Thursday, March 13, 2025

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Operation Shower celebrates motherhood

By Holly Tishfield

Celebrating motherhood is no small feat, but when it comes to supporting military moms and moms-to-be, a giant baby shower might just be a "baby step" in the right direction.

On Sunday, March 10, THE PLAY-ERS Championship partnered with Operation Shower to host a group baby shower for 40 military moms from local bases, all of whom were either active duty themselves or the partner of a deployed or active-duty service member.

Guests were invited into the PGA Tour Global Home after original plans for an outdoor event were rained out, but gray skies didn't stop attendees from coming out to support military moms.

"I love that I get to give back to others that have been in the same shoes that I've been in," said Lindsey Fletcher, chief product officer at Operation Shower.

This year's theme, "Sweet Dreams," was translated through

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the link

Weekly Camps: June 2nd - August 8th Half & Full-Day Options Available

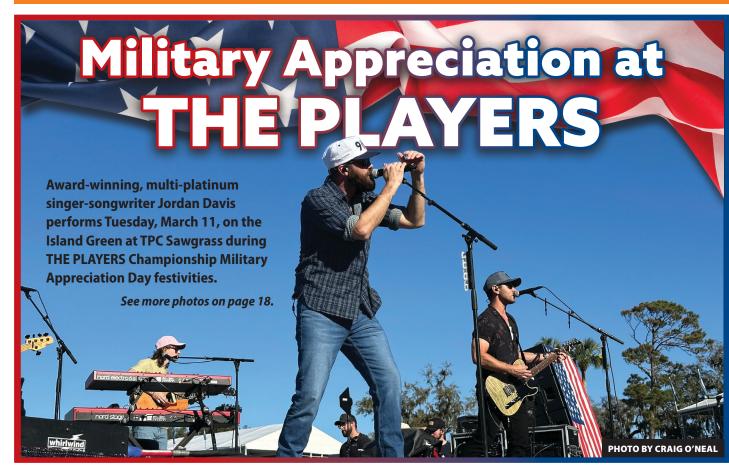




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BRIEFS

Beach exploration planned

Join volunteers at the Guana Tolomato Matanzas (GTM) National Estuarine Research Reserve for a beach exploration from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, March 15.

Collect seashells, search for shark teeth and learn about coastal wildlife.

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

Wear comfortable closed-toe shoes. Hat, insect repellent, water and sunscreen are recommended. The event is free but online registration is required. Register at: gtmnerr.org/calendar.

Delaney to speak at Ponte Vedra library

Flagler College President John Delaney will speak at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 18, in the FOL room of the Ponte Vedra branch library. He previously served as president of UNF for 15 years and was the second named president emeritus of UNF's 52-year history. His background also includes being chief assistant state attorney and general counsel of Jacksonville as well as mayor. The program is free.

Archaeologist to discuss submerged landscape research

The Archaeological Institute of America — Jacksonville Society will meet at noon Saturday, March 15, in Building 51 at the University of North Florida to hear a lecture by Dr. Jessi Halligan from Texas A & M University.

The title of her lecture is "Why Underwater? The importance of submerged landscape research for understanding Pleistocene peoples in the New World." The lecture is on the thousands of Pleistocene artifacts discovered in Florida rivers and springs and some of the best-preserved early sites in the Americas.

The lecture is free and open to the public. Complimentary refreshments will be served afterwards in the Anthropology Lab.

On Saturday, parking is free and the staff/faculty/vendor spaces are available to everyone.

For more information, contact Melva Price at 904-241-9411 or aiajaxsoc@gmail.com.

Grief support group to meet

A grief support group meets on the third Wednesday of every month at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Room 107 of the Family Life Center, 578 First Ave. N., Jacksonville Beach. The group is for men and women grieving the death of a family member or friend. The next meeting will be 7 p.m.

March 19. For information, call Kathy at 904-553-8933.

Job Hunters workshop focus: networking

The Savvy Job Hunters Ministry of Christ Episcopal Church will host a free virtual workshop, "Networking Strategies for Job Leads," from 10:30 a.m. to noon Friday, March 21.

Learn how to optimize social media and other resources to expand your job leads network. The goal is to transform passive network connections into active promoters. The workshop will be presented by Chad Sorenson, president of Adaptive HR Solutions, LLC.

Email Pam Ottesen at pottesen66@gmail.com to receive the Zoom meeting link.

Registration open for Florida Bonsai Festival

Florida Bonsai Nursery & Supply and The North Florida Bonsai Club will present the second annual Florida Bonsai Festival from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. April 12-13 at 12985 Chameleon Drive, Jacksonville.

General admission is \$15 per day or \$20 for the weekend.

The festival will feature workshops and "bring your own tree" sessions with artists such as Mike Lane, Mike Rogers, Larry Naeder, Wilson Sanchez and Josh Brown. Workshops and demos are free to observe with general admission, but participation is limited to pre-registration only. Registration is open now.

For more details or to register for the festival, workshops or BYOT events, go to flbonsaifest. square.site.

Palm Valley Market every Tuesday

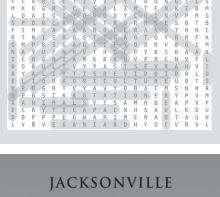
The Palm Valley Market is held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Tuesday inside the Palm Valley Community Center, 148 Canal Road. The market offers fresh produce, baked goods, local honey, tea, seasonal treats, soap, jewelry, plants and more.

Essential Tremor Support Group to meet

The Essential Tremor Support Group will meet at 11 a.m. April 1 at Baptist HealthPlace at Nocatee, 400 Colonnade Drive, Unit 130; Ponte Vedra. Anyone with essential tremor, their family, friends and loved ones is welcome to participate. The featured speaker will be Alaine Keebaugh, Ph.D., discussing "Brain Health: What are Things We Should Do (and Shouldn't Do) to Promote Overall Brain Health?" To RSVP and/or questions, email Jan Kary at jkary@verizon.ne.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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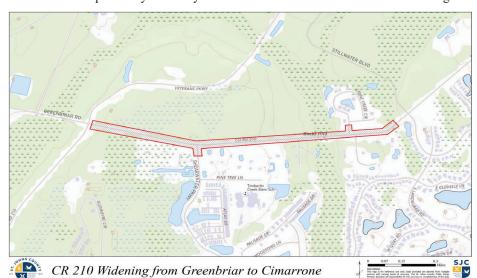




Major traffic shift on County Road 210 announced

Drivers traveling on County Road 210 from Greenbriar Road to Cimarrone Boulevard can expect delays that may impact neighborhood access from March 14 through 23.

Construction crews will be diverting



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traffic on the westbound lanes to the newly constructed roadway starting on Friday, March 14. Eastbound lanes will start diverting to the new roadway the following week.

During this shift, left turns will be restricted due to elevation concerns requiring right-hand turns into and out of neighborhoods. Additionally, access to neighborhoods in this area will be impacted and U-turn diversions may be necessary.

Temporary traffic signs and message boards will be posted throughout the area to indicate traffic pattern shifts. This is part of the \$40 million County Road 210 Greenbriar Road to Cimarrone Boulevard widening project, which will add 2.3 miles of four-lane roadway, multiple new signalized intersections, sidewalks and bike lanes to help alleviate congestion in this area.

Drivers are encouraged to exercise caution during this time as traffic adjusts to the new roadway configuration. During the transition, entering and leaving neighborhoods in this area will be easiest outside of peak times. Planning accordingly will reduce travel times and congestion.







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4 NOCATEE HAPPENINGS

Local businesses featured during Nocatee Yelp event



A crowd of Yelp members gather in front of Anejo Concina Mexicana.



ToyTopia was involved in the Yelp event.

Yelp Jacksonville and The Social Society joined forces to host a Yelp Block Party at the Nocatee Town Center on Monday, March 10. Seven businesses and 100 Yelp members took part in the two-hour event which highlighted both local business owners and women business owners.

Photos by Anthony Richards



Rachel Travisano with Yelp Jacksonville and Seri Kertzner, owner of The Social Society partnered to put on the Yelp event at the Nocatee Town Center.



Chophouse at Nocatee serves food to Yelp members



V's Barbershop at the Nocatee Town Center.









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Ponte Vedra Recorder · March 13, 2025 COMMUNITY NEWS 5



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6 ONE OF US Ponte Vedra Recorder · March 13, 2025

Marc Hassan is this year's First Vice Chair for THE PLAYERS Championship's volunteer leadership team. It's a position with a lot of responsibility and one that requires years of preparation.

As told to Shaun Ryan

You've gone through the yearslong process of learning all aspects of THE PLAYERS volunteer experience to become First Vice Chair. Tell me about that journey and the vice chair positions you've held.

The path is not always a straight path. You start out as a regular volunteer or as an assistant chair or a chair of a committee. And then, you kind of move around to different spots. Now, there are some committee chairs that like what they do, and they've been there for a long time and they stay on that committee, but others move around from committee to committee, which is what I did.

So, I started out as an assistant chair in General Parking, parking cars. Did that for a couple of years. Moved inside to Tournament Support, which is exactly what it sounds like. It kind of covers any holes that other committees may have. So, if a volunteer doesn't show up or there's a special need that has come up out of the blue, Tournament Support will step in and kind of fill those

Then, I went back out to Admissions, so I handled the admissions gates for a couple of years. Then, Patriots' Outpost. Then, I was interviewed to be a vice chairman.

There are five vice chairmen. You start with Volunteer Services, which does everything to support the volunteers. Everything from transportation to feeding them, apparel, credentials, et cetera, et cetera.

And then, we have a couple of fun ones like Players Pride, which recognizes volunteers that kind of go above and beyond during the Tournament Week. Volunteer engagement — we have a spot in Volunteer Village called the Back Yard, which has putting competitions and things like that.

Then, you go to Facilities, which is general parking, commissary, disabled guest services, golf carts, construction and course prep, which, they start meeting out there in January. They meet every Saturday. Everything from pressure washing to building picnic tables, roping and staking the course, et cetera.

Then, you go to Spectator Services. That's your third year. And that is overseeing all the hospitality venues.

From there, you go to Player Services — caddies, practice grounds, player escorts, gallery management, things like that.

And then, First Vice year, which is obviously my year. We have evac, tournament support and Players Pride. First Vice typically has fewer committees under them, because they are at the direction of the Chairman pretty much running the day-to-day, making sure all the other divisions, all the other vice chairs are doing what they need to do. We meet with PGA staff a couple of times a week, communicating with them, what's new, what's going on, what have we got to look out for, where we are in the process, et cetera, et cetera.

And then the Chairman is just that, the Chairman. He's making sure everything stays on the rails.

How do you manage all of this?

I will say it is a lot like having a second job, sometimes. It's a lot of work. But it really comes down to the team and making sure you're really working well with your team. Again, the structure is such that each vice chair can kind of handle their own divisions, but we do things starting pretty immediately after the tournament — like sending out surveys to all of our volunteers and then critiques to all of our chairs of different committees:



Photo by Ben Jared/PGA TOUR

Marc Hassan is this year's First Vice Chair for THE PLAYERS Championship's volunteer leadership team.

what went well, what can we improve on, et cetera, et

We have a critique meeting with staff, typically in April or May. And then, this year, what I did was kind of an all-day retreat with the team — I think it was in June - where we kind of just laid out the year. ... Then we start meeting with the committees for next year. Asking our chairs if they're coming back and planning things out, so it is a yearlong commitment.

You have something like 2,000 volunteers. How critical are those volunteers?

They're everything. Absolutely. The volunteers are everything. The tournament would not run without them, and that goes back to the roots. THE PLAYERS started as the Greater Jacksonville Open and it was 100% volunteer-based.

Those volunteers, they're a well-oiled machine. Many of them come back year after year. Some of those committees, they are year-round. They are like family to each

When did you first become involved and what prompted you to take that step?

My first year volunteering was 2014. My wife's uncle, Damon Olinto, is now a Red Coat. He's a past chair. So, just going to family parties — Christmas, Thanksgiving, things like that — he'd talk about what was going on and how things were going. And I said, "You know, I'd like to try my hand at that."

"OK. You're going to start out in General Parking." Bob Livingston is the chair of General Parking. He's been in General Parking for a long time. It's one of those positions where you don't see the tournament. You're out there working, out in a dusty parking lot on a hot day; this was back when the tournament was still in May.

Bob kind of showed me the ropes. ... I loved it. Did it for two years. The good thing about General Parking is you're busy all day, which I like. I don't like to sit idle when I'm out doing something like that.

Are you a golfer yourself?

I am a terrible golfer. I do have aspirations to be better, but I'm like a 30 handicap.

What do you feel are the most rewarding aspects of volunteering with THE PLAYERS Championship?

From a community standpoint, I would say it is the volunteers and coming back every year. It's like a big family reunion. There are hugs and kisses and catching up on how the family's been and things like that. So that part of it, the camaraderie, is amazing.

But I'd say the most rewarding part is really seeing where all that work goes in terms of charitable dollars Ponte Vedra Recorder · March 13, 2025 COMMUNITY NEWS 7



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Fashion show emphasizes glamour, local shops

By Shaun Ryan

The Coastal Friends' annual fashion show was "A Glamorous Affair," with members modeling the latest in clothing, jewelry, shoes and accessories from local retailers. It was held Wednesday, March 5, at the Marsh Landing Country Club.

Alex Young, a stylist with Studio Sage salon and head spa, did the hair styles for the models. The native of Germany has been a hair stylist for more than 25 years.

"We're all really passionate for our craft," she said.
"We just love it. And we love doing community work, getting to know our community. So, we love events like this."

Studio Sage, located at 730 Beach Blvd., Unit 105, Jacksonville Beach, has been in business for more than eight years. To book an appointment or learn more, go to studiosagehair.com.

Cathy Maddux Jenkins, owner of A'propos Boutique, provided dresses, pantsuits, easy-to-travel wear, cocktail dresses, mother-of-the-bride dresses and more.

A'propos has been in business for 17 years and dresses women "from 20 to 90." It is located at 333 Village Main St., Unit 630, Ponte Vedra Beach.

"We are a wonderful women's store — from denim to cocktail," Jenkins said. "We specialize in customer service and getting you the perfect outfit for the event."

For more information, go to shopapropos.boutique.



Photos by Shaun Ryan

Sheila Harper, owner of Ellie Bing, was on hand to provide clothing and jewelry. Joining her was Nancy Sundheimer.

"It's nice to be here," Harper said of the fashion show. "We do a lot of these events, and also for charity."

Harper has an interior design background but, at the suggestion of her sister, transitioned to jewelry and eventually clothing

Ellie Bing, with a store at 215 Tourside Drive, Suite 1760, Ponte Vedra Beach, and a vintage boutique at 21 12th St. South, Jacksonville Beach, has been in the area for 15 years.

To learn more, go to @elliebing on Instagram or face-book.com/shopelliebing.

Joanne Long, who with her husband owns Carla Shoes

& Accessories, provided shoes for the models and had a display of jewelry, scarves, T-shirts and handbags.

Long describes Carla Shoes as "an old-fashioned shoe store. We sit you down, and we fit you." She emphasized the importance of full customer service.

The business has been in the area 28 years. It is located at 310 Front St., Suite 830, Ponte Vedra Beach.

Learn more at carlashoes.com.

The show was enhanced by a glittering gold photo backdrop and balloons provided by The Social Society. Owner Seri Kertzner had a successful career in corporate fashion before switching to curating party supplies.

The Social Society opened in September in Ponte Vedra. Learn more at thesocial society.com.

Floral centerpieces were provided by D Florals owner Nina Iznurov. The shop at 11173 Beach Blvd., Suite 113, Jacksonville, opened in March 2024.

Iznurov was inspired to start her shop after seeing the beautiful paper flowers her daughter made as a creative activity suggested by Iznurov herself as an alternative to online social media.

Learn more at dflorals.com.

The fashion show committee members were: Sally Lutz, Louise Johnson, Amy Pizzarello and Judy Adams.

This year's models were: Donna Berger, Sandra Bertoglio, Shirin Brenick, Debbie Corsano, Margie Hesser, Marilyn LoSchiavo, Barbara Tanner, Sharon Trumbull, Anita Walker and Clara Wittmann.













Briefs

Continued from 2

Repticon set for March 29-30

Repticon 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.

Guests can also shop for a new family pet among the hundreds of reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, arachnids and small exotic animals. Repticon Jacksonville is also the perfect place for them to get merchandise, cages, supplies and both live and frozen feeders, as well as to get expert advice about caring for their new household member.

This event, held at the Greater Jacksonville Agricultural Fair & Expo Center, 510 Fairgrounds Place, Jacksonville, offers a unique family outing suitable for all ages and for a very diverse range of enthusiasts.

