

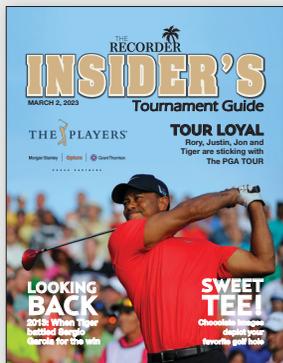
THE RECORDER



March 2, 2023
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Insider's Tournament Guide
INSIDE



Business Weekly
featuring *Women in Business*
Page 19



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

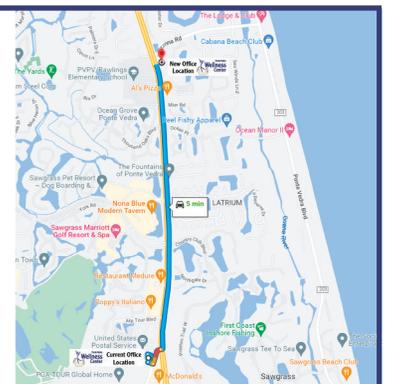


Photo by Anthony Richards

Ozzie Bilotta has been collecting rare vintage toys for decades and now looks to showcase his passion to the local community with the creation of the Bilotta Collection in Ponte Vedra Beach. His wife Kristine (left) and son Andrew (right) help make it a true family-run operation. *Read the full story beginning on page 10.*

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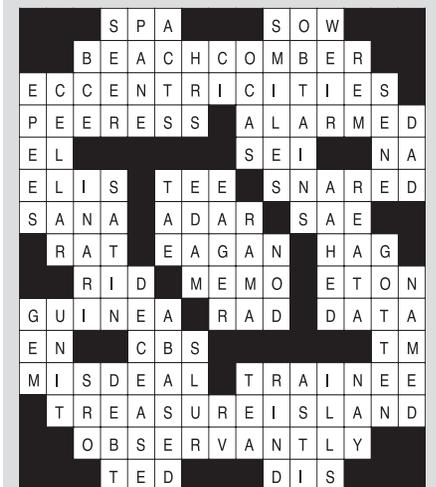
We welcome submissions of photos, stories, columns and letters to the editor. Let us know what's happening. If you have hard copies of photos you want us to feature, feel free to bring them to our office — we'll scan them and hand them right back. E-mail submissions to news@pontevedrarecorder.com or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



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

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9	6	5	1	8	7	3	4	2
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BRIEFS



Nancy Ulrich-Suddath

Mystery writers' focus is jury selection research

This month's meeting of the Northeast Florida Sisters in Crime will start at noon Saturday, Nov. 4, at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library. Join fellow writers and readers of mystery novels to hear tips that will enhance your descriptive text and your enjoyment of reading intriguing court case dialogue.

Conducting a "mock jury" is a valuable tool for defense and prosecution attorneys. This research technique can reveal, for example, how specific witnesses will be perceived by jurors.

This month's speaker, Nancy Ulrich-Suddath, is the founder of Ulrich Research Services, a full-service marketing research firm in Clay County. Her area of expertise has been in qualitative research, but she has conducted more than 6,000 focus groups and hundreds of mock juries. She has collected "a platter full of life's interesting tidbits" through her research.

The group welcomes misters and sisters to learn more about writing, promoting and enjoying crime fiction.

For further information, go to floridasistersincrime@gmail.com.

PLAYERS general parking lot has reached capacity on March 10

Tournament officials have announced that THE PLAYERS Championship's general parking lot has reached capacity for Friday, March 10, but parking passes could still be available on THE PLAYERS' verified resale site (via THEPLAYERS.com/parking). THE PLAYERS does not control or regulate pricing on the verified resale site.

Fans are encouraged to use alternative modes of transportation to the tournament, including rideshare; a shuttle service from downtown Jacksonville; a new, free shuttle service on Friday, Saturday and Sunday (March 10-12) from several locations in Nocatee; and bikes or golf carts.

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

Affordable housing is Democratic Club topic

The Ponte Vedra Democratic Club will hold its monthly meeting March 28 at the Ponte Vedra Beach Library, 101 Library Road. Chat and chew start at 5:30 p.m., and the meeting begins

at 6 p.m. The program will be a panel with Bill Lazar, CEO of St. John's Housing Partnership, and others in the affordable housing industry discussing the status of affordable housing in St John's County

For further information, email jkary@verizon.net.

Job hunters workshop topic: 'Re-Emerging Post COVID'

The public is invited to attend the next Savvy Job Hunters workshop, "Re-Emerging Post COVID: Tips & Tools for Success," presented by Coach J. Dianne Tribble, CPMCT, At the Table certified professional health-and-wellness, business-and-life master coach, global speaker, accredited corporate trainer, published author and business start-up consultant.

With the onset of the pandemic, the public had to embrace new ways of doing things to be productive, successful and to drive winning results. People went from onsite meetings and events to getting very comfortable on virtual platforms. The time has come to re-emerge. Tribble will share valuable tips and tools to assist attendees in the process.

So, grab a coffee and fire up your Zoom connection.

The presentation begins at 10 a.m. on March 31, but people are encouraged to log in 10-15 minutes prior for a brief networking session. The room will be kept open for a while after the presentation for additional questions and conversation. If there are additional questions or concerns prior to the presentation, contact Pam Ottesen at pottesen66@gmail.com.

Register in advance at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZ0sfuCorT-stEtRRgq35TZL7fb8ntdIBBGkq>.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

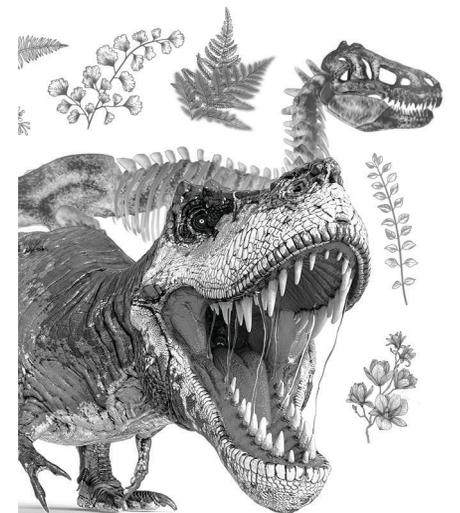
Repticon Jacksonville set for March 11-12

Repticon, a recognized leader in hosting reptile and exotic animal expos throughout the United States, is coming to Jacksonville with a mixture of vendors and breeders. This family-oriented, fun-filled event offers guests the opportunity to learn about animals not normally seen in local pet stores. Breeder-vendors are always willing to teach in their field of herpetology.

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'Downtown Palm Valley' gains early approvals

By Shaun Ryan

The first step toward the development of a "downtown Palm Valley" received an early success Wednesday, Feb. 22, with approval of its design and a key zoning variance.

The Palm Valley/Ponte Vedra Architectural Review Committee voted in favor of both requests, 4-1 with chairman Sean Mulhall absent. The public hearing was conducted at the Ponte Vedra Public Library.

The project concerns a mixed-use commercial development at the northwestern corner of North Roscoe Boulevard and Canal Boulevard along the Intracoastal Waterway. The 2.64-acre property would contain three restaurants, two for daytime/evening service and the third, coffee-style serving breakfast.

At the Feb. 22 meeting, applicant Joe Loretta of Half Associates presented site maps and illustrations of the proposed development.

The two full-service restaurants (7,454

and 6,067 square feet in area) would have 220 and 200 seats and share an outdoor area that could be used for extra dining. The breakfast-style restaurant (2,560 square feet) would have 100 seats. Regulations require the property to have 142 parking spaces, but the developer is planning 144.

The property would have two points of ingress/egress, one on North Roscoe Boulevard and the other on Canal Boulevard.

Though the property is required to provide a 50-foot setback from the road for the buildings, the applicant requested the zoning variance reducing that setback to 30 feet, essentially eliminating a 20-foot buffer. Loretta explained that this would allow the creation of 17 angled parking spaces along the property's southern border along Canal Boulevard for use by the general public. The spaces would not be reserved solely for restaurant patrons.

This would also allow for a walkway between the spaces and the development.

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Exceptional View in Sawgrass Country Club

Beautifully updated home in Sandpiper Cove in Sawgrass CC. Cul-de-sac lot, spectacular water to golf views. 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.

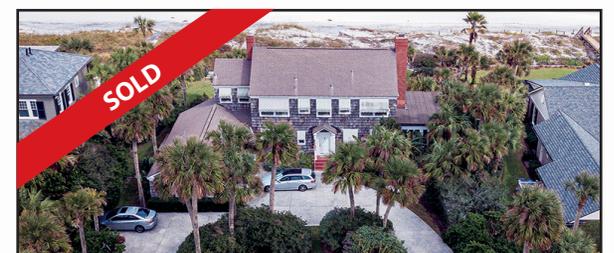
3 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms, 1 Half Bathroom \$1,800,000



Marsh Landing Country Club

Elegantly appointed 1-story ranch home with water to preserve views. Sought-after Marsh Landing Country Club. Fully equipped with open floorplan, the flow of the home is comfortable and easy. Spacious screened porch off of formal living room provides nice space for casual entertaining and perfect spot to watch the wildlife in the backyard lagoon sanctuary.

5 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms \$1,500,000



Oceanfront Home on Ponte Vedra Blvd.

This oceanfront home on Ponte Vedra Blvd. with 110 ft. of ocean frontage sold for lot value only at \$10,500,000.



Amazing Vistas in Deercreek Country Club

Spacious living with pool/spa and lake-to-preserve views in Deercreek CC, making it ideal for easy commutes. Owner's suite is located on 1st floor along with living room, dining room, kitchen, butler's pantry, powder room, family room and office. Upstairs are 3 additional and spacious bedrooms, 2 full baths plus a flex space/theatre room. Sellers have many updates including fully renovated kitchen and bathrooms. Don't miss this one!!

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ELIZABETH HUDGINS

OBITUARIES

Arthur Morris Busbia

Arthur Morris Busbia of Jacksonville, Florida, passed away peacefully at the age of 85 on Thursday, February 16, 2023.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Eugene and Inez Busbia; his brother, Roger Busbia; his sister, Betty Pratt; and his beloved wife, Linda Florence Busbia.

Morris was born November 23, 1937, in Jacksonville, Florida. He served in the United States Marines and graduated from Florida State University in 1962, where he was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity. He was appointed by the Governor of Florida to serve on the State Crime Compensation Commission. He then founded the Busbia Insurance Agency, which he owned and operated for over 25 years.

He is survived by his children, Mark Busbia (Jane), and Kierstan Greif (Michael); his grandchildren, Kayleigh Fuller, Brenna Greif, William Greif, Devon Ferguson, and Connor Busbia; and his great-grandchildren, Lily and Kiera.

Morris was a loving father, cherished grandfather, public servant, community leader, and dear friend.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Florida State University Foundation, 850-644-0753.

Funeral service was held at Ponte Vedra Presbyterian Church on Saturday, February 25, 2023, at 11 a.m.

Please sign the online guestbook at www.pontevedravalle.com.



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Ponte Vedra Beach Rotary Club holding luxury trip raffle

A luxury vacation stay in Hawaii, Italy, Ireland, Las Vegas or Belize will go to the winner of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach's luxury trip raffle, tickets for which are now on sale.

Tickets for the trip raffle are \$100 each or five for \$400 and may be purchased online at mineralcitycelebration.com/raffle-trips. The winner will be able to choose from five exotic destinations: Hawaii, Ireland, Rome/Tuscany, Las Vegas or Belize. Full descriptions of each trip are available on the Mineral City Celebration website, mineralcitycelebration.com.

