

Thursday, October 10, 2024

PonteVedraRecorder.com

VOLUME 55, NO. 50 \$1.00

DONNA 5K is Oct. 12

For The Recorder

The DONNA Foundation will celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness Month with the organization's annual The DONNA 5K at TPC Sawgrass on Saturday, Oct. 12. Celebrating its 17th running, the annual 5K event serves as the final race in the DONNA 2024 Fearless Series, presented by Wingard Marketing & Communications.

The race will take place on the back nine of THE PLAYERS Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass, a beautiful stretch of the famous championship golf course property. As part of its philanthropic efforts, THE PLAYERS has issued a \$10,000 matching gift challenge for fundraisers. To date, the foundation has raised more than \$35,000.

"Making an impact in our community is one of the cornerstones of THE PLAYERS," said Lee Smith, executive director of THE PLAYERS. "The DONNA Foundation is one of our longstanding partners, aligning with our mission to serve the Northeast Florida community by supporting nonprofits making an impact in health, wellness and sports. The DONNA

DONNA continues on Page 20



Women in **Business** Page 27



Gold and Silver Memberships are Perfect for busy families seeking convenience and connection! **GOLD** Membership -\$2,500 a year (~\$3,500 value!) -Family Membership

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-Family Membership -Lobby Coworking Access -24 Kids Night Out Passes -One Week of Summer Camp -10% off Ticketed Events

Furyk & **Friends** battles rain, decided in playoff

By Anthony Richards

Rocco Mediate and Bob Estes were in contention throughout the 2024 Constellation Furyk & Friends, so it was only fitting that the two went to a playoff where the 61-year-old Mediate outlasted Estes for the tournament victory.

Both finished the three-day PGA Tour Champions showcase with a score of 12-under and after they each parred the No. 18 hole, Mediate eventually won the battle after Estes bogeyed No. 18 the second time around in the sudden death playoff format.

Mediate parred the hole once again and claimed

FURYK continues on Page 36

stellat tion Photo by Anthony Richards

Fred Couples hits a tee shot at the 2024 Furyk & Friends.









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Send us your news

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



Visit our new website at www.pontevedrarecorder.com

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

BRIEFS FOL Speaker explores Ponte Vedra's

Sister City Local historian, entrepreneur and storyteller Gary Sass will shine a light on Ponte Vedra's history as he explores "A Tale of Two Cities - Pontevedra, Spain, and Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida." Sass wraps up the 2024 season of the FOL Speaker Series with his talk at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 15, at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library.

Sass is president of AdLib Luxury Tours & Transportation and has personally conducted more than 100 different tours in North Florida, mostly in Jacksonville and St. Augustine. He's a member of the Jacksonville Historical Society and St. Augustine Historical Society. When he is not giving tours, you can find him on the trail as the History Hiker or experiencing activities in North Florida.

Thanks to the Friends of the Ponte Vedra Beach Library, the program is free and open to the public. The doors to the FOL Community Room open at 6 p.m. and the program begins at 6:30 p.m.

Palm Valley Market every Tuesday

The Palm Valley Market is held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Tuesday inside the Palm Valley Community Center, 148 Canal Road. The market offers fresh produce, baked goods, local honey, tea, seasonal treats, soap, jewelry, plants and more.

Family seining activity planned

Join a guided family seining activity from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, at Guana Tolomato Matanzas (GTM) National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Learn about the animals and their roles in Guana Lake by pulling a seine net and collecting species of fish, crabs and other marine life.

Meet at GTM Research Reserve Guana Dam, 505 Guana River Road, Ponte Vedra

Beach.

Register online at gtmnerr.org/visit/ events.

The event is free, but parking is \$3 per vehicle. All necessary gear (waders and boots) will be provided. Hat, insect repellent, water and sunscreen are recommended.

Learn about wildflowers

A five-week course on wildflowers will start Saturday, Oct. 12, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Guana Tolomato Matanzas (GTM) National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Learn about plant characteristics such as seasonal blooms, growing wildflowers at home, native plant societies, botanical gardens and locations in Florida where native wildflowers can be seen, plus instruction for the use of online tools such as iNaturalist.

Meet at the GTM Research Reserve Visitor Center, 505 Guana River Road, Ponte Vedra Beach.

The price for the course is \$175 for members of Friends of GTM Research Reserve and \$225 for non-members. Register online at gtmnerr.org/visit/events.

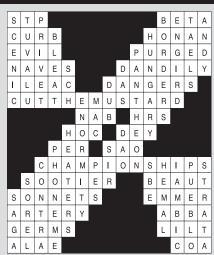
Garden Center Day is Oct. 17

Ribault Garden Club, 705 Second Ave. North, Jacksonville Beach, will hold its Garden Center Day from 10 a.m. to noon Oct. 17. Guest speaker will be Sara Cheshire of Barn Yard Farms. Her topic will be "Micro Greens." Chef Shane, founder of Barn Yard Farms where he has been a chef for more than 30 years, will also speak. He has used his culinary and expertise to grow microgreens, gourmet mushrooms & farm fresh produce.

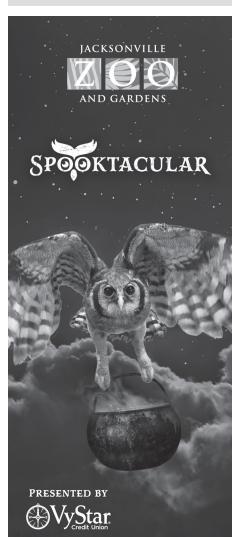
The event is open to the public. There will be refreshments, door prizes and more. Admission is free.

— Compiled by Shaun Ryan

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



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



OCTOBER

Thinking of Advertising in the Recorder? 3-6 • 10-13 • 17-20 • 24-31 For more info, call (904) 285-8831 to speak with a Sales Rep.

Send us your Best of the Beaches nominations

The Recorder has launched its second annual Best of the Beaches contest, featuring businesses in Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Atlantic Beach and Ponte Vedra Beach. This includes businesses in ZIP codes 32250, 32266, 32233 and 32082.

Readers will have the chance to nominate their favorite businesses in various categories online, such as auto & transportation, home & finance, food & drink and more!

From best new business to best charity event, best real estate agent to best personal trainer and best seafood to best boutique, the categories run the gamut and are sure to include your favorite things.

Nominations will be taken from Oct. 4 to Nov. 10 at https://pontevedrarecorder.com/bestofbeaches2024. Anyone can

nominate a business or person, and there is no limit to the number of nominations each person can submit.

Online voting will begin once nominations are complete, from Nov. 11 to Dec. 2.

The nominees who receive the most votes will be named 2024 Best of the Beaches. Nominations and voting are completely free and open to the public.

The Best Of platform on The Re-



corder's website will feature lists of nominees in an easy-to-use format. Nominees can participate in advertising packages that promote their entry by expanding their listing to feature additional details on the business. Winners will receive a free certificate and a Best of the Beaches window cling. Each winner will also be listed in our Best of the Beaches special section and on the winner's website.

Winners will be announced with publication of the special section on Dec. 26.

For more information or to find out how to get your nominated business or product involved in promotions that will be going on throughout the contest cycle, contact publisher Susan Griffin, email susan@pontevedrarecorder.





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"Beyond Triathlon" is a new documentary presented by Jacksonville Film Festival that showcases the inspiring stories of women fighting for their rightful place in the world of master competitive sports.

'Beyond Triathlon': New documentary gives voice to Jacksonville luminaries

For The Recorder

"Beyond Triathlon," a new documentary presented by Jacksonville Film Festival that showcases the inspiring stories of women fighting for their rightful place in the world of master competitive sports, is set to debut on Oct. 12 at the University of North Florida's Lazzara Performing Arts Center.

This film stars North Florida philanthropist Dorothy S. "Dottie" Dorion and features Jacksonville Mayor Donna Deegan and Olympic Gold Medalist Nancy Hogshead. It takes viewers on an emotional and empowering journey, highlighting the resilience and determination of women athletes who have paved the way for future generations.

"The stories told in 'Bevond Triathlon' are a testament to the strength, courage and perseverance of women who have refused to accept limitations," said Dorion. "This film is a tribute to all women who have fought for their rightful place in the world of sports and beyond."

Dorion, who serves as a central figure in the film, has been a trailblazer and advocate for women in sports for decades. She was instrumental in establishing triathlon as a mainstream sport and worked tirelessly to ensure its inclusion in major athletic events. From competing to coaching and organizing, her efforts were pivotal during the early days of triathlon, a time when the sport was still finding its footing and gaining recognition.

She is very well known for her leadership and advocacy for gender equality in athletics. Her philanthropic work has had a profound impact on the Jacksonville community, and her dedication to empowering women and girls through sports and education is a driving force behind the documentary's message.

Joining Dorion in this narrative is Deegan, a renowned advocate for health and wellness. Deegan was a longtime news anchor for NBC affiliate First Coast News, and founder of The Donna Foundation and the annual DONNA Marathon, which supports those affected by breast cancer.