Show hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 29,

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 30.

Ticket options (sold online only) range from \$6 to \$15. Children younger than 4 will be admitted free. To purchase tickets or for more information about the show, go to repticon. com/florida/Jacksonville.

— Compiled by Shaun Ryan

YMCA renovation project to begin this summer

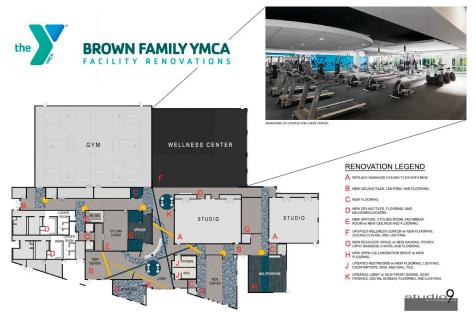
By Shaun Ryan

Less than a year and a half has passed since the Brown Family YMCA announced plans for a major upgrade. Now, in the words of Tyler Brown, the project is at "the five-yard line" in terms of fund-

Brown, who heads the capital campaign committee, said the goal was to raise \$4.1 million. To date, community donations — some of them quite large – have generated all but \$239,000 of that.

On Tuesday, March 4, the facility held an event to provide an update and to encourage the community to help get the project funding over the finish line.

The scope of the project is significant. Plans include: a cycling studio with new bikes, a new wellness center with state-of-the-art equipment for cardio and strength workouts and EGYM smart fitness equipment, a renovated KidZone, a new recovery space with saunas and hydro/cryo massage chairs, enhanced aquatics programming, a modernized



Courtesy of the First Coast YMCA and Brown Family YMCA

A look at the planned renovations.

lobby and refreshed welcome center, revamped locker rooms, upgraded AV/ sound systems and much more.

"This YMCA has been a really important part of this community for more than

25 years," said Brown, who has been active there since childhood. "For it to be as good and better for the next 25 years, we need everyone to get involved and help support this campaign so we can have

this be the best version of itself."

The Horschel Family Foundation will have a large presence at the facility, offering mental health programming. The Jim & Tabitha Furyk Foundation is involved with the KidZone.

Phase 1 of the project has already been completed: the addition of pickleball

"We've already served over 1,000 people on the pickleball courts," said Cara Roach, interim executive director.

The Brown Family YMCA, 170 Landrum Lane, Ponte Vedra, is one of 16 locations in the First Coast YMCA. Doors to the Brown Family YMCA first opened in 1999, and today it serves about 9,000 people annually. Teens comprise about 30% of the 175,000 visits it sees each year.

The renovation is in the preconstruction stage and is expected to get underway in the summer.

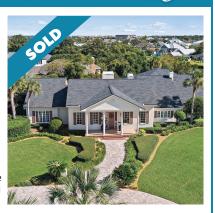
"We are going to transform this place

YMCA continues on Page 10

Seaside Estate in Ponte Vedra Beach on the Lagoon

Step inside 26 Maria Place and experience a one story coastal traditional pool home which is simply stunning! Located in coveted Old Ponte Vedra Beach, 26 Maria Place lies in the perfect location within walking distance to the Ponte Vedra Inn & Club and the Lodge. With almost 5,000 square feet of spacious living, 26 Maria Place also includes outdoor living with three outdoor patios, with a pool a pergola and lagoon. This exceptional home blends coastal living with a warm and welcoming family enclave. This coastal home can accommodate a large family with space to entertain their friends that includes 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms a large living room den, sunroom, family room and updated kitchen with designer appliances. The beautiful dining room is ideally

located overlooking the pool on one side and off the chef's kitchen at the other end offering the ultimate dining venue. Ponte Vedra Beach is just minutes to the famed TPC, Atlantic Ocean and renowned Mayo Clinic. Sold for \$3,800,000





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Photo by Shaun Ryan

The new pickleball courts are the first of many upgrades planned at the Brown Family YMCA.



Courtesy of the First Coast YMCA and Brown Family YMCA

A new wellness area will feature new exercise equipment.

YMCA

Continued from

into a community center," said First Coast YMCA COO and CFO Penny Zuber. "What we're doing is creating a place that is safe, comfortable and fun for people of all ages."

First Coast YMCA CEO Eric Mann called the project "a work of love."

To learn more about the project or to donate, go to fcymca.org/locations/ponte-vedra-ymca/brown-family-ymca-expansion.



Photo by Shaun Ryar

Tyler Brown speaks about plans to renovate the Brown Family YMCA.



Photo by Shaun Ryan

YMCA board member Dan Fritz speaks during Tuesday's event.



Courtesy of the First Coast YMCA and Brown Family YMCA

Plans for a renovated KidZone

Hassan

Continued from 6

to the community. Without those 2,000 volunteers, we would not have the ability, the PGA Tour would not have the ability and the Red Coats would not have the ability to issue their grants to local charities. ...

That part's amazing. And we as vice chairmen and Red Coats, we actually get to go to those charities, see where those dollars are going, visit them — and

there are so many different charities out there that I never knew about until I got involved. It's really just amazing. And those dollars stay local.

Tell me about your business, Spectrum Realty Services.

I opened Spectrum in 2007. I got my real estate license because we were doing some real estate development projects, and we were using outside brokers. But I still had to stay involved and said, "OK, why are we paying an outside broker? I'm still involved."

So, I kept my license and just used it for our own internal purposes. Managed our own properties, did development deals, things like that, which we still do.

Then, '08 happened, market crash. We had some town homes and office condos we had developed that we couldn't sell. So, we started renting them. And then, friends said, "Hey, I've got this property over here. Can you help me rent it?"

And, as the market was still turning around, I kind of liked the idea of the recurring income between development projects and things like that.

Since then, we've kind of focused on the property management side of things. Acquired a few other property management firms over the past few years. ... And I've just been focused on property management.

We still do sales and brokerage. But we do residential property management, smaller multi-family property management, association management and commercial property management.

Anything else?

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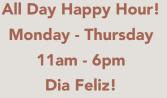
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PLAYERS CHARITY OF THE DAY FOR MARCH 16



Photos courtesy of MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation

THE PLAYERS has been a long-time supporter of the MaliVai Washinton Youth Foundation.



Students with the MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation recently completed their annual serve-a-thon community service projects.

THE PLAYERS supports MaliVai Washington Foundation as a featured charity

By Anthony Richards

The MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation has enjoyed longtime support from THE PLAYERS, but this year that support reaches another level as the nonprofit will be the tournament's "charity of the day" for the final round on Sunday, March 16.

According to Terri Florio, executive

director of the MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation, having the extra exposure that they will have with that honor during the final round is something the organization is very excited about.

"It provides us with not just local exposure but also on a national level," Florio said.

THE PLAYERS and MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation are very relatable

in that they are both striving to develop a stronger community by using sports as the catalyst to make it happen.

Whether it is golf or tennis, which is a major part of the MaliVai Washinton Youth Foundation's program, as its namesake and founder played tennis at the professional level and offers lessons to students in the program.

"It's a big part of who we are and how

we help teach the values that we share," Florio said. "First and foremost, our mission is to provide a safe place in a fairly unsafe neighborhood. Tennis and academics are what links it all together and makes this possible."

Part of the foundation also includes offering \$100,000 in scholarships to

MALIVAI continues on Page 13

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PLAYERS CHARITY OF THE DAY FOR MARCH 14

How Wounded Warrior Project and THE PLAYERS changed this veteran's life

By Holly Tishfield

Wounded Warrior Project was founded in 2003 as a small, grassroots effort to provide simple care and comfort items to the hospital bedsides of the first wounded service members returning home from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

This year, WWP will be recognized as THE PLAYERS Championship's Charity of the Day on Friday, March 14, highlighting the organization's continued dedication to supporting veterans and their families.

More than 20 years later, WWP has impacted the lives of thousands of military service members and their families. Much like Dan Nevins, a retired Army veteran living in Ponte Vedra who received those comfort items at his bedside from some of WWP's founders at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in the early 2000s.

"That's what started my relationship with the Wounded Warrior Project," Nevins said. "A backpack and a promise that whatever I needed, or my family needed, they'd be there."

Nevins survived a devastating explosion in Iraq, resulting in the loss of both legs and a traumatic brain injury. After stints in hospitals overseas, Nevins was transported back to the States where he ultimately ended up at Walter Reed.

When the PGA Tour came through the hospital to bolster the spirits of wounded military members, Nevins had never touched a golf club, nor did he recognize any of the players who visited him.

A conversation with his physical therapist would lead to him trying out the sport, a new method to help build balance and core strength with his prosthetics.

"There's something really powerful about when your world is crumbling around you and you're forced into a situation where all you have to do is hit a little white ball," Nevins said.

Wounded Warrior Project encouraged him to continue the sport, taking Nevins and other service members to golf ranges near Walter Reed as they recovered. Nevins grew to love a good game of golf and now attributes his mental and invisible healing to the sport.

"I owe everything I've been able to do in my personal and professional life to what WWP has done for me," Nevins said, "and the game of golf."

After moving to Northeast Florida and retiring from the military, Nevins was recruited by the PGA Tour to help with military appreciation initiatives nationwide. He helped develop many of the programs that the tour employs today. Nevins stayed heavily involved with WWP and was eventually hired by the organization, where he spent nine years helping other wounded warriors the same way he'd been helped.

WARRIOR continues on Page 15

MaliVai

students as young a fifth grade. Over the years, THE PLAYERS have been instrumental in helping raise the amount of money they can offer in scholarships and that support only continues to grow.

The foundation offers after-school programs as well as its tennis programs and has a variety of family services, including quarterly family nights, where topics are discussed with parents, such as home ownership, credit repair and healthy relationships.

Social activities, such as a family barbecue, and holiday and summer camp performances are also major events on the foundation's calendar each year.

As a nonprofit, the foundation understands the importance of community support and they are always looking for items that anyone is willing to donate.

"We believe as long as you keep kids active and positively involved, they will



Photo courtesy of MaliVai Washington

This year, the foundation is "charity of the day" at THE PLAYERS on Sunday, March 16. have the best chance to grow to their full potential," Florio said "When they don't have that is when they can get into trouble. We want to do everything we can to foster that positivity here."



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PLAYERS CHARITY OF THE DAY FOR MARCH 15

Foundation helps Community Hospice provide key programs

By Shaun Ryan

Each year, THE PLAYERS Championship spotlights local charities during the tournament, a different one for each day of Tournament Week.

On Saturday, March 15, that spotlight falls on The Foundation of Community Hospice & Palliative Care, which raises funds to support critical programs offered by the nonprofit that have no regular funding resources. These "unfunded" programs include bereavement and veteran services, pet programs and Community PedsCare, the pediatric program.

"The big thing with Community Hospice is providing quality of life, compassionate care," said Annie Tuttle, the foundation's executive director, "and with these unfunded programs we are able to do just that, not only for the patients but for their families."

Because Community PedsCare is largely supported by donors, not many hospice organizations are able to offer it. In fact, it is the organization's largest unfunded program.

"We're very blessed here in Jacksonville to have such a philanthropic community wanting to support these programs and make sure that our families and patients are getting the quality-of-life care that they deserve," Tuttle said.

Recently, the organization broke ground

on the Dorion Family Pediatric Center named for a local, philanthropic family who have long played a key role in making compassionate care available here. The center will elevate the Community PedsCare program.

Tuttle described this new facility as "an environment that will allow our pediatric patients to come together and be part of their community, where they can receive the different therapies that we offer." This may include music or sensory therapy or bereavement and caregiver services. The center will even have an event space for families to attend movie nights or other activities together.

On Wednesday, March 12, the PGA TOUR Wives Association, Furyk Foundation and EverBank partnered to bring children and families from Community PedsCare to the tournament for an event called "These Kids Can Play."

"We buy tickets for them to come out, and they get the full, wonderful VIP experience," said Tuttle. "They come in and have games and different things and then they can enjoy the tournament for the rest of the day. It's such a special event, and the families love it. ... THE PLAYERS does such a phenomenal job of making sure the families have everything they

need. Tabitha (Furyk) does an amazing job with all the different games and the different activities that we have going on."

Another area where the nonprofit demonstrates its importance is when a veteran needs hospice care.

"We provide specialized veteran services so that veterans can die with dignity," said Tuttle.

Because Community Hospice & Palliative Care does not turn anyone away, regardless of their ability to pay or the status of their insurance, the foundation's work is critical.

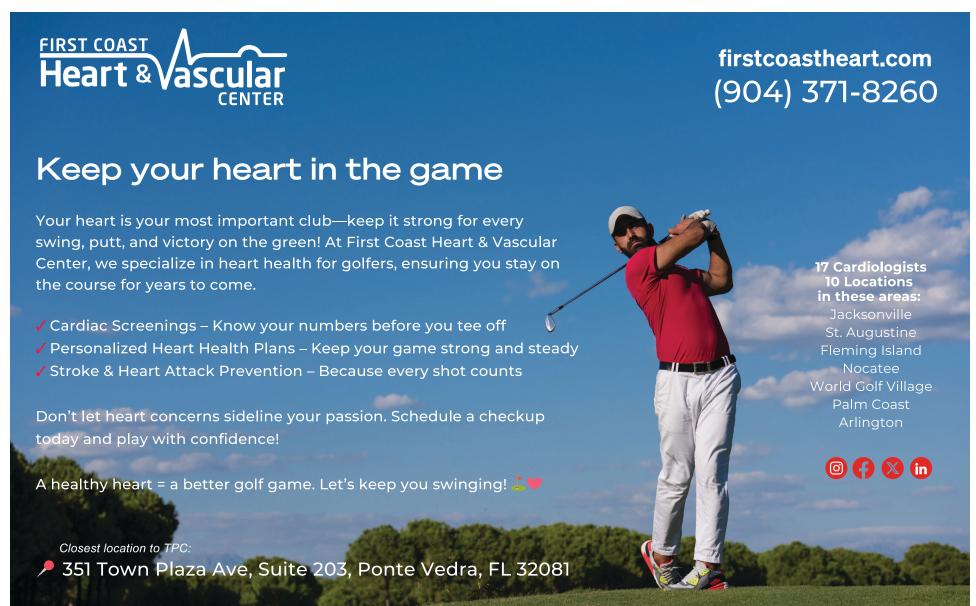
"We make sure that through our charity care services nobody gets turned away," said Tuttle. "We're able to raise funds to make sure hospice care is provided for everyone, no matter what.'

There are several ways someone can volunteer or donate to the foundation. A good place to learn more is the foundation's website, thefoundationcares.org. Anyone with questions can call 904-886-3883.

Tuttle praised THE PLAYERS for its ongoing support.

"We are beyond blessed to have that partnership and that relationship with them," she said. "They are really good to our families and our patients."





Warrior

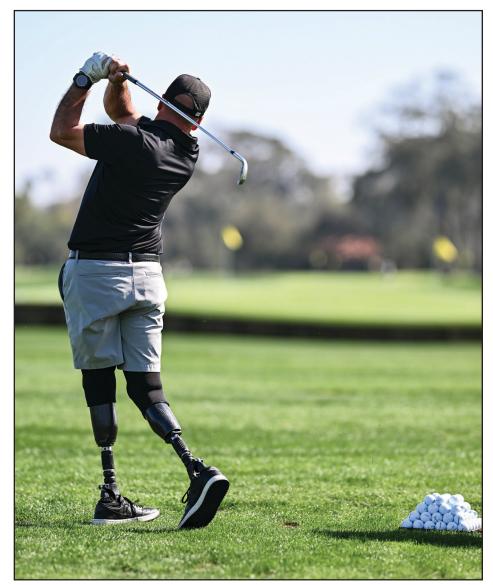
As THE PLAYERS' Charity of the Day, Nevins looks forward to the opportunities it presents to highlight the relevance of Wounded Warrior Project for the next generation of warriors and their families. He was also honored to serve as golf legend Rory McIlroy's honorary caddy during a practice round on Tuesday, March 11.

"For me, knowing that WWP was chosen as Charity of the Day feels full circle," he said. "I love that fact that maybe somebody saw this guy with no legs caddying for Rory at TPC and they thought, 'Maybe I'll try it out,' or 'Maybe I'll get reconnected with WWP."

For more information on how to get connected with Wounded Warrior Project, look for representatives at the Patriots' Outpost.



Photos by Keyur Khamar



Dan Nevins has worked with the Wounded Warrior Project and the PGA Tour for many years.

Nevins brings his passion to the course.



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PLAYERS gives back to community

By Shaun Ryan

THE PLAYERS Championship is one of the top sporting events of the year. But it's more than that. THE PLAYERS — including the athletes, staff, volunteers and partners — continues to be a critical source of financial support for area charities and the people they serve.