The winner of the raffle will be announced live at the Rotary Club's annual Mineral City Celebration gala; the winner does not need to be present to win.

This year's gala will be held May 13 at the Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa. The theme is "The Rat Pack." Guests will be transported back to 1960s Las Vegas when Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy

Davis Jr. and their cohorts ruled the Vegas Strip. In addition to the luxury trip raffle, the gala will feature a cocktail reception, dinner, a silent auction and entertainment by nationally acclaimed Frank Sinatra tribute artist Michael Dutra.

A special highlight of the gala will be the presentation of the "Rock of the Community Award" to Jacksonville Jaguars legend and Pro Football Hall of Fame inductee Tony Boselli in recognition of his philanthropic contributions to the local community through The Boselli Foundation.

The Mineral City Celebration is the signature annual fundraising event for the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach. Proceeds from the event have benefited more than two dozen local nonprofit organizations and charities.

To purchase raffle tickets, gala tickets or for more information, go to mineralcitycelebration.com.

Briefs

Continued from 2

Guests can also shop for a new family pet among the hundreds of reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, spiders and small exotic animals. Also available will be cages, supplies and both live and frozen feeders, as well as expert advice.

This event will be held at the Greater Jacksonville

Agricultural Fair & Expo Center. The show hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 11, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 12. Ticket options are only sold online: \$15 Super Ticket, \$12 Saturday, \$10 Saturday after 1 p.m., \$12 Sunday, \$6 for children ages 5-12, with children 4 and younger admitted free. For more information and to find tickets go to <https://repticon.com/florida/jacksonville>.

— Compiled by Shaun Ryan

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Houston Bowles is tournament chairman for this year's PLAYERS Championship. In this role, he oversees the 2,000-or-so volunteers who support the PGA TOUR's flagship event. He also represents THE PLAYERS at speaking engagements throughout the year. Bowles is a federal account manager for North Florida at Florida Blue. A resident of Atlantic Beach, he has lived on the First Coast since 1998. A PLAYERS volunteer over the years, he has served on the committees for the Benefactor Tent, commissary, corporate hospitality, ecology, general parking, off-site parking, volunteer parking, VIP parking and walking scorers.

Houston Bowles

As told to Shaun Ryan

Tell us a little about yourself and your background.

I was born and raised in the Washington, D.C., area and have lived in the greater Jacksonville area for over 20 years. My wife and I live in Atlantic Beach and have two daughters, Ellie and Kadie.

How did you first become involved with THE PLAYERS?

Being a golf fan, it was a no-brainer for me to get involved with the tournament. I first came as a fan in 1998 and knew I had to be a part of the tournament, so the very next year I started volunteering in the Corporate Hospitality committee. This will be my 24th year as a volunteer, and each and every year it just gets better and better.

What do you enjoy most about what THE PLAYERS offers and your current role?

As one of the oldest professional sports events on the First Coast, I appreciate that THE PLAYERS served as a gateway for so many other professional sports franchises and events. THE PLAYERS offers exposure to the sport for younger generations, service to others for the volunteers, support for so many worthy causes and economic benefits for the community. As the chairman, I enjoy seeing others enjoying the experience of the tournament — the crowds of fans cheering, the pride of the sponsors and vendors representing their businesses, the volunteers working hard, knowing their efforts serve our local community, and the PGA staff fulfilling the goal of running an amazing experience.

Do you have some goals as tournament chairman?

I think every chairman hopes for a tournament without any issues — good weather, great attendance, and record-breaking fundraising to distribute to our charities — but most especially NO pandemics.

You've had a chance to observe the impact of THE PLAYERS on the local community. Can you tell us a little bit about what you've seen?

The impact of THE PLAYERS here in our community is unparalleled. Obviously, it is our responsibility to be good citizens in the communities where we live, work and host one of the world's most recognized sporting events in the world, but to be able to see the reactions of the nonprofit charities each and every time is remarkable. It's a testament to the continued commitment from our volunteers, the proud partners, civic leaders, fans and frankly everyone in Northeast Florida. It's truly remarkable.

What do you enjoy most about living on the First Coast?

The First Coast grabs you once you really experience it, warmer than winter, but just enough to enjoy a good fire. There is always an outdoor activity to do whether in your backyard or just down the road.

How do you like to spend your free time?

Playing golf, of course.



Photo courtesy of the PGA TOUR

FOX's Kilmeade broadcasts show from local diner

By Shaun Ryan

“FOX & Friends” co-host Brian Kilmeade spent Tuesday morning at the Metro Diner in Ponte Vedra Beach where the show’s signature “Breakfast With Friends” segment was broadcast live. Fans who had queued up outside the restaurant in the predawn hours quickly claimed every available seat once the doors were opened prior to the 6 a.m. start of the three-hour show.

The FOX News Channel personality used the times when the broadcast shifted away from the diner to speak with the patrons, asking their opinions of the economy, crime, the Jacksonville Jaguars and Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis.

He also spoke remotely with DeSantis about the governor’s decision to end the Walt Disney Company’s self-governing status in Orlando. The Disney property has been placed under the supervision of a state board and the company has been ordered to pay its share of taxes.

Early in Tuesday’s segment, Kilmeade also talked about DeSantis’ newly released book, “The Courage to Be Free.” Later, he spoke remotely with Sen. Tom Cotton of Arkansas.

Kilmeade interviewed several local guests during the program: WOKV conservative talk radio host Mark Kaye, Jacksonville Sheriff T.K. Waters and Lynyrd



“FOX & Friends” co-host Brian Kilmeade speaks with Metro Diner patrons Tuesday morning.



Brian Kilmeade greets Lynyrd Skynyrd lead vocalist Johnny Van Zant. Photos by Shaun Ryan

Skynyrd lead vocalist Johnny Van Zant. Franchise owner John Davoli said the broadcast was arranged after FOX News contacted the Metro Diner’s marketing company to make the request. Though the restaurant doesn’t normally open until 7 a.m., Davoli opened an hour early to accommodate the broadcast.

Anticipating an influx of patrons, he brought in an extra eight team members. Considering the swell of customers, it was the right call.

“It’s been a pretty amazing turnout,” Davoli said.

Sitting at one of the tables were

Julie Stevens and Frank Keaveney, who said they were “big fans” and had met Kilmeade at the recent Fox Nation Patriot Awards at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood, Florida.

Stevens said they watch “FOX & Friends” every day, including weekends. Asked what it means to them to have

the show originate from a local diner, Keaveney said, “I love it. It’s our point of view. We enjoy meeting people that think like us.” Local Realtor Janet Westling was among those present.

NOTE: To see more photos from the event, go to pontevedrarecorder.com.




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THE PLAYERS grants dream day surprises

By Anthony Richards

THE PLAYERS week is a highly anticipated time for so many local residents, but for two children who have battled cancer and their families, this year's tournament will mean even more.

For 6-year-old Jackson Kirby and 8-year-old Savannah Gainey the 2023 edition of THE PLAYERS will be one they will never forget thanks to the championship presenting them and their families with a VIP experience during a celebration ceremony at the TPC Sawgrass clubhouse Feb. 22.

The experience will allow them to get up close and personal with the best golfers in the world as they prepare for the PGA TOUR's marquee event during the practice round March 8.

Jackson began experiencing leg pain when he was 3 years old, which was initially thought to be typical growing pains after a X-ray came back normal.

However, at the start of 2020 his mom felt three big lumps on his head and biopsies were taken from Jackson's abdominal lymph nodes, which were found to be pressing on the nerves to his legs.

The results revealed stage four high-risk neuroblastoma, but Jackson is cancer free following repeated rounds of chemotherapy, 12 rounds of proton radiation, five rounds of immunotherapy



Jackson Kirby signs trading cards he brought for everyone in attendance.

and a stem-cell transplant.

Jackson's mom Samantha Kirby thanked THE PLAYERS and Dreams Come True for helping do their part in making the tough time the family has been through brighter.

"Dreams Come True has been wonderful and has really kept us involved and excited about things, which is nice to have something to do and think about when you're going through such a hard time," Kirby said. "It's nice to just get out of the house and interact with other children and families who understand the heartache you're going through."

Savannah was diagnosed with ovarian cancer a year ago and she has been receiving support from the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund along the way. Her favorite golfers are Tiger Woods, Justin Thomas and Rory McIlroy.



Photos by Anthony Richards

Savannah Gainey and Jackson Kirby and their families were surprised with a VIP experience by THE PLAYERS.

SURPRISES continues on Page 14

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Flagler's Delaney speaks at Chamber at noon



Flagler College president John Delaney was the guest speaker during the Feb. 15 Chamber at noon at Marsh Landing Country Club.

Flagler College president John Delaney was the guest speaker at the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division's chamber at noon event Feb. 15 at Marsh Landing Country Club. He spoke about how the college benefits the county and the school's new classics program.

Photos provided by St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division



Delaney spoke about Flagler College's benefits to St. Johns County and the school's new classics program offered.



Beth Sweeny, Isabelle Renault, John Delaney and Kathleen Floryan.



Several members of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division attended the event.

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Photo by Anthony Richards

1950s sci-fi rocket rides are one of the many things on display at the Bilotta Collection.

STEP BACK IN TIME WITH BILOTTA COLLECTION'S RARE TOY SHOWCASE

By Anthony Richards

The Bilotta Collection is Ponte Vedra's newest attraction and it offers something unique to the area as a result.

The multi-million-dollar collection located off of State Road A1A at 151 Sawgrass Corners Drive, Suite 104, features an eclectic mix of vintage and sci-fi toys with everything from rare tin robots to playable arcade machines and full-size robots.

One of the first things seen on a tour of the collection is a wall lined with iconic movie posters of early sci-fi films, such as "War of the Worlds," "The Day the Earth Stood Still" and "Forbidden Planet."

One of the things that owner Ozzie Bilotta takes pride in is the fact that visitors to the collection can get up close and personal with some of the

rarest toys in the world.

"I started collecting in 1986, and I was actually at an antique show down in Fort Lauderdale with my then girlfriend, now wife, and I ran across this couple who were retired and had a table set up with these vintage tin toys that I had never seen before," Bilotta said. "I was fascinated by them with their actions and colors. That is what started the obsession with collecting."

He has continued that passion over the decades and it eventually got to the point where he needed to find more space and the idea for the Bilotta Collection was born.

"During that era in the '80s, you could only find things in trade publications or at live shows at convention centers," Bilotta said. "By the mid '90s we got into the internet era and the whole dynamics of how you find things shifted."

"In the last half decade it got to the point where the collection really outgrew display in a normal home," Bilotta chuckled.

The family moved to Ponte Vedra Beach in 2019 and that is when he decided to explore his interest in commercial real estate as well with the purchase and remodeling of the collection's current building.

According to Bilotta, the term collection is probably better than calling it a museum, because anything in the collection can be purchased for the right offer.

Because the items within the collection are so rare, that also means that they are extremely valuable, many of them ranging between \$20,000 to more than \$100,000 and involved Bilotta taking part in several bidding wars.

One "Machine Man" robot with its original box cost Bilotta \$160,000 in

2020, which set an auction record for the most expensive tin robot ever sold.

"To my knowledge, there's only three of those type of robots boxed in the world," Bilotta said. "Most people have never seen any items or toys like this before. If you know the history, these are all very iconic pieces."

The collection has lots of early anime from Japan, such as "Speed Racer," "Astro Boy" and others that may not have ever made it over to the U.S.

However, the more you weave through the collection, the more it becomes apparent of the array of toys that make it up.

There are unique changeups to accompany the sci-fi and anime, such as Batman collectibles, early versions of Mickey Mouse, pre-World War II era



Toy robots of all shapes and sizes make up the eclectic mix of rare items featured at the Bilotta Collection in Ponte Vedra Beach.



