SEC Champion in golf and a Sigma Alpha Epsilon brother.

Pete played the PGA TOUR in the 1970s, winning the prestigious Metropolitan Open in 1973 and played in three U.S. Open Championships. In addition, he was a Lifetime Class A Member of the Professional Golfers Association of America. Pete had a 25-year career with the PGA TOUR where he developed and built the network

of Tournament Players Clubs (TPCs) across the U.S., setting the standards for golf club operations and service.

Pete will be most remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather, who was devoted to his family. He also had a passion for golf, fishing, music, Harley Davidson motorcycles, model trains, collectibles and more.

Pete is survived by his children, Peter Sanford (Sandy) Davison Jr., Ashley Brooks Laughlin, and Kelly Davison Boston; his grandchildren, Karen Ashley Rees, and Sydney Brooks Laughlin; and two great grandchildren, Gideon, and Nolan Rees.

A Celebration of Life is planned for both Pete and his wife, Jayne, at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, December 14 at Quinn-Shalz Funeral Home in Jacksonville Beach, Florida. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the American Cancer Society. Please visit his online Tribute at www.quinn-shalz.com.

Arrangements by



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DEATH NOTICES

Boris Avetisov

Boris Avetisov, 80, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Oct. 26, 2022. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. 904-249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

David L. Bishop

David L. Bishop, 71, of Jacksonville Beach, Florida, died Oct. 28, 2022. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. 904-249-1100 www.quinnshalz.com

Margaret Elizabeth Troutman Brown

Margaret Elizabeth Troutman Brown, 90, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Oct. 27, 2022. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. 904-249-1100 www.quinn-shalz.com

Pearl Harbor, WWII spotlighted at Heroes Luncheon

The We Can Be Heroes Foundation is planning a special Pearl Harbor Remembrance and "Tribute to Heroes" luncheon honoring World War II veterans.

The event will be held Dec. 4 at VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena, 300 A Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville.

From 11:15 a.m. to noon, attendees will be able to mingle, visit displays, see memorabilia and participate in a silent auction benefitting the Atlantic Coast Young Marines.

The luncheon will be held from noon to 2 p.m., and presentations will follow.

The keynote speaker will be historian Capt. James Ransom III, USN, Ret. Attendees will hear unforgettable stories of Pearl Harbor and World War II heroes. There will also be an announcement of community unsung hero nominations.

Reserve seats or dining tables in memory or honor of World War II veterans and other U.S. veterans, first responders, loved ones or unsung heroes you know or admire. Display memorabilia of your hero in the center of your reserved table. A table placard honoring your hero will highlight your reserved table. Tables can be reserved for your family, group or organization.

Also, plan to visit the sizeable silent auction for your Christmas shopping to help raise money for the Atlantic Coast Young Marines' World War II History Tour to Normandy, France and Germany.

Early bird tickets are \$28 per person or \$196 for a table of eight. (Note: The eighth seat is complimentary at the price of \$196.) Veterans and Gold Star families receive a 10% discount. Tickets donated to veterans and Gold Star families receive a 15% discount. Donors will be recognized and thanked in the event program for honoring veterans and Gold Star families.

Seating is limited. Go to tickettailor.com/ events/wecanbeheroesfoundation/720517# for tickets, or mail a check to: We Can Be Heroes, 14286-19 Beach Blvd., #120, Jacksonville, FL 32250

For information, call 904-373-8817.

Voters reject one-cent sales tax increase

By Shaun Ryan

St. Johns County voters have rejected a one-cent surtax that would have raised sales taxes in the county from 6.5 cents to 7.5 cents for every dollar spent on the first \$5,000 of taxable personal property purchases. Nontaxable items, such as groceries, would have been exempt.

The referendum was put on the ballot after the County Commission voted 4-1 in March to allow voters to decide it.

The extra penny would have generated an estimated \$500 million over the next decade, enough to fund a list of projects identified as priorities by the various county department heads. The list included \$240 million for road improvements, some of which were slated for Ponte Vedra, such as a widening of Mickler Road.

Some residents have signaled an unwillingness to support some or all of

the projects on the list.

The referendum's rejection will likely put those projects in limbo, as county commissioners have said they would not raise taxes to pay for them. In the words of Commissioner Christian Whitehurst, "There is no Plan B."

County officials have identified various causes for a shortfall in funds that might have paid for the proposed projects, most notably a decision by a previous board to reduce impact fees after the 2008 recession to encourage development.

The vote was 63.14% against and 36.86% for.

Both School Board races were close. In the contest for District 1, incumbent Beverly Slough edged out challenger Racheal M. Hand, 52.21% to 47.79%. The difference between them was slightly more than 1,000 votes.

In District 3, Jennifer Collins prevailed over Lauren Abell, 52.41% to 47 59%



YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE

In the race for Anastasia Mosquito Control District Seat 2, Martha Gleason was the top vote-getter with 41.78% of the votes. For Seat 4, Trish Becker led Chris George, 56.75% to 43.25%.

The race for St. Johns County Airport Authority Group 1 was very nearly a three-way tie, but Michelle Cash-Chapman received the most votes, 35.36% of the total. Group 2 went with Dennis M. Clarke, who received 47.37% of the vote. In Group 3, Jennifer Liotta received the most votes, 29.72% of the total.

By a wide margin, St. Johns County voters elected to retain all of the state's Supreme Court justices and judges on the District 5 Court of Appeal.

Voter turnout was high in St. Johns County for a midterm election. Out of 223,774 active eligible voters, 144,941 — 64.77% — cast a ballot.

Statewide, Gov. Ron DeSantis beat Charlie Crist, 59.38% to 39.96%. U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio beat Val Demings, 57.69% to 41.26%. In the attorney general race, Ashley Moody beat Aramis Ayala, 60.06% to 39.94%. In the race for chief financial officer, Jimmy Patronis beat Adam Hattersley, 59.49% to 40.51%. Wilton Simpson beat Naomi Esther Blemur in the race for commissioner of agriculture, 59.31% to 40.69%.







Melinda McManus is the chair of this year's Heroes Gala – her third year chairing the event benefiting Operation New Uniform, a local charity that helps veterans make a successful transition to the civilian workforce.

Melinda McManus

As told to Anthony Richards

Tell us a little about yourself and your background.

I grew up in Houston, Texas, and attended the University of Arkansas and enjoyed a rewarding 17-year career at J.B. Hunt Transport.

I have a 27-year-old stepson, Mason, who's getting married in December; a 25-year-old daughter, Anna Catherine, who's a pediatric speech pathologist in Dallas; and a 16-year-old daughter, Rachel, who's a sophomore at Ponte Vedra High School and a dancer.

My husband, Midd, and I have been married nearly 20 years and moved from Southlake, Texas, to Ponte Vedra Beach in 2015.

I'm the daughter of an FBI special agent and the stepdaughter of a Marine. I love this country and have always appreciated the freedom Americans get to enjoy.

What led you to get involved with Operation New Uniform and how long have you been helping the cause?

I've known the founder and executive director, Michele McManamon, for about seven years.

I attended my first Heroes Gala in November of 2018. I remember having a lunch meeting with Michele a couple of weeks before the event and realizing she needed help with the auction. I spent my entire 48th birthday at her office getting the auction organized.

At that first gala, I really came to understand what ONU does and why it's so important.

My involvement in the gala has increased each year since. While my volunteer experience is mainly with silent and live auctions, my role at the ONU Heroes Gala has blossomed to chairing the event; this is my third year in that role.

What are the primary goals/services provided by the organization?

ONU prepares veterans for a successful transition into the civilian workforce.

They undergo an intense 3 ½ week course and the transformation in that short time is incredible. By the end, they know they have much to offer the business community, and how to communicate their talents and skills.

They know how to produce a compelling resume, give an elevator speech and truly network. ONU has relationships with companies, which have come to expect strong candidates from ONU classes and often hire graduates on the spot at graduation. ONU is in it for the long haul with its alums. We're family, as Michele

likes to say

When is this year's Heroes Gala?

This year's event will be held on Saturday, December 3 at the Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa. We are fortunate this year to have national media personality Brian Kilmeade as our master of ceremonies and Lt. Col. Allen West as our guest speaker.

It's going to be a wonderful evening honoring and supporting our veterans, and tickets and sponsorships are still available. More information is available at onuvets.org/heroes-gala.

What do you enjoy most about the initiatives they do and how ONU goes about helping others?

I believe there's no group more deserving of our gratitude and help than our veterans. Our service men and women, all branches, choose military careers out of love for country, out of an understanding of the liberties that set America apart from all other nations, and out of a belief that this nation of ours is worth defending and her freedom is worth protecting.

It breaks my heart to think of all a veteran has sacrificed, on my behalf and yours, only to struggle in the transition to civilian life. For veterans to go months, even years, underemployed or unemployed after retirement from the military is just not right.

Operation New Uniform is a real difference maker, and a life changer in many cases

ONU teaches veterans that their identity is not tied up in their military rank or the uniform they wore. They are far more than that and have so much to offer.

I've been to several ONU class graduations, and it's impossible not to cry. They have hope, confidence, courage and a new lease on life!

To be involved in a major fundraiser that enables this powerful program to continue to be offered to veterans at no cost to them is truly an honor and a delightful way to give back and say thank you to a people who have done far more than that for me.

What are some of your roles as the chair of this year's Heroes Gala?

I try to be an ambassador for ONU. Many of my friends help by serving in various roles on the gala committee.

I host most of our planning meetings at my home and work with the executive director and our professional event planner to be sure the mission of ONU and the priorities of Heroes Gala are understood and executed beautifully at a first-rate event.

I also solicit for silent and live auc-



Photo courtesy of Melinda McManus

Melinda McManus moved to Ponte Vedra Beach from Texas in 2015 and has become deeply involved in Operation New Uniform.

tion items everywhere I can. I find that people are generally honored to donate an auction item to an event that benefits veterans. So, I'm not bashful about asking.

In what other ways do you try to stay involved in the community?

My other passion is the Tim Tebow Foundation's annual Night to Shine. It's a prom for people with special needs, and every year it takes place on the Friday before Valentine's Day all over the world.

It is highly complex to coordinate all that must happen in order for hundreds of people with special needs to get their own "night to shine," and I have utmost respect for those who spend all year working to get every detail planned and every accommodation made.

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

I am so happy to live just a few hours' drive from really cool weekend destinations like Savannah, Charleston, Hilton Head Island and Orlando. We lived many years in Dallas, where a weekend getaway inevitably involved a plane flight.

I absolutely love the people of this community. Some of my friends here are lifetime locals, but many are from other parts of the country or even the world. There's a wide age range but a consistent genuineness. It's a gift to live where outdoor living is the norm year-round.

And we have the beach. We live where people vacation – how lucky are we?

What do you like to do in your free time?

My husband, Midd, is my favorite person to spend time with. I love our date nights at Aqua Grill and really treasure vacations with him when I can talk him into them. Our daughter Rachel and her friends spend the majority of their time together at our house, which I love.

I love to play tennis. I took it up when we moved here from Texas in 2015, and my regret is that I didn't start sooner. Tennis is an incredibly social sport, plus a great source of exercise and competition.

I also love pickleball. We built a house recently and put a regulation-sized pickleball court in our front yard. Midd and I invite friends over for pickleball parties fairly frequently, and I have a couple of standing weekly matches with different groups of girlfriends. I also love group fitness classes and cooking. We are members at Church of Eleven 22, and I've served at our thrift store, Hope's Closet, as well as in the students' ministry.