This is accomplished through a variety of means, and in many cases you can

BIRDIES FOR CHARITY

This fundraising platform is available to all nonprofits based in Northeast

How it works: Charitable organizations invite their supporters to make a minimum \$20 contribution to guess the number of birdies that will be made during the competitive rounds of THE PLAYERS Championship (Thursday-Sunday). A person guessing the exact number of birdies will have the chance to win a grand prize of \$10,000.

Participating charities will receive 100% of every pledge collected for their organization, as well as funding from a bonus pool provided by THE PLAY-

Who is eligible: Each participating

charity must be a 501(c)3 designated nonprofit organization located in or providing services in at least one of the following counties: Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, and/or St. Johns.

Learn more at: theplayers.com/bird-

CHIP-IN FOR CHARITY

Chip-in for Charity offers nonprofit organizations a chance to receive \$40 from every competition round ticket (Thursday-Sunday) purchased in their

Who is eligible: Each participating charity must be a 501(c)3 designated nonprofit organization located in or providing services in at least one of the following counties: Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, and/or St. Johns.

Learn more at: theplayers.com/chip-

THE PLAYERS EQUIPMENT GRANT

THE PLAYERS supports athletes in Northeast Florida who want to pursue the sport of golf.

The tournament seeks to increase equity, improve participation and grow competitive play regardless of socioeconomic status. It is therefore important to help meet equipment needs and increase access for those facing barriers.

THE PLAYERS offers an equipment grant program open to all Northeast Florida nonprofit organizations with 501(c)3 tax-exempt status. Equipment may not be resold, and all equipment must be used exclusively for the program outlined in the application.

Learn more at: theplayers.com/community/grants.

RED COATS' COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Red Coats are civic and corporate leaders who oversee volunteer efforts at the tournament as well as a grant program supporting local nonprofits. The Red Coats' Community Grants program is designed to fund smaller projects for these nonprofit organizations.

Applicants for the grant program are notified of awards in September, and the program will reopen following this year's tournament.

THE PLAYERS ANNUAL GRANT PRO-

THE PLAYERS Annual Grant Program provides an opportunity for local nonprofits to receive funding to improve the community.

This grant program is currently

closed but will reopen following this year's tournament.

HORSCHEL FAMILY FOUNDATION

While independent of THE PLAY-ERS, this foundation — the creation of Brittany and Billy Horschel — has partnered with The PGA Tour to address substance abuse, mental health opportunities and more in North Florida.

More broadly, the foundation's mission is to invest in communities by partnering with organizations that inspire hope, provide healing, promote health and honor our soldiers.

The foundation works with the Brown Family YMCA, Feeding Northeast Florida, K9s For Warriors and The Advocates Professional Golf Association.

To learn more, go to horschelfamilyfoundation.org.

#DriveOutHunger: Once again, fivetime PGA Tour winner Billy Horschel will donate \$1,000 for every birdie and \$5,000 for every eagle he makes at this year's PLAYERS Championship to Feeding Northeast Florida.

Fans can contribute to the campaign by going to feedingnefl.org and selecting the #DriveOutHunger Campaign to make a donation.

PLAYERS welcomes newborns with 'Island Baby' onesies

THE PLAYERS Championship is bringing back its "Island Baby" onesie program this year to celebrate the youngest members of the Northeast Florida community. Inspired by the iconic Island Green 17th hole at TPC Sawgrass, these exclusive, limited-edition onesies will be gifted to every baby born at participating hospitals during tournament week.

"THE PLAYERS Championship offers more than just world-class golf — it's a celebration of our community," said Lee Smith, executive director of THE PLAY-ERS. "We're thrilled to welcome our

Tree Masters trimming

on the prestigious

TPC Stadium Course

newest fans with 'Island Baby' onesies, creating a special connection with the tournament from the very start."

In addition, THE PLAYERS Championship is providing a family-friendly experience throughout the week.

Family-friendly highlights of THE PLAYERS Championship:

- Tickets: Children 15 and under receive free admission when accompanied by a ticketed adult, courtesy of Nemours Children's Health.
- Family lounge: Presented by Wolfson Children's Hospital, this climate-

controlled space provides a comfortable retreat for diaper changes, nursing and family breaks — complete with complimentary diapers.

- Bag policy & essentials: Families are welcome to bring small diaper bags, baby bottles and essential supplies. Strollers are permitted, as long as they are accompanied by a child.
- Parking & transportation: Convenient rideshare options and shuttles from Nocatee make it easier than ever for families
- Morgan Stanley Fan Experience: Located near the 18th fairway, experience the excitement of sinking an eagle putt on replicas of the 9th and 16th holes, win exclusive prizes, capture unforgettable moments and more.
- Military members and veterans: Military members, veterans and their families are invited to experience Patriots' Outpost. At this military-exclusive venue, attendees can enjoy complimentary refreshments while enjoying the tournament



Photo courtesy of Baptist Health

This photo is for artistic purposes only and does not represent AAP Infant Safe Sleep recommendations.

action in a comfortable and welcoming

For more details on THE PLAYERS Championship and its family-friendly offerings, go to THEPLAYERS.com.

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Jordan Davis 'rocks the green' at THE PLAYERS Military Appreciation Day



















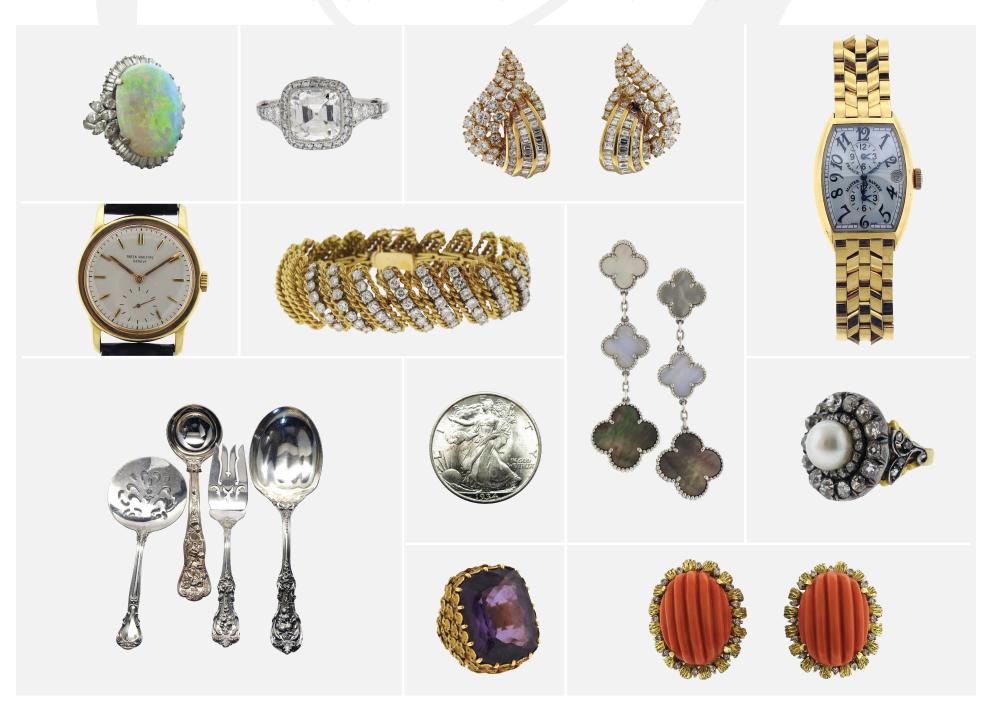




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TICKETS

Tickets are mobile-only and day-specific. They can be purchased exclusively online at THEPLAYERS.com.

Parking is purchased separately at THEPLAYERS. COM/parking. Parking passes are completely digital and cannot be purchased on-site.

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

Need more information? Go to theplayers.com/tickets/ faq.

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION

Gate Times

Gates will open at 7:30 a.m. each day.

Parking

The General Parking Lot address is 5360 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra Beach.

Parking passes are not included with ticket purchases. A separate parking pass is required for each day of championship week (Tuesday through Sunday) and must be purchased online in advance. Purchase parking at https:// www.theplayers.com/parking.

Rideshare

Rideshares will drop off and pick up at the Couples Entry off ATP Boulevard, just steps from the 15th hole.

Bike and Golf Cart Parking

THE PLAYERS offers complimentary bike and golf cart parking just past Gate B inside TPC Sawgrass. Fans should enter TPC Sawgrass from the PGA Tour Bou-

BBB

MästerElite

levard entrance, by the Sawgrass Marriott, and follow signs to golf and bike parking. Bike and golf cart parking is not available in the general parking lot. Bike racks are provided free of charge, and fans are reminded to bring their own lock to secure their bicycles.

Cashless Experience

All payments will be digital, contactless and cashless throughout the entire tournament property.

Disabled Guest Services

THE PLAYERS offers shuttle services for disabled guests throughout the tournament. Fans with a handicap parking hang tag must still purchase a parking pass for the general parking lot (off County Road 210). Once parked, golf carts will transport them to designated locations on the course. Carts operate from gate opening until

NAVIGATING THE PLAYERS continues on Page 22

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NAVIGATING THE PLAYERS

30 minutes after play ends, following a set route with specific pick-up and drop-off points.

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

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

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

Shuttles

Whether you're a local resident or visiting from out of town, the shuttle services provide convenient and costeffective transportation options to ensure a smooth and eniovable experience.

Free shuttles for Nocatee and area residents. Shuttles are first-come, first-served. Dates: Friday, March 14; Saturday, March 15; Sunday, March 16

Parking Locations:

- Palm Valley Academy: 700 Bobcat Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32081 (Friday-Sunday)
- Valley Ridge Academy: 105 Greenleaf Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32081 (Friday-Saturday)
- Pine Island Academy: 805 Pine Island Rd, St. Augustine, FL 32095 (Saturday-Sunday)

Shuttle Times: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Drop-off Location: Nicklaus entrance to THE PLAY-

POLICIES

Spectator Information Tents are located at:

- Davis Love III entry
- Taste of Jax (11 green/12 tee)
- PGA TOUR Fan Shop at THE PLAYERS Welcome Experience
 - Wine & Dine on 9 presented by Meiomi Wines

Help keep THE PLAYERS clean and safe

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

Fan Code of Conduct

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

- · Making rude, vulgar or other inappropriate comments or gestures;
- Verbal or physical harassment of players, volunteers, officials or spectators;
 - Distracting a player or any disruption of play;
- Behavior that is unruly, disruptive, unsafe or illegal
- Failing to follow the instruction of a championship official, volunteer or security personnel.

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

Mobile Device Policy

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

- Devices must be on silent at all times; flash may not
- Devices may be used to capture video, audio and photos (content) in all areas throughout tournament
- Content may be used for personal purposes (e.g., personal social media); no commercial use.
- No live streaming or real-time coverage (e.g., no shot-by-shot coverage).
- Data use (e.g., texting) is permitted in all areas throughout tournament week.
 - Phone calls are allowed only in designated areas.
- Please be respectful of play and do not interfere with players, caddies or media.
- All posted signage and instructions from tournament staff must be observed.
- Failure to comply with this policy may result in the revocation of your ticket.

Autograph Policy

- On-course autograph seeking is prohibited. (This includes, but is not limited to, tees, fairways, greens and practice areas during practice rounds and tournament
- Autograph seeking will be restricted to designated autograph zones: practice grounds and scoring area
- No memorabilia can be brought into the tournament including pin flags, photos, trading cards, balls and other sports paraphernalia.

NAVIGATING THE PLAYERS continues on Page 23

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NAVIGATING THE PLAYERS

Alcohol Policy

- Strict adherence to alcoholic beverage consumption laws will be enforced on course and in all hospitality areas.
- Alcohol will not be served to anyone younger than 21; proof of age will be required for anyone younger than 35.
- Only two drinks may be purchased at a time; spectators are not allowed to carry more than two drinks at any

Bag Policy and What You Can Bring

Fans may bring bags that meet the following guidelines:

- Opaque bags measuring 6-by-6-by-6 inches or smaller
- Clear bags measuring 12-by-6-by-12 inches or smaller Additionally, fans are allowed to bring their own food in a one-gallon clear plastic bag, with food items wrapped in clear wrap. Reusable plastic or metal cups (up to 32 oz.) are also permitted, provided they are empty upon entry. No memorabilia can be brought into the tournament including pin flags, photos, trading cards, balls and other sports paraphernalia.

Fan Lockers

Located at the Nicklaus (by the main parking lot) and Couples (by the rideshare area) entries, THE PLAYERS offers free fan lockers for convenient and secure storage of belongings.

FOOD AND DRINK

THE PLAYERS takes pride in offering an exceptional culinary experience that showcases the vibrant flavors of the region. This commitment to highlighting local food and restaurants means spectators can enjoy much

more than traditional tournament fare — though classic options like burgers and hot dogs are always available. From savory lobster rolls to authentic Neapolitan-style pizza and, of course, plenty of barbecue options, the diverse food offerings ensure there's something for every palate.

Taste of JAX

Featuring a selection of local Jacksonville restaurants, Taste of JAX offers fans a chance to indulge in some of the city's best flavors and culinary creations. Enjoy everything from fresh seafood to Southern barbecue and international-inspired dishes.

- Cousins Maine Lobster Serving up its 100% premium, wild-caught, sustainably harvested lobster from
- Mojo BBQ A premier barbecue, southern food, and craft cocktail destination with eight locations in North and Central Florida.
- Ajua Mexican Kitchen Ajua Mexican Kitchen offers authentic Mexican flavors with fresh ingredients and bold spices, making it a must-visit spot for delicious, handcrafted dishes.
- Carolina Jax New in 2025. Known for their award-winning burgers, Carolina Jax is bringing their irresistible creations to THE PLAYERS.
- Pele's Wood Fire Offering wood-fired pizzas and other modern Italian-inspired dishes.

Located near 11 Green/12 Tee.

Food Court – THE PLAYERS Welcome Experience

• Homespun Kitchen – A fresh twist on fast food, Homespun offers a variety of healthy, flavorful options for every diet, including vegan, gluten-free, and paleo.

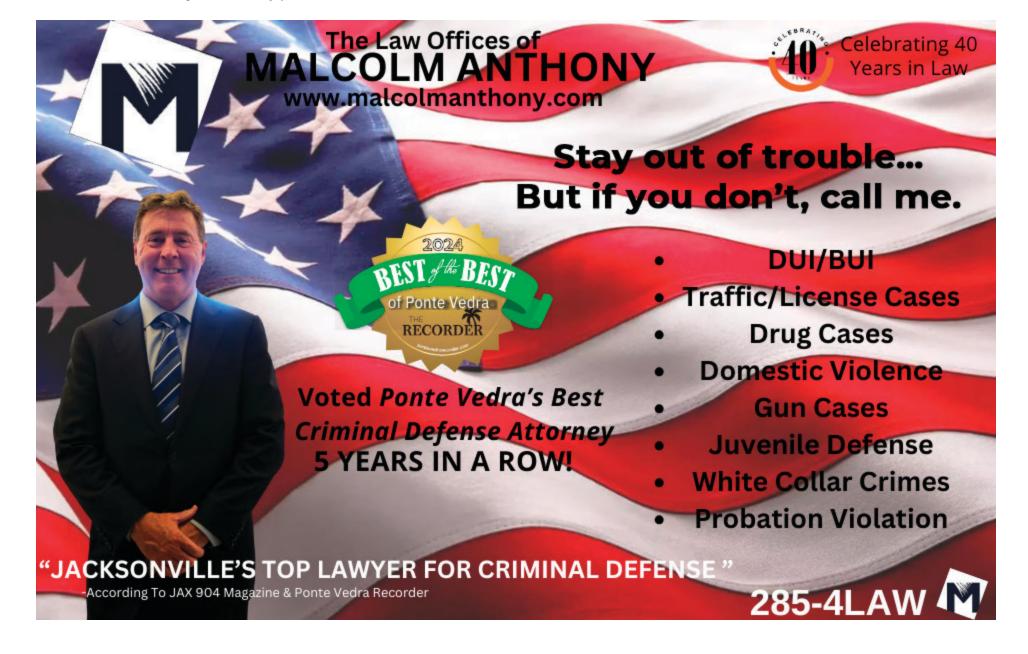
- Firehouse Subs This sandwich shop was founded in Jacksonville and specializes in hot subs and sandwiches made with premium meats and cheeses, steamed to perfection, and then piled high on a toasted roll.
- Bono's Pit Bar-B-Q Serving up a taste of authentic Southern barbecue since 1949, Bono's Pit Bar-B-Q brings you mouthwatering, slow-cooked meats straight from the pit.
- The Local A Jacksonville hotspot serving up delicious dishes with a unique twist. Whether you're in the mood for a quick bite or something more indulgent, it's the perfect place to satisfy your cravings.
- Tropical Smoothie Bold, flavorful smoothies, wraps, sandwiches, flatbreads, and salads with highquality ingredients and fresh produce.
- Daily's Concessions Your convenient stop for quick bites and snacks, featuring Dash's made-to-order breakfast and lunch options like sandwiches, salads, and specialty coffee drinks, along with classic concession stand favorites. Perfect for grabbing a snack or drink while you're on the go!