Photos by Anthony Richards

Vintage arcade machines add to the collection's unique vibe.

Bilotta

Continued from 10

toys and a room just for fortune teller machines.

“At some point I realized that I wanted to have more than just toys,” Bilotta said.

Although the majority of the collection is visual, there are certain machines that are still working and will be in operation providing sounds and special effects that add to the experience as a whole.

A few of the machines can even be played with the right number of quarters.

The collection is unique in so many ways, but one of the most unique is that it has the ability to appeal across generations, which means the entire family can go on a tour and share in the same amazement.

For parents and grandparents, they can reminisce about the toys they may have grown up with or the characters

and shows they know so much about, while the younger generations who were not around when the toys were first created can enjoy the stories their family members have to tell.

At the end of the day, the Bilotta Collection has created an atmosphere that captures the imagination and wonder of children and adults.



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The link announces this month's events

The following events will be held this month at the link, 425 Town Plaza Ave., Ponte Vedra.

Collisions & Coffee

Monthly meetup and networking from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month.

Designed to bring people together in a great setting where ideas flow freely, to network and

discuss business and entrepreneurship. The goal is to bring people together who may not interact in everyday life. Attendees can expect to be "intentionally collided," connecting and building relationships. This event is open to members and nonmembers of the link. Go to app.thelink.zone to register.

Kids Night Out = Parents Night Out

5:30 to 9:30 p.m. March 11 and 25.
Ages 4-11

Kids Night Out events offer parents a chance to drop off the kids in a safe and fun environment while they go out on their own. Kids Night Out happens twice a month. There is a PJ pizza party, movies to watch, games to enjoy,

arts and crafts, dance parties and more. This event is open to members and nonmembers of the link. Go to app.thelink.zone to register.

RiccioFit Fitness Bootcamp

Free trial class. 9-9:45 a.m. March 11.
Ages 14 and older

This 45-minute, boot-camp-style workout will focus on building strength and cardiovascular conditioning with functional training movements using bodyweight and kettlebells. This fires up your metabolism and helps you get into great shape in a fun, supportive and safe environment. The event is open to members and nonmembers of the link. Go to app.thelink.zone to register.

Immersive Dining Experience — Asian Fusion

6-8:30 p.m. March 26

Get ready for a dining experience like no other. Chef Wesley transports diners to Asia during the link's Immersive Dining Experience. This multi-sensory dining experience features the sights, sounds, smells and tastes of Asia. Enjoy cuisine inspired from Japan, Pacific Island, China, Philippines and more.

This event is open to members and nonmembers of the link. Go to app.thelink.zone to read the full menu and chef's bio and register for seats. It's a small intimate atmosphere of 32 seats maximum capacity.

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Experience a unique immersive dining adventure at the link

If you're looking for an evening out with a difference, look no further than the Immersive Dining Experience at the link. These events are designed to transport diners to another world, and the upcoming Asian fusion event will add to the international flavor of the series. It will be an evening of delicious food and wine, as well as some fascinating company.

The unique studio offers guests an immersive experience like no other, complete with stunning visuals and delicious food. Indian fusion and Italian cuisine were recently served in the studio. Chef Wesley Nogueira will take guests on a culinary journey through Asia as he serves up a delectable four-course Asian fusion meal that is inspired by the cuisines of Japan, Pacific Islands, China, India and Philippines.

The evening will begin with an introduction of the chef and a short movie on the 10-by-20-foot LED video wall. Wine is served in the lobby while guests meet

with other food enthusiasts. They will then be invited to the immersive studio and, course-by-course, immersed in Asia.

The dinner will be held at 6-8:30 p.m. March 26 at the link, 425 Town Plaza Ave., Ponte Vedra.

The Flagler Health+ 360-degree immersive studio, the largest studio of its kind in the United States, has eight projectors that cast stunning imagery onto about 1,000 square feet of surface. This studio is located at the link, an award-winning smart building that is at the forefront of embracing technology for smart workspaces, event spaces and experiences.

To read the chef's bio, see the menu or purchase tickets, go to app.thelink.zone. A limited number of tickets is available now.

Tickets also available at [eventbrite.com/e/immersive-dining-experience-asian-fusion-tickets-523001460447?aff=ebdssbdestsearch](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/immersive-dining-experience-asian-fusion-tickets-523001460447?aff=ebdssbdestsearch)

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Photo by Anthony Richards

THE PLAYERS tournament chairman Houston Bowles announces the surprise to Savannah Gainey and Jackson Kirby.

Surprises

Continued from 8

Both have been getting more into golf of late and their fascination with the sport only continues to grow, which makes THE PLAYERS surprise gift to them even more special.

“For Christmas she got her first set of golf clubs and she’s just getting started, so the practice mat for outside is absolutely perfect,” Shawnda Gainey, Savannah’s mom said.

Savannah has been learning to swing a club with her dad in the yard, while Jackson’s god grandfather was a golf pro at San Jose Country Club in Jacksonville and has worked on passing that love of the game to

him.

“He took a golf club that he used to use and made it to Jackson’s size, so he has it now,” Kirby said.

The reactions of both Savannah and Jackson showed that the surprise was definitely kept well, and they were completely shocked when THE PLAYERS Tournament Chairman Houston Bowles shared the news of the VIP experience with them as well as presenting Savannah with a golf practice net and a new set of clubs for Jackson.

“She didn’t know, and I didn’t really know what to expect either,” Gainey said. “It was a buildup to get here, and it turned out to be so beautiful and unexpected. She’s very social and she’s just the sweetest child you ever meet, so seeing everyone celebrating her means so much.”



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Photo credit: PGA TOUR

The 17th hole has been known as the Island Green, so we'll leave it at that.

Should TPC Sawgrass name its holes?

By Kathy Bissell

Many famous courses have names for all their holes. The Old Course has The Road Hole, their 17th, which is built next to a road, literally. Their 10th is called Bobby Jones because he quit playing there in a fit of fury the first time he attempted to play the course. And the rest have names that perhaps meant something at the time the course opened.

Royal Troon has the Postage Stamp, the par 3, 8th hole, so named for its small green. But they also have Railway, the 11th, because the tracks, which are out of bounds, run next to the hole, and The Fox, which is the 12th, named after foxes that used to live there.

Its "nearly twin," PGA West Stadium Course in La Quinta, has names for all the holes. The 17th, for instance, is called Alcatraz because it's an island surrounded by rocks and water, like the infamous prison that once held some

of the worst prisoners. It was supposedly impossible to escape from it, and it is supposedly hard to escape from the hole with any kind of a good score. The 16th hole at PGA West Stadium, the one with the 19-foot-deep bunker adjacent to the green, is called San Andreas after the San Andreas Fault, which is about 11 miles north of the course, across I-10.

Surely, TPC Sawgrass holes deserve names, and not just the names golfers utter while playing. For instance, we could call them the @#%\$!X and %*!@\$%! But it's hard to distinguish symbols when a perfectly good word will do. You know, did that start with an % or a @?

So, let's give this place some names, ones that can be said in polite company. You may come up with better ones yourself, and maybe next year we'll have a name-the-hole contest.

No. 1 should definitely be Dean's Dream for Deane Beman who had the idea to bring Pete and Alice Dye to build TPC Sawgrass in the first place.

It's a pleasant looking hole until you try to play it. But it does look nice, and it gets people off the tee and into the bunker waiting out there on the right side of the hole. An alternate name could be Miguel for Miguel Angel Jimenez who once made an 8 there. If you're a pro, an 8 will ruin your day, especially if that's your first hole.

No. 2, we'll be generous and call it Recovery because if you miss the fairway on your tee shot or second shot, you'll spend your time recovering from those errors until pretty soon you card a 10 like Fred Couples once did. He clattered balls into the woods. You won't be any happier than he was if you do the same thing. You can hit the woods on the first shot and if you do, there's a chance you'll hit more trees on the second. Unpleasant, to say the least.

No. 3 is a pretty little par 3 we're going to call Everything because it has it all. It has water. It has sand. It has a two-level green with a sculpted edge that might repel your ball into either the sand or water. It's kind of like an

everything bagel where you might want to watch out for the onions. Ben Curtis once made a 7 there. He wasn't any happier about it than you would be.

No. 4 has to be called Railroaded because that's the first time you see the wooden railroad ties on the course. And they aren't cute little railroad ties. They are sturdy railroad ties fronting the green, separating it from the water. The wood is no more than eight inches from the putting surface, so shots have to go beyond that bulkhead or your golf ball clanks into the ties and then into the water. It's a horrible sound when that happens. While they have softened the slope from the right side of the green to the water, you can still putt your ball off the green into the drink without a lot of effort. A pro no longer on the TOUR named Phillip Hancock once took a 12 there, and that's probably one reason he's no longer on the TOUR. But at least he's infamous.

No. 5 we'd like to name after Scott



Nocatee Community to hold spring family camp out March 25

By Anthony Richards

Nocatee will be holding a family camp out March 25 at Nocatee Station Field for the residents in its community only.

According to Hanna Davis, Nocatee community events manager, they hold two family camp outs each year, with one in the fall and the other in the spring.

Because the events only take place twice a year they are always highly anticipated and something that Nocatee residents look forward to.

“Everyone always seems to really enjoy themselves,” Davis said. “It’s really great because it doesn’t cost a whole lot and they don’t have to go far to get the whole experience.”

Tickets are \$6 apiece and include a hot dog, bag of chips and two marshmallows for roasting. A movie will also be shown to families camping out, although the title of the film has not yet been decided.

Davis advised families to bring the necessary supplies needed if they wish to make s’mores, such as the graham crackers and chocolate to go with the

marshmallows provided.

Other than the tent, families are encouraged to bring any other outside activities or games they wish to, such as footballs or yard games.

Check-in and setup for the camp out will begin at 5:30 p.m. on March 25, while tickets will initially go on sale online March 13 at 4 p.m.

“We’ve always been sold out for our camp outs,” Davis said. “And this year we’ve even increased the number of families welcome to attend.”

That number of available campers went up 100 people from 400 in previous years to 500 this year.

Davis hinted that the number could go up even more, but 500 seemed like the perfect number at this time not so much due to the space on the field but when it comes to organizing and providing food to all those people without overloading the kitchen and staff.

According to Davis, anyone who buys a ticket will be sent an email with a checklist and break down of what to expect and bring to the camp out.

“The feedback has always been great, and families are always just really excited to enjoy their time together,” Davis said.

The link plans spring break camps for kids

The link, 425 Town Plaza Ave., Ponte Vedra, is planning three fun-filled spring break camps this month.

Kids Culinary Arts

9 a.m. to noon March 13-17
Ages 5-12

This camp helps lay the foundations for a lifetime of healthy eating for your kids. The chef will cover kitchen preparedness and safety, proper food handling, hygiene, cross contamination, food storage and more. This is taught in a fun hands-on way while kids make daily food creations. This camp is open to members and nonmembers of the link. Go to app.thelink.zone for details, the chef’s bio and to register. Space is limited, so don’t delay.

LEGO Robotics

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 13-17
Ages 7-12

With LEGO Robotics camps, kids will be engaged through playful, hands-on STEAM learning with fun and engaging lessons so they stay focused and enthusiastic. They will be challenged to complete exciting learning missions this week including projects such as NASA, Military Machines, DINO World and Star Wars! This camp is open to members and nonmembers of the link. Go to app.thelink.zone for details, the instructor’s bio and to register. Space is limited space for this all-day camp.

Dance & Tumble Technique

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 15-17
Age 8+

Join Level Up Dance Company for this fantastic high-energy spring break mini camp! Does your dancer want to try out for a team soon? Dance? Cheer? They just need to focus on some technique? This camp is for you. Level Up your skills to improve your turns, leaps and kicks. Master those tumble skills, too. This camp is open to members and nonmembers of the link. Go to app.thelink.zone for details, the instructors bio and to register.