Jacksonville attorney Nancy Hogshead received three gold medals and a silver in the 1984 Los Angeles Summer Olympics. After retiring from competitive swimming, she pursued a successful career in law and is a prominent advocate for Title IX- the federal law that prohibits gender discrimination in education, including sports. She is a strong proponent of gender equity and women's rights in sports, and like the women in the film whose efforts paved the way for future generations. Hogshead is committed to fighting

DOCUMENTARY continues on Page 8

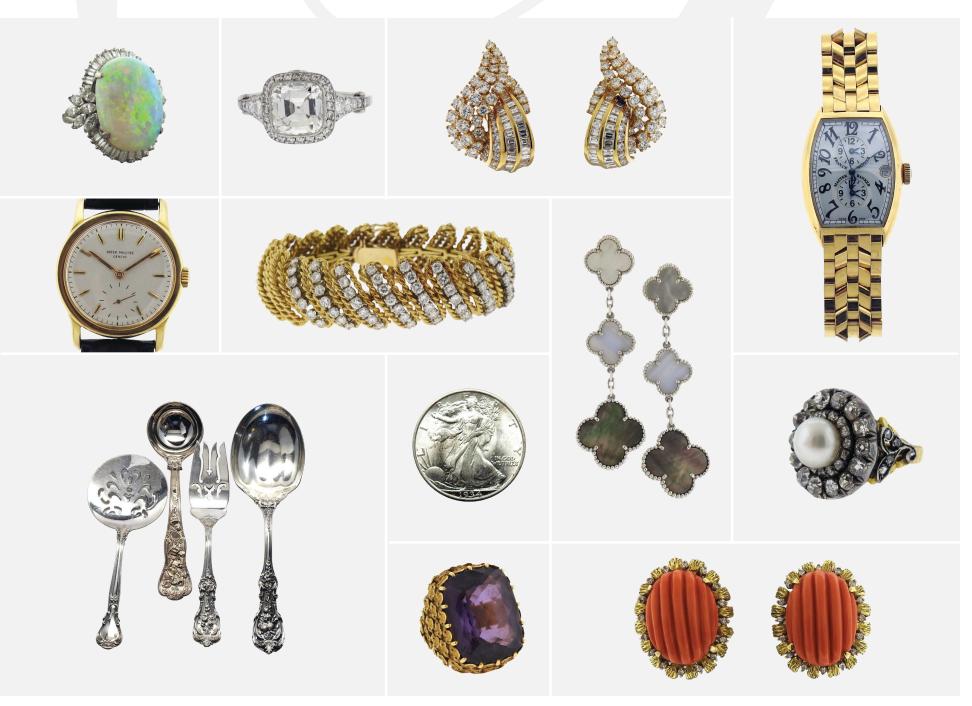




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Ponte Vedra: Friday, October 25th 10-5 Saturday, October 26th 10-5

CALL TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

6 ONE OF US

Jeri Millard understands the challenges that come with breast cancer, having survived it herself. Today, she operates In The Pink, a special nonprofit shop in Jacksonville Beach that offers a comprehensive supply of products and services specifically for others battling, or having survived, breast cancer. She's also a key member of a local dragon boat club, which has a team comprised solely of breast cancer survivors. Her story is one of great challenges and great victories with the power to inspire others.

As told to Shaun Ryan

Tell me about your journey as a breast cancer survivor.

In 2000, I was diagnosed with breast cancer while we were living in Hawaii on the day my husband was retiring from the Navy.

So, we were getting ready to move to San Diego, where my husband was taking a job.

Thirty days from diagnosis, I had both breasts removed and chose to have what is called tram flap reconstruction. That's where they remove your stomach muscles. It was a 13-hour surgery.

So, I had complications with that. The stomach would never heal. I was in bed for a year.

Five months later, once they got the wound to close, I started chemotherapy. I finished with that in April 2001.

Then, they wanted to put me on some medication, following chemotherapy. It's called tamoxifen. I didn't like how I felt and so I flew out to Jacksonville, which is where we knew we wanted to retire.

Flew out to Jacksonville, to Mayo Clinic. Met Dr. Edith Perez, one of the gurus of breast cancer. And she told me I did not need to stay on that medication, that there were other options that we can do.

So, I flew home and told my husband, "We're moving to Jacksonville." [Laughs] So, he told his employer that he needed to move for my health care.

I had kept a notebook while I was in San Diego about all the things that I thought should be provided. Like, why did I have to go over here to find a wig? And why did I have to go over to another place to find this? I thought: why couldn't we do all this in one place?

So, I started looking for properties in Jacksonville where I could make that happen. I had this vision in my head of what is now In The Pink.

I walked into this location in Jacksonville Beach. At the time it was a children's store.

Anyway, I walked through it, and I thought: This is exactly what I want. ... But, unfortunately, this house was taken.

So, I guess God sort of intervened.

Because of the surgery that I had chosen to have, when you remove your stomach muscles, something's got to make up for it. And it was my back.

So, my back — L4, L5 — blew up. It broke into big pieces. And when a big chunk of it went into the cauda equina, I was paralyzed from the waist down.

Needless to say, I had to put the idea of having In The Pink on hold for a while, like three years.

They did major neurosurgery on me and picked the pieces out of my back and kind of put me all together again. Then I had to relearn to walk.

I was in physical therapy for three years.

You don't know when you're paralyzed, so I went to stand and my legs wouldn't hold me up. And I rolled my ankle when I fell. I ripped two tendons, one in the foot and one in the leg.

A led to B led to C led to D. It just went on and on, and I thought: When does this nightmare end?

They weren't really concerned about my ankle, even though my foot and my ankle were completely swollen, because they were more concerned about me not being paralyzed anymore.

When I did wake up from the surgery, my right leg was



no longer paralyzed, but both my feet were, and my left leg has never regained the feeling that it should have. So, I have partial paralysis from it.

So, I went to physical therapy, and I kept asking them, "What about my ankle?"

I saw a physician about that. He said it would probably be a better heal if we let it heal on its own. So, they put me in one of those gigantic boots ...

But as soon as I would walk on it, it would tear again. Finally, in 2008, they did surgery on my ankle, to tie those two torn ligaments to my ankle.

It was a long journey. All because of some of the choices I had made. One of the things I try to tell people when I'm working with them today is we make choices, and those are choices that we have to live with. You can never really look back and say, "Why did I do that?" Of course, we all do that in our head for a moment, but you can't get stuck there. Because there's nothing you can do about it.

Once I could drive again, I was driving by this property [the current location of her shop, In The Pink], and it had a "for lease" sign out front. I got so excited that I drove home — I lived in Ponte Vedra at the time — and told my husband, "That property that I want is available."

This was 2009. The economy, the bottom had fallen out of it. It was a really bad time. A really hard time to start a

business, especially one that no one had ever heard of. I had forgotten to write down the phone number, so I looked it up on the Jacksonville tax rolls and found the property, found the owner, and called her and she said, "I already have five people who are interested in it."

I said, "Well, could I meet you there?" Because I kept thinking: If I can tell her what I want to do in this place, maybe ...

So, I did meet her up here and she loved the idea. So, In The Pink was born.

I had to apply to become a nonprofit. That took me nine months, but in the meantime, I had the shop.

There was no classification for it through the IRS. We're the only one in the United States that does all the comprehensive things that we do as a nonprofit.

There were a lot of places you can go to get wigs. There were places you could go to get fitted for mastectomy products, but none of them that did all of it under one roof.

We have free yoga for cancer patients, all the mastectomy products, and I'm a certified fitter and so are some of my staff. We have wigs. We do compression garments, which is a really big deal nowadays. Radiation cream. You name it, we have it.

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Recorder







NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN!

The Recorder presents the second annual **Best of the Beaches**, featuring your favorite businesses in Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Atlantic Beach and Ponte Vedra Beach! This includes businesses in zip codes 32250, 32266, 32233, and 32082.

Readers now have the chance to nominate their favorite businesses in various categories online, such as auto & transportation, home & finance, food & drink and more! Online voting will begin once nominations are complete.

Give your favorite business the recognition they deserve, and nominate them as the Best of the Best in their category!

NOMINATIONS BEGIN: October 4 - November 10

VOTING BEGINS: November 11 - December 2

WINNERS ANNOUNCED/ WINNER'S CIRCLE PUBS: Thursday, December 26



Documentary Continued from 4

for the rights of women in sports.

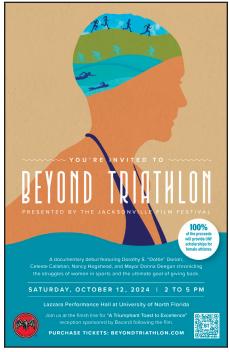
While not a resident of Jacksonville, Celeste Callahan also stars in "Beyond Triathlon" and is a pioneer in the world of triathlon, recognized for her contributions to the sport's development.

She has been both a competitor and an organizer and has been especially instrumental in fostering a community for master athletes and those who compete in sports later in life. Her work emphasizes the importance of sports and physical activity at all ages, promoting health, wellness and competitive spirit among older adults.

Callahan's dedication to the sport and her fellow athletes has made her a respected and inspirational figure within the athletic community, particularly among those who continue to pursue their sporting passions later in life.

Giving voice to the "Beyond Triathlon" film is Sika Henry, the first African-American woman to earn her pro card in triathlon, a significant milestone in the sport. Her journey to becoming a professional triathlete is marked by perseverance, determination and a commitment to breaking barriers in a sport where diversity is often lacking.