The Food Court is located inside Stadium Village, adjacent to the PGA TOUR Fan Shop.

Wine & Dine on 9 presented by Meiomi Wines

Enjoy food from Bonefish Grill and a glass of wine from Meiomi Wines, the official wine of the PGA TOUR, in a beautiful garden setting. Also, located at the 8th Fan Bleacher, fans (ages 21+) can test their putting skills while savoring samples of signature Meiomi Wines, including the new Meiomi Sangria Wine Cocktail. Don't miss out on exciting daily giveaways (while supplies

NAVIGATING THE PLAYERS continues on **Page 24**



NAVIGATING THE PLAYERS

last) and some friendly competition at this must-visit destination!

Trucks on 10

This venue offers flavors from local favorite food trucks and an open-air Michelob ULTRA Mobile bar.

- Twisted Okie BBQ
- Mama's
- Saffron Mediterranean Kitchen
- Tikiz
- Alma
- Hibashi Party

Tacos on 12

TacoLu, Jacksonville's popular Baja Mexicana spot, is back at Hole 12, serving up its signature tacos and more. Now, they've teamed up with Maestro Dobel Tequila for the ultimate pairing of fresh tacos and smooth tequila. Located near 12 Green.

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

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

Bier Garden presented by Hoptinger – behind 16 green

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

The Oasis ft. Tito's Golf Club

The Oasis provides a comfortable, open-air space for fans to take a break while enjoying views of the 9th tee, featuring signature cocktails from Tito's Handmade Vodka and ABBQ. Known for its Texas-style barbecue, ABBQ serves up mouthwatering smoked meats that pair perfectly with your favorite cocktail. The venue has a ton of fun additions for fans, including the Tito's Golf Club, where fans can enjoy refreshing cocktails, putting contests for fun giveaways, great views of golf and lounge seating. Pro Tip: be sure to enjoy a Sawgrass Splash or Tito's Transfusion.

The Grove featuring Maestro Dobel

Located in Stadium Village behind the 17th tee, The Dobel Lounge offers a selection of premium tequila cocktails, showcasing 11 generations of Maestro Dobel Tequila mastery. Fans can enjoy handcrafted cocktails, test their skills at the Closest to the Pin golf simulator and take part in golf and tequila trivia for a chance to win prizes — all while being right in the heart of the action.

Bagels R Us: Hole-in-One Breakfast

Fuel up with fresh bagels from Bagels R Us, a perfect breakfast before you hit the course. (New in 2025)

WHAT'S NEW IN 2025

- Bagels R Us: Hole-in-One Breakfast Fuel up with fresh bagels from Bagels R Us, a perfect breakfast before you hit the course.
- Carolina Jax Known for their award-winning burgers, Carolina Jax is bringing their irresistible cre-



Photo provided by The PGA Tou

TacoLu

ations to THE PLAYERS.

- Fan Viewing Platform at Hole 10/11 Responding to fan feedback, the tournament has brought back fan seating at Hole 10/11. Thanks to Mayo Clinic, this new platform is the perfect place to congregate, cheer and enjoy the action.
- Fiesta on 12 with Tacos and Tequila TacoLu is back and bringing their fan-favorite tacos to Hole 12, now joined by Maestro Dobel Tequila. Enjoy the perfect pairing of fresh tacos and smooth tequila, all while taking in the exciting action on the course.
- Grand opening of PGA TOUR Studios and debut of World Feed THE PLAYERS Championship 2025 marks the official launch of the PGA TOUR World Feed, which allows the TOUR and its international media partners to provide fans worldwide with more customized coverage and storytelling of the TOUR's

NAVIGATING THE PLAYERS continues on **Page 26**



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Monahan declines to answer what everybody wants to know

By Kathy Bissell

Most of the golf world wants to know what is happening in the PGA Tour-LIV deal, or if there is even going to be a deal. PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan, in his State of the Tour press conference Tuesday at THE PLAYERS, even broke the ice by starting with just that.

"The talks are real, they're substantial, and they're being driven at the top levels of both organizations. Those talks have been significantly bolstered by President Trump's willingness to serve as a facilitator," Monahan began. "President Trump is a lifelong golf fan. He believes strongly in the game's power and potential, and he has been exceedingly generous with his time and influence to help bring a deal together."

Additionally, Monahan continued, Trump wants to see the game reunified, just as the PGA Tour does.

"We appreciate Yasir's (Yasir Al-Rumayyan, governor of the Saudi Public Investment Fund) innovative vision, and we can see a future where we welcome him onto our board and work together to move the global game forward," Monahan added.

He said the PGA Tour is doing everything it can to bring both sides together and that the Tour is committed to reunification.

While conversations are good, creating a new "wing" or a new part or even a second season of golf that would include PIF ideas, still has to happen on a timetable that includes the planning in place on the PGA Tour.

The PGA Tour, after all, has contracts with numerous tournaments that are in the middle of five- and 10-year spans. Those can't just be upended. Certainly Yasir Al-Rumayyan understands that. They have contracts for LIV tournaments and players that have to be honored as well.

For example, the PGA Tour has been busy, as always, with sponsorships. In the last three weeks, the Tour has signed agreements with Valspar, 3M, Anheuser-Busch, Delta and Morgan Stanley. Valspar, 3M and Morgan Stanley are for renewed tournament sponsorships. Truist (replacing Wells Fargo) and Baycurrent

(replacing ZoZo) came on board as sponsors when other organizations dropped

In addition, there were also extensions signed with Coca-Cola, which is a presenting sponsor for the Tour Championship. And RSM and Hero MotoCorp added to their current agreements.

"The strength in those announcements and the commitment that they're making says an awful lot about the complete platform of the PGA Tour," Monahan said. "I just want to say that, on behalf of the players, we're all very grateful for that."

New sponsorships aren't the only topics that fill Monahan's calendar. They are taking a look at the format of the Tour Championship, as some people still seem unsatisfied with the way outcome is reached. If there's a golf god, we have to hope she doesn't allow match play as the result. It never turns out the way you want it to. Phil Mickelson never plays Tiger Woods. Jack Nicklaus never plays Arnold Palmer. Sam Snead never plays Ben Hogan.

Other items on the commissioner's plate include S—L—O—W play. The

Tour is preparing to get a handle on measuring players, but what will happen as a result remains to be seen. It will only be on Korn Ferry and PGA Tour Americas for starters.

Mark Russell, a longtime rules official for the Tour, now retired, explained it the best way in an interview for The Golf Show 2.0. Summarizing, he said that the reason play is slow is that the fields are too big to fit on a golf course. The 144-and 156-player fields leave golfers waiting after they play nine holes. In addition, a lot of golfers can reach the par 5s in two, causing back-ups as groups wait for the green to clear ahead of them.

Russell also pointed to what he called the dance players do on each green before putts are hit, which means the amount of time it takes for Aim Point or other putting analysis before each stroke.

However, one improvement may happen after use of rangefinders, which will be allowed at PGA Tour events between the Masters and the PGA Championship. The results should be interesting.

MONAHAN continues on Page 26

Exquisite Luxury Custom Home in Prestigious Ponte Vedra Beach



19 MARIA PLACE, PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FL 32082

Tucked away in a serene cul-de-sac in one of Ponte Vedra Beach's most sought-after neighborhoods, this exquisite custom-built estate boasts **5 bedrooms**, **5.5 bathrooms**, and a spacious **4,641 square feet of living space**. Just steps from the beach, it offers a rare opportunity to live in unparalleled luxury and comfort.

- Constructed with durable poured concrete and rated to withstand 200+ mph winds, this home features impactresistant glass windows designed for ultimate protection.
- The gourmet kitchen is a chef's dream, complete with quartz countertops, Thermador appliances, a 52-bottle wine cooler, double ovens, a separate wet bar, and an additional ice maker.
- Upstairs, you'll find two bedrooms, including a spacious bonus room, perfect for a home gym or office, each with en-suite bathrooms for complete privacy.
- A substantial laundry room and generous storage spaces enhance the home's functionality.
- The expansive great room features soaring vaulted ceilings, providing a grand yet inviting space for family and entertaining.
- Two luxurious primary suites are located on the first floor, each with serene pool and water views, offering ultimate comfort and relaxation.
- The home also includes a state-of-the-art security system, air purification system, and water softener for peace of mind.
- Enjoy the outdoor oasis with a saltwater pool, a spacious paver pool deck, and large collapsing sliders that open to the tranquil surroundings.
- Additional features include an outdoor half bath with an exterior shower and 4.5-car parking capacity, with two 2-car garages and extra space for up to six vehicles.
- Located just a short stroll from the Ponte Vedra Beach Inn & Club and the Lodge & Club, this property is perfectly situated for a beach and golf lifestyle.

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Monahan

There was much discussion on commercial interruption in telecasts, which, when you think about it, is silly.

It is commercial TV. The telecasts as pay-per-view are probably economically unreasonable. People would object more to that. Commercials, sponsors, tournaments, etc., it's all a part of the whole ball of wax that is televised sports. One just hopes that the producers of each telecast pick the best time for an interruption.

So, while we will all have to wait a little longer for the answer to the potential LIV merger, once it is done, or once people in charge decide not to do it, the topic can be closed. That, at least, is something. And in the interim, the PGA Tour is heading down the road to its future, with or without LIV.

NAVIGATING THE PLAYERS

international players. Originating just a few hundred yards away from the new PGA TOUR Studios, which opened its doors in January, the PGA TOUR World Feed is produced and curated exclusively for international media partners and their viewers, with up to six dedicated cameras focused on international players at PGA TOUR events across the FedExCup Season. The new, live telecast will be produced for all remaining events on the 2025 PGA TOUR schedule.

• Creator Classic: Where Content Meets Competition — Following its success at the TOUR Championship, the Creator Classic returns to THE PLAYERS Championship. Top social media creators will compete in a nine-hole event at TPC Sawgrass. The competition features eight holes of gross stroke play, followed by a playoff between the top four finishers.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP WEEK

Thursday, March 13

Charity of the Day: First Tee — North Florida

- Entries open at 7:30 a.m.
- First round of competition begins at 7:40 a.m.

Friday, March 14

Charity of the Day: Wounded Warrior Project

- Entries open at 7:30 a.m.
- Second round of competition begins at 7:40 a.m.

Saturday, March 15

Charity of the Day: Jacksonville Humane Society

- Entries open at 7:30 a.m.
- Third round of competition begins at approximately 8:15 a.m., depending on the size of the cut (twosomes off

Championship Sunday, March 16

Charity of the Day: MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation

- Entries open at 7:30 a.m.
- Final round of competition begins at approximately 7:33 a.m., depending on size of the cut (twosomes off

MERCHANDISE

The PGA TOUR Fan Shop at THE PLAYERS has been completely transformed, offering fans an immersive shopping experience like never before. The space is designed to engage and excite with new fixtures, custommade furniture, a refreshed layout and even a live DJ. More than just a place to shop, it's a destination in itself. And pro tip: it has the best AC on the golf course, perfect for fans looking to cool down!

As always, the shop will offer the best selection of your favorite gear, with an exciting array of product debuts, curated brand collections, specialty items and local brands, including exclusive special-edition products.

Did you know? Last year, the tournament sold more than 49,000 hats!

Notable brands this year include:

- LaFarve
- Sugarloaf Social
- Good Good Golf
- · Ellsworth and Ivey
- Blue 84
- Rhoback

The Fan Shop will be open to the public the weekend before the tournament so that the community can check out the unique merchandise collection and purchase commemorative items and apparel. The shop will be open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday (March 7), Saturday (March 8) and Sunday (March 9).



Big donation helps open Patriots' Outpost with a bang



Comcast Business presented a \$25,000 donation to Jacksonville nonprofit FIVE STAR Veterans Center as part of the Patriots' Outpost opening event on Tuesday at THE PLAYERS.

THE PLAYERS officially opened the Patriots' Outpost, a dedicated space for military members and their families to enjoy during the tournament. The ceremony featured a presentation of colors by Sandalwood High School AFJROTC and Comcast Business presented a \$25,000 donation to FIVE STAR Veterans Center, a Jacksonvillebased nonprofit dedicated to helping displaced veterans transition into independent living.

Photos by Anthony Richards



Students in Sandalwood High School's AFJROTC program presented the colors.



THE PLAYERS Chairman Tyler Oldenburg speaks during the



The Patriots' Outpost is open for veterans and their families throughout the week of THE PLAYERS.



A volunteer greets a veteran.



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Kim Martin-Fisher and Jennifer Martin Faulkner



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Sales Associate

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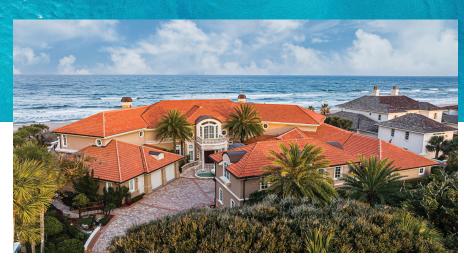
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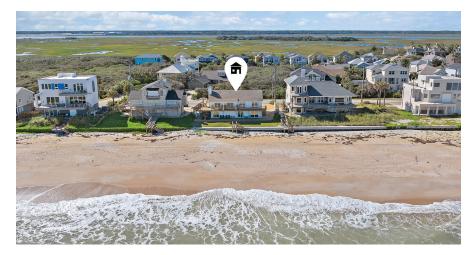
To Learn More, Call Kim or Jennifer



Active | 1201 Ponte Vedra Boulevard | Ponte Vedra Beach \$11,900,000 | 11 BR, 13 BA, 3 HALF BA | Web# 2014269



Active | 211 Wilderness Ridge Drive | Ponte Vedra \$3,450,000 | 4 BR, 4 BA, 1 HALF BA | Casita | Web# 2069081



Active | 3109 S Ponte Vedra Boulevard | Ponte Vedra Beach \$1,795,000 | 4 BR, 4 BA | Web# 2058089



Coming Soon | 514 Ponte Vedra Boulevard | Ponte Vedra Beach \$7,300,000 | 7 BR, 4 BA, 3 HALF BATHS | Guest House | Web# 2074862



Coming Soon | 26 La Vista Drive | Ponte Vedra Beach \$4,500,000 | 6 BR, 5 BA | Web# 2074852



Active | 217 Hatter Drive | Nocatee \$825,000 | 2 BR, 2 BA, Plus Office | Web# 2072569





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- FIRST AID PRESENTED **BY BAPTIST HEALTH**
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L) FOOD COURT

Local food and drinks for purchase Bono's Pit Bar-B-O Carolina Jax Daily's Firehouse Subs Homespun Kitchen The Local Tropical Smoothie Café

- **FAN BLEACHER AND PAR 4 PUTT EXPERIENCE** PRESENTED BY MEIOMI WINES
- **THE OASIS** FEATURING TITO'S GOLF CLUB
- WINE & DINE ON 9 **PRESENTED BY MEIOMI WINES** Bonefish Grill
- **PALM VALLEY VILLAGE** Refreshments
- **THE PATIO** Michelob ULTRA V Pizza
- **SAWGRASS SQUARE** Bushmills Irish Whiskey Bar 4 Rivers Smokehouse Bagels R Us
- **TACOS ON 12** Dobel Tequila Bar TacoLu
- **TASTE OF JAX** Local food and drinks for purchase That Tito's Place Ajua Mexican Kitchen & Bar Cousins Maine Lobster Moio Kitchen Pele's Wood Fire
- THE BIER GARDEN (U)**PRESENTED BY HOPTINGER**
- **BACKYARD BITES PRESENTED BY BLACKSTONE GRIDDLES**
- **KIDS ZONE PRESENTED BY NEMOURS CHILDREN'S HEALTH**
- **TRUCKS ON 10**

Alma Hibashi Party Mama's Saffron Tikiz Twisted Okie

- **THE GROVE FEATURING DOBEL TEQUILA CLUB** PGA TOUR 2K25
- **VIEWING DECK PRESENTED BY MAYO CLINIC**

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- B 17 BUILDING B DYE'S PAVILION PRESENTED BY NETJETS ISLAND SUITE THE PLAYERS MARQUEES
- C 17 BUILDING C THE PLAYERS CLUB THE PLAYERS MARQUEES
- D 17 BUILDING D ISLAND SUITES
 THE PLAYERS MARQUEES
- E 16 BUILDING E THE PLAYERS MARQUEES
- F 16 BUILDING F CHAMPIONSHIP CLUB PRESENTED BY LEXUS **ISLAND SUITES** THE PLAYERS MARQUEES
- G THE DECK **PRESENTED BY MICHELOB ULTRA**
- **INTRACOASTAL CLUB PRESENTED BY SHARK COATINGS**
- THE PLAYERS CLUB THE PLAYERS CLUB (17 TEE) THE LOUNGE (18 GREEN) CLUBHOUSE



GRONK GETS CHANCE TO PLAY THE 17TH

Four-time Super Bowl champion and FanDuel partner Rob Gronkowski, surprised PGA Tour fans Tuesday afternoon, March 11, at TPC Sawgrass as the best golfers in the world descended upon the world-class venue for the 2025 PLAYERS Champion-

Gronkowski spent time with PGA Tour players and FanDuel ambassadors Will Zalatoris and Jordan Spieth at THE PLAYERS Championship where the golfers offered him some tips to improve his game. Gronkowski is a FanDuel ambassador who appears in

various FanDuel content, including the Kick of Destiny franchise, as well as content that promotes responsible play.