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First Coast Cultural Center registering for summer art camps, classes

First Coast Cultural Center is launching its summer activities season with new programs to support the nonprofit, including summer 2023 Imagination Vacation weekly art camps.

The schedule runs from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. May 30 to Aug. 9 for children ages 5 to 11. Multiple camp opportunities and locations are available at 3972 Third St. South in Jacksonville Beach, and PV/PV Rawlings Elementary School, 610 A1A North, Ponte Vedra Beach.

Summer camp includes arts and crafts with watercolors, drawing, collage and novelty crafts featuring slime or clay, with completed art projects to bring home. Also, music, yoga, story time, drama and culinary activities with specialized instructors will be offered.

Weekly themes include Fairytale Land, Camp Dinosaur, Enchanted Forest, Making Magic, Merry Monsters, Under the Sea, Adventures in Time Travel, Candy Land, If I Were a Superhero, Somewhere Over the Rainbow and Culinary Camp for specific age groups.

The Alhambra Theatre Camp will be held for aspiring actors and those who want to experience the theater, for children ages 8 through 17. The camp will be held 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, June 12-23, at Alhambra Theatre, 12000 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville. A final performance of the selected production, "Princess Whatsername," will be held June 26. One complimentary ticket and one child's meal are included with registration.

First Coast Cultural Center is also offering adult art classes starting this month, including a one-day "Nature Journaling" class instructed by Elaine Bergstrom, and

a six-week Van Gogh-inspired watercolor series with Charlotte Chastain. Additionally, an eight-week watercolor and gouache class will be taught by Bergstrom. Go to firstcoastculturalcenter.org/arts-programs/adult-arts-programs.

For more information about registration, costs for summer camps, classes and Alhambra Theatre Camp, contact Toni Thomas at tthomas@firstcoastculturalcenter.org or call 904-280-0614 ext. 1206. Or go to firstcoastculturalcenter.org/arts-programs/art-camps.

Registered parents will receive a welcome email prior to the start of their child's camp. Camp programs are sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, National Endowment for the Arts and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.

For more information about the First Coast Cultural Center, go to firstcoastculturalcenter.org.

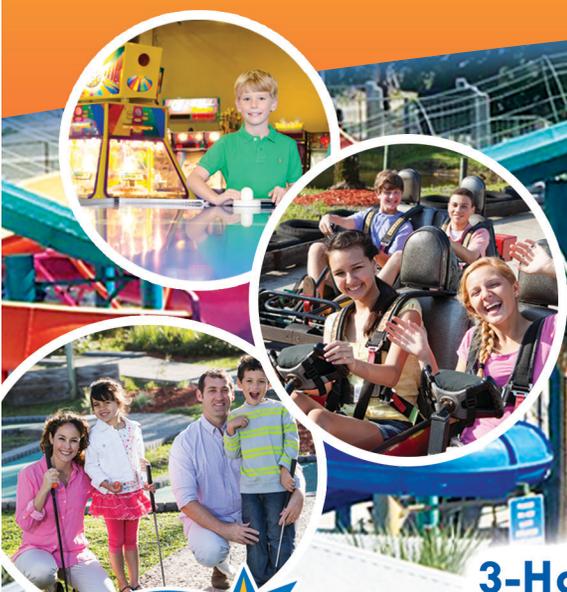


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Holes

Continued from 15

Piercy who made a 9 there. The hole's a par 4. It took him seven shots to get to the green, and he started by hitting into the water, which is so out of play no one ever really knows it's there. You see the bunker yawning in view, but water? You really have to try hard to find it. But instead of calling it Piercy, which really wouldn't be fair to him, we're going to call it Deception because it doesn't look that hard, but scores over par just happen. At lot. People flinch at the wrong time and end up in an unseen pot bunker or up against a tree beyond the green. It's an easy bogey hole, that's for sure.

No. 6's name has to be Palms. This should come as no surprise because there is a herd of palm trees on both sides of the fairway guarding the green and you can't shoo them out of the way. They are a bit like the old-fashioned pinball game bumpers where you can get a lucky bounce and rack up a bunch of points. Only in this case, a low score is what you want, not a high score. You do not want to hit the palms because that will likely carom your ball

into some kind of swale or sandy place and cost you a shot. Pete Dye supposedly thought this was the most lovely hole on the course. But we all know Pete was a little beyond crazy. (And we loved him for it.)

No. 7 is now such a pretty hole from the tee. There's that vast expanse of fairway out there. But nestled up to it on the left side, for yards and yards in the landing area, is sand. The sand is supposed to save you from going into the water, well really a lake now, a fairly new addition, which is beyond the sand. And so, Lake is the name of this hole to go along with its expansive and recently redesigned look.

The 8th, man, that's a hard hole. It just sits there and double dares you to hit the green. And so that's going to be the name of this hole: Double Dare. They keep pushing the tee back, back, back, back as Chris Berman used to say on his MLB recaps on Sports Center. So it's longer, but nobody takes away pot bunkers and swales from around the green. And the green is super slanted from back to front and falls off to the sides as well. The ball has a remarkable tendency to roll off of it no matter where it lands. Maybe the name should switch to Duck's Back, but that would

be harder to explain, at least until you try to hit it.

The 9th. Ah yes, it only seems like a breather from the tee. You can't see the semi-burn that cuts across it right about where a drive could land. But you can see the big oak tree that blocks any approach to the green. And now they can make it as long as 600 yards? So, we're going to call this one Impossible Dream because you dream you could hit over the skinny, water-filled ditch that crosses the fairway at about 325 yards from the back tee. And maybe one or two guys can. But that hazard is now in play if it's 300 to 340 off the tee. It's not a layup anymore. Years ago, Tim Clark made a 10 there. The next year, he won THE PLAYERS. Go figure.

It's time to take a breather in this naming business. Mainly to think of which hole should be named after Alice Dye. Now, she was involved in the 17th. She didn't dig it out personally with a shovel or anything, but when Pete started excavating in that area, he found the best sand, which they used for the top of fairways, in the location around the 17th hole. He kept digging and it turned into a big hole. So, Alice suggested they make it an island like the one at the Ponte Vedra Inn's Ocean course. Well, here we are 40 some odd years later with people still swearing at the hole. I thought about Hit It Alice hole because I'm sure Alice Dye would not have had a problem getting to that green, even from the men's tees. But Alice Cooper kind of likes hearing that from his buddies. Personally, I'm surprised anybody found any sand anywhere on this island, except at the beach, and Pete wasn't digging there.

Ah, the 10th hole. It was supposed to be similar to the 1st so that when guys were playing split tees in the first two rounds, one side of the field wouldn't have a big disadvantage compared to the other. So, this one's easy. Doppelganger. What did you take on Doppelganger, Charlie? A sandwich and a beer, since you're asking. The small green and the angle of the dangle off the tee make it a challenge, but it's not an impossibly hard hole.

The 11th ratchets the challenge up a little and kind of reminds me of that Abba song, "Take a Chance on Me," because that's what everybody is faced with on this hole. You can sing it while you figure out your strategy. Plop a drive out there. If it's too far and right, you have to hoist one either over water and sand to the green on your second shot, if you dare, or you can chicken out and go for the left side of the hole and then run your third up the green. So, you see what we mean by Chance.

The 12th has changed, as you probably know, from the original 12th hole, which was a dogleg left, short par 4. It's now what is called a drivable par 4. However, that doesn't mean the green is easy to hit or hold. It doesn't mean

most players will approach it as one shot hole or that most will try to drive the green. There will be differences of opinion on this one, and because of that, this hole is going to be called Argument. You think you can get there. Your caddie doesn't. You see the flag. Your caddie sees your ball rolling into the water on the left side of the green. There's no agreement. It's not quite the Argument Shop on Monty Python where the customer is arguing with the owner because the parrot is dead, deceased, left this mortal coil, but there will be differences of opinion.

On 13, the par 3 that backs up to the Marriott, there is bound to be a little bit of luck involved in where the ball ends up each day. Sometimes it cozies up to the hole, and sometimes it can roll and roll and roll back into the water. Nearly anything can happen here. If you don't believe me, ask Andrew McGee or Gary Koch. They both had 9s on the hole once upon a time. That's like playing two extra par 3s! For that reason, this one is getting a name that suits: Treachery. It has everything but the pirate bandana and knife to put between your teeth.

Now we come to one of the two holes that usually play toughest. The 14th. It has ruined scores. Lost tournaments. Shredded hopes. In 2013, leading the tournament, Tiger Woods put his 3-wood drive into the water in front of the tee. Tiger Woods! If he can be tricked into doing that, what about everybody else? Vijay Singh had a chance to win THE PLAYERS, that is until he hit a drive at the 14th. Oops. He ended up with triple bogey and without a PLAYERS trophy. As much as he practiced here, you'd think it would not have happened to him, but it did. Neither Woods nor Singh would call this hole anything at all nice. Heartbreaker seems to suit.

The 15th hole is often overlooked because it's between the horrible 14th and the immensely scorable 16th. Yet, the tee shot has to fit between a narrow slot that is framed by a lot of trees. Then it makes a severe right turn so the green isn't visible from the tee. As yet, we haven't named a hole after Alice Dye and this is the time. This is a momma bear of a hole. Not too hard. Not too easy. So, it's going to be Wonderland for "Alice in Wonderland."

Ah, the 16th. Where birdies and eagles go to play. Where Fred Couples started his eagle/birdie run to win in 1996. Where Davis Love III whacked his ball out of pine straw onto the green. Sure, Couples and Love had a heyday there, but a lot of golfers end up with a bad bounce over the green into the water. Or with a bad second shot that skirts the right edge of the green a little too closely and splat! Richard Zokol once had a 10 there. That's how user-friendly the 16th can be if it feels

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THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2023

FEATURING
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Business



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Pawgrass Dog Spa adds brick-and-mortar salon

By Shaun Ryan

In 2020, Jennifer Teneyck and husband John launched Pawgrass Mobile Dog Spa, which brought dog grooming services to pet owners' homes. It has been — and continues to be — a success, the most obvious reason being its convenience.

But speaking with her customers, Jennifer Teneyck discovered another reason so many preferred the mobile service. About 95% revealed that they didn't like simply dropping their canines off at a spa in the morning and then have their beloved pets held in a crate until later that day.

So, when the Teneycks realized it was time to open a brick-and-mortar version of their business, they came up with a new concept. Dogs would have their own rooms, where the groomer attends to them from start to finish.

"It's like a little suite," said Jennifer Teneyck. "They can just run around until 'mom' comes."

Customers have expressed their satisfaction with this idea.

"It's less stressful for the dog," Teneyck said. "That's important, because it is very stressful to be in a cage all day waiting around."

Pawgrass also offers pick-up and drop-off services for clients who are unable to visit in person.

The spa offers a wide range of services, some specific to the breed. There are full and mini



Contributed photo

Jennifer and John Teneyck launched Pawgrass Mobile Dog Spa in 2020. Now, Pawgrass has a brick-and-mortar location as well.

grooming services, bath services and several add-ons. And every spa comes with a blueberry facial.

"We use a wonderful, professional line of products," Teneyck said, adding that these are also available for purchase in the store's boutique, which also includes a "doggie treat bar." Here, customers can purchase leashes, collars, bowls, toys, all-natural dog treats and more.

On any given day during normal hours, one or both of the Teneycks will be on site while alternately taking out the mobile spa three days a week.

Jennifer Teneyck completed grooming school in 2006 in New York and went on to run her own grooming shop for several years before the family moved to Florida. Her career has brought her a lot of happiness.