"Beyond Triathlon's" debut will be



Contributed photos

followed by a Triumphant Toast to Excellence reception sponsored by Bacardi, with all proceeds from the event benefiting women's athletic scholarships at the University of North Florida. This initiative aligns with the documentary's mission to support and uplift female athletes as they pursue their goals.

Tickets for the debut screening and reception are now available and can be purchased online at https://beyondtriath-lon.com.



www.pontevedrarecorder.com/bestofbeaches2024

THE **RECORDE**

First Coast Design Show to benefit Wolfson Children's Hospital

For The Recorder

The Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital will present the 2024 First Coast Design Show, celebrating the "Art of Style" on Dec. 6-8 at the Prime F. Osborn Convention Center.

Benefiting Wolfson's Children's Hospital, the annual event will immerse attendees in the world of design, featuring some of the country's finest artists, designers, exhibitors and experiences.

Over the past 50 years, The Women's Board has raised more than \$36 million for Wolfson Children's Hospital, the only full-service children's hospital between Orlando and Atlanta. The group of committed, philanthropic-hearted volunteers are committed to raising \$1.5 million by the end of 2024 to fund two Kids Kare Mobile ICUs, which serve more than 3,000 children and infants each year.

This year's show has a lineup of design

lectures, immersive experiences and the beloved Children's Fashion Show. Guests will be inspired by the infallible style of the following renowned interior design experts:

• Mark Sikes, Friday, Dec. 6 at 10 a.m. An esteemed interior designer and tastemaker who has worked on projects throughout the United States and abroad, including the White House and Blair House, Sikes is known for all-American sensibilities and a fresh take on classical aesthetics.

• Amanda Lindroth, Saturday, Dec. 7 at 10 a.m. An early career in fashion brought her to New York, where she worked for W Magazine and Women's Wear Daily, and later to Europe as the UK PR director at Gucci during its renaissance in the 1990s. After relocating to the Bahamas, Lindroth began decorating for commercial projects and private homes. Her projects embody the spirit of island living paired with a deep respect for classical design and architecture.

• Ellen Kavanaugh, Saturday, Dec. 7, at 2 p.m. With a 20-year career dedicated to crafting inviting, layered and dynamic spaces, Kavanaugh is recognized as one of the region's most sought-after designers. Her work has notably contributed to the evolution and preservation of the iconic Palm Beach aesthetic. It has been featured in acclaimed publications such as Veranda, Architectural Digest, House Beautiful and Southern Living.

In addition to the lectures, attendees can participate in exclusive immersive experiences, including:

• Flower Workshop with Ashley Woodson Bailey, Friday, Dec. 6 at 1 p.m.

• Mahjong with Mahjong in the South, Saturday, Dec. 7 at 12:30 p.m. (Previous experience is required) • Cocktail Demonstration with Taverna, Saturday, Dec. 7 at 3 p.m.

Tickets for all events are on sale now. Individual tickets are required for each lecturer and immersive experience. Immersive experiences are limited to 40 tickets and are expected to sell out quickly. For more information and to purchase tickets, go to firstcoastdesignshow.com.



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Golf scramble raises crucial funds for mammograms

By Shaun Ryan

The 5th Annual Ladies Pink Ribbon 9-Hole Golf Tournament at Marsh Landing Country Club was a big success, taking in more than double the proceeds from last year. In addition to the friendly golfing competition, there was lunch and a spectacular raffle, but the event was about more than simply having a lot of fun.

It will also save lives.

That's because 100% of the proceeds will go to Pink Ribbon Jax, an all-volunteer nonprofit group that raises funds for patient services, research and free mammograms. The last of these was the focus of the fundraiser, though the event was a significant vehicle for education, as well. Outside the clubhouse, the shaded lanes were lined by many, many pink flags, each dedicated to a breast cancer survivor or a courageous warrior claimed by the disease. The sea of pink flags stood as a stark reminder of the high cost of breast cancer in terms of human life. According to Marica Pendjer, Pink Ribbon Jax chair, mammography rates plummeted in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"That's why we've focused our efforts on making sure that uninsured and underinsured women and men — men get breast cancer, too — are taken care of in our community," Pendjer said.

She said she doesn't want people to have to choose between feeding their family and having a screening.

"We want to keep them alive, and we know that if caught early, breast cancer is 99% treatable," she said.

The statistics are sobering. One in eight women will get breast cancer in her lifetime. But there's good news, as well. According to Pendjer, breast cancer survivors comprise the largest group of cancer survivors.

"There are about 4 million breast can-

GOLF continues on Page 12 a



The winning foursome was comprised of, from left, Angela Brubaker, Anne Roy, Vicki Arnold and Mary Tolton.

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About 40 golfers participated in the fifth annual event, which raised funds to pay for free mammograms for those in need.

Golf

Continued from 10

cer survivors," she said, recognizing that this is both encouraging and devastating at the same time.

One of those helping out at the Oct. 2 event was Mike Duckworth, the head golf professional at Marsh Landing. Like many of those at the tournament, the cause was personal.

"This event here is really dear to my

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heart because my grandmother had breast cancer and survived," he said. "So, it's something I was glad to be a part of."

Duckworth did the scoring and made the announcements. He said this year's event included some really good prizes. In fact, there was an impressive list of donations made by restaurants, the golf shop, boutiques, businesses and services from all over Northeast Florida. There were complimentary lessons, baskets, wine decanters, gift certificates and prizes of all types.

EBRATING



Some of the many pink flags dedicated to breast cancer survivors as well as those claimed by the disease are seen outside the Marsh Landing clubhouse.

"Everybody's been so generous," said Maggie Kelly, who with Joanne Ghiloni, co-chaired the event for the second consecutive year.

This year, those buying raffle tickets didn't have to be present to win, which increased the pool of hopefuls. That, and the pronounced excellence of the raffle prizes, probably accounts for the fact that this year's event generated so much more funding.

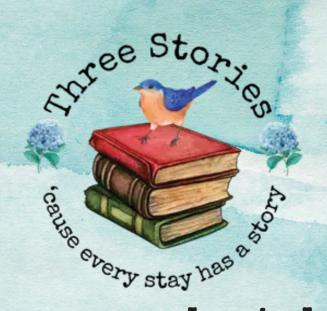
"People have been extremely responsive, extremely generous," said Ghiloni. She said breast cancer claimed her niece, who was just 24 years old.

Kelly, too, had first-hand experience with the disease. She's a survivor, and has been for five years.

The actual scramble attracted about 40 players, who came from all around the area. The winners were Anne Roy, Vicki Arnold, Mary Tolton and Angela Brubaker.

Anyone who would like to donate to Pink Ribbon Jax can learn more at pinkribbonjax.org.





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Collaborative network seeks to improve women's health outcomes

For The Recorder

Community health care, technology and higher education partners, including Mayor Donna Deegan, Delores Barr Weaver Legacy Funds, GuideWell/Florida Blue, Jacksonville University, the Mayo Clinic in Florida and the University of North Florida recently joined 300 community leaders to celebrate the creation of the Women's Health Innovation Network (WHIN), a community network focused on leveraging technology and innovation to improve women's health outcomes.

WHIN is launching a first-of-its-kind "collaboratory" a collaborative laboratory — that will include an incubator and accelerator for innovators creating products and services to help solve health issues that affect women solely, differently or disproportionately.

These innovators will be guided by mentors in earlystage startup formation, and by experts in technology, medicine, health sciences and education in a dedicated, state-of-the-art space on the GuideWell/Florida Blue Deerwood campus.

"Research tells us that 93% of the most underfunded health conditions affect mainly women, and that closing the women's health gap could add \$1 trillion to the global economy each year," said Deegan. "Here in Jacksonville, we are fortunate to have some of the best health care institutions in the country with the talent and resources to create and grow startups. WHIN will foster the cutting-edge research discoveries, products and services that improve the health of our community and contribute to our local economy at the same time."

"At GuideWell and Florida Blue, we believe innovation and collaboration are key to improving the health and well-being of our communities," said Pat Geraghty, president and CEO of GuideWell and Florida Blue. "As a health solutions company, we're committed to harnessing the power of innovation to drive meaningful change. The Women's Health Innovation Network represents a powerful opportunity to bring together diverse talents and expertise to tackle pressing health challenges facing women. We're proud to be a part of this initiative and look forward to seeing its transformative impact."

WHIN will guide cohorts of talented individuals from a cross-sector of the community through the phases of innovation, including ideation, problem-solving, entrepreneurial training, partnership development, startup funding and commercialization of products and services.

The initiative is led by two experts in their fields: Jane Muir, who launched the University of Florida's innovation hub, which has generated thousands of jobs and attracted millions of dollars in private investment; and Dr. Christine Sapienza, a longtime Jacksonville University health care sciences educator, researcher and co-inventor of the globally used Expiratory Muscle Strength Trainer for patient care.