Taking it one step further, Gronkowski caddied for PGA Tour fan favorite Will Zalatoris during his practice round. The former tight end was tasked with everything a caddie is responsible for during competition play, from choosing the right club to reading putts and raking bunkers. After Gronk's caddie duties were over, the tables were turned, and it was the 11-year NFL veteran's turn to tee it up on the iconic Island Green 17th

hole at TPC Sawgrass.

THE PLAYERS Championship annually combines the strongest field in golf with the world-class venue that is the Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass. With a purse of \$25 million for the 2025 event, the tournament will take place Thursday through Sunday and will be broadcast across ESPN+, Golf Channel and NBC.

Two-time defending PLAYERS Champion and current World No. 1 Scottie Scheffler will return to TPC Sawgrass with an eye on a third consecutive victory, which would be

the first on the PGA Tour since 2011.

Optum, Morgan Stanley and Comcast Business are the exclusive Proud Partners of THE PLAYERS. Proceeds from THE PLAYERS benefit Northeast Florida charities and have totaled more than \$120 million since it began in 1974 and moved to Ponte Vedra Beach in 1977.

For more on THE PLAYERS, go to theplayers.com. For more information about Ponte Vedra Beach and the surrounding areas, go to floridashistoriccoast.com or visitjacksonville.com.

Cypress Village, UNF empower employees, residents through education

After 10 years of dedicated groundwork, Cypress Village has announced the beginning of a strategic partnership with the University of North Florida (UNF). UNF Day marked the official start of this collaboration, celebrating a milestone that has been a long time in the making.

This new chapter is built on the vision and tireless efforts of late residents such as Dr. Lowell Salter, Dr. Anne Hopkins, Frank McLaughlin and Dr. Gerson Yesson, whose commitment to education and community enrichment paved the way for today's opportunities. Their legacy continues to inspire Cypress Village's ongoing mission to empower both its employees and residents.

For employees, this partnership offers access to career-enhancing resources, including degree programs, vocational certifications and financial aid options through UNF. One of the most impactful aspects of this initiative is the Cypress Village Scholarship Fund, which has been supporting employees in their pursuit of higher education for more than 20 years. Eligible employees can receive up to \$5,000 per year in scholarship assistance to help fund their education.

UNF Day also featured distinguished speakers from UNF's leadership, who provided valuable insights into the future of health care, artificial intelligence (AI) and workforce development.

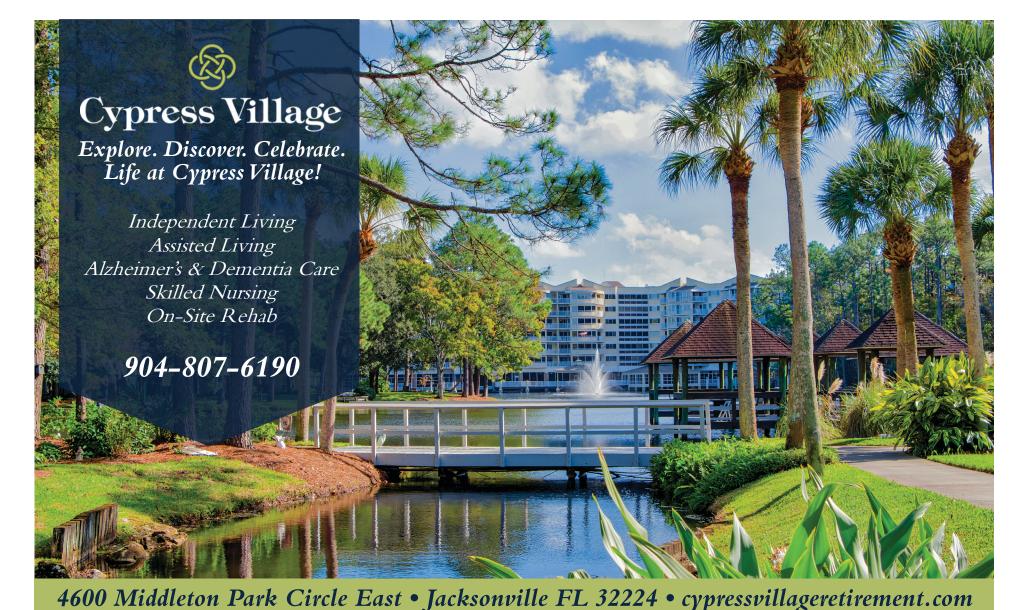
Moez Limayem, president of UNF, spoke as well and underscored the university's commitment to serving as Jacksonville's top workforce provider, preparing individuals for success in a rapidly evolving job market.

A highlight of the event was the announcement of a new AI certification program, set to launch in the fall. This program, available to Cypress Village employees and residents, will provide participants with a cutting-edge understanding of AI and its applications. Additional details on enrollment will be shared as they become available.

UNF Day aligns with Cypress Village's 2025 strategic focus on health, wellness and education. The community remains committed to providing employees and residents with meaningful opportunities to learn, grow and excel in their careers and personal lives.

Cypress Village extended its gratitude to the UNF faculty and staff who contributed to making this event a success and looks forward to continuing this impactful partner-

Cypress Village is a premier senior living community in Jacksonville, offering a range of services including independent living, assisted living, memory care and skilled nursing. Cypress Village is committed to enhancing the quality of life for its residents through exceptional care, innovative programs and strong community partnerships.





Moms and moms-to-be gather to celebrate with Operation Shower.



The shower theme was "Sweet Dreams."

Shower

Continued from

colorful balloon arches, cozy stuffed animal table toppers and twinkling celestial decorations. Military moms and their families enjoyed a catered lunch by Outback Steakhouse as they played games and heard from guest speakers.

Many local businesses presented the moms with complimentary gifts such as self-care gift certificates, baby clothes and much more. Raffles handed out other baby essentials such as diapers, baby care items and advanced baby monitoring technology. Comcast Business, one of THE PLAYERS' Proud Partners, presented the moms and moms-to-be with new laptops, along with a bundle of other goodies.

"Comcast Business is proud to sponsor this event because the military community means so much to us," said Michelle Oyola McGovern, regional VP, government & regulatory affairs, Florida region at Comcast Business.

Moms concluded the afternoon by opening Operation Shower's signature "Showers In A Box," boxes filled to the brim with high-quality necessities designed to make life a little easier with a newborn in tow.

"We know how important it is to support mothers and babies at every stage," said Amanda Roberts of Optum Serve, another of THE PLAYERS' Proud Partners. "As a mother of three myself, I know how motherhood stretches you in every way ... but it also gives back tenfold."

The March 10 event celebrated the 15th military baby shower hosted in partnership with Operation Shower since 2010, providing support to hundreds of moms and moms-to-be over the years.



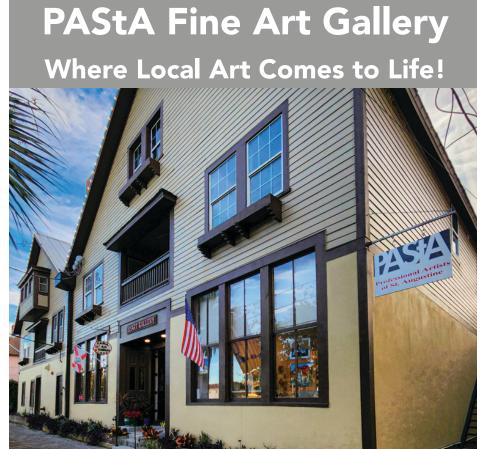
Games and raffles sent military moms and moms-to-be home with a bundle of gifts.



Unpacking one of Operation Shower's signature "Showers In A Box"

Photos by Holly Tishfield





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THE PLAYERS PREVIEW

An early look at the merch and flavors of this year's PLAYERS









THE PLAYERS Championship previewed some merchandise from this year's PGA Tour Fan Shop and food and beverages from tournament vendors for the community over the weekend. The Fan Shop has been redesigned to offer an enhanced and immersive shopping experience. This year, THE PLAYERS will have more than 20 local restaurants to satisfy hungry and thirsty fans. Here are some photos from the event, including a look at the trophy on display.

Photos by Susan Griffin

See MORE PHOTOS on Page 35





THE PLAYERS PREVIEW











Photos by Holly Tishfield





The panel discussion with speakers from the PGA Tour.

Students attend Tee Up Your Future event at THE PLAYERS

By Holly Tishfield

On Friday, March 7, THE PLAYERS Championship invited high school students from Duval County Public Schools to visit the PGA Tour Global Home for its second annual Tee Up Your Future event.

PLAYERS Championship Executive Director Lee Smith opened the panel by giving students a brief history of the economic impact the tournament has on the Northeast Florida area and encouraged the students to engage with the exclusive panel of speakers, who were all fellow graduates from the Duval County Public School System.

"We're excited to partner with Duval County Public Schools," Smith said. "This is just the tip of the iceberg."

In addition to a behind-the-scenes tour, students attended an education forum with special guest speakers from the PGA Tour, where students sat in on the panel hosted by Marcel Robinson of Action News Jax. Guests included Marsha Oliver, senior vice president of commu-

nity & public engagement; James Oliva, head of cybersecurity; Emily Redito, senior manager of tournament business and sponsor relations; and Jordan Smith, brand communications and storytelling specialist.

The panel discussion urged the students to set their goals for success high and grow their connections at every opportunity.

"You need people that have a different perspective," Smith told students. "Life and growing is always about gaining new perspectives. You're not going to do that if you're around the same people every single day."

Students had the opportunity to ask the panelists questions, including inquiries about internship opportunities and strategies for advancing their careers.

Leroy Butler, Jacksonville native and NFL Hall of Famer, delivered a keynote speech on overcoming adversity, sharing his inspiring story of rising above the

TEE UP continues on Page 38





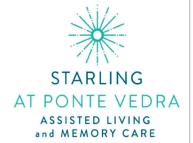












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Representatives of the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office speak with job seekers during THE PLAYERS' annual Military Job Fair.



A job seeker speaks with a representative of one of the employers onsite.



A company representative speaks with prospective applicants.

PLAYERS Championship hosts military job fair

By Shaun Ryan

The Patriots' Outpost tent at TPC Sawgrass was bustling Saturday, March 8, as THE PLAYERS Championship hosted its 14th annual Military Job Fair, an event often hailed as the unofficial kickoff of the tournament.

The event has grown steadily each year, both in terms of employers represented — more than 30 this year — and job seekers.

"Within the first 15 or 20 minutes we had, I think, 50-plus people here," said retired Brig. Gen. Michael P. Fleming. Fleming chairs the Jacksonville Military Veterans Coalition, which partners with

the tournament annually to present the job fair.

One of the prospective employers was Clay County, which has hired about a half dozen veterans or soon-to-be veterans over the five years it has had a table at the job fair.

"It's an absolutely wonderful event," said Clay County Manager Howard Wanamaker. "We love participating, and we'll continue to participate in the future."

Wanamaker said veterans possess qualities that employers value: experience, knowledge and leadership capabilities.

He said Clay County has a lot of available jobs, listing the various departments

f @ G

where they can be found: Public Works, Engineering, Fire ("We're always looking for firefighters"), Parks and Rec, Facilities, Libraries and IT.

"Definitely IT," he emphasized.

He said the county was prepared to hire on the spot should the occasion arise

"Our HR team is ready," he said.
"They have department heads ready, available by phone, if they want to interview a candidate or set up a personal interview later in the week."

A veteran himself, having served 26 years with the U.S. Navy, Wanamaker has been through the process of transitioning to civilian life. Upon retirement

in 2016, he was hired by the Hanania Automotive Group and, in fact, represented that business at THE PLAYERS' Military Job Fair as an employee there.

Of his military service, he said he wouldn't change a thing.

"I would encourage our youth ... to join the military and have a great career," he said.

One of the qualities employers like about veterans is their dependability, according to Fleming. And, though some jobs require specific skills acquired before applying, that isn't always the case.

"Most companies say, 'Look, you

JOB FAIR continues on Page 38

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Continued from 36

challenges of his youth.

The event concluded with breakout sessions, where students met in small groups with community leaders such as Ed Weinberg, CEO at Optum Serve; Mal Washington, founder of MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation; and David Green, executive director and branch manager at Morgan Stanley.

Comcast Business, one of the tournament's exclusive Proud Partners, surprised each student with a brand-new laptop to take home, providing them with a valuable resource to support their studies and future goals.



Photos by Holly Tishfield

Marcel Robinson and Leroy Butler



Mal Washington at a breakout sessions with students



Photo by Shaun Ryan

Barely 45 minutes into the job fair, the Patriots' Outpost tent was a busy place.

Job Fair

Continued from 37

give me somebody who really wants to work hard, who's going to apply themselves, and we can teach them the job," Fleming said.

Still, there are some things to unlearn before transitioning to civilian

"One of the challenges we have with veterans is to get them to talk about themselves when they're talking to employers," Fleming said. Members of the military are often taught to think less of themselves and more of the team. But in civilian life, they must learn to talk about their individual accomplishments.

It's also necessary to avoid talking in

jargon and acronyms, something often found in military conversation.

Fleming has long been an enthusiastic participant in the annual job fair.

"As a retired military member, I have the ability to give back through this, and it does my heart good every time," he said.

In addition to employers, Career-Source of Northeast Florida was onsite to help veterans who wanted assistance with their resumes, and a photographer from Optum was available to take professional photos of interested attendees.

Wanamaker encouraged any job seeker unable to attend the event to go to claycountygov.com to view available jobs. Simply googling "Clay County jobs" will also take people

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Nemours Children's Health CEO Dr. R. Lawrence Moss (left) and THE PLAYERS Executive Director Lee Smith kicked off the opening of this year's Nemours Kids Zone.



Fun games such as Operation are available for children to



Moss shares a laugh with some of the children.

Nemours Kids Zone to offer tons of fun during THE PLAYERS week

Nemours Children's Health, the official youth sponsor of THE PLAYERS, hosted a special ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of the Nemours Kids Zone. Students from Andrew Robinson Elementary School were the first ones invited into the Kids Zone as part of a field trip to THE PLAYERS. The Kids Zone is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Friday through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Photos by Anthony Richards



Children can practice their putting inside the Nemours Kids Zone.



The Nemours Kids Zone is located behind the tee box on No. 17 and to the right of the fan shop.



Smith and Moss share a conversation prior to the ribboncutting ceremony.



Major bluegrass artist scheduled for first show at re-opened Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

Venue to re-open Aug. 1

After nearly 15 months of renovations, the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is set to reopen its doors to the public on Aug. 1 with its first official concert featuring multiple Grammy Award-winning artist Dan Tyminski.

Tickets for Dan Tyminski Band go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday, March 7, through the official ticketing partner, AXS, and in person at The St. Augustine Amphitheatre Box Office, which is open daily from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ponte Vedra Concert Hall Box Office hours details will be released closer to the grand opening.

Over the past year and a half, Ponte Vedra Concert Hall has been completely transformed into a modern, state-of-the-art live music venue. Designed by the architecture firm Fisher Koppenhafer, the venue will feature:

- Expanded capacity with a second-floor balcony and stadium-style seating on the first floor
 - Two outdoor terraces for enhanced guest experiences
- Cutting-edge lighting and an L-Acoustics audio system — one of the first of its kind in North America, ensuring an unparalleled sound experience
- Upgraded and modernized restrooms, an onsite merchandise shop, and elevated concessions, including a Kookaburra Coffee Outpost

These enhancements set a new standard for live music experiences, ensuring that music fans from across the nation can enjoy a premium hospitality experience and unforgettable performances at Ponte Vedra Concert Hall for decades to come.