"I love making relationships with the dog and the client," she said. "I just love what I do, making the dogs look clean and beautiful."

The new stationary salon opened Jan. 13. In addition to the Teneycks, Pawgrass Dog Spa employs a receptionist and has four groomers. It is located at 250 Solana Road, Ponte Vedra Beach — that's in the Winn-Dixie plaza. Hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Services are by appointment only. Call 904-532-3235. The website is pawgrassdogspa.com.

The Teneycks are planning a grand opening "yappy hour" from 4 to 6 p.m. March 25.



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Photo by Shaun Ryan

Licensed counselor Kelly Roberts is seen in her new office in Nocatee.

Anchor of Hope offers counseling amid life's struggles

By Shaun Ryan

When overwhelmed by life's many stresses, it can be a great comfort to speak with a good listener in a soothing, welcoming environment.

Kelly Roberts M.Ed., LPC, LMHC of Anchor of Hope Counseling, provides "a safe refuge from the storms of life." She has been a licensed therapist for several years. Her office is a quiet, homey place where she helps clients overcome depression, anxiety, grief, loss and other issues. She provides care to men, women and teen girls age 16 and older. She specializes in helping women with the unique issues they face.

For older clients who may not be able to travel, Roberts makes home visits — including visits to senior living communities.

Roberts is a certified counselor with Focus on the Family and is adept at working with people of faith.

"I do offer Christian counseling," she said, "but you don't have to be a Christian to see me."

Her faith in Jesus Christ is her source of strength in her life, but she doesn't impose her faith on others. She enjoys helping people regardless of their beliefs, as people experience the same pain and troubles in life.

Roberts has experienced significant loss. Because of this, she understands much of what many of her clients are going through. She found what she calls her life verse at the age of 17 — John 10:10.

John 10:10 ESV: "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

Until recently, Roberts had been practicing out of Crosswater Community Church in Nocatee, but a friend suggested that she needed her own office. So, in February she moved her practice to the Nocatee Town Center at 360 Town Plaza Ave., Suite 315E, Ponte Vedra. She has been married to husband Don for 10 years and has two children and two stepchildren.

She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Texas and a postgraduate degree in counselor education from the University of North Texas. Her education only tells part of the story. She has had many diverse experiences throughout life that make her the counselor she is today. She's been a homeschooling mom and a pastor's wife. She has worked for Southwest Airlines and at a daycare facility.

Regarding her career of choice, Roberts worked as a school counselor from 2011 to 2014 while living in St. Louis, Missouri, after which she was an independent practitioner. She moved to Ponte Vedra in 2020, and opened an office off State Road A1A, later transitioning to the Nocatee area.

She encourages her clients to make interpersonal connections with other people — as opposed to the kind of superficial

COUNSELING continues on **Page 25**



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Variety of keynote speakers in place for WBO spring conference

By Anthony Richards

The Women Business Owners of North Florida are preparing for their spring speaker series conference at Marywood Conference Center in St. Johns at 8:30 a.m. March 8.

The conference will feature several keynote speakers including Charlene Shirk, founder of Charlene Shirk Productions and Public Relations and a former local TV news anchor.

Dr. Pat Baxter will also be on hand to speak as her work specializes in leadership coaching of women professionals.

She will share her insights on the importance of maintaining self-awareness and how a person's behavior plays a role and affects the likelihood of achieving the goals one has laid out.

According to Baxter, she proclaims understanding oneself is a "science."

Another keynote speaker highlighted will be Jillian Foss, the founder of the Ladies Executive Golf Society (LEGS).

Foss will be sharing her unique formula for "building community, sparking passion and living an extraordinary life," for all those in attendance to replicate and follow.

That approach is what has allowed her to have the success she has had with



LEGS since she founded the initiative, which follows a belief that the world will be a better place with more women in leadership positions not just in the business world, in the world as a whole.

For years, there have been those that

have stated that so many business deals take place on the golf course, and Foss and LEGS are doing their part to make sure the avenues are there for women to get involved in the game of golf to be part of that aspect of the business

process that can play such a vital role.

The recurring theme of the keynote speakers during the spring speaker series will be growing through the combination of communication, relationships and mentoring.

As the next generation of women business owners continues to develop their place in the business world, effective communication tactics can help fill the generational gaps that may exist naturally.

Erin Gordon and Mary Fisher of Fisher Agency, which is a marketing agency, will team up to speak during the conference.

They will focus on sales and marketing aspects and how important it is to build the relationships of those they are partnering with from a business standpoint.

They stress that this is something that can be built regardless of which generations the parties doing business are from.

The mission of the WBO of North Florida is to create and recognize opportunities to lift the successes of women in the business world both collectively and individually and the spring speaker series is just the latest example of that.

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St. Johns Cultural Council names ROWITA honorees



Joy D'Elia



Jennifer Dournaux



Margaret Kaler



Sallie O'Hara



Laura O'Neal

Each year, the St. Johns Cultural Council recognizes women who have profoundly influenced the artistic environment of St. Johns County with the Dr. Gail Pflaster ROWITA (“Recognizing Outstanding Women in the Arts”) Awards.

Nominations were received from the community about numerous women who have made significant contributions to the arts in St. Johns County through their work, leadership and philanthropic support.

This year, five local women have been selected as ROWITA recipients. Honorees are:

- Joy D'Elia: a musician, storyteller and arts advocate who co-founded the

program and Friends of A1A.

- Jennifer Dournaux: a leader in the St. Johns County dance community for two decades, as a performer and as director of the St. Augustine Adult Ballet.

- Margaret Kaler: an actor and director who has played a significant role in community theater since her childhood, first appearing on stage in St. Augustine in the 1950s.

- Sallie O'Hara: a member of the Tale Tellers of St. Augustine who has leveraged arts, culture and heritage to create economic opportunity and enhance community development efforts through her work with the Florida Main Street

community development. Their efforts have enhanced the quality of life in the county, making it an even more beautiful and vibrant place to live, work and visit.”

Honorees were selected by a panel of community members in January.

The annual ROWITA celebration will take place at 2-4 p.m. March 25 at The Waterworks, 184 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine.

Additionally, the recognitions will feature Junior ROWITA scholarship recipients. The event is open to the public and reservations are required. For more information, email sjcc@historiccoast-culture.com.

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Nocatee resident comes up with hot sauce idea from daughter's question

By Anthony Richards

Sometimes a simple question can be all that is needed to spur a creative idea, and Brett Kaminski, creator of Dude Where's My Sauce? knows this all too well.

In Kaminski's case, it was his daughter, who was 4 years old at the time, that posed the question of how plants grow, and next thing he knew he was making hot sauces.

"So, I sprouted a couple of tomato plants, a couple basil plants and a couple pepper plants," Kaminski said. "It was nothing too special, just some poinsettia peppers and Tabasco peppers. I think I had one datil at the time, because they're notoriously hard to sprout."

The answer to the question quickly began to sprout itself and turned into a COVID-19 hobby that has continued to grow in recent years with pepper plants becoming the focus of what is grown.

Around Christmas 2021 was the first time he had a bunch of extra peppers

that he wasn't sure what to do with, so he made a bunch of hot sauces and gave them away to friends and family and sold about 50 bottles through the "Handmade in Nocatee" Facebook group.

"I had people beating down my door looking for more and saying that it was great," Kaminski said. "I knew it was something I wanted to keep doing, but I had no idea how many peppers I would need to produce for x-amount of bottles."

Last year, his goal was to plant as many seeds as he could and then find out how much each one produces, and he also wound up developing a partnership with the Home Garden Data Project, which is an initiative attempting to aggregate that type of info for people in general.

According to Kaminski, it has been a continuous learning process especially when it comes to the cottage foods laws in place in Florida.

As a result, his sauces are infused



Photo by Anthony Richards

Dude Where's My Sauce? creator Brett Kaminski tends to the pepper garden along the side of his house in Nocatee.

HOT SAUCE continues on **Page 25**

Heather Brooke Quick is the founder and CEO of the only divorce and family law firm for women in Northeast Florida.

Heather Brooke Quick is the founder and CEO of the only divorce and family law firm for women in Northeast Florida. At Florida Women's Law Group, we support and empower women that feel trapped in an unfulfilling marriage. We are committed to providing women with the tools necessary to make educated decisions about their future and goals.

It has been amazing to watch women transform as we help them navigate their divorce. We have supported women breadwinners protecting what they have worked so hard to earn as well as safeguarding their custody and time with their children. We are here to give strength to the supportive stay-at-home mother who has been in the background propelling her spouse's success. As a firm of all women, we understand women and what it feels like to be second guessed and under-valued. With Florida Women's Law Group, you are always first and you are always valued.

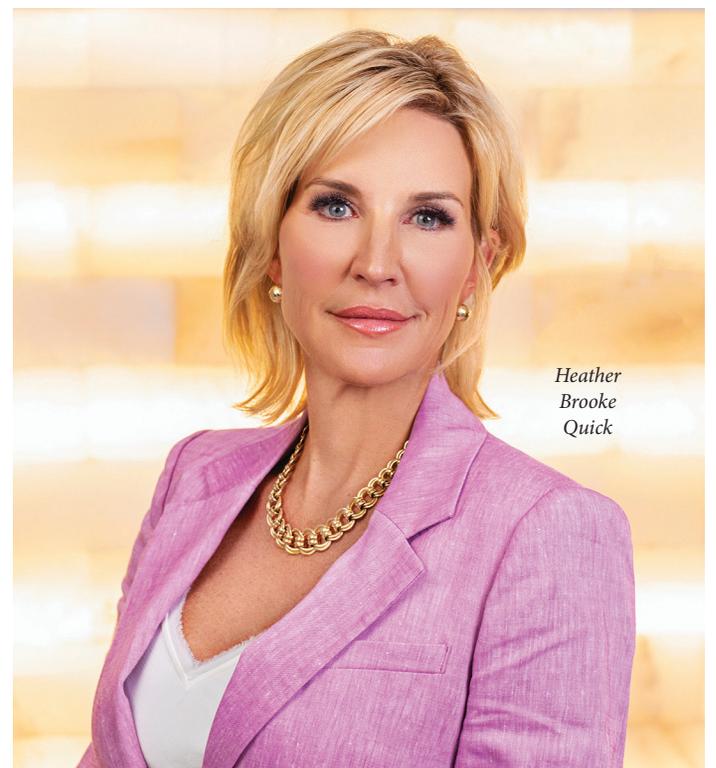
Our podcast, "Women Winning Divorce" is now in its second year and provides women with weekly topics in family law, answering questions for women contemplating divorce or in the middle of divorce proceedings. For 2023, Heather is collaborating with women divorce attorneys throughout the country to discuss divorce and look at the different approaches that firms take throughout the U.S. As host, Heather brings over 20 years of legal experience that advocates and empowers women to achieve happier and healthier lives.

The show title "Women Winning Divorce," reflects many of the values of Florida Women's Law Group. To suggest there are no winners in divorce is a misconception. Heather believes that if you can gain your freedom, achieve your goals, while maintaining your dignity and self-respect, you win. Just because a woman wins in divorce, doesn't mean she has to make someone lose, that is the distinction. When we see women completely transform themselves as their case progresses, it's a win. In our eyes, this is women winning divorce!

We are committed to guiding women with compassion and empathy through matters of divorce, alimony, child support, modification, relocation, and other family law matters. Our team looks for innovative ways to solve problems for our clients, working together with them to move their lives forward in a better, more comprehensive manner than the traditional legal approach allows. If it is time for you to make a change, let us help you achieve a more stable, healthy and happy future.