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

KATHY'S GARDENING GUIDE

Violas — Colorful and Edible!

"Where flowers bloom, so does hope." — Ladybird Johnson



Kathy Esfahani

By Kathy Esfahani

Beautiful in the garden and on a plate, violas are a wonderful addition to your fall landscape in North Florida! These delicate flowers are available in a variety of colors,

including purples, blues, whites and yellows. The blooms may feature only one of these hues or a combination of several

Violas are useful as a vibrant border for garden beds or pops of color in containers. When adding these annuals to your home, look for an area of full to partial sun with moist, but well drained,

Violas originated in Europe thousands of years ago. The flowers symbolize innocence, unending love and faith. Their heart-shaped blooms make them

a romantic choice in bouquets or gifts. Violas were used for medicine in ancient Greece, and the early Romans made them into wine. They are a healthy source of vitamin C and considered by some to have medicinal uses as antioxidants, antiinflammatories and collagen boosters. Also, various perfumes contain violas due to their light, floral scents.

Many recipes feature violas, both as ingredients and garnishes. The flowers are edible with a tender texture and subtle, sweet flavor. Some people taste a light mintiness in violas. They are popular as edible garnishes for salads, appetizers, desserts and drinks, but they can also be cooked into syrups and iellies.

Violas pair well when served or cooked with chocolate, apricots, cinnamon, mushrooms, asparagus, goat cheese, poultry and fish. The blooms also make beautiful accents to drinks when frozen into an ice cube! It is best to use violas immediately for culinary purposes, but they can be refrigerated in a sealed

container for two to six days.

As you prepare your home for holiday gatherings, don't forget to include violas in your gardens, containers and recipes. The following recipe makes a floral appetizer perfect for kicking off your festivities!



themerrythought.com pepper (to taste)

Floral Goat Cheese with Dill & Cracked **Pepper**

Ingredients: 8 oz goat cheese edible flowers (see note below) dill (to taste) Photo courtesy of freshly cracked

Pulse ingredients in a food processor for a few seconds, just enough to mix everything together. Shape cheese into a log. Press extra petals onto the outside of the cheese log if desired. Wrap in plastic wrap and chill for a Photo provided by Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery



Violas

few hours. (Best if it sits for a day or two, the flower colors will bleed slightly, though.) Serve with crackers or baguette slices. Garnish with additional edible flowers if desired.

NOTE: Violas grown in your own yard are perfect for this recipe! You can also find edible flowers online, in the produce section of some grocery stores, or at a local farmers' market. Just make sure that the flowers you choose for eating are organic (meaning they have not been sprayed with any kind of pesticides)! (Recipe and photo courtesy of themerrythought.com/recipes/floral-goat-cheesewith-dill-cracked-pepper.)

Flower of the Week: Violas

Please email Kathy at kcg.pvr@gmail.com for any questions or gardening tips you would like to see in the future. For more information & ideas, visit Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery, 196 N. Roscoe Blvd. The phone number is 904-655-7373.

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County supports Israel, **Jewish community**

On Nov. 1, St. Johns County Commissioner Henry Dean and Clerk of Court and Comptroller Brandon Patty were joined by members of St. Johns County's Jewish community to recognize Nov. 8 as St. Johns County-Israel Friendship Day.

The annual proclamation sprang from the adoption of a St. Johns County resolution in 2021 to revise the county's investment policy to no longer invest in companies on Florida's List of Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel.

St. Johns County was the first local government in Florida to address discriminatory "Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions" (BDS) practices against Israel by updating its investment portfolio.

"Our message was — and is — that here in St. Johns County, we will not support discriminatory practices counter to our American values," Patty said. "By proclaiming St. Johns County-Israel Friendship Day, we are declaring that we stand shoulder to shoulder with the people of Israel and our Jewish friends and neighbors in St. Johns County in promoting freedom, human rights and

Contributed photo

Pictured from left are, front row, Chairman **Henry Dean and Clerk Brandon Patty; back** row, Rabbi Mendel Sharfstein, Chabad of St. Johns County; Mary Schulten, StandWithUs; and Tal Mola and Jill Metlin of the Jewish Federation and Foundation of Northeast Florida.



County receives 'Triple Crown' for transparency, financial accountability

North America's leading association for government finance expertise has awarded St. Johns County the "Triple Crown" for transparency and accountability in communicating St. Johns County's financial picture to taxpayers and residents, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller Brandon J. Patty announced recently.

St. Johns County is among only 317 governmental entities nationwide receiving the Triple Crown for Fiscal Year 2020.

"Earning the Triple Crown is among the highest honors in government finance and demonstrates our commitment and dedication to achieving the gold standard in transparency, financial responsibility and public outreach," Patty said. "This marks the first time St. Johns County has been awarded the Triple Crown title, which is a whole-of-government effort and exemplifies our pledge to protecting the public trust in our stewardship of tax dollars."

"Receiving this award is a testament to the care and attention we place on transparency within our budget process," said St. Johns County Administrator Hunter Conrad. "It's an honor to work with so many individuals committed to being good stewards of taxpayer money."

To earn the Triple Crown, St. Johns County and the Clerk's office received three individual awards from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) in the same budget year: the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, presented to the county; the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award, presented to the Clerk's office; and the Popular Annual Financial Reporting (PAFR) Award for the Clerk's inaugural report, titled "Tracking Your Tax Dollars: A Guide to St. Johns County's Finances."

These awards are given to government organizations that meet the GFOA's highest standards for excellence in financial reporting and public transparency.

Each award program recognizes governments that produce reports that communicate their financial stories transparently and meet specific standards.

The GFOA is an independent professional association whose best practice guidelines are considered the benchmark in public finance. Founded in 1906, the association represents more than 20,000 government and public finance officials throughout the United States and Canada.



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SenioRITAs tournament raises fund to fight breast cancer

This year marked the 23rd anniversary of the SenioRITAs Tennis Tournament at Sawgrass Country Club. The all-volunteer team effort ensures that 100% of the SenioRITAs' proceeds go directly to fighting breast cancer through research and patient services. To date the group has raised \$2.25 million, not including this year's funds, which are still being calculated.

This amount goes directly to Mayo Clinic, Baptist Medical Center Beaches, the Buddy Bus Mobile Mammagraphy Unit and DigniCap at MD Anderson.

The tournament was once again chaired by the dedicated leadership of Karen Aaro and Chuck Jantz, director of the RITA foundation.

The first event held was a kickoff party at Pusser's on Tuesday, Oct. 4.

It was well attended, and the drinks and food were provided by Pusser's.

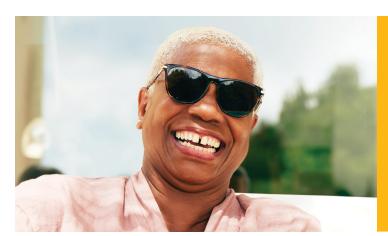
The big fundraiser was the auction party held at Sawgrass Country Club on Monday, Oct. 10. The theme of the event was Hawaii. The food followed the theme.

John Wagener, the auctioneer, kept everything hopping, getting top dollar for special golf packages and many memorabilia.

The weekend, Oct. 14-16, brought in several players to vie for the top prizes. They were offered breakfast and a welcome cheer. For lunch, the players were offered food under the tent. Firehouse Subs, Carrabba's and Winn-Dixie supplied the meals. There were tennis matches galore to watch and to cheer on.



Contributed photos



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PLAYERS launches new volunteer registration

On Nov. 2, THE PLAYERS Championship began accepting applications for new volunteers interested in joining the team of nearly 2,000 volunteers who support all facets of the PGA TOUR's flagship event. THE PLAYERS 2023 will take place on March 7-12, and the link for volunteer registration is theplayers.com/volunteer.

Volunteering at THE PLAYERS is an unparalleled experience for not only golf fans, but also those looking to support an event that gives millions of dollars back to the community, learn invaluable skills, network with local leaders and be an integral part of one of the world's premier sporting events.

"Running an event of this magnitude relies heavily on the support of great partners and dedicated volunteers,'

said Houston Bowles, 2023 tournament chairman. "Northeast Florida has proven its solid track record of support in these areas through previous events, and we're looking for that same great energy for this year's tournament in March.'

Volunteers at THE PLAYERS are placed into committees, with jobs ranging from on-course duties like serving as a marshal or walking scorer to support roles that involve assisting players and fans, such as admissions and player/caddie services.

"Being a volunteer at THE PLAYERS is sort of like getting a backstage pass at a concert," said Lila Weaver, a Creekside High School sophomore. "I had such a great time at THE PLAYERS last year that I already have a countdown on my phone for THE PLAYERS 2023."

Volunteer Perks

- A PLAYERS branded golf shirt, jacket, hat and pin included with the \$99 registration fee.
- Exclusive early access to purchase Stadium Passes for THE PLAYERS
- · Discounted meals at Darlene's Diner, an exclusive volunteer dining facility at THE PLAYERS, throughout the tourna-
- A 30% discount at the PGA TOUR Fan Shop in addition to special offers and discounts from various tournament
- Additional merchandise and dining perks at TPC Sawgrass for those who volunteer for more than 24 hours during the tournament. Those who surpass 36 hours will be eligible for discounted rates to play at the world-renowned TPC Sawgrass Stadium Course and Dye's Valley Course.

Questions and answers

Q: What is the time commitment associated with volunteering?

A: Volunteers are required to work a minimum of three shifts; one shift must occur during a competition round (March 9-12). Shift times vary based on commit-

tee; on average, each shift lasts between four and six hours.

Q: Are there age requirements in order to be a volunteer?

A: Yes, there are age requirements for certain committees. Practice grounds runners must be no younger than 10 years old and no older than 13 years old as of next March 7. Standard bearers must be no younger than 14 and no older than 18 as of March 6, 2023.

Q: What will I be doing as a volunteer?

A: As a volunteer, there are five divisions and more than 40 committees to choose from, each with unique duties and responsibilities. To view committee descriptions and determine which best suits your interests and skills, visit: https://www.theplayers.com/volunteer/ volunteer-info/committee-descriptions.

Q: Which volunteer positions give you inside the ropes access?

A: Competition support committees (location-based operators, spotters and walking scorers).

For those interested in volunteering, go to theplayers.com/volunteer.





Great Futures Weekend

November 18-19, 2022 | TPC Sawgrass

2nd Annual

Great Futures Golf Classic

Friday, Nov. 18 9:30 AM bgcnf.org/gf-golf





13th Annual McKenzie's

Saturday, Nov. 19 8:30 AM | 9 AM McKenziesRun.org





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JAXUSL to host World Cup Watch Parties across First Coast

JAXUSL, the group bringing professional men's and women's USL soccer to Northeast Florida, will host three World Cup watch parties on the First Coast, featuring the U.S. Men's National Team Group Stage matches,

The free watch parties, presented by AVL Productions and Five Sisters Vodka and supported by the St. Johns County Chamber, will be held at three Northeast Florida venues: the link in Nocatee (Nov. 21, USA vs. Wales), Culhane's Irish Pub in Tinseltown (Nov. 25, USA vs. England) and Intuition Ale Work's Bier Hall in the Stadium District (Nov. 29, USA vs. Iran).

"We know Northeast Florida soccer fans and players of all ages are passionate about the game," JAXUSL President and CEO Steve Livingstone said. "That's why we are excited to bring them together during our inaugural World Cup watch parties at three signature venues across the First Coast. We encourage all soccer supporters to join us as we cheer on the U.S. Men's National Team to victory in the group stages of the World Cup."