"This moment is a celebration of the hard work and



dedication of so many people who brought this renovation to life," said Gabe Pellicer, CEO and president of SJC Cultural Events, Inc., the 501(c)3 nonprofit that manages and operates Ponte Vedra Concert Hall. "We've reimagined the venue as a world-class destination, and it's truly special to have a bluegrass icon like Dan Tyminski open this next chapter. We're thrilled to welcome the community back so we can continue creating unforgettable concert experiences and sharing this incredible space with live music fans."

Jerry Wilson, president of Friends of Ponte Vedra Concert Hall added, "Today's announcement is very exciting. After 14 years of hosting top-quality performances, the dream of a new era will become a reality in 153 days. This is a tribute to the power of collaboration among St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners, St. Johns County Administration, SJC Cultural Events and Friends of Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, all working on behalf of our community. I am deeply grateful to our dedicated board of directors, unwavering members, committed volunteers, corporate sponsors and advisers for their long-term support. We are poised to open as one of the favorite places to experience live music in the country, and I can't wait for this opening

show.'

Tyminski was 6 years old when his parents began taking him to fiddle contests, square dances and bluegrass festivals across New England. For a young musician who would later become one of the biggest names in modern-day bluegrass, those early experiences were life changing.

Throughout his 30-plus year career, Tyminski has left an indelible mark across modern music. His unmistakable voice accompanies George Clooney's performance of "I Am A Man of Constant Sorrow" in the film "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" and his global hit collaboration with Swedish DJ Avicii on "Hey Brother" has been streamed more than a billion times.

A longtime member of Alison Krauss and Union Station, Tyminski has earned multiple Grammy Awards and has become one of bluegrass music's most celebrated artists. His electrifying live performances with the Dan Tyminski Band have made him a must-see act for music fans of any genre. His latest album, "Dan Tyminski: Live From The Ryman," was released in 2024 and is Grammy-nominated.

Doors open at 7:30 p.m. for the Aug. 1 show. Tickets are \$59 to \$79. For further details, go to pvconcerthall. com/events/detail/dan-tyminski-band.

Avoid ticket fees by purchasing tickets in person. Tickets for Ponte Vedra Concert Hall events are available for purchase at The St. Augustine Amphitheatre box office, open daily from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., with extended hours on show days. The box office accepts credit and debit card payments only.

Rock historian to speak at Coastal Friends lunch

Coastal Friends will present Michael Ray Fitzgerald as their guest speaker at the Wednesday, April 2, luncheon. Fitzgerald, a musician, media scholar,

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The luncheon runs from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and will be held at Marsh Landing Country Club, 25655 Marsh Landing Parkway, Ponte Vedra Beach.

The luncheon is open to members and guests, as well as the community. The

cost to attend is \$25. Reservations must be made in advance by contacting the luncheon chairman at bartshar@comcast.net. The deadline for checks to be received is Friday, March 28.

Established in 1998, Coastal Friends (formerly known as Newcomers Alumnae) is a social club comprised of women who live in Ponte Vedra Beach, Nocatee, Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Atlantic Beach, St. Augustine, Jacksonville and the surrounding area. Some of

the many activities offered are adventures and outings, book club, bunco, canasta, happy hour, lunch in, lunch out, mah jongg, samba and wine socials.

The group also highlights a specific charity every month at the luncheons.

Luncheons are held on the first Wednesday of every month, except July and August. New members are welcome throughout the year. Contact brookemeister@msn.com for more information on how to join.

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FEATURING -Who's Who in Law

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The Fresh Market Spirits & Wine staff gather to celebrate the grand opening.



Customers were invited to participate in tastings at



Photos by Holly Tishfield

Customers can explore aisles filled with a curated selection.

The Fresh Market opens its first Spirits & Wine store in Ponte Vedra

By Holly Tishfield

On Thursday, March 6, community members gathered to be among the first to set foot in The Fresh Market's firstever Spirits & Wine store, located at 840 A1A North in Ponte Vedra Beach.

The revolutionary spirits-and-wine store is the first of its kind, featuring a curated selection of bourbons, whiskies, rums and vodkas, as well as domestic and European wines and craft beers.

"It's a place where passion meets craftsmanship and every bottle tells a story," said Olivier Kielwasser, director of adult beverage at The Fresh Market. "Whether you're a wine enthusiast, a whiskey connoisseur, or simply someone looking for the perfect drink to celebrate

life's finest moments, we're here to offer vou the finest selection from around the world."

Located beside The Fresh Market grocery store but separated by an adjoining wall, the new store offers shoppers an opportunity to enjoy a pint of beer, glass of wine, or tasty cocktail at The Fresh Market Spirit & Wine's in-store bar as they relax in the lounge area or shop the store.

"We're beyond thrilled to be a part of the Ponte Vedra Beach community and to serve you," said Amanda Burris, store manager at The Fresh Market Spirits & Wine. "We're incredibly thankful to the team that helped us make this grand opening happen."

The store promises an experience dif-

ferent from traditional liquor stores thanks to a premium assortment of beverages. including everything from organic wines and regional craft beers to imported charcuterie, sparkling wines, top-shelf liquors

and a selection of international wines.

The 8.029-square-foot store officially opened and invites shoppers to experience the expertise of its staff and its wide variety of beverages firsthand.



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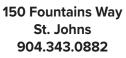






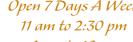
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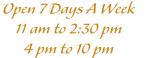
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New Stretch Zone opens in St. Johns

Stretch Zone, the nation's premier assisted stretching brand with a patented strapping system on proprietary tables, has opened its newest studio, Stretch Zone Durbin Park, located in St. Johns. This location is Stretch Zone's 385th in the United States and is owned and operated by Ramiah Martin, a multi-unit Stretch Zone owner.

Like many Stretch Zone members, Martin struggled with chronic back discomfort caused from his daily activities and was searching for a solution that could bring relief. After consulting with a friend, he was introduced to a nearby Stretch Zone.

Following a life-changing free stretch at the studio, Martin was inspired to bring that same transformative experience to

others in his community. He went on to acquire Stretch Zone Mandarin and Stretch Zone Ponte Vedra, recognizing the benefits of stretching and the positive impact Stretch Zone could have on people's lives. He assumed the mission to help locals enhance their flexibility, improve posture and increase their range of motion.

Stretch Zone Durbin Park is the first studio that he'll open from its infancy, with the goal of expanding the reach of empowered mobility throughout the Jacksonville area. He's confident this new studio will strengthen Stretch Zone's reputation as a provider of personalized stretching services.

"Seeing the relief a guest experiences after their session offers a fresh perspective, and I'm excited to share that feeling with more people looking to ease their discomfort," said Martin.

A Jacksonville native, he takes pride in supporting his community through his studios.

"My hope is that our studio can significantly improve the quality of life for our members and encourage them to push their flexibility to new heights."

The team at Durbin Park is eager to welcome new members and assist them in addressing mobility concerns through the Stretch Zone techniques. They are committed to spreading the knowledge of the benefits that come with assisted stretching, while growing the Stretch Zone footprint.

Stretch Zone is the only nationally accredited stretch franchise due in large part to its patented equipment and proprietary training and education methodology. Stretch Zone focuses on a scientific approach to stretching and believes in re-educating muscles to establish an ideal resting muscle tone and range of motion.

Stretch Zone Durbin Park is located in the heart of the Durbin Pavillion Shopping Center, 70 Durbin Pavilion Drive, Suite B-107, St. Johns. Operating hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

The studio phone number is 904-907-2963. The first visit is free for any new Stretch Zone members. For more information, go to stretchzone.com.

Questions to ask when looking for an attorney

Various situations call for working with a lawyer or an attorney. Having a skilled, experienced legal advocate in your corner in such situations can be advantageous and increase the likelihood of a favorable

When searching for legal representation, individuals may realize that there's no shortage of legal firms. That can make it more challenging to find the right lawyer or attorney. The vetting process is an important part of finding legal representation, and the following are some questions individuals can ask as they look for a lawyer or attorney.

Are you a lawyer or an attorney?

The terms "lawyer" and "attorney" are not interchangeable. The employment search engine Indeed notes that attorneys can represent clients in court and other legal proceedings while lawyers cannot. That's a subtle yet significant distinction that individuals must take into account when looking for legal representation.

What level of experience do you have in cases like mine?

Though each legal situation is unique, many are not one-of-a-kind instances. So individuals should ask about an attorney's experience with cases like their own and take note of the breadth of that experi-

What are the potential outcomes of

Even the most experienced and skilled attorney cannot say with absolute certainty what the outcome of a case will ultimately be. However, that does not mean

they cannot study the details and provide an assessment to give prospective clients an idea of how the case will unfold. When vetting attorneys, individuals should prepare and be ready to discuss details that can help each professional provide the most accurate assessment of their case.

What will your representation cost

Expenses and attorney fees can be significant, so individuals should not hesitate to ask how much legal representation will cost them. Attorneys represent clients on a contingency basis in certain situations, such as when an individual is suing for damages. In those situations, individuals should confirm what percentage of damages the attorney will receive and if there are any costs they may be responsible for. In other situations, confirm if an attorney is charging a fixed amount for their services or an hourly fee. It's also necessary to inquire about expenses and request that

ATTORNEY continues on **Page 45**



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GUEST COLUMN

Dividend-paying stocks: pros and cons

Written by/for Wells Fargo **Advisors**

A dividend is a portion of a company's profit that's paid to shareholders. That means dividend-paying stocks may provide a source of income. But they can also carry some degree of risk.

So, what do investors need to consider when it comes to dividend-paying stocks? In this Q&A, Austin Pickle, senior wealth investment solutions analyst with Wells Fargo Investment Institute, provides important information for investors to keep in mind.

1. What are the potential benefits of dividend-paying stocks?

"One of the big benefits is that these stocks may provide a more reliable income stream compared to some other investment options," Pickle says.

Companies tend to issue dividends on a routine basis, such as quarterly or semi-annually, which may create a dependable income stream. Another benefit? The stocks can yield some favorable tax treatment.

"It's going to depend on your tax situation," Pickle says, "but in general, you may have a relatively lower tax rate for dividends compared to income gained by selling investments." As long as the dividend-paying stock meets IRS requirements for a qualified dividend, the dividend is taxed at the lower long-term capital gains tax rate instead of being taxed as regular capital gains income. "So an investor could receive income from a dividend-paying stock without selling the stock and have a lower tax bill compared to that of a non-dividendpaying stock, which must be sold to receive income," he says.

2. Who should include dividend-paying stocks in their portfolio?

Many types of investors have the potential to benefit from dividend-



paying stocks. "But these stocks may be more valuable for investors who are a bit older — maybe those in retirement or close to retirement who really value a more reliable income stream," Pickle says. "I think they're typically beneficial from a diversification perspective, especially when interest rates are low. Dividend-paying stocks tend to have an inverse relationship with interest rates: When interest rates go down, you may see some of these dividend-paying stocks perform better."

3. What are the risks associated with dividend-paying stocks?

"Firms can reduce or cancel their dividends — especially during times of economic uncertainty and times of crisis," says Pickle. "And there's still the risk that dividends could be cut periodically, even without the trigger of a crisis event. And if tax rates change, it could mean you'd pay more, as well."

Explore your options with professional advisers

Pickle stresses that investors should

discuss the pros and cons of dividendpaying stocks with a financial adviser to help make sure they fill a need within an individual investment portfolio and make sense for a specific financial situation.

"You should also talk to your CPA or tax professional to make sure that you understand what the tax consequences are for your particular situation," he

Equity securities are subject to market risk, which means their value may fluctuate in response to general economic and market conditions, the prospects of individual companies and industry sectors. Investments in equity securities are generally more volatile than other types of securities. There is no guarantee that dividendpaying stocks will return more than the overall stock market. Dividends are not guaranteed and are subject to change or elimination.

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Village Arts Framing & Gallery celebrates half century of art, craftsmanship

Village Arts Framing & Gallery will conduct its 50th anniversary celebration open house from 1 to 4 p.m. April 12 at its Ponte Vedra Beach location in Sawgrass Village. This milestone event honors five decades of dedication to fine art and expert framing, and the community is invited to join the celebration.

Founded in 1975, Village Arts has become a cornerstone of the local arts scene, known for its exceptional custom framing services and thoughtfully curated gallery. Owner Pamela Keegan and Gallery Manager Lisa Cederberg have made it their mission to preserve and showcase artwork with the highest level of care and professionalism. Using only archival-quality materials, they ensure every piece — from family heirlooms to contemporary masterpieces — is framed to last a lifetime.

The gallery represents 15 award-winning local artists working in oil, watercolor, pastel and acrylic. Their diverse and vibrant works reflect the beauty, creativity and spirit of the region.

During the open house, guests will have the opportunity to meet some of these artists, explore their work and learn more about their creative processes.

The gallery represents Eve Albrecht, Aurora Ave, Lisa Cederberg, Jami Childers, Jeffrey Desautels, Sandra Fitzsimmons, Carol Grice, Pamela Keegan, Lorraine Millspaugh, Tom Nagata, Rick Petersen, Karen F. Rose, Mary O. Smith, Missy Vanover and Cindy Zeigler.

We are so grateful to our customers, artists and the Ponte Vedra Beach community for their support over the past 50 years," said Keegan. "This anniversary is not just a celebration of our history but a tribute to the incredible



Village Arts Framing & Gallery is marking its 50th anniversary

local talent we're honored to showcase and the relationships we've built along the way."

The event will feature light refreshments, live artist demonstrations and special giveaways. Art enthusiasts, longtime patrons and new friends alike are encouraged to stop by, meet the artists and experience the warmth and creativity that have made Village Arts a beloved local institution.

The event is free and open to the public. For further information, go to villageartspvb.com or call 904-273-

Castaway Cantina uncorks 'La Hora Azul'

Castaway Cantina at the Embassy Suites by Hilton St. Augustine Beach Oceanfront Resort will celebrate the arrival of spring by introducing a new nightly Happy Hour showcasing a variety of refreshing drinks, mouth-watering Latin-inspired favorites and spectacular waterfront views of the

The nightly celebration is called "La Hora Azul" — the Blue Hour — referring to the twilight time after sunset when the sky takes on a blueish hue. It is also the perfect time for locals and hotel guests to gather and share an assortment of \$4 beers, \$6 classic house margaritas and \$5 tacos.

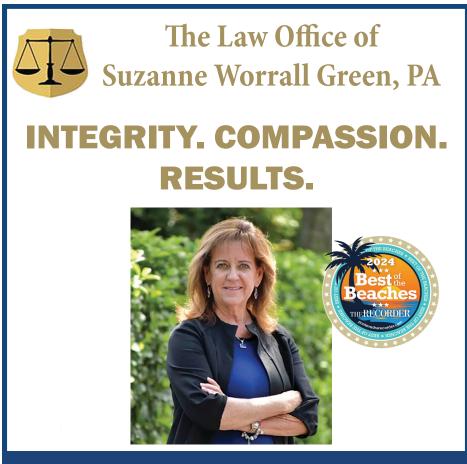
Located poolside, Castaway Cantina also offers a menu of carnitas nachos, Caribbean Island wings, handhelds and fresh ensaladas. The drink menu also features a selection of agave-based cocktails and tropical island-style frozen concoc-

This Happy Hour is held nightly from 5 to 7

Embassy Suites by Hilton St. Augustine Beach Oceanfront Resort is located at 300 A1A Beach Blvd., St. Augustine Beach. Complimentary valet parking available

For more information and reservations, go to EmbassySuitesStAugustine.com.





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an attorney provide a reasonable estimate of what their fees will be while they're representing you.

How will we communicate during the case?

It's understandable that individuals want to be kept abreast of the details of any legal matter they're involved in. Ask how that will unfold if you hire the attorney you're vetting. Will an intermediary be calling with periodic updates or can clients contact the attorney directly via an email, phone call or text message?

The right representation can make all the difference in a legal situation. Asking the right questions can help individuals find an attorney they're confident can deliver the best outcome.

DID YOU KNOW?

While there are law firms that focus on automobile-related cases, it's better to take precautions to prevent traffic crashes before they happen.

Geico notes the risk of a fatal auto crash is three times higher at night than in the day for every mile driven. Although it may not be possible to avoid nighttime driving entirely, limiting it, particularly for those who have challenges seeing at night or in dim conditions, can help reduce accident risk. The same can be said for staying off of roads in inclement weather.

Also, driving while under the influence of drugs (both illegal and prescription), alcohol and/or other substances greatly increases accident risk.