"Innovation happens when you bring together people

with a diverse set of talents, who each look at challenges from a different perspective and bring their expertise to bear to address those challenges in ways not previously considered. There exists an unprecedented opportunity to apply today's technological advancements — such as 3D printing for organ transplant, robotics for assistive surgeries, artificial intelligence to quickly analyze datasets and correlate them for personalized medicine ---- to conditions that impact the health and well-being of women everywhere," said Muir, founding executive director of WHIN. "We have a tremendous opportunity to help build companies that will employ local talent in the industries of the future, translate research discoveries into new products and services, attract millions of dollars in federal funding and private investment and generate substantial revenues that will help Northeast Florida become the small business capital of the southeast."

As a collaborative network, WHIN is leveraging the expertise, talent development, research and support of Jacksonville University and the University of North Florida.

"The nexus of talent, our region's medical and higher education ecosystems, and technology and health care expertise make Northeast Florida the ideal place to launch a collaborative like WHIN," said Jacksonville University President Tim Cost. "Building on our own investments in health care education, STEM and entrepreneurship, Jack-

HEALTH continues on Page 15





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Health Continued from 14

sonville University is proud to support WHIN alongside critical partners whose knowledge and passion will benefit the health and economic prosperity of our region."

"As a leader in bringing together research, medicine and innovation, the University of North Florida is proud to be part of the Women's Health Innovation Network," said UNF President Moez Limayem. "Together, we will help create environments where women can prioritize their health, allowing them to flourish in every aspect of life."

In August, WHIN partnered with the Mayo Clinic in Florida and numerous other entities to submit a grant proposal to the National Science Foundation. If awarded, the grant would catalyze groundbreaking research and innovation, using a research model that incorporates space medicine and the power of microgravity as a tool to study accelerated cell growth, such as in cancer and aging. Incorporating sex as a biological variable in this research taking into account the specific differences in women's bodies — will help drive transformative and equitable advancements in health care that will shape the future of all patient care.

"This collaboration is a critical component of bringing more needed federal resources to our communities, which is something that really inspires us at the Mayo Clinic in Florida," said Dr. Alfredo Quiñones-Hinojosa, director of research for the Mayo Clinic in Florida. "We are so excited about our future and our partnership with WHIN - our community is primed to change the world."

In the coming months, WHIN will welcome its first aspiring innovators to its Deerwood campus:

• WHIN Huddles on Nov. 7 and 14 will be dynamic, two-day sessions that leverage design-centered thinking to



Jacksonville Mayor Donna Deegan addresses the goals of WHIN.

explore challenges and solutions in regenerative health; • The collaboratory space on the GuideWell/Florida Blue Deerwood campus, building 300, will open in January;

• The inaugural WHIN Startup Primer in February will be an intensive 12-week program designed to guide aspiring entrepreneurs through the process of turning an idea into a successful business; and

• The Inaugural WHIN Accelerator Program cohort in April will be a 16-week program that connects early-stage women's health technology startups with the resources

they need to succeed. Through specialized mentoring and

business development, participants will refine their business models, optimize their operations and gain access to networks that can accelerate growth. Whether it's navigating the regulatory landscape or preparing for investment, the program is designed to help startups succeed faster and more effectively.

For more information about WHIN, to become a network member or supporter, or to apply to join the inaugural cohorts, go to whin.live.



Ocean of Sound puts on halftime show to remember

Ponte Vedra High's band, known as "Ocean of Sound," performed during halftime at the home football game between the Sharks and the Leesburg High Jackets on Oct. 3.

Photos by Anthony Richards







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Jacksonville commits \$50M to new Museum of Science & History

For The Recorder

The Museum of Science & History (MOSH) recently announced that the City of Jacksonville has committed \$50 million toward the construction of a new museum, to be disbursed through a three-year commitment in the City's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The Jacksonville City Council approved this funding as part of the 2025-2029 CIP on Sept. 24.

As part of the CIP funding agreement, MOSH will direct at least \$85 million in capital investment toward the design and construction of the new museum project. To date, the museum has secured more than \$40 million in philanthropic, corporate and private support for this project. Fundraising to cover additional needs related to the project will continue under the leadership of MOSH Genesis capital campaign chair Jill Davis and MOSH Chief Development Officer Maureen Mercho.

"MOSH is proud to be one of the signature projects poised to transform the Shipyards area of downtown. Formalizing this next phase of our partnership with the City of Jacksonville reinforces our shared commitment to seeing the new MOSH proceed with development," said Dr. Al Dove, CEO of MOSH. "On behalf of our team, I'd like to thank Mayor Donna Deegan, the Jacksonville City Council and the Downtown Investment Authority for collaborating with us to enact a true public-private partnership to serve the current and future residents of this great city."

MOSH has operated in its current location on the Southbank of Downtown Jacksonville since 1969 and has served the Northeast Florida community for more than 83 years. The museum's operations have since outgrown the 33,000

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to speak with a Sales Rep. today! square feet of usable exhibit space; the building of a new, state-of-the-art museum will significantly expand the organization's capacity to serve more students and visitors year-round.

"MOSH is an essential leader in our city's cultural landscape. With a larger location and cutting-edge exhibits, it will play an even greater role in attracting tourism to our downtown, cultivating curiosity and inspiring innovation among our next generation of leaders," said Deegan.

"The City Council has followed this project since its announcement, and we extend our collective thanks to the MOSH team for their dedication to get the project ready for this next step. We are all eager to see MOSH rise on the Northbank in the coming years," said City Council President Randy White.

For more information about the museum's future plans, go to MOSH-Genesis.com. To learn about donation opportunities, contact MOSHGenesis@ themosh.org.

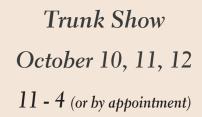


Landrum names "Students of the Month"

Principal Kasting has launched Landrum Middle School's new "Students of the Month" initiative, recognizing students for their exemplary character, resilience, academic performance and effort. The program kicked off with a celebration of the September honorees: sixth grader Kwame Edwards, seventh grader Mateus Salateo and eighth grader Camden Dickerson. Each student, selected by their teachers, enjoyed a special lunch in Kasting's office, sponsored by Chick-fil-A at Marsh Landing Parkway.



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MARCIAS

PLAC

DONNA Continued from 1

Foundation continues to make strides toward a breast-cancer-free future, and we are once again honored to be a part of the solution for patients and families alike here in our backyard."

"The 5K at TPC Sawgrass is one of our most beautiful events, where we honor survivors, patients, families and friends on a stunning stretch of the championship golf course," said Amanda Napolitano, executive director of The DONNA Foundation. "The event not only signifies the start of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, but it brings a sense of unity in our community, knowing we are running toward the finish line of breast cancer together. We have partnered with THE PLAYERS to produce 17 DONNA 5K events since 2009, and we can't wait to celebrate with all of our runners and supporters this October."

In alignment with Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the foundation will kick off the following initiatives:

Returning Oct. 1, The DONNA Foundation will launch its third annual DONNA 110 Mile-a-Day Challenge. The challenge encourages participants to walk one mile per day for 110 days, fin-

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ishing up just in time for the 2025 DON-NA Marathon Weekend in February. Recent studies have shown that regular exercise can reduce treatment-related adverse effects, as well as cancer-specific and overall mortality in breast cancer by up to 50%. Started in 2022, the annual challenge is going strong, accumulating more than 30,000 miles walked.

On Saturday, Oct. 5, join Jacksonville Mayor Donna Deegan and The DONNA Foundation for a Community Shakeout Run with running clubs across the First Coast. Free and open to the public, runners will meet up at 7 a.m. at the Lemon Bar in Neptune Beach.

DONNA Marathon Weekend Training will kick off on Saturday, Oct. 26, with the Jacksonville Galloway Training Program at 1st Place Sports (Beaches location). The free kickoff event will take place at 7 a.m. for a three-mile run/walk.

The organization also released its annual impact report recently. Since its inception in 2003, The DONNA Foundation has helped 20,647 breast cancer patients and their families, provided more than \$6.5 million in financial services through its DONNA CareLine, and donated more than \$3.3 million to groundbreaking breast cancer research. In 2024, the DONNA CareLine program served 1,103 patients, delivering \$738,001 in financial services and debt relief, with more than \$54,000 in direct financial aid.

According to surveys, the financial need has continued to grow, with patients needing help with utilities, housing, transportation to treatment, food assistance and medical bill support. Approximately 62% of the individuals served last year made less than \$48,000 annually — making a breast cancer diagnosis a financial hardship in addition to the health risks. The DONNA Foundation, including its DONNA CareLine, serves to alleviate that financial burden, so individuals do not have to make a choice between putting food on the table or paying for the care they need.

While the need is great, the organization is committed to making a difference in the lives of breast cancer patients and their families across the country. To learn more or register for an upcoming event, including The DONNA 5K at TPC Sawgrass, the 110-Mile-A-Day Challenge or the 2025 DONNA Marathon Weekend, go to thedonnafoundation.org/events.









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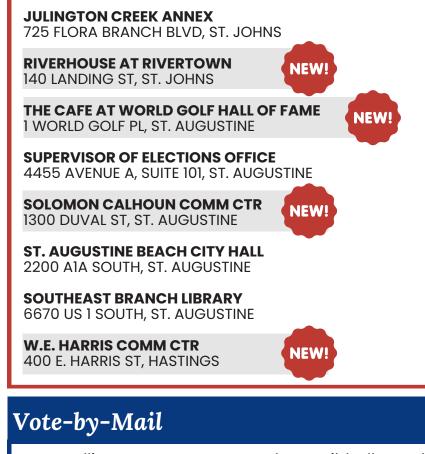
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Millard

Continued from 6

We accept all the major insurances here at In The Pink. How the nonprofit piece works is: people come in and if they have insurance, we file their insurance for them. Because many of these items are covered by insurance.