All World Cup watch parties will start with pre-match events beginning at noon or 1 p.m. (see schedule below) and match action prior to the broadcast kickoffs at 2 p.m. Each event will feature food and drink specials, merchandise raffles and opportunities to win additional prizes.



Proceeds raised from the events will benefit the YMCA's Youth Soccer Program to support healthy kids, families and communities through healthy competition, team-building and the value of participation over winning.

Supporters can also learn more about JAXUSL, meet club officials and share suggestions for club names and

Entry is free for all watch party events, but fans are encouraged to RSVP at the JAXUSL Events Page.

JAXUSL World Cup Watch Party Schedule

- USA vs. Wales: 1-5 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21, at the link (Nocatee), 425 Town Plaza Ave., Ponte Vedra.
- USA vs. England: 1-5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25, Culhane's Irish Pub (Tinseltown), 9720 Deer Lake Court,
- USA vs. Iran: noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29, Intuition Ale Works (Stadium District), 929 E. Bay St., Jacksonville

JAXUSL is the operating company formed to develop men's and women's professional United Soccer League franchises in Northeast Florida. Formed in 2022 when Steve Livingstone and Tony Allegretti partnered with Ricky Caplin and Tim Tebow, the company's goal is to bring competitive USL action to the First Coast by 2025, and to work with local authorities in the development of a 15,000-capacity stadium and training facility to host the club in Northeast Florida. For more information, go to JAXUSL.com



Lending seniors a helping hand

Together, we can improve the lives of seniors in our local area. Baptist Beaches is teaming up with local community organizations to recruit volunteers so our older residents have the support and resources they need.

Volunteer opportunities include:

- Providing companionship via phone to isolated residents
- Delivering food to homebound seniors
- Assisting with home projects and repairs
- Serving as a hospital volunteer

To learn more about available volunteer opportunities, visit baptistjax.com/help4seniors.











2022



PONTE VEDRA AUTO SHOW

PRESENTED BY TO COAT

OFFICIAL PROGRAM GUIDE

Sunday, November 13th 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Nocatee Event Field

FREE TO SPECTATORS!



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Welcome to the 2022 Ponte Vedra **Auto Show**

The 2022 Ponte Vedra Auto Show is being presented by TopCoat Products LLC and Art 'n Motion in association with the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, the St. Johns County Tourism Development Council and the St. Johns Cultural Council. It is being held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13, at the Nocatee Station Field.

This year, the Mercedes-Benz Club of America Southern Stars Section will help celebrate the 55th anniversary of AMG. Mercedes-AMG GmbH is a high-performance subsidiary of Mercedes-Benz AG.

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

The field is located at 400 Nocatee Center Way, Ponte Vedra Beach.

Only registered service animals are permitted on the show field. Guest tents are not permitted on the show field.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, NOV. 13

8-10 a.m. Check in for show cars

Show open to the public 10 a.m.

3 p.m. **Awards**

TROPHIES AND SPONSORS

Best in Show in Honor Of Larry Weisman

Sponsor: 2022 Ponte Vedra Auto Show

Best American Classic

Sponsor: Art 'n Motion

Best Modern Porsche

Sponsor: Peter Gregg Foundation

Fins of the 50s

Sponsor: House of Assembly Events

Euro Excellence Award

Sponsor: Euro Spec

Exceptional Exotic

Sponsor: NASCARTS

Best Contemporary Corvette

Sponsor: Florida Blue

Most Outstanding Truck or SUV

Sponsor: Happy Trails 4x4

Best Contemporary Mercedes

Sponsor: Miracle Windows

People's Choice Award

Sponsor: Nocatee

Outstanding Classic Mercedes

Sponsor: Ponte Vedra Recorder

Most Outstanding Classic Muscle Car

Sponsor: Fibrenew

Best Pre-War Vintage

Sponsor: Renewal by Anderson

Best Classic Japanese

Sponsor: Top Coat

Best Contemporary Muscle Car

Sponsor: St. Johns Chamber of Commerce

Most Outstanding Corvette

Sponsor: Tire Stacks

Outstanding Classic Porsche

Sponsor: VyStar Credit Union

Best Classic European

Sponsor: Wheel House

Magnificent Resto Mod

Sponsor: Signature +

Best Hot Rod

Sponsor: Classic Car Museum of St. Augustine

Modern Asian Excellence

Sponsor: Zisser Family Law

Best Custom Paint Job

Sponsor: Dent Out DPR

Most Original "Survivor"

Sponsor: Hagerty Insurance

EVENT MAP



FOOD VENDORS

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Rad Ringo's Donuts Banana Locos About Time Creamery Haymaker Coffee Co.

2022 AUTO SHOW JUDGES

Sidney Hobbs (head judge)

Sidney Hobbs has been a classic car enthusiast and collector for more than 40 years, starting with a '61 Corvette and building his collection to more than 70 cars, from an 1895 Roche Schneider up to a 2020 C8 Corvette. Sidney has run car shows for more than 20 years and has extensive judging experience. Currently, he is the owner of the Classic Car Museum of St. Augustine, a nonprofit that houses more than 100 autos.

Daniel Scanlan

Dan Scanlan is a 30-year-plus resident of Jacksonville and a veteran journalist who has intensely covered "The Amelia" and reviewed new cars for almost 30 years. The owner of a 35-year-old Alfa Romeo sedan, he's written about, and driven, many classic cars over the years, from an 1886 Benzwagen replica to a continuation 427 AC Cobra, and everything in between. He helps judge many area car shows, including many years with Ponte Vedra's

Hans-Dieter Mandt

Inaugural volunteer with Amelia Island Concours, he has judged various concours and auto shows through the southeast United States, owned various Porsches through the years and in addition has owned significant classic Mercedes-Benzes.

Mr. Mandt crewed for various Porsche Racing teams, including the 2.5 liter 911, RSR 934 and turbocharged 935 models.

Have been a former entrant and a current judge For the Ponte Vedra car show for almost 10 years.

Mike Ferran

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

Jimmy Britts

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

Jonathan Chadwick

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

forward to participating this year again as a Judge.

Dr. Andrew F. Cannestra

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

Dick Messer

For 12 years, until June 2010, Messer was executive director at the Petersen Automotive Museum. Located in Los Angeles, California, the museum is one of the world's largest and most prestigious automotive museums. Messer, a life-long car collector who is well connected in the collector car community, was the first to hold the Museum Director post.

Steve Boyle

Boyle participated in IMSA road racing series for eight years as crew chief and engine builder. Worked as a supplier of competition racing engines for NASCAR's Winston Cup and Busch Racing series, under contract to General Motors to develop the next generation competition racing engines. Also, during this time period built and maintained numerous historic race cars. He is still very active in restoring automobiles, maintaining historic race cars and building engines in the Jacksonville area.

Welcoming Sara Frazier to Zisser Family Law; **Building on Four Decades of Experience in Jacksonville**

With the arrival of Sara Frazier to the team, joining attorneys Lynn Salvatore, Jonathan Zisser and Carolyn and Elliot Zisser as senior counsel, Zisser Family Law now provides guidance on guardianships, probate and estate planning — in addition to all other marital and family law matters the firm has expertly handled over the last four decades.

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Sidney Hobbs, owner of the Classic Car Museum of St. Augustine will be the head judge at the 2022 Ponte Vedra Auto Show.



Sidney Hobbs has had a passion for classic cars since he was a young child growing up in South

Through the eyes of a judge

Hobbs 'humbled' to be named Auto Show's head judge

By Anthony Richards

Have you ever thought about what judges at car shows look for when listing their top cars?

Well according to Sidney Hobbs, owner of the Classic Car Museum of St. Augustine, there are many things a judge must consider, and it is usually based off a certain criterion the show provides.

Hobbs will be the head judge at the 2022 Ponte Vedra Auto Show, which is scheduled for Nov. 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Nocatee Town Center Field.

"Every show is different with a different criterion involved," Hobbs said. "The cars are the stars."

According to Hobbs, a common approach is a points system that can grade a car up to 100 points, based on aspects such as its paint, engine compartment and creativity or originality.

He has been a judge at various auto shows over the years, but this will be the first time he will be one at the Ponte Vedra Auto Show.

"I've brought cars to the show as a participant, but never been a judge," Hobbs said. "It's always an honor and very humbling to get asked, because there are a lot of really great car guys and gals out there."

One of the things that separates a judge from the average person or car lover walking around the show is the lack of subjectivity that plays into a judge's final decision.

"You have to remove yourself and your personal preferences out of the



The Classic Car Museum of St. Augustine opened a couple of years ago and has been a popular attraction for locals and tourists in the area.

equation," Hobbs said. "I've judged a lot of my friends' cars and not given them awards."

However, with that being said, he also believes that the human element when choosing between cars cannot fully be taken out of the process.

Hobbs has run into the scenario where in a large show there could be about

60 cars that could have what it takes to be named "best in show," the one that stands out and has the "wow factor" is likely to get the final vote and go home with the trophy.

Anything from the paint job to the detail of the car can go into creating that "wow factor."

A challenge that exists at every show,

but especially one like the Ponte Vedra Auto Show, is trying to judge a multitude of categories with automobiles that vary in both age and in some cases the purpose they were built for.

An example Hobbs used was that a car in built between 1950 and 1960 cannot be judged in the same way as a car post-2000.

"I think a judge also has to sit back and consider the hours of restoration that went into a car," Hobbs said. "It's not even always about the trophy, but it's about rewarding someone for all the sweat equity that they've put into their car over the years."

Hobbs has always been fascinated by cars ever since he was a young child growing up in South Georgia as the son of a rural mail carrier and working on a

After first moving down to St. Augustine in 1989 and moving back and forth from the area, he finally settled down in the city and two years ago opened the Classic Car Museum of St. Augustine.

"This area is very passionate about cars," Hobbs said. "It has a little of both higher-end exotics and classic cars, which makes it so unique. We cover a broad spectrum of car lovers. It's more about the purists and people that truly love cars.'

Despite having had many cars over the years, he still has the red 1961 Corvette he bought from his brother's friend right out of college.

It took him 10 years to restore, but he eventually finished, and it will always have a special place in his heart.

"Cars connect with people almost better than anything other than songs and family," Hobbs said. "I'll never take it for granted, because I was that kid growing up that would do anything just to sit inside a classic car, much less drive one, one day."

Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts featured at auto show

By David Wommer

This year marks the 55th anniversary of AMG. Founded in 1967 by engineers Hans Werner Aufrecht and Erhard Melcher, the company has continued to build on its position as one of the leading performance and sports car brands through numerous successes in motorsport and the development of unique road cars.

This year also marks the 50th anniversary of the Mercedes-Benz S-Class, which debuted at the 1972 Paris Motor Show.

"Twenty-nine Mercedes-Benz vehicles have registered to celebrate these achievements as the featured marque this year!" said Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA) Southern Stars Section President David Wommer.

The club has previously had a few Car & Coffee events open to the public at Art 'n Motion working with Justin Felker, who also took the reins of the Ponte Vedra Auto Show in 2020.

In 2021, the MBCA Southern Stars Section brought nearly two dozen vehicles, and they had 11 convertibles lined up next to each other among those. The Best of Show in 2021 was a 1961 Mercedes-Benz 190 SL.

MBCA has been in existence since 1956 and has nearly 30,000 members. The Southern Stars Section has about 230 members and encompasses members in Northeast Florida, Southeast Georgia and Hilton Head Island.

"We love meeting new people and look forward to sharing our knowledge with both current and up-and-coming enthusiasts," Wommer said.