Adventure Landing Jacksonville Beach to celebrate 30 years

Adventure Landing Jacksonville Beach will celebrate three decades of family fun with a special waterpark opening weekend on March 15-16. The landmark 30th anniversary celebration, themed "Adventure Lives On — 30 Years Strong," will transform the traditional season opening into an unforgettable weekend festival for visitors of all ages.

"For 30 years, Adventure Landing has been creating memories for families across Northeast Florida," said Hank Woodburn, founder and CEO of Adventure Landing. "This opening waterpark weekend celebration kicks off our anniversary year, thanking the community that has supported us through the decades while introducing a new generation to the excitement that awaits."

The anniversary weekend will feature:

- Live DJ Entertainment: Professional DJs spinning family-friendly tunes
- 30 Spectacular Giveaways: Commemorating each year of operation with prizes awarded hourly
- Grand Prize Waterpark Package: One private cabana rental valid Monday through Thursday for up to eight guests and four waterpark day passes
- Special Character Appearances: Meet-and-greets with Bluey, Paw Patrol and other beloved characters
- Full Waterpark Access: All slides and attractions open for the 2025 season

30 Years of Thrills

Adventure Landing has continually evolved since open-

ing in 1995, beginning with the iconic Wave Pool in 1996. The park expanded with the Hydro Half Pipe in 1999, followed by the popular Eye of Storm vortex slide in 2001. In 2008, they unveiled Undertow, a high-speed water coaster with powerful jets that propel riders uphill. Most recently, Pirate's Play Village, a multi-level in-

teractive water play structure perfect for the youngest adventurers opened in 2018.

Each enhancement throughout the 30-year history has been designed with guests in mind, ensuring Adventure Landing remains the premier family destination in Jacksonville Beach for generations to come.

The celebration is made possible through support from community partners, including the Cub Scouts, Frosty Cones, Girl Scouts, Scooter's Coffee, Smoothie King, Sports Mania, T-Mobile and more.

"While our opening weekend launches the celebration, the 'Adventure Lives On — 30 Years Strong' theme will continue throughout 2025 with special events, promotions and activities designed to honor this milestone year," added Rick Deutscher, Adventure Landing Jacksonville Beach general manager. "We invite guests to join us not just for opening weekend, but throughout the season as we celebrate three decades of family fun."

Regular park admission applies. For more information about the 30th Anniversary Celebration, operating hours, or to purchase tickets, go to adventurelanding.com or call



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46 IN THE ARTS

Ponte Vedra Recorder · March 13, 2025

In the Arts

Send your arts news to news@pontevedrarecorder.com

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Contributed photos

The First Coast Opera will celebrate its 25th anniversary with Mozart's "The Magic Flute."

First Coast Opera to stage 'The Magic Flute'

First Coast Opera, Northeast Florida's only year-round opera nonprofit, is staging Mozart's "The Magic Flute" on March 21 and 22 in Kirk Auditorium at the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind in St. Augustine.

"The Magic Flute" was the opera company's very first production 25 years ago, and Curtis Tucker, general and artistic director, said he is thrilled to bring it to life again, with a full orchestra, elaborate set and beautiful costumes.

"We invite audiences to celebrate our 25th anniversary with well-known Mozart music performed by area musicians and talented professional artists," he said. "We are so grateful for the support of our loyal patrons, the community and our generous donors over the years."

Tickets are available at firstcoastopera.

"The Magic Flute" is a singspiel for all ages. A singspiel is a type of German opera that masterfully blends spoken dialogue with musical numbers, creating a unique theatrical experience. Unlike fully sung-through operas, like those in the Italian tradition, a singspiel alternates between spoken sections and musical moments, offering both narrative clarity and emotional depth.

What makes "The Magic Flute" captivating is its perfect balance of whimsy, humor and symbolism. The opera weaves elements of fairy tales, adventure and philosophy into a narrative that appeals to both young and mature audiences. From the lovable, comedic bird-catcher

Papageno to the noble and determined Tamino and Pamina, the characters offer both laughter and emotional resonance, creating a universal appeal.

First Coast Opera has also announced the launch of its 2025 silent auction, available online for a limited time. The auction features an array of unique items and experiences that supporters can bid on, helping to support the arts and First Coast Opera's mission to provide exceptional musical performances and education in the community.

Bidding will be open through March 22, coinciding with the closing of the company's production of "The Magic Flute." Opera enthusiasts and supporters can browse and place bids on a variety of offerings, including one-of-a-kind art

pieces, exclusive event tickets, luxury items and more.

"We're thrilled to offer this online auction as a convenient way for our community to support First Coast Opera," said President Kerry Fradley. "Each bid helps fund our ongoing commitment to producing high-quality opera performances and community outreach programs, and we encourage everyone to take part in this exciting opportunity."

To view the items and place a bid, go to 32auctions.com/FirstCoastOpera. The auction will close at 6 p.m. March 22.

For more information about First Coast Opera or to learn more about the auction, go to firstcoastopera.com or contact the office at fcopera@gmail.

River Reflection to celebrate art, waterways

The St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department, in collaboration with the Matanzas Riverkeeper and St. Johns Riverkeeper, will celebrate local artists and our waterways at the first-ever River Reflection at Alpine Groves Park (2060 S.R.13, St. Johns) from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 14.

The evening showcase will center around the work of local artists of all ages and mediums and is inspired by the connection between our local waterways and community. The beautiful sunset view available at Alpine Groves Park,

one of the county's most popular recreation areas, makes it the perfect venue for the outdoor gallery.

"As a member of the art selection committee, I can honestly say we're in for a fantastic evening!" Outdoor Recreation Supervisor Kelly Ussia said. "Over 30 talented artists will be showcasing their work in a variety of mediums. It will be truly amazing to see such beautiful art come to life, and I can't wait for everyone to experience it."

A River Reflection was planned for March 2024, but poor weather led to it



Contributed photo

The Alpine Groves Park pier at sunset.

going digital. 2025 will see the first inperson incarnation of the event. "Alpine Groves at sunset offers some of my favorite views in the entire county," Natural Resources Superintendent Nathan Otter said. "It's the perfect place to celebrate our county's connection to water."

There will be overflow event parking at Hickory Creek Elementary School (235 Hickory Creek Trail, Jacksonville) from 5:30 to 8 p.m., where a free shuttle will transport participants to and from the event. Eventgoers are encouraged to take advantage of the shuttle, as on-site parking will be limited.

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Rutherford announces high school art competition

On Friday, March 7, U.S. Rep. John H. Rutherford (FL-05) announced the launch of this year's Congressional Art Competition for high school students residing in Florida's 5th Congressional District. Since its inception in 1982, more than 650,000 high school students have participated in the Artistic Discovery Competition.

"Highlighting the talented young artists who live in our district through the Congressional Art Competition is something I look forward to doing every year and this year is no different," said Rutherford. "I can't wait to see all of the great artwork high school students across Florida's 5th District create, and I will be honored to showcase the winning piece in the halls of Congress for thousands to see as they visit our nation's Capitol building."

The winning artwork will represent Florida's 5th Congressional District in the U.S. Capitol for one year. Submissions may include paintings, drawings, collages, prints, mixed media, computergenerated art and photography. All entries must be original in concept, design and execution. High school students of all skill levels are encouraged to participate.

The deadline for submissions is 4 p.m. April 11. Entries must be delivered to Rutherford's district office located at 4130 Salisbury Road, Suite 2500, Jacksonville

For more information about the Congressional Art Competition, including submission guidelines and eligibility requirements, go to rutherford.house.gov/



Some of the artist's work as seen on her website

Glass artist showcases fused and dichroic jewelry, art

The Professional Artists of St. Augustine (PAStA) Fine Art Gallery welcomes glass artist and jeweler K. Alison Schaeffler-Murphy to the eclectic gallery located in St. Augustine's historic district off of Charlotte Street.

Schaeffler-Murphy, who prefers to go by "Alison," began her love affair with the glass arts while attending Florida State University. In an "off campus" class, she came to realize the uniqueness of glass; its natural luminosity, brilliant clarity and reflective colors offered aesthetic properties that she wished to explore further.

"My jewelry and glass dishes invite light to interplay within the various layered colors of the piece," Alison explained. "It gives the piece a living-in-the-moment quality, as the play of light constantly changes the expression of the piece."

After graduate degrees in both art history and art museum administration, Alison worked with non-profit art organizations, museums and art galleries. She has served as a fine arts consultant, an art appraisal researcher, managed collections, chaired art shows and worked as art juror and judge. Additionally, Alison has served as an art gallery director and a curator. Her

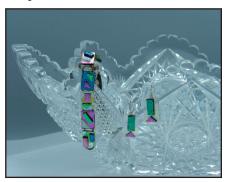


Contributed photos

Jewelry case containing the artist's work

work has been featured in national magazines and local newspapers, displayed at glass expositions, art-in-public places, indoor and outdoor art fairs and exhibited at art galleries and museums. These days, Alison can be found full-time in her studio creating one-of-a-kind fused dichroic glass art works.

Alison's use of dichroic glass is what



Dichroic glass

makes each of her pieces appear dynamically alive. As light moves through and over each glasswork's surface, viewers are captivated by shifting reflective colors and varied hues. Dichroic glass, a space-age glass originally developed in the 1950s for NASA, is now made using different metal oxides thereby offering a wider kaleidoscope of colors.

By using dichroic glass in her unique creations, Schaeffler-Murphy seeks to inspire the creative joy and happiness that the presence of art and beauty continually offers to our lives.

Alison's collection of fused and dichroic glass works is on display at the Charlotte Street gallery and available for sale.



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Artist Katherine Weaver at last year's Beaches, A Celebration of the Arts gala.



Photos provided by the First Coast Cultural Center

Last year's Beaches, A Celebration of the Arts gala.

Beaches, A Celebration of the Arts set for May 4

First Coast Cultural Center has set a new date for its sixth annual Beaches, A Celebration of the Arts gala to benefit educational art programs. This festive Grecian-themed fundraiser will be held 6-8 p.m. May 4 at the TPC Clubhouse in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Highlights include inspired chef specialties, live music, a silent auction, art demonstrations and an awards presentation.

"We look forward to honoring those who positively impact our community as we celebrate FCCC's 'Year of the Pearl,' marking 30 years of prosperity as a nonprofit organization," said Kimberly Sheridan, fundraising manager.

Sheridan said the gala is the center's primary fundraising event for the year. Proceeds support a variety of educational programs, including Sound Connections Music Therapy for children with disabilities. This is offered free of charge to students in St. Johns County, including Title I schools. The gala also helps support community engagement programs for all ages.

This year, Dr. Arun Gulani of Gulani Vision Institute will be master of ceremonies for the gala, which has been a sell-out event in the past. Tickets can be purchased on FCCC's website at https://firstcoastculturalcenter.org/beaches-a-celebration-of-the-arts-2025.

Those interested in advertising in the program or sponsoring the event can contact Sheridan at 904-280-0614, ext. 1205, or ksheridan@firstcoastculturalcenter. org. At the time of publication, sponsors include: Lazzara Family Foundation, Ron and Hilah Autrey, Gulani Vision Institute and PNC Bank.

Awards include:

The Ron and Hilah Autrey Arts Education & Advocacy Award

Awarded to an artist, arts advocate or arts educator with a track record of advancing the arts and/or educating the general public, business leaders, elected officials and students on the fundamental value of arts in the Beaches community.

Emerging Artist Award

Awarded to an emerging artist of any age who has displayed great accomplishment with their fine art or craft medium.

#Gulanism Award

Awarded to a young individual who exhibits positivity and is known for consistently sharing affirmations personally

and professionally

(The term #Gulanism derives from Dr. Gulani of Gulani Vision Institute.)

The Art of Giving Award

Awarded to a business, large or small, or an individual committed to funding and/or sustaining an art and culture program(s) within the Beaches community.

Community Impact Award (Member's Choice Award)

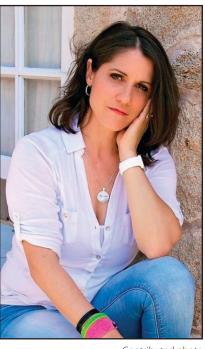
Awarded to an individual, business or organization that has demonstrated a tangible and measurable development/impact of the arts and culture in the Beaches community.

The Irene Lazzara Beaches, A Celebration of the Arts Award

Awarded to an individual, business or organization dedicated to ensuring that arts and culture are ingrained into the everyday life in the Beaches community.

Nominations are accepted through March 31 at: https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/CulturalCenterAtPonteVedraBea/beaches-2024-nomination-1-1-1.html.





Contributed photo

Award-winning writer Jamie Engle

Topic: Turning writers into entrepreneurs

After months or even years of work, writers have a finished book. The next step involves transitioning from author to entrepreneur.

Award-winning writer Jamie Engle will show local writers how in her "Rockstar Branding for Writers" presentation at the Ponte Vedra Writers meeting at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 22, at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library.

Engle says it's necessary to develop a new mindset to market and sell books. She will provide writers with multiple ideas, actionable plans and proven results.

Engle writes for film, television and books. She is the screenwriter and coproducer of "Just Jake," distributed through UpTV Faith & Family Network (2023), an Austin Film Festival Second-Rounder (2023), and her teleplay received a Double Recommend (2024) through Stage32 for her animated series.

The Ponte Vedra Writers group is part of the Florida Writers Association, a statewide membership organization dedicated to the support of both aspiring and published writers in any genre. The March 22 meeting is free and open to members and nonmembers alike.

For information on FWA, go to floridawriters.org.

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CONCERT REVIEW

Symphony reveres Barber, Sibelius, Beethoven in performances

By Matt Bickett

In reverent performances, the Jacksonville Symphony admired the careers of some of classical music's greats Friday and Saturday nights. The characterful and dynamic program saw the Symphony and conductor Courtney Lewis welcome special guest pianist Barry Douglas for a sturdy rendition of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 5 ("Emperor") following a sensitive account of Samuel Barber's Overture to "The School for Scandal" and dramafilled display of Sibelius's Symphony No. 5.

Barber's too-scarcely performed but thrilling "Overture to the School for Scandal" opened the stage to a broad cast of characters. Intrigue entered with the strings' nervous energy, answered by boastful stomps in the brass. Chattering winds commented on the scene. Oboist Danny Rios's graceful English horn solo reminded us of proper manners with a confident delivery of Barber's balanced theme

The program continued from Barber's most youthful work to one of Sibelius's most mature. The ensemble's attention to the building energy throughout the first movement, with the pace carefully controlled by Lewis, drove to a convincing close. The storytelling, warm color and ensemble interplay of the second movement inspired me the most, despite receiving little mention in the spoken program notes.

The final movement's swan theme predictably stuck as the most memorable ear worm of the night, but the flight of wind phrases and dancing pizzicati in the middle movement brought us along for a soaring adventure. Notably, near the end of the movement, the strings' unified phrase punctuation displayed their control.

The final movement recalled the buzzing energy of the Barber, opening now to a broad and bold rendition of the swan theme. The maturity of sound and ensemble's unity only increased to the end, where ensemble and conductor collaborated toward the evening's grand high point. The audience felt the excitement of what they just experienced — Sibelius's notoriously abrupt ending received quite a bit of early applause before we took flight for intermission.

The second half of the program opened with Barry Douglas' understated entrance to the stage. However, the following display of pianistic virtuosity, with the orchestra's heralding chords, revealed the character of this classical music giant. The first movement's themes moved with a sense of purpose and attention to the bigger picture. Douglas' polite, reverent sound brought us a long way from the ill-mannered characters of the concert's first work.

The expansiveness of the second movement, with the piano emerging subtly from the string sound, caused us to ponder. The bombast and dance of the final movement's theme brought us to a raucous dance, before Douglas' mesmerizing encore waved a gentle goodbye. The program's personality
— including nods to the early and late careers of composers and performers, coupled with Irish connections between performers and the opening work — gave a strong sense of admiration for classical music's traditions. To sense where those traditions might take us in the future, we'll have to await another program

Matt Bickett is a musician and scholar living in Jacksonville. He serves as Director of Music Ministries at Riverside Presbyterian Church and Artistic Director of the Friends of Music at Riverside.



Upcoming Jacksonville Symphony Experiences

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- Gershwin & Berlin March 21 & 22
- Take 6 March 29
- Children's Music Festival March 30
- Conrad Tao & Rite of Spring April 4 & 5
- John Williams: His Oscars, Grammys & More April 11 & 12

Our community is so fortunate to have the Jacksonville Symphony, it's always such a thrill and this season has been nothing short of incredible!"