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Pivot CPAs believes in Impacting Lives Beyond Accounting by going above & beyond what's expected. Our firm aims to be a trusted resource for our clients, our community, and our team. We want to help businesses and individuals achieve today's financial goals & inspire tomorrow's exciting new dreams.

Women in the accounting profession face a paradox: while there are more opportunities than ever, there is still a visible equity difference. While women make up approximately half of all accounting professionals, a 2019 AICPA Firm Gender Study revealed just 23% of CPA firm partners were women.

With 56% female leadership, Pivot is creating a culture where women aren't just workers, they're groundbreakers. The firm believes in empowering women to define their own success & supporting them in achieving it. Tax manager Amy Lawlor, CPA, & senior tax managers Angela Vogt, CPA, and Emmy Pursley, CPA, credit the tools & mentoring at Pivot for helping them reach the next levels of their careers.

The bottom line is that at Pivot CPAs, we aren't just exceeding industry standards – we're redefining them.



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Benchmarks of Success

A look at major career changes in the area.

Thompson receives Ameriprise Client Experience Award

Chris Thompson, CFP, CRPC, a managing director and associate manager with Ameriprise Financial Inc. in Jacksonville has earned the 2022 Ameriprise Client Experience Award.

He was honored with this award because of his ability to consistently deliver personalized, goal-based advice and exceptional client service. Award recipients earned an overall client satisfaction rating equal to or greater than 4.9 out of 5.0 and maintained stellar business results. The award represents an elite group of Ameriprise advisers recognized as leaders for their commitment to making a difference in the lives of their clients.

For more information, contact Thompson at 904-380-2290, email Chris.thompson@ampf.com or go to the Ameriprise office, 4601 Touchton Road, Suite 3120, Jacksonville.

Grenier joins local real estate firm

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty recently welcomed Jim Grenier to the Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office. Grenier moved to Northeast Florida from Colorado where he and his wife sold real estate for about five years.

He served in the military for most of his career and decided to move to Florida with his wife about a year ago. He feels it is important to him to work with a brokerage that has the training, support, and tools to help him succeed, which in turn allows him to be a valuable resource for his clients.

For more information, Grenier can be reached at 904-599-1652, Jim.Grenier@

FloridaNetworkRealty.com and JGrenier.FloridaNetworkRealty.com.

The Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office, located at 333 Village Main St., Suite 670, Ponte Vedra Beach, is managed by Holly Hayes.

Miller named executive vice president

The Board of Directors of England-Thims & Miller Inc. (ETM) has announced the appointment of two leaders to new executive vice president roles, positioning the infrastructure and development consulting firm for continued growth. Buckley K. Williams, CCCA, is now the executive vice president of public infrastructure, and George Miller, P.E., of Ponte Vedra has been promoted to the role of executive vice president of the firm's construction engineering and inspection (CEI) division.

Miller started with the firm as a senior project engineer in January of 2022, following nearly two decades of progressive CEI leadership experience in Florida. During his career, he has completed and led more than \$1 billion in complex roadway, bridge and aviation projects across the Southeast. He holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Michigan Technological University.

ETM supports a range of public and private sector projects in Florida.

Coban joins local real estate firm

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty has welcomed JC Coban to the Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office.

Coban is a former collegiate athlete (baseball) who played for Penn State and later graduated from the University of Tampa. He relocated last summer to the Ponte Vedra area from New Orleans

BENCHMARKS continues on **Page 25**

COASTAL CONTEMPORARY

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Hot sauce

Continued from 23

with vinegar which serves as the base that the peppers are mixed into.

He did two major bottlings last year, which were called Datil Work and Mellow Mushroom Mountaineer.

The Mellow Mushroom Mountaineer contained Jamaican Mushroom peppers, which he has replaced this year with Scotch bonnets, which he found out were much more popular.

“I think I did about 220 bottles total, and they are all done seed to bottle and organic,” Kaminski said. “The only thing I didn’t do myself is the artwork on the bottles.”

He also hopes to have more exotic hot peppers that he can sell at local farmers markets.

“I’m hoping to clear about 500 pounds of fresh produce,” Kaminski said. “I had 45 plants last year and this year there will be 75.”

Part of the growth of the passion project is that he is now exploring the process of breeding his own pepper varieties now, including a datil pepper crossed with a peach ghost pepper.

“It just got way out of hand pretty quick,” Kaminski chuckled. “I’ve had some cool ideas that have come to me so I just figured if this is going to keep going, I might as well. That is really



Photo by Anthony Richards

Kaminski bottled two sauces last year called Datil Work and Mellow Mushroom Mountaineer.

a multi-year process of refining the genetics.”

Now a couple of years into making his own sauces and his daughter now has a good understanding of how plants grow and she still comes out to help tend to the garden at times along with his soon-to-be 3-year-old son.

The best way to purchase either of the hot sauces is to go to dudewheresmysauce.com.

Counseling

Continued from 20

connectivity offered by social media.

“Research shows that if you’re on more than two social media sites, you have increased anxiety and depression,” she said.

She expressed a concern that society has become so unconnected that people are experiencing the highest rate of loneliness ever.

While her younger clients are especially affected by social media and self-imposed pressure, their parents are faced with issues related to the struggles of their teenage children. Older parents often find themselves cut off from their adult children because of abuse, conflict over money, dysfunctional communication, etc.

In addition to her private practice,

Roberts has started an informal monthly group for women who have lost a child or children. The next meeting is Monday, March 6, at Timoti’s Seafood Shack. Those interested in joining can call or email her for information.

She also recommends Grief Share, a support group for people who have had a close loved one pass away. It can be found through griefshare.org/findagroup.

To connect with Roberts at Anchor of Hope, request an appointment at kelly-robertscounselor.com. Click the “contact” link to send an email or go to the client portal to request an appointment. People can also call her at 904-606-9566 or send her an email at kelly@anchorofhopecounselor.com. She can also be found at the Psychology Today site at psychologytoday.com/us/therapists/kelly-roberts-ponte-vedra-fl/232288 and on NextDoor.

Benchmarks

Continued from 24

and has enjoyed exploring the various communities in Northeast Florida. Coban is an entrepreneur at heart having invented and patented a post shoulder surgery shirt for patients required to wear a sling. After college, he worked in debt recovery, gaining valuable

experience in customer relations.

For more information, he can be reached at 561-757-9727, JC.Coban@FloridaNetworkRealty.com and JCoban.FloridaNetworkRealty.com.

The Ponte Vedra/Nocatee office, located at 333 Village Main St., Suite 670, Ponte Vedra Beach is managed by Holly Hayes.

— Compiled by Shaun Ryan



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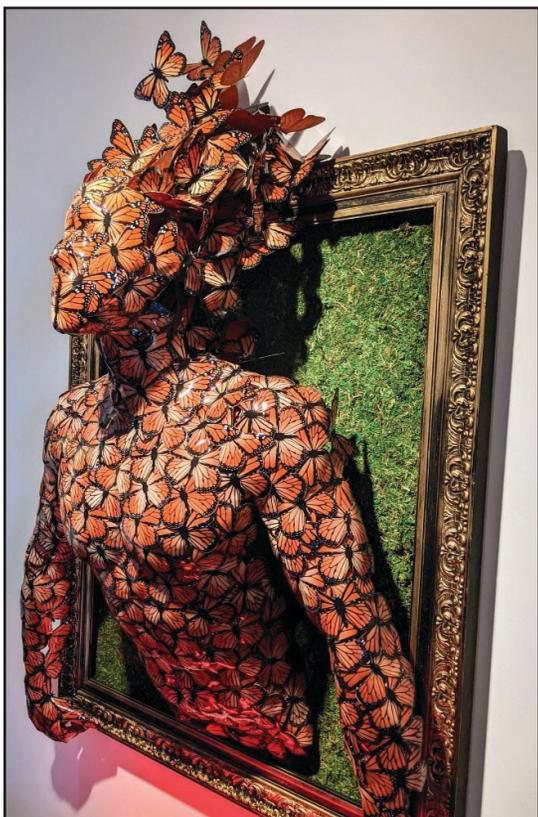


Photo provided by Grand Bohemian Gallery, St. Augustine
“Escape Artist,” a work by Tampa artist Chase Parker, is among the pieces on display at the Grand Bohemian Gallery in St. Augustine.

Meet artist Chase Parker at Grand Bohemian Gallery

By Shaun Ryan

The next great artist may well be Tampa-based Chase Parker, whose works have been personally selected by entrepreneur Richard C. Kessler of The Kessler Collection for exhibition at Grand Bohemian Galleries, including the gallery at Casa Monica Resort & Spa in St. Augustine.

Kessler recently issued an open call to emerging artists nationwide, a search for The Next Original. More than 1,800 artists responded, submitting 5,000 pieces for consideration.

Parker is one of nine finalists selected to display his work. Throughout the year, the finalists will have their art featured in Times Square, as well as at the galleries.

Parker employs a variety of materials — both traditional and highly unconventional — to create his unique mixed-

media works. Viewing Parker’s art, one encounters illustrations exploding from books, sculpted torsos comprised of butterflies and interactive illusions that can only truly be appreciated in person. There’s often a union of the two-dimensional with the three-dimensional.

His works are attention-grabbers.

When he first hung “Wonderland,” which is currently on display at a different Grand Bohemian Gallery, every single person entering the space made a beeline for it. The piece, which can be seen at grandbohemiangallery.com/artist/chase-parker, depicts the protagonist of “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland” running out of the book and toward a castle. Real pages swirl from the book to create a surface for the art, which grows in realism and color as it gets closer to the center.

“I love just capturing people’s atten-

tion,” said Parker. “Especially with the book pieces. People are drawn to them.”

Spectators are also strongly attracted to Parker’s transitional paintings, which depict one image when viewed from the left and quite a different one when viewed from the right.

Parker enjoys watching people who are seeing his transitional images for the first time.

“They always do a double-take,” he said. “They walk backwards and then forwards and then backwards again.”

At the Casa Monica gallery, art lovers will have an opportunity to check out several of Parker’s unique creations and even speak with Parker himself during an event this week.

The Grand Bohemian Gallery at 49 King St., St. Augustine, is planning a “Meet the Artist” event during the First Friday Art Walk, 5-9 p.m. March 3.

Artist Gary Trbovich joins P.A.St.A. Art Gallery

The Professional Artists of St. Augustine (P.A.St.A.) Fine Art Gallery has welcomed artist Gary Trbovich to its growing membership. Trbovich’s colorful and playful watercolors evoke the First Coast beach lifestyle, past and present. His work is

available for sale at the P.A.St.A. Fine Art Gallery, 214 Charlotte St., St. Augustine.

Trbovich moved to Jacksonville Beach from Pittsburgh in 1982 and has been living the laid-back beach lifestyle for the last 40 years. Primarily self-taught, and with the

encouragement of friends and family, he joined the Jacksonville Artists Guild and set up a store on Etsy.

His work has been featured in the Jacksonville International Airport Gallery, the Jacksonville Main Library Bicenten-

nial Celebration Display, the Beaches Museum, and as the featured artist in the August 2022 edition of the FirstCoast.Life virtual magazine.

From beach houses to iconic motels, Trbovich’s approach uses a spontaneous brush and the vivid colors found throughout the First Coast beach communities.

“I draw my inspiration from daily walks on the beach, and also by just living in the Beaches community,” Trbovich said. “Many of my paintings are of area buildings, some existing, some no longer standing. I love to stir the memories of residents and former residents with depictions of the places they grew up, especially of those residents who have moved to other parts of the country.”

For more on Trbovich and his artwork, go to pastagalleryart.com or [facebook.com/pastagallery](https://www.facebook.com/pastagallery). His work can also be found on Instagram.