MBCA Southern Stars Section club members meet frequently throughout the year, conducting Drive & Dine-style events. They recently visited the "Birthplace of Speed" in Ormond Beach and dined a few times at St. Simons Island, Georgia, and Fernandina Beach.

They also visited the 415,000-squarefoot Mercedes-Benz USA facility in Jacksonville, which includes a learning and performance center to train Mercedes-Benz employees.

Check out the club at MBCA.org.

Mercedes-Benz ownership among club members spans a variety of eras and models. The most vintage one that is shared frequently is a black 1958 220 SE Cabriolet, which was prominently displayed at the 2021 Ponte Vedra Auto Show. Club members own a variety of new, classic and historic cars that have been shared locally, such as a 1955 190 SLR (a rare race-prepped 190 SL), as well as a 2005 Mercedes-Benz McLaren SLR.

Wommer himself owns a 2009 SL 63 AMG, as well as a Bi-Turbo V8, a 2014 E



Last year at the Ponte Vedra Auto Show, Mercedes-Benz vehicles were lined up with the most vintage and curvaceous 1958 220 SE front and center. If you look carefully and know what you are looking for, you can spot 11 convertibles in a row!

550 4MATIC sedan

Go to Southern Stars Section's favorite links at linktr.ee/MBCA.Southern.Stars. which includes local events and social media accounts.

Wommer said the naturally aspirated V8, a 518-HP SL 63 is a modern version of the original 300 SL "Gullwing" and is in a similar shade of silver, with a naturally aspirated V8 AMG engine, and has quite a bit of appeal for aficionados.

"Mercedes-Benz is known for crafting the first automobile, an 1886 Mercedes-Benz Patent Wagon. Since then, they continue to lead the industry with technology and passion, including their Mercedes AMG Petronas F1 Team," said Wommer. "The best or nothing!"



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TopCoat Products simplifies detailing market with groundbreaking formula

Company is presenting partner for Ponte Vedra Auto Show

By Shaun Ryan

TopCoat Products, the presenting partner for the Ponte Vedra Auto Show, began — like so many successful businesses — with an observation.

With more than 35 years' experience in the automotive detailing industry, Scott Smith knew the products that delivered, that best kept vehicles looking clean and dazzling. But he also saw a drawback.

"I realized there were too many products on the market," he said. "It was overwhelming people to not really understand what they should buy — or what they shouldn't buy."

There was an overlap in many of these products, and consumers ended up with bottles of redundant materials sitting

"By the time you're done, you've got a cabinet full of detailing products that you're never going to use," Smith said. "They're just collecting dust."

He thought: If there was a way that I could create one product to do it all ... Such a formulation would save people significant time and money.

He embarked on a mission to accomplish just that, and trial and error led him through 11 iterations of the product. In the end, Smith arrived at a multi-use, multi-surface coating that replaces between eight and 12 traditional detailing products. It worked on a car's interior and exterior. It removed bird droppings and bug splatter. It could be used on paint protection films, isinglass and matte finishes.

Its name: TopCoat F11.

In addition to its many selling points, it is water-based.

"It's safe for the user," Smith said. "It's safe for the vehicles. It's safe for materials. It's safe for the environment."

F11 has been a big hit. And TopCoat Products, which began with popup sales in Smith's garage, has become a multimillion-dollar business.

But the product's origin is rooted in a very difficult chapter of Smith's life, hardship that might have prompted another person to simply give up. However, Smith's fortitude and determination saw him through to invent this product and build his whole business around it and successive products.

The Accident

By any measure, Smith has always



Photo by Shaun Ryan

TopCoat Products founder Scott Smith shows off his company's many products.

been a hard worker. When he was 8 years old, he would walk his neighbors' dogs. A year later, he began detailing cars in the neighborhood. That idea came from watching his father, a Ford Motor Co. executive, wash and wax his own car. It was like the proverbial lightbulb had gone off; he thought: There are a lot of dirty cars around here!

His earnings were meager, but they allowed him to purchase his first vacuum cleaner — an investment in his youthful enterprise.

"I was so proud," he said.

He went on to do a variety of things. He plowed snow from driveways — a highly valued service in his hometown of Buffalo, New York. And at 14, he invented a heated steering wheel.

"I made this thing, and I leatherwrapped it, and I said, 'Dad! Dad! Dad! Can you help me patent this?" Smith recalled. "And he goes, 'Why would anyone want a heated steering wheel when you wear gloves?""

Such is the life of an inventor who is

ahead of his time.

Between the ages of 16 and 18, he began to open shops that did detailing, but much more. His shops could put a new bumper on a truck; install roll bars; paint vehicles; repair slices in doors, cracks in dashes, interior leather and cigarette burns. You name it. Smith called these "one-stop shops" because of the range of services available to customers.

TOPCOAT continues on Page 21



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Sam Joiner and his Mercedes-Benz 190SL have made the rounds since winning the Ponte Vedra Auto Show last year, including taking part in the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance in March.



Retirement has allowed Sam Joiner to be more of a mechanic for his Mercedes-Benz and learn more about it in the process.

Joiner enjoys 'doors opened' since winning Ponte Vedra Auto Show

By Anthony Richards

Since winning last year's Ponte Vedra Auto Show, Sam Joiner and his 1961 Mercedes-Benz 190SL have been on quite the journey together.

Being named "best in show" at the 2021 Ponte Vedra Auto Show was not something he expected when he first entered his car. In fact, it was really a last-minute decision to do it.

"It made winning it even sweeter,"

However, his win verified what he had been hearing from friends and others about the car for some time, that it was something special, a fact he had known since he first bought the car about 40 years ago.

He followed it up by entering his Mercedes-Benz in the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance in March and it was on display during the Saturday showing of the event, considered one of the marquee auto shows in the world.

The trophy from last year's overall

win at the Ponte Vedra Auto Show sits in Joiner's office at his house just feet away from his desk along with Ponte Vedra Recorder newspapers that highlight his triumph, which was the first time he had ever won an auto show.

"The whole thing is very new to me," Joiner said. "I just really enjoy the people you meet and the stories you hear, because everyone shares such a passion for cars.'

In many ways Joiner's life has also gone through a major change in the past year as he retired from his job.

According to Joiner, the timing could not have been better, because he has been able to use the extra time he has really get to know his car even better by being more of a mechanic to it, which is something he did not have time for in the past.

"I've learned so much in the past year and am always learning new things about my car just by getting under the hood and tinkering away with it," Joiner said.

"There were a lot of cars everywhere

you looked," Joiner said. "It was an absolute blast."

His presence at Amelia Island also earned him and his car a featured spot in the Mercedes-Benz Club of America's national magazine.

"I know how much I feel about the car, so it means a lot when others come up and say that they appreciate it as well,"

Joiner has even received interest from the Brumos Collection Museum in Jacksonville to be featured.

"Those are kinds of doors that have been opened for me and the car," Joiner said. "I thought the extent of how that car fit with rest of the world was just driving it down the road, but it goes far beyond

While at Amelia Island, he had a husband and wife come up and start

talking to him about the car, and after the conversation continued for a while the man reached in his satchel and pulled out a book that was a guide to maintenance on Mercedes-Benz 190SL's and offered it to Joiner.

"He said his dad had one as well and he loved his car so much that he searched and purchased the book for him, but before he passed away before he could give it to him," Joiner said. "He had been carrying it around for decades ever since and said he was looking for the right person

The conversation they had, convinced him that he had finally found the right person in Joiner.

"You can't help but get choked up a little," Joiner said. "But those are the special conversations you get when you start talking to people about their cars.'





Photos courtesy of Sam Joiner

One of the things that Sam Joiner loves most about auto shows is the people he meets and the stories that are shared.

TopCoat

Some customers were automobile dealerships. Smith an his team would pressure-wash every car on the dealers'

An artist, Smith enjoyed drawing cars and thought he would one day attend design school for the Ford Motor Co. But life took him in another direction.

One of the customers of his boyhood dog-walking service was a prominent Buffalo family who supplied Ford with coiled steel. Smith spoke to the CEO about a possible job and was hired for a position at the corporation's facility in Jacksonville.

It marked a big change from working for himself. For one thing, the hours were better.

"I was used to 24/7," Smith said. "I wasn't used to 8 to 5, 8 to 7." Still, he applied himself, often working as late as 11 p.m.

Over the next five years, he worked in various departments, eventually becoming a plant manager. But then, in 2002, he made the decision to go back to working for himself.

He brought in two partners and began to open his shops again, this time in

Six weeks later, he was involved in a very bad car accident.

Beginning Anew

"I didn't think I'd walk again," Smith said, adding that to date he has undergone more than 16 surgeries. "I've got a spinal cord stimulator and a pain pump. And I remember laying in the hospital bed in the living room. I was in that thing for years; couldn't get out of it. And I remember saying to myself, 'What are you going to do?"

He knew he could not longer work at his shops due to his new physical limitations.

Not someone used to sitting still, Smith began to build a new business right from his hospital bed, eventually transitioning to a wheelchair. He had the idea of creating his detailing product, though without a background in chemistry he faced a large learning

But learning daily on the job, he became an expert. He tried a number of materials, testing them on every available

When F11 proved to be the product he'd worked so hard to create, Smith began selling at events, such as the popup sales in his garage. As the business grew, so did the TopCoat line of products.

Smith has asked his customers what they would like to see, and many recommended TopCoat make a glass cleaner — though F11 works well on

That resulted in Gla-C, which is waterbased, easy to apply and doesn't streak.

Today, TopCoat also produces F11PRO; Crystaleen, a professional molomer ceramic coating; Spritz, an easy, one-step application that enhances the existing surface; Polywash, which offers commercial-grade car wash technology; TireDress, which blackens tires and adds a light sheen; TopCoat HPS, for use in the home; UnCoat, which easily removes waxes, waterbased sealers and several solvent-based coatings; SapErase, which is designed to remove sap; GunArmor, a unique gun cleaner and polish for weapons; and

microfiber towels.

Auto Show

Smith said he was excited about the Ponte Vedra Auto Show, which will be held Nov. 13 at Nocatee Station Field. TopCoat will do demonstrations and give out free product.

Smith said he wanted TopCoat to be to the Ponte Vedra Auto Show what Hagerty is to "The Amelia." He was impressed with Justin Felker, auto show president, and Michael Simpson, director of business development for the show,

when they met earlier in the year.

"I could see that they were just genuinely good guys," he said. "Good people."

He said he didn't want to be "just a sponsor."

"I want to be a partner," he said. "I want to be invested in the most significant possible way my company can be."

To learn more about TopCoat and its products, go to topcoatproducts.com or topcoat.store.

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Photo by Susan Griffin (2014)

20TH ANNUAL AUTO SHOW

Looking back over the years at the Ponte Vedra Auto Show

By Shaun Ryan

The 20th annual Ponte Vedra Auto Show is this week at Nocatee Station Field. It's a major milestone for the popular event, which was established in 2003.

Over the years it has grown to become quite probably the premier event of its kind in St. Johns County. Hundreds of vehicles have made appearances at the show, representing nearly every era, style and manufacturer in America's — and indeed the world's — love affair with the automobile.

Its location has occasionally been changed, as has the time of year it's been held. Sponsors and presenters have come and gone. Special focuses and classifications have likewise been added, and later discontinued.

The show has been rescheduled to dodge a tropical storm or hurricane, and nearly cancelled amid the coronavirus pandemic.

But the show has been a constant for automobile enthusiasts throughout the years, with the number of attendees growing. It's a trend that organizers hope to see continue.

The show was originally a creation of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce. That first iteration in 2003 was held in the Sawgrass Village shopping center parking lot. In those early years, the show was held each April.