Then, there are a lot of items that aren't covered by insurance that we carry. Any profit that is generated stays here in Jacksonville, and when someone comes in that has a Medicaid card or has no insurance at all, then they receive the items they need for free.

That would include things like wigs, mastectomy products, post-surgical garments, those kinds of things. About 35% of our clients receive something for free.

It's been a journey, but I have to tell you, I'm so thrilled that I opened my first location in Jacksonville Beach, because it has been a really, really supportive community.

... We are a medical facility. We fall under what's called "durable medical." So, because we are a medical facility, we were allowed to stay open during CO-VID, but we had to follow their rules.

So, we went to appointment only. That's one of the things we kept as a result of COVID. Because we have so many clients, we can't give everybody the time that they deserve if they don't have an appointment.

How can people get in contact with In The Pink?

We have a website that pretty much explains it all. It's www.jaxinthepink.com.

Tell me about the dragon boat team.

The first three years that I was open, people kept approaching me and asking me if I had heard of dragon boat teams for breast cancer survivors. I said no and said, "I really don't have time to do that right now, because I'm just getting my business off the ground."

About the fourth time someone approached me about it, I said, "Maybe I need to look into this."

This was 2011. My business was kind of settling in. So, my husband and I met with a couple that had moved up here from Miami, and she was a dragon boater with a breast cancer team at the time. She wanted a dragon boat team. So, she told me all about it, and I raised the money, and In The Pink purchased two boats. Hence, dragon boating was brought to Jacksonville.

We started with a team for breast cancer survivors. We're called the Mammoglams.

Once it started, everybody wanted to do it — all their spouses, their friends, everyone. So, we started the Jacksonville Dragon Boat Club, and we have teams for everyone: men, women, teenagers, mixed teams, breast cancer. We keep our boats at Windward Beach Marine. It's been very successful.

How can people learn more?

That also has its own website, www. jacksonvilledragonboatclub.com. That website tells you what you need to know about how to join.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is abridged version of the article. To read the full interview, go to pontevedrarecorder.com.



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The Recorder presents the second annual **Best of the Beaches**, featuring your favorite businesses in Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Atlantic Beach and Ponte Vedra Beach! This includes businesses in zip codes 32250, 32266, 32233, and 32082.

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024 PAGE 23

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GUEST COLUMN

Why young savers should adopt a long-term mindset

Written by/for Wells Fargo Advisors

Four key considerations could help young adults create a mindset to succeed with saving and investing for the future.

Michelle Wan, Wells Fargo Investment Institute senior wealth investment solutions analyst, has met many younger clients who have had reservations about investing.

"Young investors may find themselves delaying investing for retirement because it seems so far in the future. Alternatively, they may enjoy trading volatile investment instruments for rapid profits," she said. "They don't realize how important it is to methodically develop planning and investing goals at a young age. Time is a



Contributed photo

young saver's greatest ally."

Here, Wan shares four key considerations for young savers when it comes to prioritizing long-term savings and investment plans.

1. Adopt a planning mindset

One key factor is having a planning mindset — a positive and proactive stance that could set savers on a path to positive financial outcomes. A planning mindset can provide a road map that can help strengthen a person's financial future.

2. Start with small changes

Small changes in your financial behavior today could have a big impact on long-term success. Creating a budget, building healthy financial habits and becoming more comfortable and familiar with investing could go a long way in contributing toward achieving long-term financial goals.

Some practices to consider:

• Automatically transferring part of your income into a savings account or an investment account

• Paying down student loans to avoid late fees and damage to credit scores

3. Begin saving and investing now

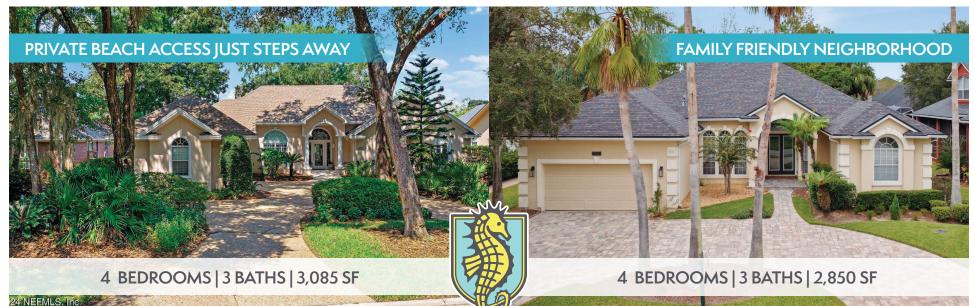
Start saving for retirement as soon as you can. The sooner you start, the more time every dollar saved has the potential to grow. If dollars saved early in your working years generate investment gains year after year, they can have a much bigger impact on the size of your account balance at retirement than you might think. Thanks to the power of compounding, as the dollars invested potentially earn returns, those reinvested returns can start earning returns, and so on — year after year.

"For younger investors, compounding returns become especially powerful given their longer time horizon, so an early

SAVERS continues on Page 26

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Ascension to expand emergency care access with freestanding ER

For The Recorder

Ascension St. Vincent's is increasing access to emergency care in Jacksonville's Southside community by developing a new freestanding emergency room at the intersection of Kernan and Beach boulevards. Preliminary plans are to complete construction by late fall 2025.

"At St. Vincent's, we want to do everything in our power to ensure every person in every community can receive care during an emergency," said Kevin Rinks, president and CEO of St. Vincent's Southside. "This new freestanding emergency room reinforces our commitment to our patients that they will have access to quality and compassionate care."

More than 40 associates will staff the new 10,000-square-foot emergency room and offer a range of services. These include a triage area, a critical care room, nine treatment spaces and advanced CT and X-ray technology. Once it is opened, more than 16,000 patients are expected to receive care annually at the site.

This location will provide a muchneeded access point for care in expand-



Contributed illustration

ing neighborhoods. Over the next five years, St. Vincent's expects the population to increase by 5.9% in the Southside service area, a promising sign for the future. More importantly, this new facility brings mission-driven health care to more patients across Northeast Florida.

"This expansion of emergency services in Jacksonville reaffirms our commitment to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all," said Ascension Florida Chief Strategy Officer Michael Shaw. "Every patient who steps through our doors can be sure that our teams are equipped to handle even their most complex cases thanks to the system of care sites we have established throughout Northeast Florida."

The ER facility will be operated by Ascension St. Vincent's Southside. In

the event a patient needs emergency care on the main campus, St. Vincent's can coordinate transportation and schedule follow-up appointments with providers.

St. Vincent's operates two other freestanding ERs in Jacksonville's Arlington and Westside communities, highlighting the hospital's commitment to treating those needing care across Northeast Florida. St. Vincent's was recently named a top 15 health system in the country for 2024 by Fortune and PINC AI.

Ascension St. Vincent's, based in Jacksonville, operates four hospitals and more than 90 other sites of care and employs more than 5,300 people. In fiscal year 2023, Ascension St. Vincent's provided more than \$87.7 million in community benefit and care for persons living in poverty.

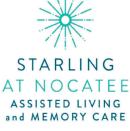
Ascension is a faith-based health care organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As one of the leading nonprofit and Catholic health systems in the U.S., Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable.







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Ponte Vedra Recorder · October 10, 2024

Savers

Continued from 23

start can make a dramatic difference in helping investors reach their financial goals," said Wan.

4. Take full advantage of retirement savings plans

If your employer offers a 401(k) plan, be sure to participate — and max out any kind of matching-contribution offers. They are the equivalent of free money.

Roth IRAs - to which you contribute after-tax dollars — are also worth a closer look because they offer tax-free growth potential. Investment earnings are also distributed tax-free in retirement if specific requirements are met.

"Another savings vehicle to consider is a Health Savings Account (HSA), which offers tax benefits to qualified investors," Wan said.

A discussion with an investment professional about your investment goals can help you develop a long-term plan and strategies to potentially help you achieve those goals.

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Constellation extends tournament sponsorship

For The Recorder

PONTE

Officials from Constellation, the Jim & Tabitha Furyk Foundation and PGA TOUR Champions have announced a multi-year extension of Constellation as the title sponsor of the Constellation FURYK & FRIENDS. This extension ensures the PGA Tour Champions event will remain in Jacksonville. The announcement was made at a press conference at Timuquana Country Club.

"We are so excited to continue hosting the Constellation FURYK & FRIENDS tournament in Northeast Florida, which we have proudly called home for over 25 years," said Jim and Tabitha Furyk. "We've had an amazing partnership with Constellation and we are grateful for their continued support of our event, our foundation, and the Jacksonville community. We look forward to many more

years of bringing PGA TOUR Champions golf to fans, along with music, food and fun – all while making a positive impact in Jacksonville and beyond."

Since the inaugural Constellation FUYRK & FRIENDS in 2021, the tournament has generated more than \$3.5 million for Northeast Florida Charities, through the Jim & Tabitha Furyk Foundation.