The Professional Artists of St. Augustine Fine Art Gallery on Charlotte Street in downtown St. Augustine was founded in 1982. The gallery’s mission is to showcase local and regional art and to educate and encourage area artists.

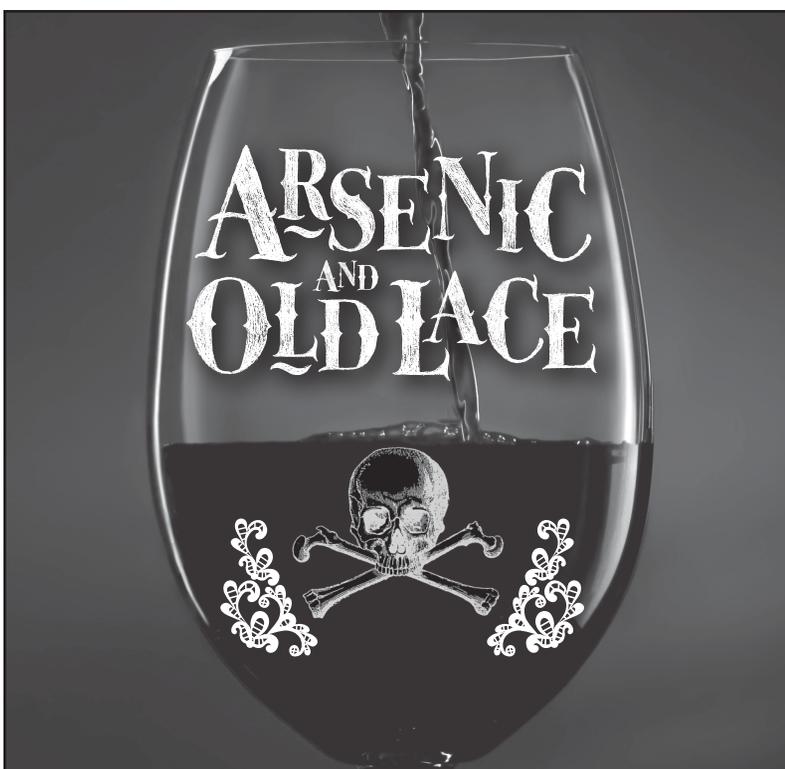


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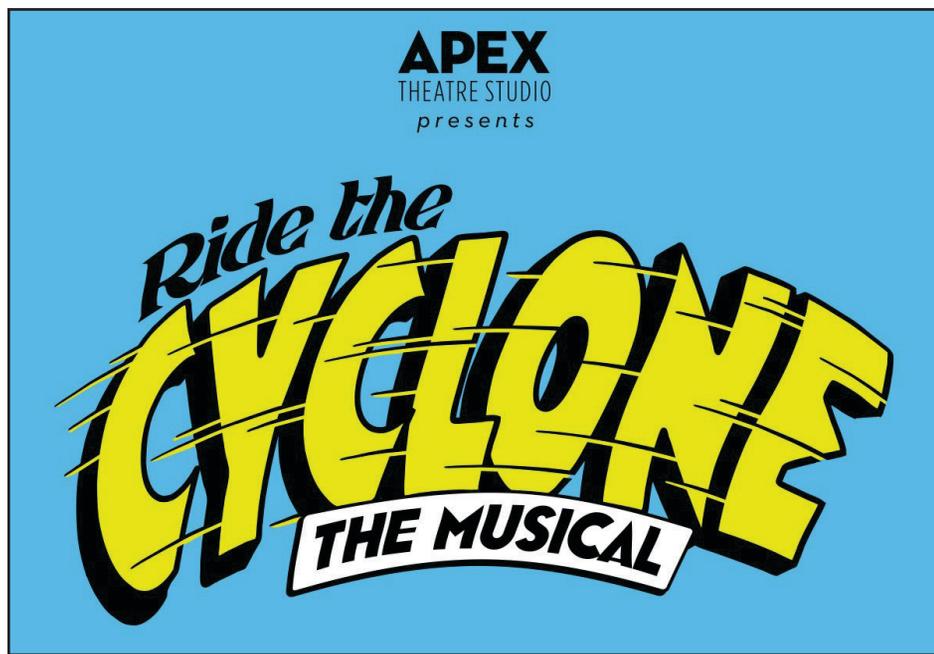
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Apex Theatre Studio to present 'Ride The Cyclone'



Apex Theatre Studio will present the off-Broadway hit musical “Ride The Cyclone” in its black box theater in St. Augustine on March 3-6 and at Gulford Hall at Adele Grage Community Center in Atlantic Beach on March 9-10.

In this hilarious and outlandish story, the lives of six teenagers from a Canadian chamber choir are cut short in a freak accident aboard a roller coaster. When they awake in limbo, a mechanical fortune teller invites each to tell a story to win a prize like no other — the chance to return to life. The show is a funny, moving look at what makes a life well-lived.

The production is under the direction of guest director Nick Case, a graduate of Penn State University’s musical

theater program. The musical direction is led by Joshua Sewell with choreography by Laura Frye.

The cast features a mixture of Duval and St. Johns county students, including Haiden Matthews, Oliva DeMaio, DJ DeJesus, Miles Melanson, Owen Betancourt, Ruby Simmons, Emily Gonzalez and George Eastman.

Running time is 80 minutes. For tickets and information to go apextheatrejax.com/events. The show is rated PG-13 for mature language.

Shows are set for 7 p.m. March 4, 7 and 9 p.m. March 5 and 2 p.m. March 6 at Apex Theatre Studio Black Box Theatre, 425 West Town Place, Unit 112, St. Augustine; and 7 p.m. March 9 and 10 at Adele Grage Community Center, 716 Ocean Blvd., Atlantic Beach.

ON STAGE

A roundup of musical acts appearing before April 3 at local venues

- PONTE VEDRA CONCERT HALL**
1050 A1A North, Ponte Vedra Beach
Purchase tickets at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre box office or ticketmaster.com.
For further information about each act, go to pvconcerthall.com/events.
- **Swing With The Big Bands** — 5 p.m. March 5
 - **Alan Doyle** — With special guest Chris Trapper. 8 p.m. March 7
 - **Tommy Emmanuel, CGP** — With special guest Richard Smith. 7 p.m. March 9
 - **The Moody Blues' John Lodge** — Performing “Days of Future Passed.” 8 p.m. March 10
 - **Eric Johnson** — 7:30 p.m. March 14
 - **Martin Sexton** — With special guest Matt MacKelcan. 8 p.m. March 15
 - **Pepper** — With special guest Joe Samba. 7:30 p.m. March 17
 - **An Evening With They Might Be Giants** — Ages 16+, no exceptions. 8 p.m. March 18
 - **moe.** — 7 p.m. March 19
 - **Chelcie Lynn** — **2 Fingers and a 12 Pack Tour** — For mature audiences. 6:30 p.m. March 24
 - **Sam Morril** — **Class Act Tour 2023** — 5 and 8 p.m. March 25

- **Guster** — 6:30 p.m. March 26
- ST. AUGUSTINE AMPHITHEATRE**
1340C A1A South, St. Augustine
Box office hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturdays. Tickets sold at the box office are available via credit- and debit-card only. A valid ID is required for all box office transactions and ticket purchases must be made in person. Tickets may also be purchased at ticketmaster.com.
For further information about each act, go to theamp.com/events.
- **Koe Wetzel** — **The Road to Hell Paso Pt. 1** — With special guests Tyler Farr and Dylan Wheeler. 7:30 p.m. March 3.
 - **Joe Bonamassa** — 8 p.m. March 11
 - **The Avett Brothers** — 8 p.m. March 17 and 18
 - **Widespread Panic** — 7 p.m. March 24 and 25, and 6:30 p.m. March 26
 - **Lucius “Love So Deep Tour”** — Free event on the Backyard Stage. 7 p.m. March 31.

— Compiled by Shaun Ryan



Image from The St. Augustine Amphitheatre

The Moody Blues' John Lodge will perform “Days of Future Passed” on March 10 at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall.

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Sports



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Past president Shari Zeimetz (right) presents the 2021-22 Jacksonville Women's Golf Association Championship trophy to Susie Fonde.



Jim and Tabitha Furyk were recipients of the 2023 Deane Beman Award.

Photos courtesy of JAGA

Furyks celebrate award with \$10K donation to JAGA Trust

With a sellout audience of 200-plus in attendance at Sawgrass Country Club, longtime local residents Tabitha and Jim Furyk and other leaders and contributors to the game of golf were honored at the seventh Celebration of Golf Banquet presented by Circle K Feb. 22.

The Furyks received the evening's most prestigious honor, the Deane Beman Award, in recognition of their varied and outstanding contributions to the welfare and wellbeing of the less fortunate and in-need members of the community.

In a surprise development, the Furyks announced that the Jim and Tabitha Furyk Foundation would commit \$10,000 to the Jacksonville Amateur Golf Association charitable trust, with the trust selecting the Moore-Myers Children's Fund graduates, who will receive scholarship support from it over the next few years.

Moore-Myers is a JAGA member organization that strives to transform young lives by reinforcing key core values and to develop exceptional character using the game of golf as the vehicle.

The Deane Beman Award was established in 2015 to recognize individuals who have had significant and long-term impact on or through the game of golf in the greater Jacksonville area.

Unfortunately, Beman was unable to participate in the presentation after falling ill. However, in his absence,

USGA, PGA TOUR and PGA TOUR Champions winner and longtime Beman confidant Bob Dickson presented the award to the Furyks.

It was quite a day for the Furyks, as earlier in the day Jim Furyk received news that he was one of 12 finalists being considered for 2024 World Golf Hall of Fame induction.

The announcement about who will be part of the 2024 class will be made during the week of THE PLAYERS on March 6.

Since joining the PGA TOUR in 1994, Jim Furyk has won 17 titles and three on the PGA TOUR Champions, including the 2003 U.S. Open and the 2021 U.S. Senior Open. In 2010, he won the TOUR's grand prize, the FedEx Cup.

Tabitha Furyk has been a strong advocate of Jacksonville charities since joining the PGA TOUR Wives Association in 1995.

She initiated "These Kids Can Play" at THE PLAYERS and has hosted several Operation Shower events in support of local military.

She has been an active board member for a number of organizations including Community Hospice, Blessings in a Backpack, Wolfson and Baptist's Foundation Board and is the heart and soul of the Jim and Tabitha Furyk Foundation.

Residents of Ponte Vedra Beach and Jacksonville for 20-plus years, the Furyk family has focused on service, contri-



(Left to right) Jim and Tabitha Furyk, Richard Blackston and Dr. Justine Redding of Moore-Myers Children's Fund, and Duke Butler III of JAGA/Northern PGA Chapter.

butions and charitable leadership that will make lives better for families and children who are less fortunate across greater Jacksonville.

In 2020, their foundation's vision to help expanded with the announcement of the Constellation Furyk & Friends presented by Circle K, played at Timuquana Country Club in October.

In two editions of the event, it has generated more than \$2.5 million for area charities and was just voted "best tournament" by the PGA TOUR Champions players.

Prior to the tournament's creation, the foundation had raised more than \$4.5 million for local charities bringing the total impact to more than \$7 million.

The banquet was sponsored by Circle K and conducted by the Jacksonville Area Golf Association and Northern Chapter of the North Florida PGA with the support of the Jacksonville Women's Golf Association, North Florida Golf Superintendents Association, First Coast Women's Amateur and host Sawgrass Country Club.

THE PLAYERS Profiles: Rory McIlroy, Scottie Scheffler, Collin Morikawa

With one week to go until the strongest field in golf reconvenes at TPC Sawgrass, THE PLAYERS Championship sets the stage for the 2023 championship by profiling three of the biggest names in the sport who are among the favorites to create their defining moment on their way to hoisting THE PLAYERS Championship trophy.