By 2009, the number of entries competing for the show's trophies had risen to 140. Music and food became part of

The show had a new home in 2011, when it moved to the lawn at the TPC

Sawgrass clubhouse. The event was held near the stadium course, the site of THE PLAYERS Championship.

The next year, the show was moved to September. The event was presented by the Chamber in partnership with Brumos Porsche. Hurley Haywood, a celebrated endurance-racing driver served as a guest judge. Among the attendees were Ray Shaffer, then-general manager of Brumos Porsche, and Bill Warner, founder of the Amelia Island Concourse d'Elegance.

The Best in Show was a 1932 Auburn Speedster, owned by J.C. and Judy

On its 10th anniversary, the show in 2013 featured an unveiling of the 2014 Porsche Panamera and the premiere of the Rolex 24 at Daytona documentary, "How Brumos Endures."

A panel discussion with Brumos Racing Team members included Haywood, Andrew Davis, Leh Keen and filmmaker Frazer Spowart.

Best in Show went to a 1947 Town & Country Sedan owned by Mark and Hilary Becker.

That same year marked the 50th anniversary of the Porsche 911, which received a special focus at the show.

In 2014, the presenting sponsor, the Brumos Companies, showcased their various dealerships. The honored guest was "Urban Outlaw" Magnus Walker, a collector and restorer of Porsche 911s. The Best in Show that year was a 1959 Cadillac Coupe deVille entered by Carey Blackford.

The 2015 show saw celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the Porsche 992



Photo by Susan Griffin (2015)

and the 20th and 25th anniversaries of the ZR1 Corvette. In addition, there was an exhibit spotlighting 100 years of the motorcycle. Best in Show went to Don Fort's 1971 Mercedes-Benz 3.5 Cabriolet.

The following year, the show fell on Sept. 11, the 15th anniversary of the terrorist attacks. So, the event included a special tribute honoring first responders and those who lost their lives that day. Speakers included Bob Porter, who was near the Pentagon the day of the attacks, and county Fire Chief Carl Schenk. Live entertainment at the show was provided by Red River. The event's presenting sponsor was Fields Auto Group.

2016 saw the show move to a new location: Nocatee Town Center Field, near Publix.



Photo by Susan Griffin (2016)

AUTO SHOW continues on Page 25

Corvette raced by Lagasse Sr. to be featured at Auto Show

By Anthony Richards

This year's Ponte Vedra Auto Show will feature so many unique cars, which will include a group of former race cars.

This group will include a C4 generation Corvette that was driven by St. Augustine's own Scott Lagasse Sr. in the Corvette Challenge Series in the late 1980s.

Lagasse Sr. has fond memories of the series, which although only lasted about two years showcased some great talent and was televised on ESPN in 1988 and 1989.

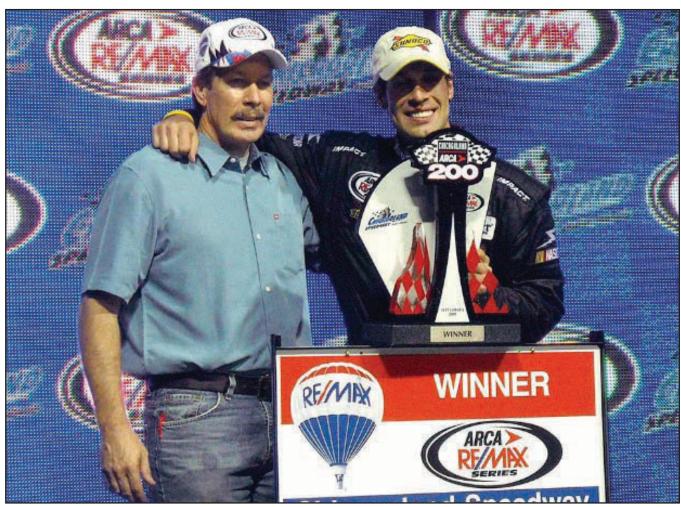
He remembers driving against huge grids of 40 to 50 cars and going head-to-head against some of the biggest names in the racing world, such as Tommy Kendall, Johnny Rutherford and Juan Manuel Fangio II.

Kendall and Fangio II were renowned for their expertise at sports cars and Rutherford is a three-time winner of the Indianapolis 500.

There were a lot of really good drivers," Lagasse Sr. said. "It was a showroom stock series, so you weren't able to modify the cars

Due to it being a stock series, the results on the track often came down to a driver's ability and not that of engineers.

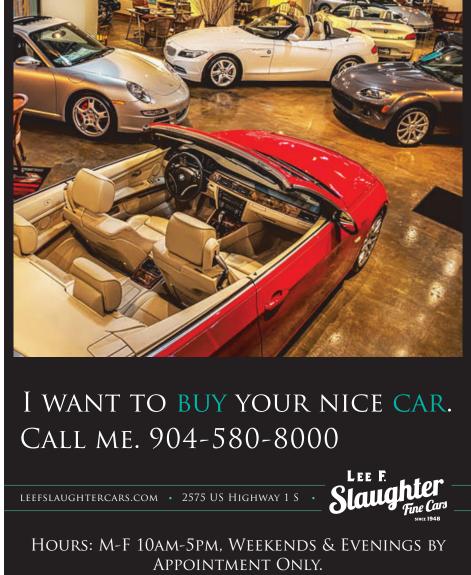
As a driver himself, Lagasse Sr. relished for the opportunity and felt that he had a chance to finish strong nearly every time he took to the track.



LAGASSE continues on Page 24

The Lagasse family has continued its presence in the racing world as Scott Lagasse Jr. followed in his father's footsteps.







One of the C4 generation Corvettes that Scott Lagasse Sr. raced in the Corvette Challenge Series in the late 1980s will be featured at the Ponte Vedra Auto Show Nov. 13.



Photos courtesy of Scott Lagasse Racing

Scott Lagasse Racing currently races in the Trans Am Series in the TA2 class.

Lagasse

"That's really the best type of racing," Lagasse Sr. said.

In 1988, he was part of a small outfit, and the team did not run in every race.

However, despite not running a full schedule, he was still able to make a splash when they were entered, including capturing pole at Riverside International Raceway.

They moved up to being a full-time entrant in 1989 and added a second car as part of their stable, and it led to them finishing third in the final standings.

One of the races in 1989 that comes to the forefront of Lagasse Sr.'s mind is when he raced his way through the field and captured fastest lap in the rain at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course.

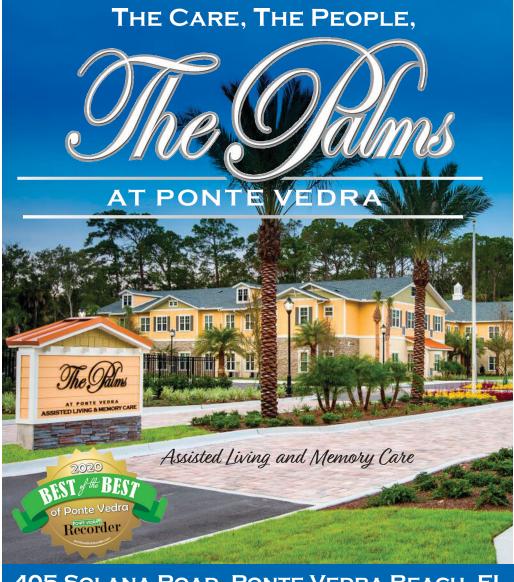
Lagasse Sr. retired in 1996, but the family has remained in racing as his son Scott Lagasse Jr. followed in his dad's footsteps and went the route of NASCAR.

According to Lagasse Sr., racing was not a path that he pushed on his son, but it was a decision he decided to pursue on his own because he shared the passion for it as well.

Together they run Scott Lagasse Racing, which currently fields a team in the Trans Am Series in the TA2 class, where SLR is one of three approved chassis builders in the series, which means they construct and deliver car chassis for customer teams to use.

The fact that the Lagasse family has been able to remain a strong presence within the racing world is something they are proud of because they know how challenging the sport can be.

"It's a sport that very few without the proper financial reserves find themselves able to do it for a lengthened period of time," Lagasse Sr. said. "We've been extremely fortunate to make a living out of it."



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Photo by Susan Griffin (2016)

Auto Show

Best in Show went to Ed Schenck's 1954 Cadillac El Dorado.

In 2017, Hurricane Irma forced organizers to reschedule the show from Sept. 10 (the day the storm hit St. Johns County) to Sept. 24. Despite happening in the aftermath of the storm, the show attracted about 3,500 attendees.

The award for Best in Show that year went to Mark Becker for his 1936 Chrysler C-9 Airflow Coupe.

The show was relocated again in 2018, this time to its current location, the event field near the Spray Park.

Up to 180 classic and new collectors' cars were on display, and sponsor was once again Fields Auto Group. Special focuses were the 70th anniversary of the Porsche 356, 60th anniversary of the Austin Healey, 50th an-



Photo by Susan Griffin (2017)

niversary of the Subaru and the 40th anniversary of the Mazda RX-7.

Haywood, who had retired from racing in 2012, returned to the show to greet fans. His book, "Hurley: From the Beginning," had been released earlier in the

Best of Show went to Giancarlo Fruzzetti's 1970 Fiat 124 Coupe.

On the following year, the show had to be rescheduled again, this time from Sept. 15 to Sept. 22 because Hurricane Dorian was fast approaching. The powerful storm brought to mind the devastation wrought by hurricanes Irma and Matthew and residents didn't know what to expect. In the end, it veered North along the coast and didn't strike St. Johns County.

2019 saw a focus on the 50th anniversary of the

AUTO SHOW continues on Page 26



Photo by Susan Griffin (2018)



Photo by Susan Griffin (2018)

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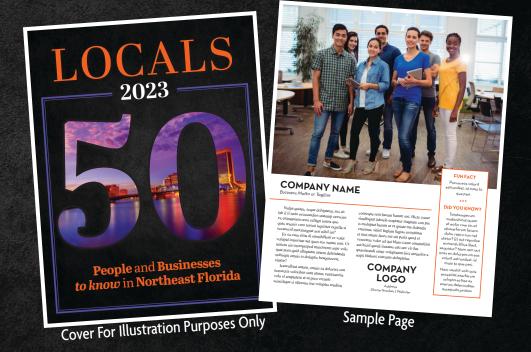
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Auto Show

Continued from 25

Porsche 914. Also, a special category was added that year for golf carts, and a car corral was set up for owners to display vehicles for sale.

Best in Show that year was Douglas Greer's 1950 Plymouth Special Deluxe.

That year, the show lost longtime head judge and event originator Larry Weisman. For the first time, a special trophy was awarded in his name.

Weisman's son, Jake, served as head judge in 2020 to honor his father. In addition, Art 'N Motion took over operation of the Ponte Vedra Auto Show from the Chamber. The date was also changed from September to November in hopes that future hurricanes would not disrupt

Art 'N Motion is a unique St. Augustine business — part dealership, part museum, part art gallery.

The 2020 show faced another challenge: the COVID-19 pandemic. Orga-

nizers considered cancelling the show, but in the end decided to hold it. The event saw a record crowd of attendees and almost 200 cars to be judged.

In addition, the focus of the car corral was changed to a place for cars arriving the day of the show. The golf cart award was discontinued. A special observance was accorded the Z-car's 50th anniversary. Ford GT models were also highlighted.

Best in Show was Andre BesMarais' 1966 Ford GT 40.