This extension furthers a longstanding relationship between Jim and Tabitha Furyk and Constellation, dating back to an annual invitational charity event that ran for more than 11 years, generating more than \$1 million for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Philadelphia. Additionally, Constellation now will serve as title sponsor on PGA Tour Champions for nearly 20 years, following their title sponsorship of the Senior PLAY-ERS Championship from 2007-18.

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Businesswoman finds success in pursuing her passion

By Shaun Ryan

Angie Lacey, owner if Clean Juice in Nocatee, first learned about the business at a franchise convention. Having an interest in health and wellness, she was attracted to the juice bar concept and to the organic products that Clean Juice sells.

Her franchise opened in 2020, a tough time for businesses due to the pandemic. Despite challenges posed by that and the supply chain problems occurring around that time, she persevered, believing in her products and her contribution.

"I knew that there was a passion that I could bring to my community in a meaningful way," she said.

Now, years later, her trust in the business model has been validated. Clean Juice continues to be a popular spot for her health-conscious customers.

It helps that she has the support of her children.

"I try to include them however I can in the business," she said.

One daughter worked there for three years, finally becoming an assistant manager before going off to college with leadership traits she acquired from the experience. A younger daughter looks forward to the day when she, too, can work alongside her mother.

Lacey sets an example not just for her daughters, but also for other women who would like to run their own businesses. Events, such as her annual Holiday Market and Galentine's event, offer women with small businesses an opportunity to showcase their own products.

"It kind of gives them the opportunity to let the community see who they are and grow their businesses," Lacey said. "It's a way to kind of give back."

The market is a community favorite. Co-hosted by another woman in business, Nikki-Lyn Holm of The Coastal Home Group, it will be held noon to 3 p.m. Dec. 7 at Clean Juice. There will be lots of fun, local vendors, holiday shopping and tasty treats. RSVP at jessicahuffman. myflodesk.com/christmasmarket.

For those women who would like to succeed in business, Lacey has some helpful advice.

"Follow your passion," she said. "Believe in your product or whatever it is that you're looking to start. Take that first step. Take that scary risk. Find some support. Reach out to somebody who's already kind of doing it."



Clean Juice owner Angie Lacey is seen inside her shop.

Contributed photo



***ALL PUPS MUST BE LEASHED**

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

KATHY'S GARDENING GUIDE

Annuals vs. Perennials

"A flower does not think of competing with the flower next to it. It just blooms." — Zen Shin



By Kathy Esfahani

Homeowners often wonder whether it is better to plant annuals or perennials to develop color in their landscape. The answer is both! Planting a combination of annuals

Kathy Esfahani

and perennials adds color and variety in your gardens that last season after season.

An annual is a plant that lives for only one season. Although replacing annuals at the end of each season adds maintenance to your yard, the reward is a rainbow of vibrant colors while these plants are blooming! Annuals typically last 3-6 months, requiring replacement 2-3 times per year.

When using annuals, plan your landscape to include several places where



The nursery at Kathy's Creative Gardens.

you want constant color and do not mind replanting each season. These locations can be garden beds or planters. Popular spots for annuals include framing a front entry, highlighting a driveway or mailbox, or surrounding a relaxing outdoor living space. Prepare your gardens for annuals with 2-3 inches of compost, peat or topsoil. Photo provided by Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery

If you choose, you can add fertilizer; mix approximately the first 6 inches of soil before planting.

For fall in our area, consider annuals such as celosia, dianthus, dusty miller, marigolds, pansies, Petunias, snapdragons, supertunias and violas.

Perennials are plants, shrubs and

trees that last indefinitely; flowers can survive at least three growing seasons in Northeast Florida. Many perennials turn brown and seem to die in the winter, but they will grow back from the roots. Just prune off dead stems and wait for them to reappear! Although perennials require less maintenance since they do not need replacing, they do not produce the dramatic color of annuals.

Consider planning your landscape with at least 90% perennials to balance the showy color with less replacement cost and effort.

When selecting perennials to add to your landscape now, look for firespike, geraniums, mums, pentas and salvia. Happy planting!

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



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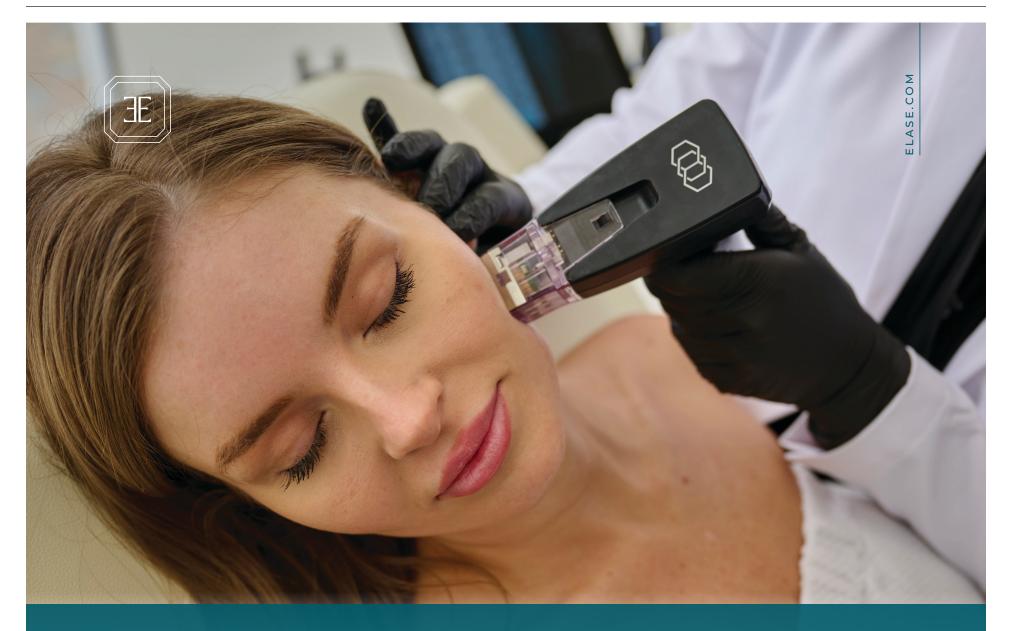
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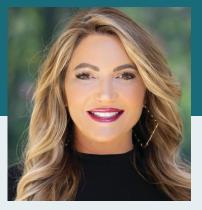
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Ponte Vedra Wellness celebrates two decades of growth, community

By Anthony Richards

The Ponte Vedra Wellness Center recently celebrated the 20th anniversary of the practice during an "after hours" event hosted by the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division.

"I opened Sept. 7, 2004, and initially it was just me and one part-time employee," said Dr. Erika Hamer, who founded Ponte Vedra Wellness Center. "It has grown to where I have hired other doctors now."

It is that looking back at that growth and the patients she has that has made it quite the journey over the past two decades.

According to Hamer, since day one she has made it a focus to get involved in the community, because she understands that the people that have become her patients over the years call the local community home just as she does.

"It's great to know the patients that walk through our doors are probably referrals of patients or the nonprofits and other organizations I'm involved with," Hamer said.

Part of the growth has also included moving office locations, as she started out in the Ponte Vedra Pointe Shopping Center



Dr. Erika Hamer with her staff at Ponte Vedra Wellness Center.

off State Road A1A, before moving twice, with the second of those moves ending up at the practice's current location at 615 A1A North, Suite 102 in Ponte Vedra Beach earlier this year.

Each time, the move was a calculated decision and was one she made with her patients in mind as she looked to add new features and expand what the practice of-

Photo by Susan Griffin

fers its patients. "When I named it a "wellness center," the vision was to oversee patients in their health paths by helping them with ways to eat, exercise and even getting them to the point where they could exercise," Hamer said. "I've been able to design each office with that in mind."

Some of the additional services offered in the new office include personal training and nutritional programs, which according to Hamer have been crucial when encouraging all the pillars of health.

Twenty years is a long time, and not only has Hamer seen herself grow as a doctor during that time but also as a person.

"The first 10 years felt like they took a while to get to that point, while the next 10 years seemed like they went by so fast," Hamer chuckled.

One of the things that has helped make time fly is that she not only enjoys what



Dr. Erika Hamer speaks during an anniversary celebration at a St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division "after hours" event.

she does, but also the time she gets to spend with her patients and the relationships she has built over the years.

'That is what makes me so excited," Hamer said. "So many of them, I've known before I was married and now my kids have grown up around them."

She even has some that have been coming to see her since she started the practice and in some cases were children when she first started seeing them, only to have jobs and families of their own now.

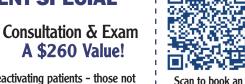
"In many ways, I've grown with them during that time," Hamer said.

Hamer is set to be the upcoming president of the Florida Chiropractic Association's Board of Directors and will serve her second term as the chair of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Ponte Vedra Beach Division for the new fiscal year.

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Why you need a lawyer in your corner

One need not spend ample time to find depictions of lawyers on television and in films. Though such depictions are not always so rosy, most lawyers are reputable individuals who help people navigate the complicated matters of the law.

There are many instances when it is in a person's best interest to hire an attorney. The law is more nuanced than people outside the legal profession may realize, and having a person in one's corner who understands the ins and outs of the law is a wise move. The following are a handful of reasons why it pays to have a lawyer in your corner.