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Sharks fall in defensive battle at state title game

By Anthony Richards

The Ponte Vedra High boys basketball team came so close to winning a state title, but they had to settle for another runner-up, this time in Class 5A as they fell to class No. 1 Pompano Beach Blanche Ely 44-38 in the state championship in Lakeland on March 7.

In many ways, the fact of even settling for a state runner-up finish signifies where the Sharks' program is at currently after making it to their fourth straight final four and having played in the title game three of the four years.

The majority of high schools in the state can only dream of a run like the Sharks have had over the past four seasons and it is not diminished at all just because they were not able to end with a win in any of those trips.

The Sharks have built the equivalent of high school basketball dynasty and have knocked plenty of marquee teams off along the way.

Not to mention that they have done it with different coaches and competing in different classes, but none of that has even seemed to faze the Sharks and the culture



Photo by Anthony Richards

The Sharks lost to Pompano Beach Blanche Ely 44-38 in the state championship on March 7.

that has been instilled first under former head coach Kevin Whirity and then the last three years under Ben Wilson.

After the Sharks grabbed the lead at the end of the first quarter, they trailed by an unusually low score of

16-12 at halftime, as both teams knew they were in for a defensive slugfest.

However, the difference in the game proved to be the third quarter, as the Tigers came alive offensively and outscored the Sharks 19-10 to open a 31-26 lead heading into the fourth quarter.

That run by the Tigers proved too tough for the Sharks to come back from as the Tigers looked to maintain possession and let the time that was left on the clock slowly melt away with each trip down the court.

Despite the Tigers' efforts, the Sharks did make the most of their chances as junior Maddox Palmer helped pull the Sharks to within two points after he converted a four-point play after getting fouled on a three-pointer late in the game.

He finished with 17 of his game-high 20 points coming in the second half.

Senior guard David Sanchez Barrera tallied 14 points in the final game of his high school career and junior Trace Westercamp added four points, as only three Sharks scored on the night.

The Sharks wrapped up the year with a record of 22-9.





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Babin earns runner-up at wrestling state finals

Ponte Vedra High's Talan Babin finished state runner-up in the Class 2A 215-pound division. The junior showcased his strength during his state finals run. The finals took place at Silver Springs Arena in Kissimmee on March 9.

Contributed photos





Sporting JAX to kick off USL W League, League Two teams

Sporting JAX, the United Soccer League (USL) franchise group bringing women's and men's professional soccer to Northeast Florida, has announced that it will field two additional pre-professional teams set to play this spring, competing in both the USL W League and USL League Two throughout Florida.

Following the club's recent merger with Florida Elite Soccer Academy and upcoming name change to Sporting JAX Soccer Academy, the USL W League and USL League Two teams will be the first to take the pitch wearing the Sporting JAX crest, marking a major milestone for the club.

These pre-pro teams will play as part of Sporting JAX, along with a planned women's pro team (USL Super League), men's pro team (USL Championship) and a USL Youth Academy. Sporting JAX

will also continue its participation in the nation's largest youth soccer league, Elite Clubs National League (ECNL), while developing a top-tier pro soccer academy as part of Sporting JAX Soccer Academy.

"We are thrilled to officially introduce Sporting JAX to the pitch this spring through our women's and men's preprofessional teams," said Sporting JAX President and CEO Steve Livingstone. "Competing in the USL W League and USL League Two allows us to develop future soccer stars, strengthens soccer culture throughout the region and brings an elevated level of competition to our passionate fans. This is just the beginning of an exciting journey for Sporting JAX this year."

Sporting JAX's inclusion in the rapidly expanding USL W League and League Two highlights the club's commitment

to fostering top-tier talent and providing local players with more opportunities to compete at higher levels against talented teams across the state and the Southeast.

The USL W League is one of the nation's premier pre-professional women's leagues, dedicated to advancing women's soccer through elite competition and player development. The W League includes nearly 100 teams across four divisions, and Sporting JAX will call the Southeast Division home.

On the men's side, USL League Two serves as a proven pathway for top men's talent aspiring to play at a professional level, with many current Major League Soccer (MLS) and United Soccer League (USL) players having competed in the league. The league boasts nearly 150 teams across four conferences, with Sporting JAX joining five additional

Florida-based clubs in the Southern Conference's Southeast Division.

Many of today's top soccer players have risen through the ranks of League Two to compete in MLS and USL, making this an invaluable opportunity for soccer's rising talent.

Both teams will compete in a regional schedule against top clubs across the state and at their home field at Mandarin High School, delivering free, high-caliber experiences for soccer fans.

The full 2025 season schedule for the USL W League and USL League Two was recently announced league-wide and is now available on Sporting JAX's official website: sportingjax.com/schedule.

For the latest Sporting JAX news and club updates, follow @Sporting JAX across all social media channels.

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Photos by Craig O'Neal

THE PLAYERS Championship announces field for 2025

THE PLAYERS Championship recently announced the field for the 2025 event, which returns to THE PLAYERS Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass from March 13-16.

The 144-player field features 48 of the top 50 players in the Official World Golf Ranking, and representation from 24 countries. Other notes on the field include:

- Eight PLAYERS Champions: Scottie Scheffler (2023, 2024), Justin Thomas (2021), Rory McIlroy (2019), Si Woo Kim (2017), Jason Day (2016), Rickie Fowler (2015), Matt Kuchar (2012) and Adam Scott (2004).
- Two-time defending champion Scottie Scheffler is looking to become the first player to win THE PLAYERS three times since Jack Nicklaus (1974, 1976, 1978), and the first player to win a PGA Tour event three consecutive years since Steve Stricker (John Deere Classic, 2009-11).
- Justin Rose and Matt Kuchar will each make their 20th career appearance at THE PLAYERS. Adam Scott has the most appearances of any player in the field with 23.
 - 24 players in the field are making

their tournament debut, highlighted by five PGA Tour winners (in bold):
Jacob Bridgeman, Brian Campbell, Rafa Campos, Laurie Canter, Frankie Capan III, Will Chandler, Patrick Fishburn, Ryan Gerard, Chris Gotterup, Max Greyserman, Joe Highsmith, Rico Hoey, Rasmus Højgaard, Mac Meissner, Matt McCarty, Chandler Phillips, Aldrich Potgieter, Kevin Roy, Isaiah Salinda, Hayden Springer, Jackson Suber, Jesper Svensson, Alejandro Tosti and Vince Whaley.

- The last man in the field as of 5 p.m. March 7 was Bud Cauley (No. 112 in the FedExCup standings through the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches) and the first alternate is Danny Walker (No. 114).
- There are four eligible players not committed: Ernie Els, Alex Noren, Brendon Todd and Tiger Woods.

If not otherwise exempt, the winner of the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard and the Puerto Rico Open will qualify for THE PLAYERS.

THE PLAYERS Championship field list as of Friday, March 7:

Ludvig Åberg, Byeong Hun An, Daniel Berger, Christiaan Bezuidenhout, Akshay Bhatia, Keegan Bradley, Jacob Bridgeman, Sam Burns, Brian Campbell, Rafael Campos, Laurie Canter, Patrick Cantlay, Frankie Capan III, Bud Cauley, Will Chandler, Wyndham Clark, Eric Cole, Corey Conners,

Joel Dahmen, Cam Davis, Jason Day, Thomas Detry, Nick Dunlap, Nico Echavarria, Austin Eckroat, Harris English, Tony Finau, Patrick Fishburn, Matt Fitzpatrick, Tommy Fleetwood, Rickie Fowler, Ryan Fox, Brice Garnett, Ryan Gerard, Doug Ghim, Lucas Glover, Will Gordon, Chris Gotterup,

Max Greyserman, Ben Griffin, Lanto Griffin, Emiliano Grillo, Adam Hadwin, Harry Hall, Brian Harman, Russell Henley, Joe Highsmith, Ryo Hisatsune, Lee Hodges, Rico Hoey, Charley Hoffman, Tom Hoge, Nicolai Højgaard, Rasmus Højgaard, Max Homa, Billy Horschel, Beau Hossler,

Viktor Hovland, Mark Hubbard, Mackenzie Hughes, Sungjae Im, Stephan Jaeger, Chan Kim, Michael Kim, Si Woo Kim, Tom Kim, Chris Kirk, Kurt Kitayama, Patton Kizzire, Jake Knapp, Ben Kohles, Matt Kuchar, Nate Lashley, K.H. Lee, Min Woo Lee, David Lipsky, Luke List, Justin Lower, Shane Lowry,

Robert MacIntyre, Peter Malnati, Hideki Matsuyama, Denny McCarthy, Matt McCarty, Max McGreevy, Rory McIlroy, Maverick McNealy, Mac Meissner, Keith Mitchell, Taylor Moore, Collin Morikawa, Trey Mullinax, Henrik Norlander, Andrew Novak, C.T. Pan, Matthieu Pavon,

Taylor Pendrith, Victor Perez, Chandler Phillips, J.T. Poston, Aldrich Potgieter, Seamus Power, Andrew Putnam, Aaron Rai, Chad Ramey, Davis Riley, Patrick Rodgers, Justin Rose, Kevin Roy, Sam Ryder, Isaiah Salinda, Xander Schauffele, Scottie Scheffler, Adam Schenk, Matti Schmid,

Adam Scott, Greyson Sigg, Ben Silverman, David Skinns, Alex Smalley, J.J. Spaun, Jordan Spieth, Hayden Springer, Sam Stevens, Sepp Straka, Jackson Suber, Adam Svensson, Jesper Svensson, Nick Taylor, Sahith Theegala, Justin Thomas, Davis Thompson, Alejandro Tosti, Sami Valimaki,

Erik van Rooyen, Jhonattan Vegas, Kris Ventura, Camilo Villegas, Vince Whaley, Gary Woodland, Cameron Young, Carson Young, Kevin Yu and Will Zalatoris.

Young Sharks showcasing softball talent early on

By Anthony Richards

The start of the softball season has gone nearly perfect for the Ponte Vedra Sharks, who reeled off six straight wins to open the year and have a record of 7-1 through the first eight games.

What has made the Sharks so dangerous to start is that they are controlling games not just at the plate by scoring runs but they are backing it up with stellar play by their pitchers in the circle.

The Sharks have outscored opponents 69-19 through eight games, including three contests where they have tallied double figures in runs.

Four players currently have batting averages over .400, including junior Aoife Weaver who leads the way with a whopping .483 followed by Natasha Deutch, Camryn Straub and Emma Shin.

Weaver has been tracking the ball excellently so far and has a knack for making the most of her hits as well with 13 RBIs on 14 hits, both team-highs, including four doubles and a home run.

Deutch has shown speed on the basepaths, and it has played havoc for opposing teams. She has a team-high 13 runs and two stolen bases so far this season.

Shin has the most extra base hits as she has matched Weaver's four doubles and

has a triple to go with them as well.

Not only has Weaver been disruptive at the plate but she has also been a force on the mound and has yet to lose a start this year as she sits 7-0 with a 2.12 earned run average.

There have been moments when she has hit batters and allowed runners on base but she and the defense behind her have always been up to the challenge to this point.

While she is hitting .400-plus at the plate she is holding opposing batters to an average of .295, which presents quite a difference and a major reason why the Sharks have come storming out of the

gate.

Many of the team leaders for the Sharks are not seniors as the team continues to grow and find its potential despite being relatively young at several positions

However, senior first baseman Alaina Daughtry provides a leadership presence and already has a home run to her name on the year.

Because the team is so young but talented, it is going to be interesting to see if they can maintain the early season pace, and if so, could be a definite contender as the season progresses in Class 5A.

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Legals

NOTICE OF CLINIC CLOSURE

PT Solutions of Ponte Vedra, located at 236 Ponte Vedra Park Dr., STE 300, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082 will be permanent ly closing on March 26, 2025, Patients may request copies of their medical records at any time by contacting medicalrecords@ ptsolutions.com. After closure, medical records will be retained in accordance with Florida law.

Patients may visit ptsolutions.com to locate another PT Solutions clinic nearby. For scheduling and transfer questions please contact the clinic directly at (904) 280-3440 before March 26, 2025.

Legal 117043 Published 3/6/2025 3/13/2025 and 3/20/2025 in St. Johns County Ponte Vedra Recorder newspaper

Miscellaneous

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Home

The personal representative has no duty to discover whether any property held at 732.228, Florida Statutes, applies, or may apply, unless a written demand is made by a creditor as specified under s. 732.2211,

Florida Statutes. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLI-CATION OF THIS NOTICE

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, ST JOHNS

Deceased.
The administration of the Estate of Frances

Dianne Hasty a/k/a Frances D. Hasty, de-

ceased, whose date of death was August St. Johns County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is: 4010 Lewis

Speedway, St. Augustine, FL 32084. The names and addresses of the personal representatives and the personal representatives' attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other per-

sons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must

file their claims with this court ON OR

BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AF-

TER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICA-TION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AF-

TER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY

the time of the decedent's death by the decedent or the decedent's surviving spouse is property to which the Florida Uniform Disposition of Community Property Rights

at Death Act as described in ss. 732.216-

OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

PROBATE DIVISION File No: 55-2025-CP-000158

Division: 59
IN RE: ESTATE OF

FRANCES DIANNE HASTY,

A/K/A FRANCES D. HASTY.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERI-ODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is

March 13, 2025.

Personal Representatives an Michael Hasty 623 Aguila Dr.

Chesapeake, VA 23322 Sidney Lewis Hasty, Jr. 2736 Winterbrook Ct

Powatan, VA 23139 Attorney for the Personal Representatives: Lawrence E. Havden, Jr., Esa

Florida Bar Number: 0939595

HAYDEN Law 1301 Penman Road, Suite F Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

Telephone: (904) 247-9033
E-Mail: LEH@haydenlawfl.com
Legal 117488 Published 3/13/2025 and 3/20/2025 in St. Johns County Ponte Vedra Recorder newspaper



call April at 904-285-8831

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

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AGRONOMY
ANIMALS
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BIODIVERSITY

BIODYNAMIC CAPACITY COVER CROPS CULTIVATION DEADHEADING DRAINAGE DRILLING ECOLOGY EROSION FARMING HARVEST HUSBANDRY IRRIGATION LIVESTOCK ROTATION SOIL TILLAGE



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ACROSS

- 1. Unsheared sheep
- 5. RockTV channel
- 8. Streetcar
- 12. Concerning
- 14. Expression of recognition
- 15. Greek goddess of youth
- 16. An iPad is one
- 18. Adult beverage
- 19. Manning and Wallach are two
- 20. Makes a petty verbal attack
- 21. Tyrion Lannister's nickname
- 22. Pointed ends of pens
- 23. Wristwatches
- 26. Body part
- 30. Made a mistake
- 31. Adjusted
- 32. Turkish honorific title
- 33. Yell
- 34. Historic Alabama city
- 39. Cub
- 42. Type of sea bass dish 44. To call (archaic)
- 46. Unfortunate
- 47. Separate oneself from others
- 49. Hero sandwiches
- 50. Former OSS
- 51. Open spaces in a forest
- 56. Innermost brain membranes
- 57. Fortune
- 58. Hunting expedition
- 59. Doomed queen Boleyn
- 60. Peyton's little brother
- 61. Type of wrap
- 62. Scottish tax
- 63. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 64. An increase in price or value

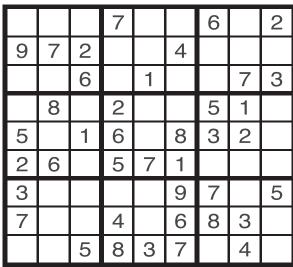
DOWN

- 1. Works of body art
- 2. Abba ___, Israeli politician
- 3. A desert in Asia
- 4. Eat greedily

- 5. Doomed French queen
- 6. Beat
- 7. One who survives on blood
- 8. As a consequence
- 9. Counted on
- 10. Acquired Brain Injury Behavior Science
- 11. Unclean
- 13. One who does not drink
- 17. Wild ox of the Malay Archipelago
- 24. student, learns healing
- 25. Bacterial skin infection
- 26. Expresses surprise
- 27. What one says on a wedding day
- 28. Crony
- 29. Where you entered the world (abbr.)
- 35. Unit of length

- 36. Side that is sheltered from the wind
- 37. More (Spanish)
- 38. Autonomic nervous system
- 40. Violent troublemakers, originally in Paris
- 41. Statements that something is untrue
- 42. Greek alphabet letter
- 43. Suspends from above
- 44. Popular types of cigars
- 45. Girls
- 47. U.S. philosopher and logician
- 48. Nocturnal hoofed animal
- 49. Relaxing spaces
- 52. From a distance
- 53. Form of Persian
- 54. Amounts of time
- 55. Trigonometric function

SUDOKU



Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine $3\mathrm{x}3$ 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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