Last year, an A1A Cruise Night was scheduled for the day before the show, but is has not been continued this year. VyStar Credit Union was the sponsor. A fun focus of the event was a rivalry between the Ford Bronco and Jeep.

Best in Show went to Sam Joiner for his 1961 Mercedes-Benz 190SL.

This year, the Ponte Vedra Auto Show has a new presenting partner, TopCoat Products LLC. Nearly 200 of the finest classic and modern collector cars are expected to vie for awards.



File photo (2019)



Photo by Craig O'Neal (2020)



Very early automobiles are always a hit with auto show



What auto show would be complete without a display of chrome reflecting the bright sunlight?



Anyone who wonders what's under the hood of these wondrous vehicles had plenty of opportunities to see for

IN THE REARVIEW

Looking back at 2021

Nov. 14 at Nocatee Station Field. It featured about 185 classic and collector cars that attendees and judges alike were able to get a close look at. The range of years and styles provided for continuous surprises, and Jaguars were specially featured. Vendors and food trucks were also on hand to add to the atmosphere. This year's event is being held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 13 in the same location.



Who can forget the Volkswagon van, which once populated the streets of America?



The variety of styles kept the show interesting. A special focus was the Jaquar.



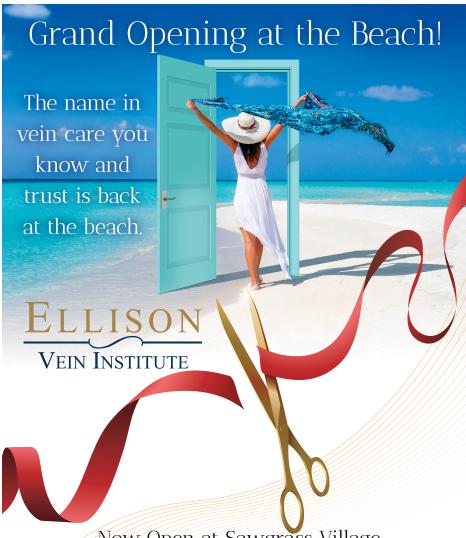
Wooden body components are a constant point of interest to visitors.



 $Some \ automobiles \ are \ created \ for \ speed \ rather \ than \ style, \ and \ function \ dictates \ form.$



All that was missing were the Caped Crusaders when this iconic auto arrived at the show.



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Longtime local businessman brings Kitchen Solvers to area

Kitchen Solvers, one of the oldest and most respected kitchen and bath restyling and remodeling franchises in America, is entering the Jacksonville market for the first time

Longtime businessman and owner Jon Cummins is launching the franchise this month with a focus on the highest quality kitchen and bath makeovers. Kitchen Solvers of Jacksonville is the company's 58th location nationwide and the 15th location in Kitchen Solvers' most active market, Florida. Kitchen Solvers will serve the greater Jacksonville metro area, including the Atlantic, Neptune and Jacksonville beaches along with Ponte Vedra and Palm Valley.

Kitchen Solvers, based in La Crosse, Wisconsin, has become one of America's most trusted remodeling companies with 40 years of experience and more than 50,000 kitchen and bath remodels across the nation.

The kitchen and bath remodeling market is a \$199 billion industry and 83% of homebuyers perform home improvements, 33% to the kitchens of their homes. Remodeling industry performance typically opposes new construction performance during an economic downturn as homeowners stay in their homes and make upgrades instead of moving or building a new home.

"We're honored to bring Kitchen Solvers to Northeast Florida," said Cummins, the independent owner and operator of Kitchen Solvers of Jacksonville. "We are bullish on the opportunity as Jacksonville tends to follow the trends in Tampa and Orlando, which have both seen tremendous growth in demand for expert kitchen and bath renovations, restyles and remodels. I'm looking forward to taking homeowners' dreams and turning them into enjoyable, valuable and beautiful kitchens and baths."



Contributed photo

Franchise owner Jon Cummins and Zach Nolte, president of Kitchen Solvers, look forward to serving the Jacksonville market.

Cummins is a native of Jacksonville Beach and has worked his entire career in the region.

He worked in residential and commercial construction after graduating Duncan U. Fletcher High School and went on to graduate summa cum laude at the Jackson-

KITCHEN continues on **Page 32**

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Wolfson receives Level I Pediatric Trauma Center verification

Sixteen-year-old Connor Gooding only remembers seeing flashing red lights on the night of Oct. 9, 2021. His mother Kimberly, though, can recall everything in vivid detail.

"I got a phone call from my friend's daughter who said Connor had an accident on a golf cart," she said. "I thought he just maybe broke his arm or something. It wasn't until I got there and saw him lying on the ground and all the blood in the street that I realized how serious it was."

In a matter of minutes, Connor was loaded onto a Life Flight air ambulance helicopter and flown from St. Johns County to Wolfson Children's Hospital's Porter Family Children's Trauma Center. There, the pediatric trauma team was awaiting his arrival and rushed him to CT scan, which revealed a skull fracture and brain bleed. By midnight, Alexandra Beier, DO, a pediatric neurosurgeon with the University of Florida College of Medicine – Jacksonville who practices at Wolfson Children's Hospital, was performing surgery to relieve pressure in Connor's skull.

"We didn't know if he was even going to make it out of surgery at first," Kimberly Gooding recalled. "And then the next question was, would he still be the same Connor?"

Thanks to the quick action of first responders at the scene and the Wolfson Children's Pediatric Trauma team, Connor has made a full recovery and is thriving socially and academically. Though he still hasn't been cleared for contact sports, he's finding new ways to stay active, like playing tennis.

Verified and saving lives

In 2018, Wolfson Children's Hospital became a state-designated pediatric trauma center. Florida Department of Health-designated pediatric trauma centers are required to have pediatric-specific available around the clock.

In further recognition of the expert care provided to the region's most critically ill and injured children, like Connor, the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Committee on Trauma recently verified Wolfson Children's Porter Family Children's Trauma Center as the region's only Level I pediatric trauma center.

"The first hour after an injury occurs is critical in determining a child's outcome," said John Draus, MD, medical director of the Porter Family Children's Trauma Center and division chief of pediatric surgery for Nemours Children's Health, Jacksonville. "The team of caregivers is ready to provide life-saving care when children need it most. The new verification by the American College of Surgeons is one more way to reassure parents that their child will get the best care when minutes matter."

The ACS Verification, Review and Consultation Program helps hospitals evaluate and improve trauma care by providing an external review of resources and performance in various areas.

"The Wolfson Children's Trauma team is trained to provide specialized care to the most critically injured babies, children and teens in Northeast Florida and far beyond," said Lisa Nichols, manager of Wolfson Children's Pediatric Trauma Program. "The miracles they perform each and every day have impacted countless children and families, and as a team, they

have worked hard to attain this presti-

The ACS Level I verification is an additional recognition of the world-class care provided by Wolfson Children's Trauma Program. Currently, there are fewer than 70 ACS-verified Level I Pediatric Trauma Centers nationwide.

Additionally, Wolfson Children's Kids Kare Critical Care Transport Fleet includes one fixed-wing aircraft, a dedicated air ambulance helicopter and two Kids Kare Mobile ICUs, making Wolfson Children's accessible to patients as far as 1.500 miles away.

Newborns and children who require critical care will be treated in the new Neonatal and Pediatric Intensive Care Units in the Borowy Family Children's Critical Care Tower, which opened in February. The seven-story, 225,000-square-foot facility features state-of-the-art technology and houses specialized suites for cardiovascular and neuro intensive care, along with designated burn and wound beds.

Physicians providing care at Wolfson Children's Hospital are not employees nor agents of the hospital. Services at Wolfson Children's Hospital are provided primarily by pediatric physician specialists employed by Nemours Children's Health, Jacksonville, University of Florida College of Medicine – Jacksonville, UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh (for cardiac surgery services) and Emergency Resources Group.



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Grocer donates \$500K for disaster relief and recovery

Southeastern Grocers Inc. (SEG), parent company and home of Fresco y Más, Harveys Supermarket and Winn-Dixie grocery stores, has announced the donation of \$500,000 to the American Red Cross to support vital emergency assistance, disaster preparedness and relief programs for communities in need.

This donation includes \$250,000 to SEG's long-standing partner through the generous contributions of customers and associates during its recent community donation program held in all Fresco y Más, Harveys Supermarket and Winn-Dixie stores.

The grocer's charitable arm, the SEG Gives Foundation, donated an additional \$250,000 to the organization earlier this year in preparation for hurricane season. Every cent donated will support the Red Cross Disaster Relief in helping families and individuals as they recover from natural disasters through food, shelter, counseling and

other needed assistance.

"After experiencing Hurricane Ian's devastating force over our Florida communities, we've witnessed firsthand how the American Red Cross provides a lifeline to neighbors in need on the long road to recovery," said Raymond Rhee, chief people officer for Southeastern Grocers. "We are humbled by our customers and associates who generously donated at our registers throughout the five coastal states we serve, and their support allows us to continue to stand with the Red Cross to support their crucial storm recovery and relief programs to strengthen and rebuild our communities when they are most vulnerable."

Fresco y Más, Harveys Supermarket and Winn-Dixie customers and associates throughout the Southeast supported the program by donating \$1, \$5 or rounding up their grocery bill to the nearest dollar while shopping their local stores during the month of September.

Following the vast devastation caused by Hurricane Ian, the donation program was extended through Oct. 18 in Florida stores to further support recovery and rebuilding efforts for affected communities.

Additionally, SEG immediately responded after the storm to ensure its associates and neighbors were taken care of by dispatching mobile pharmacies and providing essentials like bottled water, ice, nonperishable food and cleaning supplies to more than 2,000 Southwest Florida families.

SEG has a long-standing partnership with the Red Cross, a national nonprofit whose mission is to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies through the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors. Last year, SEG, together with the SEG Gives Foundation and generous customers, donated more than \$815,000 to aid and support disaster relief efforts.

EnterCircle 2022 coming up quickly

The local signature event for entrepreneurs, business people and youths interested in business is coming up quickly, but there's still time to get tickets to any of the events

The link will host its second annual EnterCircle Symposium over three days, Nov. 16-18, at the business incubator and co-working facility at 425 Town Plaza Ave., in the heart of Nocatee.

Nov. 16 is the Youth Symposium for participants ages 17-25. Event organizers are anticipating a strong turnout for

this. Students will be able to gain knowledge from business leaders, take part in discussions and gain insights into local, national and global opportunities.

Nov. 17 is Start-Ups/Small Business Day, which will be busy indeed. There will be presentations from successful business people, a structured pitch process for budding entrepreneurs and a business expo. It will be a good day for trying out ideas on others and for networking.

Nov. 18 will be Women's Entrepreneurship Day, which will bring women entrepreneurs, professionals and business

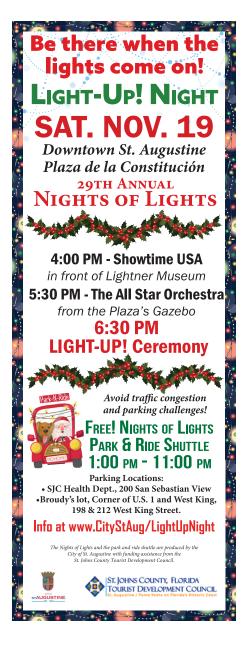
leaders together. The keynote speaker will be author, TV host and business coach Snowden McFall. Women from across the professional spectrum will offer insights and share experiences. And Kelly Youngs, CEO of She is Fierce will host an interactive session.

To learn more about EnterCircle Symposium 2022 or to get tickets, go to entercircle.zone.