• Lawyers understand legal documents. Attorneys know that procedure is a major part of the law and the judiciary system. A lawyer will help to file the correct paperwork, fill out legal documents, contact courts, and engage in legal procedures in the correct fashion.

• Lawyers have access to experts. Attorneys have strong networks and can connect their clients with experts that support their efforts. For example, parents who are using a special education attorney to navigate 504/IEP plans can ask their lawyer to connect them with an education advocate, expert or tutor who can serve as a witness or reference.

· Lawyers ensure guidelines are followed. A lawyer can be an asset when drafting a will or engaging in elder care arrangements. With legal, binding documentation, contestation of wishes is much more difficult and ensures that a financial legacy is put to use as intended.

The difference between lawyers and attorneys

Individuals who work outside of the legal profession cannot be blamed for thinking the terms "lawyer" and "attorney" are interchangeable. However, there is a subtle difference that distinguishes lawyers from attorneys and vice versa. The difference between lawyers and attorneys has a lot to do with where they work. According to the legal professional recruiting platform LegalJobs, an attorney is a legal professional with a law degree who practices law in court. While lawyers finish law school and pass the bar exam, they do not necessarily practice in a courtroom. Such professionals may serve as legal advisors or consultants in lieu of practicing in court.



The following are a handful of reasons why it pays to have a lawyer in your corner.

· Lawyers know how to negotiate and settle. Heading to court isn't always the best outcome. Experienced attorneys likely have seen similar cases and scenarios and can make informed guesses about how your own situation may play out if it goes to trial. He or she may suggest a settlement or know a tactic that can work in your favor, particularly if it results in reduced legal fees.

• Lawyers can effectively lock horns with other lawyers. Individuals who choose to represent themselves are at a

disadvantage when the other side has hired an attorney. To avoid this inequity of knowledge and experience, it's best to seek legal representation.

• Lawyers provide unbiased insight. When dealing with complicated family issues, such as estate planning, divorce or custody, it pays to have a third party who is emotionally detached from the situation to help guide decision-making.

Attorneys can guide people through all types of complicated legal matters and provide sound, unbiased advice.



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"The Wedding Singer," opened as the Alhambra Theatre & Dining's latest show on Oct. 3.



The show has its share of creative and memorable characters.

Party like its 1985 with 'The Wedding Singer' at Alhambra

By Anthony Richards

The Alhambra puts on an '80s-style wedding like no one else, as its new show, "The Wedding Singer," opened on Oct. 3 and will run through Nov. 10.

"The Wedding Singer," checks all the boxes and presents a perfect date night option or a fun night out on the town with friends.

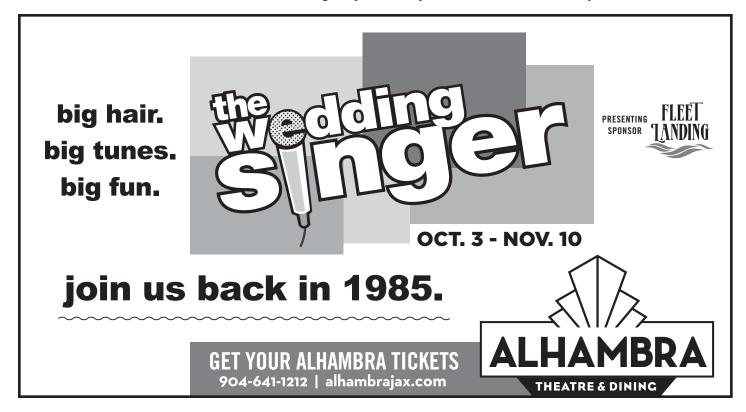
No matter what the occasion, it will be

a memorable one, as the experience starts off with some delectable meal options, including a massive portion of Chef DeJuan's world famous slow roasted prime rib, deconstructed chicken Corbon Blue, or Seafood Newburg, which was a traditional Alhambra dish brought back just for this show.

The Amaretto wedding cake also hits the spot as a dessert option and helps set the wedding reception mood prior to the start of the show.

Suddenly, the show starts and attendees are quickly transported back to the 1980s with both the look of the scenery, the music choices and the wardrobe stylings, all of which combine to work well together to create a unique atmosphere.

"The Wedding Singer" is known for its time as a Broadway musical, as well as the popular movie starring Adam Sandler and Drew Barrymore, so it was a familiar



script with much of the crowd, but the twists and approach offered during the play by Alhambra director Shain Stroff provided a uniqueness that will be appreciated.

It has lively musical performances and a ton of comedic moments that make the audience share big laughs, while at the same time telling a love story at its core.

The love story was captured excellently by a cast that included Jake Pearce as Robbie Hart and Brooklyn Klekamp as Julia Sullivan, who are the two main characters and love interests that the story follows throughout on their journey.

It was Pearce's first time performing at Alhambra, as he adds it to his list of theatres he has performed in across the country, including Medora, North Dakota and at Dollywood in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.

For Klekamp, it was the sixth production she has been a part of at Alhambra with some of her other roles being in "RENT," "Joseph," and "Beautiful."

However, there are plenty of wacky and creative characters that play major parts along the way, including Paul Gray as Pearce's character's band mate Sammy and Cathy Merkel-Roddy, who plays the feisty grandmother Rosie Hart.

Both Gray and Merkel-Roddy made return performances at Alhambra and were at the center of so many of the comedic segments during the play.

Riverside history on display with music tour

MUSIC TOUR

By Anthony Richards

The Riverside Avondale Preservation is set to introduce its latest new event, which will focus on the area's music history.

The RAP Music Tour event will take place Oct. 12, from 1 to 6 p.m. and will feature live music acts across eight unique stages with the goal for the music to dive into the different musical selections and sounds of the different eras in the Riverside neighborhood of Jacksonville's creative past.

Each stage will narrate a different story of musical moments and people to be honored and remembered both past and present by shining a spotlight on today's local musicians, while promoting the walkable and creative historic district Riverside has become known for.

"The event elevates a time in our neighborhood's history where home values were diminishing, people were moving away, and upkeep for historic homes was a major challenge," said Shannon

Blankinship, RAP executive director. "We usually promote the era that built the neighborhood. This event highlights a period of rampant demolition and decline".

Unlike a typical music festival with centralized stages, the Music Tour will offer a program and walkable route to unassuming stages and locations throughout the district limited to 1,000 people during the inaugural year for only \$20 a ticket per person.

Some of the featured bands that will be playing during the tour include Curt Towne Band, Dyer Davis Group and Duval County Line.

The Riverside Avondale Preservation has been putting on events that help showcase the Riverside area and its charm for years, and the inspiration for the inaugural Music Tour and its format came from the annual Home Tour, which celebrated its 50th year

in 2024.

Just like the Home Tour, the Music Tour will share the community's music history at multiple distinct locations throughout Riverside including various homes, yards, parks and businesses.

The ticketed event will offer a guided program, walkable audio tour, custom Spotify playlist and wristband with map for each location.

A silent disco focused on Jacksonvillebased music will also be available to take part in at Willowbranch Park for ticket purchasers.

Since its founding in 1974, RAP has been an advocate for actively preserving our neighborhood's historic assets.

Ghostwriter to speak at Beaches Museum



To celebrate Family History Month, the Beaches Museum presents "How to Save Your History and Write Your Life Story," by area ghostwriter, biographer and

Vic DiGenti

publisher Vic DiGenti. The Boardwalk Talk is at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 24, at the Beaches Museum.

"Everyone has a story to tell, but too often these stories and personal histories are lost unless someone preserves them with a biography or memoir," DiGenti said.

Many people try to write their stories but find it too difficult or lack the time. A recent study concluded that 97% of people who start writing a book never complete it. In his talk, DiGenti will outline methods to simplify the writing process and pro-

vide tips for anyone interested in writing a biography or memoir. These include how and where to start, what to include and what to leave out.

DiGenti is a member of the Association of Ghostwriters, and the author of 12 biographies and family histories. He's also an award-winning novelist. Working as a ghostwriter and biographer, he's penned biographies and family histories for many

clients, including WW II veterans, jazz musicians, entrepreneurs and retired corporate executives. He has also edited and published books for other individuals through his imprint Windrusher Hall Press. The Oct. 24 Boardwalk Talk is open to the public, but you must register to attend. To register, go to: https://www.beachesmuseum.org/events/boardwalk-talk-how-to-saveyour-history-and-write-your-life-story.

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Brian Case became the second leading rusher in school history during the Sharks win over Leesburg on Oct. 3.



Ryker Kemp (No. 6) and Reece Beck (No. 92) were effective pass rushers throughout the contest.

SHARKS GET CK ON TRACK WITH WIN OVER LEESBURG

The Ponte Vedra Sharks scored early and held on late to defeat the Leesburg Jackets 21-18 on Oct. 3 to improve to a record of 4-2 on the season and get them back to their winning ways. The following are photos from the contest.

Photos by Anthony Richards



Davis Latina (No. 32) and J.M. Pawlick combine to break up a fourth down pass.



Cam Tietze (No. 8) and Drew Price (No. 2) celebrate in the end zone after they connected for a passing touchdown.



The PVHS Splash Dance Team performs at halftime.