Rory McIlroy

The 2019 PLAYERS Champion and reigning FedExCup Champion began the new season the same way he ended the last one — lifting a trophy. McIlroy successfully defended his title at THE CJ CUP in South Carolina in October to reclaim World No. 1 and become the first player since Tiger Woods in 2008 to win in his season debut after claiming the FedExCup. Now World No. 3 with the top spot having changed hands in recent weeks, McIlroy returns to a com-

fortable venue in TPC Sawgrass where he won in the event's return to March in 2019. The defining moment that day for the 23-time PGA TOUR winner came at the 15th hole, where after a drive that landed in the fairway bunker, McIlroy blasted his approach to 13 feet to set up an unlikely birdie.

Scottie Scheffler

With a PGA TOUR-high four victories during the 2022-23 season, Scottie Scheffler's breakthrough performance in his third full season on TOUR earned him PGA TOUR Player of the Year honors. Through six starts this season, Scheffler is already producing an impressive encore, totaling four top-10s and a successful title defense at the WM Phoenix Open, where he momentarily recaptured World No. 1. At THE PLAYERS, the native Texan is still in search of his first solid showing, missing the cut

in his debut in 2021 (was in the field for the canceled 2020 event) and posting a T55 in 2022.

Collin Morikawa

Having emerged as one of the top players in the game the past two years, Collin Morikawa is in search of his first TOUR win since the 2021 Open Championship and will look to use his ball-striking prowess to add THE PLAYERS Championship to his list of prestigious titles. The Californian's performance so far in 2023 suggests he is trending positively toward Pete Dye's Stadium Course, with top-10 results in three of his four stars highlighted by a runner-up at the Sentry Tournament of Champions. In two previous starts at THE PLAYERS, Morikawa has only managed a T41, but closed with a 66 in 2022 to take some momentum into TPC Sawgrass this time around.

File photo



Holes

Continued from 18

like it. The hole name? Risk. No need to explain why.

And now, the loveable, hated, despised, detested 17th. The Island Green. We'd like to call it Chomp for the alligator that lives in the lake, but people have been calling it the Island Green for so long that nobody will recognize it as anything else. Deane's Nightmare isn't bad either, but again Island Green wins out. Pitch N Putt is descriptive, but nobody wants to name this thing anything other than the name it has gotten over time. The Island Green, once and for all. Could have called it Tway for Bob Tway and his 12 there, but people are just not going to recognize that as the name of this meanspirited little clump of grass. Island Green, it is. Or even Island, for short.

Finally, one of the hardest holes on the course, which usually trades off with the 14th. It's — ta da! — the 18th. The tee shot has to be squeezed into a fairway that's slanting away from the golfer. If he's lucky, his drive doesn't go into the trees on the right. There's a choice, in names, really. It could be Splash, to memorialize Jerry Pate's victory in 1982. But it could just as easily be Dive, Dive, Dive. For now, we are going with Splash, but you can convince us that it needs to go the other way.

Now aren't those better than just the second hole? Or the 11th? We think so.

Maybe next year, we can start naming the hazards, but it's doubtful we'll come up with anything as interesting as the ones at The Old Course at St. Andrews. They have names like the Principal's Nose. Coffin. Hell. Spectacles. Strath. Road. And more. Each one has some kind of a story that goes with it. We may not be that lucky.

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- ACROSS**
1. Relaxing place
 4. Plant by scattering
 7. A type of explorer
 12. Unique traits
 15. Lady
 16. Dismayed
 18. Railway
 19. Type of whale
 20. Sodium
 21. Manning and Lilly are two
 24. Where golfers begin
 27. Entrapped
 30. Influential punk artist
 31. Hebrew calendar month
 33. Car mechanics group
 34. Undesirable rodent
 35. Minneapolis suburb
 37. Witch
 39. Get free of
 41. A written proposal or reminder
 42. British School
 44. Country on west coast of Africa
 47. Cool!
 48. Information
 49. ___ route
 50. Jim Nantz's network
 52. Something to register (abbr.)
 53. Give cards incorrectly
 56. One who's learning on the job
 61. Stevenson adventure novel
 63. Taking careful notice
 64. CNN's founder
 65. Speak badly of
- DOWN**
1. A person with unusual powers of foresight
 2. Single sheet of glass
 3. Portrays a character
 4. Expresses happiness
 5. Acquires
 6. "The Martian" author
 7. Degree
 8. 60-minute intervals
 9. A detective's pal
 10. Group of nations (abbr.)
 11. Popular Georgia rockers
 12. Fencing swords
 13. Basement
 14. Samoan monetary unit
 17. Male parent
 22. Finnish lake
 23. A smooth fabric
 24. Arctic explorers (abbr.)
 25. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
 26. Very willing
 28. Expressed pleasure
 29. Lasso
 32. Hindu model of ideal man
 34. Move your head in approval
 35. Ill-___; gained illegally
 36. Die
 38. Accused publicly
 40. Precious stone
 41. Individual thing or person
 43. Behaved in a way that degraded
 44. Derogatory term
 45. No seats available
 46. Liability
 47. Popular beverage
 48. Tough outer skin of fruit
 49. ___ Spumante (Italian wine)
 50. Troubles
 51. Negative
 52. Camper

SUDOKU

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Level: Advanced

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 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!



Photo courtesy of Ponte Vedra High boys basketball
The Ponte Vedra Sharks boys basketball team is headed back to the Class 6A final four for the second consecutive season.

Sharks punch ticket to second straight final four

By Jim Moyes

Ponte Vedra is headed back to the Final Four for the second straight season thanks to their 72-61 victory over Gainesville High in a regional final played in Ponte Vedra Feb. 24.

After losing four starters from last year's state runner-up team, the Sharks reloaded as they just got better as the season progressed.

Case in point — the Sharks were overwhelmed by Gainesville in an earlier pre-season clash by 16 points.

Setting the tone on the evening was the lone starter back from last season's team, Nate Bunkosky.

The four-year starter and invaluable point guard ignited the Sharks victory in the opening quarter by drilling a trio of three-pointers as the home team busted out to an early 21-12 lead.

The visiting Hurricanes bounced back to close the gap to 32-31 at the halftime break, and even took a short-lived lead in the third quarter.

With some precision passing and even better shooting, the Sharks reclaimed the lead thanks to a pair of made three-pointers from juniors Sam Ritchie and Brendon Hynes to take a 51-43 lead into the game's final eight minutes.

Bunkosky got the Sharks off on the right foot in the final quarter by notching a three-pointer to pad their lead to 11 points at 54-43.

The closest Gainesville would close the gap on the Sharks lead was seven

points, as the winners never lost their poise against the frantic pressure defense applied by the Hurricanes.

Ponte Vedra picked the perfect night to have their best shooting performance from beyond the arc, as they made a season-high 12 three-pointers, four each from Bunkosky and Sam Ritchie.

It was a disappointing end to the season for the large contingent of followers from Gainesville, that included potential first round pick in the upcoming NFL draft and Florida Gators quarterback Anthony Richardson.

A pair of future Division 1 players Theo Stephens and 6-foot-8-inch Josh Hayes ended their careers with 25 and 15 points respectively.

However, when Hayes fouled out late in the contest, it proved to be the final blow for Gainesville.

Sam Ritchie led the balanced Sharks scoring attack with 21 points, while Bunkosky added 17 points, six assists and three steals and Israel Nuhu neutralized his counterpart Hayes in the middle with 14 points and 10 rebounds.

The Sharks will play in the state semifinals where their next opponent will be Wekiva (24-6), 67-64 winners in their regional final against Lakeland.

If the Sharks prevail and win against Wekiva, they would face the winner of the other semifinal pitting top-ranked Dwyer (27-1) vs. Wharton (24-6).

The Sharks will tip off against Wekiva in Lakeland at 8 p.m. March 2.

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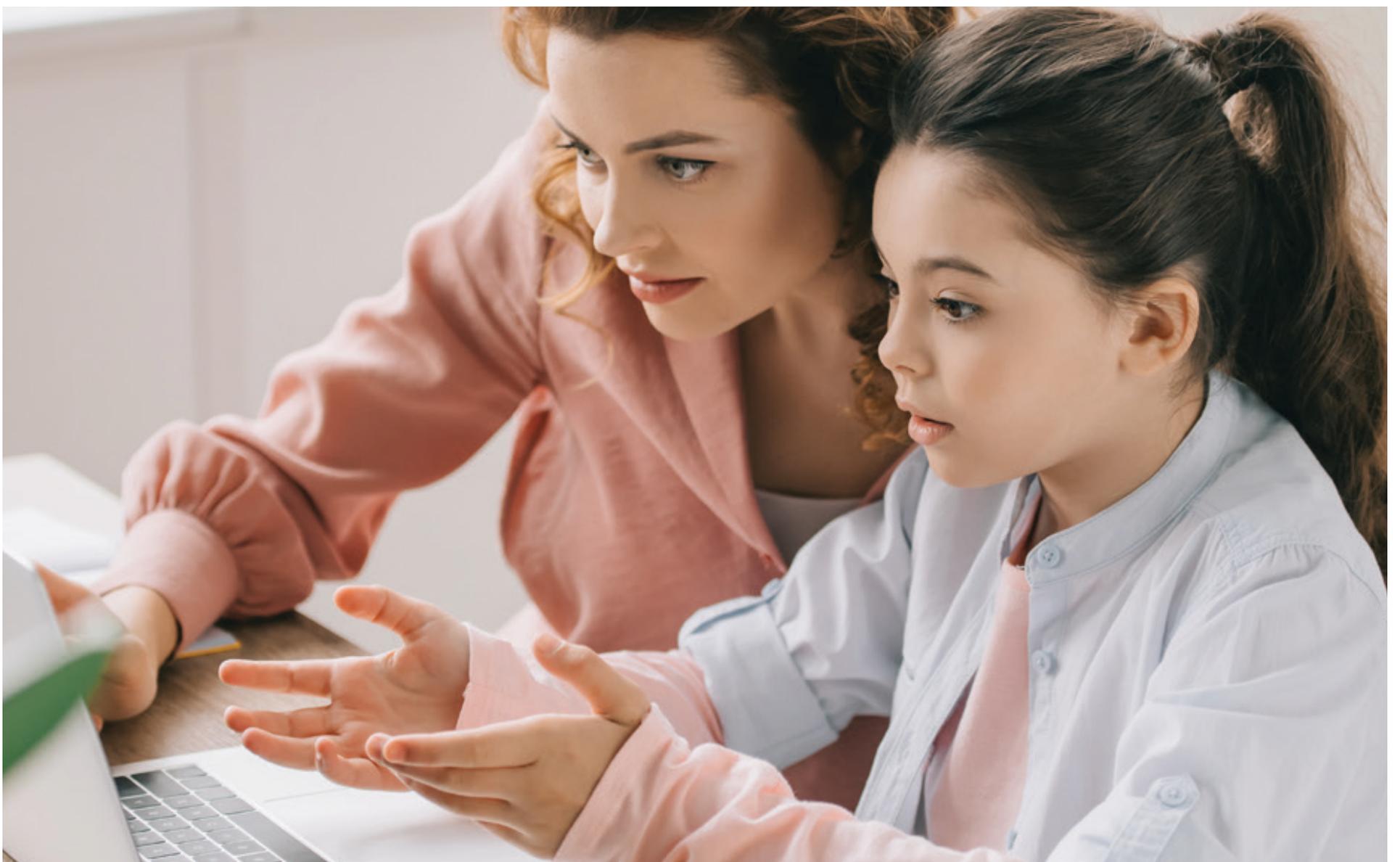
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