Anyone who's ever considered striking out on their own and becoming their own boss would find the symposium both useful and inspiring.







SJR State St. Augustine campus to add nursing program

In an effort to help meet the increasing demand for nurses in Northeast Florida, St. Johns River State College has announced the addition of an associate in science degree in nursing to its St. Augustine campus. The two-year program is currently offered on the Palatka and Orange Park campuses but will expand to its third location beginning in May.

SJR State President Joe Pickens said the college is doing what it does best responding to the community's needs.

"We are excited to provide this opportunity to St. Johns County residents, bringing both a convenient and affordable career option to our traditional

students and to those seeking a career change into health care," Pickens said.

The program, which prepares students to become registered nurses, will accept 24 students for the summer semester. Applications will be available online Jan. 1-31. Admission requirements and prerequisites apply.

The program will offer classrooms designed to simulate hospitals with actual patient scenarios, state-of-the-art equipment and medical manikins to provide the latest hands-on training. Clinicals will be scheduled throughout Northeast Florida hospitals, providing students with hands-on training.

The St. Augustine Campus is home to the respiratory care and radiologic technology A.S. degree programs, as well as the LPN bridge to the nursing degree program for students who want to take their LPN license to the next level. The Bachelor of Science in nursing is available online. Graduates of the associate in science program are eligible to apply for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-

Learn more about SJR State's nursing program at sjrstate.edu/nursing.html or call 386-312-4176.



A St. Johns River State College student practices skills she learned in the school's nursing program.

ville University College of Business with honors from the Department of English and a minor in finance.

After entering an apprenticeship program with a Jacksonville-based printing company, he rose through the ranks from type deliveryman to color expert to CEO and managing partner of Paramount Printing, which became Paramount Performance Marketing.

The company was partially sold and

closed locally in 2012. During his time at Paramount, Cummins chaired the Jacksonville Lean Consortium and served on the boards of the First Coast Manufacturer's Association and the Printing Association of Florida. He also served on the North American advisory council to the Kodak GCG (Graphic Communications Group).

Also in 2012, Cummins joined the AutoPoint group of Solera Holdings (formerly DMEautomotive), the global leader in vehicle lifecycle management software-as-a-service, data and services. Most recently, he served as senior product manager to launch and develop the company's successful On Demand product, a dynamic automated marketing program for automotive dealerships, dealer groups and OEM's across the country.

"At Kitchen Solvers, our goal is to bring in only the most talented and committed business partners to support, develop and embrace our value of providing the most pleasant remodeling experience to our clients," said Zach Nolte, president of Kitchen Solvers. "We could not be more thrilled to have Jon as the owner of Kitchen Solvers of Jacksonville. With his past business-building experience, marketing and customer relations skills and attention to detail, he will be a perfect addition to the Kitchen Solvers family. Jacksonville and the surrounding areas will be in good hands, knowing Jon and his team will bring their kitchen and bath dreams to reality.'

Kitchen Solvers is a multi-dimensional kitchen cabinet remodeling franchise, offering total kitchen remodeling solutions for homeowners across the country. From kitchen design, cabinet refacing and new cabinetry to custom countertops, tile backsplashes and storage solutions, Kitchen Solvers provides solutions to meet the unique remodeling needs of all

As a one-stop-shop kitchen remodeling business, franchise partners provide their clients with a "pleasant remodeling experience," which consists of the highest industry standards of providing the "wow" factor, expert design and installation, respect for customers, on-time appointments through the process, consultation throughout, unrivaled selection and product choice, constant communication and a fully involved owner/operator at each independent location.

Kitchen Solvers was recently named to the 2022 Culture 100 List by Franchise Business Review. Three hundred franchise brands representing more than 30,000 franchise owners participated in Franchise Business Review's research on the best franchise cultures.

Brands named to the Culture 100 List received the highest overall ratings based on 12 questions that looked at perception of brand vision, team culture, honesty and integrity and overall support.





In the Arts

Send your arts news to news@pontevedrarecorder.com

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www.PonteVedraRecorder.com

Santa, photo artist to visit First Coast Cultural Center Holiday Shoppes

First Coast Cultural Center's 32nd Annual Holiday Shoppes will feature breakfast and crafts with Santa from 9 to 10 a.m. Dec. 3 following the public Holiday Shoppes opening on Dec. 2.

Cost per person for the breakfast is \$25 and there is no charge for children. Light holiday refreshments will be served with opportunities for guests to take their own photos with Santa and for youngsters to participate in crafts. The events will be held at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, 1050 A1A N, Ponte Vedra Beach.

The Cultural Center's Holiday Shoppes is one of the nonprofit's key fundraisers and features local and national vendors, merchandise for purchase and gourmet food items, among other merchandise pertaining to the holidays and year-round festivities.

Vendors this year include Charleston Shoe Company, Short Dog Jewelry, Peruvian Accent, Staci Doucett Photography, Jackie's Jewels, Old Colony Woodworks, Cheryl's Creations, Coastal Creations, First Coast Cultural Center Christmas Booth, Marti Rosenburgh Designs, Kona Ice, Lucie-Lou, Amanda Moon Art, Belicatessen and Callie's Collection.

Local sponsors contributing to the events are Joe Bryant, Hyundai of St. Augustine, Historic Coast Culture and a St. John's County Tourist Development Council grant, A Way of Life Acupuncture, Lynda Follenwieder, Pawsitive Healing, and Language Exploration Enrichment.

Additionally, there will be a world photo premiere, "The Eyes are the Window to the Soul," and photo artist Paula Veloso from Portugal will exhibit her work 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 2-3 at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall. The exhibit will move from the Concert Hall and continue to be



Dr. Carla Rodrigues and Donna Guzzo at last year's Holiday Shoppes.



Paula Veloso

displayed until Dec. 22 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. at First Coast Cultural Center, 3972 3rd St. South in Jacksonville Beach.

The Shoppes event and art exhibit are open to the public. Guests

can donate \$10 per person to help the nonprofit with costs.

Tickets for the breakfast and crafts with Santa may be purchased at app.etapestry. com/cart/CulturalCenterAtPonteVedraBea/default/item.php?ref=4138.0.1671698583.

Tickets for Holiday Shoppes and the photo exhibit may be purchased at app.etapestry.com/cart/Cultural-CenterAtPonteVedraBea/default/item. php?ref=4138.0.1642527847.

For more information about Holiday Shoppes, contact Callie Johnson at 904-280-0614 ext. 1202, or email at cjohnson@firstcoastculturalcenter.org.

For more information about the exhibit, contact Kimberly Weaver at 904-280-0614, ext. 1205 or email kweaver@firstcoastculturalcenter.org.



File photos

Dr. Roya Rouhani plays music during last year's event.



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Performance features contrasting Haydn, Tchaikovsky pieces

Florida Chamber Music Project (FCMP) will perform pieces by Joseph Haydn and Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20, at the Beaches Museum Chapel, which is part of the Beaches Museum at 505 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville Beach.

A new flex pass ticket option is available for this 10th season of performances, allowing attendees to save money and choose their concerts.

"Haydn's String Quartet Op. 76, No. 6 and Tchaikovsky's String Quartet No. 1 in D Major, Op. 11, the pieces on this program, are contrasting pieces from master composers," said Susan Pardue, FCMP artistic director. "For me at least, the quartet by Haydn, known as the 'father of the string quartet' follows established traditions of the string quartet less than the one by Tchaikovsky, written 73 years later. This is a fun example of Haydn's sense of humor at work. Both pieces are exciting, and the contrast between the two pieces gives lots of different sounds and moods."

Season passes for FCMP concerts are now available at a prorated price of \$125 for the five remaining concerts. FCMP is also now offering a threeconcert "flex pass" option. With the purchase of a \$75 flex pass, attendees get three concerts for \$75 and can choose



Contributed photo

Pictured from left are: Ann Hertler, Susan Pardue, Patrice Evans, Siyu Zhang and Laurie Casseday.

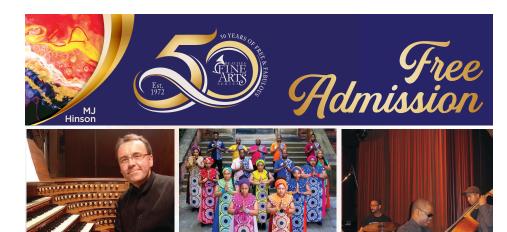
which of the five remaining concerts to attend. Both of these options allow a savings over the single ticket price of \$27. Tickets to this concert will also be available at the door.

Concert attendees are invited to meet the musicians and enjoy light refreshments after the performance.

Beaches Museum Chapel is wheelchair-accessible and has free parking along Pablo Avenue near 4th Street North of Beach Boulevard.

The Florida Chamber Music Project was founded 10 years ago by violist Susan Pardue. Joining her are violinists Patrice Evans, Siyu Zhang and Ann Hertler and cellist Laurie Casseday. All are members of the Jacksonville Symphony.

For advance tickets online go to flchambermusic.org. Follow Florida Chamber Music Project on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter (@FLChamber-



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*All concerts except 11/13 are held at our home venue: St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church • 465 11th Ave. N • Jacksonville Beach Doors open 45 minutes prior to each concert.















CANVAS, STAGE AND MORE

A look at what's happening in the arts locally.

Character development to be writers' topic

Characters are the engine of a novel. They are so critical to the success of the writer's storytelling, that if they are not well-formed, charismatic and perfect for the part they play, the novel will fall flat on it's cardboard-like face! They create and keep the plot moving forward, and they keep your readers engaged.

Learn to develop characters at the next meeting of Northeast Florida Sisters in Crime, to be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 12, at the Ponte Vedra Library, 101 Library Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach. Nancy Quatrano will lead the presentation.

Learn more at nefloridasistersincrime. org. The national website is SistersIn-Crime.org.

Van Gogh event extends stay in Jack-

Paquin Entertainment Group has announced additional dates for "Beyond Van Gogh: The Immersive Experience." The event features more than 300 of the greatest works of post-impressionist artist Vincent Van Gogh. It has proven very popular with local residents. Globally, it has sold more than 4 million tickets. The

event will extend its stay at Immersive Art Space, 712 N. Hogan St.,

Jacksonville, through Feb. 26. Tickets are available now at vangoghjacksonville.

The Creative Exchange to feature locally made art and more

In an effort to combine art and commerce to benefit both creators and the community, Fogle Art Consulting has opened a retail location, The Creative Exchange (CX904), at 50 N. Laura St., Suite 175, in the Bank of America Tower in downtown Jacksonville.

CX904 will promote, sell and showcase local art, literature, jewelry, gifts and more. It opened Monday, Nov. 7. Hours for November and December will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The shop will also be open by appointment and plans to host after-hours events. Additional offerings will include corporate gifts, custom prints and framing.

Artists involved in the project include photographer Doug Eng, painter Jim Draper, woodworker Ed Malesky, ceramicists Tim Bullard and Kathy Skaggs, glass artist Brian Frus and Burnt Glassworks. Other vendors include Femme Fire Books, Catbird Coffee Roasters, Serenity Bath & Body Care and Candleleaf.

S D O C S PAGE 35

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The Nease boys swimming and diving team won the 2022 Class 3A state championship.



Ponte Vedra's 200 freestyle girls relay team of Annie Wohlgemuth, Kate Pelot, Liv Copland and Penny Zarczynski stand on the top step of the podium.

Ponte Vedra girls, Nease boys are best in state swimming

By Anthony Richards

It could not have been a better last couple of weeks for the Nease boys and Ponte Vedra girls swimming and diving teams.