The Ponte Vedra cheer squad root on the Sharks.



The captains for the game shake hands at midfield.



Drew Price evades a tackler and scrambles for positive yards.



The Sharks' defense swarms a Leesburg ball carrier.



Noah Ash kicks off.

Jacksonville Awarded Numerous NCAA Tournament Championships

The NCAA awarded the University of North Florida the 2027 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Outdoor Track and Field First Round Championships.

Edward Waters University was also awarded the opportunity to host the 2027 NCAA Division II Women's Volleyball Championship and the 2028 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Outdoor Track and Field Championships.

It is a first for Jacksonville, which has never hosted three different championships in a two-year period, and this marks the first time Jacksonville will host the two Division II collegiate tournaments.

Edward Waters University partnered with the University of North Florida to make the Division II Championships possible, after Edward Waters University's promotion to Division II opened the door for Jacksonville to bid on Division II national championships.

"We are thrilled Jacksonville was awarded these tournaments and look forward to welcoming fans, friends and family for the events," said Michael Corrigan, President and CEO of Visit Jacksonville and President of the Jacksonville Sports Foundation. "The collective work of Visit Jacksonville, Jacksonville Sports Foundation, Jacksonville City Council, the City of Jacksonville Office of Sports and Entertainment, Edward Waters University, Jacksonville University and University of North Florida made it possible to secure these tournaments, and we look forward to the opportunity to continue working with the NCAA to bring more events to Florida's Championship City."

The collaborative effort between the

entities has been a game-changer in Jacksonville's sports bidding efforts.

These strong partnerships have changed how Jacksonville focuses on future sports, resulting in bids for 16 NCAA Division I and II championships for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 academic years in men's and women's basketball, outdoor track and soccer, and women's volleyball.

"The future is bright for bringing even more events to Jacksonville. This spring, the Atlantic Sun Conference announced Jacksonville as the new home for the conference, with the promise of future conference championships considering Jacksonville," Corrigan said. "With the ASUN as another powerful partner, we expand Jacksonville's portfolio. Successfully hosting these new championships will further establish our city as a sports destination, resulting in even more events considering Jacksonville and putting our destination on a bigger national stage."

In addition to hosting the upcoming NCAA tournaments, Jacksonville will also host the AAU College Ice Hockey National Championships (March 2025), USA Gymnastics Trampoline & Tumbling – Elite Challenge (May 2025), ESA Southeastern Regional Championship (Surfing April 2025) and USA Surfing Prime Series (March 2025).

Earlier this year, the city was announced as the home of the AAU Track and Field Primary Nationals and Club Championships. It hosted the event in July at the University of North Florida. Jacksonville also hosted the Cricket SIAC Men's Volleyball Championship at Edward Waters University in April.

Sporting JAX launches foundation to expand access to soccer

Sporting JAX, the United Soccer League franchise group bringing women's and men's professional soccer to Northeast Florida, announced Oct. 3 the launch of the Sporting JAX Foundation, the club's new charitable arm dedicated to expanding equal access to soccer and sports opportunities in underserved communities across the First Coast and beyond.

"Soccer is more than just a game – it's a catalyst for personal growth, community building and lifelong opportunities," said Tony Allegretti, Chief Community Officer for Sporting JAX. "We created the foundation to ensure that every child, regardless of their background, has the chance to play and experience the transformative benefit of sport. By breaking down barriers and expanding access to communities in need, we are committed to nurturing young athletes and empowering the future leaders of tomorrow." Guided by the club's motto, "Lift Every Voice," the North Florida-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit will create opportunities for growth and development through sport where access is limited or nonexistent.

It will have a focus on fostering healthy lifestyles, character and leadership development and promoting social inclusion in underserved communities.

Some of the aspects the Sporting JAX Foundation will support include:

• Youth soccer initiatives including free or low-cost grassroots programs, competitive teams for advanced players, coaching clinics, school and program support.

• Opportunities for young women and girls to engage with role models from the future women's pro team, offering mentorship opportunities and empowering the next generation of female athletes.

• Community outreach through clinics, camps and community partnerships with

local organizations to bring soccer to schools, parks and community centers.

• Facility development including new soccer fields, existing field renovations and equipment donations for players and teams.

• Educational initiatives including character and leadership development, scholarships, academic support, mentoring and life skills workshops to ensure success on and off the pitch.

The continued support of Sporting JAX's upcoming women's and men's professional soccer teams will enable the foundation to maintain its positive influence on the communities it serves.

For more information on the Sporting JAX Foundation and upcoming initiatives, go to www.sportingjax.com. Fans are also encouraged to visit the club's Fan Zone page for the latest updates and to follow its social media channels.

Sporting JAX supporters can reserve

their season tickets for the club's inaugural season with a deposit of \$25 for the pro women's or men's teams, or a \$40 deposit for both teams at www.sportingjax. com/ticket-deposits.



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THE RECORDER







Miguel Angel Jimenez tips his cap to the crowd after making a putt.

Furyk Continued from 1

the win, his fifth since joining the PGA Tour Champions in 2013, including winning the 2016 Senior PGA Championship.

He is probably best known for going toe-to-toe with Tiger Woods during an 18-hole playoff at the 2008 U.S. Open, where he eventually finished runner up.

Estes opened the tournament shooting six-under, while Mediate was one behind him at five-under; however, the scores would flip in the second round, as it was Mediate posting a six-under and Estes with a five-under round.

The scores hovered more around par during the final round on Sunday, Oct. 6, as the playing conditions were difficult with rain on and off in the area for much



Photos by Anthony Richards Boo Weekley tees off in front of the fans at the Patriot's

of the day, which made a tough Timuquana Country Club course even more challenging.

Outpost.



Corey Pavin hits a bunker shot.

Both Mediate and Estes shot a round of one-under on the final day, which was good enough for a twoshot lead overall for the tournament, as Greg Chalmers of Australia made a push with a four-under final round but finished at 10-under.

One of the few that the wet conditions did not seem to bother was American Shane Bertsch, who shot a final round low score of 64 to come home in a tie for 18th at six-under for the tournament.

With the win, Mediate made a major leap up the Schwab Cup standings, from 30th to 13th and has earned \$912,452 in 16 events on the season.

This was the fourth annual Furyk & Friends, all of which have been held at Timuquana Country Club in Jacksonville each year, and it continues to be strong relationship as the event continues to further create its tradition as a marquee October event on the PGA Tour Champions calendar.



Fred Couples walks with his caddy and David Duval while trying to stay dry.



Fans get an up-close look at an Ernie Els bunker shot.



John Daly putts during the competition.





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W	Υ	U	Α	В	L	W	Q	В	D	U	М	0	Ν	R	Q	0	Н	U	Α
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М	U	Е	L	0	Ν	Ι	L	Α	С	S	С	Α	L	Е	R	Ν	U	Т	D

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

ALCOVE ARMOIRE BACKSPLASH BALUSTRADE BANQUETTE BROCADE

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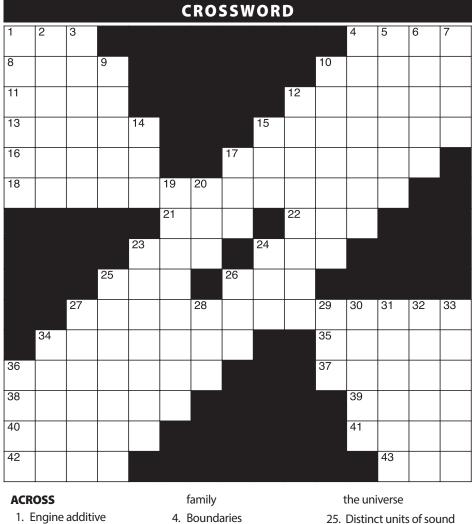
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- 1. Engine additive
- 4. A type of test
- 8. Curtail 10. Irish surname
- 11. The opposite of good
- 12. Got rid of
- 13. Central parts of a
- church building
- 15. Stylistically
- 16. Intestinal
- 17. Negative potential outcomes
- 18. Lived up to a standard
- 21. Snag
- 22. Time units (abbr.)
- 23. Ad
- 24. "Partridge" actress Susan
- 25. For each
- 26. __ Paulo, city
- 27. League titles
- 34. More intensely black
- 35. Slang for lovely
- 36. Petrarch is known for them
- 37. Old Eurasian wheat
- 38. Body part
- 39. Swedish rock group
- 40. They're worth avoiding 41. Rising and falling of
- the voice
- 42. Wings
- 43. Enzyme import
- for respiration

DOWN

- 1. Idyllic
- 2. South Pacific island nations
- 3. Shrub of the olive

- 4. Boundaries
- 5. Encircle
- 6. Weights
- 7. Samberg is one 9. Sheep sound
- 10. European country
- 12. Respected group
 - of people
- 14. Trigraph
- 15. Prosecutors
- 17. Assign a nickname
- 19. Huge size
- 20. Partner to cheese
- 23. Fastballs
- 24. Principle underlying
 - 36. Lengthy tale SUDOKU

26. Title of respect

29. One point east of

30. Concerning the blood

31. Type of pentameter

34. Georges __, French

32. North American

peoples

33. Layers of rock

philosopher

27. Against

28. Foot (Latin)

due south

Level: Begin

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







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