During that stretch, both teams were able to cap a magical run to end the season as Class 3A state champions at the state meet November 4 in Stuart.

Both squads entered the state meet having won their respective district and region championships and followed it up with memorable performances that resulted in various individual state titles en route to bringing home the team title as well.

The Nease boys scored 290 points thanks to winning the 200-yard medley and 400 freestyle relays.

The Panthers' set a new team record, as the combination of Dylan Ramos (backstroke), Rich Nguyen (breaststroke), Joseph Wyatt (butterfly), and Matthew Koziol (freestyle) set a time of 1:32.88, which was also an automatic All-American time.

Wyatt and Koziol were back at it, this time teaming up with Brandon Gear and Walker Lanoue to post a winning time of 3:08.64 in the 400 freestyle relay.

Koziol's freestyle expertise continued to be on display as he finished 3rd in both the 50- and 100-yard distances in that discipline.

Nguyen was in contention for the victory in the 100 breaststroke and scored a runner-up finish in the race.

The Ponte Vedra girls team defended their state title from a year ago and did so leaving very little doubt who the best team was in the competition by earning 340 points, which was 125 more than their nearest opponent.

The Sharks were able to post that high score because they took full advantage of their opportunities to gain points with all 11 girls competing at the state meet reaching finals.

Nine out of 11 school records were set during the event and the result included a pair of individual state champions with Annie Wohlgemuth winning the 100 backstroke with a time of 54.40 and Penny Zarczynski winning the 100 freestyle with a time of 51.19.

Zarczynski is only a sophomore and appears to have a promising two more years ahead of her, as she looks to continue her progression as a swimmer and defend her state title.

Wohlgemuth and Zarczynski continued to shine for the Sharks, as they each threatened to win a second state title but added a runner-up to their resume instead.

Wohlgemuth's runner-up came with a time of 54.84 in the 100 butterfly and Zarczynski's time of 23.36 in the 50 freestyle earned her a runner-up as well. Both times broke the previous school record and the performances earned them All-American consideration.

As was the case at districts and regionals, the Sharks proved a force to reckon with in the relays.



Contributed photos

Penny Zarczynski is surrounded by loved ones following her individual state championship in the 100 freestyle.

Wohlgemuth, Annabelle MacAdams, Mary Agnes Smith and Sophie Fox are state champions in the 200 medley relay, while the team of Wohlgemuth, Kate Pelot, Liv Copland and Zarczynski won the 200 free relay.

Both events were also won by the Sharks at last year's state meet.



2022 PXG Women's Match Play Champion Josee Doyon (right) and runner-up Amanda Tan (left) hold their trophies.



Photos by Anthony Richard

Josee Doyon earned a check for \$15,000 for winning the tournament.

Doyon wins 'life-changing' Match Play Championship



Josee Doyon rips a drive off the tee.

By Anthony Richards

Josee Doyon of Quebec, Canada, won the Second Annual PXG Women's Match Play Championship and did so with brilliant play that led to what turned out to be a comfortable 4&3 victory over Amanda Tan of Singapore.

The championship match had an international flair to it, that showcased how in just two years, the championship is becoming a marquee event that female developmental golfers from around the world want to come and play.

With the win, Doyon earned a \$15,000 winner's check, which she will use to help in her continued attempt to advance her placement in the golf world and achieve her dream of having a successful career as a women's professional golfer.

"It sounds cliché, but this money is lifechanging," Doyon said.

Doyon had felt her game coming together of late and with that her confidence has also grown, which was a major factor that prompted her success in the final.

She finished with a string of birdies to take the lead and distance herself along the back nine at the Slammer & Squire Course at the World Golf Village.

The key to her victory was that the majority of her putts, especially when she made her run were short thanks to some excellent placement on her approach shots that seemed to be hitting on target all day.

"I was just hitting the ball well all week and then making the putts," Doyon said. "I was just feeling really confident in my shot and didn't feel nervous at any point, just excited to be playing solid golf."

The unique format combining stroke and match play over a week was a different experience than what the players are typically used to, but one that they embraced with open arms.

"It's a long week definitely, but also really fun to have tournaments like this once and a while," Doyon said. "For me, it was my last tournament of the season, so it felt nice to end it like this."

DOYON continues on **Page 37**





Josee Doyon played the Slammer & Squire Course at World Golf Village with confidence en route to winning the tournament.



Doyon focused on the mental side of the game, which although it is always present, takes a different form when competing in match play, where the focus is all about beating the player across from

"It really narrows your focus, because you can see how they're doing, but at the same time, you want to make sure to stay within your game," Doyon said. "It's

definitely a lot of constant adjusting."
Finishing runner-up was also a stellar performance by Amanda Tan, who showcased her skill throughout the week and proved that she has what it takes to compete and contend in such marquee events where the pressure intensifies.

"It was quite unexpected, because I didn't play very well during the stroke play, but then I just kept going and tried to see how far I could end up going,"

Tan said. "I played pretty good, but Josse definitely had one heck of a round."

Tan led early on in the contest during the front nine, until Doyon really started making her charge toward the tail end of the front nine and at the turn.

For Tan, it just came down to not making putts as consistently as she would have liked to complement her shot making.

"Coming into the week I had been driving the ball really good, but at the end of the day, I just wish I holed more putts," Tan said.

Eighty-seven players began the weeklong tournament, which opened with a round of stroke play that helped seed the match play portion of the competition that carried on through the weekend.

According to Mark Berman, owner of the East Coast Women's Pro Golf Tour and creator of the tournament, the number of entrants was up this year and there was even a waiting list of those interested in competing.



Photos by Anthony Richards

Amanda Tan stares down her ball after hitting a shot.



Amanda Tan reads a green prior to putting.



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ACROSS

- 1. Clip a small piece
- 5. Enter forcibly
- 11. Southwestern Native American tribe
- 12. Helps you smell better
- 16. Sun or solar disk
- 17. Low frequency
- 18. Former Houston football player
- 19. Federal crime
- 24. Home to Boston (abbr.)
- 25. Approval
- 26. Those who fight an establishment (abbr.)
- 27. student, learns healing
- 28. Indian groomer of horses
- 29. Line where two pieces meet
- 30. One might be brief
- 31. Type of sword
- 33. Knife for fruits or vegetables
- 34. Stinkhorns
- 38. Stroke
- 39. Industrial process for producing ammonia
- 40. Sir __ Newton
- 43. Wild goat
- 44. Muslim ruler
- 45. Scottish ancestor
- 49. Hat
- 50. Horse mackerel
- 51. Alcoholic
- accompaniment
- 53. Tech department
- 54. Manifesting approval 56. Upper bract of grass
- 58. Of I
- 59. Large wading bird
- 60. Military prisons 63. Famed American
- cartoonist
- 64. Rise
- 65. Greek God of war and courage

DOWN

- 1. Sewing needles
- 2. Functionary
- 3. Induces vomiting
- 4. The finger farthest from the thumb
- 5. Not moving

- 6. Sports official
- 7. Water purification process
- 8. University of Dayton
- 9. Indo-Malaysian everareens
- 10. High schoolers' math
- 13. Yankovic is a weird one
- 14. Adversaries
- 15. Merchandisers
- 20. Radioactive metal (abbr.)
- 21. Atomic #52
- 22. The back
- 23. One-time computer giant
- 27. Female of a horse
- 29. FootballÕs big game (abbr.)
- 30. Vehicle
- 31. Single Lens Reflex
- 32. It's becoming more prevalent
- 33. Political action committee
- 34. Makes lightbulbs

- 35. Natural home of an animal
- 36. In bed
- 37. Superman villain 38. The Golden State
- 40. One who leads prayers in a mosque
- 41. They accompany a leader
- 42. Atomic #18
- 44. Electronic
- countermeasures
- 45. The appearance of something
- 46. Connecting line on a map
- 47. Deep red color
- 48. Secret affairs
- 50. Drenches
- 51. Contains music
- 52. Expression of surprise
- 54. Intestinal pouches
- 55. Where birds are born
- 57. __ and behold
- 61. Cools your home
- 62. The First State

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

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



Super Girl Champion Caroline Marks rides a wave in Jacksonville during last year's event.

Super Girl Surf Pro set for this weekend

Smash Mouth among performers

The World Surf League (WSL) QS3000 U.S. Air Force Super Girl Surf Pro returns to the Jacksonville Beach Pier and Sea-Walk Pavilion this weekend, Nov. 11-13. While the world's leading female surfers compete in the water, free concerts from major headliners, women's sports competitions and a festival village entertain festivalgoers on land at the SeaWalk Pavilion.

All events are free and open to the

The line-up begins at noon Saturday and features pop star Kira Kosarin at 4:15 p.m., local favorites The Band Be Easy at 5:30 p.m., The Expendables at 7:15 p.m. and Smash Mouth closing the evening at

Fans know Smash Mouth from their hits like "Walking on the Sun" and "All Star," while The Expendables bring their own eclectic style to reggae-rock and are a huge crowd favorite in Jacksonville.

The event concludes Sunday with six more concerts headlined by shows from Gainesville-based Less Than Jake at 5:15 p.m. and reggae legend Matisyahu at 6:45

Each of the Super Girl events are centered around providing athletic, social, cultural, educational and entertainment opportunities for young women in traditionally male-dominated industries. The Jacksonville Beach event includes an all-female DJ competition on the main stage, 2-4 p.m. Saturday. Eight of the best female DJs will take the stage to entertain the crowds and compete in a head-to-head, bracket-style battle. This includes Jack-

sonville-based DJs Grace Seymour (aka G\$) and Kristen Theriault (aka Suga K).

The entertainment also includes female comediennes, a women's skateboarding competition and an entire festival village with free classes in fitness, yoga, Zumba, Pilates, wellness and dance; a video gaming lounge with a \$5,800 open Rocket League Tournament; female skydiving; speakers and panel discussions; full tournaments in women's beach volleyball, women's beach soccer and women's beach lacrosse; a beer garden; 14 food trucks; a military appreciation lounge; and more.

The surf portion of the event will run daily at the Jacksonville Beach Pier from Friday, Nov. 11, through Sunday, Nov. 13, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Festival Village at SeaWalk Pavilion will run on Saturday, Nov. 12, from 12 p.m. to 10 p.m. and on Sunday Nov. 13, from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. The surfing, concerts, esports, panels, classes, speakers, volleyball, soccer, lacrosse, skateboarding, comedy and all elements are free to attend.

The event is supported by the U.S. Air Force, Florida Blue, CSI Companies, CELSIUS, Atlantic Self Storage, White Claw, Gillette Venus, JOLYN, Kroger Delivery, the Courtyard Oceanfront by Marriott, Perfect Hydration, Logitech, Sierra Nevada, The Mayo Clinic, Sambazon, Ithaca Hummus, Sunglass Hut, Day Chaser, Brine Lacrosse and the City of Jacksonville's Tourist Development

For more information on the concert lineup, surfing, classes, schedules, esports and more, go to www.supergirljax.com. To connect via social media, follow @SupergirlPro on Instagram and Facebook and @ offcialsupergirlpro on TikTok.

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- \$55.50 3 weeks \$70.00 4 weeks

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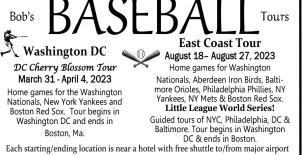
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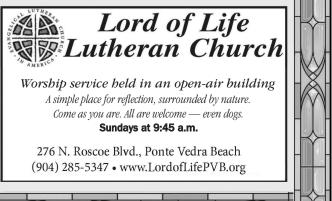




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